



Cottages (and shop?)
South Walsham 18--?

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The Norfolk Ancestor



Volume Six Part Three
SEPTEMBER 2009



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

Churches of
St. Mary and
St. Lawrence
South Walsham
19--?

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Cottages
South Walsham 18--?

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Unknown school photo - see notes on Editorial page



South Walsham School Photographs, dates unknown



- 1908** New Headteacher
- 1909** June 18th. Chrissie **Jermy** took infant class in absence of Miss **Moore**.
- 1910** George **Harris** and Ralph **Ebbage** caned for throwing stones at visitors. Ralph Ebbage expelled.
- 1912** I intend to lodge a complaint about Mrs **Read** the caretaker, who is inciting rebellion in the children against their punishment. She is constantly disrespectful, and her manner is most abusive. Signed C. **Leonard** Headmistress.
February No fire made for Headteacher. Fires lit for classrooms.
November New Headteacher.
- 1913** School closed for half a day – children competing in Blofield Horticultural Show.
August
- 1918** Many children absent blackberrying.
Oct 14/16.
Oct 31st and Nov 1st Closed for acorning.
- 1919** School reopened.
January 6th
Retentions (*children who are kept in the same year and do not move up a class*)
Ronald **Evans** age 13 years 10 months.
Admission November 1911. Attendance 1917 – 202,
Attendance 1918 – 0. Reason – farm labour.
- 1920** Retentions Maud **Ebbage** aged 12 years four months – reason, dull.
Ella **Jermy**, aged 10 yrs 11 mo – reason, slow not strong.
October 21st Two boys too late for their mark. G **Evans** and J **Betts**.
- 1922** Retentions El **Jermy**. Reason – delicate.
C **Jermy**. Reason – dull.

The log book finishes in 1925

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FRONT COVER

Yarmouth Fishergirls. This is a detail from the Harker memorial windows, 1936, by Reginald Bell in St. Andrews Church, Blofield, Norfolk. Again I must thank Simon Knott for his excellent website, www.norfolkchurches.co.uk. Simon Knott has also set up the www.suffolkchurches.co.uk website covering churches in Suffolk. Do try these websites, apart from the excellent photographs there is a wealth of information about the parishes.

1887 September 5 th	Children are noisy and have no idea of order. Writing is very untidy and sums carelessly worked. No method, and no style. New mistress, Alice Langham .
1888 April 9 th July 23 rd /24 th	Edith Evans, away in the afternoon with sick headache. Edith Evans away through illness. Edith Evans retained as articled Pupil Teacher
1889 September.	Attendance poor due to late harvest. Low attendance due to children picking acorns and carrying dinners to fathers.
1890	Fair attendance. Absent children are those living over 2 miles from school.
1892	Five boys in the upper standards away, brushing for the shooters (third time since November).
1894 May. Sept 17 th	Many children absent due to whooping cough. Ethel Curtis appointed as a monitor.
1895 May	Influenza prevalent in the village. Inspector's report. The tone and character of the school is admirable. Teachers deserve high praise.
1896 February 17 th July 27 th November 11 th	Miss E Evans commenced her duties as assistant will stop. A list of staff. Edith Annie Evans, qualified. The attendance is poor, due to Acle Regatta. Miss Evans takes standard two girls sewing. The attendance officer visited several parents. Warnings given to several parents.
1901	Tin trays have been ordered for the infant class for writing in the sand. Cardboard ones are not durable.
1902	Drill outdoors cancelled due to wet weather.
1903	<i>Here the log book has a detailed syllabus for the children.</i>
1904	<i>Here the log book has a detailed list of books and equipment</i>
1906	Inspector's report. Discipline is not satisfactory. Some of the older children are quite out of hand. Noticeable absence of concentrated attention, industry and interest. Standards low – hard work by teachers, but lack of good organisation and supervision. Infants have one teacher to three classes.

- October 21st Only seven children present due to high wind.
- 1875** Louisa Spanton should have given a lesson on the River Danube, but she made the excuse that she could not find any information in any of her books. Mistress took the lesson herself.
- April 26th
- June 7th Louisa Spanton lesson on pins. Result pretty fair.
- 1876** Inspector's report
Louisa Spanton, she must improve very much.
- 1877** Louisa Spanton's name has been removed from the register of pupil teachers serving in this school.
- July 6th Many children absent due to the measles, turnip picking and hay making.
- October 5th Many children away gathering blackberries
- 1878** Charlotte **Curtis**, teaching class 3 since Christmas will take class 2 on Monday. Kept very fair order.
- May 9th
- 1880** Charlotte Curtis is a stipendiary monitor. There have been difficulties to contend with. The work of conducting the school seems to be beyond the strength of the mistress with the scanty help she has had. The children are with few exceptions, far below the work of their standards and good discipline is not properly established. The Inspector is unable to approve E **Esdick** and Charlotte Curtis as stipendiary monitors.
- March
- June 29th Louisa **Hutchings** commenced as mistress. Charlotte Curtis, the candidate began to receive lessons from 1 to 2 p.m. today.
- October Many children away, picking acorns.
- 1881** Charlotte Curtis, absent. Not well. She does not get on well with her home lessons.
- July 29th
- December 10th A man from the village complained about his children being kept in in the afternoons. As mistress no longer canes there seems to be no other punishment so effective as keeping them in.
- 1882** Jan 6th Charlotte Curtis, the monitor has left.
- December 8th Arthur **Hilton** expelled for drawing his knife and threatening mistress.

NOTICES

KIRBY HALL LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

Tuesday 10 a.m - 1 p.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday 10 a.m - 1 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

All CORRESPONDENCE to an Officer of the Society should be addressed to KIRBY HALL which is the registered address of the NFHS - please quote your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.

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Articles for future editions always required - submit and see! But 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 or photographs has been obtained and the NFHS will not be held liable in the case of a subsequent query.

Articles should be preferably typed in a **10pt font for an A5 page with a 1.4cm border = about 550 words per page without photos.**

Please keep articles to 4 pages maximum.

E-mail or CD versions are most helpful.

All material from regular contributors for inclusion in the December issue should be sent to the Editor at Kirby Hall no later than **20th October 2009.**

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



From the Editor

ancestoreditor@norfolkfhs.org.uk

September 2009

Dear Members

Enclosed is the booklet for our AGM, which will be held at Kirby Hall on Saturday 10th October 2009, at 12 o'clock. Please remember to bring this booklet with you if you plan to attend.

We have two articles dealing with the family bible. Lucky is the person to have one with names and dates of birth, death and marriage recorded in the front or the back. This gives such a good starting point for your research. We also have an article about a school log book. These, too, can be invaluable, especially as the school registers are often missing. Very few school registers have been deposited with the Record Office.

We have had a good response to our appeal for Volunteers. Many thanks to those who have said they are willing to come into Kirby Hall to help. You are very welcome. However, we still need someone to handle requests for copies of Family Trees/Pedigrees. Is there anyone out there who can help?

We have published the new email addresses for some of the Trustees, as we now have separate ones, and do not have to be reached via the main email address. Until now someone has had to read all the emails and forward them on to the appropriate person. Quite a task! Now you can email me direct with your contributions, queries and articles!

Denagh Hacon MN2671

Inside Front Cover

The photograph was handed to me by a relative of Mrs Cooper, who lived at 16 Addison Close, Coltishall, Norfolk.

On the back of the photograph is the name T. Nokes, 9 Chester Street, Norwich. Unfortunately nobody knows where Mrs Cooper went to school, or what connection T. Nokes is to her. Perhaps T. Nokes is the photographer. Can anyone help?

I found that reading school log books can give a fascinating insight into life in the past and help fill out details of our ancestor's lives. They are worth looking at even if your ancestor is not directly mentioned. I have transcribed some entries that relate to my ancestors and also entries that illustrate the social history of the village. *Items in italics are my own notes.* I have been researching my **EVANS** family tree in South Walsham for many years. I also have connections to **CURTIS, SPANTON and JERMY** in the village. The photographs came from my grandfather Ethelbert Curtis Evans born 1899 South Walsham. He is one of 13 Evans children all born in South Walsham 1892-1911. I am not sure if he is in the photographs, or the exact date. I would guess the Edwardian era. I would love to hear any more information about the school or the photographs.

Glenn Piper Member 11331

- 1872 Jan 42 children on roll.
- January 26th Two girls appointed to be teachers. E. **Evans** and A. **Green**
- February 1st The second class is kept in fair order by E. Evans, who has charge of it. The third class is sometimes in great disorder.
- February 9th E. Evans is orderly this week and has done her work fairly.
- February 13th E. Evans, absent without leave this afternoon.
- February 16th E. Evans has not attended school since the 13th and the Head says she is not to be received again as a teacher.
- February 23^d Louisa **Spanton** is appointed in place of E. Evans.
- March 1st Louisa Spanton, absent. Bad cold.
- March 13th Several boys absent working for farmers.
- March 22nd Louisa Spanton has taken the little ones.
- October 4th Spanton and Green to Acle tomorrow for Diocesan exam on religious knowledge.

- 1873
- February 14th School closed for Valentine's Day. The custom here is for children to go to different houses to get pence.

- November
- 21st Louisa Spanton keeps class in fair order, but is too cross with little ones.
E. Evans mistress observed A. Green.

- 1874
- April 24th from this time, when teachers come with lessons improperly prepared a note will be made of it.
- April 30th Louisa Spanton is still to cross with little ones.
- June 2nd Louisa Spanton omitted to bring arithmetic exercise.
Excuse, not well.

HENRY TUCK

I am hoping one of the members researching the Tuck family can either prove or disprove that the Henry Tuck (b 1810 Blofield) is my relative.

Our family story says that Henry was from the Isle of Skye (b1810), and went to the Yarmouth Fisheries with his father and brother as a boy. I've not been able to find a single piece of evidence to prove this, from here or Scotland. He came to Australis in 1829 on the ship Bussorah Merchant, settled in Victoria and produced many descendants.

If the Henry Tuck that was born in Blofield went on to marry and have children in the UK then I know it's not the same man I'm searching for.

A helpful woman from Skye said that Tuck's not a Scottish name, but an English name.

Janelle Collins

12 Milyerra Road, Kariong, NSW 2250, Australia,

email nell1968@bigpond.net.au



Blofield School 18--?

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DIARY of EVENTS September – Sept 2009

Date	Title	Speaker	Branch
Sept 1	In the Clink – Prison life in the 19 th Century	Nick Aber	GY
Sept 8	Passing on a Maiden Name	Ken Nockles	Diss
Sept 9	Boer War Research	Martin Edwards	KL
Sept 11	Your Ancestor's Population and Birth Control	Dr. Colin Chapman	Nch
Oct 3	Bookstall at the Suffolk Family History Fair, Debenham		
Oct 5	Victorian Farming Year	Stephen Pope	GY
Oct 9	The Formation of the Colman Collection	Dr. Clive Wilkins-Jones	Nch
Oct 13	The Second World War	Neil Storey	Diss
Oct 14	The Hardwick Road Cemeteries	Dr Julian Litten FSA	KL
Oct 17	Agricultural labourers – the movement off the land	Gill Blanchard	London
Nov 3	All is not lost: tracking migration of paupers in Gt. Yarmouth	Gill Blanchard	GY
Nov 10	The History of Family Homes	Geoffrey Lee	Diss
Nov 11	War Memorial Research	Brenda Leedell	KL
Nov 13	Freemen of Norwich / Town Close Charity	Mike Quinton	Nch
Dec 1	Gt. Yarmouth in the 20 th Century	Colin Tooke	GY
Dec 9	No meeting West Norfolk		KL
Jan 5 2010	Member Help Member - Old books and Printed Ephemera Bring Diaries, ships log, old letters, biographies etc		GY

BRANCH MEETING VENUES

Diss	Diss Methodist Church, Victoria Road Diss (A1066) SOUTH NORFOLK (2 nd Tuesday of each month, at 7.pm)
GY	Middlegate Hall, Christchurch, King Street, Great Yarmouth, EAST NORFOLK (1 st Tuesday of every month at 7.30 pm)
Nch	Kirby Hall, 70 St. Giles Street, Norwich NORWICH (2 nd Friday of each month, at 7.30 pm)
KL	Thoresby College, South Quay Entrance, Kings Lynn WEST NORFOLK (2 nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm)
London	Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Rd LONDON EC1M 7BA (approx, every six months, 2 – 4.30 pm)

BOOK REVIEW

See You in Court. The Potts Family of Mannington Norfolk 1584-1737

by William and Maggie Vaughan-Lewis. Published 2009 by Itteringham History Hardback 700 pages.

