

The Norfolk Ancestor



DECEMBER 2021



The Journal of the Norfolk Family History Society

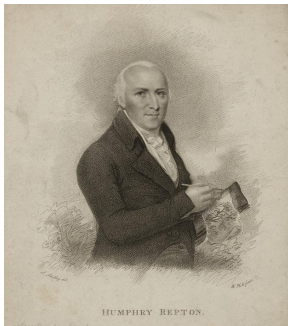
Formerly Norfolk & Norwich Genealogical Society

Sheringham Hall

Sheringham Hall (pictured on the front cover) stands in the magnificent grounds of Sheringham Park which is owned by the National Trust. The hall is currently rented to a private tenant but visitors are able to enjoy the beautiful grounds. Roger Morgan takes a brief look at the history of the park .

Sheringham Park is a popular tourist attraction located two miles south west of the coastal town of Sheringham. It receives thousands of visitors each year, particularly in the spring, when its large collection of rhododendrons and magnolias are in full bloom. It has been managed by the National Trust since 1986 but its history dates back many centuries.

In the eighteenth century the estate was owned by the FLOWER family who were very influential in the area. It is recorded that Cook Flower was one of the three lords of the manor in Sheringham. In 1792 he bought the original farmhouse that stood in the extensive and attractive estate. He started the landscaping and planting of the woodland on the hilltops surrounding the house while the pastures below were left for arable farming.



Three years after the Battle of Trafalgar and Horatio Nelson's death in 1805, the landscape designer Humphry REPTON heard about a government scheme to settle £90,000 on an estate as part of the nation's gift to Nelson's family. His son William was a solicitor in Aylsham and was also acting as a steward for Cook Flower. However, despite the close proximity of Sheringham to Burnham Thorpe where Nelson was born, making it an ideal location, Repton's bid was not successful. The plans to create an estate to be called "Trafalgar" were dropped.

At the end of June 1811, a wealthy young farmer called Abbot UPCHER who came from Great Yarmouth, visited Cook Flower to view the property. Initially he was disappointed by the house and described it as "*only a better kind of farmhouse*". However, after a second visit in July, when he had breakfast with Cook and visited the whole estate, he was taken by "*the beautiful and romantic grounds*" and decided to buy it. He went to see William Repton at Aylsham and offered to pay 50,000 guineas or £52,500 for the Sheringham estate. To find out what happened next and to learn more about the Upcher family and their future influence on Sheringham please see inside this edition of Norfolk Ancestor.

Norfolk Family History Society

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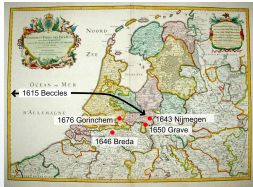
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IF you have an interest in Family History and would like to help to shape our future or have some spare time and would like to become involved in the life of our society please contact Volunteers' Co-ordinator Carol Reeve who will be able to give you more details of how you can help us. Carol's contact details are available towards the end of this edition.

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Peter Steward

Joint Editor

Roger Morgan

Joint Editor

Rob Reeve

Proof Reader

Have A Great Christmas

From The Editor

Thank you to everyone who has commented on our new look magazine.

The comments have all been positive with members saying how much they like the full colour publication.

Having more colour, has given us the chance to enhance many of the photographs which look so much better than in black and white.

There is a good dollop of irony, of course, in the fact that many photographs are in black and white anyway due to their extreme age.

We will continue to improve the look and content of the magazine over the next few editions.

If there is something you would like featured please don't hesitate to contact me and we will see what we can do. We always welcome features and contributions from members as this truly is your magazine. We love to hear about your families and your research. Please keep the articles coming. We particularly appreciate photographs/pictures to accompany the text.

Articles can be sent to me at the address on page 66 in this edition.

Why not join hundreds of our members who have joined us regularly for zoom talks? These are attracting over 100 members each time and details of coming talks are available both elsewhere in this edition and also on our website. You might like to try our special vintage mince pie recipe ahead of our talk in December.

As I'm writing this editorial it is early October, but by the time it drops onto doormats we will be approaching Christmas so I know I join with all the trustees and volunteers at Kirby Hall in wishing you a happy festive season and may 2022 see more of those pesky brick walls being broken down than ever before.

Peter Steward (Editor)



News From Kirby Hall

Family Trees on NORS

By NFHS Chairman Phil Whiscombe

MEMBERS will be aware that for many years individuals have kindly deposited printed copies of their family trees with the Society.

These are presented in many formats: hand-written, typed and printed. They've been kept in the Kirby Hall Library and made available for visitors to inspect as hard copy documents and, more recently, as scanned electronic copies held on the Kirby Hall server.

Thanks to the hard work of one of our long-term volunteers, Paul White, the scanned copies, which total nearly 2,000 in number, have now been uploaded to the Norfolk Records Search (NORS) where they are available to members for their research. The Society is very grateful to Paul for his efforts in completing this mammoth task.

For the widest possible search in NORS enter a surname, click on Search and then click on the 'Other' results category box, then finally click on Family Trees in the drop-down box to find any relevant trees which will be displayed sorted by the name of just the principal Parish to be found in the tree. The records are usually in pdf format. As these are scans of hard copies it is not possible to search for other surnames that might appear on them so it will still involve some detective work by researchers to find any other names or parishes relevant to them.

If any member who has deposited their family trees with the Society in the past now feels that they no longer wish to have the tree available for research by others then please send an email asking for its removal to lookups@nfhs.co.uk and the tree will be removed.



News From Kirby Hall

From Chairman Phil Whiscombe

The Society is pleased to be able to report that with the gradual relaxation of the Covid-19 guidance by the UK Government, Kirby Hall is once again open to visitors on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday every week and on the first Sunday of each month.

Cleaning of the surfaces and equipment in the library is carried out regularly to reduce the chance of infection and we would ask that visitors wear masks upon arrival where they are able. Any further changes in the requirements due to Government guidance will be posted on the website and our Facebook page.

During September and October we have had to deal with very restricted access to the building caused by the roadworks to Cleveland Road, but by the time you read this the works should be completed and we would like to welcome all visitors back to Kirby Hall where our volunteers will be looking forward to helping you with your research.

We do hope you are enjoying the varied programme of talks on Zoom that we have been holding – it is the intention to continue to reach out to our wider membership by this means and if you haven't joined one already, then I hope you will do so in the future.

This is yet another feature-filled issue of the Norfolk Ancestor for your enjoyment – please let our editor know if there are other topics you would like to see.

On the next page you can view details and see an agenda for the 2021 agm which, slightly confusingly, will be held in 2022. This is another result of COVID restrictions. We will be hoping to get back on course by holding the 2022 agm later in the year.

Current Rates for Norfolk Family History Society Membership (rates)

Membership Type	One Year	10 Year	Life
Worldwide E Ancestor	£10	£75	£165
UK Posted Ancestor	£15	£120	£265
Europe Posted Airmail	£21	£157	£346
Rest of the World Posted Airmail	£25	£187	£412

News From Kirby Hall

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 25th Annual General Meeting of the Norfolk Family History Society will be held at Kirby Hall, 70 St Giles Street, Norwich, Norfolk on Saturday 29th January 2022 at midday. The meeting will be a hybrid one which will also be conducted by means of Zoom video conferencing and the joining instructions will be circulated to members in the week before the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the 2020AGM of 27th March, 2021
3. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 27th March, 2021
4. To receive the directors'/trustees' report for the year ended 31st March 2021
5. To consider and approve the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021
6. To re-appoint ARGENTS, 15 Palace Street as the Reporting Accountants for the ensuing year and to authorise the trustees to fix their remuneration
7. Re-appointment of Mrs Belinda Broad (see note 2)
8. Re-appointment of Mr Charles Bush (see note 2)
9. Re-appointment of Mr Peter Steward (see note 1)
10. Re-appointment of Mr Steve Tartellin (see note 1)
11. Re-appointment of Mr Phil Whiscombe (see note 1)
12. To transact any other business of the Company

Note 1—In accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Society's Articles of Association the Trustees recommend that the following members of the board retiring by rotation be reappointed.

Mr Peter Steward, currently the Editor of the Norfolk Ancestor was appointed to the Board in 2014 and re-appointed 2018.

Mr Steve Tartellin, currently the Transcripts' Coordinator was appointed to the Board in 2016 and re-appointed 2019.

Mr Phil Whiscombe, currently the Chair was appointed to the Board in 2014 and re-appointed 2018.

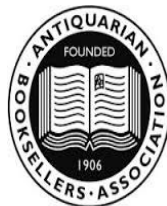
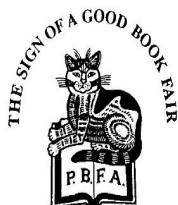
Note 2—In accordance with Article 39 of the Society's Articles of Association the Trustees recommend that the following members of the board who were appointed by resolution during the year, and hence are required to retire by the Articles, be reappointed.

Mrs Belinda Broad, currently the Membership Secretary.

Mr Charles Bush, currently the Premises and Maintenance Manager.

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

*We always seek
to purchase
small and large
libraries in any
subject*



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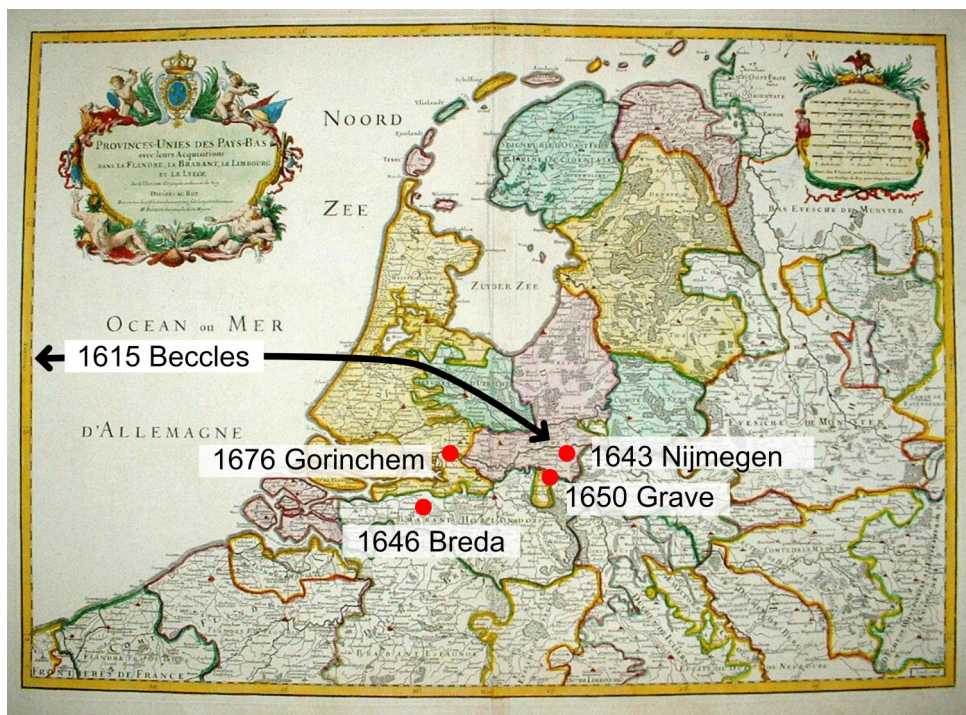
www.citybookshopnorwich.co.uk

The Norfolk Ancestor

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

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The Norfolk and Dutch Connection

Norfolk Family History Society member Hans Van Der Dool from the Netherlands tells us the story of his East Anglian ancestors with the names Lachelos, Latchelowe(s) or Lachelou(w) and other variations.

Individuals with the name of LACHELOUW lived in the Netherlands from the second quarter of the 17th Century.

Descendants through the female line live there up to now, the author being one of them. This article traces their direct ancestry to a member of a Norfolk family, of whom a branch had

settled in Beccles in Suffolk.

During my research, I discovered a distinct group of name-bearers, who are probably all related to each other, mostly in Norfolk. It seems this family has not yet been researched earlier.

Part One: From a Dutch connection to Beccles, Suffolk.

About 15 years ago, I received some family notes. One of the family names in my mother's family intrigued me: a Hendrika Lachelouw was my third great-grandmother. She died in Gorinchem, Netherlands, on March 1st 1859, 70 years old. This brief information started my research.

I wondered about her unusual family name: was it French, German or Eastern European? I discovered that she was most likely the last bearer of this name. Some of her ancestors were traced. Most of them also lived in the town of Gorinchem. The oldest person I found at that time was a Daniel Lachelou for whom the marriage banns were issued in 1681. He was a military man, a soldier with a particular function. He was a "schrijver" (scribe or scrivener) in a company of grenadiers. His job could at best be described as a warrant officer in charge of the administration of a military unit responsible for the payroll, compensation of damages etc.

The family name, in a slightly modified form, was found again in Breda in the South of the Netherlands. This was a military stronghold. A "Daniel" was baptised there on October 5th, 1647, with as his father a "Daniel LAKELOU" and as mother "Trijntien VAN DIJCK." Some other children were baptised there too, viz. an older brother Johannes, baptised on September 18th, 1646, with the father described as Daniel LACELE and his mother as "Trintien van Dijk", obviously the same couple, and a younger brother Joris baptised in Breda on October 16th, 1648, with as parents the same couple, this time written down as "Daniel Lachlouw" and "Margriet (sic) van Dijk".

In Grave, another garrison town in the southern part of the Netherlands at the time, six other baptisms were found: also with the same parents: Arnoldus Lackelouw, baptised 23rd March, 1650; Johannes Lackelouw, baptised 12th February, 1651; Johannes van Lachelo, baptised 8th March, 1652; Hendrick Lachelow, baptised 22nd July, 1654; Elisabeth Lachelow, baptised 27th August, 1655 and Jeremias Latelau, baptised 5th August, 1657.

But the origins of the father remained elusive. However, I found that namesakes were mostly found in and around Norwich, Norfolk in the 16th and 17th centuries. In particular the name of a Samuel Latchelow, a widower, who was buried on 10th November, 1705, in Norwich got my attention, as Samuel and Daniel are both Biblical names. Was there a link?

Luckily, I found the marriage of the Daniel Lackelou(w) I was searching for. I discovered that a "Daniel Latchlow" married a "Trijneken van Dijk" on 28th July, 1644, in Nijmegen, in the Netherlands (see note). He is described in the marriage book as "Young Man from England, scribe under Captain Roper". The couple's first child, Anna, was baptised in Nijmegen, on 20th May, 1645, the father this time being described as "Daniel L'Echlee" (sic) and the mother as Trijneken van Dijk. Amongst the witnesses recorded in the church book was a gentlewoman, Anna Sibijlla van der HAETERT, the spouse of the father's company commander John ROPER, who descends according to his family papers from the same Kent family as the later Lords TEYNHAM. So this Daniel was a military man, as was his

son who married in 1681 and also occupied the same position.

This wedding description was confirmation of my hunch, that the Lach(e)lou(w) family originated in England.

From where exactly? Namesake Samuel Latchelow died in Norwich, and other presumed family members or namesakes I discovered in the meantime lived and died mostly in Norfolk. But the Daniel I was looking for, escaped me. That is until early 2017, when I got wind of a Widow Latchlooe, of whom a will was existing, made up in Beccles, Suffolk. Further searching led me to a Daniell Latchellus, born in 1615 in Beccles, according to the Suffolk Baptism index of 1538-1911. Also, a second Daniell Latchalus was found, who married there in 1611 Margaret REESON. I presumed they were his parents. And further there appeared a John Lachelus, as father of a Samuelli Latchelus, baptised in Beccles in 1590. The mother of this child was called Margerye but her family name was not given. They could be the grandparents.

In the summer of 2017, I had an opportunity to visit Norwich and Beccles and did some research in the Suffolk Archives in Lowestoft and in the Norfolk Archives in Norwich. In Lowestoft I found the details of the marriage date and the complete baptism data of the children of the Latchallus-Reeson family. They were:

On July 28th, 1611, Daniell Latchalus, singleman, married Margaret Reeson, singlewoman, and they had the following six children baptised in Beccles, St Michael's Church:

Elizabeth, baptised on June 14th,

1612.

John, baptised on February 13th, 1614.

Daniell, baptised on December 5th, 1615: identical to the Daniel, who went to the United Provinces as a soldier and who had issue there.

Margaret, baptised on October 25th, 1618.

William, baptised on February 10th, 1622.

Barbara, baptised on August 7th, 1625.

