SUFFOLK ROOTS

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THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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Theme of this Issue

Innovations and Inventions…

How new ideas, developments and inventions affected our ancestors

Cover Picture

Suffolk Punch horses in harness. The Suffolk Punch is the oldest English breed of working horse, and was developed in Suffolk in the 16th century for agricultural work.

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Suffolk Roots

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SUFFOLK ROOTS

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Vol. 48 : No. 1 : June 2022

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TRUSTEES' MESSAGE

The first *Suffolk Roots* of a new membership year, and a welcome to new members and a huge thank you to those members who have renewed.

In the March edition I mentioned members not giving permission for use of their emails, and there has been an improvement in that regard. However, for the April email, I had to try a new method of sending notification of the Zoom talks, as there seem to have been changes to spam settings on some of the email programmes, and I was getting a large number of bounce-backs. So, I used instead a system called SendinBlue, which hopefully gave a more professional view, but also gave me a lot more feedback and statistics. I send these emails out pretty much monthly, usually a couple of weeks before the next Zoom meeting. The Zooms are also put on our website under the 'News' tab – you do not need to be logged in to see this. Apologies to those 300 or so who received a generic template for the May Zooms, not sure what happened there.

The one part of putting together *Suffolk Roots* that the editorial team cannot do is page make-up, which we must therefore contract out to our printers. The costs of this are rising significantly, so are there any former (or still practising but with time) printers out there, or others with experience of page make-up willing to help us? In the first instance please contact me (email below). Please come forward if you think you can help. In this digital age living in Suffolk (or indeed the UK) is not a prerequisite for the role.

Hopefully, as this edition of *Suffolk Roots* drops into your inbox or through your letterbox, the summer will have come through and with it also opportunities to visit Suffolk to see the places where your ancestors lived and worked. Before setting off, take a look at our group events and see if you can combine a visit with attending one of the listed activities. You can attend any group activities, whether in Suffolk or West London (not far from Heathrow). You will be made to feel very welcome. The group programmes are on our website under the 'Groups' tab, and then each group has an Events page.

Finally, we have two people retiring who we would like to recognise and thank. First, and we have known this for a while, Kevin Pulford is stepping back from his role managing the website. Our website and shop are important public faces of the Society and Kevin has skilfully updated and amended the website over the years. We have added many more items and Kevin has advised on the best way to make these additions. We thank him and wish him well. He continues in his role as Chair of our Bury St Edmunds group for now. We have found a new website manager, Joe Bridgwater-Rowe, and will be introducing Joe to you shortly.

We also say goodbye to Ann Youngs, who has been handling the burials and monumental inscriptions searches. Ann has had a long involvement with the Society and of course we wish her well too. Arthur Bird will take over these searches and the contact details at the back of the journal have been amended accordingly.

Andy Kerridge, Chair
chair@suffolkfhs.org.uk

BAPTISM INDEX NEWS

Since our last 'News', all three of our teams of dedicated helpers have been getting ever closer to bringing you new collections of baptisms from their respective deanery areas – and the sometimes difficult to read entries from these early phase 3 (1650-1753) registers are not the only challenges they face!

Progress

At Ipswich RO our team, led by **Diane Kirby**, were by Easter tantalisingly only one parish, Woodbridge, away from completing Carlford & Wilford deanery area, to the north and west of Ipswich. Allowing time to complete this and prepare all the files, the latest CD/Download could be 'hitting the shelves' perhaps a month or two after you receive your *Roots* – but please check in our shop first before ordering.

Our team at Bury RO, led by **Christine Palmer**, are now well over halfway through Sudbury West deanery area – some half of the parishes have been completed and most of the rest are at the checking stage.

It's a similar position for our Home team, working mainly on Hartismere deanery from available fiche copies of the registers. They have also continued tackling some of the earliest and most difficult to read phase 4 (1538-1649) entries, with considerable success I'm pleased to say. So, we're getting there, but what of those other challenges you may well ask?

Challenges

At Ipswich our team have reserved access for eight helpers to use the RO on Wednesdays once a fortnight and now have spare places, so would welcome two new faces, ideally familiar with the style of handwriting often found in these early registers. If you would like to find out more, and perhaps try a taster session, please contact us – details at the back of the journal.

At Bury we have a strong team but nowhere to meet together! 'Lockdown' still pervades the Bury RO, with the spacious research room upstairs that we previously used still closed to the public – for economic or 'other' reasons, no one will say – and members come individually and use the smaller room downstairs. Hopefully this will be resolved by further discussions.

Our Home team are strong and have a place to work, so what's the problem? Well, it's down to Storm Franklin, which damaged the premises of the company that supplies microfiche copies of the parish registers we, and the Marriages team, use. Fortunately, we did receive some fiche when the service resumed before Christmas, after lockdowns, but Suffolk Archives still can't advise what will happen to our current orders. If necessary, can anyone loan us Mendlesham fiche #4, 5 & 6?

Gleanings

Whist we can't yet offer you new collections of baptisms, we can bring you some more unusual entries we've come across in our research. My thanks to Yvonne, Christine, Diane, Mike and Nicky for this wide selection.

The weather still features in register notes, these from Hartismere deanery.

A tragic account of a(nother) storm in the Freston register:

> *'July 16th 1708 Four persons killed and some wounded in their passage from Harwich to Ipswich by Lightning and Tempest, from which Good Lord Deliver us Amen'*

Whilst at Palgrave (early global warming?):

> *'The 3rd and 4th of May 1698 There fell a great quantity of snow'*

More tragedy at Oakley:

> *'A poor distressed woman not knowing from where she came was drowned by mischance and buried 15 September 1653'*

Others may make you wince at the apparent lack of compassion revealed by a man of the cloth. Two baptism entries from Dennington (Hoxne deanery)

> *'19 May 1713* ***John*** *son of* ***Ruth Smyth****, bb, mother an idiot, father* ***John Packard***'

> *'28 Feb 1735* ***Henry*** *son of* ***Alice Gorbold****, bb, supposed father humpback* ***Hurrion***'

And at Pettistree (Wilford deanery), this rant in 1745 must surely take the clerical biscuit:

> *'****William Jaye*** *was buried the 24 day of March (being the last of this name in the parish and an end of a very worthless, malicious, ill-natured family) having for ages been remarkable oppressing and (as much as in them lay) for defrauding the minister of this parish of their just dues which character this person kept up to the last day of his life.'*

At Wortham (Hartismere deanery) the baptism entry for each of the Rector's 13 children is adorned by a neatly drawn gloved hand, pointing to the right:

'8 May 1628 ***Amos*** *son of Amos Coppin*  *'*

Just a doodle perhaps by a proud father, or maybe a 'helping hand' to afford them protection. Any ideas?

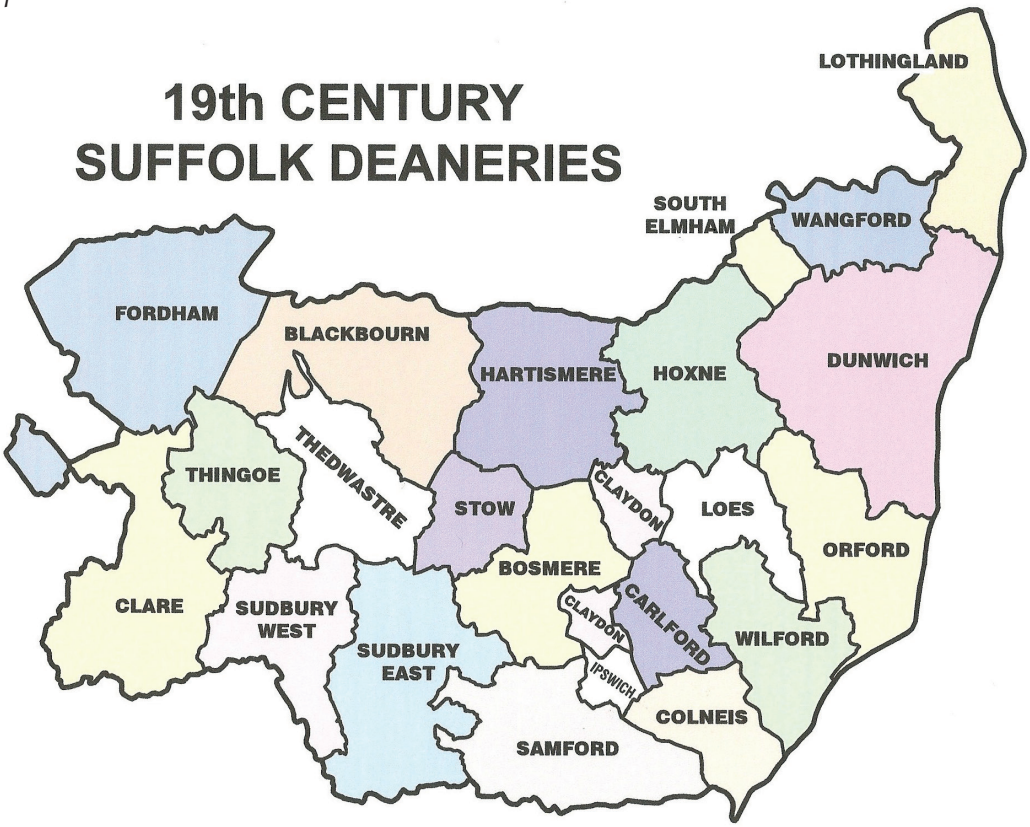
Finally, these two from Lavenham that may make you smile:

Annie Oakly was baptised there in 1678, while one lucky family had the surname **Goodwine –** cheers!

At nearby Sudbury St Gregory, **Wellyam Haward** was baptised in 1692, his father entered as **Wilyam –** can't you just hear that good old Suffolk accent?

One surely for my tree? **Halfajohn Bumpstead** baptised at Eye in 1753.

Alan Bumpstead
Baptism Index Co-ordinator



NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Listed below are all the interests of our newest members from February to April 2022. If you see a name you are interested in, take a note of the member's number, go onto our website and use the **Members' Interests** section (on the **Resources** Tab) to find out more, using the number to search with. This will show you any other surnames that particular member is interested in and also allow you to contact them securely. If you cannot use the website, please write to the Membership Secretary (details at the back of this journal) briefly outlining your interest, and your contact details, and he will forward to the relevant member.

Surname	Cnty	Place	Dates	Member #
Adams	SFK	Stanton	All	12596
Aldis	SFK	Any	All	12561
Aldous	SFK	Any	All	12561
Alexander	SFK	Cotton	1800-1890	12579
Alldis	SFK	Any	All	12561
Alston	SFK	Nayland, Any	All	12563
Ambrose	SFK	Melford, Alpheton	All	12567
Andrews	All	Any	All	12577
Back	SFK	Any	All	12549
Balaam	SFK	Stowmarket	1600-1900	12592
Balaam	SFK	Sapiston	All	12565
Banham	SFK	Barnham	All	12565
Banyard	SFK	Spexhall, Nacton	1300 onwds	12553
Barham	SFK	Any	1780-1900	12557
Baynard	SFK	Spexhall, Nacton	1300 onwds	12553
Belsham	SFK	Barnham	All	12565
Bendall	SFK	Stuston, Thrandeston	1700-1960	12605
Bennett	All	Any	All	12577
Best	All	Any	All	12593
Bexfield	SFK	Bungay, Beccles	All	12584
Blacksall	SFK	Debenham	1500-1600	12538
Blaxall	SFK	Bedfield	1600-1650	12538
Blaxill	SFK	Bruisyard	1650-1700	12538
Blaxill	SFK	Rendham	1700-1730	12538
Blaxill	SFK	Walpole	1730-1800	12538
Bone	SFK	Sudbury	1870-1900	12571
Bowles	SFK	Any	All	12549
Bradley	SFK	Bury St Edmunds, Mildenhall	All	12598
Brand	ESS	Any	1400-1800	12585
Brand	SFK	Any	1400-1800	12585
Brond	ESS	Any	1400-1800	12585
Brond	SFK	Any	1400-1800	12585
Brotherwood	All	Any	All	12595
Browne	SFK	Glemsford	1790 onwds	12556
Burghard	SFK	Spexhall, Nacton	1300 onwds	12553
Butcher	SFK	Any	All	12545
Buxton	SFK	Barsham, Ilketshall	1700-1800	12584
Cadge	SFK	Hartest	All	12552
Canham	NFK	Any	All	12582
Canham	SFK	Any	All	12582
Canler	SFK	Cotton	1800-1845	12543
Cant	SFK	Sudbury	1840-1890	12541
Carter	SFK	Denston	All	12607
Catchpole	SFK	Bardwell	All	12565
Clopton	USA	New Kent, VA	1675 onwds	12603

Surname	Cnty	Place	Dates	Member #
Clopton	YKS	York	1675 onwds	12603
Clopton	ESS	Paglesham	Pre-1675	12603
Clover	SFK	Any	All	12579
Colman	SFK	Barking	1700-1800	12607
Cook	ESS	Foxearth	1700-1900	12555
Cook	IRL	Any	1750 onwds	12595
Cook	CHS	Birkenhead	1750 onwds	12595
Cook	NFK	Any	All	12582
Cook	SFK	Any	All	12582
Copeland	All	Any	All	12597
Cox	SFK	Wortham	1700-1960	12605
Crick	SFK	Buxhall, Rede	1600-1850	12570
Crick	SFK	Glemsford	All	12571
Cundall	All	Any	All	12597
Curtis	SFK	Yoxford area	All	12562
Curtis	SFK	Mildenhall	Pre-1900	12587
Dale	SFK	Mettingham	1770-1890	12568
Damant	SFK	Grundisburgh, Tuddenham, Culpho & Monewden	All	12550
Davey	SFK	Ashbocking	1780-1870	12551
Davey	All	Any	1800 onwds	12586
Davies	SFK	Sudbury	1700-1900	12555
Davis	SFK	Any	All	12561
Deall	SFK	Halesworth	1880-1930	12554
Death	SFK	Stowmarket	1700-1900	12592
Death	SFK	Sudbury	1700-1900	12555
Denny	SFK	Any	1780-1900	12557
Dickerson	SFK	Mildenhall	Pre-1900	12587
Doe	SFK	Wattisfield	All	12540
Downes	SFK	Norton	1600-1700	12607
Doy	SFK	North & East Suffolk	All	12599
Dunnett	SFK	Cratfield, Cookley, Badingham	1700-1960	12605
Durrant	SFK	Any	1780-1900	12557
Edwards	SFK	Chelsworth	All	12544
Elliot	SFK	Monk Soham	1740-1820	12564
English	SFK	Any	All	12561
Felton	SFK	Sudbury	1700-1900	12555
Fisher	SFK	Syleham	1500-1650	12570
Fletcher	SFK	Bury St Edmunds	All	12598
Foreman	SFK	Mildenhall	Pre-1900	12587
Foulgar	SFK	Any	All	12540
Fox	SFK	Lowestoft	All	12560
Fuller	SFK	Any	All	12542
Galey	SFK	Mettingham	1770-1890	12568
Gillenwater	SFK	Nayland	All	12558
Gillingwater	SFK	Nayland	All	12558
Girling	SFK	Lt. Bealings, Grundisburgh, Tuddenham, Culpho & Monewden	All	12550
Gladwell	All	Any	All	12593
Goldsmith	SFK	Ipswich area	Pre-1900	12591
Goodday	ESS	Any	1400-1800	12585
Goodday	SFK	Any	1400-1800	12585
Gooding	SFK	Ipswich	All	12580
Goody	SFK	Ipswich	1800-1900	12571
Gould	SFK	Sapiston, Barnham, Felsham, Rattlesden	All	12596
Grant	SFK	Ipswich	1850-1900	12551
Grimmer	SFK	Bungay, Beccles	All	12584
Grimwood	SFK	Any	All	12542
Gusterson	SFK	Nayland, Any	All	12563
Guymer	SFK	Any	All	12566
Hall	SFK	Wickham Market	All	12590