A large and complex tome which overwhelms one with names, places and events – including 50 pages of Family Notes and 70 pages on sources used. Not for the faint-hearted reader but an eminently worthwhile case study about one extended family, packed with details which illuminate 16th-17th century England. It uses original documents (wills, deeds, court rolls, etc) many never before published and includes numerous family trees, to illustrate the fascinating and intricate personal and social networks created over the generations - a complicated lineage which led to numerous Chancery court actions over disputed inheritance.

The Potts are typical of middle Norfolk gentry, rising from farming in Cheshire and Cambridgeshire, to the grocery trade, landlords and lawyers in London, and culminating in Sir John Potts (1592-1673), knight and baronet. They purchased Mannington Hall in north Norfolk in 1584 at the time of marrying a half-relation of the Lumners of Mannington. Their story is a social and economic history of the period; an insider view of landed estate development, of opportunistic purchases, mortgages and debts; and they provide a stunning example of litigious actions between family members which add spice and interest to events. The row between the children (Sir Roger and Elizabeth) of the second Sir John (1618-1678) – several years of squabbling over the will and codicil - provided a treasure trove of court papers to examine.

Unfortunately, legal costs, mortgages, debts, too many daughters and married sons put pressure on the family's wealth; most of the gains were lost, leaving only Mannington manor. However, "In the end the Potts family was not let down by reckless generations but by its genes". Algernon Potts (1673-1716) the 4th Baronet, and his wife Frances died childless within days of one another probably from smallpox. The title was inherited by his brother Charles who died 'very suddenly of an apoplectic fit' aged 56 in 1732. He also left no children, but despite major losses in the South Sea Bubble, he was not bankrupt as has been previously suggested. The Baronetcy ceased and after his widow, Dame Mary, died in 1737, Mannington Hall was sold to Horatio Walpole of nearby Wolterton for £20,029 – a third of it used to settle debts and mortgages. All the heirlooms and 405 books listed in the library, were sold, leaving no collection of family papers although some family portraits have survived.

HUGGINS FAMILY

I am seeking information on the Huggins Family. I am researching Lorenz Braun (Laurence Brown) from Baden, Germany, who married **Hannah Maria HUGGINS** in Norwich in 1850.

Hannah was baptised in 1816 in Bale, Norfolk, parents **Daniel & Mary Huggins**, siblings Mary, Lucy, John & Ellen Huggins all baptised in Bale 1814-1823.

Any information would be gratefully received.

Mrs Jean Hutchinson MN11575, 6 Mountain View, Borrowdale, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5XH

jean@jhutch.demon.co.uk

THOMAS BUSH (1780/1 - ?) & FRANCES BUSH nee BARKER(1780/1 - 11/08/1845)

I am trying to find marriage information for the above couple and the date of death for Thomas. They lived in Norwich but may have been brought up elsewhere in Norfolk. I have located two of their children: Thomas (13/10/1801 - 03/05/1840) and James (02/03/1807 - ?) both born in Norwich. Until I moved here three years ago, I had no idea my maternal ancestors hailed from Norwich.

**Roger T Kendall MN11617, 26 Howard Way, Aylsham, NR11 6XD.
email: kendall969@btinternet.com**

FOULSHAM CHURCHYARD

There is a large chest tomb in Foulsham churchyard inscribed 'Robart Colles and his wyf Cecily', but no date given. (It looks about 15th century.) Does anyone know anything about it? Who the people were and when they lived? I would be grateful for any information about it.

Mrs S. H Steer MN 11755, 344 Lower Luton Road, wheathampstead, St. Albans, Herts, AL4, 8JQ

JOLLY AND LINDEN

Mary JOLLY married Joseph LINDEN on 20th October 1849 in the Princes St. Chapel, Norwich (believed now to be the United Reform Church). Place of residence given as Osborne's Yard, St. John Timberhill. Mary aged 19 and Joseph was a musician aged 21. The archives at County Hall hold few records of the chapel and no record of the birth circa 1830 or marriage of Mary Jolly is shown. On the birth of a son in 1854 now living in Salford, Lancs she is known as Phoebe and at death in 1855 as Maria! Can anyone throw light on the Jolly family?

B. Linden. MN Briar Patch, Pean Court road, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 3BA

The Norfolk Ancestor, Journal of the NFHS

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September 2009

Notes & Queries:

Guidelines for Contributors

QUERIES predominate but offers of help and items of information and general interest may be included. Entries as brief as possible please, preferably less than 150 words, typed in a 10pt font.

Addresses given in full (an email alone is insufficient as this may limit responses). **Membership number 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 St, Norwich, NR2 1LS.**

E-mail: secretary@norfolkfhs.org.uk

LILLEY and BLACKWOOD

My 4x great-grandmother Ann LILLEY born c.1805 in Hingham, the daughter of Richard LILLY and Susan nee BLACKWOOD. Richard LILLY was probably the son (bap.1756 in Hingham) of John LILLY and Elizabeth MASH who married in 1751 (also in Hingham). Susan BLACKWOOD was probably daughter of Robert BLACKWOOD and Mary WATT.

I am keen to obtain further information about LILLEY and BLACKWOOD families in Hingham or surrounds, and contact with any living descendants.

Deborah Patterson, MN 10488, 2/21 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, Vic. 3147, Australia, E-mail: pattersondj@hotmail.com

SPURRELL

I am writing a book about the SPURRELL family who lived at Thurgarton and Bessingham from the early 1500s. If any members know of the whereabouts of any information about the family (especially personal papers, farm accounts, letters and photographs), I would be grateful if they could get in touch. Email is the easiest way.

Jonathan Spurrell (MN 10543), 75 Boulevard de Grenelle, 75015 Paris, France. Email: jcspurrell@hotmail.com.

As the authors admit this work "has been a labour of love". It has created a history of the Potts Family, a documentary record of family papers plus a critical examination of already published information. Two further books are in preparation one to cover local land-ownership in the medieval period and the early modern years, and another will describe life in eighteenth century Itteringham.

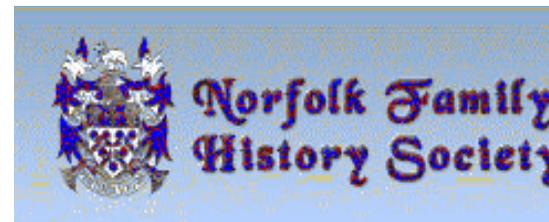
Edmund Perry MN3181

NB:To obtain a copy of the book, please contact Itteringham History, Bure Cottage, Itteringham Common, Norwich, NR11 7AP



Mannington Hall 18--?

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WEBSITE
www.norfolkfhs.org.uk

CHECK IT OUT

PROJECTS - Edmund Perry

Again thanks to all transcribers for their hard work. Margaret Murgotroyd and John Brundell have joined the Projects Team to help 'clean and print' the backlog of transcripts. A Large number of PRTs have been printed and shelved:

PARISHES	Baptisms	Marriages	Burials	Banns
Barnham Broom				1756-1815
Belaugh	1674-1742	1608-1742	1678-1741	
Blickling	1559-1876	1836-1900		
Bodney	1563-1837	1556-1834	1563-1837	
Brockdish	1813-1880			
Brundall		1965-2002	1953-2000	1948-1980
Burgh Next Aylsham	1813-1880			
Burlingham	1813-1880			
Burnham Sutton	1813-1880			
Burnham Thorpe	1662-1892	1662-1837	1662-1902	
Carleton Forehoe			1812-1872	
Carleton St.Peter	1813-1880			
Catfield				1754-1809 1824-1880
Claxton	1747-1812	1751-1765	1747-1812	
Clopton (Suffolk)	1735-1812	1735-1812	1735-1812	
Colby St. Giles	1813-1880			
Coltishall	1558-1812			
Colton	1729-1812	1729-1752	1729-1812	
Costessey	1726-1812	1703-1754	1710-1812	
Cranworth cum Letton		1754-1837	1813-1903	1754-1840
Dickleburgh	1911-1985	1754-1892		1754-1800
Dilham	1563-1851	1578-1839	1563-1916	
Ditchingham	1707-1718 1794-1812			
Docking	1813-1880			
Downham Market	1720-1791 1813-1880	1720-1769		
East Dereham St. Nicholas	1813-1837			
Eaton Christchurch		1676-1901		
Eaton St Andrew			1623-1633	
Felbrigg	1813-1880			
Feltwell	1813-1880			

Stephen Cutting, his Wife & Family
Christmas Watts, his Wife & Family
James Brakenbury, his Wife & Family
Mary Ann Morter & her Family

Emigration}
Copy of Resolution}
Raising Money}

Extract from next page - same date

It was resolved
That the Churchwardens and Overseers shall and they are hereby directed to raise the sum of £120 as a Fund for defraying the Expenses of the Emigration of Poor Persons having settlements in this Parish and being willing to emigrate to be paid out of the Rates raised or to be raised for the Relief of the Poor in this Parish and to be applied under such rules, Orders and Regulations, as the Poor Law Commissioners shall on their behalf direct.

All the pauper families mentioned above were in the Mar 1851 English census, North Walsham, Norfolk.

Based on Canadian census records and Ohio baptism records it is known they migrated between Apr 1851-Dec 1851.

- Mary Morter and her family settled in South Salem, Ross County, Ohio.
- Stephen Cutting and family settled in Middleton, Norfolk North county, Ontario and are in the 1852 census.
- WATTS and BRACKENBURY / BRAKENBURY and families settled in Bayham, Elgin County, Ontario.

An exact date as to when they left England and sailing information is unknown. A closing note on Mary Ann MORTER who died April 1852 in South Salem, Ohio: a family story stated she was the half sister to Queen Victoria and in the 1960s a number of US papers wrote articles on the subject.

I would be glad to discuss any of these families with interested parties.

Jack Morter MN11732
jackmorter@sbcglobal.net or
139 Nantucket Lndg, Centerville, OH 45458-4208, USA.

ENGLISH PAUPERS MIGRATE TO NORTH AMERICA

(Sources on the origins of the CUTTING, WATTS, BRACKENBURY and MORTER families of Elgin County, Ontario, Canada)

Providing for the poor has long been a challenge in England of the 18th and 19th century. Under the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 emigration had become part of the culture, in a rural population that Britain no longer wanted, the steady stream of emigrants from Norfolk to Canada, Australia, the United States and New Zealand became a vast flood of hopeful humanity as Victoria's reign progressed, fleeing a homeland without jobs or prospects. The collapse of the agricultural economy brought about by cheap imports was not compensated by a rise in industry. Below are two entries in the Vestry Minute Book of North Walsham, Norfolk, England, 1844-1863 on how the town of North Walsham went about helping their poor.

March 20th 1851 at a meeting to consider raising or borrowing money for the emigration of the poor. Meeting adjourned to Thursday 27th instant at 11 o'clock. R.S.Baker, Chairman.

March 27th. At a Vestry to choose Parish officers. John Wortley & R.S.Baker, Churchwardens. Messrs LeNeve, Thomas Burton, Robert Martin & Clipperton, Overseers. Messrs W.Sharpe & Charles Cubitt, Surveyors. John Davidson, Samuel Bailey, Thomas Self Buck & Edward Bailey, Constables. Messrs R.C.Lacey & Drake Sewell, Assessors & Collectors. Thomas Dry, Chairman. At the adjourned meeting to assist emigration of - Stephen Cutting, wife & Family, Christmas Watts ditto, James Brackenbury ditto, Mary Ann Morter & her family. Resolved to raise the sum of £120 as a fund for defraying the expenses of the emigration of Poor persons having settlements in this Parish and being willing to emigrate to be paid out of the Rates raised or to be raised for the relief of the poor in this parish and to be applied under such Rate orders and regulations as the Poor Law Commissioners shall on that behalf direct. signed by Thomas Dry, Minister, the Churchwardens and two Overseers, and witnessed by Mr M.J. Shephard.