The very helpful staff in Lowestoft were able to trace two wills, which were very relevant for my research, viz. the original will of John Latchelus of Beccles of 1613 (see note) and the original will of Margery Lathelus of Beccles, of 1623 (see note), of which copies were later sent to me. John Latchelus signs his will as John Lathylus and he is a Baxter at the time of preparing his will. The will of his widow was the document that triggered me initially to do research into a possible Beccles connection.

These wills proved that John and Margery(e) Lathelus were the parents of three surviving children: a daughter Ursula, probably the eldest of the three, who was married to a Christopher Neve, and two sons, Daniell and Samuelli who is further described as their "youngest sonne". This Samuelli is likely an ancestor of the Samuel, I had encountered earlier. The content of both wills proved further that John Latchelus, who was buried on February 5th, 1613 and Margerye, his widow who was buried on 29th October, 1623, were indeed the grandparents of my ancestor.

Finally, last year, I was lucky to be able to discover the presumed family name of Margerye Latchelus. The project “Anglo American Legal Tradition” of the University of Houston is studying common law and has therefore summarised quite a number of legal cases in England. In a Plea about debt in the county of Norfolk are mentioned together as plaintiffs: John Lachelowse and Margery his wife, formerly Margery BRETEN, of Ketteryngham, singlewoman. The defendant was a Thomas ARCHER, of Buxton, yeoman. In my opinion I had found the same couple who appear in Beccles.

John Lachelowse and Margerye Bretten are therefore my 11th great grandfather and 11th great grandmother.

Having found this information, I wondered how John Lachelowse would be related to other name bearers, living mainly around Norwich in the 16th century, like an innkeeper from Norwich, a husbandman in Stoke Holy

Cross, a scrivener involved in religious separatism as “Popishe recusant” in Norwich, a young clerk who stole from his principal’s colleagues in London and several Freeman of Norwich in the 15th century. These questions will be treated in a second article, which will appear in a future edition of Norfolk Ancestor.

Hans van den Dool NM 18970

e-mail: hanslj.vandendool@gmail.com

Notes

Regional Archive Nijmegen BMD Marriages,
Mariage Register Nederlands-
Gereformeerde Gemeente 1592-1811 (RBS
1174/20).

Suffolk Archives number IC/AA1/7/191

Suffolk Archives number IC/AA1/59/88

Wiki of the project “Anglo American Legal
Tradition” of the University of Houston:
Roll Common Plea 40/1373-4; letters K-Z
of the Hilary Term of 1580, Roll
CP40/1373, Side: d (=dorsal); Image: 64

Norfolk School Memories

Diana Boyle found some interesting insights into school punishment books when she undertook research. She also recognised a few of the people mentioned. On this and the next five pages Diana shares some of her stories.

AS I Explored the Archives in our wonderful records’ office I discovered some records from Wickmere School from 1894 and Matlask School

from 1876. I particularly enjoyed the punishment book, even more so when I discovered my dad had received the cane when he was about six and his

mum, (known to me as Granny Lizzy and a bit of a five foot tyrant), had gone to the school and complained. I won't mention other names as childhood 'problems' and 'nits' are mentioned regularly.

Wickmere Board School opened in 1884 and there were just 48 children.

There was a lot of sickness in 1885 but the school was inspected in March that year and everything was found to be in order. There were now 54 children.

By July that year there were 62 children and attendance was good except on the 18th when there was a flower show in the village and lots of absentees.

The children were being taught songs as well as basics. These included "Come Away," "A Song Of The Roses", "All the Spring Flowers", and "Hark to the Thunder."

The headmistress resigned her post when the school closed for summer and not all children returned as the harvest wasn't quite finished.

On September 25th, the new headmistress found the children dull and backward.

The school was closing one hour earlier as many children were having to walk home in the dark. Attendance was low as many children were picking up acorns.

February 26th, some children are very dull and are improving only slowly. Many children stayed away on Shrove Tuesday to eat pancakes.

June 1st, school closed for a week for Aldborough Fair. The children always seem very stupid after a holiday break.

August 6th, A Sunday school treat thinned numbers. Several parents have been warned about attendance.

October 28th, new reading books and Bibles and maps were received.

November 19th, assistant mistress resigned her post. Many children are very dull and know no rules.

December 4th, a window pane blew in. It was repaired on 16th.

New songs list, "Little Bo Peep," "Wake up little Daisy," "Billy's the Boy," "Men of Harlech" and "Away Away".

Recitations, "Lady of the Lake," "Psalm of Life" and "Three Little Kittens."

1907 - new counting charts received. Five new children, all very dull. Prizes won for knitting and sewing. Some awards for attendance.

Some children have Whooping Cough and several children sent home with heads in such a state.

In September, 1925, some children not returned, still working.

We have measles and mumps and the medical officer sent home 13 children.

In February, 1926, only 19 children attended.

On October 28th, a ton of coal arrived.

From Wickmere School

On November 11th school didn't open as caretaker hadn't lit the fires.

In 1932 a school inspector stated that it was an unfortunate little school with 22 different teachers over 10 years. Several of the pupils are well below standard. Much of the equipment was broken and needs replacing.

August 2nd, 1934, the children did a

country dance exhibition.

In February, 1936, a boy was hit by a rounders stick. Sent home with a note but no serious injury.

In December, 1937, A talk on cleanliness and hygiene. In 1938 the school nurse commented on the improved cleanliness of the children.

In 1939 some evacuees arrived from Dagenham. All pupils had gas masks fitted in 1941.

In 1948, two boys passed the scholarship to grammar school and in 1949, five boys and one girl absent because they had gone currant picking.

On December 5th, children were taken to Norwich to see Cinderella.

From Matlask School

The punishment book was started in 1922 when a boy was punished for throwing stones at a line of clean washing. Another boy borrowed a bicycle and went for a ride at 5 minutes to 9.

Robert Hazelwood broke a window with a stone. (this was my dad again), it proves that the farm labourers moved around locally for work.

A mother complained that her child had to sit next to a disgustingly smelly child. The teacher agreed but explained that the child was a neglected orphan.

A tumbrel was driven into the school gates and caused damage.

Sparrows had nested in a ventilation shaft. It was very noisy but enjoyed by the children.

A fire was caused by hot ash put into a

rat's hole in the wall.

A boy sent home with verminous hair.

The cleaner and latrine emptier both neglecting their duties.

In 1924, the comment was made that there was scant hope that any children would reach any sort of arithmetic standard.

Three boys sent home with unclean heads. One boy's behaviour is uncontrollable, like his sire before him.

This year has seen Flu, Measles and Whooping Cough epidemics.

The utter hopelessness of senior pupils who must sit exams with no chance of success. Some children have been confirmed as mentally subnormal.

They may leave school at the end of the term in which they become 14.

In 1926 new books arrived.

December/January, roads blocked with snow. Felt slippers in various sizes are provided for children arriving at school with wet feet.

1928, All heads clean today. Mumps and Chicken Pox outbreak.

Two children—one boy, one girl—have passed for grammar school but their parents can't afford to send them.

In 1930 top class leaves today. (among them my dad Robert).

* * *

If you have details from school record books we would love to hear from you. Send them to the editor at:

ancestor@nfhs.co.uk

More Tales of the Boyle Family

By Diana Boyle

DORIS NEWSTEAD was my grandmother. She was born in 1903 and her birth was registered in Smallborough.

Doris' mother and father both died of TB.

Rosa Anna ALLARD was her mother. She was born in 1873 and died in Iinstead in 1906. Edward Robert LUBBOCK, was Rosa's husband and Doris' father. He was born in 1876 and died in 1908.

Edward remarried again later in 1906 to Jane Elizabeth BUTTIFANT. On the 1911 census Doris was shown as eight years old, a scholar and living with Jane Elizabeth Buttifant aged 57 and head of the house.

A Beatrice Lubbock aged three was also shown (possibly Doris' step sister).

After this I have a gap in my trail and await the 1921 census with interest.

Doris was in Norfolk in 1925 when she

married Robert Newstead at Blicking.

Robert was a domestic gardener but had also worked as a farm labourer. On the 1911 census he was shown as still living with George and Lucy Newstead, his parents, aged 25. He had been medically discharged from serving in the 1914-18 war. The family seem to think he had some form of epilepsy and had fits.

Robert was born in 1876 and was therefore 49 when he married Doris. She was only 22.

They lived in Wickmere and raised three children (including my mother Rosemary) in rural poverty and Robert was sick towards the end of his life. Doris took in washing and did domestic cleaning to make ends meet.

Robert died a few days before I was born in 1947. Doris went on to live until she was 84 and remarried when she was well into her 70s. Her second husband left her his house and she was financially secure for the first time in her life.

MARY ANNE'S STORY

By Diana Boyle

I was born in the workhouse at Aylsham in 1835.

My mother was born in 1815 in Wickmere and her mother had died that same year.

My mother lived with her father James, who was born in 1795 and Brother Benjamin who was two years older, born in 1813.

In 1817, her father James remarried and started a new family with Martha his new wife.

I don't know why my mother ended up in the workhouse but it was probably because she was unmarried and pregnant with me.

On the 1841 Census, my mother, who was also Mary Ann, was 26 years old and I was six.

On the 1841 census James was 50 and Martha 46 and had eight children. Martha died between the 1841 and 1851 census.

In 1851, James was shown as a widower aged 60. he worked as a farm labourer and lived in Low Street, Wickmere. I was shown as his granddaughter aged 16. Grandfather James died in 1861.

I had gone to live with my grandfather James and Martha his wife and I stayed with James to help with the younger children after Martha died and he received Parish Support for me.

I became an inmate at Cawston Road, Aylsham, when grandfather James died. I was pregnant just as my mother had been and had no choice but to go into the workhouse to be delivered of my baby.

He was a boy and I christened him Eli. In the workhouse they taught me to sew. On the 1861 census I was now 26.

By the 1871 census I was out of the workhouse and earning a living as a dressmaker mainly doing alterations.

It was keeping me and my children and stopping us ending up back in the workhouse. I was 36 years old. Eli was 11 and was working as an agricultural labourer. My Albert was four.

In 1874 I fell pregnant again. The father said I could use his middle name. My baby was another boy child and I named him Robert.

By the 1881 census Eli was 21, Albert was 14 and Robert seven. I think he was my last child as I am 46 now.

In 1891, Robert was 17 and living with relatives in Aylsham and working as a general labourer. Albert has married Eliza and has gone to work in Woolwich in Kent. He has already started a family and I think that Robert may move down that way to live with his brother and find work on the docks.

Eli is married to Sarah and lives in Suffield and they are raising a family. Their first child, Mary Anne, named for me, was born in 1889, Maude was born in 1891 and Martha the youngest was born in 1897. They are moving to Cromer soon as there is more work for Eli as a general labourer.

I am not so well these days and I may not see the census man when he comes in 1901. I would be 66-years-old. My grandfather James died at 61 and I don't know about my mother because sadly we lost touch with each other.

The Story of the Rise and Fall of the East Barsham Heaselwoods

By Diana Boyle

ELIZABETH was born to Thomas Fermor and Anne COOTE somewhere around 1580. Her brother William was documented as being born about 1580-86.

It was noted by historians of the time that Thomas Fermor “hadn’t married his daughters well.” Her father was related to Sir Henry Fermor who owned Barsham Manor where King Henry VIII supposedly stayed when he pilgrimaged to Walsingham.

By 1621/23, when Thomas made his will, he was Lord of the Manor and his son William was his heir. However, he didn’t leave his daughter Elizabeth out of his will. She was now “Widow Baxter” and had five children and he was grateful to her for looking after him in his old age.

Therefore he gave her the rights to lands around the Manor and instructed his son William to adhere to his wishes regarding this.

A few years later when William (now Lord of the Manor), made his will in 1633, Elizabeth witnessed it along with her son Francis.

She was now Elizabeth HEASELWOOD as was her son Francis.

When Elizabeth died in 1638, her will passed her obvious wealth to her family. It was a typical female will of the time, mentioning bedlinen, female linen (underwear), her best white apron and best black cloak. She also mentions bee hives and ewes. Her son Francis received her land rights and her dwelling house.

She had started a small dynasty which passed through her sons Francis and Robert and their sons of the same names, all who made wills.

When Dame Katherine CALTHORPE wrote her household diary, Francis got a mention for delivering corn to her manor house.

However, by the early 1700s, the last Francis, who became a weaver and lived in King’s Lynn, married Amy and had three children who all died and then sadly I lose the family altogether.

The Upchers of Sheringham

Roger Morgan continues his article from the inside front cover

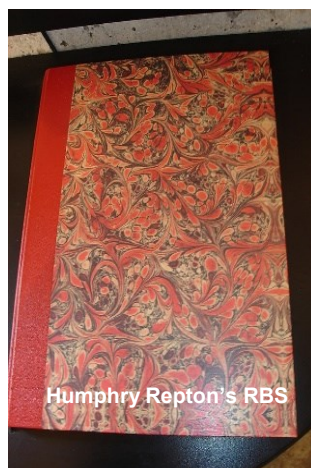
ABBOT UPCHER born in 1785, was the son of a wealthy farmer called Peter Upcher and his wife Elizabeth née RAMEY of Ormesby St Michael, a small village seven miles from Great Yarmouth. He had seven siblings, three of whom died in infancy and another three in their teens. His brother Robert died after falling from his horse aged 15 and his brother Ramey died from smallpox aged 14.

In April 1809, Abbot married Charlotte WILSON, the daughter of the Rev. Henry Wilson and Elizabeth née SUMPTER of Kirby Cane. The couple were well suited and shared the same liberal views. They enjoyed a blissful married life together and had six children, Henry Ramey (1810-1892), Charlotte Mary (1811-1892), Emma (1812-1889), Abbot (1813-1893), Arthur Wilson (1815-1896) and Augusta Elizabeth (1816-1836).

With their growing family, the Upchers needed a bigger house, hence their interest in Sheringham Park. When Charlotte visited the grounds, like her husband, she fell in love with them, and the purchase was completed. They took possession in October, 1812, and moved into the house which they called 'Marina' on the 16th. At the end of October, Abbott suffered

from a violent nervous fever which lasted until December, a portent of things to come in later years.

At the meeting when Abbot





Humphry Repton's grave



The Upcher Mausoleum

agreed to buy the estate, he was introduced to William Repton's father Humphry, and it was decided that he would oversee the design and construction of the house and the estate. Humphry concentrated on the landscaping whilst his other son, John Adey Repton was placed in charge of the design and construction of the new hall. Repton was glad of the commission because his business had all but dried up, due to the deep recession caused by the war with Britain's North American colonies and the continuing war with France. He had also been badly injured in a carriage accident which had left him disabled and confined to a bath chair.

Repton produced his trade-mark red book for Sheringham (RBS) in which he described his relationship with the Upchers as a 'congenial meeting of minds'. They all believed that landowners should provide a moral lead for the community and look after the local people. Repton proposed that the new house be situated close to the village of Upper Sheringham, be of a relatively modest design, with rooms "not extravagant in size or quantity," and that visitors be permitted to enter the estate to enjoy the views. He also recommended that the Upcher family

admit the rural poor to gather dead wood within the estate boundaries.

During the discussions with Repton, the Upchers suggested that the new hall should face north, in order to have a sea view. Repton argued for a position in the lee of the Oak Wood, facing south. Writing in the Red Book, he said, "The sea at Sheringham is not like that of the Bay of Naples". His view prevailed. In October, 1813, Henry Ramey Upcher laid the first foundation stone, Abbot the second, Charlotte the third, Mary the fourth, while the infant Emma simply fell into the mortar! The building work continued for the next four years.

One of the first jobs to be done, was the construction of a new track (now known as the Back Drive) down to the coast road which would be needed to transport all the building materials to the estate. The Gault bricks for the face brickwork of the hall were from Lincolnshire and were brought to Norfolk by sea. Other materials arrived by train to nearby Weybourne and Sheringham stations and were hauled to the site along the new road. Other building materials used on the new hall were reclamations from local sources. This included oak retrieved from a wrecked ship at Blakeney and other timber from a local demolished

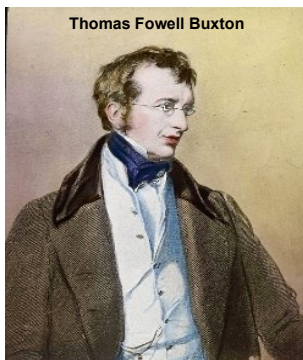
granary. There was a setback during the building process when the cellar ceiling collapsed after the wooden supports were removed prematurely.

During this time, the Upchers regularly demonstrated their liberal, caring attitude towards the locals. At Christmas, 1813, they gave meat to the people of Sheringham and in the particularly cold winter of 1814, they provided the poor with free coal. They built a schoolroom for 40 poor girls in 1815 and the road through the woods together with the kitchen

garden were completed. The landscaping continued and Abbot spent his time planting and farming.