Surname	Cnty	Place	Dates	Member #
Hammond	All	Any	All	12577
Harper	SFK	Lowestoft	All	12560
Harrington	SFK	Hessett	1600-1870	12570
Harrold	SFK	West Stow, Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds	1700-1900s	12574
Hart	SFK	Thorpe Morieux, Horringer, Cockfield	All	12552
Hayward	SFK	Saxmundham, Beccles, Ipswich	1700-1800s	12572
Hayward	SFK	Ipswich	All	12580
Holmes	SFK	Brettenham, Chelsworth	All	12544
Hoy	ESS	Birdbrook, Suffolk border	All	12584
Hurrell	SFK	Any	All	12565
Ingate	SFK	Fressingfield	All	12548
Johnson	SFK	Any	1780-1900	12557
Jolly	SFK	Wortham	1700-1960	12605
Keeble	SFK	Blaxhall	1830-1850	12600
Kemp	SFK	Ixworth, Sapiston	All	12596
King	NFK	Any	All	12582
King	SFK	Any	All	12582
Knott	SFK	Eye	1700-1800s	12573
Largent	SFK	Santon Downham	1600-1700	12607
Leech	SFK	Any	All	12542
Leeks	SFK	Preston, Gt. Finborough	1600-1850	12570
Lidle	SFK	Any	All	12598
Lingwood	SFK	Lowestoft	All	12560
Love	SFK	Gorleston	1880-1910	12581
Love	SFK	Framlingham	1900-1920	12581
Love	SFK	Rendlesham	1910-1920	12581
Love	SFK	Brockford	1950-1960	12581
Luffkeyn	ESS	Any	1400-1800	12585
Luffkeyn	SFK	Any	1400-1800	12585
Lydle	SFK	Any	All	12598
Lynch	IRL	Any	1750 onwds	12595
Lynch	USA	Any	1750 onwds	12595
Mann	SFK	Spexhall, Nacton	1300 onwds	12553
Marson	All	Any	All	12597
Mason	SFK	Any	All	12594
Matthew	SFK	Bungay	1800-1900	12568
Matthews	SFK	Mildenhall	Pre-1900	12587
Mayhew	SFK	Worlingworth	1740-1820	12564
Mealing	SFK	Any	All	12561
Mills	USA	Hanover Co. VA	1670 onwds	12603
Mills	SFK	Wetheringsett	1900-1950	12581
Mills	All	Any	Pre-1670	12603
Mills	SFK	Ipswich area	Pre-1900	12591
Morley	SFK	Mildenhall	Pre-1900	12587
Moss	SFK	Lidgate	1810 onwds	12556
Mott	SFK	Cowling	All	12556
Mott	SFK	Lidgate	All	12556
Mower	SFK	Sibton, Grundisburgh, Tuddenham, Culpho & Monewden	All	12550
Moy	SFK	Peasenhall, Grundisburgh, Tuddenham, Culpho & Monewden	All	12550
Munford	SFK	Brettenham, Chelsworth	All	12544
Munson	All	Any	All	12593
Nichols	SFK	Ipswich, Leiston	1800-1860	12551
Nunn	SFK	Chevington	1835 abt	12606
Olley	SFK	Melford, Cockfield	All	12567
Osborn	SFK	Ipswich	All	12560
Osborne	NFK	Any	All	12582
Osborne	SFK	Any	All	12582
Palmer	SFK	Ipswich area	Pre-1900	12591
Pattinson	SFK	Any	All	12594

Surname	Cnty	Place	Dates	Member #
Payne	SFK	Halesworth	1880-1930	12554
Payne	SFK	Ixworth	All	12596
Pipe	SFK	Any	All	12560
Piper	SFK	Beyton	1600-1850	12570
Piper	SFK	Brettenham, Chelsworth	All	12544
Pitt	SFK	Any	All	12578
Pitt	SFK	Kettlebaston	All	12578
Plum	ESS	Birdbrook, Suffolk border	All	12584
Plummer	SFK	Bungay, Mettingham	1770-1890	12568
Poll	SFK	Beccles, Lowestoft	All	12599
Pretty	NFK	Any	All	12594
Pretty	SFK	Any	All	12594
Prettyman	SFK	Any	All	12549
Rampling	SFK	Any	Pre-1881	12559
Ranson	All	Any	All	12597
Raphael	NFK	Any	1800-1900	12592
Raphael	SFK	Any	1800-1900	12592
Ratcliffe	SFK	Sudbury	1700-1900	12555
Raven	SFK	Bungay	1770-1890	12568
Raynham	SFK	Brettenham	All	12544
Raynham	SFK	Chelsworth	All	12544
Reeve	SFK	Any	All	12560
Riches	SFK	Fressingfield	All	12548
Roe	NTH	Any	Pre-1900	12591
Rose	SFK	Stanton	1805-1853 & Pre	12543
Rosier	AUS	Any	1600-1900	12592
Rosier	SFK	Any	1600-1900	12592
Rowling	SFK	Wickhambrook	1810 onwds	12556
Ruffell	SFK	Sudbury	All	12567
Runnacles	SFK	Eye, Stradbroke, Badingham	1700-1960	12605
Rye	SFK	Hopton	All	12607
Saur	SFK	Ipswich	1850-1860	12600
Sawyer	SFK	Ipswich, Blaxhall	1830-1850	12600
Scarlett	SFK	Grundisburgh, Tuddenham, Culpho & Monewden	All	12550
Seaman	SFK	Fressingfield	All	12548
Sharman	SFK	Burgate	All	12596
Sillett	All	Any	All	12577
Smith	SFK	Sudbury	1700-1950	12555
Smith	SFK	Ipswich	1850-1890	12601
Smith	SFK	Bury St Edmunds	All	12598
Smith	NTH	Any	Pre-1900	12591
Songer	SFK	Any	All	12545
Spark	SFK	Ipswich area	Pre-1900	12591
Sparrow	ESS	Any	1400-1800	12585
Sparrow	SFK	Any	1400-1800	12585
Spink	SFK	Bungay, Mettingham	1770-1890	12568
Stannard	SFK	Thwaite	Pre-1840	12589
Stiff	SFK	Hartest, Woolpit	Pre-1860	12547
Stimson	SFK	Barningham	All	12596
Stoffer	All	Any	All	12593
Stopher	All	Any	All	12593
Stringer	SFK	Wickham skeith	1920-1950	12581
Suttle	SFK	Any	1800-1900	12571
Suttle	SFK	Any	All	12549
Teager	SFK	Any	All	12549
Thoroughgood	SFK	Haverhill	All	12566
Turner	NFK	Any	All	12582
Turner	SFK	Any	All	12582
Upson	SFK	Grundisburgh, Tuddenham, Culpho & Monewden	All	12550

Surname	Cnty	Place	Dates	Member #
Vale	SFK	West Stow, Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds	1700-1900s	12574
Vanderzee	SFK	Nayland, Any	All	12563
Wallis	SFK	Kedington	1700-1800s	12573
Walpole	SFK	Eye	1800s	12573
Ward	SFK	Bungay	1870-1910	12568
Warren	SFK	Akenham	1780-1850	12551
Watkinson	SFK	Sudbury	1800-1900	12571
Watling	SFK	Worlingworth, Horham area	Pre-1800	12589
Watson	SFK	Ipswich	All	12580
Watson	SFK	Ipswich, Dogs Head St, Joseph Watson, Tailors	All	12580
Watson	SFK	Lowestoft	All	12599
Webb	SFK	Glemsford	1790 onwds	12556
Webb	SFK	Sudbury	1900 onwds	12571
Websdale	NFK	Any	All	12582
Websdale	SFK	Any	All	12582
Welham	SFK	Lowestoft, Kirkley	1780-1900	12583
Welton	SFK	Any	1780-1900	12557
West	SFK	Wetheringsett cum Brockford	1700-1800	12539
Whatling	SFK	Worlingworth, Horham area	pre-1800s	12589
White	SFK	Wetheringsett cum Brockford	1700-1800	12539
Whymark	SFK	Nayland	All	12558
Wigg	All	Any	All	12593
Withe	SFK	Wetheringsett cum Brockford	1700-1800	12539
Woodgate	All	Any	All	12586
Woods	SFK	Ipswich	All	12580
Woodward	SFK	Any	All	12549
Yellop	SFK	Ipswich, Saxmundam	1800-1880	12551

WELCOME FROM THE EDITORS

The theme of this edition of *Suffolk Roots* is 'Innovations and Inventions'. We are grateful for the interesting and diverse articles sent in by members showing how they or their ancestors were affected by or involved with developing or cutting-edge (for the time) technology. The theme of September's edition will be 'Ancestral Homes'. Perhaps you have been inspired by the BBC's *'A House Through Time'* series to research your own home or that of a person of interest, or maybe your ancestors lived in the same village for generations. We look forward to receiving your contributions on this topic. Information about what it covers, and other forthcoming themes, can be found on p.76. We hope that you will be able to participate in some of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, and maybe stories of previous Jubilee celebrations have been passed down which you would like to share. We are always happy to receive contributions on any family history-related topics that may be of interest to other members. Any items for publication should be submitted in good time before the end of July. If you wish to suggest a theme for a future edition, or to discuss an idea for an article, please email us at *editor@suffolkfhs.org.uk*.

Lesley Hall and Rob Ward
Co-Editors, Suffolk Roots

WILLIAM MAYHEW AND THE MAYHEW CLOCKMAKERS OF PARHAM, SUFFOLK

While researching the Georgian Suffolk clockmaker **Daniel Dickerson** (who I am not descended from but might share common ancestors with in the 16th or 17th centuries from the Diss area of South Norfolk or Eye area of North Suffolk), I bought a back copy of *Clocks* magazine which contained a reference to him. Disappointingly, the magazine contained no useful information about Daniel, but there was an article about **Thomas Moore** of Ipswich, a renowned maker of lantern clocks in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. I had never seen a lantern clock before, but admired the photos and thought how wonderful it would be to own one.



William Mayhew lantern clock

Our local auction house, Gaze of Diss, have horological auctions twice a year selling a variety of longcase clocks, mantle clocks, ornate French clocks, skeleton clocks and cuckoo clocks, to name but a few. About three years ago, a lantern clock made by **William Mayhew** of Woodbridge was listed and on viewing it, I decided to bid. The auction started at 5 p.m. and the lantern clock was one of the last lots. We sat through a very interesting two hours as each lot went under the hammer. There were no bids in the room for the lantern clock, only internet bids. I was determined to win the clock and suddenly realised 'he' was mine! William, as he is now fondly known, has his own shelf, mounted high up on the living room wall to accommodate his long, lead, brass-covered pendulum and heavy lead weight. He is a 30-hour clock, which means he has to be wound daily, before his lead weight reaches the floor. As with most early lantern clocks, he does not have a minute hand, only an hour hand. He strikes loudly on each hour, resonating through the house. Being interested in genealogy, I was compelled to find out about the clockmaker, William Mayhew.

No baptism has been found for William Mayhew, but from his age at death (66) he would have been born around 1725. He was the third generation of Mayhew clockmakers in Parham, Suffolk, the son of **Francis Mayhew** of Parham and his wife **Anna**, as confirmed by the will of Francis Mayhew, clockmaker of Parham, dated 21 September 1728.[1] Francis died a few years after William's birth, in December 1730; he was buried at Parham on 14 December and his will was proved on 16 January 1731. He gave all his estate in Parham to his son William and his heirs, forever. He gave part of his estate lying in Cransford, those pieces of land called the four-shilling pieces and another piece or two if these were not enough, together with what part of

his personal estate could well be spared, to be sold to pay his debts. The residue of the estate in Cransford and his personal estate he gave to his beloved wife Anna. When his youngest son reached the age of 21, the estates were to be equally divided between his two sons.[2] They were both to give their mother £6 a year as long as she lived. Anna was his sole executrix and the will was witnessed by **Rich D. Charles**, **Barn Gibson** and **Elisabeth Hart**. Francis Mayhew signed the will.



Francis Mayhew clock c.1725

Francis Mayhew left an inventory which has been transcribed by **Christine Brooks**. The total value, as appraised by **Thos Benton** and **John Lyzod**, was £163 19s (about £40,550 today, according to the Bank of England inflation calculator). The inventory includes details of the kitchen (*'chiching'*), which, among other things, had four clocks, the kitchen chamber, the pantry, the parlour and parlour chamber, the buttery and buttery chamber, a cart house, a backhouse and backhouse chamber, a bottle hole (with six dozen bottles and four cows), the *'garrits'*, and several rooms associated with the workshop. There were no bedrooms listed, but beds were itemised in some of the chambers, and there was a cradle in the *'garrits'*. Details of the workshop room contents are listed below:

From the Inventory of Francis Mayhew, 1731[3]

		£ s d
In the Shop Chamber	*One Beed* (bed)	*6 0 0*
In the Shop	*Woorkin towels* (tools used in work) *Clocks and Wachis* (watches) *and Other Goods*	*30 0 0*
In the Outer Shop	*A Vice a Stithe (?) a bellow Ould files boxis and Other Goods*	*9 0 0*

No baptism has been found for Francis Mayhew, but he was the son of **Henry Mayhew** of Parham, as confirmed by Henry's will dated 25 April 1720.[4] Henry bequeathed to two of his sons, **John Mayhew** and **William Mayhew**, three tenements in the occupation of **Francis Boldry**, **Thomas Harding** and **Widdow** (sic) **Fuller**, with all the rents and rent, yards and orchards lying in Framlingham to be divided equally between them. He also bequeathed to his three sons, Francis, John and William, all his goods and household stuff, to be equally divided between them after the probate of his will and payment of all debts. John Mayhew was to be his sole executor. Henry signed his will which was witnessed by **John Hayward**, **Henry Folkard** and **Elizabeth Haward** (who made her mark).



Henry Mayhew clock

A condition existed for the production of an inventory of Henry's goods and chattels:

'The Condition of this Obligation is such that Francis Mayhew, the Natural and lawful son and Administrator of all the Singular, the Goods and Chattles Rights and Credits of Henry Mayhew late of Parham, rightly and truly Administer the above mentioned and pay the Debts of the said Deceased which he owed at the time of his death.'

The inventory was to be exhibited at the Office of the Registry of the Archdeaconry of Suffolk. It was sealed and delivered in the presence of **W. Gallop** and **Matt Amyes** and was signed by Francis Mayhew, **Miles Parry** and **Richard Dyer**.

From a transcription of Henry Mayhew's inventory made by Christine Brooks, it would appear he was reasonably well off. The total value of items listed, as appraised by **John Field** and **John Simpson**, was £73 1s (worth around £16,050 today according to the Bank of England inflation calculator) including a comfortably furnished house with beds located in the parlour chamber and hall chamber, cows and a pig, a dairy and a buttery, a backhouse containing a small forge, and a workshop for operating his business. The details of the latter are as follows:

From the Inventory of Henry Mayhew of Parham Clockmaker, 1720[5]

In the Shopp An Engine unfinished, one old Clock Fifteen new Bells, four Old Bells Ten Split Bells, Twenty Seven files three Bourh vices, five Screwplates, three hirns nine files three hand vices a Clamp, and Some old files, Plyers Dividers Saw frames and five hammers, Two pair of Sheers, new and old brafs, a Saw and a Shave a wood turn and Tools (lathe?) Broken files, pr a frosting roul and three old watches	*£15 12s 6d*

The baptism records for Henry Mayhew's two sons at Parham show:

John Mayhew, son of Henry and **Elizabeth**, 30 November 1697
William Mayhew, son of Henry and Elizabeth, 3 September 1699

In the Suffolk Poll Book for 1710, Francis Mayhew, Henry Mayhew and a William Mayhew all voted in Framlingham. Francis Mayhew is listed in the 1727 Poll Book, this time being resident in Cransford but having property in Parham.