*Extract from Vestry Meeting March 27 1851 adjourned
At a meeting held pursuant the same day March 27 it was agreed to assist in emigrating to New York the following families*

Filby		1561-1726	1613-1726	1823-1834
Filby	1613-1629 1641-1854	1614-1629 1663-1755		
Foulsham		1813-1837	1813-1900	
Framingham Pigot		1755 1837		
Fulmondeston	1727-1756 1812-1873			
Fundenhall	1725-1812			
Garboldisham		1813-1837	1813-1881	
Garveston			1813-1900	
Gately St. Helen			1812-1852	
Gelderston		1837-1901		
Gooderstone (new version)	1563-1866	1563-1837	1563-1837	1754-1836
Great Witchingham	1813-1880			
Halvergate		1551-1766		
Heacham	1813-1880			
Heigham		1813-1837		
Hemblington			1814-1900	
Hockham	1856-1903			
Horsey All Saints	1559-1813	1571-1848	1559-1812	1757-1924
Houghton on the Hill	1813-1879			
Hunworth	1813-1998			
Ickburgh (new in excel)	1693-1906	1693-1837	1693-1837	1755-1812
Kelling	1813-1903	1754-1901	1813-1902	
King's Lynn St Margaret's			1804-1812	
King's Lynn St. Nicholas	1771-1794		1771-1794	
Lakenham St. Mark	1695-1812		1887-1913	
Langley	1695-1812			
Limpenhoe				1762-1811
Lingwood	1813-1880			
Little Plumstead			1813-1993	
Long Stratton	1825-1875			
Marham Holy Trinity	1832-1849 1873-1903	1754-1902		1754-1828
Martham St. Mary				1754-1920
Morley St. Botolph			1539-1812	
Morningthorpe	1813-1880			

Mundford		1837-1999		
North Lopham	1651-1880			
North Walsham	1828-1837			
Northrepps Parish Magazine Extracts	1905-1930	1905-1930	1905-1930	
North Tuddenham			1740-1900	
Northwold St. Andrew	1816-1840			
Norwich St. Clements		1840-1900		
Norwich St Martin at Oak	1845-1880			
Norwich St. Mary in the Marsh	1812-1836			
Norwich St. Michael at Plea		1695-1902	1695-1890	
Norwich St. Laurence	1813-1880			
Ormesby	1837-1880			
Ovington (new version)	1813-1896	1754-1837	1654-1812	1754-1882
Oxnead St. Michael	1574-1812	1578-1900	1573-1809	
Plumstead Parva	1813-1883			
Runham			1644-1812	
Ryston St. Michael	1687-1837	1687-1837	1687-1837	1754-1820
Saxlingham Nethergate			1555-1660	
Saxlingham Thorpe	1562-1740	1570-1740	1562-1740	
Sco Ruston				1837-1860
Scoulton	1783-1873	1766-1841	1783-1812	1777-1860
Sculthorpe	1813-1880			
Sharrington	1813-1894	1753-1854	1754-1902	
Snoring	1813-1880			
South Lopham	1651-1880	1754-1812	1654-1860	
Southrepps	1880-1916	1813-1837		
Stanfield	1813-1880			
Stibbard	1903-1989			
Stoke Holy Cross			1729-1813 1938-1949	
Stratton St. Mary	1825-1875			
Sutton				1755-1905
Swainsthorpe (new copy)	1559-1770	1559-1905	1558-1769	

3. Thomas, bp Colkirk 10th October 1728; m North Elmham 18th October 1750 Alice MATTHEWS. Thomas was a yeoman of Brisley at the time of marriage, while Alice hailed from Horningtoft. Bondsman was William GIBBS, yeoman of Horningtoft
4. Luke, bp Colkirk 30th November 1729; bur Colkirk 12th June 1730.
5. Daniel, bp Colkirk 22nd May 1730; m Great Ryburgh 7th May 1772 Susanna HAZE, a widow; bur Great Ryburgh 22nd February 1810.

Evidently, Luke was a favoured forename. Are we pushing the boat out too far to assume that the Luke who married Mary FABB was a late child of Luke and Mary above, born sometime in the 1740s and probably at Brisley? Of Luke and Mary, however, we can be more certain. He was buried at Brisley on the 15th December 1748, his widow some time later on the 5th January 1766. Furthermore, although a baptism for Luke of Colkirk and Grimston has not been found, it is more than likely that he too belongs to yet another Luke – a trail that is taking us to the other of the two Wills that initiated this labyrinthine meander!

Sealed on the 17th September 1717 is the last will and testament of one Luke GOTTS, a yeoman of Grimston, bequeathing £10 and all his “copyhold estate lying and being in Grimston” to his son Luke, also nominated as executor; a “loving wife” Alice is also mentioned, as are other children, though these are unfortunately unnamed. Buried in Grimston on the 20th April 1728 is Luke GOTTS; and a “Goody” GOTTS, widow, on the 12th February 1729/30.

But this is not quite the end of the story – a twisting narrative that has taken us in chronological reverse east to west across the county. For who should be married at Great Massingham, barely a turnip-toss across the heath from Grimston, on the 3rd October 1682 but a certain **Luke GOTTES** (sic) and **Martha ROBERSON!** And, in a final twist to the tale, somewhat out on a limb from all of the above, Archdeacons Transcripts for St Andrew, Great Ryburgh, record the baptism of a William on the 30th January 1720/1 and the burial of a Luke in 1720, both the offspring of a Luke and Elizabeth GOTTS – events that occurred long before the Lukes from Grimston and Brisley seem to have arrived in that village.

If this pursuit for a connection has achieved anything, perhaps it is only to show the pitfalls that await any amateur family historian obsessively chasing one specific forename. But it’s been an enjoyable experience and, who knows, where there’s a will there’s possibly a way for someone else.

Note: For much of the above information I am indebted to Mrs Shirley Howell (MN 528).

Ian Gotts MN562 iangotts@tiscali.co.uk

churchyard next to Luke GOTTS. Are Richard and Rebecca connected in some way? The proximity of the headstones suggests that that they probably are, but the question as yet remains unanswered.

A strong possibility is that Richard, Rebecca and, for that matter, Thomas are siblings, belonging to William and Mary SMITH: Rebecca bp Tittleshall 13th March 1797 and Richard bp Tittleshall 1th June 1804

Now the Richard SMITH mentioned in the Will is found in various Trade Directories as an Aylsham vet from 1822 onwards, though by 1843 he has added farming and horse dealing to his activities 1851 shows that his farm extended to 220 acres and that he was in a position to employ twelve men and two boys; his age is said to be 45, which fits quite nicely with the Tittleshall baptism above, though his birthplace is said to be Aylsham. Thomas bp Tittleshall 22nd September 1810

Coincidentally, 1851 finds Thomas a vet at Watton, married to Sophia. Their eldest son is John B. aged 17, an apprentice butcher. No marriage has been found, but interestingly John B. turns out to be John Beare (sic) SMITH, bp Watton 25th October 1833, suggesting that his mother might have been née BEAR and related in some way to John BEAR.

Now to return to the question raised at the beginning of the Will: "I Luke Fab otherwise Luke Gotts". LDS records find a **Luke FABB** baptised at St Stephen's, Norwich, on the 26th May 1771, son of **Mary FABB**, a discovery that returns us to Great Ryburgh. It would appear that Luke was baseborn to Luke GOTTS and Mary FABB, who married at Brisley on the 10th December 1772: his father is buried at Great Ryburgh on the 28th August 1781 and his mother on the 17th June 1823 aged 82. Further mention is found of Luke GOTTS in the Great Ryburgh Enclosure Award of 1810, when he paid £11-0-9d, and in the Great Ryburgh Poll Book of 1817. Similar sources reveal a **Daniel GOTTS** at Great Ryburgh, who, as we shall see, turns out to be a brother: the Land Tax Assessment of 1798 shows property owned by Daniel GOTTE (sic) occupied by John THOMPSON, and the 1806 Poll Book has property belonging to Daniel occupied by R. MITCHELL.

A baptism for the father of Luke and Daniel has still to be found but it seems more than likely that he belongs to Luke GOTTS and **Mary SANDS**, who married in Norwich in 1717 and who have the following children baptised at Colkirk:

1. Mary, bp Colkirk 14th December 1722; m North Elmham 16th January 1746 John SEPPINGS. Of Brisley at the time of marriage; bur Weasenham 29th October 1807. Bondsman for the marriage was Luke GOTTS, yeoman.
2. Luke, bp 15th August 1725; bur Colkirk 19th November 1725.

Swanton Morley			1549-1680	
Syleham (Suffolk)	1538-1837	1538-1837	1538-1837	
Tacolneston	1538-1840	1538-1837	1538-1840	
Thetford	1813-1880			
Thorpe St. Andrew	1700-1763 1812-1906	1700-1754 1812-1901	1700-1763 1812-1901	1818-1900
Tilney All Saints	1858-2002	1685-1754		
Twyford	1813-1880			
Walcot All Saints	1559-1904	1558-1902	1558-1644 1647-1812	1745-1845
Walpole St Andrew		1654-1893		
Walpole St Peter		1704-1812		
Walsoken	1850-1966	1868-1995		
Warham All Saints				1785-1820
Watlington	1813-1880			
Wells		1836-1842	1926-2002	
West Harling	1813-1880			
West Tofts	1813-1880			
Westerfield (Suffolk)	1538-1838	1539-1838	1538-1838	1756-1838
Westwick St. Botolph	1813-1880			
Wiggenhall St. Mary Mag.		1669-1822		
Witton		1582-1807		
Wiveton St. Mary	1813-1880			
Worthing	1813-1861			
Wortwell	1813-1861			
Wrenningham			1725-1811	
Wroxham	1881-1901			
Wymondham (new book)	1615-1952	1766-1819		1808-1819

NFHS WEBSITE for Surname Search on Parish Register Transcripts

The Frontis Programme has been fully tested and is nearing the final stages. We hope to be able to announce in the Dec. issue of the Ancestor a start up date before Christmas. It will be for Members Only and requires a current email address (either your own or one set up at a Library) for you to access the new Website address via our present address nfhs@paston.co.uk. Members will be allocated a User ID/Password which will be sent to them direct.

At this moment in time there are only records for 20 Parishes uploaded to the site. The process of cleaning/altering the transcripts and then following through the instructions for uploading records is time consuming. We welcome any offers of help with this major project - preferably computer literate members living in Norfolk and able to come to Kirby Hall occasionally – although work can be done from home.

Edmund G. Perry
Projects Co-ordinator

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

I have been spending the last few months going through our MI collection and have found that the Society do not have all the copies of the surveys done in 1980/81 by the Women's Institute. Many of them are available on microfilm at the Norfolk Record Office but it has been decided to purchase some of the films (from the NRO) which have surveys we do not have or include surveys we only have as abridged versions. The Society has purchased one microfilm so far – this is MF1580 and the following parish MIs are on the film:-

Surveys we did not have: Beeston Regis, Bessingham, Brampton and Broome

Surveys that are more detailed than ours: Aylsham, Barford, Bilney West, Blofield, Braydeston, Buxton and Bannington (we did not have a complete survey of the MIs in the church)

Surveys we already have: Bedingham, Brooke, Buckenham New, Bunwell, Burgh St Peter, Burnham Westgate

The microfilm is now available at Kirby Hall for visitors to view, but, because of copyright restrictions, we cannot print out a whole parish transcript. We are hoping to purchase some more films (as our budget allows), which will include quite a few parishes for which we do not have surveys.

Kirby Hall now has copies of the surveys just completed by John Pepperdine at Blo Norton and Quidenham, Garboldisham (with Mary Feakes's help), and Stratton Strawless and Besthorpe (with Bette Brown's help). We also have a CD of all the gravestones at Gressenhall which John Moulton has compiled from a survey he did of the church and churchyard. One of our Library volunteers, Mary Rodgers, has just completed a survey of Limpenhoe Church and Churchyard. Jill Wright of Mulbarton Heritage Group and Edmund Perry have submitted a survey of Flordon and are working on Bracon Ash

I would like to thank everyone who completes a survey as they are great asset to the Library and, of course, invaluable when doing research.