From 1817 onwards, just as the house was nearing completion, events sadly took a turn for the worse. In March, Abbot was taken ill again with a 'violent, inflammatory fever' which left him with water on the brain. A year later, on 24th March, 1818, Humphry Repton died aged 65. He had never fully recovered from his carriage accident in 1811 which had left him needing a wheelchair. He was buried in the graveyard of St Michael's Church, Aylsham.

Despite Abbot's fever subsiding, his condition did not improve greatly. Charlotte's patience and strong character were severely tested as she nursed him. Nearly two years later, Abbot finally succumbed to his illness and died in February, 1819 aged 34.



Thomas Fowell Buxton

Charlotte was now a widow, left with six young children to bring up. For the next few years, she fell back on her Christian faith and involved herself in local life, regularly visiting the school she had set up with her husband, reading to the children or giving talks to the local residents.

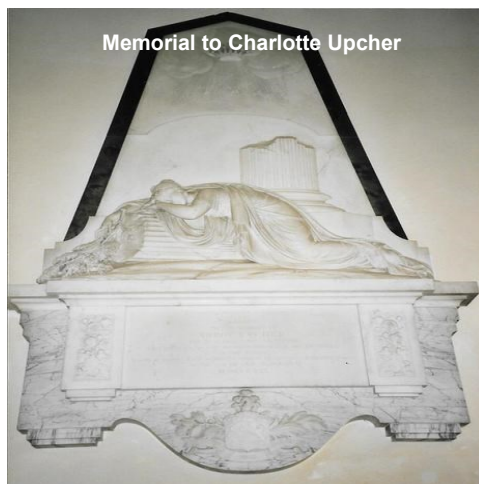
The hall was nearly finished at a cost of around £6,600, but Charlotte elected to stay in the



The Augusta

farmhouse. When she visited the house in 1821, she said: "O my friend, the cold chill that came over me when I came to those apartments my Upcher had contrived for ourselves". A rectangular mausoleum designed by John Adey Repton was attached to the north side of the chancel of the church of All Saints in Upper Sheringham.

Charlotte became good friends with the BUXTON family from Cromer Hall. The head of the household was Thomas Fowell Buxton who was descended from a wealthy brewing family from Essex. He had great moral and physical courage and was a leading Evangelical who played a prominent role in the anti-slavery movement along with William WILBERFORCE. He was known as 'Elephant Buxton' because of his 'kind and gentle nature', with a calmness and persuasiveness of manner.



In 1809, Thomas married Hannah GURNEY, the sister of Elizabeth Fry from Earlham Hall in Norwich, and the couple had 14 children. However, four of the children died in 1820 from Whooping Cough and Measles. They were Fowell (10), Rachel (five), Louisa (three) and Hannah (two) and their deaths prompted the Buxtons to move to Cromer Hall. They introduced Charlotte to Wilberforce and she attended several meetings. Later she involved herself in international issues including the abolition of slavery.

Whilst walking the coast of North Norfolk, Charlotte witnessed several shipwrecks caused by severe storms and she donated food and clothing to the survivors. She decided that a lifeboat was needed and arranged for one to be built in the grounds of Sheringham

Hall. It was constructed by R. SUNMAN on the same lines as the herring boats used by the local fishermen. The boat was launched in November, 1838, and was named the 'Augusta', after Charlotte's youngest daughter who died in 1836. The boat was 33 feet long with 14 oars and cost £134 12s 2d to build. Robert LONG was put in charge of her and she was launched over 200 times, saving an estimated 200 lives.

During this time, work on the house stopped and it remained empty and unfinished. In 1836, Charlotte's eldest son, Henry Ramey, married Caroline MORRIS and moved into the hall.

The cost of the hall had risen to £12,618 and Henry lived there with Caroline and their 11 children. Three of Henry's children died in infancy and his mother Charlotte passed away in 1857.

He himself died on 30th March, 1892, leaving the hall to Henry Morris Upcher who was his eldest son, and his wife Maria née BOWYER-SPARKE. After his death, Caroline agreed to pay for a



second private lifeboat to replace the ageing Augusta. She was built by Lewis 'Buffalo' EMERY of Sheringham at a cost of £150. Her keel was laid down on 4th April, 1894, and she was named, the Henry Ramey Upcher. The boat was 39 ft 8 in (12.09 m) long and 11 ft 3 in (3.43 m) wide and was double ended.

She was powered with 16 oars and was fitted with a large dipping lug mainsail and a mizzen. She was much lighter than the RNLI's lifeboat, William Bennett which was on the Sheringham station during this period.

The two boats worked alongside each other, with the Henry Ramey Upcher concentrating on the inshore work. The local fishermen liked her because, as well as rescuing the sailors, she would also rescue their fishing gear.

Henry Morris Upcher was instrumental in the development of Sheringham town and spent time and money promoting the seaside resort, increasing its popularity.

Henry also became the High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1899 and was elected Alderman to the County Council in 1901. He was a keen ornithologist and was a supporter of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society of which he became a president in 1883. Henry had seven children and when he died in 1921, he left the hall to his eldest son Henry Edward Sparke Upcher.

Henry Edward Sparke Upcher married Fanny 'Nina' SIMPSON in 1904 and he took a keen interest in farming. He was knighted, and from 1941 until 1950, was Chairman of Norfolk County Council.

Sir Henry died in 1954 and left his estate to his only son, Henry Thomas



Simpson Upcher, but he went by the name Thomas. He was the last member of the Upcher family to live in the hall and he greatly increased the diversity of the estate's rhododendron collection. After looking at Repton's Red Book, he decided to build the Temple, which Repton had designed 160 years earlier.

It was opened in 1975 to celebrate Thomas's 70th birthday and, although it was built in a slightly different position than planned by Repton, the temple still provides a view as intended, overlooking the parkland with the yellow gorse in flower, taking in Sheringham Hall and the coast beyond.

When Thomas died in 1985, he was a bachelor and had no heir to leave the estate to, so it was bought by the National Trust in 1986.

The hall was leased out to private tenants, but the park was opened for the public to enjoy.

You can read more about Sheringham Park

at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sheringham-park>

Roger Morgan MN 17267

A Conspiracy Theory—By Roger Morgan

WE live in an age when conspiracy theories abound, but, after listening to the excellent podcast, “And the Rest is History,” I was surprised to hear that the first such theory probably started in 12th century Norwich. It was based on the alleged murder by Jews of a 12-year old apprentice leatherworker, known as William of Norwich. Unfortunately it would have devastating effects on Jewish communities around the world for centuries. The debate over his death eventually became the basis for one of the most heinous and lasting accusations against the Jews: that they conspired to kill Christian children and use their blood for religious rites, which became known as ‘the Blood Libel.’

William’s parents were Wenstan and Elviva who came from the countryside and were comfortably well off. They were described as being ‘above the peasant class’. William was baptised in Haveringland and appears to have been well educated. When he was 12, he was living in Norwich with a relative and it was said that he was offered a job as a cook for the archdeacon.

On Saturday March 26th, 1144, (the first day of the Passover) William’s body was discovered in Thorpe Woods, just outside Norwich by a forester known as Henry of Sprowston. At this time, England was in the grip of a civil war between Stephen and Matilda, the grandchildren of William the Conqueror, and it was particularly violent in East Anglia. Soldiers hung men and women by their thumbs for



William of Norwich

extortion and nailed people’s noses to trees. Others met a different fate: “Knotted ropes were put round their heads and twisted till they penetrated to the brains,” according to one account. It wasn’t unusual for dead bodies to turn up without much explanation, so Henry left it where it was, only returning on Easter Monday to give it a casual burial.

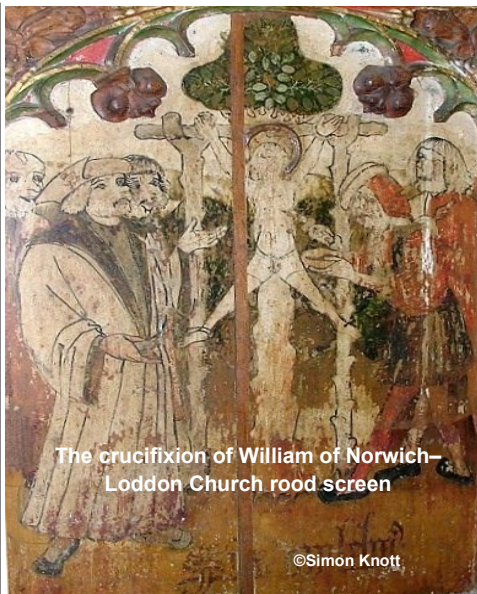
Nearly a week after William had left his mother’s house, his uncle, Godwin STURT, his brother and his cousin went to Thorpe Wood to see if the boy whose body had been discovered and already buried, was their little relative. It was said that when they removed the earth which had been thrown lightly over the body, it was distinctly seen by

them to move twice. If true, it is extremely likely, that the boy, when found on the Saturday, was not dead at all, but in some type of cataleptic fit. This is strongly confirmed by the fact, noticed at the time, that there were no signs of decomposition, even though almost a week had elapsed since its discovery. However, they took no steps to resuscitate him, but merely satisfying themselves with his identity, covered the body up again.

When William's mother heard about his death, she joined with Godwin in blaming the Jews, claiming that they had carried out a ritual killing. They accused them of tricking William to go to the house of a Jewish money lender called Eleazar, where he was grabbed and tortured. A wooden gag or teasle was put in his mouth and a knotted rope tied round his head and neck. His head was shaved and stabbed with countless thorn points until it bled. He was then tied to a cross, stabbed in the side and covered with boiling water. At the time there was little evidence to support these claims.

Bishop Eborard tried to bring the Jews to court for a trial by ordeal, but the Sheriff, John de Chesney, rejected this. He took them into Norwich Castle and placed them under his protection. William's remains were removed from the forest and taken to the monks' cemetery. People soon lost interest in the case and the memory of William faded over the years. However, six years later in 1150 it was revisited when Thomas of Monmouth arrived in Norwich.

William's story was invoked during another murder trial in 1149, that of Simon de Novers, a knight who killed his Jewish moneylender when he could



not repay his debts. He had close links to the Second Crusade which had failed miserably and in desperation he killed his moneylender. He was defended in court by Bishop Turbeville, who argued that the real crime wasn't the murder of the moneylender, but rather the murder of William five years earlier. The attack on the boy, the bishop claimed, had been led by none other than the moneylender whom de Novers had killed. Witnesses who allegedly saw the Jews carrying William's body to the woods, were found to back up this claim. King Stephen travelled all the way to Norwich to witness the case and the Jews appealed to him for protection. De Novers' guilt was widely acknowledged, yet the outcome of the trial freed him of any responsibility and placed a much bigger burden on the Jews.

Thomas of Monmouth was encouraged by the bishop to re-examine the facts

surrounding William's death and he sought out witnesses to the alleged crime. Their evidence was patchy at best and may have been highly unreliable. He produced a text called 'The Life and Miracles of St William of Norwich' in which he supported the allegations made against the Jews. However, he was far more interested in promoting William as a patron saint for the city. He concentrated on the apparent miracles that occurred. William's body was said to smell sweetly, even after days in the woods; a rose bush at the head of his tomb flowered during the winter. As a result, William's remains were moved several times to more and more exalted sites within the monastery. He was regarded as a Christian martyr by the monks. Despite all of Thomas' efforts, William was never officially canonised and by all accounts, the townspeople quickly forgot about him and his gruesome death. No-one seems to have thought him a saint, or even to have thought

about him at all.

The mystery surrounding the murder may never have been solved, but the legacy of the blood libel affected millions of people for years to come. It was even suggested that William died following a bizarre re-enactment of the Crucifixion carried out by his own family. The anti-Semitism that arose, resulted in a series of laws being created which restricted the rights of Jewish people. They were not allowed to own land and after death their money went, not to their children, but directly to the Crown. Ultimately all Jews were banished from England by Edward I in 1290. Similar expulsions occurred in France, Germany and Switzerland. Jews were only allowed to return to England by Oliver Cromwell in 1656 but they continued to be persecuted for many years to come.



Growing Up Without A Father

Story by Peter Steward

EIGHTY years after his father died in a Second World War massacre, a Dereham man proudly saluted a new memorial in Norwich Cathedral Close.

Philip CURSON wiped a tear from his eye as he thought about the father he never knew. Sergeant William Curson was one of 97 soldiers from the Royal Norfolk Regiment, Royal Scots Regiment and others murdered in the massacre at Le Paradis in Northern France on May 27th, 1940.

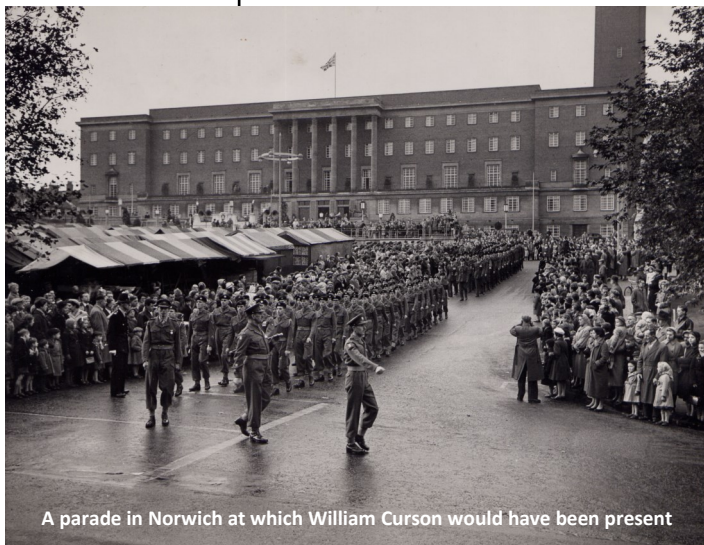
At that time, Philip was just 13 months old. Now in his eighties, Philip was one of the guests of honour as the memorial to those murdered at Le Paradis was given the Royal seal of approval at a dedication service attended by the Princess Royal.

Over the years, with the help of his wife Jean and son Peter, Philip has pieced together details of his father's life. He has established that William enlisted in the Royal Norfolk Regiment at Britannia Barracks in Norwich in November, 1922, when he lied about his age.

"I think my father was something of a joker and he obviously added two

years to his age as he went up Kett's Hill," Philip said.

William saw service in Jamaica, Egypt, Cyprus, China and India before joining the British Expeditionary Force in



France from 1939 until his death.

Philip was born in Stibbard on April 11th, 1939. Although he has no memory of his father, he does remember going into his mother's room where he found her and his older sister crying. They had just received confirmation that William had died.

There was little talk in the Curson household about what had happened. Philip and sister Phyllis grew up without a father and mum Barbara never remarried. Philip inherited letters, photographs and memorabilia which has given him the chance to piece together scraps of information about

his father.

"I am very proud of what he was and what he achieved," Philip said.

Knowing that his father had been killed in the war, but not how, didn't stop Philip joining the army and the Royal Norfolk Regiment in the late 1950s where he was posted to the German capital Berlin as a dispatch rider, moving between the various zones of occupation.

"I was reluctant to leave my mother, but we were a military family. It was a good posting but I'm glad I didn't know what had happened to my father at the time. I'm not sure how I would have felt if I had known what the Germans had done to him," Philip said.

Philip fulfilled a number of functions including laying telephone lines and operating an exchange before volunteering for a dispatch rider post because of his love of motorcycles which has stayed with him.

His duties saw him move between the east and west, taking documents to Spandau Prison and delivering passports, all of which gave him a real perspective on the tensions that were beginning to develop between the east and the west.

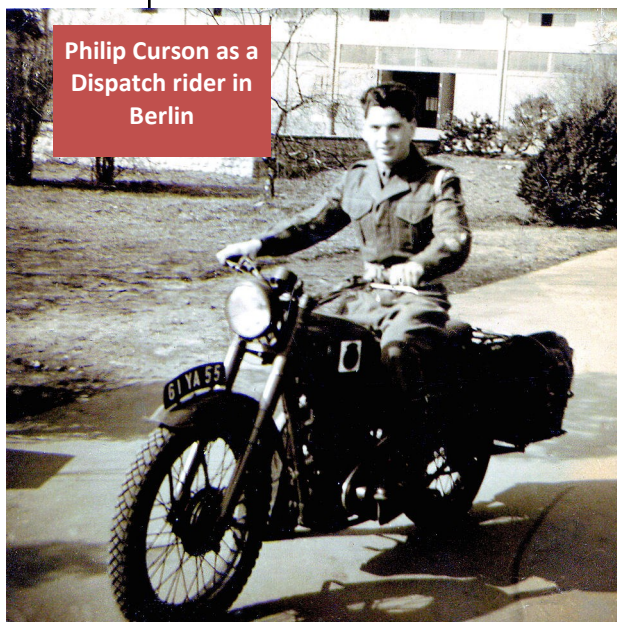
"I witnessed considerable poverty on the streets and I vividly remember old ladies round the back streets sitting on doorsteps and wearing black, obviously grieving for those who died in the war," he said.