Returning to William Mayhew (son of Francis Mayhew), on 5 September 1741, William son of Anna Mayhew was apprenticed to **John Calver**, watchmaker of Woodbridge, for a fee of £40. John Calver had himself been apprenticed to Thomas Moore of Ipswich on 29 April 1718. The indenture reads that Thomas Moore was a clockmaker and John was the son of **John Calver** of Wittlesham, which is Witnesham near Ipswich. This was the same Thomas Moore who was described in *Clocks* magazine, whose clocks I had admired. He was from a family of clockmakers whose work spanned the late 17th to the late 18th centuries. **Haggar** and **Miller** in their book *Suffolk Clocks and Clockmakers*[6] dedicate a whole chapter to them.

Newspaper announcements make mention of John Calver, watchmaker:

Ipswich Journal, Saturday 5 May 1739:

'ADVERTISEMENTS

> *Lost between Saxmundham and Woodbridge, on Thursday the 26th Day of April last, a WATCH, with a Pinchbeck Case, a blue String, a Seal and a Key: Any Person that will bring it to Mr John Calver, Watchmaker or* ***Mr Joseph Walford****, at their houses in Woodbridge; or to either of them, on a Thursday, at the King's Head in Saxmundham; shall have Ten Shillings Reward.'*

Ipswich Journal, 24 November 1739:

> *'Lost between Ipswich and Marlesford, A WATCH, the maker's name* ***John Olear****, it Winds up in the Dial Plate, and had a Green String with the Key and Seal.*
>
> *Any Person that will bring it to Mr Thomas Moore, Watchmaker, at Ipswich; Mr John Calver, Watchmaker at Woodbridge; or to* ***Mr John Rawlings****, at the White Hart in Saxmundham, shall be handsomely rewarded.'*

Ipswich Journal, Saturday 30 June 1750:

> *'Lost in Woodbridge, on the 22nd of this instant June, the outward CASE of a Plain Gold Watch. Whoever will bring the same to Mr Thomas Moore, Watchmaker of Ipswich or to Mr John Calver of Woodbridge aforesaid, Watchmaker, shall receive a Guinea Reward. If offered for sale, Pray stop it.'*

Other records for John Calver include the church wardens' accounts showing that for a fee of one guinea, John cleaned and repaired the St Mary's Church clock in Woodbridge in 1740; and a marriage by licence of John Calver (thought to be this watchmaker, though no occupation is given) to **Mary Trott** on 3 October 1738 at Wantisden. Both were of Woodbridge and no children are recorded from the marriage. There was another **John Calver** in Woodbridge at a similar time who was a tailor (as I discovered when I ordered a copy of his will by mistake). Also, apprenticeship records show that on 23 May 1746, John Calver, clockmaker, took as an apprentice **George Raymond**, son of **Ann Raymond**, widow.

John Calver died on 12 April 1751 and was buried at St Mary's Church, Woodbridge on 15 April. His memorial gives his age as 56, making his year of birth about 1695. Mary Calver had died in August 1750. John's will, dated 4 December 1750, was proved on 17 April 1751 and is held at the Norfolk Record Office in Norwich.[7] Among his bequests he expressed a wish that his former apprentice, William Mayhew, should be allowed to purchase his shop and premises for £105 on the condition that he also took the stock at valuation. William took up his offer, as is clear from the *Ipswich Journal* of 8 June 1751:

'SUFFOLK

All Persons that are indebted to the Estate of the late Mr JOHN CALVER, of Woodbridge in the County of Suffolk, Clockmaker deceased, are desired forthwith to pay in their respective Debts to ***Mr James Tye*** *of Woodbridge aforesaid, his Executor.*

N.B. MR WILLIAM MAYHEW, Clockmaker, late Apprentice to the said John Calver, has taken his shop at Woodbridge aforesaid; where all Persons that will favour him with their Custom, may depend upon being reasonably and well used.'

Included in the Great Glemham parish accounts for 1751 to 1752[8] was a bill from William Mayhew for work on the clock and chimes, paid on 31 August 1752. There was obviously other work being carried out on the church at that time, as two other bills are mentioned: one from **Edward Hamby** for work on the bells, paid 30 March 1752, and another from **Solomon Blowers** for mending the bell ropes, 6 May 1751.

Haggar and Miller note that lost watches adverts were placed in the *Ipswich Journal* on 20 October 1759, 8 August 1767, 27 February 1779 and 11 October 1788, and also one for a lost gold seal on 6 July 1776. It appears from these and adverts placed by other local clock and watchmakers, that an advert was placed in the local paper if an owner reported a lost watch.



Mayhew tavern clock

William Mayhew took on five apprentices. These, his own and John Calver's can all be found on Ancestry, in the catalogue *UK Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices Indentures 1710-1811.*

They are as follows, and all are in Woodbridge:

25 June 1754, William Mayhew, Watchmaker, apprentice **George Buck**

28 April 1761, William Mayhew, Clockmaker, apprentice **John Jackson**

3 August 1773, William Mayhew, Clock and Watchmaker, apprentice **Samuel Thorndike**

9 June 1779, William Mayhew, Watchmaker, apprentice **William Orpwood**

27 June 1786, William Mayhew, Clockmaker, apprentice **James Burrows**

William Mayhew's name is included in a draft indenture of feoffment, dated 1767,[9] in which **Nathanial Randall** of Woodbridge, ironmonger, and William Mayhew of Woodbridge, clockmaker, enfeoffed lands in Debach to five others (**William Dance** of Clopton, **Mr Trotman** of Ipswich, **Stephen Abbott** of Ipswich, **Daniel Tye** of Ipswich and **Samuel Virtue** of Alderton) to the charity of **Richard Francis**, in trust for the poor of that parish.

On 2 March 1772, William Mayhew married **Elizabeth Goodwin** by licence (dated 26 February 1772), his occupation being given as a clockmaker. Both were single and of the parish of Woodbridge. They married at St Mary's Church, Woodbridge, and both signed the register. The witnesses were **George Doughty** and **Gregory Charles Rissowe**. William married late in life and would have been about 47 years of age. There are no children recorded for the marriage. Soon after their marriage, there is a record of William Mayhew and his wife Elizabeth at a newly built house or tenement near Parham Bridge called Woodcock.[10] It is probable that this was their new home, as Woodbridge is only a short distance from Parham.

Haggar and Miller state that William was regarded as one of the principal inhabitants of Woodbridge. He was a prominent member of the Woodbridge Association and in 1779 was President of the 'Shew of Auriculas'. The original auricula is *Primula auricula*, a wild flower found in alpine meadows of Northern Europe and normally having yellow flowers. It first appeared in English gardens in the mid-16th century and is thought to have been brought to England either by Flemish weavers around 1570, or more likely by English and European plantsmen swapping plants. In the late 17th and early 18th centuries, auriculas were grown by specialist horticulturalists known as 'florists' who competed in Auricular Shows. The plants were and continue to be displayed in an 'Auricula Theatre'. This resembles a book shelf and, for best effect, the plants are displayed in individual pots against a black background.

An advertisement placed in the *Ipswich Journal* on 28 December 1782 by **Anthony De Mayne** indicates that he had been a journeyman to William Mayhew but was now opening a shop of his own next to the Crown Inn, Woodbridge.

William Mayhew was one of about 388 members of the Woodbridge Association, being listed as a subscriber in the *Ipswich Journal* on 23 October 1784. He is mentioned again in the *Ipswich Journal* of 30 December 1786:

'WOODBRIDGE ASSOCIATION

For Prosecuting Felons

Whereas sundry Robberies have of late been committed in this town and neighbourhood:-

The Committee of this Association hereby give notice, that they will prosecute to the utmost rigour of the law any persons committing depredations upon the property of the subscribers.

WILLIAM MAYHEW, ***CORNELIUS COLLETT, JOHN BAYLY TAILER****'*

Sixteen further subscribers' names were also included.

William Mayhew died on 27 January 1791 and was buried at nearby Martlesham on 30 January. The burial entry records him as a 'Gentleman'. His obituary appeared in the *Ipswich Journal* of 29 January 1791:

'Wednesday evening died, in the 66th year of his age, Mr William Mayhew, of Woodbridge, watchmaker. He was truly a man in whom there was no guile; sincere and upright in all his dealings. He was a self-taught genius, and had acquired a very considerable knowledge of mathematics and philosophy. Without having seen an orrery till many years afterwards, as soon as his apprenticeship was expired, he constructed one of his own, on the most simple principles, and finished it in the most elegant manner.'

(An orrery is a clockwork model of the Solar System, or just the Sun, Earth and Moon).

William Mayhew's will, dated 6 August 1784, was proved on 18 May 1791 and is held by the Norfolk Record Office.[11] One of the witnesses was William Orpwood, a former apprentice. William requested that a considerable amount of property and stock be sold and the proceeds divided between his widow and his brother **John Mayhew**, a farmer at Waldringfield. He left property at Parham, Woodbridge and Shottisham to his widow.

An advertisement for the stock appeared in the *Ipswich Journal* of 12 and 19 February 1791:

'WOODBRIDGE
Now Selling Off at PRIME COST, or under.

All the Stock in Trade of the late Mr WM Mayhew, Watchmaker and Silversmith, deceased, at his late Shop in Stone Street, Woodbridge; consisting of 8 day and other clocks, new and second hand watches, silver table and other spoons, a large assortment of fashionable silver and plated buckles and spurs, and a great variety of articles in the silversmith branch, which will continue on sale at very low prices till the whole are disposed of.

It is requested that all persons who have any demands upon the estate and effects of the said William Mayhew, will apply immediately to Mrs Mayhew, of Woodbridge aforesaid, in order that the same may be discharged; and all persons who were indebted to the said William Mayhew, at the time of his decease, are requested to pay the same to the said Mrs Mayhew, or Mr John Mayhew, of Woodbridge Hasketon, his executors. Feb 10th 1791.'

A further advertisement appeared in the *Ipswich Journal* of 16 April 1791:

'MECHANISM – To be SOLD

A very curious Orrery, 25 inches in diameter, fitted up in a peculiar handsome manner, on a brass pillar and claw. Likewise, an elegant Musical Table Clock. The above were made by the late William Mayhew, are very admirable pieces of mechanism, in complete repair and well worth attention. To be seen at Mrs Mayhew's in the Stone Street shop, Woodbridge. The remainder of the stock in trade is now selling off on very low terms. Woodbridge, 15th April'

Stone Street in Woodbridge is now named Church Street. It runs from the crossroads of the Thoroughfare, Quay Street and Cumberland Street, up the hill to the Town Square and St Mary's Church.

There is a document titled *Cobbold Properties – Woodbridge, Cherry Tree*[12] containing the following description: *'Evidence of the title to the Cherry Tree held of the Manor of Woodbridge, Hasketon, surrendered by* ***Charles Thomas Rissowe****, gent, Elizabeth Mayhew and* ***Ann Doughty*** *to the use of* ***John Cobbold*** *of Ipswich, beer brewer. 14th November 1799. Sale particulars are included.'*

The Charles Thomas Rissowe listed here was son of the Gregory Charles Rissowe who was a witness at the marriage of William Mayhew to Elizabeth Goodwin.

Elizabeth Mayhew died in April 1811 and was buried at Martlesham. The parish register entry reads: *'Mayhew Elizabeth widow of William Mayhew Gent was buried on 13th April 1811'*.

In the book *Suffolk Clocks and Clockmakers*, there is mention that clocks made by William and Henry were on exhibition in the Ipswich Museum Collection, Christchurch Park. However, the book was published in 1974, nearly 50 years ago, so they might no longer be viewable. Also mentioned is that the first distinctively English clock, the lantern clock, appeared by about 1620. The typical lantern clock has a four-post frame, brass panels on three sides and the clock face on the fourth at the front. It stands on four brass turned feet with four finials at the top, holding the bell. By the second half of the 17th century, many lantern clocks were being made by Suffolk clockmakers, including Henry Mayhew. They continued to be made in Suffolk into the mid-18th century by makers including Thomas Moore and John Calver.



Oak longcase clock by Mayhew of Woodbridge

There are two other Mayhew clockmakers mentioned by Haggar and Miller:

> John Mayhew, with clocks made in Rendham and Saxmundham. This could be the son of Henry Mayhew, baptised in 1697. A John Mayhew was a member of Rendham Congregational Church in 1718.
>
> Thomas Mayhew of Parham, who voted in the 1710 poll, has longcase clocks recorded.

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Author's note: I have a copy of Suffolk Clocks and Clockmakers *by Haggar and Miller and also* Norfolk and Norwich Clocks and Clockmakers *edited by Clifford and Yvonne Bird. I can look up clockmakers for anyone who is interested.*

References and Sources

1. Ipswich Record Office Ref IC/AA1/159/76 Will of Francis Mayhew, Parham
2. The younger son is not named in the will and has not so far been identified from contemporary records.
3. Ipswich Record Office Ref FE1/21/52 Inventory of Francis Mayhew, Parham
4. Ipswich Record Office Ref IC/AA1/149/37 Will of Henry Mayhew, Parham
5. Ipswich Record Office Ref FE1/13/27 Inventory of Henry Mayhew, Parham
6. A.L. Haggar and Leonard F Miller, *Suffolk Clocks and Clockmakers* (Antiquarian Horological Society, 1974). ISBN 901180 09 2
7. Norfolk Record Office. Will Reg Bunn. John Calver, Clockmaker, Woodbridge 1751 Creation. Diocese of Norwich Consistory Court, 11th Century, Ecclesiastical Court, Norwich, Norfolk. Microfilm MF438
8. Ipswich Record Office Ref FC121/A/5/20/1 Great Glemham Parish
9. Ipswich Record Office Ref FC 28/L1/6 Draft Indenture of Feoffment
10. Ipswich Record Office Ref HD1086/3 Manor of Parham Hall copy admission
11. Norfolk Record Office. Index of Wills. Consistory Court Norwich 1751-1818. Diocese of Norwich. Wills proved in Consistory Court 1751-1818. Orders for the Poor. 1791 Mayhew William Woodbridge. 134 Glew Microfilm MF452
12. Ipswich Record Office Ref HB8/2/106 Cobbold Properties Woodbridge Cherry Tree

SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO? THE TWO SONS OF GEORGE LANKESTER

Threshing engines and other mechanical aids revolutionised agriculture in the mid-19th century. A graphic on the website of the Long Shop Museum (*www.longshopmuseum.co.uk*) vividly illustrates their impact: threshing by hand yielded 0.2 tons/day, at a cost of 3/6d a quarter; a machine powered by two horses increased that to 5 tons/day, at 1/7½d a quarter – but a 12hp steam-powered thresher produced 15 tons/day, at 7½d a quarter. There is a short film on the website of a steam-powered threshing machine at work.



Threshing tackle in Little Casterton (such as driven by George Lankester). Copyright: Michael Trolove, licensed for reuse under CC BY-SA-2.0, https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/1504948)

George Lankester was a threshing engine driver, from Grundisburgh. He was baptised there in November 1836, the eldest son of **Aaron Lankester**, an agricultural worker. By 1851, at the age of 14, George and his younger sister were resident house servants to **Joseph Groom**, a local farmer and butcher. The first reference to George driving an engine comes in the 1871 census, when he was 34 years old.

At some stage, George had been given an opportunity, and had taken it. He was fortunate – the machines put many of his contemporaries out of work at a time when agriculture was already depressed (see **Andy Kerridge**'s paper in the Members' Area). Indeed, of George's two younger brothers, **David** (1842-1883) joined the Army and was away from Grundisburgh by 1861, and **William** was no longer present after 1851. Their two sisters who reached adulthood, **Martha** and **Esther**, both left home to go into service.