Mary Mitchell, MI Co-ordinator, MN3328

LOOKING FOR LUKE, OR WHERE THERE'S A WILL ...

To establish a blood link between the authors of two Wills, written by two men sharing the same name yet four generations and some thirty miles apart, may seem a forlorn undertaking, but the quest has turned out to be interesting, if not entirely fruitful – a journey that confirms the truism that a certain forename, particularly when relatively uncommon, can prove popular in many family lines.

The trip begins in the market town of Aylsham, whose churchyard of St Michael, besides being the resting-place of the 18th century landscape gardener Humphrey Repton, also has a probably less visited headstone – next to the main pathway through the yard and to the east of the chancel – “sacred to the memory of **LUKE GOTTS** of Great Riburgh (sic) who departed this life the 23rd of April 1843 aged 72”.

This modest memorial returns us to the Wills mentioned above, one made on the 1st December 1841 and proven in Norwich on the 3rd June 1843. The introduction to the document immediately raises questions:

“I Luke Fab (sic) otherwise Luke Gotts late of Great Ryburgh in the county of Norfolk but since of Aylsham...”

Reading on, it transpires that Luke owned a considerable amount of property in and around Great Ryburgh, including a “post Corn Wind Mill”. Such “premises” are now said to be in the occupation of Messney, Henry Waters, John Wilkin and others”. Great Ryburgh's Censuses for both 1841 and 1851 identify **Michael MESNEY**, grocer, likewise **Henry WATERS**, labourer, and **John WILKIN**, labourer. Further names appear in the Will, most prominently “*nephews and nieces or reputed nephews and nieces William Anger, Matthew Anger, Mark Anger, Jonathan Anger, Luke Anger, John Anger, Rebecca Bear, the wife of John Bear of Tittleshall schoolmaster, Thomas Smith and Margaret Norton, the wife of Benjamin Norton of Wellingham.*”

Each of these beneficiaries is to receive £30 apiece. Finally, appointed sole executor of the Will is “nephew or reputed nephew”, **Richard Smith** of Aylsham, identified as a “veterinary surgeon”. Again, the names mentioned are quite easily traced: the six **ANGER** children, for example, all belong to **Francis AINGER** and **Martha GOTTS**, Luke's sister, who married at Great Ryburgh on the 15th April 1804; **Margaret NORTON** also belongs to Francis and Martha and married Benjamin NORTON at Great Ryburgh on the 9th August 1840. The **NORTONS** are at Wellingham in 1851. **John BEAR** married **Rebecca SMITH** at Tittleshall on the 6th January 1829. By 1851 John BEAR is a widowed grocer, draper and schoolmaster at Tittleshall. But who is Richard SMITH? He married **Emily Rose SPURRELL** at Aylsham in 1823; she died quite young on the 26th June 1844 aged 43 and lies in the



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I am a qualified historian, researcher and tutor providing:
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Family History Tours, Family Tree Compilation, Transcription and Translation
from the 14th century to present, Written Family and House Biographies

*Other areas I visit regularly for work include Bedfordshire, Durham, Kent, Hertfordshire, London,
Oxfordshire, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Yorkshire

The parish records before 1683 are somewhat chaotic, have gaps and are difficult to read. But there is sufficient evidence of the family to be sure that this branch of the Baseys lived throughout the 17th century in Hingham. Allowing for some inter-marriage, it must be the case that my Charles (born around 1750) would have been descended from around 100 people living in 1600 and perhaps 1000 living in 1500, probably all living in Norfolk. Of course, only one male in each generation passed on the family name.

There is, inevitably, no way of knowing whether any of these folk took part in Robert Kett's rebellion of 1549 against the enclosures of lands which started on 9th July in Wymondham – but a few miles from Hingham. Did any join Geoffrey Lister in the Norfolk part of Watt Tyler's rebellion of 1381 against the poll tax of Richard II of one shilling per head? Were any of them King Henry V's archers at the Battle of Agincourt on St Crispin's Day in 1415? Were they enlisted in the Wars of the Roses? Did any fight in the battles of the Civil War in the 1640s?

We can be sure that some survived the Black Death of 1349-50, and the plagues of 1625 and 1665 - or else we wouldn't be here. We can wonder how they fared in the intensely cold winters of 1374, 1673, 1708, 1715, 1740 and 1776, and the violent storms of 1582, 1643, 1656, 1703, 1767 and 1779: which are recorded in Pamela Brooks' recent book *The Norfolk Almanac of Disasters*. And how did they cope with the personal tragedies of the frequent deaths of their young children and the loss of spouse: both John (the elder) and Robert were married thrice and Charles twice. When Robert Peck, the puritan rector of Hingham was excommunicated by the ecclesiastical authorities and left in 1638 for the New World (to what became called Hingham in the State of Massachusetts) with many of his like-minded parishioners, did any Baseys consider joining them? And did they know the Lincoln family (probably as their servants or labourers) who were the ancestors of Abraham Lincoln?

It would be fascinating to know who, in our lineage, was the mother of the bastard boy who, being base born, was nicknamed Basey, probably in the 13th century when occupations, place names and personal characteristics were coming into use as surnames. (This being the most likely origin of the name). And it would be interesting to know whether the various families of Baseys in Norfolk, recorded in parish registers since the 18th century – mine in Hingham, others in Aylsham, Barford, Barnham Broom, Beeston St Lawrence, Drayton, Dunston, East Carleton, East Tuddenham, Heigham, Hevingham, Norwich, Sprowston and Wymondham take their name from one bastard source around the 13th century or many. The name Basey is found across the UK but Norfolk has the highest density.

Michael Bassey, michaelbassey353@aol.com, MN11783 May 2009

BASEYS OF HINGHAM, NORFOLK

My great-great-grandfather, **Charles Basey**, was baptised in Hingham parish church on 6 November 1751, the son of John (1727-1760), grandson of Robert (1698-<1750) and great grandson of John (c1660-1711) all of whom lived in Hingham. After years of searching this confirmed the vague statement of my grandfather that 'the family came from Norfolk'. In celebration of this discovery I have become a member of Norfolk FHS.

Charles' parents died when he was nine years old and it seems likely that he went to live with a relative, **James Basey**, a bricklayer (which could have meant either brickee or builder), who put him (and his own son, James) to the same trade. The *Norfolk Chronicle* of 30 March 1782 reported on the wedding of James the son of James in these terms: 'Sunday last was married at St Mary's [Coslany], Mr James BASEY, bricklayer, of this city, to Miss **[Mary] MUNSEY**; a young lady possessed of every accomplishment to render the connubial state truly happy.' He became a freeman of the City of Norwich in 1786, died in 1808, and his widow moved to London to die aged 91 in 1850 in the well-to-do area of Eaton Square, London.

Charles married a Hingham girl, **Elizabeth Kirby**, in Norwich: they had a son, Charles, and then the three of them moved to Clerkenwell in London where their son was apprenticed in 1790 to the Founders Company. They had three more children who died in infancy and then Elizabeth died. Charles married again and, unlike him, **Jane Theobald** signed her name in the parish register. Their only son, James, my great-great grandfather, probably benefitting from his mother's literacy, became a merchant's clerk and tax collector, living in Southwark just south of the River Thames. His son, **Thomas Basey**, married in 1868 **Louisa Powell**: her father, a printer's compositor, didn't believe in women being educated and so when she came to register the birth of their son (my grandfather) and the registrar entered '**Joseph Bassey**' she was unable to spot the change in surname.

In the hundred years from 1684 to 1783 I have found on the Hingham parish records 52 entries (baptisms, marriages and burials) of people named Basey, Basy, Basie and Bacey. With a few exceptions they all fit into one family tree. By the 19th century there were none in Hingham. But what of earlier generations – the forebears of John Basey of Hingham who died in 1711? The town accounts of 15 April 1689, in a long list, has an entry of £3.0.0 against his name (but I can't tell whether this was a receipt or a payment). It was only seven months after the great fire which destroyed much of Hingham. Was he too a bricklayer and found plenty of work following the fire?



BRANCH REPORTS

Correspondence about individual branches and meetings should be addressed to the following branch organisers

East Norfolk: Mrs Patricia Wills-Jones, Email: patricia.willsjones@btinternet.com

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

West Norfolk: Mrs Brenda Leedell, Email: kqbj@dell4277.plus.com

Norwich: Mr and Mrs Jim Barwick, Mr and Mrs Roger Peck

London: Miss Mary Seeley, Flat 3, Butterfield House, 7 Allen Rd, London N16 8SB E-mail: mary975@btinternet.com (home) and ms28@soas.ac.uk (work)

East Norfolk Branch Report – Patricia Wills-Jones and Susan Roberts



May. The branch welcomed Ian Waller with his presentation, *On the Right Track – Railway Staff Records*. He showed us that there is a host of records going back to the start of the railways that can be researched if you have an ancestor associated with the railway. Details of personnel appear to be quite thorough including photographs. Interestingly he pointed out if you have a forbear who was working for a company carrying out work for the railway, there might also be records. Old railway staff magazines are useful to keep track of promotions, marriages and deaths.

With no time to spare to work my way around these records I asked Ian, a researcher, to carry out further research on my behalf, on William Dennis KING my maternal Grandfather who was killed in a railway accident in 1937. At the time he was employed as a foreman for a sewage contractor, Lobb Brothers, laying pipes for a new sewage system, an occupation he had carried out previously on the seabed of Poole Harbour.

Based on information I supplied, i.e. death certificate and *St Ives Times*, Ian researched various documents, for any further details. These included the Great Western Railway Register of Accidents and Associated Papers for 1937, RAIL270/18: Great Western Railway Magazine November 1937 ZPER19/50: Railway Gazette November 1937 held at the British Library: Ministry of Transport Railway Accidents, Reports of Inspecting Officers

occurring in Oct, Nov, Dec1937, KH2873, whose official entry says that the fatality at Hawkes Point Viaduct, St Ives, inquest held – accidental death.

Ian also researched staff records for my maternal gt grandfather George DIFFY who, in a newspaper report on his and his wife Harriet's 50th Wedding Anniversary, states that among previous employment, he was a horse van driver delivering goods for the railway. To ascertain if the goods department of the railway employed him, a search was made of the staff registers of London and South Western Railway, which ran through Poole and Dorset. London and South Western Railway Goods Department Staff registers 1866 - 1826, RAIL411/517-519 (three Pieces). No entry was located for George Diffey, suggesting he was employed by an independent contractor.

June. Hazel Marsh came to talk about A Gypsy Family History, suggesting that as gypsies have been in England for 300 years, many families will have a gypsy in them. They stayed outside towns attempting to keep a low profile.

1658 - 13 gypsies were hung for being vagrants

1688 - The wife of Samuel Pepys had her fortune told by a gypsy

1809 - Gypsies gathered on Mousehold and the women sold lavender.

Gypsies travelled for economic considerations, preferring to be their own boss rather than employed. It seems they even made money producing 'No Hawkers' signs. Although born in different places, they registered the births next time they were in the same place, for poor law reasons. Their Mediterranean attitude to children means that the children are adored. Seasonal Horse Fairs in the past were used to catch up on news and other family members. After WW11 casual farm work was lost due to mechanisation, and many families settled on permanent sites or 'in brick'. It is suggested that if your ancestor was recorded as a hawker it probably means they were a gypsy. Tracing a family is difficult as they kept away from authorities. Names are unusual e.g. Wisdom; Logan; Jasper; Ambrose, Sheba with surnames being Smith, Cooper and Lee. Margaret Finch 1631-1740 was the Queen of the Gypsies and a public house in Norwood is named for her.

Hazels father's attempted to keep quiet about being teased at school for being a gypsy. In contrast Hazel has embraced and celebrates her culture, researching musical aspects of it, through the UEA.

July. Once again we enjoyed a lively evening at Kirby Hall, and our thanks go to Mary Mitchell and Ed Perry who volunteered to show us how we might use NFHS electronic resources to access transcribed parish registers. John Taylor took a couple of us under his wing to give us an example of using freebmd and familysearch.org., while others worked their way through other library resources to further their own agenda.