A few years ago, Philip returned to Berlin and admits he was in a daze when he was able to walk unchallenged through the Brandenburg Gate:

"I couldn't help thinking that in a small way myself and my father had been united in playing a small part in history," he said.

Philip spent most of his working life outside the army as a fitter welder at Crane Fruehauf for 35 years, building road tankers after initially starting as a moulder in Norfolk foundries.

His love of motorcycles has seen him restore many vintage models although, at the age of 82, he has given up riding. He has, however, made custom wheels for a number of King's Lynn's Australian contingent of speedway riders including Kevin Doolan, Troy Batchelor and Ashley Jones.



Hardy Annuals

By Janet Anderson

MY paternal grandmother Beatrice's paternal family all came from around the lovely city of Norwich with its towering castle and peaceful river.

Hailing from the country districts of Ringland, Mattishall Burgh and further back, East Dereham, they all gravitated towards the city eventually ending up in "The Golden Triangle" conservation area of Heigham just outside the centre of the city, and past the Roman Catholic Cathedral and a very busy ring road.

In those long ago times of around 1800 they would have used horses and carts to get into the city making the seven mile journey to Norwich a whole day out.

The furthest back ancestor that I know of, my 3x great grandad, was called John HARDY (1772-1820). He lived in the little village of Ringland until he was an adult. Ringland is still a very rural village outside of Norwich with a stream, a ford, an old church and one surviving old pub.

He married Sarah KITTLE at Old Catton, now near where the international airport is, just a few miles away from Ringland. Did he meet Sarah at a market or function in Norwich, or at a farm event in one of the villages perhaps? They were married by licence – sometimes a sign that they might have been non-conformists who only visited the village

church to get married, and preferred to worship, be baptised and buried in their own churches where possible.

By the time John was 23, he was working in Norwich but at the time of his death he was back in the country peace of Ringland. He was described as a 'plumber and glazier' on the baptism record of his son. A plumber in that time worked with lead and, from the mid-19th century, took on the work of supplying and fitting the pipes for water supply and waste pipes. They often did glazier work as well as the



Ringland Church photographed this year

glass was fitted with lead edges.

John and Sarah had at least three girls and a boy, who was my 2x great grandad John Hardy (1804-1886). He was also a plumber and was born in Ringland. He was baptised at Ringland Church on 30th March, 1804, ten days after he was born.

Growing up in Ringland, he married Harriet EDWARDS from a farming family in Mattishall Burgh in 1824 after going to work in Mattishall Burgh on a farm. They went on to have 12 children. Mattishall Burgh is only a few

miles away from Ringland in the countryside and is a tiny place just outside of Mattishall village which also has a church. By 1859 the family had moved to the city of Norwich to the Heigham area.

In 1859 they lived in Unthank Road, now a busy road with shops and a pub, in Heigham, Norwich, part of "The Golden Triangle" conservation area. In 1861 they were listed as living at Park Lane, just around the corner where he remained until he died in 1886, described as a 'gentleman'.

Some of John's earnings went on the purchase of his beautiful very large home "Vine Cottage" in Park Lane, which was one of the original large houses at the far end of the road away from the pub near to Earlham Road, a major thoroughfare out of the city. It had a large garden and a conservatory.

When he died he didn't have much money but he had plenty of houses. Two villas and around 14 dwelling houses were bequeathed to most of the living children, grandchildren and one of the daughters-in-law who was a widow.

His wife Harriet carried on living in the same large house after John died. She lived there until her death in 1901 at the age of about 94. I was pleased to see in the 1891 census that her daughter Adelaide and husband Bond WOODHOUSE were living with her, and they went on to live around the corner at 188 Unthank Road after this with Adelaide probably visiting her regularly. Bond was a coal merchant's clerk eventually becoming the



Mattishall Church pictured this year

manager. With everyone using coal for fires, it must have been an important job.

Of the 12 children of John and Harriet the two girls were particularly interesting. Adelaide Edwards Hardy (1839-1927) mentioned above, had a sad life as she married late for those times at age 29 to Bond and, when she became pregnant in 1871, it must have been so exciting for the family. She had a boy named Campbell Mac but sadly he died aged four and she didn't have any more children.

She lived her whole life in two streets in Heigham and died in 1927 at 240 Unthank Road at "The Hollies" where there were holly trees in the garden. She also owned number 238 which had firs in the garden. Number 240 still remains and is a large substantial old house. Adelaide was the first named child in father John's will and inherited several properties. Adelaide in turn left her estate to her younger brother William and two sons of another brother, Edwin, leaving a large amount of money.

Her older sister Sarah Anne was born

in 1824, the only child of the family born in Mattishall. It was very common for the first child to be born at the home of the maternal grandmother so this is likely to be what happened. Sarah was baptised in Heigham in 1825 and married Henry Love in February 1853 by licence. Henry worked in metal trades. They had seven children and in 1861 had moved to Islington in London where they were listed as Sarah Anne 35, Henry 34, with two children born in Norwich and the next two born in Islington. Their move must have caused some of the other children of John and Harriet to follow. One of these was Edwin Edwards Hardy (1844-1930), my paternal great grandfather. He lived in Heigham with his family and, like many of the others, was baptised at St. John Maddermarket in the city of Norwich.

Although living in Heigham, John and Harriet had previously lived right in the centre of Norwich in Dove Street, which was the adjoining street to St. John Maddermarket and was a Baptist Church so this is most likely why they took the younger children back to be baptised there as well.

Edwin was sent to Beccles in Suffolk when young, to work in a shop. At that time as an assistant you lived with the shopkeeper's family. He was up in court for stealing some money from the shopkeeper.

"Edwin Hardy, on bail, was charged with stealing at Beccles, on 13th April last, two florins, five shillings and six pence, and other monies, the property of Charles Frederick Parker, of Beccles, grocer and draper. Mr Cherry prosecuted and Mr Reeve, defended

the prisoner" *Norfolk News, Saturday 1st July 1865.*

Edwin was acquitted and went back to Norwich, starting up in business with his father. Perhaps his father felt that he needed to keep a close eye on him and wanted to give Edwin a new start! Edwin was a draper as this advert shows:

"Wanted a Milliner, one accustomed to serve at the Drapery Counter, preferred – address, stating age, salary, reference etc. to Edwin Hardy, St Mary's Plain, Norwich. 21st April 1866 Norfolk News

But worse was to come. In 1867 he and his father, called Gentlemen, were bankrupt as a long piece in the Norfolk News explained. Their joint venture had collapsed. Perhaps this was why father John afterwards invested in



St John Maddermarket

property and not money for the rest of his life. In 1871 Edwin was a 'shopman' working in Thetford, once again an assistant. Somewhere during this time he met my great grandmother, Eliza FEW, a prosperous farmer's daughter from Willingham in

Cambridgeshire. They followed Sarah to Islington and married in April 1873 at Myddelton Square, St Marks, going on to have ten children.

The John Hardy family

They had six boys (Bond Edwin, George John, Arthur Sidney, Herbert William, Ernest Woodhouse and Frederick William Hardy) by 1881 when they had moved to Lambeth and lived at 90 Vauxhall Street. With four boys in residence at the census, Bond Edwin, known as Edwin, was in the country with the family in Willingham and sadly Herbert had died young. Next came two girls, Adelaide Maud in 1885 and Rose Helena in 1887. My grandmother Beatrice was born in Lambeth in October, 1891, followed by youngest brother Richard in 1895, who served as a musician in the First World War and was invalided out.

Father Edwin was a draper's assistant at the 1891 census living at 8, Kempsford Road, Lambeth, where they stayed until the First World War, and a draper's manager in 1901. In 1914 they must have decided to leave London for safety and moved to 43 Beaufort Street, Southchurch, Essex where Beatrice was married from. Sadly his wife Eliza contracted cancer

and they sent her back to the good country air of Willingham to live with her younger sister Lizzie, where she died in April 1918.

In 1922, Edwin was listed as living at 240 Unthank Road with his sister Adelaide. The address is given on son George's Freedom of the City of London (farrier) papers yet when he died his address was given jointly as that and also 73 Oxford Road, Chiswick, London. Perhaps he shared the costs but it seemed that Adelaide liked to have her brothers around her. When he died in 1930, his eldest son George John and another son Arthur Sidney, both drapers like himself, were listed as executors and sole inheritors from his will.

In his codicil to his will, Edwin quite touchingly asked to have his funeral not in Norwich or London, but at Willingham in Cambridgeshire as his "dear Jennie's" (wife Eliza Jane) had been and he asked for the same minister to attend from Lambeth Presbyterian. He also asked for the same local minister, a relative of Eliza Jane's mother, to conduct the ceremony in the same way as Jennie's.

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More Zoom Talks Scheduled

We are delighted with the response to our series of Zoom talks with over 100 members regularly attending the events. The next presentation will be on December 16th at 7 pm when Simon Fowler and Sylvia Levi will give a presentation entitled "Christmas Food and Drink through the Ages."

Society members will receive an e-mail before the event giving them a link to the talk which will tell us what the men, women, and children of Norfolk rich and poor would have eaten and drunk over the Christmas period. Would they have eaten turkey and furrity? Would they have drunk Smoking Bishop? And would the paupers in the workhouse have been allowed a pint of beer? All will be revealed.

To whet your appetites we feature an 18th century mince pie recipe. Simon and Sylvia would love members to make the recipe and join them to sample it during the evening.

Sylvia Levi is an enthusiastic food historian with a particular interest in what our ancestors baked. Simon Fowler is a professional genealogist, writer, and tutor who enjoys his Roast Beef on Christmas Day. He graduated from the University of East Anglia in the late 1970s.

A Georgian Mince Pie recipe taken from Hannah Glasse's "The Art of Cookery" which was first published in 1747.

Ingredients

Three pounds of suet shred very fine and chopped as small as possible.

Two pounds of raisins stoned, and chopped as fine as possible.

Two pounds of currants nicely picked, washed, rubbed, and dried at the fire.

Half a hundred of fine pipins, pared, cored and chopped small.

Half a pound of sugar pounded fine.

A quarter of an ounce of mace.

A quarter of an ounce of cloves.

Two large nutmegs, all beat fine.

Method

Put all together into a great pan and mix well, together with half a pint of brandy, and half a pint of sack [wine]; put it down close in a stone pot, and it will keep good for four months .

Originally, minced or shred pies included meat, sometimes mutton, sometimes beef, but during the 18th century cooks began to leave the meat out. Mince pies were eaten year-round, not just for Christmas though, and Hannah Glasse also had a recipe for 'Lenten mincemeat' which used chopped hard-boiled eggs instead of fat (but also quite a lot of alcohol).

Over the page is the recipe suitably

modernised with the amounts reduced to more manageable proportions:

Ingredients:

300g suet (fresh or from a packet) – you can use vegetable suet, although the taste will be slightly different.

250g raisins (chopped small).

250g currants.

10 small apples (an older English variety if possible) peeled, cored and chopped small.

150g brown sugar.

1/4 tsp ground mace.

1/4 tsp ground cloves.

1 tsp grated nutmeg.

150ml brandy

150ml white wine (or dry sherry)

Method:

If you are using fresh suet it must be chopped very finely or grated. Add the wine and brandy, suet and dried fruit to a large non-metallic mixing bowl. Start adding the peeled cored and chopped apples. Do the apples in small batches and immediately put them into the bowl with the brandy and wine (coating them) to stop them going brown.

Mix everything in, stirring thoroughly, and cover with a clean cloth or cling film and

leave overnight in the fridge. The next day stir the mixture again and then spoon into sterilised jars and seal. Store in a dark, cool place for up to two months. The mincemeat will darken as it ages.

We will also be holding a zoom talk for members on January 27th at 7 pm.

Dr Penny Walters will talk on “Ethical Dilemmas in Genealogy.” This talk will look at how the faster pace of internet research has uncovered many new ethical dilemmas including discovering secrets, lies, bigamy, enslavement, criminals, unexpected DNA relatives, upsetting findings, relatives that aren’t now related and unexpected ethnicities.



I can create a beautiful hand drawn family tree for display, that will show off your genealogical research.

Professional calligrapher with experience creating unique family heirlooms or special family gifts.

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The Brightwell Connection

Norfolk Family History Society member Dru DeVore describes herself as a “Brit living in the USA and researching families in East Anglia.” In this article Dru gives us an insight into her research.

RESearch on the family name of Brightwell eluded me for many years, especially with their burials and in some cases their deaths. This was mainly because of limited access to Norfolk/Norwich records and to my location.

Thankfully, when ‘Deceased Online’ downloaded the Norwich Earlham Cemetery registers, I was able to close-out a number of the ‘Norwich’ families, especially the Brightwells and BUTTIFANTS. In doing so I came across one such death that should not have been at Norwich.

The Brightwell connection is that of my maternal grandmother. Her mother, Alice Caroline Brightwell married Henry Ernest BAKER at St. Martin at Oak Parish Church, Norwich, on 25th July, 1892. Her parents were Thomas Brightwell and Mary Ann, nee SCOTT. The Brightwells of 16 Brownlow Road are the family of her father's

brother Henry Brightwell. Henry born and raised in Norwich became a tailor by trade, married twice and died aged 43 years on 1st June, 1876, at Mansfield Court, Norwich (St. Stephen's parish) of Phthisis.

The fact he was buried in an unconsecrated common grave at Earlham Cemetery on 3rd June, surprised me as he, along with his family, had moved to Holborn, London, many years prior and are recorded as such on the 1861 and 1871 census. Using the British Library Newspaper website, I found only the death notice in the local Norfolk News, but nothing else to indicate why he had died in Norwich.

However, I next discovered an event that occurred in 1903 that affected his remaining family. Returning first to Henry. Born 2nd February, 1833, to William Brightwell and Anna Maria TURNER he was recorded as such in the Dissenter's register at St. Mary's Baptist

Church, Norwich on 13th June, 1837. An orphan after both of his parents died in 1837 and 1840 respectively, Henry lived with his grandmother until he met and married his first wife Mary Ann DILLISTONE.

They were united on 30th June, 1851, at the Registry Office, Norwich. Mary Ann, being five years his senior, was born in 1828 at Great Yarmouth. She was baptised on 30th June, 1828, at St. Nicholas Parish Church, daughter of John and Mary Dillistone, a sawyer. After giving birth to twins in 1853, both of whom died soon after being born, the couple moved to Holborn, London. Due to suffering from Phthisis, Mary Ann died 21st May, 1862 at 10 Grenville Street, Hatton Gardens, Holborn, aged 34 years. After her death Henry married Jessie Barbara ASBURY in St. Andrew's Parish Church, Holborn, on 11th March, 1866. Jessie Barbara, daughter of Frederick Parry Asbury and Frances Catherine

SHARP, was born 4th April, 1835 at Shoe Lane, Holborn and baptised 7th June also at St. Andrew's. From this union Henry and Jessie had five children - Henry Herbert Brightwell (21st May, 1868 - 1903), Jessie Frances Brightwell (3rd November, 1869 - 1903) Charlotte Harriet Brightwell (30th January, 1871 - 20th January, 1874), Lilian Catherine Brightwell (14th July, 1872 - 9th December, 1873), Nellie Brightwell (29th May, 1876 - 1909).

With the children's death and birth records, I deduced that the family had, after daughter Charlotte's death, temporally relocated to Norwich. Being pregnant at the time of Henry's death, Jessie had remained at Mansfield's Yard/Court, giving birth to daughter Nellie on 29th May, 1876. As a widow, raising two children under the age of eight and one barely three months old, Jessie returned to London, perhaps temporally moving in with her parents at Kirby Street, Finsbury. By 1881 she was residing at Red Lion Passage, Holborn, remaining there and working as a waistcoat maker until 1896. The

year 1901 found her and the family, three adult children and granddaughter Olive, at 16 Brownlow Street. In 1903, 19th of January to be precise, disaster struck. At 1.30 in the morning, a blaze consumed the building. Life was lost and heroic rescues occurred. To simplify what and how it happened I have chosen to type the most relevant newspaper article, Daily Telegraph and Courier - Monday, 19th January, 1903 - page 7 under the headline: "Fires In London Exciting Rescues"

Early yesterday morning some exciting rescues from a burning building were effected. The premises of Messrs. Martin Brothers, art potters, of 16 Brownlee Street, were discovered to be on fire. When the first engine arrived the basement and ground floors were blazing furiously. Hearing that a Mr. and Mrs. Brightwell and their niece, a girl of six years, were in the building, the fireman made gallant efforts to reach them. The inmates were on the top floor, and the firemen used extended ladders, working with their smoke helmets. With much difficulty the three

persons were rescued, all being in an unconscious condition, and were brought to the ground. Mr. Brightwell stated that all appeared safe when he retired for the night. He had no recollection of anything until brought round by the firemen.