George's father Aaron was fortunate to continue in his employment in Grundisburgh, with farmer **John Newsom**. George's grandfather, **William** (who originally brought the family from Great Bealings), was also still working in Grundisburgh in 1856 at the age of 71, when he broke his neck in a fall from a cart.[(1)] The dangers of this work were re-emphasised in 1875 when Aaron himself died after five years of paralysis, also caused by a fall from a cart.[(2)]

In the second quarter of 1859, George married **Honor Clow**, from the nearby village of Clopton. Their son **George William** was baptised in Grundisburgh on 13 November 1859, George then being a private in the East Suffolk Militia. Soon after, on 28 December 1859, Honor Lankester was buried in her parents' village of Clopton, aged 21. There is an intriguing private baptism in Clopton on 19 December 1859: **Honor Clow**, daughter of **James** and **Deborah**. No infant of that name has been found. James and Deborah's oldest four children were baptised between 1823 and 1828, though the children born after this are not in the church record transcripts.

Honor's death would have left George with a problem. How was baby George William to survive? We must assume a wet nurse was found. George's uncle **Philip Lankester**, Aaron's youngest brother, lived in the same village with his wife **Hannah**, and they had a son of the same age, another **George**. George's aunt, Aaron's youngest sister **Martha**, also lived in Grundisburgh, married to **William Copping**, and they had a son, **James**, born in 1858. By the 1861 census, George had the help of a housekeeper, **Fanny Hyde**, aged 21, from Portsmouth, Hampshire. Also, next door to George's household was George's father, Aaron Lankester, now aged 52 with a second wife, **Betsey (née Brett)**, 41, from Bacup, Lancashire, whom he had married in 1850, three years after the death of his first wife and with three very young children. George married Fanny Hyde soon after the census was taken, and she was buried a year later in Grundisburgh. George William was now 3 years old, and had already been cared for by several different people.

Someone must have helped out after Fanny's death, as George did not remarry until early in 1863: his third wife was **Mahala Brunning Wade** from Monewden, aged 22. Her father apparently used the surnames Brunning and Wade interchangeably. Towards the end of 1863, Mahala gave birth to George's other son, **David Mark Lankester**, and survived. David Mark was baptised in Grundisburgh in April 1864.

It should not be supposed that George owned the engine that he drove – this would have required a significant capital investment. By 1881, his elder son George William, aged 23, was also an engine driver. The family had moved five miles to the village of Bromeswell, and George William's half-brother, David Mark, was a blacksmith, aged only 17.

Towards the end of 1883, aged 19, David Mark married **Sophia Farrow**, from Bromeswell, who was aged 26. By 1885 they were living in Castle St, Woodbridge. From there he moved in 1890 to Leiston and took up employment with **Richard Garrett & Sons** as a blacksmith, making steam-powered agricultural engines.



Richard Garrett & Sons traction engine, Empress, built 1920 (such as might have been worked on by David Mark Lankester). Attrib: Rob Mitchell, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons

Eventually they had four daughters and three sons. I wrote extensively of the eldest son, **Edward Lankester** (1891-1918), in *Suffolk Roots*, September 2019 – he moved to work in London as a hammerman when he enlisted in 1914. Their eldest daughter, **Mary Jane** (1885-1959), remained in Leiston, initially as a housemaid for a local doctor and then as the wife of **Thomas Drane**. Her three sisters, however, all went to London. **Ellen Sophia** (1886-1966) worked in the small hotel near King's Cross kept by her grandmother Mahala's half-nephew, a widower, **John Bircham** (1848-1920),

whom she later married. **Lily Maud** (1890-1969) worked as a maid in a girls' boarding school in Buckhurst Hill, a leafy Essex suburb, where she met and married **James Catling**, a groundsman and later a motor driver. Florence (1893-1942) moved to West Ham, Essex and married her cousin **George Farrow**, a railwayman, whose mother had been looking after Ellen Sophia's daughter **Nellie** (b.1909).

David Mark's two remaining sons were **Earnest** (1891-1979) and **William John** (1897-1977). William John served in the Suffolk Regiment in World War I and spent time after 1917 as a prisoner of war. His location and occupation after that remain unknown to me, though he almost certainly came back to Suffolk. Earnest served an apprenticeship at Richard Garrett & Sons.[3] He married in 1913, and a daughter **Grace Ernestine** was born soon after. However, his wife **Bertha** died of TB in 1915, in Lowestoft, where Earnest worked for the motor engineers **James Talbot & Davison**. The 1921 census shows that Grace went to live with David Mark and Sophia in Leiston. Earnest, meanwhile, formed a relationship in Lowestoft and had two further children. He held the patent for a design of bi-metallic piston, which was exhibited at the 1935 Motor Show at Olympia,[4] and his descendants continued the tradition of design engineering after Earnest moved the family to London.

David Mark's older half-brother, George William, was not in such a hurry to marry. The birth of his son **George William Lankester**, was registered in the autumn of 1888, with a mother's maiden name of Woods. George William then married **Emily Louisa Woods** in the spring of 1889 and they lived in Ramsholt until Emily died in 1941. Their first-born, George William Junior, was never at home for the censuses. In 1891, he and his mother were visiting her mother in Woodbridge; in 1901 he was living with Emily's sister and her children in Woodbridge, and records indicate he may have been at school there. In 1911 he seems to have been mislabelled **George Woods**, living with his grandmother Woods, working as a carter. Having joined the Territorial Army in 1913, he served in the RAMC as an orderly and then in the Royal Engineers (RE) as a clerk until demob in 1920. After that he enquired about an assisted passage to Australia (he didn't go), and re-engagement as a clerk in the RE (he was turned down). By 1939 he was a farm labourer and finally living with his parents, his mother by then being blind.

George William and Emily had five further children who made it to adulthood. **Fredrick Aaron** (1891-1977) joined the Royal Navy in 1912 and served for 16 years as a stoker, then, when he came on shore, as a boilerhouse furnaceman. **William Henry** (1893-1964) joined the Royal Navy a few months before Fredrick and served 17 years, also as a stoker. Both brothers married and lived in Ipswich. **Florence** (1895-1929) was in domestic service, then married. **Elizabeth Honor** (1897-1962) married **Tom Sawyer**, a widowed farm worker in the nearby village of Sutton, in 1930, and they added a son to Tom's own children. The last of George William's

children was a son, **Cyril Ernest** (1899-1978), who served in the Royal Marines in World War I. He became a groom at Copt Hall in Waltham Cross, Essex. So, none of George William's sons followed their father and grandfather into steam engine driving, instead they all joined the armed services well before the war, eventually coming back home to take up similar roles.

George Lankester and Mahala moved to Hollesely with Mahala's aged mother. In the spring of 1893, Mahala's mother died, followed on 22 September, in Ipswich Hospital, by Mahala herself. George was living in Alderton in 1901, with **Mary Clow** as housekeeper, the widow of his first wife's brother. After her death, **Susannah Taylor**, a widow from Ipswich, took the role. But when George died after a stroke on 27 January 1918, he was in the workhouse in Barham (Woodbridge had closed in 1912 so was sending its paupers to the Bosmere & Claydon Union). The informant on George's certificate was the Master of the Workhouse. George's elder son, George William, was still living in Ramsholt, with all his sons away at the war. The younger son, David Mark, with his wife Sophia, was in Leiston, looking after two grandchildren – Earnest's daughter Grace, aged 4, and a granddaughter, **Edith**, aged 11, while all but one of their children were away, in London or at the war. George was not necessarily abandoned by his family, however, because by 1918 some workhouses were more like geriatric facilities.

As with agricultural contractors today, there was probably a limited local market for threshing engine drivers, so it was George's elder son who took up his father's mantle, while the younger learnt the blacksmith's trade. But as technology advances, the level of skill required gradually moves from the operator to the technician to the design engineer. Compare, if you will, the skills of the early motorists, who had to know how to fix anything on their non-standard vehicle (or have a chauffeur who did), with the driver of today, whose task has been made infinitely easier by generations of automotive engineers working for vehicle manufacturers, giving pause for thought about the opportunities and life choices of the half-brothers, George Lankester's two sons.

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References and Sources

1. *Suffolk Chronicle*, 26 Jan 1856
2. *Suffolk Chronicle*, 4 Sept 1869
3. Indenture in family archive.
4. Patent and other documentation in family archive.

Editors' note: Members will be aware that on 14 June 2022, Anna Mercer will give a Zoom talk on The Garretts of Leiston ~ the Long Shop & the Garrett family story

INNOVATION AND 'BLUE BABIES'

By the 1940s great strides were being made in the treatment of diseases, but there was still nothing that could be done for 'blue babies' – children with complex congenital heart disease. Few survived beyond infancy. However, this was about to change. The actions of three people mentioned here – innovators with imagination, determination and courage – greatly improved the children's chances of survival and their on-going care.



Major Dwight E Harken in 1951
© Fabian Bachrach

In 1944, in preparation for the June D-Day landings and under the auspices of Guy's Hospital in London, a United States Army field hospital was established in the English countryside. US Army thoracic surgeon **Major Dwight Emary Harken** became, at the age of just 34, the head of this specialist chest hospital. At that time, it was the considered opinion of the medical profession that any intervention involving the heart would result in death. It was explicitly forbidden. However, in spite of this, with opposition from his surgical seniors and the risk to his professional standing, Dr Harken began removing bullets and shrapnel from within and around the beating hearts of soldiers returning from the front. Every one of the 56 men whose hearts he operated on survived.

Major Harken's success did not go unnoticed by Britain's leading cardiologists, who had been supporting him. **Dr Maurice Campbell** and surgeon **Russell Brock** of Guy's Hospital, anxious to improve their young heart patients' outcomes, assembled in 1948 a team of all those who would be involved in surgical interventions and the diagnosis and care of patients. They named the group 'The Peacock Club' after the 19th century pathologist **Dr Thomas Peacock**, who had identified the four congenital malformations of the heart known as Fallot's Tetralogy. They began tentatively to operate on those children most seriously afflicted. Each intervention was planned meticulously and their successes and failures considered in detail and learnt from.

Attitudes to heart surgery had changed, but sadly, the children still died. Cardiologist **Professor Jane Somerville** was working as House Officer to Russell Brock at Guy's Hospital in 1956. Speaking of her experiences on the BBC's *Desert Island Discs*, she said: *'I remember, we did 11, or 10 blue children, the first one survived, I think really by chance, and the next eight or nine died. It was absolutely awful … but outcomes for the patient without surgery were very bad'.*

I was born in June 1944 with Fallot's Tetralogy. My parents were told that my life expectancy was, with care, little more than seven years. They were advised on how much I should be allowed to do based on how little I would be able to do. The defects present in Fallot's Tetralogy restrict the blood's ability to reach the lungs, depriving

the child's vital organs of oxygen. Any exertion, even crying and feeding, can result in lapses into unconsciousness as insufficient oxygen reaches the brain, blood clots and heart failure.

By 1951, although I could walk only a few steps without needing to rest, I was otherwise fit and well and had reached the age of six without mishap. I was being taken to and from school, was reading my way through **Enid Blyton**, did lots of drawing, colouring, cutting and sticking of paper and generally making a mess on the table. I was a cared for, happy and contented child.

That autumn something happened which greatly improved my life chances. My mother was approached in the street by someone who said that her cousin was one of Britain's leading heart specialists at Guy's and that she could arrange for me to see him. It was Dr Campbell!

I was admitted to Guy's for assessment and placed with surgeon **Thomas Holmes Sellors** and his consultant **Dr Walter Somerville** (later Jane's husband) at the Middlesex Hospital. Early the following year Mr Holmes Sellors operated on me. It was not a success and I came close to losing my life. I was less well than before and no longer able to attend school.

Attempts were made at that time to establish whether my condition was hereditary. It seemed not to be, as none of my known family members had congenital heart disease (CHD). However, almost every generation of my family suffered infant and child death. The first son of my father's mother **Annie Ellen Stringer née Garrod** (1874-1962), **James Stringer**, died within a year, and my 2x great-grandmother **Hannah Barrell** (1811-1876) is buried in the churchyard at Wickham Skeith with three of her infant children. The birth and death of a baby in those times was a family affair. It is unlikely that many benefitted from a doctor's diagnosis.

In the USA in 1944, **Dr Helen Taussig**, a paediatric cardiologist and head of the paediatric department at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, had had an idea. Could the level of oxygen in the blood be increased if one of the large arteries serving the right arm was redirected back towards the lungs, bypassing restrictions in the pulmonary artery? Dr Taussig, her senior paediatric surgeon **Dr Alfred Blalock** and their technical advisor **Vivien Thomas** developed this idea into a surgical procedure. In 1947 Dr Blalock, guided by Vivien Thomas, began to operate on their young patients. Amazingly, it worked! To quote Professor Somerville again: *'Blue children became pink'*.



Helen Brooke Taussig, MD (1898-1986). Image courtesy of Wikipedia

Dr Taussig's understanding of the heart's 'plumbing' and her insight and imagination led to the first real breakthrough in the treatment of CHD.

After the war Guy's Hospital, generously funded by London's Worshipful Company of Clothworkers, established an exchange programme with the Johns Hopkins hospital. The first person invited to London as part of this programme was Dr Blalock. He spent a month at Guy's in 1948, demonstrating and teaching this new procedure. It was named 'the Blalock-Thomas-Taussig shunt', but became known simply as 'the Blalock'.



Alfred Blalock, MD, FACS (1899-1964). Image courtesy of the Archives of the American College of Surgeons



Sir Thomas Holmes Sellors (1899-1964). Image courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery

Mr Holmes Sellors operated on me again in the spring of 1955 – this time using the Blalock. Visiting me in hospital the day before the operation, my father said *'After this you will be able to run around like other children'* and this was indeed the case. The Blalock enabled me to lead a more or less normal life. In 1978, at the Middlesex Hospital again, surgeon **Marvin Sturridge**, assisted by the heart/lung machine, repaired my heart.

Professor Somerville, inspired by Dr Blalock's lectures, made congenital heart disease her life's work. Although surgery was increasing the survival rate of the children, a great many were left with complex abnormalities in their hearts requiring specialist treatment and management. But there were no specialists. Professor Somerville resolved to remedy this situation. In 1975, with funding from a private donor, she set up the world's first specialist unit – the Grown-Up Congenital Heart (GUCH) clinic at the National Heart Hospital in London – and set about training physicians in this new specialty.



Professor Jane Somerville in 2019. Image courtesy Whispyhistory via Wikimedia Commons CC BY-SA 4.0.

In 1980 Professor Somerville convened the first World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology, bringing to London leading paediatricians, cardiologists and surgeons from every continent, to share their ideas and experience and to learn from one another. Now called The World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery, it meets every four years in cities around the world. Professor Somerville has travelled extensively, raising awareness, giving lectures and training physicians.

Realising that many GUCH patients needed more than just medical support, in 1993 she founded the GUCH Patients' Association. Now called The Somerville Heart Foundation, it provides on-line forums, on-line and in-person seminars, practical advice and emotional support for CHD patients and their families.

Although I am indebted to a great many people, without these three – Major Harken, Dr Taussig and Professor Somerville – I and countless others born with malformed hearts would not be alive and thriving today.

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The author then and now

Notes

The individuals mentioned in this article are:

Professor Jane Somerville (1933-), Emeritus Professor of Cardiology at Imperial College, London

Dwight Emary Harken (1910-1993)

Helen Brooke Taussig (1898-1986)

Vivien Theodore Thomas (1910-1985)

Alfred Blalock (1899-1964)

Maurice Campbell (1891-1973)

Lord Russell Claude Brock (1903-1980)

Thomas Bevill Peacock (1812-1882)

Sir Thomas Holmes Sellors (1902-1987)

Walter Somerville (1913-2005)

Marvin Francis Sturridge (1926-2017)

For further reading, see:

Professor Tom Treasure, *The Heart Club – A History of London's Heart Surgery Pioneers* (Clink Street Publishing, London, 2017), ISBN: 9781911525844

Somerville Heart Foundation at *https://sfhearts.org.uk*

Desert Island Discs with Jane Somerville, available on BBC Sounds.