A puzzling long-distance move away from NW Norfolk – why did he move there? - does not happen until the mid-18th century when Christopher HAVERSON, baptised at Wolferton in 1695, turns up 60 years later in mid-Norfolk as the overseer of the parish poor at Longham. (Wolferton to Longham is a great deal further than Norwich to Lessingham.) By that time the modern lure of Norwich and even London was beginning to make itself felt and within two generations several of these **HARVERSON** 'ag labs' had founded prosperous city businesses; one grandson of a West Newton-born tailor became a stockbroker, whose daughter married a future Lord Mayor of London.

A final turn of the screw of Tantalus in relation to this quest to find out why one individual decided to move to a distant parish is provided by a further branch at exactly the same time as when the South Wootton family became established. Many miles away from Norfolk one Thomas HARBERSON married Annis NUTKIN in Hertfordshire at Hemel Hempstead before settling in Bedfordshire at Dunstable to raise their family. Was this Thomas a brother of the Robert whose will of 1562 made in South Wootton started me off on this enquiry? Or is the quest to link up those with an uncommon surname doomed to failure?

Michael Harverson MN2579

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Norfolk Research Specialist
(since 1982)

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all reference to other members of the family, until Cornelius **HAVERSON**'s death in 1602 at Waxham, as recorded in an administration. Like Cornelius (a good Protestant name from the Low Countries), Mariona and her mother Sisley's maiden name of **ESTEWEK** has a Flemish ring to it. Is this an immigrant family? Their presence in Norwich in 1551 suits that interpretation, but why did Cornelius settle in the coastal villages of Lessingham and Waxham? How would he have made a living there except as a farmer? Was that a normal transition for a Flemish weaver – if he was one? The fifty-year gap, broken only by the marriage of Cornelius and marked by the absence of any mention of the surname in surviving Norwich registers is perhaps surprising and certainly unfortunate for the keen researcher. Norwich is in fact an unrewarding place to seek for records of this family, better is Great Yarmouth (though, with one **HEAVESONNE** exception in 1608, not till the latter half of the 17th century). The ports of Yarmouth, Lynn and Norwich were all common destinations for immigrants from the Low Countries at this time. The continuing connection with the Waxham area (moving gradually south down the coast to Sea Palling, Winterton and Somerton) is indicated by wills in 1613 and 1635, and inventories in 1635 and 1642. The goods listed there belong to a miller, a carpenter and two modestly prosperous husbandmen, with houses and copyhold land to bequeath. The 't' spelling reappears in Norwich towards the end of the 18th century. Prior to 1551 was it a distinct, Norwich name, or did it occur over several centuries in the villages along the NE coast? There are few official lists that can be consulted for pre-Reformation Norfolk. None checked so far contain a **HAVERSTON**.

What of 16th-century and earlier bearers of the allied 'b' and 'v' spellings on the other side of the county? If they could be located, would they be found in documents c.1500 relating to the villages north of Lynn, like South Wootton? Only **Hugo AVERSON** or **AVENSON** in Sedgeford parish register entries for 1552, 1570 and 1577 joins the **HARBURSONs** of South Wootton in the 1560s and the **HARBERSONs** of Castle Rising recorded in the period 1585-1611, thereafter a frustrating and lengthy gap occurs in those registers. The dropped 'H' is surely to be understood? Hugo introduces the 'v' to this otherwise 'b' group about one hundred years before it becomes standard there. If the damaged North Wootton registers prior to 1560 could be examined, and if those of Dersingham prior to 1653 had survived, they might reveal the background of Thomas and Robert **HARBERSON** whom we know only through an administration and a will. [Family history is full of "if only" regrets!] It looks as though this family may have a pre-Reformation history rooted in Norfolk north of Lynn, independent of the conceivably Dutch or Flemish origins of the 't' spelling variant surname. Or there may be some truth in the family legend of migration to Norfolk from Scandinavia [in a Viking longboat!].



South Norfolk Branch Report – Laraine Hake and Yvonne Billin

In **May** we were fortunate to welcome, once again, Michael Gandy who talked to us about "Tying down your immigrant London ancestor". There was a full house, as usual when Michael is speaking!

He introduced his talk with a cautionary statement: if your ancestor was out of their ancestral area and they died before the 1851 census then it could be very difficult to trace their origins especially if the surname is a common one. It was a free country and there was no necessity to register their parish of origin in the new location.

People can be linked to their parish of origin through baptismal records. The number of children not baptised was probably very low. Apart from religious beliefs, being baptised would provide evidence of age if they were ever involved in an inheritance or custody issue where proof of age would be required, especially if they were from the upper or middle classes. For the poorer members of the community proof of parish with a baptism certificate would provide evidence to establish right to poor relief from that parish if they fell on hard times. Removal orders were used to 'repatriate outsiders' to their parish of birth when they needed financial assistance. When marrying, a woman acquired her husband's parish of settlement so her own origins may slip from the records. It is a reasonable assumption that most babies were baptised in their parish church within one month of birth. If different the clerk would record this for poor relief entitlement purposes. They would want to avoid them becoming a burden on their own parish at a later date. It is always advisable to check original paperwork where possible.

Be wary of names that run in families, often in neighbouring areas. The practice of naming children after grandparents gives rise to entries of the same name but not necessarily referring to the same person! They could easily be cousins, nephews, uncles etc. Another warning came with the use of indexes. They can be very useful sources of information and easy to use but are open to transcription errors. Likewise, mistakes can be made in good faith and posted on websites. This is not only a modern day problem. When records were transferred from local to national levels deadlines can be missed and become lost in the system. Again, the importance of referring to original documentation cannot be over emphasised. However, even originals are open to error. Michael's research highlighted this with the '**Hemming**' family becoming '**Flemming**' when they moved parishes and eventually turned into '**Emin**'. (Say them all with varying London accents!) Likewise the **Jennings** family from the Framlingham / Earl Soham area moved to Green Hythe and,

through no fault of their own, became the **Jannings** family. Regional accents have a lot to account for!

If you are tracing a less common surname carrying out a one-name survey across the country may yield lost ancestral roots. Also it may be worthwhile searching through all the wills for a parish. Sometimes even servants were left small considerations in wills. Other potential sources in tracing wayward ancestors include apprenticeship records, land records, settlement investigations, barsturdy bonds, newspapers, criminal and court records and discharge papers for the military. Many records are now computerised with searchable indexes.

A far more modern approach to establishing cousinship is with DNA testing on direct male line descent. When the paper trail has been exhausted this can provide proof positive that one branch of a named family is related to another of the same name - or not as the case may be! DNA testing gives us a way forward for research when written sources do not.

As usual Michael entertained and informed us in his usual enthusiastic style, tinged with his wry sense of humour. It was a very enjoyable evening.

In **June**, we welcomed Dr Paul Davis who was replacing Pip Wright at short notice; Pip had been taken ill the previous weekend and we all wished him well.

Paul gave us an illustrated talk on The Edwardian Seaside, with particular emphasis on the history of the seaside according to postcards from Gt Yarmouth and Gorleston. It was fascinating to see the Bathing Belles of 1913, wearing more clothes than many would wear to walk down the High Street in the present day!

The earliest pictures included etchings from The Graphic, dating back as far as 1853. Apparently, on 30th June 1847, Queen Victoria bathed in the sea at Gt Yarmouth, for fun. Previously, her grandfather, George III, had bathed at Weymouth in 1789 but this was for his health. Thus we can see the change of emphasis that took place as far as bathing in the sea was concerned; from the mid 18th century onwards, the seaside began to alter from health resorts to pleasure resorts. The first picture postcards appeared in the 1890 and 1899 saw the first mixed-sex bathing in Gt Yarmouth.

In 1892, Annual Temperance Excursions were available at a cost of 4/6 for one day; these gave nine hours by the sea. Further improvements in transport gradually brought the working class to the seaside and by 1900 the coast of Britain had changed from small villages to large towns offering shops, photographers, dancing and orchestras for entertainment, as well as goat carts and donkey rides. Pleasure Boats on the Thames took visitors out via the estuary and round the Kent coast to Margate; Belle Steamers started from Tower Bridge and travelled to Southend and Yarmouth as well as all posts in

WHY WOOTTON AND WAXHAM? WHERE ELSE?!

As you struggle back through time searching for information that will help you pin down that elusive and ever earlier ancestor of yours, do you perhaps wonder how he came to reside in one particular parish?

If the church registers have not survived for that date (and the most we can expect from that source anyway is 1538), if you draw blanks with wills, settlements, Hearth and Poll Tax returns and Muster Rolls, you are faced with having to accept that you have reached a buffers situation, and will probably never know whether that family member, that generation on your family tree, was born, lived and died in that Tudor village. Alternatively, you may decide that you are doomed to hunt the elusive needle in a vast, amorphous haystack from which the crucial evidence may long since have been deleted by time or misfortune (yours). But there is always a 1% chance of hitting your genealogical jackpot, isn't there?!

Five and four centuries ago, as today, people moved mainly for reasons connected with employment. In 1609 our 'ag lab' forebears, before they were married, expected to have to find fresh work and lodging every autumn, moving after the annual hiring fair, often only a few miles, to a neighbouring parish. So, the family historian initially searches the parish records within a close radius of the last parish where his ancestors were found. If the records are defective or the ancestor in fact moved a long way away, the quest becomes difficult; one is grateful for transcripts made by volunteers and for indexes of births, deaths or marriages published by county family history societies. These questions of movement – where did they come from? why did they go there? - provide some of the more intractable puzzles that challenge us.

My unusual surname occurs in numerous spellings, generally recognisable, and is found as one goes back in time, in NW and NE Norfolk. In the NW the name includes either a 'b' or a 'v'; in the NE a 't' is almost invariable. Pre 1700 we are talking of only a handful of identifiable families in both cases. No link has yet been proved between them, but I remain convinced that one will be found.

The earliest occurrences so far discovered are a **HAVERSTON** marriage in Norwich in 1551 and a **HARBERTSON** burial at Dersingham in 1555. For fifty years thereafter the record is more or less continuous in NW Norfolk, located in South Wootton and Castle Rising. By contrast, the Norwich couple have a daughter baptised in another church there in the same year, but silence ensues until 1583 when **Cornelius HARVSTON** is married in Lessingham. We may surmise that he was the son of John and Sisley and younger brother of Mariona, his baptism lost in the amorphous haystack, along with

A QUESTION ANSWERED

I've been researching family history for donkey's years and a question I've been asked is "Do we have any rich and famous ancestors?" First, by my children. Then, by my grandchildren. Later on, god-willing, probably by my great-grandchildren, now coming into the family.

My stock answer is "Well I believe that the family comes from Geoffrey COBB of Norwich (1538 – 1590) who was descended from the Cobbs who owned Sandringham, a rich and famous family in Norfolk in those days. He was a Freeman and Swordbearer who carried the sword before the Mayor and wore a hat called a cap of maintenance. The sword and cap showed that authority had been delegated to the Mayor by the King. The richness and fame were lost and our line was broken through the civil war and religious strife. Similar to the family of John Rhodes COBB (1899 – 1952), the famous motorist, who claimed to have come from the same roots."

However, to bring the descent into modern times, I do tell the children about my great-grandfather. "William COBB (1837 – 1923) was a wheelwright and carpenter. He came to London through lack of work, as many sons and daughters of Norfolk did, and settled in Hanover Street, in Kentish Town. When John SAINSBURY opened his depot in nearby Allcroft Road, he asked William to build his first one-horse cart. The present Lord SAINSBURY said that his grandfather recalled that first van. The transaction was probably made with a handshake and the project completed with pride.

Yes, a Norfolk man built SAINSBURY'S first van. No, William COBB wasn't rich and famous but he knew a man whose family became so!"

Alf Cobb MN3632

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between! In 1911, there were 430 000 visitors to Gt Yarmouth, many of whom came by steamer and had to ensure that they caught the last boat back! Landing stages were built for the steamers. These developed into piers which themselves became extensions of the promenades and encouraged walks out to sea to breathe in the ozone. Later the commercial potential of these piers was realised and theatres and slot machines came into being.