The Globe - Tuesday, 20th January, 1903 - page 7 Fires In London.

Jessie Brightwell, the young woman who was brought out of the burning building at 16 Brownlow Street, Holborn, by the firemen on Sunday morning, died at her home late last night from the effects of her injuries. The other inmates of the house who were rescued are progressing favourably.

St. James Gazette - Friday, 23rd January, 1903 - page 13 Heroic Firemen

Mr. Walter Schroder held an inquest yesterday, at the Holborn Coroner's Court, on the bodies of Jessie Frances Brightwell, aged thirty three, a single woman, a clerk and Olive Marie Fiore, aged six, her niece, the victims of the fire which happened early Sunday morning last, at 16 Brownlow Street, Holborn. About

half-past one on Sunday morning the staircase of the house was found to be filled with smoke, but two women succeeded in escaping downstairs and informing the police. Police constable Fred Barber of 70E, having rung the nearest fire alarm, tried to ascend the stairs of the house, and reached the first landing when he was driven back by dense smoke. Within three minutes after the alarm a horse escape and fire engine arrived from Theobald Road Fire Station, and it was shown that Firemen Newberry, Beck and Narraway, though themselves partially suffocated with smoke, persisted in the work of rescue until they had got all inmates, including several lodgers, out of the house. Then they had recourse to artificial respiration, but Miss Brightwell died on Monday, and her niece on Tuesday, from the effects of carbon dioxide poisoning. The firemen were agreed in saying they never encountered before smoke so dense. Its density was attributed to the burning oak beams in the basement, where the fire, from some unknown cause, started. In returning a verdict of accidental death, the jury highly commended the

firemen named, and also Police constable Barber, for the promptitude and courage which marked their conduct - a rider to the verdict that elicited loud applause in court.

Daily News - Tuesday, 27th January, 1903 - page 4 London Fires.

Yesterday at the Holborn Coroner's Court, Mr. W. Schroder held an inquest respecting the death of Henry Herbert Brightwell (34) who died as the result of injuries received in a fire which occurred on the 18th inst. at 16 Brownlow Street, Holborn. This was the third death which had resulted from the conflagration. The evidence showed that Brightwell had been paralysed from birth, and was supported by his widowed mother. Dr. Gould said the deceased was not burned but suffered from carbon dioxide poisoning. Death was due to shock. Witness desired to hear personal testimony to the conspicuous gallantry of the firemen, each of whom carried his life in his hands. It was the night of the 'silver thaw' and the difficulties to contend with were quite exceptional. The jury returned a verdict of 'Accidental death' and

awarded great praise to Firemen Peck, Worroway and Station Officer Smith, and to P.C. Barber for the bravery they displayed on the occasion.

Croydon Chronicle - Saturday, 31st January, 1903 - page 7 Holborn Fatal Fire

At the Holborn Coroner's Court, an inquest has been held on the body of Henry Herbert Brightwell, aged thirty four, a paralysed cripple from birth, the third victim of the fire which occurred early Sunday morning the 18th inst. at 16 Brownlow Street, Holborn. The sister and niece of the deceased man, on whom an inquest had already been held, died from the effects of suffocation subsequent to the fire. The smoke, owing to the burning oak beams in the cellar, where the fire originated, was very dense and several firemen were highly commended by the previous jury for the persistence with which, although themselves partially suffocated, they continued the work of rescue until all inmates were got out of the house. The origin of the fire remains unknown. The deceased man, it

seems, slept in a room by himself on the third floor, and while trying to rescue his niece, sank overcome with the fumes on the third floor

Hanwell Asylum



moved into 36 Gloucester Street, Holborn. On Wednesday 30th September, 1908, Nellie was admitted to Holborn Union Workhouse, transferring to Hanwell Lunatic

Asylum on 5th December and passed away there on the 31st December, 1908, of Brain Softening Syphilitic, G.T. (Gumma Tumours). She was buried within the family plot on Saturday 9th January, 1909. This past summer I obtained Nellie's Hanwell Asylum patient case papers and, due to copyright restrictions, I cannot publish the actual records but can briefly mention the following. Historical facts were that she was blue eyed, of small stature and poor physique with cretinoid features, well-nourished but of poor intellect. She had old scar marks on her left arm and back of left hand. She lived with her mother, who was the informant and it stated that her husband had deserted her and Marjorie by April of 1908. Nellie was transferred from Holborn Union Workhouse Hospital due to 'Epileptic fits', of which

A family plot was purchased by mother Jessie and her sister Charlotte Sarah Asbury at Hendon Park Cemetery, Holders Hill, Barnet. Henry, along with sister Jessie and niece Olive Fiore, was buried, Tuesday 27th January, 1903. All three death certificates issued by the Coroner, stated the cause of death as "Accidental Death due to Carbon Dioxide Poisoning from fumes of burning wood, when house was on fire." Olive Fiore was the daughter of Nellie, who had married Baldassare Fiore on 13th May, 1896 at the Registry Office, Holborn. Along with Olive, who was born 15th July, 1896, there was another daughter, Marjorie Elizabeth, born 18th August, 1906. After the fire and before the birth of Marjorie the family, which consisted of Jessie, Nellie and presumably Baldassare,

she had several on various occasions during her time at Hanwell. On the 31st December she apparently experienced a seizure



Hendon Park Cemetery

from which she never gained consciousness and died. A post mortem was performed where in the centre of her brain there was a softening mass where two tumours had formed, concluding the cause of her 'epileptic fits'. An inquest was held with the cause of death as indicated on her death certificate. Hanwell Asylum (later known as St. Bernard's Hospital) - was the first pauper lunatic asylum for the county of Middlesex, and achieved great prominence in the field of psychiatric treatments. It was built and opened in June, 1831, with the official name of the Hanwell County Asylum, Norwood. In 1889 the name was changed to the London County Asylum, Hanwell and in 1928 to the County Mental Hospital. In 1937 the name was changed to St. Bernard's Hospital. Jessie recorded herself

with granddaughter Marjorie living in one room at 5 Gloucester Street, noting on the return (which was crossed out) - Total number of children = 5; alive = 0; died = 5. She lived another five years and passed away aged 84 years at 5, Gloucester Street, of Bronchitis. Her sister Charlotte Sarah Asbury recorded her death and she was buried on 1st November, 1919, within the family plot in Hendon Park Cemetery, Holders Hill, Barnet, London. Hendon Park Cemetery Memorial Register - #2178 - headstone - with kerbs on landing - In Loving Memory of Henry Herbert Brightwell Who died January 23rd 1903 aged 34 years and his devoted Sister Jessie Frances Brightwell who died January 19th, 1903, aged 33 Years. Also Their niece, Olive Marie Fiore who died 20th January,

1903, Aged 6 years. They were lovely and pleasant in their lives and in their death they were not divided. Also of Nellie Fiore, mother of Olive who died

December 31st, 1908, aged 31. Also of Jessie Barbara Brightwell mother of the above who died October 27th, 1919, aged 84 In The Sure Hope Of A Happy Reunion. Also In Loving Memory of Charlotte S. Asbury sister of the above who died February 22nd, 1926, aged 84.

As to Marjorie, she remained single, travelled the world teaching and died 7th December, 2002, aged 96 and was cremated at Eltham Crematorium, Greenwich on 17th December.

Dru DeVore
fentigar@msn.com

I am a Brit living in the USA and researching families in East Anglia:

Atkin, Fenn, Sindal, Rayner, Pollington, Bushell, Watson, Flatt, Gammon, Seaber, Osborne, Harvey, Baker, Brightwell and Buttifant.

A Chamberlin Legacy

By Barbara Ayers

IN recent issues of *Norfolk Ancestor* there have been articles about Chamberlins of Norwich. In September 2020, Roger Morgan told us that it 'was one of the most celebrated stores in Norwich in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It provided a high level of service that was unsurpassed in Norwich at the time.' He goes on to describe its history in detail. You can still see the building today. It is partly occupied by Tesco Metro on Guildhall Hill near the market. As Chamberlin House, it should serve as a reminder of its distinguished past. However, emblazoned on a sign round the corner in Dove Street is 'CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE'. We don't know when the spelling error first occurred but in 1998 and 1999 there were advertisements in the *Eastern Daily Press* newspaper for office space in Chamberlin House in Dove Street.

Norwich City Council has given the go-ahead for a multi-million pound 91-

bed hotel above Tesco Metro. Brundall Local History Group would like the new development to revert to the original spelling, Chamberlin, in order to recall a piece of Norwich history. They think it is too good an opportunity to miss, to correct an error and ensure an iconic name is not lost to the city centre for ever.

In June 2021's *Norfolk Ancestor*, Julian Chamberlin gave us a detailed analysis of his family history entitled 'Chamberlin's Mythical Beginnings'. Julian tells us that brothers, George and Alexander (Alexander being Julian's great grandfather), were the last family members to work in the business. Alexander married Agnes Marshall, whose father was James Marshall of Marshall and Snelgrove, who were, in the 1950s, to take over Chamberlins. This is where Brundall Local History Group comes in because Alexander and Agnes'



youngest son was Rev Charles Marshall Chamberlin, Rector of St Laurence Church, Brundall, from 1898 to 1940.

There is much evidence in Brundall Church of the generous patronage of the Chamberlin family. When Charles arrived at St Laurence he was keen to extend the tiny church and a north aisle and vestry were soon added. The large east window of 1902 by Clayton and Bell was given by Alexander and Agnes in memory of their first child, baby

Alexander, who died aged 10 months. In 1913 the south porch was a gift from Agnes Chamberlin and she also gave the altar with reredos, altar rails and linenfold panelling in memory of her husband, Charles' father Alexander, when he died in 1921. Agnes' sister,

Catherine Bartlett, donated the pulpit in memory of their parents, James and Catherine Marshall, and she also gave the lectern.

In 1902, Charles Chamberlin married Katherine Slipper of Braydeston Hall and they had three sons and two daughters, the middle son being Hilary, Julian's father. The family lived at Witton Rectory. The building we know today as Brundall Library served as the Church Room in Rev Chamberlin's time. He opened a men's club and reading room soon after he arrived and social evenings were arranged with the rector putting on magic lantern shows. He was elected president of the football team in 1920 and acted with the Blofield and Brundall Players.



Charles and Katherine had many homes after they retired in 1940.

They didn't seem to be able to settle as they regarded Brundall as their home, which is confirmed by the fact that they are buried in Brundall Churchyard, even though Charles was living in Devon when he died. A glowing tribute was made to him at a memorial service held in Sidmouth Parish Church in 1958. The vicar said that he served God and the people of Brundall and Witton for 42 years and that 'Every man, woman and child knew him and loved him as a pastor and friend'.

In 1961 a public bench, dedicated to the memory of the Reverend Charles Chamberlin, was installed at the top of St



Rev C. M. and Mrs Chamberlin when young

Laurence Avenue, Brundall, where it continues to be a reminder of a long serving rector who contributed much to the village.

Brundall Local History Group would like to thank Julian Chamberlin for generously donating family photographs to its

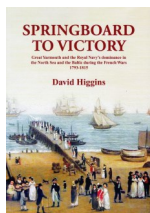


The top photograph on this page is of the 1920 football team.

On the left is the Rev Charles Chamberlin in his later years.

Above is the Brundall bench dedicated to the Rev Charles Chamberlin. The inscription reads as follows: In Memory of Reverend Charles Chamberlin Rector of St Laurences, Brundall, 1897-1940.

Photographs courtesy of Brundall Local History Group which has a great interest in the Chamberlin Family.



Stories From Wells



In a previous edition of *Norfolk Ancestor* we featured a new book “*Springboard To Victory*” by NFHS member David Higgins. Here David tells us more about the book and his own family research.

AN inevitable bi-product of war is the movement of people, both civilian and military, with the likelihood of family history events occurring in unexpected places. These can often lead to welcome dashes of colour in what otherwise might be considered ordinary lives, but they can also be stumbling blocks to progress. To illustrate the point, I have a Chester born ancestor, John PARRY, who, in 1795, enlisted in the Pembrokeshire Fencible Cavalry. That same year, in the aftermath of a food riot, he was posted to Wells-next-the-Sea.

Five months later, he married a local girl there, as did four of his fellow troopers. In 1800, after service in Scotland and Ireland, he transferred into the 22nd Light Dragoons and was sent to Egypt shortly after the defeat of Napoleon's army there.

With that phase of the French Wars ending in 1802, he returned to Wells and, with the resumption of hostilities, in 1803, he joined one of the port's local volunteer infantry companies. In 1809 he enlisted in the Royal Marines and for five years served aboard the prisoner-of-war hulk *Glory*, moored in the Medway, before spending the

remainder of his life in Wells. Had it not been for the Wells parish priest meticulously recording the name of John's unit in the marriage register I might never have discovered his eventful story and, perhaps more importantly, his place of birth.

This, of course, happened in what until World War I was known as the 'Great War', comprising the French Revolutionary War, 1793-1802, and the Napoleonic Wars, 1803-1815. Depending on their age, family historians could have anywhere between 16 and 64 adult male direct ancestors alive at the time, many of whom would have served in the military or navy in one capacity or another.

In Norfolk, while every town and village was affected by the need to recruit men into the Army and Navy, the main upheaval occurred at Great Yarmouth, as described in my recently published book 'Springboard To Victory', notice of which was given in *The Ancestor* in March this year. With the Admiralty making the Yarmouth Roads its main anchorage for the navy's North Sea Squadron and the assembly point for continental expeditions, the town became strategically important as a



naval support base. From there, in October 1797, Admiral Duncan set sail to defeat the Dutch at the Battle of Camperdown and Admiral Hyde Parker, with Vice-Admiral Lord Nelson, did likewise in April 1801 to defeat the Danes at the Battle of Copenhagen. Of the expeditions, the failed Anglo-Russian venture to the Helder, in Holland, in 1799 resulted in recuperating Russian soldiers roaming the streets of the town, causing nuisance to the extent that they even extracted and drank the whale oil from the street lamps! The other expedition of note to set sail from Great Yarmouth, occurred in 1807 when Copenhagen was once more invested, this time by Admiral Gambier and the future Duke of Wellington. The subsequent naval activity in the Baltic between 1808 and 1814 was also supported from the

town, as was the 'war on trade', as the taking of enemy merchant ships and privateers and the safeguarding of our own, was known.

As a result of this role, facilities for providing the warships with victualling supplies (food and drink), naval stores (masts, sails etc) and ordnance stores (powder and shot) were expanded or created in the town and services for care of the sick and wounded, incarceration of prisoners-of-war and raising seamen were established. The port became linked to the Nore anchorage in the mouth of the Thames by a line of coastal signal posts and to the Admiralty in London by a system of overland telegraph stations. To provide security a rotation of militia units and volunteers were posted to the town and a number of sea-facing batteries were manned. All this activity attracted a large influx of

people, to such an extent that during the war years the town's population rose from around 12,500 to over 18,000, an extraordinary increase, way above the national average.

So how can the Norfolk family historian plug into this melting pot of change? The starting point, as ever, is the parish registers. With luck these will reveal an involvement with the military or the navy, but if not it is still worth searching for an ancestor in the records of the units that were stationed in a particular place, at the relevant time. At the base of the hierarchy of such troops were units of part-timers who were raised purely for local service, namely the Sea Fencibles and the Volunteer Infantry/Cavalry. These men performed much the same role as that of the Home Guard of World War II. It was a popular form of service because the former, who were all involved with shipping and the sea, in one way or another, were protected from the activities of the naval press gangs and the latter the militia ballot. Essentially their records give details of the men who served but remained at home.