FEEDBACK FROM MARCH'S *SUFFOLK ROOTS*

Richardsons and Perrys

In response to the Photos Appeal, member **Walter Perry** provided the following information about **Charles Richardson**, his wife **Charlotte (née Beaton)** and their daughters **Matilda** and **Elizabeth (Betsy)**:

> *'Matilda died of breast cancer the year before I was born in 1933, but I can recall my grandfather **Walter Perry** who married Matilda in 1890. Walter died in 1943 when I was a 9-year-old child, and I remember him very well. Charles and his wife Charlotte had a very large family – 14 children, Matilda and Elizabeth being the youngest two. Charles b.1826 was a coal carrier from the river barge that came to Sudbury for the three years before the railway replaced it in 1849. He thence took coal on to Clare and Poslingford from the railway station. In 1863 the railway was extended on to Cambridge via Clare. His coal delivery was then in competition with more coal carriers, so in the 1860s he left the coal trade and bought a pork butcher's shop in Bridewell Street, Clare, from a **Mr Jarvis**. My grandmother, as a young girl, had employment with her father and older brother **John**. Her father died in 1894 and John in 1904.*

Afterwards Matilda ran the business. She employed a butcher to slaughter the pigs for her. She was very business-like, and well liked as well.

They were an extremely active family in the public house trade in Cavendish, Clare, Ballingdon, a hamlet of Sudbury, and one in Cambridge. I knew as a child some of my grand-uncles. The pub trade spread over to the Perry family as I was born in my father's pub, the Millers Arms, at Clare. I have found two Perrys and nine Richardsons in the brewing and beer selling trade. There was another active part in the Richardson family that prospered in the purchase and renting of houses they had bought. These were the direct descendants of Charles Richardson b.1826 – I have printed a small booklet on his work and life, in which he set a good standard of lifestyle for the families that followed him.'

'Unknown Spurlings' identified



Also from the Photos Appeal, **Brian Spurling** reported that the 'unknown Spurlings' have been identified as, left to right, **Florence Cook (née Dale)**, **William Arthur Spurling**, and **Bertha Nixon (née Dale)**. They are stepbrother and sisters. Another member, **Maurice Morton**, added his memory that the Spurlings ran a general store on the Bramford Road in Ipswich, just past the Bramford Road school (c.1965-1975), which was open all hours, and Mr Spurling used to ask, after every purchase and quite deadpan: *'Is there anything else?'*!

Catalpa House

Again, in response to the Photos Appeal, **Sheila Herring** sent in the following information about the location of Catalpa House in Needham Market:

'This used to stand on the Co-op site in King William Street, presumably demolished to build the Co-op, it is believed to be named after the Catalpa tree that was in the garden.'

Plague in Suffolk

In response to the article *Plague in Suffolk in the 20th Century*, member **John Rainer** sent the following:

'There is a write-up of the outbreak in a long out of print book (details below). I don't think it adds much to the Royal Society of Medicine article, but the book's other stories

of medical incidents are equally fascinating. The two listed below are actually for the same book whose title was changed for the paperback version:

https://www.abebooks.co.uk/MEDICAL-MYSTERIES-Thirteen-stories-detective-work/438868894/bd

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Disease-Twelve-Stories-Detective-Medical/dp/0140059954

The following link describes the former Elm St Clinic (Elliston House) in Ipswich, which was commissioned as a 'purpose built clinic and offices' by ***Arthur Pringle****, Ipswich Medical Officer of Health (MOH) from 1906 (and named after his predecessor – the first Ipswich MOH,* ***George Sampson Elliston****). The clinic was finished by the end of WWI, and the offices were still used by the MOH into the 1980s.*

https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/ipswich-icons-we-owe-a-debt-to-diligence-of-doctor-2803896

The samples sent for diagnosis in 1910 would have gone to the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital (in Anglesea Rd), where the MOH was previously based. It was Dr Pringle who made a lab available for the examination of rats for plague in 1911, during the Suffolk plague outbreak.

In the 1980s, when the book was published, I was an Environmental Health Officer (and former microbiologist) at Ipswich Borough Council and the area's Medical Officer of Health, ***Dr Bush****, told me that the rat cull had been a problem as there was a bounty system and rat catchers were claiming for ones that were probably caught from all across the area!'*

Folkard connections

Sheralynn Poster emailed a follow-up to her article *'Black death or Spanish Flu?'* to say that she had been delighted to hear from **Barry Scrutton**, who was able to send her a photo of the original rental agreement entered into by her great-grandfather **William Folkard** in 1915. Sheralynn tells us that Barry, whose family still owns the property on Ravenscroft Road, Canning Town, was a mine of information.

Kitchels

Finally, **Janice Fairfield** emailed: *'Just to let you know that I finally got round to making the kitchels which were in* Suffolk Roots *last year* [December 2021]. *They were indeed highly acceptable – in fact they were quite delicious!'* That's excellent news. We hope for an equally positive response from any member who dared try the Cabbage Pudding or the Lowestoft Dumplings…

Lesley Hall and Rob Ward
Co-Editors, Suffolk Roots

THE MAN WHO (ALMOST) GOT AWAY

Or, how Edgar Dempster escaped from captivity but was recaptured and had to pay the price

Edgar John Dempster was born on 12 August 1890, one of 10 children of **George**, a stockman on a farm, and **Susannah Dempster** of Upper Green in Felsham. He ran away from home at the age of 13 and joined the Suffolk Regiment on 12 May 1908 (regimental number 7702), being posted to the 2nd Battalion. Dempster was clearly a good soldier; he became a 1st Class Signaller and was awarded two Good Conduct badges. In his demobilisation papers his military character was rated as '*Very Good*' and he was described as *'a good man, smart in appearance and clean, intelligent, hard-working and willing, honest and reliable'*.[2] He was resourceful too, as we shall see.



Edgar John Dempster [1]

Dempster went out to France with the Battalion on 14 August 1914 and was taken prisoner at the Battle of Le Cateau on 26 August, along with 528 of his comrades. He was imprisoned initially at Doberitz, a camp some eight miles east of Berlin.[3] He was still there in early 1916, but by February 1918 he was in the camp at Czersk in Poland. He was later moved to Borna in Saxony, 20 miles south-east of Leipzig, where in May 1918 he was working in the nearby lignite mines.[4] It was from there that Dempster determined to make his escape.



Dempster's compass [1]

He obtained a map and compass from a Russian Pole working in the mine as a civilian and, having amassed enough food for a month – rice, chocolate and biscuits – he made his escape at 11pm through a drain. He remained free for three days, moving at night as far as possible. Thirst was his main problem; he even had to resort to licking the dew off corn. He was captured when he asked two men for water: one became suspicious and fetched a policeman who promptly arrested him.

He was returned to Borna where he was subjected to the usual savage punishment meted out to

soldiers who had tried, unsuccessfully, to escape. He was kept in a cell nine-foot square with no natural light for 24 days, sharing it with a Russian prisoner driven half-mad after spending 40 days in solitary confinement. His diet consisted of a pint of 'coffee' (acorns ground in boiling water) and a half pound loaf of black bread a day, with sauerkraut on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

His punishment over, Dempster returned to work in the mine. Later, after injuring his back lifting iron, he was transferred to the camp at Chemnitz (later Karl-Marx-Stadt). Chemnitz was a relatively good camp with accommodation in a recently-built German Artillery barracks. Even so, Dempster, with four French prisoners, broke out and made a quick dash by train for Austria, some 20 miles away. They were apprehended on the border at Reitzenhain and confined for a few days, but punishment was light as the Armistice was imminent.

He was repatriated in December 1918, arriving at Leith on Christmas Day.[5]

Dempster was transferred to the Army Reserve (effectively demobilised) on 25 March 1919. He then seems to have turned his back on Suffolk. On Christmas Day 1919 he married **Ada Dorothy Rhoda Bedford** at St Jude's, Kensal Green, Westminster. His occupation then was described as a horse-keeper on the Great Western Railway at Paddington, a job he was still doing some years later, according to the 1939 Register. After living in various locations in the Greater London area Edgar Dempster died in Hayes on 13 February 1967.

A tail-piece:

In 1920 the Military Medal was awarded to soldiers *'in recognition of gallant conduct and determination displayed in escaping or attempting to escape from captivity'*.[6] Four Suffolk Regiment recipients, who did escape successfully, are listed in the *London Gazette* but inexplicably, and perhaps unfairly, there is no mention of Dempster.

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References and Sources

1. Studio portrait of Dempster and photo of his compass (Suffolk Regiment Museum BSERM 4132.1) published by courtesy of the Museum Trustees.
2. His service papers (damaged by fire and water) are available on the Ancestry website.
3. *Suffolk Regiment Gazette*, January 1916, p.27.
4. The main source of information about Great War POWs – the International Committee of the Red Cross's database (*www.grandeguerre.icrc.org*) – is unhelpful about Dempster, recording only his presence at Doberitz.
5. There is a lengthy account of his exploits, written by himself in 1927, at Suffolk Archives, Bury St Edmunds, GB554/Y1/661.
6. *London Gazette Supplement 31759* (30 January 1920), pp.1229, 1231.

HARRY CHICKALL LOTT MC

Member **Brian Lott** has informed us that he has finished editing the memoirs of his father, **Harry Lott**, and has published these in five volumes under the title *The Colourful Life of an Engineer*.

Although Harry was born at Ashen House, Essex, his roots were in Suffolk. He was a direct descendant of the Lott family of Flatford and his memoirs tell of visits to his grandfather at Wenham Place and also **Willy Lott**'s Cottage in the late 1800s, when it was still owned by the family (this cottage, at Flatford, East Bergholt, features in several paintings by **John Constable**). Harry was also an active early member of the River Stour Trust and during the 1930s campaigned against the extraction of too much water from the Stour by the new pumping stations.

The five volumes of memoirs are: *A Victorian Childhood and College Life in London (1883-1907)*, describing Harry's early years before he left for Canada; *Emigration and the Adventures of a Young Engineer in Canada (1907-1914)*, ending with his return to join the British Army; *The Life of a Pioneer and Engineer on the Western Front (1914-1919)*, covering his wartime service; *Mesopotamia – the Story of an Engineer with the British Army of Occupation (1919-1924)*; and *World Travels and London Life between the Wars (1924-1933)*, dealing with Harry's return to England where he joined Balfour Beatty.

Brian is now working on consolidating all the information he inherited from his father, including Lott family archives and family trees back to the 1600s, parchment wills and the journals of two **John Lott**s of Flatford in the early 1800s. He aims to compile these into a reference book titled *The Story of Willy Lott and the Lott Family of Flatford*, to be published later this year. It will be a mixture of family history and genealogy aimed at all the descendants of the Lotts of Flatford who may be interested in their origins and connections to Willy Lott and John Constable. Brian comments: *'I am very conscious that it I do not do this, none of my children will do so and many years of painstaking research and family history will be lost!'*.

In addition, Brian's family website (*https://lottfamilyuk.com*) states that the Lott family wills and John Lott's journal and farm accounts (1808-1826) are being deposited with Suffolk Archives.

Harry Lott's memoirs can be ordered online from Amazon and from most booksellers. Brian can be contacted at *lottb@imcgroup.co.uk*.

The Editors

BEER, BELLS & BATS

Researching your family tree can get a bit monotonous when all you find are records of baptism, marriage and death. The census returns can provide a bit more, but every so often you come across some little gems of information that really bring your ancestors to life and make it all worthwhile!

Martha Mills, my 4x great-grandmother, was baptised on 7 February 1773 at Redlingfield. **Edmund Chandler**, my 4x great-grandfather, was baptised on 2 February 1770 at Withersdale. They married on 4 October 1796 at Metfield and settled in Fressingfield, where they raised their nine children.

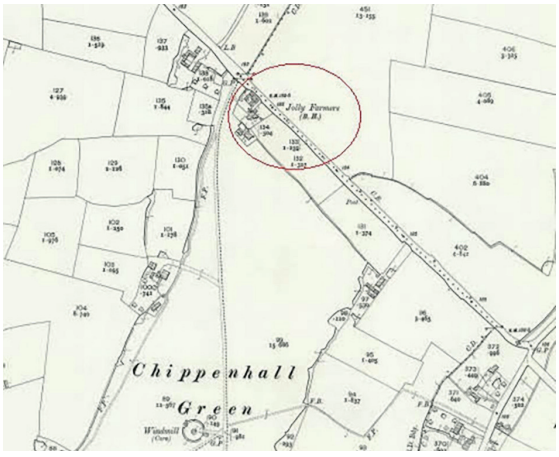
Edmund, a gardener, died in 1834 aged 64. Martha continued to live in Fressingfield until her death in 1861 aged 88. The 1841 census records her living at Chippenhall Green with her daughter Eliza and two grandsons. Martha's occupation was given as *'beer house keeper'*.

From the Fressingfield village archivist and an online search, I have discovered the following about Martha.

Martha Chandler was the tenant of the Jolly Farmers beer house on Mill Green from 1844 to 1850. This was next to the cottage where the family lived after 1850.

The Historic England website records the Old Jolly Farmers as a Grade II listed building at Chippenhall Green, Fressingfield, described as:

> *'Former farmhouse, latterly used as a public house. Late C16. Timber framed and plastered with a pantiled roof. 2 storeys and attic.'*



Map showing the Jolly Farmers. From the National Library of Scotland Georeferenced Maps site, reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland



Mary Ann Chandler (née Aldous). Family archive

In the 1851 and 1861 censuses Martha was living with her son **Edmund Chandler** (my 3x great-grandfather) and his family. Edmund was born on 29 February 1812 at Fressingfield, where he married **Mary Ann Aldous** on 26 February 1835. Mary Ann had been baptised on 12 January 1813 also at Fressingfield, and she and Edmund raised their seven children there. Mary Ann died on 29 March 1881 and was buried at Fressingfield.

This Edmund was a gardener like his father, and also a bell-ringer and cricketer. By all accounts he was a bit of a local celebrity!

The following is from *The Bell News*, Saturday, 22 August 1896:

'Mr Edmund Chandler, of Fressingfield, Suffolk.

The record of Mr Edmund Chandler, of Fressingfield, Suffolk, a hale and hearty old ringer, whose portrait is given with this number, is a remarkable one, as will be seen from the accompanying extract from The East Anglian Times *of Monday, the 3rd inst:-*

"A PRESENT FROM THE QUEEN.

The annual treat which was given to the National School children at Fressingfield, on Friday, was marked by an unusual circumstance. After tea in the vicarage grounds, ***Canon Raven*** *brought out a beautiful portrait of* ***Queen Victoria****, at the foot of which was the following inscription: 'Presented to Edmund Chandler by Queen Victoria in recognition of his having assisted to ring the bells of Fressingfield church on every anniversary of the birth of Her Majesty since the accession. June, 1896.' The cheery and hale recipient of this gracious and kindly present was a little overcome by feeling himself the object of so much attention, but soon recovered his usual spirits. In presenting the Queen's portrait to Edmund Chandler, Canon Raven said that he had communicated the remarkable fact recorded in the inscription to one of his fellow canons, the* ***Rev. F. A. J. Hervey****, rector of Sandringham, and Chaplain to* ***H.R.H. the Prince of Wales****, and that through the kindness of* ***Sir Dighton Probyn*** *and* ***Sir Arthur Bigge****, the facts had been brought under Her Majesty's notice. The assemblage was greatly touched by Her Majesty's condescension, and three ringing cheers were promptly given for the Queen. Two children, three grandchildren, and one great grandchild of the old ringer were present. As he was born on February 29th, 1812, he claims to have only just come of age, having celebrated only twenty-one birthdays."*



Edmund Chandler with the portrait of Queen Victoria presented to him in 1896. Also depicted are his eldest son ***John****, his grandson* ***Geoffrey*** *and his great-grandson* ***Geoffrey Edmund****. Family archive*

It has not fallen to Mr Chandler to share in any glory of 5000 odd changes, the peals in which he rung by some mischance failing of their due end. But he is well-known amongst his fellows as a steady striker, and his presence is always heartily welcome. His father, also named Edmund, was a ringer, and a grandson of the same name has the same taste.