All of this was illustrated with picture postcards from all eras. It was a most enjoyable talk; Paul Davis had stepped into the breach magnificently.

In **July** another sizeable audience met at the Methodist Church Hall in Diss to hear Roy Tricker speak to us about East Anglian Clerical Characters, or East Anglian Eccentrics! Roy stated that his aim was to give us a relaxing evening and that if at least one of us fell asleep he would know he had succeeded. Roy has been interested in churches since he was four years old so he was able to use both his childhood and a lifetime spent in churches from which to pick the characters he had known and loved. He was an RE teacher in a secondary school in Suffolk before he moved on and worked for the Churches Conservation Trust.

The first person Roy spoke about was the Rev William Archibald Spooner, the all time champion of the verbal blooper after whom "spoonerisms" take their name. Spooner was actually a brilliant man, an Oxford don, but he constantly mixed up the beginnings of his words and swapped them with others in the same phrase, without being aware of it. Hence, for example, a toast to the "Dear Old Queen" could be heard as the "Queer Old Dean", an entirely different sentiment.

Next we heard about Harold Davidson of Stiffkey, who Roy Tricker considered to be one of the most unfairly treated priests of the 20th century. His main fault appeared to be that he did not know how to be discrete and his main crime to be his fervent belief that, although his quiet parish of Stiffkey required his services at weekends, God required him to spend the rest of his time on the streets of London where there were more souls requiring his help. His aim was to help the girls on the streets, especially those who had run away from home. Although his parishioners loved and supported him, there were those in authority who did not share their faith. Davidson was tried in the consistory court and unfrocked in Norwich Cathedral.

Roy moved on to other fascinating members of the clergy he had known, claiming that real eccentrics are not those who set out to be different but people like Davidson who believe they are perfectly normal.

We sat, spellbound, as we heard of these priests who had gone in and out of so many people's family history, if only as the very people who performed and noted the baptism, marriages and burials that are so important to us all.



West Norfolk Branch report - Brenda Leedell

Derek Palgrave was our speaker in **May**, talking about the advantages of getting out and about and visiting the areas where our ancestors lived, worked, married and died. Many surprising discoveries can be made by visiting churches and graveyards as you may discover

extra information on a plaque or gravestone that may move your research on. Getting the feel of an area or village where you ancestors lived can be quite rewarding.

In **June** Brian Jones made a welcome return to give us a timely talk about the Census, particularly the recently released 1911 Census which was taken on 2nd April 1911. At present just England and Wales are available to peruse; Scotland will not be released until 2012. The 1911 Census differs from previous censuses in that, for a cost, you may actually see an image of the form filled in by your ancestor in his or her own handwriting. The 1911 Census is only available at present on a pay-to-view basis and can prove costly if you do not prepare, think and plan before you look. This is one site well worth taking the time to look at the search tips in the Help and Advice section, as the cost to look at the original form can cost anything from £2.40 to £3.60 each, depending on how many units you purchase at a time. However, a look at the schedule will be cheaper (80p to £1.20) but does not give as much information. Following Brian's suggestions, I bought some units and went on to the site again, biting the bullet and using 30 units I was able to find out more than I initially thought I would. As my paternal great-grandmother was listed as a widowed housekeeper I was pleasantly surprised to find the details of how many children she had had and how many had died. These details had a line through them on the form as not required as it was not her household – but they were still readable and I now find myself looking for more children than I thought. However – despite trying every avenue I can think of I still can't find my (then) 11 year old grandfather!

On our regular **July** outing we were given a tour of True's Yard, the North End Fishing Museum in King's Lynn. The centre of the museum consists of two restored Georgian fishermen's cottages and show the conditions in which the fishermen and their families of King's Lynn used to live. Newly acquired are two adjacent shops, one of which has a "smoke house" at the rear and is in the process of being restored. We were shown the education/research area of True's Yard which is at present quite small.

However, when the smoke house extension is completed there will be much enlarged facilities available.

The seventh child **Henry Reeves** became a bookbinder's apprentice and migrated to Lowestoft, Suffolk. He married twice, his first wife was **Emma Elizabeth Kett**, and they had a daughter Elizabeth E, who appears on just one census. Apparently Emma died as two years later Henry was married to **Mary Anne Newson**, (Newton on the Registers) from Oulton.

Henry and Mary Anne lived in Mariner Street, Lowestoft with their children – Frederick (1863), twins Harry and Alfred (1865-1866), Frank (1868), William (1869) [my ancestor], Edith 1871, Arthur 1872, Ellen 1876.

It was **William** who married **Louisa Hyde Fox** and inherited the Bible; he also followed in father's footsteps and became a printer. My grandfather **Frederick William Reeves** married **May Matilda Sheehan** and their children were – my father **Arthur George**, followed by **Reginald, Frederick**, and **Irene** known in the family as Doll because she is small in stature. My father also became a printer and married my mother **Daisy Dorothy Newson** in 1941. Thus we have come full circle and have in my family tree the name of Newson twice, with one hundred years apart.

I am grateful to Lord and Lady Teviot for their hard work in tracing the names in the bible, now I hope to continue and find even more relatives, or at least their descendants.

Maureen D. Copping MN10763

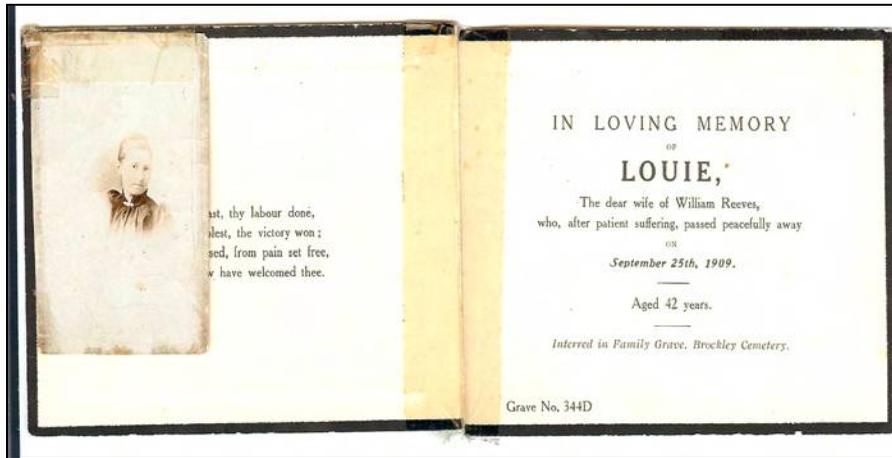
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The Bible was handed down through the Reeves family and when my aunt, Irene Doris [Doll] Reeves had it she arranged for Lord and Lady Teviot, professional genealogists, to research the names inscribed therein. They could not find Louie's birth certificate despite the fact that they noted that it was recorded in the Westminster district of London. This I confirmed and have since been able to obtain a birth certificate.

Perhaps they were looking in the wrong place, as according to census returns the family were constantly on the move. William Reeves and Louisa Hyde Fox were married on 26 July 1890 in the Southward Park Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Rotherhithe, London. William was a 21 year old compositor, residing at 9 Moodkes Street, which is near to Southwark Park. Louie was 23 years of age and lived at 14 Moodkes Street.



The memorial card for Louisa Hyde Reeves, nee Fox [Louie] who died 1909 aged 42. This is the only known photograph of her that survives.

Unfortunately the Bible has not survived; by 2007 it had disintegrated and was thrown away. I never had the opportunity to look at and hold this bible; all I have are the notes that were passed on to me of the Teviot's findings.

In tracing the names in the Bible we were able to go back not just on the Fox side of the family but the Reeves as well. In 1800 **John Reeves**, cordwainer in Melksham, Wiltshire, married **Anne Stockwell**, from Devizes, who was educated enough to be able to sign her name on the marriage certificate, whereas John just made his mark. They had twelve children: George (1828) who married Amelia; John (1830); Mary (1831); Elizabeth (1833); Benjamin (1835); Ann (1837); Henry (1838) my ancestor; Jane (1839); Anne (1843); Alfred (1846); Louisa (1849); Augusta (1851). After Anne died, John married Mary Anne Smith. Anne seems to have made sure that all of her children received a good education.

I was particularly interested in the amount of non-conformist records that have been deposited there. Together with the local parish transcripts and the vast amount of information on the fishing fleet, this a must for people researching fishing ancestors in King's Lynn. There is an hourly charge for using the research facilities – details can be found on their web-site.



Norwich Branch Report – Roy Scott and Denagh Hacon

In **May** Mike Wabe talked to us about Victorian prisons. At one time there were three levels of imprisonment: gaols, prisons and bridewells.

Bridewells were places of correction and these were local.

Gaols were correctional institutions to detain persons in the lawful custody of the government – initially there were only 7 of these, and Norwich never had a gaol. If you were sent to gaol, you were a convict, with the possibility of remission for your gaol sentence, which would be 2 years or over.

Prisons held prisoners (of course) and these were local; there was no remission for your prison sentence. They were not always a place of punishment; punishment took other forms, e.g. the ducking stool, the pillory, whipping, branding and the stocks. Initially prisons were simply a holding place for people awaiting trial or punishment and they would be held in large cells, maybe 20 people or more to one cell. Later, prisons themselves became a form of punishment, and cells became much smaller to hold just one person. Prisoners were not allowed to talk to each other, only to the warder or turnkey, and they could be sentenced to hard labour. Hard labour was essentially pointless labour and involved such tasks as breaking stones or moving piles of earth from one place to another. When prisons became too full, prisoners might be transferred to hulks, old ships moored in coastal waters. In 1787 transportation to Australia began. It was seen as an alternative to prison or the hulks. Transportation was formally abolished in 1868 and was replaced by penal servitude which was a long sentence often including hard labour.

It seems that prisoners really did have suits with arrows and their food was very basic: bread, gruel, soup, potatoes, beans, fat bacon. A prisoner's life was designed to deter people from doing wrong and committing crime.

However, as often crime was due to poverty this did not have the desired result.

Geof Lee gave an enlightening talk in **June** entitled 'A gypsy in the family'. The first recorded arrival of gypsies in Britain was 1505 in Scotland and 1514 in England. For some reason, now lost in the mists of time, they were thought to be Egyptians, hence the name gypsies. However, most came from Turkey via Eastern Europe (Romania – hence Romany).

Over a period of four hundred years several acts were passed to try to get rid of gypsies, but eventually in 1908 The Children's Act made provision for gypsy children to go to school.

They were caught up in the holocaust during WW2 – in 1941 250,000 gypsies were arrested and sent to death camps supposedly as workers, but many did not survive.

They have their own, often mobile, life style. Early homes were bender tents, then vardos (the traditional gypsy caravan) and nowadays more modern caravans are used. They have their own language, recipes and medicine, and work in particular trades, often being involved in horse trading. They have their own traditions regarding marriage and death, e.g. when a gypsy dies their caravan is burned afterwards.

Many of us may be unaware that we have gypsy roots. There are several websites available, which can be found by searching the internet, that can give us an insight into gypsy tradition and lifestyle.

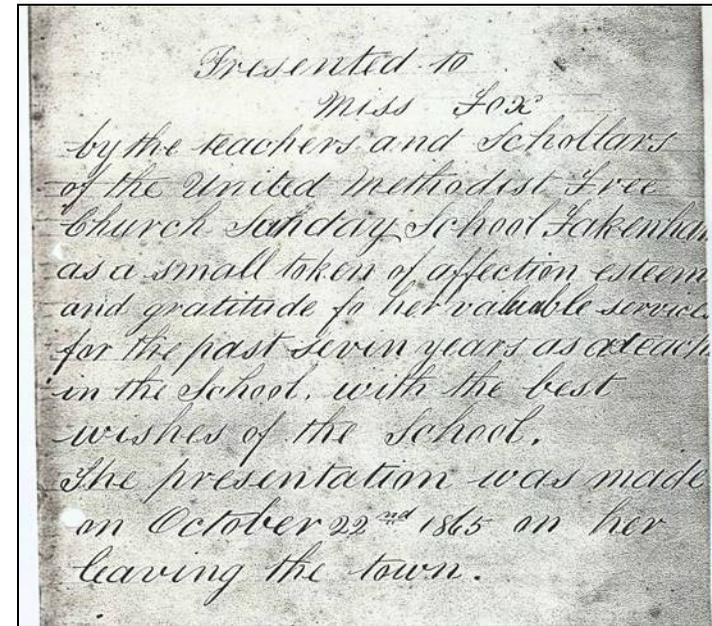
On 10th **July**, over 20 members took part in an exercise to unearth information and compile family trees using only the resources available in Kirby Hall Library. To add competition to the exercise, members taking part were divided into four teams, each team were given an envelope containing the name of an individual with brief details, date of birth/death etc. In just over one hour the teams were able to show substantial family trees and reveal the sources for the considerable amount of information amassed.