The Sea Fencibles were first created in 1798, but in Norfolk they were not raised until 1803 when the whole of the English coast was protected. Their pay lists, which together with most of the records mentioned below are in the National Archives (not yet on-line), reveal useful detail including some death notices that do not appear in the relevant parish burial registers. Although grouped into Districts the men are helpfully listed by parish. A return made of the Yarmouth District in July 1805 lists 130 men for the town

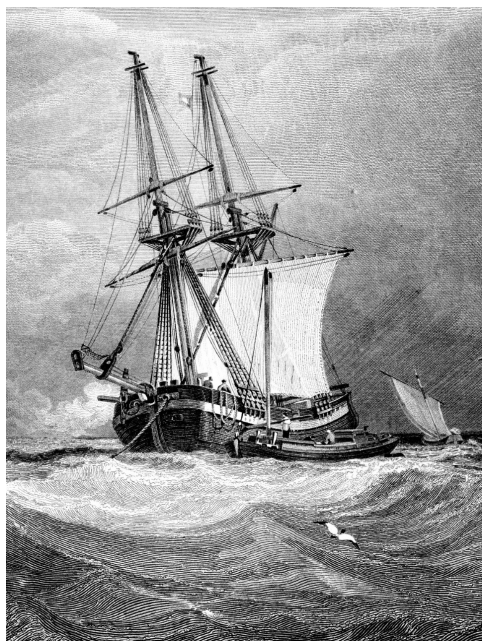


and gives their age, marital status, number of children, householder status and the nature of any boat they owned. Among them were my ancestors, John Leggett, a shipwright who, as the unit's midshipman, was the senior NCO and Stephen Godfrey, a keelman, who with two of his brothers had migrated to Great Yarmouth from Norwich to take advantage of the need to take supplies out to the warships in the Roads. As far as the volunteers were concerned all the Norfolk towns raised units and many of these did garrison duty at Great Yarmouth, including my ancestor's First Wells Company of Volunteer Infantry, in December 1803 to January 1804 and July 1805.

More substantial were the militia regiments, raised in wartime for permanent service in the British Isles. For Norfolk there were three such units, namely the West, the East and the Third, but as with all militia units they served away from their home county and were frequently moved to avoid fraternisation, for part of their job was to deal with civil unrest. To help the researcher identify Norfolk-raised men there are pay lists and a description book for the West Norfolks in the National Archives and one for the Third in the Norfolk Record Office. Nearly 30 non-Norfolk militia units performed garrison duty at Great Yarmouth during these wars, including

some from Scotland and Ireland. I have established their periods of service in the town and have listed them in 'Springboard To Victory.' Notwithstanding the strictures placed upon them many of these men did form relationships, sometimes with dire consequences. In October, 1804, the Shropshire Militia left Great Yarmouth. Waving them off were two women with extra reason to lament their departure for both were domestic servants who had married soldiers from the unit. A year-and-a-half later these men came back to visit their wives but, on not being allowed to return with them, the following morning, the heartbroken women tied themselves together with ribbon, walked into the sea, and sadly were drowned.

I have an Essex born ancestor, William Scotcher, for whom the only marriage I could find took place on the Isle of Wight. This seemed unlikely until I found him in the pay-lists of the West



The Norfolk Ancestor Journal of the NFHS

Essex Militia, which had been stationed there at the time of the marriage.

Finally there is the Royal Navy and the Regular

Army. For naval personnel it is still necessary to know the name of at least one of the ships they served on before their careers can be ascertained, but there is a shortcut for some of the soldiers. For historical reasons there were laws preventing militiamen transferring into the regular line regiments, but in 1799, 1805 and 1807-1814 these rules were suspended as there was a shortage of regulars.

As a result around 2,500 Norfolk-born men made the transfer and by my estimation this represents about half of the Norfolk born regular soldiers that fought in these wars. If service in the militia has been established it is easy to check the pay-lists for this movement. In addition I have traced the military careers of all these men, from the Helder campaign of 1799 to the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, and while the data is not yet in a publishable form I would be happy to search my index for anyone who contacts me by email.

So, all in all, with some lateral thinking and a modicum of luck it should be possible to answer the question, What did my Norfolk ancestors do in those far-off French Wars?



Springboard To Victory can be purchased from the principal bookshops in Norwich and Great Yarmouth, including in the latter place Cobholm Miniatures, in Broad Row, and the Time and Tide Museum, and online via the publishers, Phoenix Publications.

David's email address is,
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Finding Norfolk Fathers *By Ed Storey*

In the September 2017 issue of *The Norfolk Ancestor*, David Farman wrote about his great grandmother who had nine illegitimate children. My great grandmother was also illegitimate. Her story seems to contain more questions than answers, but I will try to look at Martha Farman for clues to help me find the father.

Henry Dann and Elizabeth Wright had several children whilst they were living in Hempnall. Elizabeth was from Fritton. Two of the children were Mary Ann (b. 1830) and Sarah (b. 1829). Sarah married John Oswick, a stock tender in North Elmham. Mary Ann had a daughter on December 13th, 1855. Her birth was registered in January, 1856, and Mary Ann listed her address as Ber Street, Norwich. On the certificate, the mother is listed as Mary Dann and there is no father listed.

Birth of Alice: The record from the GRO provides two strong clues that Mary Ann did not have a husband when Alice was born. There is no father listed, and the surname of the child is

the same as the mother's

My goal, from here on, was to find the name of the father. In the 1851 census, Mary Ann was listed as a servant in Blofield. Blofield is a little to the east of Norwich and somewhat north of Hempnall or Fritton. At this time, it was likely Mary Ann walked anywhere she went. Unfortunately, the census was about four years before the start of the pregnancy and I have no way of finding her location in 1855, that I know of.

North Elmham suddenly rises in prominence. First, Mary Ann married Thomas Capps, an older widower who lived in North Elmham, on the first birthday of Alice. Next, Alice was baptised in North Elmham on 23rd August, 1857. The church does not fail to make it clear Mary Ann was a spinster at the time of the birth, even though she was then married. Two other baptisms of children born to spinsters were on the same page, perhaps providing an insight into the time or location. Her given name is still just Alice. Finally, the 1861 census has

Alice living with her Aunt Sarah, also in North Elmham. Interestingly, Alice has a middle name in the census and it is *Stocks*. I have no idea where the middle name came from, but it might be significant to the mystery. It is just speculation, but maybe the aunt was trying to provide a clue to the father when she provided the middle name to the enumerator in 1861.

In the 1871 census, Alice is shown as a servant, living in North Elmham. Here, and for the rest of her life, she has two middle names. They are *Maud Mary*. Why the middle names both arrived later is unknown. It is not clear who, if anyone, Alice was named after.

Alice got married on her 19th birthday, in Sheffield. The details of her later life, including husbands and children become clearer, but there is still a mystery about her father. This article is really about the father and efforts to determine his name, unsuccessful so far.

Mary Ann was about 24 at the time of the birth, showing she was fully grown up. Thomas had two children when he married Mary Ann and they had two more together. Here is a path I have been travelling, in an attempt to find clues about the identity of Alice's father.

DNA MATCHES - I have had a DNA test, via Ancestry. DNA provides avenues that could provide some assistance. There is an Ancestry feature called *DNA matches*. It provides a list of everyone with DNA in common with me. Further, if matches have a tree on Ancestry, public or private, I can review that tree.

I believe this is a good starting point.

First, Ancestry has a lot of people in their records. Further, many of these have trees available to review, making it easy to look for those who are related. Importantly, however, Ancestry has a means to easily assign every match a color code. All in, there are about two dozen colours to use. Admittedly, some of the colours are close. What you might want to do is to go over the colours and assign each branch in your tree a colour. After you look at a match on Ancestry, mostly by reviewing the tree they have posted, you can give them a colour that matches what you have assigned to their branch. You can consider pursuing promising matches as a means to learn more about other branches of your tree, but that is beyond the scope here.

Colour Coding Family Names - I made the full chart and printed it next to my computer so I can assign the proper colour each time I can trace a DNA match back to a branch in my tree. Optionally, I have included the village.

In time you will have some matches with no colour assigned. This might be due to a lack of a posted tree, a private tree or some error in their tree. The hidden father will likely be in a match with no colour assigned. This is because no one has, thus far, determined who the father was, so they do not have him in their tree. Unfortunately, there are some potential problems lurking about. In addition to the lack of a tree or an error, mentioned before, the hidden father could be related to someone properly in your tree. For example, I have a family of Tosticks in my tree. Mary Ann could have had a Tostick as a cousin who was the father. If so,

there is no further way to sort him out. Remember, too, that someone with the true father in their tree, might have not taken a DNA test or he might not have been in any tree available for review. Without these problems, however, the color coding enables you to identify possible DNA matches to pursue. When looking at matches not assigned to a branch, I look for Norfolk ancestors. My goal is to find someone who might have been near Mary Ann in early 1855. That is why clues about locations are important. If the birth was near a census year, the task might be easier. Sometimes local newspapers or church records could have a clue about locations, as could local town council minutes.

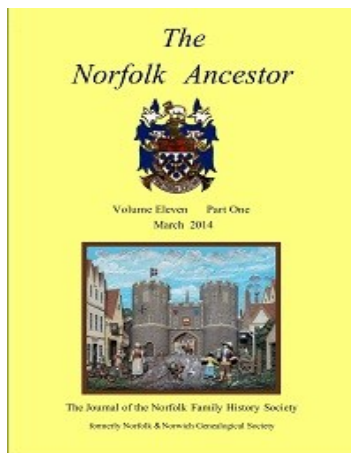
Grouping DNA matches this way is called *clustering*, as first proposed by Dana Leeds. A company called Genetic Affairs, provides computer assistance, as well as some online details about how it works.

FURTHER EFFORTS - I have written

to many people with DNA matches to me, even those who seem to fit into a known branch. I have also explored all of the *green leaves* (hints) on my Ancestry tree. I suspect David Farnam will agree that fathers who did not want to be identified a long time ago will be even harder to find today. Once, in his will from Durham, William Grey provided the name of his illegitimate daughter and her mother's name, but such good fortune is rare.

Thus, I have shared my brief foray into trying to ferret out a hidden father. I have more paths to tread, such as looking at "Most Recent Common Ancestors". That means comparing the matches of Mary Ann's children with Thomas Capps to Alice's match. In theory, there might be a DNA match to Alice but not to the other offspring. Remember, DNA only provides *clues*, not *answers*. Converting those clues to answers is still up to us. If anyone has any advice, I would love to hear from you – ecs7fg@gmail.com

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Letters, Notes and Queries

The Easticks of Norfolk and the Australian Connection

In a nutshell, two families from different parts of Norfolk went to Australia. Thomas (1831) from the Great Cressingham area and Charles Ambrose (1839) from Great Yarmouth.

Interestingly, Charles went to Melbourne in Victoria and then travelled overland to South Australia to meet up with his cousin Thomas while Thomas went to South Australia then travelled overland to the goldfields of Victoria. They probably missed each other by a whisker and they never caught up with one another.

Family historians both here in Australia and also in Norfolk have for decades tried to link these two families, so far without success but I may be getting closer.

Now we need to see who these people were and what is their story?

The earliest record I have of Thomas' line is Richard and Thomasin c1620s possibly Bawdeswell as that's where their son was born. Coming down their line we see the family in Elsing, Lyng, East Dereham, East and West Bradenham, Ashall, Swaffam, Ovington and Great Cressingham. It was from here that Thomas decided to travel to Australia in 1852. The SS Omega left London on 29th May, 1852, bound for Adelaide, South Australia. Having been a policeman in Great Cressingham, Thomas took up a position with the South Australian Police at Kapunda just outside

Adelaide.

Now looking at Charles' line, we find William and Sarah Thurston in Barford and this is where we find the phonetic spelling of the day produce Thomas ESTICK where four out of the other six siblings were also registered as ESTICK. From that family, Thomas married in Hedenham then moved to Runham where his children were born except Spencer Lone (c1781) who was born and christened in Great Yarmouth. Spencer served aboard HMS Achille in 1805 and was awarded the Trafalgar medal many years later in 1847. Spencer's grandson Charles Ambrose served aboard HMS Monarch between 1854 and 1858 (Crimea) and was awarded the Baltic medal. Charles left the Royal Navy in 1872 having served some 19 years. He then joined the Northumberland, one of Money-Wigrams Ocean Greyhound ships running to Melbourne where he took his discharge on 16th May, 1874. He then travelled to South Australia, we don't how he did this or when. He married Jane Brown in Adelaide on 14th September, 1877, just three-and-a-half years later.

As was stated earlier the two boys swapped states. The South Australian family is my family line and they are mainly around the Adelaide area although some have moved further afield and interstate while the Victorians centred around the township of Nhill and they too have now spread

Letters, Notes and Queries

far and wide.

Coming back to the link between the two families there is the quote from Charles, in an interview with a newsletter in early 1900s, that he had a cousin in South Australia, that's why he went to Adelaide. The second thing is that my ancestor William (c1720) went to Barford for the birth of his children. Barford is only 14 miles from Bradenham where a James (1720) was born. Did William come from Bradenham, was he James' brother? Is this the link? I cannot find any earlier information on these two.

I believe that there are some parishes in that region that have not had their records digitised; this was information I received from the Norfolk website some years ago.

Perhaps they hold the key and they may stay that way for some time yet, thanks to Covid 19.

If anyone has any information that would help me find that link I'd appreciate a contact on;

pcwh@bigpond.com

Peter Taylor (Nee Eastick) MN 16056.

More On The Nelson Superstition

Following our article on the superstitions of cricket surrounding Horatio Nelson we received another explanation from NFHS member Neil Bloy who wrote:

"I can clearly recall being told when I was young (by my mother?) that it was named not for the body parts Nelson had lost, but rather for those he still had: one eye, one arm and one a——e".

Try Our Facebook Page

Have you tried our Facebook page? Membership is free and it may help you to break down a research brick wall.

It also gives you the opportunity to contact and help other members in a friendly and safe environment. All you have to do is go to

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/familyhistorynorfolk>

and apply to join. We have hundreds of members with invaluable local knowledge.

Letters, Notes and Queries

John Dyball sent us the following items that he came across whilst undertaking research. These come from parish registers.

From the registers of North Walsham:

John Warner, aged 5, was killed by a pitchfork thrown by accident from a haystack in which he was sleeping. Buried 25/07/1778.

Richard Lound, a young man killed by a timber gill running over his body. Buried 24/05/1778

Joseph Walsingham, a young man killed by the falling in of a sandbank. Buried 16/10/1783

Mary Beck, aged 41, murdered by William Suffolk who was hanged in chains. Buried 08/02/1797

From the Briston Parish Register

William Bell. Batchelor, aged 19 years, son of Thomas Bell, of this parish, (was on his journey on foot from Burnham in this County, to visit his father, unfortunately lost in a drift of snow, on ye evenng of January 4 and was found dead in ye parish of Swanton Novers, on Jany 12) was buried Jany 15 (Pauper) let this be a warning to all youth, whoever they are or whatever they neglect, to be anxious to be ascertained of their Interest in Christ- then death will be welcome in any form he may appear. 1786.

NFHS volunteer Roger Bellingham came across the following item when he was transcribing. It is from the Great Witchingham Parish Register (burials 1729-30'

An Epitaph on Peter Neve Norroy who lived an infidell

Here underneath this spacious stone

Lies Peter Neve, that faithless one

His life and death declar'd the Man

WE welcome articles, photographs and news from members.

Please send your submissions to the editor preferably by email at:

ancestor@nfhs.co.uk or by post to Kirby Hall, 70 St Giles Street, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1LS.

The deadline for copy for the December edition is October 15th.

Ancestor Bookshelf

Author Julie Jakeway introduces her book "Manifestations of Madness: Women's Voices From the Norfolk County Lunatic Asylum" which is published by Poppyland Publishing at £9.95. A sample of the book can be seen at www.poppyland.co.uk

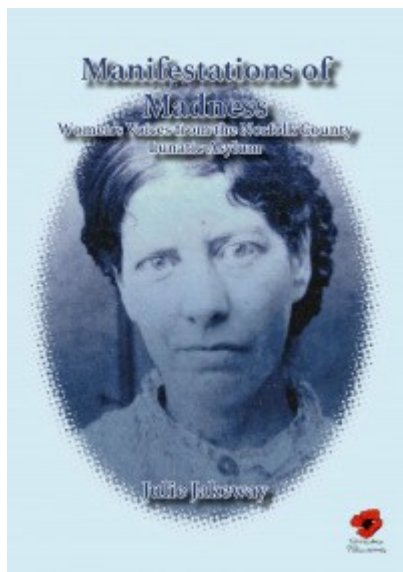
Julie was educated at Carew School, Ealing. An MA in local history from Leicester University stimulated her interest in Victorian asylums, her dissertation being on the Norfolk County Lunatic Asylum. Her subsequent research into the personal histories of many of the female patients led to this book.