Fressingfield has a musical ring of eight bells, grown out of four in the return of 1553. The present tenor, a mediaeval bell from the Norwich foundry, seems to have been the third of these four, the frame being constructed for a bell larger than the present tenor, about which a letter remains in the ***Tanner*** *MSS in the Bodleian Library. The Rural Deanery of Hoxne, in which Fressingfield lies, though without a market-town or a yard of railway, contains in its twenty-five towers three rings of eight, six rings of six, and as many of five bells.*

Mr Chandler's many friends are naturally much gratified by the gracious recognition accorded by Her Majesty to his humble services. His cottage on Mill Green has received numerous visitors to see the Royal Portrait, and the portrait of himself here given is unanimously pronounced excellent.'

The *Diss Express* of Friday, 4 March 1904 recorded that:

> *'On Monday Mr Edmund Chandler, a veteran bell-ringer of Fressingfield, who completed his 92nd year that day, walked a distance of 2½ miles to his son's residence, where he dined and afterwards walked to the Fox and Goose and rang two courses on the hand-bells.'*



Edmund Chandler. Family archive

Edmund lived next to the Jolly Farmers until his death on 26 May 1904, aged 92. Shortly after his death, the following letter appeared in the *East Anglian Daily Times* of 2 June 1904:

> *'A VETERAN RINGER – AND AN OLD CRICKETER.*
>
> *To the Editor.*
> *Sir, – With your permission, I wish to pay a personal tribute to the memory of Edmund Chandler as a good, all-round, honest cricketer in his day – one of Suffolk's early round arm bowlers. He caught the idea from old* ***Matthews****, of Woodbridge, and the three brothers took it up in earnest. Edmund's enthusiasm experienced encouragement from our champion single wicket batsman,* ***Fuller Pilch****; it is 65 years ago this season since I played my first match at Brundish against his team – the only revolutionary one I ever played in. This new form of bowling was very much opposed – first it was permitted by keeping the hand below the elbow, then the shoulder; in this match our umpire frequently "no-balled" Edmund and his brothers. Angry disputes led to blows and suspension of the game; wickets and bats were soon used for a totally different purpose in such a lively manner that bruised and wounded parted company and left for home in a shocking warlike spirit. The brothers shortly afterwards transferred their skill to Earl Soham, which soon became a leading club in the county. I look back with many pleasing memories to this garden village and the old tavern. I can never forget the genial old Rector in the chair at evening cricket teas – how feelingly, with his gentle, pathetic power of song, he trolled out the beautiful words of "Tom Bowling" – a better sermon he never preached, a better one I never heard. The brothers, too, in unnamed hours, blending their voices in harmony to the stirring glee, "Hail, smiling morn," with the sun peeping through the ornamental shutter openings; or the Church, on the bells of which Edmund rang in all the birthday peals of our late Queen. In the palmy days of farming, his parish duties, social pleasures, every kind of country sport, received his backbone loyalty. Poor old Edmund ("Colonel", as we used to call him), his innings has been a long one. May his score, when reckoned up, receive its coveted reward! – l am, etc.,*
>
> ***THOMAS STOPHER.***
> *Elm Street, Ipswich, May 31st, 1904.'*

The newspaper stories and this letter really bring Edmund to life, and if I could go back in time to meet any of my ancestors, it would be him!

Julie Chandler Mb 12254
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THE HAMBLING FAMILY

Snape origins

The Hambling family lived in Snape and the surrounding area. **Robert Hambling**, born in 1705, married **Catherine Alabaster**, born in Saxmundham in 1715. Their wedding took place in Snape four days after Easter Sunday, on Thursday 14 April 1735. Catherine was the daughter of **William** and **Hannah (née Dawes)** and was one of 11 children. Tragically seven of them died when very young.

Catherine and Robert's first child, **Sarah**, was born the following year and they went on to have six more children. **Robert** (b.1739) and **Elizabeth** (b.1741) both died in infancy. Another son, born in 1742, also named **Robert**, died aged 18. He was followed by **William** (b.1746), **John** (b.1750) and **James** (b.1760).

John Hambling married **Sarah Pallant** and their son **John** was born in Snape in 1788. Their memorial at St John the Baptist, Snape, includes John (d.1802) and Sarah (née Pallant, d.1804), John's mother Catherine (née Alabaster, d.1810) and son John (d.1819).



St John the Baptist, Snape, by Evelyn Simak, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons

William Hambling married **Sarah Cotton**, daughter of **Ralph** and **Elizabeth (née Spink)**, on 4 January 1770. The marriage took place in Easton, Sarah's home town. Their first child was a daughter, **Sarah** (b.1770), followed by **William** (b.1772) and **Elizabeth** (b.1775). Another son, **John**, was born in 1778 but died in infancy. His namesake was born in 1780, followed by **Robert** (b.1783), **Frances** (b.1784 and died in infancy), **Herbert** (b.1785), **James** (b.1788), **Cotton** (b.1790) and **George** (b.1791). **Hannah** (b.1793) completed the family.

John and Sarah's son **John** (b.1788), married local girl **Mary Kent** on 17 October 1811. Their son, also **John**, born in 1813, became a farmer, like so many of his family. In 1837 he married **Isabella Charlotte Fenton**, daughter of **William** and **Charlotte (née Garrod)**. John and Charlotte had 12 children, four daughters and eight sons. Their son **Thomas Pallant Hambling**, named after John's grandmother, Sarah Pallant, was born in January 1851. He married a Canadian girl, **Emilie Frecker**, and they set up home in Nova Scotia with their two children **Eva** and **John**. Three more children were born in Canada, **Charles**, **Emily** and **Florence**.

John Hambling, husband of Mary Kent, died in 1819. In 1821 Mary married her late husband John's cousin **Herbert Hambling**, son of William and Sarah (née Cotton). The 1841 census shows Herbert at Church Farm in Snape, living with Mary, his wife,

sons **William Cotton** and **George Herbert Hambling**, and his unmarried siblings Robert, James and Hannah. Herbert died in 1849. His son William married **Jane Hammond** and they had two sons, **Herbert Robert** and **William Herbert Cotton Hambling**. By 1881 William was a farmer of 400 acres in Friston, employing 11 men and three boys. William's brother George was also living with the family, as were Jane's sisters **Dorothy** and **Audrey Hammond**.

In 1826 William and Sarah's son Cotton, born in Snape in 1790, married local girl **Amelia Fenton Garrod** (b.1796). They set up home in Rendham, where they farmed 111 acres and brought up their family of eight children. Their eldest son, **Herbert Cotton Hambling** (known as Cotton) (b.1828) joined the Merchant Navy in 1845. He received his Master's Certificate in 1854. In 1857 he married **Marion Macaulay** and they had three children. By 1861 Herbert Cotton had risen to the position of Chief Officer. Sadly, his two-year-old daughter **Marion** died the following year and his wife passed away in 1865. In 1875 he married **Joanna Barnes** and retired to Aldeburgh.

Cotton and Amelia Hambling had a younger son, also baptised as **Herbert** (b.1837). Herbert moved to London and was employed as a messenger first in the Treasury and subsequently in the House of Commons. He married **Martha Shiner** and they set up home in Surrey where they brought up 10 children. After his father's death, Herbert's mother, Amelia, lived with them during her final years before she passed away in 1872. Herbert and Martha's son **Walter** (b.1871) followed a similar path to his father, becoming a clerk in the Board of Trade. Their eldest son, **Herbert Montague Hambling** (b.1868), joined the Navy at Avonmouth and became Paymaster Commander, eventually working in the Merchant Marine Office at the Board of Trade.

William Hambling and the Dunstable connection

Cotton and Amelia also had a middle son, **William James Hambling**, born in Snape in 1831. He married in 1853 when he was 21 and his bride, **Elizabeth Woodruff Adams**, was still a minor. They both became school teachers, setting up home in Islington where their daughter **Elizabeth Mary** and son **William John Cotton** were born. Sadly, baby William died in infancy.

In 1856 William and his family moved to Dunstable, Bedfordshire, where he took up the post of Master of Chew's School in High Street South, a position he was to hold for 42 years until his death in 1898. William and Elizabeth went on to have six more children, four sons and two daughters. Their daughter **Charlotte Amelia** also died in infancy.

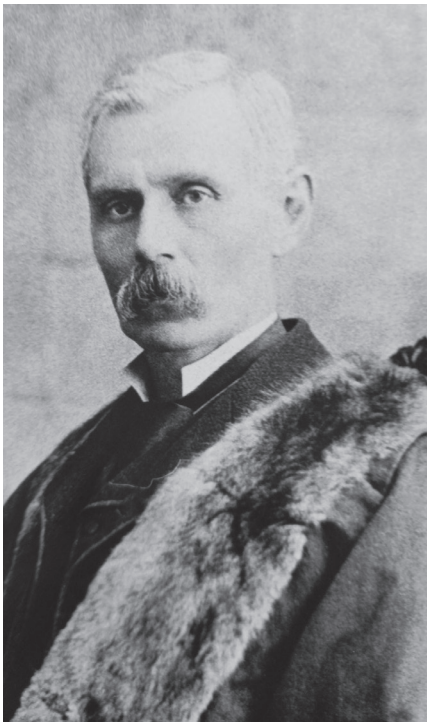
In 1859 William joined the 3rd Volunteer Brigade, Bedfordshire Regiment, as a Private. He was promoted through the ranks until he reached the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1895. During this time, he campaigned for a government rifle range in Dunstable.

William was a prominent member of Dunstable's Priory Church, serving as churchwarden for several years and helping raise funds for church restoration.

He also played an active part in civic affairs, serving as Mayor of Dunstable for a total of five years. In addition, he was elected as an alderman and was appointed as a magistrate. William's interest in local affairs included such matters as the extension of Dunstable's boundaries and the proper disposal of its waste, and he campaigned over the site of the town's projected sewage system.

Sadly, William's wife Elizabeth died in 1867, four months after the birth of their son **John Cotton Hambling**. William's sister, **Charlotte Amelia**, was living with the family and she remained with them until her marriage to **Charles Wilson** in 1880.

William Hambling was a keen gardener and propagated a variety of cooking apple which was named after him. The Hambling apple was registered in 1894. A Hambling apple tree has been planted in the garden behind Chew's House and others are in public places elsewhere in Dunstable.



William James Hambling, Mayor of Dunstable, 1890 (by permission of Dunstable Town Council)



Chew's House, Dunstable. Author's own



Hambling apple tree at Chew's House, Dunstable. Author's own

After working in his garden on the evening of 25 September 1898, William was taken ill and passed away that night. A very imposing funeral was arranged as he was respected by the whole town. The flags at Priory Church and the Unionist Club were flown at half-mast, and shops were closed with the blinds drawn. The Mayor, **F. T. Garrett**, led the tributes. **Rev. Canon J. H. Macauley** said of William Hambling that he was a *'faithful schoolmaster, soldier, citizen and reliable public man'*. William was buried in Dunstable Cemetery.

Sir Herbert Hambling of Yoxford

William and Elizabeth's son, **Henry Herbert Hambling** (known as Herbert), was born in Dunstable in 1857. He married local girl **Thirza Twigg** in 1882 and they had two sons, **Herbert Guy Musgrave**, who served in the Canadian Infantry in World War I, and **William Claude**. Thirza died in 1891 and Herbert married again in 1893 to **Isabella Brown**. Herbert was a bank manager and became deputy chairman of Barclays Bank. During World War I he was a financial member of the Ministry of Munitions. In 1917 he was knighted for his services to Barclays Bank.

At the beginning of World War I, Herbert bought Rookery Park in Yoxford, Suffolk. The estate is still owned by his descendants.



Sir Herbert Hambling, 1st Bt (by permission of the National Portrait Gallery)

In the early 1920s, British air services were struggling to compete with subsidised European airlines. In January 1923 the Civil Air Transport Subsidies Committee was established under Sir Herbert Hambling. The government followed the Committee's advice that small airlines should merge and in March 1924 Imperial Airways was incorporated (which, after another merger, became BOAC). Herbert was awarded a baronetcy for his work on the development of civil aviation, becoming the first Hambling Baronet, of Yoxford. He was also made a Freeman of the town of Dunstable in 1924. Herbert died in 1932 and his son succeeded to the baronetcy as Sir Herbert Guy Musgrave Hambling.

The younger Hamblings

William and Elizabeth's middle son, **Robert William Woodruff Hambling**, was born in Dunstable in 1859. He married **Fanny Button** in 1890 and in 1906 Robert, Fanny and their five children, **Edith**, **Robert**, **Nora**, **William** and **Eric**, emigrated to the Edmonton region of Alberta, Canada. They settled in the area of Lac La Nonne and built their own home as part of a settlement of five farms. When it was

decided the settlement should have a name, each family wrote down the name of where they had come from in England. It was Robert who suggested that the new settlement's name should be Dunstable, and this name was the one pulled out of the hat. Fanny died just eight years after the family settled in Canada. Robert passed away in 1930. All that now remains of Dunstable, Alberta is the school, originally built in 1916 and replaced in 1953.

Robert's younger brother **William David Hambling**, born in 1862, married **Beatrice Ida Montagu Collings** in 1897 and they had two children, **Lillian Beatrice** and **William Gilbert**. They too emigrated to Canada in 1906, settling at Lac La Nonne before eventually moving to Vancouver, British Columbia. William David died in 1936 and Beatrice in 1945.



Robert William Woodruff Hambling and family (by permission of Debbie MacNutt)

William and Elizabeth's youngest daughter, **Catharine Isabella Hambling**, born in 1864, married **Charles Louis Toyne**, a ship broker from Jersey, and they settled in Cornwall where their children, **Katherine Mary**, **John Louis** and **William Eminson**, were born.

The youngest of William and Elizabeth's children, **John Cotton Hambling**, was born in 1867. He married local girl **Mary Jane Bowden** in 1891 and the couple stayed in Dunstable, where their two daughters, **Alice** and **Norah**, were born. Sadly, Alice died at only a few weeks old in 1890. John and daughter Norah both passed away in the winter of 1892, Norah again being only a few weeks old and John aged just 25. He was buried in Dunstable Cemetery.

Hambling Place in Dunstable's Beecroft Estate was named after this prominent local family.