It was only then, that the organizer of the exercise, Jim Barwick, revealed that the names of the individuals in the envelopes were in fact his great grandfathers. Jim was aware of most of the information uncovered but the teams did manage to reveal one or two surprises for him.

All members taking part said how much they enjoyed the competition and many went home with a new awareness of what a valuable resource our library is for those researching Norfolk families.

My FOX ancestors, (who married into the REEVES family)

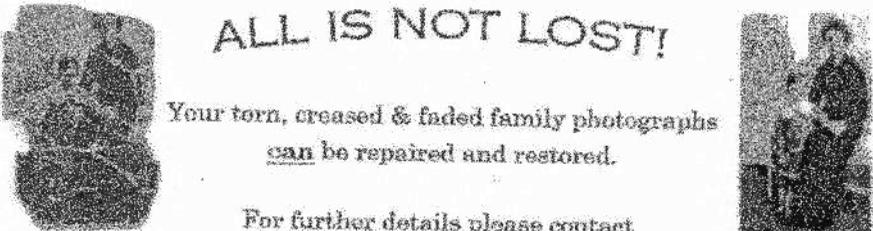
How to compile my family tree? Well, it began with a Bible about 150 yrs old which came down through my father's family and had some names in it. On the flyleaf of this Bible was an inscription:



Miss Fox was **Elizabeth Fox**, my gtx3 grandmother, a dressmaker, who married her cousin **Mark John Fox**, a Miller on 29 October 1865 at the Church of All Saints, Islington, London. Her eldest daughter **Louisa Hyde Fox** [Louie] married my gtx2 grandfather **William Reeves**, printer at Southwark Park Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Rotherhithe, Kent on 26 July 1890. She used the front pages of the bible to record the names of her family.

Louisa Hyde Fox (bn 8 April 1867); **Rosa Maria Fox** (bn 30 June 1869); **Henry Mark Fox** (bn 22 November 1872); **Robert Fox** (bn 28 January 1874); **Harriet Maria Fox** (bn 11 July 1877).

It appears that Louie inherited the Bible as she continued the entries as follows: **Louisa Hyde Reeves** (bn 8 April 1867 Lambeth); **William Reeves** (bn 17 March 1869 Lowestoft, Suffolk); **Frederick William Reeves** (bn 14 June 1891 at Rotherhithe, Surrey) [Deptford crossed out]; **Arthur Henry Reeves** (bn 17 September 1894) and **Lillian Elizabeth Reeves** (bn 21 March 1897) both at Deptford, Kent.



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Charles Surman's extraordinary biographical card index of Congregational ministers includes the names of about 32,000 individuals, and, where known, their dates, details of their education, ministries or other employment, together with the sources used. It covers the period from the mid-seventeenth century to 1972, and though it focuses on England and Wales, it includes Congregational ministers serving abroad provided they trained or served as ministers in Britain. Although intended as an index of Congregational ministers, it also gives details of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Presbyterians.

Charles Surman's extraordinary biographical card index of Congregational ministers was given to Dr Williams's Library in 1960. The Surman Index Online makes the contents available electronically via the internet for the first time. The index includes the names of about 32,000 ministers, and, where known, their dates, details of their education, ministries or other employment, together with the sources used. It covers the period from the mid-seventeenth century to 1972, and though it focuses on England and Wales, it includes Congregational ministers serving abroad provided they trained or served as ministers in Britain. The card index has been much used by academics and by local and family historians.

This open access online edition has been funded by a 'Small Research Grant' from the British Academy with further grants from the Congregational Memorial Hall Trust and Dr Williams's Trust. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support received from these bodies, without which the work could not have been undertaken.

This edition of the database is the property of the Dr Williams's Centre for Dissenting Studies. Citations should take the form 'The Surman Index Online, Dr Williams's Centre for Dissenting Studies, <http://surman.english.qmul.ac.uk>'.

The database and interfaces were designed and the work undertaken by Mr Richard Gartner under the direction of Dr David Wykes, Director of Dr Williams's Library. The Introduction and account of the Index are by Dr Wykes.

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GENEALOGY and GENETICS

Family Trees are suspect genetically for a number of reasons irrespective of promiscuity and illegitimacy. We tend to think that the names of ancestors we unearth represent people we are genetically related to but this is true only to a limited degree. Characteristics such as sex, hair and eye colour, blood group, are inherited through the transmission of genes neatly packaged into chromosomes of which there are 46 in every cell of our bodies: 23 inherited from our Father and 23 from our Mother, but each child born to the same parents can be remarkably different depending on the combination of these chromosomes and the activity of genes. Moreover, since so many chromosomes become redundant in sexual reproduction it means that if we go back through 6 generations our 46 chromosomes are distributed between 64 ancestors. Theoretically at least 18 of our 3x. gt.grandparents have passed on no chromosomes to us – they are no more related to us than the stranger across the street. This situation becomes progressively worse the further back we go: 82 of our 4x gt.grandparents have no obvious genetic relationship to us.

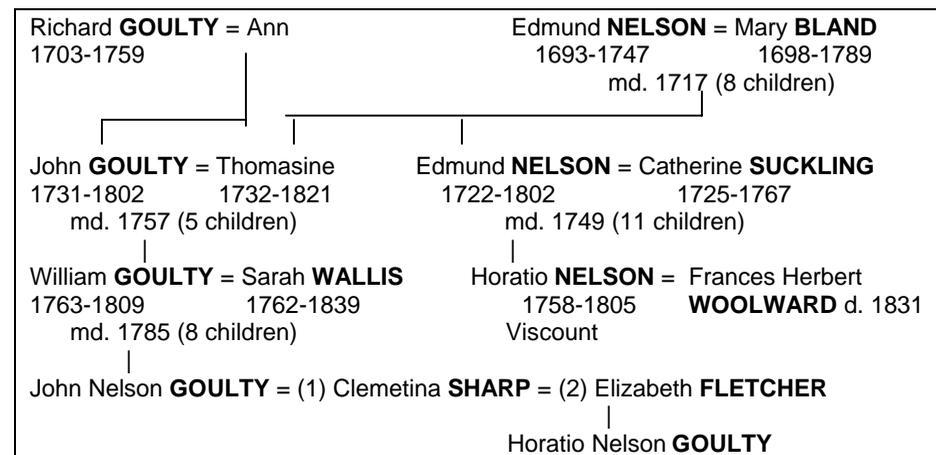
There are two lines we could confidently identify as genuine ancestors who may have passed on genetic material and their associated physical characteristics. (i) the Y chromosome and (ii) the mitochondria genes. Two of the 46 are called sex chromosomes because they determine our sex as an individual – normally a male is XY and a female XX. It is impossible to determine the inheritance of the X chromosome. Each woman inherits two X, one from her mother and one from her father. The latter's X is from his mother, but the Mother's X could be from her father or mother. The further back we go the more complicated it becomes. A man inherits an X from his mother and one Y from his father who inherited it from his father and so on. If a man can prove that this paternal line is accurate (i.e without illegitimacy) then he can be reasonably confident that he shares the Y chromosome with all his male ancestors and is genetically related to them (hence Family Trees based on Surnames traced through male descent). However, if there are no male descendents then the Y chromosome disappears. One may inherit a name or a title but few if any male physical characteristics.

The second line of descent applies to both males and females, not via chromosomes but by a small number of genes found in bodies called mitochondria. Evidently, billions of years ago they were primitive bacteria living in a symbiotic relationship with animal and plant cells. This mtDNA genetic material has continued until the present and is only passed down through egg cells: both sons and daughters inherit it from their mothers, but only daughters pass it on. We share the same mitochondria and their genes with our mother, her mother and so on down the maternal line. Hence the two most common types of genetic genealogy tests are Y-DNA (paternal line) and the mtDNA (maternal line) to determine genetic relationship.

The last two children, John and Maria were baptised in the parish of St. Andrew, 11th Aug. 1771.

A trade directory of 1783 records the business at 18 London Lane, and poll books for 1780, 1784, 1786, record John as an elector for a member of Parliament for St. Andrews. In 1796 the family were living in the Cathedral precincts but retired to East Dereham (poll book 1799). John died on Wed. 11th April 1821 aged 89 and was buried in the Cathedral Garth. Their son William, a linen draper at East Dereham, was admitted to the Freedom of the City of Norwich 10 April 1784 soon after his 21st birthday. William married Sarah Wallis in 1785 and had 8 children. John Nelson Goulty was their eldest son (see abbreviated Family Tree below).

The relationship was acknowledged by the Nelson family. The Rev. Edmund Nelson wrote a brief family history in 1781 and referred to the marriage of his sister and John. Lord Horatio Nelson described John as a gentleman, when he furnished the College of Arms an account of his relatives in 1797. The Goulty family were proud of this connection and perpetuated the memory of such an illustrious relative: of the descendents of John and Thomasine Goulty, five were given the Christian name of Nelson, three christened as Edmund, and two as Horatio.



Abbreviated from an article in Genealogists' Magazine Sept 1985 Vol 21 no. 11 pp. 786-791 by the late George A. Goulty, who deposited copies of his large GOULTY collection of papers, certificates and other documents with the NFHS and which can be viewed in the Kirby Hall Library

Edmund G. Perry MN 3181

GOULTY and the NELSON Connection.

John Nelson Goulty (b.1788) was one of eight children of William and Sarah GOULTY, who lived at East Dereham, John Nelson became a Reverend who had an interesting career. Brought up an Anglican he became a nonconformist; studied for the ministry at Homerton Collerge, (Cambs); student pastorate was at Godalming in Surrey; ordained and became pastor of the Protestant Dissenters at Henley-on-Thames, 15 Nov. 1815. Eight years later he became Minister of the Union Street Chapel; Brighton, holding that post for 37 years. He was a prominent citizen there founding and supporting several local schools and the hospital. A remarkable preacher with great presence, he died 1870 in Brighton aged 82.

John Nelson had a son and three daughters by his first wife, **Clementina Sharp**, plus four sons and two daughters by his second wife, **Elizabeth Fletcher**. Several children died in infancy but one son, Russell also became a nonconformist minister; another son, Wallis Rivers, was a mechanical engineer, and Horatio Nelson Goulty became an architect designing the Norfolk Hotel at Brighton.

Now it is not unusual to find either Nelson or Horatio used by many families in Norfolk as Christian names during the C19th to commemorate the hero of Trafalgar. However, the Goulty family did have a close relationship with Vice-Admiral, Horatio, Viscount Nelson, through the marriage of his aunt, Thomasine to a John Goulty.

GOULTY is an unusual name, neither Saxon nor Norman. It comes from the French *Gaultier*, meaning Walter - protestants who fled France in the C16th and settled mainly in Norfolk, as agricultural labourers and cordwainers. Of the latter, a Richard married Ann and gave rise to John, bn. 1731 at Gt. Cressingham, a few miles east of Hilborough in central Norfolk where Horatio Nelson's Father, the **Reverend Edmund Nelson** became the Rector. Edmund's sister was Thomasine (bn. Bradenham, bapt. 4 Sept 1732) and it is possible that she and John were childhood sweethearts. The Goulty family moved to Norwich but the relationship flourished: John (aged 26) and Thomasine (aged 25) were married at Hilborough on Tuesday 18th Oct. 1757, by licence. The **Rev. Robert Rolfe** officiated (he later married Alice Nelson) and another sister, Mary, was a witness.