The treatment of insanity is rather moral than medical—rather hygienic than therapeutic: the moral control and discipline of a well ordered asylum—its amusements of various kinds—and especially its light and voluntary labour,—with their judicious adaptation to various cases and temperaments—these are some of the means of cure, of relief, or of solace, upon which we depend...

So the medical officers at the Norfolk County Lunatic Asylum reported in 1856. The asylum had left behind the inhumane methods of the 18th century where physical containment and restraint had been in regular use. 'Amusements' in the summer included outings to Lowestoft and Yarmouth, country walks, picnics and river trips and, in winter, there was a fortnightly ball with a brass band. The use of 'voluntary labour', such as sewing and laundry work, was intended to distract and 'normalise' their condition.

While many causes of mental disorder in the Victorian period were common to both genders: religious mania, intemperance, family troubles, work troubles, all frequently exacerbated by the very real problem of poverty, psychiatrists believed that women were more vulnerable to insanity because the instability of the reproductive systems interfered with their sexual, emotional and rational control.

In the book, I use a series of case studies from the Norfolk County Asylum to explore women of different social status, all diagnosed with gender-specific causes of insanity. Their treatment resulted in a variety of outcomes that both reflect the success and constraint of the medical knowledge at that time.



Ancestor Bookshelf

Edith Morley of the Diss Family History Group comments on “Manifestations of Madness.”

This excellent, well researched book covers the years 1851/1870 and will appeal not only to those who may have ancestors who spent time in an asylum but also to those interested in the life of the Norfolk poor during these years. The many illustrations are very clear and are a pleasure to see.

Without doubt the poor fared better than the rich if they were unfortunate to succumb to mental illness. The rich were housed in private asylums, which very often left much to be desired as to the harsh and inhumane treatment given them. Relatives often had them incarcerated in order to get control of their money and there was little or no chance of them being released. To cure them was not in the financial interests of the relatives or the asylum.

For the poor, there was every incentive to cure the patients and send them home as there was no point in keeping them at the public expense.

In 1814, Norfolk was the third county to open a county asylum and was intended for treatment of pauper lunatics . Norfolk Lunatic Asylum, under both Ebenezer Owen and William Hills, used no chains or corporal punishment, relying on diet, rest and medical attention. Although where possible patients were put to work inside the asylum, they enjoyed regular dances and outings.

Many case studies are included in this book and the author has meticulously researched each patient's life both before and after their time in the asylum .

I thoroughly recommend “Manifestations of Madness” and it has certainly earned a place on my bookshelf.

Norfolk Family History Society Annual General Meeting

Saturday 29th January at 12 noon at Kirby Hall and via Zoom link

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

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

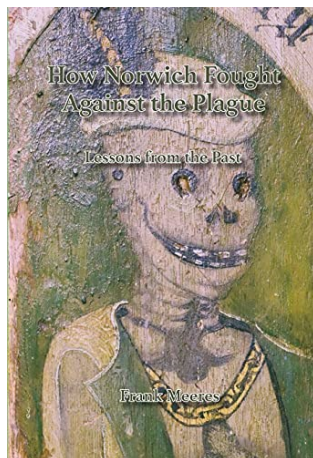
You can also view the agenda by turning to page eight.

Ancestor Bookshelf

How Norwich Fought Against The Plague: Lessons From the Past by Frank Meeres. Poppyland Publishing. 144 pages.

Review by NFHS member Alan Harper

I have long been fascinated by the plague in England, given that it was such a tumultuous time that our ancestors lived through. So when the latest book by Frank Meeres was published on this subject it was a 'must read'. I was not disappointed: it is a meticulously detailed and vibrant evocation of a period in history which, at a time of high religious fervour must, as Meeres describes, have seemed like the wrath of God was intent on the wanton destruction of human life in the most unpleasant manner imaginable.



Whether publication has by accident or design coincided with the current global pandemic, the timing adds extra poignancy and means that it absolutely succeeds in leaving the reader totally engrossed in the thoughts and feelings our ancestors experienced. It is worth reminding yourself as you read the book that all the individuals named were real living people living ordinary lives visited by a horrible disease. Meeres highlights that many of the measures we have become all too familiar with over the past 21 months, such as social distancing, self-isolation and lockdown, were just the same as those implemented by the Aldermen of Norwich in centuries past (albeit not using that terminology of course, and neither did they understand the root cause of the disease).

The book concentrates on four major plague outbreaks in the city, those in 1349, 1579, 1603 and 1665-6. It examines whether or not the second of those was indeed likely to have stemmed from the visit of Queen Elizabeth I and her entourage to Norwich the previous year. It reveals the likely location in Norwich of pest-houses, temporary structures where those suffering from the plague were confined until they either died or recovered. From a family history perspective, the book contains snapshots of individuals and families who did, or were likely to, have succumbed to the plague in different parishes, insofar as surviving records, and the way in which those records were completed at the time, allow. The disproportionate impact of the plague on the Stranger community is examined in detail and the decision makers - the Mayors and Aldermen - are also named. The economic impact in Norwich is touched upon although I would have been interested in a little deeper examination of that aspect. As well as parish registers, the author draws on many other sources, especially the Mayor's Book, plus secondary sources, all of which are fully referenced. All individuals

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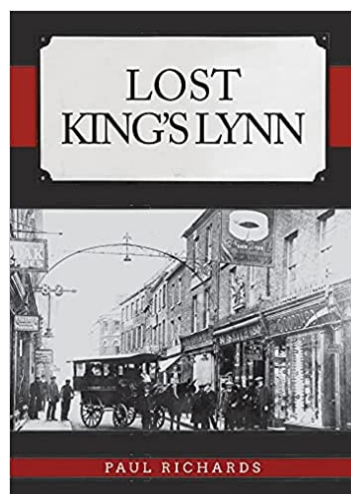
referred to in the book are fully indexed and there are several relevant illustrations.

If I have a criticism, then - apart from several unfortunate typos - there is the odd instance where Meeres seems, surprisingly, almost to allude to absence of evidence being evidence of absence. For example, he states that if the burial of a family member is not found where expected in a particular parish then it is likely that that person survived the plague - he or she may well have done so, but might equally well have moved to a different parish or his/her burial simply was not recorded by the parish clerk. All in all, though, it is a fascinating read. Highly recommended for those with an interest in the history of Norwich, who had ancestors living in the city at the time whether or not they are named in the book, and of social history in medieval, Tudor and Stuart times.

Royalties from this book will be donated to the Norfolk Archives and Heritage Development Foundation. The book has been shortlisted for the East Anglian Book Awards 2021 in the History and Tradition Section.

Lost King's Lynn by Paul Richards. Amberley Publishing. 96 pages 160 illustrations. £15.99.

Medieval King's Lynn (Bishop's Lynn before 1537) was a premier English port, a position it retained until the Industrial Revolution. Its maritime economy was undermined by the coming of the railways, which were the harbinger of modest industrialisation. The major watershed in the ancient borough's fortunes arrived in 1962 when it was designated a London overspill town. Though the new industrial and housing estates were located on the town's outskirts, its historic heart was partly redeveloped for a new shopping centre, and the old cattle market closed. By 2000, King's Lynn was no longer the traditional country town and port it had been in 1950. Lost King's Lynn presents a portrait of a town and a way of life that has radically changed or disappeared today, showing not just



Please note that Norfolk Family History Society does not sell any of the books reviewed in Norfolk Ancestor. Most can be bought from local bookshops or via the internet.

Ancestor Bookshelf

the industries and buildings that have gone, people and street scenes, but also many popular places of entertainment and much more. This fascinating photographic history of lost King's Lynn will appeal to all those who live in the town or know it well, as well as those who remember it from previous decades.

Paul Richards FSA, DL was born and bred in King's Lynn and studied for both BA and PhD degrees in History at Birmingham University followed by teacher training at Nottingham. Paul taught in further and higher education at the College of West Anglia. He has been a part-time tutor for the WEA, Open University and university extra departments. He was a borough councillor (King's Lynn and West Norfolk) and Mayor (1998-2000) before becoming an Honorary Alderman. His History of King's Lynn was published in 1990, and he has written articles on local and regional history for various publications. Amongst several other interests, he is a trustee of True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum, a member of the King's Lynn Festival board and a town guide .

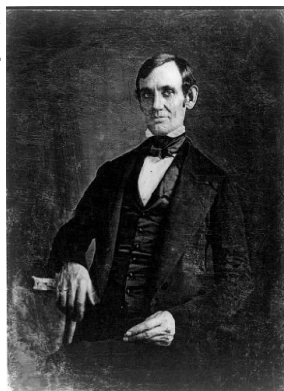
The Ancestry of Abraham Lincoln by J. Henry Lea and J. R. Hutchinson.

NFHS member Jenny Price looks back at an early 20th century book that has helped her with her research and which is freely available on the Internet.

Living in Kent, I am not very familiar with Norfolk geography, so when I found that my ancestors, Henry and Mary Frost came from Swanton Morley, I searched to find out more about the area and discovered that the ancestors of Abraham Lincoln came from Hingham and Swanton Morley.

Mary Frost's maiden name was Lincoln, so this was of particular interest, not because of any claim to fame by a connection to the famous president, but because a lot of research has been done on his ancestry, and the hope that I might be able to link it into my Lincolns. Sadly much of what is in print or on the internet is inaccurate, no sources given, or just does not add up! However some of the better research referred back to *The Ancestry of Abraham Lincoln* by J. Henry Lea and J. R. Hutchinson, published in 1909,

The main author, Henry Lea, was a renowned American genealogist, who had met Abraham Lincoln when a small boy. He realised that much had been researched into this American lineage of Lincoln, but as little was known about



Ancestor Bookshelf

Lincoln's English roots, Lea decided to rectify this. The original book is available on archive.org but has also been re-published in the public domain i.e without copyright, as it is regarded as culturally important due to the reverence with which Lincoln is held in the USA.

Lincoln's Norfolk heritage is dealt with in the first half of the book and his American ancestry in the second half, with illustrations including some of original documents which are good quality considering they are over 100 years old. Lea's search begins with Samuel Lincoln, who was baptised at Hingham in 1622 and emigrated to the U.S. in 1637 to follow the charismatic Reverend Robert Peck, who had been excommunicated and removed from his living at Hingham for his Nonconformist views. Anyone old enough to remember when parish registers were still held at the original church, will appreciate the arduous and time consuming task which Lea and his associate undertook in visiting a range of parishes.

Lea also sought out the location of manorial records even when they were in private hands. After a great deal of research, and being unable to link Samuel Lincoln into the numerous Lincoln references which they had recorded, Lea was on the point of admitting defeat, but then a Chancery suit which had been overlooked initially, gave the answers, linking Samuel into a family going back four generations to his great great grandfather who died in 1543. Lea's eloquent and humorous style is reflected in his description of this find:

"The Chancery suit so unexpectedly brought to light, constitutes one of those rare finds which persistently haunt the genealogist's dreams, but seldom bless his waking hours."

This court case covers fascinating details of a family quarrel over the inheritance from a will with Samuel's father, Edward missing out to a scheming step mother.

Lea is objective about his research, explaining possible errors, as well as the limitations of some records. He also puts the environment of the Lincolns in context by describing some of the local history such as Kett's Rebellion, and the effect on Hingham by the departure of so many of its inhabitants to the U.S. There is an excellent index, and tree of the Lincoln family. The appendix has transcriptions of wills, the Chancery court case, some Feet of Fines, and the extract of Samuel Lincoln's entry in the "Register of persons about to pass into foreign parts." There is also a list of all the Lincoln entries prior to the mid sixteenth century for the parishes of Swanton Morley, Hingham and Carbrooke.

This book is very readable, and even those with no Lincoln ancestors are likely to find Lea's approach to writing a family history, interesting and entertaining.

Other surnames mentioned in the book (albeit briefly) include Alberye, Baldwin, Cooper, Dunham, Foulsham, Gilman, Hobbs, Kett, Peck, Porter, Remching, Reynolds and Small.

NORFOLK-based author Helen Parker-Drabble is offering readers a chance to win a signed copy of her paperback book "A Victorian's Inheritance" in time for Christmas.

The book has its roots in Norfolk: Helen writes:

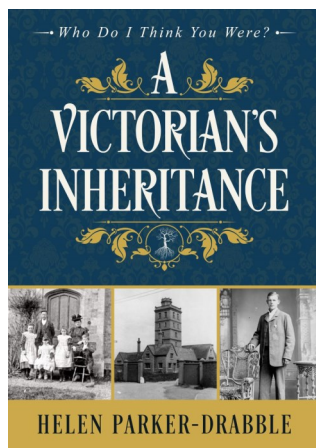
"Anxiety, addiction, depression. We associate these words with the challenges of modern life. Rarely do we consider how these conditions shaped past generations.

"So using archive sources, testimonies and my grandfather Walter Parker's experiences, I have painted a vivid picture of life in the Duke of Bedford's village of Thorney in Cambridgeshire and drawn upon psychological theory to explore the lives of working class ancestors and tried to establish what our forebears inherited from their parents, what psychological characteristics our ancestors handed down."

Helen is a former counsellor, turned geneatherapist. Her mission is to share historical and current theories of mental health, psychology, and neuroscience to help you answer your question, 'Who Do I Think You Were?' Her aim is to connect and deepen understanding of your ancestors. You can read the first two chapters of the book by visiting <https://www.helenparkerdrabble.com/>. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the appropriate button.

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of the book please answer the following question:

"In what year was the Norfolk Family History Society founded?" Send your answers to the editor at ancestor@nfhs.co.uk. We will pick a winner at random from correct answers received by December 15th.



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The Crash That Changed Rail Travel Forever



NORFOLK Family History Society member Phyllida Scrivens launched her latest book at a special evening in Jarrold's Department Store, Norwich, at the end of September.

"The Great Thorpe Railway Disaster 1874 - Heroes - Victims - Survivors" is her third book after "Escaping Hitler" and "The Lady Lord Mayors of Norwich".

The railway disaster was a major national event at the time but is probably little known outside Norfolk, although it changed rail travel forever with new procedures being put into place to prevent such a tragedy happening again on a single track.

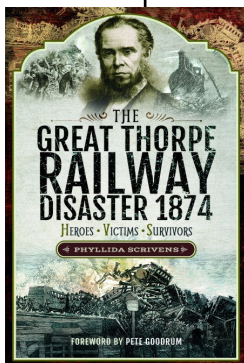
Two trains collided on a single track between Norwich and Great Yarmouth and Phyllida has brought the whole thing to life by focussing on the people involved in the crash and those affected by it. All kinds of people were in the trains from Norfolk luminaries (two of whom survived and went on to become Mayors of Norwich), down to members of the working classes.

And it is this focus on the people that makes the book such an outstanding read.

I admire Phyllida's work as she has only been an author for a relatively short period of time after completing a Master's Degree at the University of East Anglia in biography. So at a

"certain age" she started writing books.

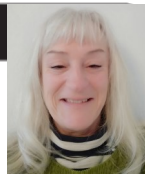
The Great Thorpe Railway Disaster is a fascinating read. It's about the early days of the railways, the people who travelled on them, a disaster and its aftermath and above all it's a book by a superb storyteller who makes everything spring to life.



The launch at Jarrolds was a poignant evening in more ways than one. There were descendants from those involved in the crash present. But also we were sitting in the top floor restaurant in a department store that existed at the time of the rail crash. Jarrold's Department Store goes back 200 years and would have been there at the time of the rail crash. In addition, the public house where the dead and injured were taken also still exists. At the time of the crash it was known as The Three Tuns. Today it is the Rushcutters. It has had a number of names over the years. I remember it as The Boat and Bottle. It has also been Cattermole's Gardens and Thorpe Gardens and probably a few more as well. The building goes back to the 15th century.

Members' Interests

Compiled by Belinda Broad, Membership Secretary
email: membership@nfhs.co.uk



Hello and welcome to the final Norfolk Ancestor of 2021. Where has the year gone?

We have plenty of members' interests to get your teeth into in this edition.

Don't forget we also have a Facebook page which is open to members and non members and which has well over 3,600 people helping each other to break down walls. Have a great Christmas and New Year and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in 2022.

Belinda

To contact other members researching the same surname -

First log-in to the NFHS Website. Then under the Membership/Members' Interests menu select the required surname from the drop-down list and click on "Contact".

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

If an e-mail isn't received shortly after please check your spam folder.

Members Interests Search Area Codes

KEY

- CN = Central
- NC = Norwich & District
- NE = North East
- NW = North West
- SE = South East



Other areas

are identified by Chapman codes.

A copy of these can be obtained from Kirby Hall.