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*Editors' note: We are grateful to member **Ann Sparrow**, originally from Ipswich, for bringing Elisabeth's article to our attention and to Elisabeth for permitting us to publish it. Elisabeth is a local historian who has researched the Hamblings for a book entitled* 'They Came to the Crossroads', *which tells the stories of people who came to Dunstable from afar and made a difference to the town. Ann is a Trustee of Chew's House and a member of the group Dunstable In Bloom, which planted the Hambling apple tree in the garden of the house.*

YOU ARE NOT INVITED TO THE FUNERAL

Introduction

Towards the end of his life, my 3x great-grandfather, **Edward Howchin (Houchin) Dykes**, was strongly advised in a letter written on behalf of his brother **Philip**'s widow, not to attend his brother's funeral. This 'advice' was accompanied by an unveiled threat to his family's welfare should he decide to ignore it.[1] The letter is part of a large and extensive collection of documents relating to the Dykes family in the Ipswich Archives, and I have included an account of how I tracked it down at the end of this article. This article focuses on Edward and Philip and offers some suggestions, based on the evidence, as to why Edward was discouraged from attending Philip's funeral. Further context to this family is provided by two articles previously published in *Suffolk Roots* and the descendant chart below (Figure 1).[2]

The family

Philip and Edward's father was **Philip Dykes**, who was probably born in Bury St Edmunds c.1710. His father died when he was about 11 years old and the very earliest record, other than will references, shows that he was apprenticed to **Thomas Smith**, a shopkeeper, by his widowed mother in 1723. In 1747, Philip inherited from his uncle the title of Lord of the Manor of Roydon with Tufts in Norfolk.

This windfall probably paved the way for Philip's marriage, at the age of 42, to **Ann Howchin** in Sibton, Suffolk in 1750. Ann had her own properties and means which she had inherited from her father, **William**. Her father had also died while she was young and is buried in St Peter & St Paul's in Eye under the Howchin coat of arms, along with his wife **Abigail**, Philip, Ann and several other relatives. Philip and Ann's first son, Philip, was born on 15 May 1752 and baptised on 26 June 1752 in Royston, Hertfordshire. Edward Howchin was baptised on 12 March 1754, also in Royston. His age at the time of his death suggests that 1754 could also have been his birth year. As far as can be determined, the couple had no other children.

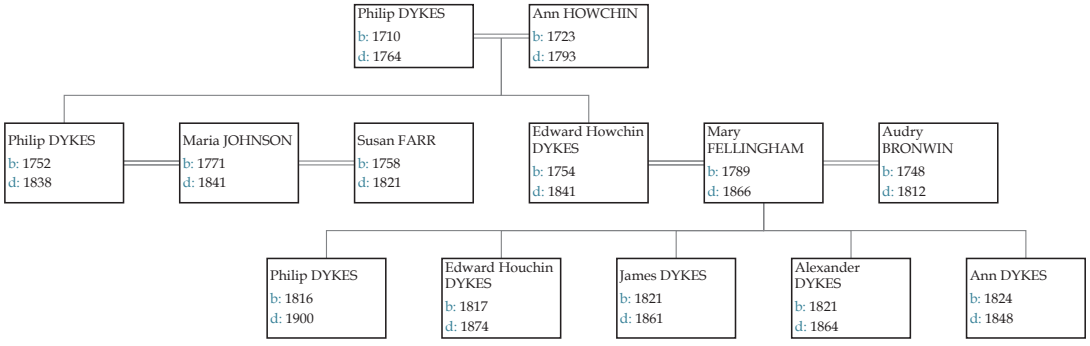


Figure 1: Descendant chart for Philip Dykes (c.1710-1764)

The family was still living in Royston in 1758 when Philip was listed as a *'gentleman'*.[3] A newspaper advertisement[4] suggests that he probably left Royston in 1760, but it

also indicates that Philip was retiring and that his occupation had involved clothing and the drinks trade.

'To be LETT or SOLD,
At Royston in the County of Hertford, a large Market Town,
38 Miles from London, on the North Road,
A Very good Brick House, sash'd, with two
Parlours wainscotted and Marble Chimney-Pieces, a very
good Kitchen, Brewhouse, Wash-House, and Servants Hall; with a
very large good-accustomed Shop in the Woollen and Linnen-Dra-
pery, Haberdasher, and wholesale Rum and Brandy Trade, where
there has been a considerable Estate acquired; good Cellaring, a
large Coach-House and stall'd Stable, a large Barn, Garden, and Close
of Land that leads on to Odfey Heath, without going through any
Part of the Town. This House, & c. would suit a Gentleman's Fa-
mily, as it is in the finest Part of the Country, and a remarkable fine
Sporting Country; Land may be had if required. The present
Tenant has a very good Assortment of Goods in the Trade, which
he will dispose of very cheap, as he is retiring from Business.
Enquire of Mr Philip Dykes, in Royston.'

Given the nature of his apprenticeship, it is perhaps not too much of an assumption to conclude that Philip was probably the tenant mentioned in the advertisement.

Philip died in 1764 and was recorded as *'Philip Dykes of Eye'* in his will. Among other legacies, he left several properties, including *'all my Manor or Lordship of Roydon Hall with Tufts in Roydon in the … County of Norfolk'*, to his eldest son and £1000 to Edward. The two boys' inheritances were to be administered by the executors of their father's estate until they reached the age of 21. Although their father expected them to be trained in a suitable trade or profession, it is not known what type of education they received.

In 1793, their mother died in Eye. Ann bequeathed to Edward her entire estate, which included freehold and copyhold land in Hoxne and South Elmham, her household effects and all her diamond rings and earrings. Her eldest son was, by this time, well established in Beccles and was not mentioned in her will.

It is clear from this outline that Philip and Edward, notwithstanding the loss of their father when they were about 12 and 10 respectively, enjoyed a comfortable upbringing. In the course of time both of them married but, so far as can be determined, no children were born to either couple. In a surprising turn of events, both men produced offspring in their early sixties although, in both cases, it was in circumstances that would have raised the eyebrows of their Quaker and Established Church ancestors and relations.

Philip in Beccles and Ellingham

It is probable that Philip continued to live in the Eye area at least until his marriage to **Susan Farr** in 1779. She came from a family of means from North Cove, some of whom were or had been attorneys. Her brother, **John Farr**, was a Deputy Lieutenant of Suffolk and a magistrate. The couple eventually settled in the Balleygate area of Beccles and subsequently bought a property there in 1785. Philip is reputed to have had a house build on the site which still stands today.



The Rectory: Philip Dykes' residence in Beccles

Susan's diaries, of which there are volumes in the Beccles and District Museum and the Ipswich Archives, show that the early days of their marriage were filled with social engagements. The couple regularly attended or hosted teas and dinners for large groups, as well as entertaining individuals and couples. There are also entries recording that they had been *'a coursing'* or that Mr Dykes had been *'a hunting'*. Susan also recorded their visits to various towns in the border region of Suffolk and Norfolk. They often travelled to these destinations on horseback; sometimes it is implied that they travelled by carriage.

The diaries show that as the couple got older, visiting and dining continued to be high on their list of social activities, but riding and hunting were not mentioned as much and seem to have been replaced by playing cards for money. There is no evidence that Philip and Susan had children and none are mentioned in either of their wills.

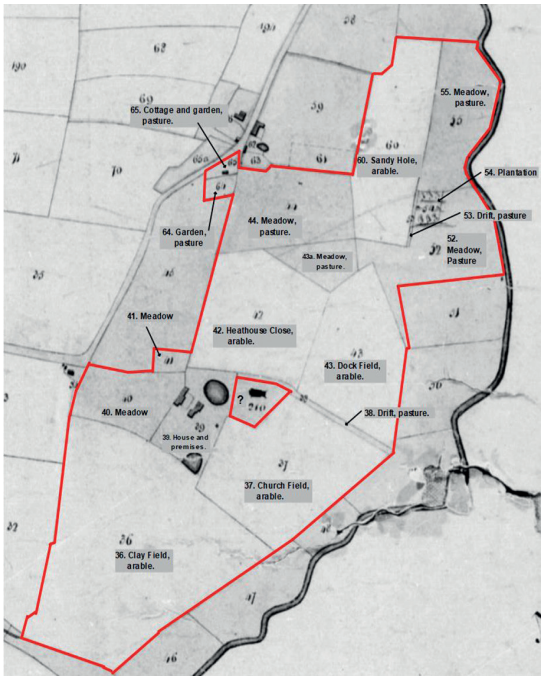
Then, in 1814, Philip was recorded in the Bastardy Order Book. An order was made to P. Dykes, Esq of Beccles for an amount of 1s 6d to be paid to **Susan White** of Beccles. By implication, Susan was either a servant in the Dykes household or related to a servant called **Mary White**, who had left the Dykes' employment just before the order was granted. The incident was recorded in Susan Dykes' diary without the addition of a personal comment. On 15 February, she recorded that *'Payment of three shillings per week to Susan White commenced this day. She went before **Mr Sparrow** and my brother John Farr (magistrates) at Worlingham this morning.'*[5] This was no doubt a scandal, but it does not appear to have hampered Philip socially. There is no definitive record of what happened to the child born from this liaison.

Soon after Susan's death in 1821, Philip married **Maria Smith**, a widow who had previously been married to **Henry Smith** of Drapers' Hall, a solicitor to the East India Company and former MP for Calne in Wiltshire.[6] Philip left Beccles and took up residence in Maria's familial home at Ellingham Hall, Norfolk. Maria's father,

the **Reverend William Johnson**, had bought the property in 1807 after returning from India, where he has been credited with being the driving force behind the building of St John's (the Calcutta Cathedral) – the first cathedral to be built in India.[7] It was on Maria's behalf that the threatening funeral letter was written to Edward.

Philip died in 1838 and his will instructed his executors **Thomas Sheriffe** and **Richard Bohun** to sell his properties and invest the proceeds. The fruit of these investments was to go towards the education and upbringing of the children of his brother Edward. He also allowed his brother and his wife to occupy his property at Braiseworth, called Church House Farm, until their deaths or until they opted to leave the property of their own accord.

The small area outlined in red, in the middle of the farm on the tithe map, is the location of the old St Mary's Church.



A section of the Braiseworth tithe map showing Church Farm outlined in red.[8] *© Crown Copyright Images reproduced by courtesy of TNA*



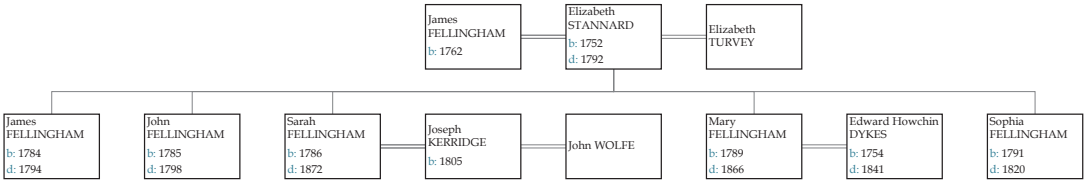
Remains of the Grade 2 listed, old St Mary's Church[9]
(by permission of Simon Knott at http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk/)

Edward Howchin in Hoxne and Eye

Edward married **Audry Bronwin** in 1789. Audry's parents were **John** and **Audry Bronwin** and she was baptised on 15 January 1752 at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. She also appears to have come from a well-off family. There is no record of any children being born to the couple. There were no claimants to Edward's estate other than his second wife and her children. Audry died on 12 September 1812 aged 64, according to her gravestone, and was buried on 8 October 1812, in St Peter & St Paul's Church in Eye. She left £300 to Edward and £300 to some of her other relatives.

Newspaper records show that Edward was involved in a number of gentlemanly activities and had a public presence. For example, he was elected an alderman of the borough of Eye in 1780 and was one of the stewards of the Subscription Assembly.[10] He was a member of the *'Hoxne Association for the Prosecution of felons…'*. Along with his brother, he was frequently listed as a recipient of a hunting licence.[11] He applied for and was admitted to the Freedom of the City of London 'by redemption' through the Company of Musicians.[12]

Four years after Audrey's death, Edward married **Mary Fellingham**. She was the daughter of **James** and **Elizabeth Fellingham** and was christened in Wortham on 25 January 1789. The couple were married by licence on 8 January 1816 in Eye.



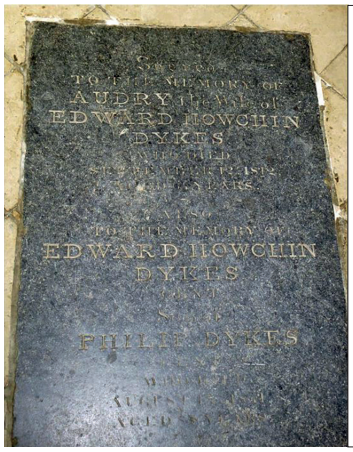
Descendant Chart for James Fellingham

Given the date of their first child's baptism, 18 March 1816, Mary would have been heavily pregnant at the time of the wedding (the child's obituary claims his birth date was 13 March 1816). There was also a substantial age difference, Edward and Mary being about 62 and 28 respectively.

Although it is not known how or when this relationship started, one possibility is that Mary was a servant in Edward and Audry's household and that, after Audry's death, a relationship developed. This is the most likely scenario, since the records suggest that Mary had been born into poverty. Mary was about four years old when her mother died and she was listed as a pauper in the burial record. Three of Mary's siblings suffered early deaths and two of her siblings had the word *'pauper'* inserted into their baptism records, all of which points to her coming from deprived origins. Therefore, it is extremely unlikely that Edward and Mary were moving in the same social circles.

Edward and Mary went on to have four more children, the last of whom was born c.1824 in the same year that Edward turned 70. When he died in 1841, his cause of death was simply given as *'old age'*. He was buried in St Peter & St Paul's Church, Eye in the same grave as his first wife, Audry.

Mary continued to live on the Braiseworth farm until 1861. At this juncture, she sent a letter to her brother-in-law's executors, explaining that she would be leaving the farm later that year.[13] She was required to inform the executors of her departure, so that they could sell the farm in fulfilment of the terms of Philip's will. It is clear from the letter that she was finding the lack of social interaction challenging. For some time after Edward's death, her second son, **Edward**, had assisted Mary on the farm. However, the 1861 census shows that by then Mary was living alone with a servant, while her son, although still resident in Braiseworth, had his own farm. Mary moved to Ipswich and died there in 1866. She was buried in the Old Ipswich Cemetery. The weathered remains of her headstone still stand, with its inscription corroded away.



Sacred
TO THE MEMORY OF
AUDRY the wife of
EDWARD HOWCHIN
DYKES
WHO DIED
12 Sept 1812
Aged 64 Years

ALSO
TO THE MEMORY OF
EDWARD HOWCHIN
DYKES
GENT.
Son of
PHILIP DYKES
GENT.
WHO DIED
AUGUST 1841
AGED 87 YEARS.

Edward and Audry Dykes' grave in St Peter & St Paul's, Eye



The remains of Mary Dykes' headstone in the Ipswich Cemetery

So far, searches for communication between Philip and Edward in the **Royle James Bird** papers, have revealed only a few scribbled notes written on receipts from Edward to Philip's lawyer. In one note, he sent greetings to his *'friends'* and expressed a wish to see his brother *'soon'*.[14] On another occasion, he asked after his brother and *'my friends'*.[15] A study of a few years of Susan Dykes' diaries identified only one instance of social contact and that was when Edward visited Philip's house in Beccles.[16] This suggests that they may not have had an especially close relationship. Although Philip left his material wealth to his brother's family, his very lengthy will is devoid of any expression of warmth or affection for his brother or his family. Of course, Philip may just have been very business-like by nature; and there are more records to go through when time permits that may alter the picture. However, it must be conceded that, at this point, there is no record that gives a conclusive picture of the closeness, or otherwise, of their relationship.

Why was Edward advised not to attend his brother's funeral?

Although no reason for this snub was given in the letter, there are some possibilities. The most obvious of these was Edward's marriage to Mary. It is very likely that this would have been a socially unacceptable match. Perhaps Edward could have maintained his social status by not marrying her and by sending her on her way with weekly contributions, for the upkeep of the child; as his brother had done with Susan White. Instead, he chose to marry her and then had four more children with her.

A second reason may have been financial. There are explicit and implicit hints in the newspapers that Edward was a farmer for much of his life. However, one of the entries suggests that he may have suffered some financial hardship in the 1830s and that he had had to sell a large number of farming implements and stock, by auction under the sheriff's direction.[17] There is no indication of whether this was due to any incompetence on Edward's part or whether it was simply a result of the vicissitudes of farming. Being a father to five young children, at a time when he might have been retired, could not have been easy and he may not have been fully up to the challenge.