In 1758 the couple were living at Norwich, (St. Michael at Plea) when Edmund was born. Later, in the parish of St. Gregory's, a daughter Thomasine and son William were born. John's shoemaking business prospered and on 24th Feb. 1761 he became a Freeman of the City.

These tests involve comparing sequences of DNA pairs of individuals to estimate (a) the probability that they share a common ancestor, and (b) the number of generations separating the two individuals from their most recent ancestor. Y-DNA testing provides insight into the recent (via short tandem repeat - STR) and into the ancient (via single nucleotide polymorphism - SNP) genetic ancestry. Most commercial laboratories now recommend at least 25 STR markers to be discriminating enough to provide conclusive results for a common surname. Genebase and Family Tree DNA give the option of testing 67 Y-DNA Markers. STR tests reveal a haplotype similar among all male descendents; SNP tests are used to assign people to a paternal haplogroup which defines a genetic population. MtDNA research involves sequencing the HVR-1 or 2 regions and can be used to assign people to a maternal haplogroup. These Y-DNA and mtDNA test results can then be compared to those of others via private or public DNA databases, to check or supplement the historical record. A positive test match with another individual can validate a family tree, assist with further research, discover living relatives; determine ancestral homeland, prove or deny connections.

Whilst individuals may wish to trace paternal or maternal ancestry, or both, a common consumer goal for purchasing DNA testing services is to acquire links to a specific ancestral group, such as Viking stock for which one can be issued with a Viking Descendant Certificate! Apart from ethnic origin/descent, genetic genealogy has revealed astonishing links between peoples and their migratory patterns around the world. It is a rapidly expanding field and as the cost falls the number tested will multiply and the probability of finding a genetic match among the DNA databases increases accordingly.

However, concerns remain: the cost; the quality/reliability of testing; privacy and ethnic identity issues. Also Y-DNA and mtDNA tests merely trace a single lineage (via your Father's father, etc or via your Mother's mother, etc). If we go back 10 generations each individual has potentially 1024 separate ancestors, yet these DNA tests only examine one of those ancestors and their descendents. To gain the larger picture would mean encouraging one's cousins and other relatives, to be tested in order to find additional DNA lineages. (Acknowledgement Wikipedia article)

See the following websites for information:

www.dirkschweitzer.net - presentation about genealogical DNA testing

www.Kerchner.com - DNA Testing Information & Resources help page

GDNA.reinyday.com - Genealogical DNA testing; [Ysearch](#) and [Ybase](#) and [Mitosearch](#)

[SMGFY-chromosome Database](#); [SMGF Mitochondrial Database](#) = 6 million records ;

[MtDNA Test Results Log](#); [WorldFamilies.net](#) - directory of surname DNA projects

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Norfolk Record Office report for the *Norfolk Ancestor*

New Parish Register Accessions 17 April - 16 July 2009

Costessey St Edmund	marriages	2005-2008
Drayton	banns	1937-1980
Lakenham St Alban	baptisms	1901-1977
	marriages	1911-2000
Lammas	banns	1913-1992
Martham	banns	1950-1953 (in West Somerton banns register)
West Somerton	marriages	1837-2009
	burials	1813-2009
	banns	1865-2008 (includes Martham banns, 1950-1953)
Thorpe Hamlet, St Leonard and St Matthew	baptisms	1945-1981
Thorpe Hamlet, St Matthew	marriages	1974-1981

Exhibitions at The Archive Centre

Norwich Pattern Books: a Preservation Project. Interwoven Evidence of a vibrant eighteenth-century Textile Industry will be on show in the Long Gallery, 9 September-20 November. On display will be a number of pattern books, which contain samples of the vibrant, intricately-woven fabrics made in Norwich during the eighteenth century. The exhibition showcases a recent project to research ways best to preserve these beautiful books for the future and to make them more accessible to the public. A selection of other documents relating to Norwich textiles will also be on show.

Annual Stocktaking Closure

The Record Office will be closed for its annual stocktaking fortnight from Monday, 23 November until Friday, 4 December, re-opening on Saturday, 5 December.

Lunchtime Talks

We will be holding the following lunchtime talks in the Green Room at The Archive Centre between 1 – 1.45 p.m:

Thursday, 10 September	<i>Norwich Pattern Books: a Preservation Project.</i> By Rachel Greenwood and Cathy Terry
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Wapping. His father died when he was 12 and he was apprenticed to a plane maker near Guildhall, London. He completed his apprenticeship but then went into business - some records say ship's chandler and others planes & tools. This business continued until his death and must have been lucrative as it left him free to follow his passion for lexicography. His mother died in 1712 and was buried near his father, John, in Wapping.

In 1714 he married **Mary Wrayford** who died in 1734 after bearing 6 children, only one of which (a daughter) survived her.

Although his work as a lexicographer and bibliographer was imperfect by modern standards, he has been regarded as 'the father of modern bibliography' and was made a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1736. He became secretary of the Society 5 years later, a post which he kept till his death.

He was accused of tearing out title pages of books to help with his work and boxes of title pages were found in his effects after his death. In spite of his success in some quarters, he was not generally popular and was described as follows: "He was a very little man of mean aspect and meaner abilities". He published extensively but the quality of his work was often criticised.

He died on 7 October 1759, aged 70 and was buried at St George in the East, London.

So which was the Joseph Ames whose name is on the front of the Bible? I believe that it is the naval Captain, but it almost certainly also passed through the hands of his grandson. That the latter had his wretched hands on it is demonstrated by the fact that the title page is missing! The British Library was only able to identify it by a second title page at the beginning of the New Testament.

So why do I think it originally belonged to the sea Captain? The Bible was printed before the lexicographer was born and although it would have been possible to have added the name it seems much more likely to have been there from the start. It seems unlikely that anyone who had had their name tooled into the leather would have torn out pages from the same book.

It would seem that his grandson got hold of it after his death and committed the desecration before Edward Dampier, Samuel Gilham and John Hosier were passing it around until it reached the hands of my 3x great grandmother Elizabeth Bray.

So much for the things I know or surmise but if there are any readers in Norfolk who know more about this branch of the Ames family or have heard of any of the other people and their connection with one another, I would be most interested to know.

Jean Ashley MN7610

JOSEPH AMES' BIBLE

A very old Bible came into my possession when my mother died. Inside was the following inscription: "From **Edward Dampier**, February 12th 1780 to **Samuel Gilham** Esq. This was **Joseph Ames'** Bible, his name being stamped on the outside on the leather." Another inscription followed: "From **John Hosier** Esq, September 14th 1793 to **Elizabeth Bray**". On the back pages were various notes of the kind every family historian longs for. There is a note of the marriage of Elizabeth Bray to **Eustace Devereux** at St George's Hanover Square in 1799. Then there were the baptisms of three daughters, two of whom died young, their burials at St Mary's Rotherhithe also being recorded, but the eldest May Ann survived and I knew from having worked backwards that this was my 2x great grandmother.

I was intrigued to know more about this Bible – how old was it and who was Joseph Ames? I therefore took it to the British Library where I was told that it was printed in 1677 by **John Hayes** of Cambridge. They also told me about two famous people called Joseph Ames, one of whom was probably the original owner; so now we come to why I am writing in *The Norfolk Ancestor*. These were both Norfolk men.

Joseph Ames 1619-1695

Joseph Ames the elder was born in 1619 in Great Yarmouth. He came from an ancient Norfolk family. He entered the Royal Navy, reached the rank of Captain and was a naval commander under the Commonwealth. I noted from a history book that the Royal Navy had voted for Parliament in 1641 when Joseph would have been a young officer.

In 1653 he returned to Plymouth from Barbados with a cargo of sugar. He made the Atlantic crossing several times, often taking Royalist prisoners to the colonies. On one occasion he brought back a young deer as a present for Cromwell from the President of the New England settlement at Providence.

In 1641 he had married **Margaret Missing** and had 6 sons. The youngest John became a Master in the Merchant Navy and it was he who was the father of the second famous Joseph Ames, who was a bibliographer and lexicographer.

Joseph the elder, a staunch Presbyterian, retired from active service in 1673 (aged 54) and lived in Great Yarmouth. He died in December 1695 and was buried in Great Yarmouth.

Joseph Ames, 1689-1759

This Joseph Ames was the grandson of the naval Captain, his own father being a Master mariner. He was born in 1689 in Great Yarmouth but the family moved to London and he was educated at a grammar school in

Thursday, 1 October	<i>'Kicking up a Dust'. The Reception of the Works of Tom Paine in East Anglia in the 1790s.</i> By Clive Wilkins-Jones
Friday, 9 October	<i>Community Spirit: the Minns's Family Contribution to Thetford and the Nation.</i> By Frank Meeres. This talk looks at the family of Alan Glaisyer Minns of Thetford, who was the first black mayor in Britain.

Archivist Edwin King will also be giving a talk, *Looking at Granddad's Medals*, an introduction to medals of the First World War, on 12 November, at the Ancient House Museum, Thetford. Edwin will briefly look at online sources available for researching members of the services and will be happy to try to identify any medals brought in. For the time of the talk (not fixed at the time of going to press), please contact the Museum on 01842 752599.

Saturday Workshops at the Norfolk Record Office

We will be holding workshops at the Record Office on the second Saturday of each month, looking at topics of local interest and at the archives that support them. The normal pattern will be a two-hour session in the Record Office, followed by a break for lunch and then a 90-minute walk or outing to illustrate the themes of the morning (this pattern may vary on occasion). Each workshop begins at 10.00 a.m. and costs £10. Bookings can be made by contacting the Norfolk Record Office.

Saturday, 12 September: *A Walk through time in Whitlingham*

A look at the history of the area around Whitlingham, Norwich's own country park, followed by a walk down Whitlingham Lane.

Saturday, 10 October: *Thinking about Thorpe Hamlet*

Discover more about the history of the Hamlet, have a look at maps and the other kinds of resources you can use to take on further research for yourself - if you want to!

Saturday, 14 November: *Norfolk in Two World Wars*

Following Armistice Day we look at how the county has been affected by two World Wars and the archival sources for people interested in learning more about events that affected every family.

Saturday, 12 December: *Norwich and the Reformation*

Why does Norwich have so many churches? What is the difference between a monk and a friar and why does it matter to our understanding of today's city? What does today's city tell us about its explosive sixteenth-century past? Come along and find out.

Gateways to the Past – Evening Classes at the Norfolk Record Office

These new courses look at the history of our county, and at the archival sources that bring this history to life. The courses are for everyone, whether you are a newcomer to Norfolk or have lived here all your life. The three courses each run for ten weeks, from 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. Occasional sessions will be 'in the field' rather than at The Archive Centre. Price: £70 per ten-week term. Bookings can be made by contacting the Norfolk Record Office.

Landscape, Climate and People: Continuity and Change

Ten sessions, starting Wednesday, 16 September 2009.

A look at the archival sources that can be used to examine changes in the environment, landscape and climate of the county over more than a thousand years.

Citizens!

Ten sessions, starting Wednesday, 13 January 2010.

Rights and duties of individuals, differences in attitudes over the ages to crimes and the way they are punished, and the struggle for the right to vote, are just some of the themes we look at as we try to understand what it has meant to be a 'citizen' in Norfolk in the past, and what it means today.

Children's Half-Term Activities

Patterns of the world...make your own T-Shirt! Be inspired by eighteenth-century Norwich pattern books and traditional African patterns to be part of the rich Norwich textile industry tradition! Children will use colourful fabric dyes and different patterns to create designs for their own T-shirts. The workshop takes place on Thursday 29 October, 2.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. Places are limited, so please book by calling 01603 222677. Children under eight must be accompanied by an adult.

Great Yarmouth Maritime Festival

This year's Maritime Festival takes place on 5-6 September on the South Quay, Great Yarmouth. Come and visit the NRO's stand in the Heritage Quarter and see a fascinating facsimile display of historical maritime documents. Let staff from the Record Office help answer your family and local history questions, whilst younger visitors can try their hand at using a matrix to a make replica clay seal.

For further information about workshops and evening classes, and for details of other events at the Record Office, see our website <http://archives.norfolk.gov.uk>, telephone us on 01603 222599, or look out for posters at the Record Office.

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