Members' Interests

MN	Cnty	Name	Area	Date					
18482	NFK	ALDERSON	NC	18C-19C	19264	NFK	COOPER	ALL	ALL
19005	NFK	ALEXANDER	ALL	18C-20C	18995	NFK	COPLAND	ALL	ALL
19062	NFK	BAILEY	ALL	ALL	18273	NFK	COPLAND	ALL	17C-19C
19107	NFK	BALLS	ALL	ALL	3718	NFK	CORDELL	ALL	ALL
17402	NFK	BARFIELD	ALL	ALL	18550	NFK	CORSTON	NW	ALL
17305	NFK	BARSHAM	NW	18C	7769	NFK	COUZENS	NW	19C-20C
18482	NFK	BAXTER	SE	18C	9616	NFK	COZENS	ALL	ALL
18942	NFK	BEALES	YM	19C-20C	19087	NFK	CROW	ALL	ALL
18942	SFK	BEALES	ALL	19C-20C	19264	NFK	CUSTANCE	ALL	ALL
19178	NFK	BECK	YM	18C-19C	18962	ESS	CUTMORE	ALL	ALL
19082	NFK	BELDING	ALL	15-18C	4655	NFK	DADY	ALL	ALL
19160	NFK	BETTS	ALL	18C-19C	19054	NFK	DANN	SW	18C-19C
18473	SFK	BLUNDERFIELD	ALL	ALL	16478	NFK	DOUBLEDAY	ALL	ALL
19186	NFK	BLY	YM	18C-20C	18995	NFK	DRAKE	ALL	ALL
18473	SFK	BOGGIS	ALL	ALL	18273	NFK	DRUERY	ALL	17C-20C
18482	NFK	BOULTER	SE	18C-19C	10308	NFK	DUFFILD	ALL	16C-18C
19015	NFK	BOWLES	NC	17C	19087	NFK	DYBLE	ALL	ALL
18482	NFK	BRETT	SE	18C-19C	19021	NFK	DYE	NC	17C-19C
19028	NFK	BRIGGS	NC	ALL	18995	NFK	EAGLETON	ALL	ALL
19021	NFK	BRIGHTING	NC	17C-18C	19021	NFK	EASTELL	NC	17C-19C
19021	NFK	BRIGHTON	NC	ALL	19021	NFK	EASTOLL	NC	17C-19C
19028	NFK	BRINDED	ALL	ALL	18962	ESS	ELY	ALL	ALL
19216	NFK	BROUGHTON	NC	18C	19160	NFK	FARRER	ALL	18C-19C
19195	NFK	BROWN	ALL	15C-19C	19087	NFK	FEANE	ALL	17C-18C
19100	NFK	BUNN	ALL	ALL	19107	NFK	FELGATE	ALL	ALL
16877	NFK	BUNN	NC	ALL	19160	NFK	FERRER	ALL	18C-19C
19116	NFK	BUNNET	ALL	ALL	19021	NFK	FINCHAM	SW	17C-20C
19116	NFK	BUNNETT	ALL	ALL	19216	SFK	FISK	ALL	17C-20C
18571	NFK	BURGESS	YM	18C-19C	17717	NFK	FLOWERDAY	NW	17C-18C
14656	NFK	BURLINGHAM	ALL	17C-19C	19048	NFK	FOX	ALL	ALL
16245	NFK	BURRAGE	ALL	ALL	19195	NFK	FUNNELL	ALL	15C-19C
19021	NFK	BUSSEY	NC	16C-18C	14656	NFK	GANT	ALL	17C-19C
17305	NFK	CARR	NC	18C	14656	NFK	GENT	ALL	17C-19C
17717	NFK	CASE	SW	17C-18C	18482	NFK	GIBBS	SE	18C-19C
18829	NFK	CASTON	NE	ALL	19015	NFK	GOLDSMITH	SE	16c-18c
19216	NFK	CAWDRON	NC	17C-20C	19015	NFK	GOLDSPINK	SE	16C-18C
19216	NFK	CHAMBERS	NC	18C-19C	16877	NFK	GOLDSWORTH	ALL	ALL
19186	NFK	CHAPMAN	NC	18C-20C	18571	SFK	GOODRAM	ALL	17C-18C
18571	NFK	CHASEN	YM	18C-20C	18571	SFK	GOODRICH	ALL	17C-18C
19230	SFK	CHENERY	ALL	ALL	19021	NFK	GOULTY	ALL	17C-18C
19230	NFK	CHENERY	ALL	17C-19C	14326	NFK	GRAVELING	ALL	ALL
19028	NFK	CHESTER	ALL	ALL	18273	NFK	GRAVER	ALL	17C-18C
16877	NFK	CHETTLEBURGH	ALL	ALL	17402	NFK	GRAY	ALL	ALL
19021	NFK	CLARKE	SW	17C-19C	19073	NFK	GREEF/GRIEF	ALL	ALL
17305	NFK	CLAXTON	NE	18C	19073	NFK	GRIEF	ALL	ALL
18962	NFK	COKER	ALL	ALL	16877	NFK	GRIFFITHS	NC	ALL
19237	NFK	COMAN	ALL	ALL	17159	NFK	GRIMMER	SE	ALL
3586	NFK	COOKE	NE	ALL	19181	NFK	HARNWELL	ALL	ALL
19043	NFK	COOPER	NW	18C-19C	19082	NFK	HASTINGS	ALL	15-18C
19043	NFK	COOPER	SW	18C-19C	19021	NFK	HEWETT	NC	17C-19C
					19021	NFK	HEWITT	NC	17C-19C
					17159	NFK	HEWITT	NE	ALL

Members' Interests

19082 NFK HOLMES	NW	15-18C	19202 NFK PEARCE	ALL	ALL
18037 NFK HOOK	ALL	ALL	19202 NFK PEARCE	ALL	ALL
19087 NFK HOWARD	ALL	17C-18C	19202 NFK PEARCE	ALL	18C-19C
19264 NFK HOWARD	ALL	ALL	19016 NFK PEGG	ALL	ALL
18567 NFK HOWELL	ALL	16C-18C	19159 NFK PENTIN	ALL	ALL
17305 NFK HOWES	CN	18C	17725 NFK PETCHELL	ALL	ALL
19045 NFK IVES	ALL	ALL	17725 SFK PETCHELL	ALL	17C-19C
19100 NFK JERMY	ALL	ALL	17725 ESS PETCHELL	ALL	18C-20C
19031 NFK JOHNSON	YM	ALL	19104 NFK PLATMAN	ALL	ALL
16877 NFK JOYCE	NC	ALL	19166 NFK PLOWRIGHT	ALL	17C-20C
18482 NFK KEMP	SE	17C-18C	18862 NFK PLUMSTEAD	ALL	16C-19C
9616 NFK KENDALL	ALL	ALL	10308 NFK POOLEY	ALL	15C-17C
7200 NFK KENDALL	NW	ALL	18942 NFK POWLES	YM	ALL
19016 NFK KETT	ALL	ALL	19048 NFK RANT	ALL	ALL
19028 NFK KEY	NC	ALL	15760 NFK READ	ALL	ALL
19216 ESS KEYS	ALL	17C-20C	18863 NFK REEVE	ALL	17C-20C
19085 NFK KIRBY	ALL	ALL	17717 NFK RICHARDSON	NW	18C
19264 NFK LAIN	ALL	ALL	19013 NFK RINGER	SE	ALL
19028 NFK LAKE	NC	ALL	19040 NFK ROSEMAN	ALL	ALL
16877 NFK LAMB	NC	ALL	19087 NFK RUGH	ALL	17C-18C
19208 NFK LANE	YM	17C-19C	18792 NFK RUMP	NC	18C-19C
17717 NFK LANE	SW	17C-18C	18792 NFK RUMP	CN	18C-19C
871 NFK LANGTON	NC	18C-19C	18792 NFK RUMPF	ALL	ALL
19230 NFK LARGE	ALL	18C-19C	19087 NFK RUSH	ALL	17C-18C
19230 SFK LARGE	ALL	18C-19C	10308 NFK RUSHBROOK	ALL	15C-18C
19040 NFK LEMON	ALL	ALL	19031 NFK RYE	ALL	ALL
3718 NFK LINES	ALL	ALL	19031 NFK RYE	ALL	ALL
18995 NFK LYON	ALL	ALL	7045 NFK SANDELL	ALL	ALL
19127 ALL LYON	ALL	ALL	19100 NFK SAYER	ALL	ALL
19127 NFK LYON	ALL	ALL	19081 NFK SAYER	ALL	ALL
19127 NFK LYON	ALL	ALL	18482 NFK SEAMAN	SE	18C-19C
18697 NFK MANN	YM	ALL	10308 NFK SEAMAN	ALL	ALL
19100 NFK MARGREE	ALL	ALL	3718 NFK SEAMAN	ALL	ALL
17305 NFK MARHAM	CN	18C	19016 NFK SECKER	ALL	ALL
19021 NFK MAYHEW	SE	17C-19C	18962 NFK SEXTON	NC	ALL
17717 NFK MAYHEW	NW	18C	871 NFK SILVEY	NC	ALL
18482 NFK MIDDLETON	NE	18C	17305 NFK SIMMONS	NW	18C-19C
18862 NFK MONEY	ALL	16C-19C	19186 NFK SIMMONS	YM	19C-20C
19021 NFK MOORE	SE	17C-19C	19021 NFK SMITH	SW	17C-19C
19178 NFK MORRIS	NC	18C-19C	16877 NFK SMITH	NC	ALL
16877 NFK MORRIS	ALL	ALL	18995 NFK SOMAN	ALL	ALL
19087 NFK MUNFORD	ALL	17C-18C	18933 NFK SPINKS	ALL	ALL
19087 NFK NARBURGH	ALL	ALL	18933 NFK SPINKS	ALL	ALL
19211 NFK NEALE	ALL	ALL	18933 NFK SPINKS	ALL	ALL
19043 NFK NICHOLLS	NW	18C-19C	10308 NFK STAGG	ALL	15C-18C
15948 NFK NICHOLLS	YM	ALL	18571 SFK STANNARD	ALL	18C-19C
19181 NFK NICHOLS	ALL	ALL	19107 NFK STANNARD	ALL	ALL
16245 NFK NOCKALL	ALL	ALL	19189 NFK STEGALL	ALL	ALL
16877 NFK NORTON	ALL	ALL	19189 NFK STEGGLES	ALL	ALL
19043 NFK ORGANER	NW	18C	19189 NFK STIGALL	ALL	ALL
19043 NFK ORGANER	SW	18C	19189 NFK STYGGELLS	ALL	19C
19045 NFK OXBOROUGH	ALL	ALL	10308 NFK SUTTON	ALL	15C-18C

Members' Interests

18070 NFK TEBBENHAM	ALL	ALL
19016 NFK THAXTER	ALL	ALL
19285 NFK THING	ALL	ALL
19285 NFK THINGE	ALL	ALL
19054 NFK THURSTON	NE	18C-20C
17368 NFK TIPPLE	ALL	ALL
18571 NFK TOOLEY	YM	ALL
3718 NFK TOWNSHEND	ALL	ALL
19181 NFK VYSE	ALL	ALL
19015 NFK WALPOLE	NE	17C-18C
19087 NFK WARD	ALL	ALL
19107 NFK WARD	ALL	18C-20C
18962 NFK WATLING	NC	ALL
19043 NFK WATTS	NW	18C-19C
145 NFK WATTS	NE	16C-20C

18962 ESS WAYLEN	ALL	ALL
10308 NFK WIGHTMAN	ALL	15C-18C
16478 NFK WING	ALL	ALL
18397 NFK WINTER	ALL	ALL
19054 NFK WRIGHT	SE	18C-20C
19028 NFK WYMER	NC	ALL
1629 NFK WYMER	ALL	ALL
19100 NFK YALLOP	ALL	ALL
17159 NFK YALLOP	SE	ALL
18571 NFK YAXLEY	YM	18C-19C

Have you had success in finding information from contacting other society members? If so we would love to hear from you.

VOLUNTEERS

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

If you can spare anything from a couple of hours a week, or even a month, to come into Kirby Hall on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday or require further information, please email

volunteers@nfhs.co.uk, please include your membership number.

Any help at any time will be very welcome.

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

DIANA SPELMAN BA

Norfolk Research Specialist (since 1982)

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Family & Local History
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Document transcription
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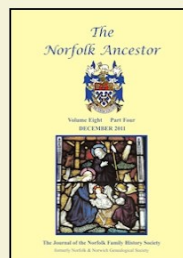
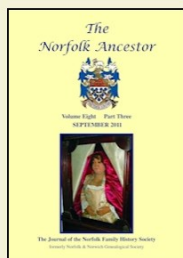
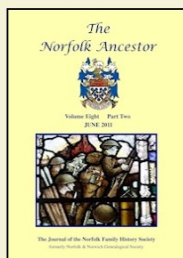
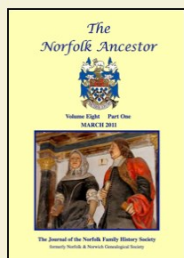
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Copies of the Norfolk Ancestor from 1992 onwards are now available to Norfolk Family History Society members on the Society's web site.

NFHS contacts and how to contact them

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

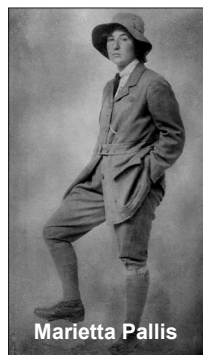
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Copy Request	Family trees and wills copies	Judith Parks	copyrequest@nfhs.co.uk
Family Trees	Donations of family trees, pedigrees and BMD certificates	Di Vanderson	familytrees@nfhs.co.uk
IT	Information Technology	Phil Whiscombe	khmaintenance@nfhs.co.uk
Library	Library Content	Ellen Carr	librarian@nfhs.co.uk
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Volunteers	Kirby Hall Volunteers Co-ordinator	Carol Reeve	volunteers@nfhs.co.uk
Webmaster	Web site	Webmaster	webmaster@nfhs.co.uk
Wills	Donations and Indexing of Wills	Denagh Hacon	wills@nfhs.co.uk

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

Marietta Pallis and the Broads

Marietta PALLIS was born on 26th October, 1882, in Bombay. She was the daughter of Alexandros Pallis, a Greek scholar and poet and his wife Julia Ralli. The family left India in 1892 and settled in Liverpool in 1894. Marietta studied natural sciences at Liverpool University and attended Newnham College, Cambridge.

During her time at Liverpool, she carried out a survey of the Norfolk Broads and her work was published in 1909. In 1912 she travelled and studied in the Danube delta, where she collected a species of hairy-leaved ash which was named *Fraxinus Pallisae* in honour of her. After travelling through Greece studying ecology, she nursed refugees during the Balkan Wars. In 1916 she studied painting at the Slade School of Fine Art and later exhibited her work at a London gallery.



From 1918, she spent the winter in London, but in the summer she rented a marshland cottage at Long Gores, Hickling, where she continued her botanical research. Her father died in 1935 and, with her inheritance, she bought Long Gores and built a large thatched studio. She also travelled the Eastern Mediterranean with her partner Phillis CLARK.



Marietta was a keen swimmer and, in 1953, she had an outdoor swimming pool dug in the peat at Long Gores. It was shaped as a double-headed Byzantine eagle with papal and patriarchal crosses and crown, and the Greek initials MP, to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the fall of Byzantium. During the dig she made a discovery that supported Dr Joyce Lambert's theory that the Norfolk Broads developed as a result of medieval peat diggings.

The threequarter acre pool was dug by four men, using traditional Norfolk marsh tools over a two-month time span. When they reached a depth of 8-10 feet, they discovered that the peat was impermeable to water. Lambert visited the site and was worried about the small scale of the dig. She had questions about the science but Marietta was the only person since the medieval period who had devised and successfully tested a method whereby the great, deep basins of the Broads could have been created.

The pond became a grave site when Phillis Clark, who died in Cyprus in 1955, was re-interred in the central island in 1959. Marietta died at St Helen's Nursing Home, Bishopsgate, Norwich, on 30th August, 1963, and was buried with Orthodox rites alongside her partner Phillis. The bodies were weighted down with large granite blocks to stop the coffins floating. After her death the site became overgrown but was restored in the 1980s.

Mystery Photograph



The picture above shows what must be one of the strangest sites to be found anywhere in the Norfolk Broads. It is an aerial photograph of a remarkable swimming pool that was cut into the marsh close to Hickling Broad on the orders of Marietta PALLIS, the renowned, Norfolk based ecologist. To find out why it has such an unusual shape and to understand why it is so important in explaining how the Broads were originally made, turn to the inside back cover.