A third possibility has emerged from a legal case relating to who should pay for the repairs to some outbuildings on the Braiseworth farm. In the communication, Edward was described as a *'somewhat infirm and eccentric man'*.[18] It is possible therefore that there was concern that if Edward were to attend the funeral his behaviour might cause embarrassment.

Of course, there may be other reasons that have not been documented, but any of those presented above, or a combination thereof, are plausible reasons for the writing of the letter.

As one of Edward's descendants, I am grateful that he took responsibility for his relationship with Mary, despite the real threat of isolation from his social class. I'm sure that in this respect I speak for all of his descendants, of whom there are a significant number of living representatives in the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia, Canada and the United States.

A brief account of my search for records relating to Philip Dykes (1752-1838)

Sometimes, following the evidence can lead us into fertile genealogical ground. One of the most significant instances of this happening to me was while I was researching my 4x great-granduncle, Philip Dykes. After his death, his properties were advertised for auction in several newspapers. From the advertisements, it was clear that he was possessed of a significant property portfolio and I was keen to know its precise location and how much it was sold for.

The last sentence in the same newspaper advertisements provided a valuable lead in this enquiry: *'Further particulars with conditions of Sale may be had of the Auctioneer, or*

of Messrs. Bohun and Rix, Solicitors, Beccles…'.[19] A Google search led to the discovery that the records of this legal firm had been accessioned to the Lowestoft Archives as part of the Royle James Bird collection.[20] Communication with the archive staff confirmed that there was a large repository of documents relating to Philip Dykes, which could provide answers to some of my questions.[21] This process began early in 2019 but by the time I was able to visit Lowestoft, the country was thrown into Covid lockdown and the collection was in the process of being moved to The Hold in Ipswich. My long-postponed visit to Ipswich took place in September 2021.

Although the collection contains what some may call 'dry' legal documentation and accounts, so far it has been an invaluable resource for answering my research questions. There are drawings showing the precise locations of most of the properties, which also list the tenants and the properties they occupied. There are also records for most of the auctions that were held, how much the properties were sold for and the purchasers' names. The properties ranged from larger farms, like the Darrow and Hall farms in Norfolk, to much smaller town plots located mainly in the Balleygate in Beccles.

In addition, the collection has thrown up a few unexpected surprises. I have already mentioned the information to be found in Susan Dykes' diaries. So far, I have found few personal comments in the volumes but they do faithfully record the couple's social circle and their social activities. In addition, the collection includes Susan Dykes' recipe book, dated 1775. This contains a large range of recipes for meat, game, poultry and fish dishes, puddings and wines – she was someone who clearly did a lot of entertaining. The book also contains instructions on how to make solutions like cold cream and ink. There are also a number of letters, notes, inventories and bankbooks that help to flesh out my ancestors during a period stretching from 1734 to 1866.

For someone who has done much of their family history research on the internet, this has been a salutary lesson in the importance of consulting the often neglected resource that is the archive.

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DATABASE OF FAMILIES ASSOCIATED WITH COSFORD REGISTRATION DISTRICT

After a torrid childhood including many tragedies, I was dispatched to South Australia in 1968, aged 12, and gradually a yearning to understand my roots began. In 1975 I commenced a quest to explore my **Squirrell** surname, and three regions in England (Devon, Northamptonshire and Suffolk) emerged. Suffolk appeared to be my origin, so a collection of then available sources commenced (mainly LDS microfiche).

In the early 1980s I came across a fellow researcher with the same goals, **Martin York** (who has also developed **Wrights** of East Anglia research), so we collaborated and commenced the Squirrell Research Group. This has a web presence plus GOONS listing. As Suffolk was largely rural and village-based, it became apparent that most families had interconnections. I began branching out and exploring those connections, and in so doing located **Maggie Driver (Grimwood/Grimwade)** and **Ray Long**, with both of whom I collaborated. Ray was one step ahead with the online Cosford database. Sadly, when he died his website was removed, but it was partially restored from archived pages and I was asked to be the contact person.

I have continued the research and as more databases have become available, have checked, corrected and added a significant amount of information. My database is now in excess of 366,000 individuals.

From this an Excel database has been created of all Cosford Registration District BDM, and I have also amassed many other burials, baptisms, census records and burials. I have also explored both the pre-1837 period and the period after the district was dissolved and incorporated into surrounding registration districts, and have followed many families to the current era.

There are many challenges in terms of reliability of age and birth location, spelling variations, surname choice, and many mysteries to continue exploring. I gave up looking at online trees due to the inherent lack of research accuracy in many of them, and try to adhere to the tenets of true research and primary documentation.

I am open to collaboration and discussion, and hope this year to create a web-based presence called 'Families Associated with Cosford Registration District'. Living persons will be omitted for ethical reasons. I use the email address below for communication. I am also happy to assist those whose families ended up in South Australia, where I am a member of the South Australia FHS.

Dr David Squirrell
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CURTIS, CLAMP AND COCKRILL

There are three families, **Curtis**, **Clamp** and **Cockrill**, all individually linked to the **Ransom** family from the Ipswich/Gaywood area. I wrote an article *'"Ransom": the Ipswich Connection'* that was published in *Suffolk Roots*, October 1989.

Curtis



George Curtis (2) b.1796 (author's own photo)

George Curtis ('George Curtis (1)') and **Elizabeth Allen** married on 13 December 1795 at St Matthew's Church, Ipswich. They had two sons named **William** and **George** ('George Curtis (2)').

George Curtis (2) was born 15 September 1796 in Ipswich and married **Mary Susan (Harriett) Clamp** on 12 March 1820 at St Nicholas Church, Ipswich. They had two daughters, both born in Islington: **Juliann Maria** (born 3 May 1823) and **Harriett May** (born 9 December 1823). Juliann Maria Curtis married my 2x great-grandfather **Henry Ransom**, a *'Mourning Draper'*, on 13 January 1848 at the Parish Church, Islington. Harriet May Curtis married **John Cockrill** ('John Cockrill (2)') on 14 October 1858 at St Pancras Old Church, London.



The author (Stuart Ransom) at the family grave of George Curtis

George Curtis (2) started work as a butcher in Ipswich in the 1820s but later changed jobs to be a publican/victualler. The 1851 census lists him, aged 54, as a *'Victualler'* at the Green Dragon Inn, Bulls Head Passage, Lombard Street, London, with his wife Mary, 50, and daughter Mary, 28. A year later, aged 55, he was landlord/licensee of the Green Dragon Inn, and by 1855 he was at the Kings Arms Public House, 19 Frederick Street, Regent's Park, London. In the 1861 census for 9a Rosoman's Buildings, Islington, London, George Curtis, 61, was listed as a former publican along with his wife Maria S. Curtis, 60. Two years later, in 1863, George had changed jobs once more to be landlord of the White Hart Public House, Millbank Row, Westminster, London. George died five years later in 1867 and was buried in Highgate Cemetery, where a handsome marble monument was erected in his memory, along with that of his daughter Juliann Maria, who died on 30 May 1923 aged 100, and her husband Henry Ransom, who died on 7 April 1888 aged 71. The monument is inscribed: *'In affectionate remembrance of George Curtis of Westminster, formally of Ipswich, Suffolk who died October 6th 1867 aged 71 years. He is not here but risen'.*

The photograph below, taken in Torquay in 1896, shows four generations of the family, with **Bessie Taylor**, aged 15, her mother **Mary Julia Taylor (née Ransom)**, grandmother Juliann Maria Ransom (née Curtis), and great-grandmother Mary Susan (Harriett) Curtis (née Clamp). Bessie Taylor later married the **Rev. Charles Ernest Gaul** on 6 January 1910 in Chevening.



L-R, Bessie Taylor, Mary Julia Taylor, Mary Susan (Harriett) Curtis, Juliann Maria Ransom (author's own photo)

Mrs George (Mary Susan) Curtis celebrated her 100th birthday on Thursday, 27 May 1897. This was reported in the *East Anglian Daily Times* for that day:

'AN IPSWICH CENTENARIAN

Celebration TO-DAY

The centenary of Mrs George Curtis, a native of Ipswich, is being celebrated today at the residence of her daughter, Mrs Cockrill, Victoria Parade, Torquay, where she is surrounded by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and other relatives.

Mrs Curtis, daughter of Robert and Sarah Clamp, was born in St Nicholas, Ipswich, on the 27th day of May, 1797, and according to the registration books in the parish church, was baptised there on July 23rd, 1797. She was married at the same church on the 12th March, 1820, to Mr George Curtis, of St Lawrence, brother of the late Mr William Curtis, of the Thoroughfare, Ipswich. Mrs Curtis was sister to the late Mrs Robert Garrod, and aunt of Sir Alfred Garrod, the well known physician. She has been a widow for nearly 50 years. Her husband died in Westminster in October, 1867, and was buried in Highgate Cemetery, where a handsome marble monument stands erected in his memory.

Mrs Curtis' sight and memory are fairly good. She enjoys reading her daily paper, and that very often without spectacles, and, when weather favours, she may be seen with her daughters enjoying the seabreeze at Torquay.'

A further report appeared in the *Devon County Standard* the following day, Friday 28 May 1897:

'A CENTENARIAN'S RECEPTION

We had the pleasure of being present yesterday at what must be a very unusual occurrence, i.e., an "At Home" given by a lady upon her hundredth birthday. Mrs Curtis, the lady in question, has lived in Torquay for the last six years, and was still well able to welcome the many friends who called to congratulate her upon the auspicious event. A photograph in her possession showed at a glance four generations, and from the healthy and happy appearance of the old lady, who can say but the time may come when even that remarkable picture may be improved upon by another of later date, when the group may include a still further round of the genealogical ladder?'

Mary Susan lived to the grand age of 102. She died on 1 January 1900 and was buried in Torquay Cemetery.

Clamp

Robert Clamp ('Robert Clamp (1)') (born c.1741 in Diss, Norfolk), a hemp maker, married **Susan Bircham** (born 1743) on 12 November 1766 at St Nicholas Church, Ipswich. They had one son, also named **Robert Clamp** ('Robert Clamp (2)'). When Robert Clamp (1) died on 27 May 1770 his wife Susan took over the running of his hemp making business. It is unknown when Susan died.

The Clamp family would place adverts in the papers for their business. First, Robert Clamp (1) in the *Ipswich Journal* of 4 March 1769:

'This is to acquaint the PUBLICK,

That ROBERT CLAMP, LINNEN-WEAVER, continues to make and ſell all ſorts of true Engliſh HEMPEN-CLOTH, wholeſale or retail, at his Houſe in St NICHOLAS Pariſh, IPWSICH, adjoining to the Sign of the Falcon; he like-wiſe has a Stall in the BUTTER-MARKET, facing St Lawrence Lane, every SATURDAY, with the above-mentioned Goods.----

All that be ſo kind as to oblige him with their Commands, may depend on being ſerved on the very loweſt Terms, and their Favours moſt gratefully acknowledged, by their moſt humble Servant, ROBERT CLAMP.

N.B. Two or three Journeymen that are good Hands, may have conſtant Employ, with good Wages, by applying as above.'

Then later his wife Susan Clamp in the *Ipswich Journal* of 6 June 1770:

'SUSAN CLAMP,

Next Door to the FAULCON in St NICHOLAS Pariſh, IPSWICH, takes this Method to inform the Publick,

THAT ſhe has a large Quantity of Engliſh HEMP CLOTH, for Slurting, Sheeting and Cheeſe-Cloths, Hockabock, &c. to diſpoſe of at the loweſt Prices.

She likewiſe intends carrying on the HEMP-WEAVING Buſineſs in all its Branches, the ſame as in her late Husband's Time, and returns Thanks to all Friends for paſt Favours, hoping for a Continuance of the ſame, which will be gratefully acknowledged, by their hymble Servant,

SUSAN CLAMP'



Robert Clamp (2) with kind permission of the Suffolk Artists

Robert Clamp (2), born c.1769, a tallow chandler and stipple engraver, married **Sarah Ennew** (born 12 April 1771, baptised 22 May 1771 at St Nicholas Church, Ipswich) on 13 June 1791 at St Andrew by the Wardrobe, London. Robert and Sarah had three children – a son named **Robert Burcham Clamp**, born 1794 in Lambeth, and two daughters, **Sarah Ennew Clamp**, born 23 August 1793 in Ipswich, and Mary Susan (Harriett) Clamp, born 27 May 1797 and baptised on 23 July 1797 at St Nicholas Church, Ipswich. Sarah Clamp died on 16 December 1817, and was buried in Ipswich. Robert Clamp (2) was a member of the Suffolk Artists.

Robert Burcham Clamp married **Ann Skitter** (born 5 April 1791 in Ipswich) on 26 June 1829 at St George the Martyr, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, London. Robert Burcham Clamp was a schoolmaster in Ipswich and also a member of the Suffolk Artists like his father. They had one child, a daughter **Anna Maria Clamp**, born in 1830 but who sadly died, aged 9, on 20 January 1839. She is buried in St Nicholas Churchyard with her parents.

Sarah Ennew Clamp married **Robert Garrod**, an auctioneer, on 15 June 1816 at St Nicholas Church, Ipswich. They had one son, **Alfred Baring Garrod** (born 3 May 1819 in Ipswich), who later became a well-known physician and was knighted. Sarah Garrod died on 1 October 1873 in Ipswich, and Robert Garrod on 10 June 1877.

Mary Susan (Harriett) Clamp married innkeeper George Curtis, as described earlier.

In the 1851 census we find Robert Burcham Clamp, 55, a schoolmaster at the Union Workhouse, Ipswich, with his wife Anne, 57, a schoolmaster's wife. Also listed is a niece, **Sophia Clamp**, aged 41.

Twenty years later in 1871, Robert Burcham Clamp, 74, a retired schoolmaster, and his wife Ann, 80, are living at 4 Priory Place, Ipswich. He died on 2 December 1875, aged 80, in Ipswich, and was buried four days later in St Nicholas Churchyard. His wife Ann died a year later on 2 December 1876 in Suffolk.

Cockrill

John Cockrill ('John Cockrill (1)') (born 1768 in Suffolk) married **Elizabeth Craske** (born 1777?) on 23 October 1798, in Stowlangtoft, Suffolk. They had a son also named John Cockrill ('John Cockrill (2)'). John Cockrill (1) died on 20 October 1850 at Pakenham and his wife Elizabeth died on 19 February 1847 at Stowe, Suffolk.



John Cockrill (2)
(author's own photo)

John Cockrill (2) was born on 30 September 1805 in Pakenham and married **Mary Nunn** (born 1809, Suffolk) on 16 December 1834 in Eldon, Suffolk. Mary died in 1852 and was buried in Wantisden Churchyard. John Cockrill (2) then married Harriett May Curtis in St Pancras Old Church, London, on 14 October 1858. Harriett May was the sister of my 2x great-grandmother Juliann Maria Curtis, as described earlier in this article.

In the 1841 census John Cockrill (1), 70, a farmer, and his wife Elizabeth, 60, are listed as living at Beaumont's Hall, Pakenham, Suffolk. Later, in the 1851 census for Wantisden, we see John Cockrill (2), 43, as a farmer managing 600 acres with 20 labourers. Ten years later in the 1861 census for Burley Road, Wantisden, Suffolk, we find Harriett May Cockrill (née Curtis), 38, and her husband John Cockrill (2), 51, a farmer, still employing 20 men, boys and women and managing 600 acres. Also listed is his niece, **Clara Roper**, 18.

John Cockrill (2) died on 12 August, 1866 and was buried in Wantisden Churchyard with his first wife Mary Nunn. In his will one of his executors was George Curtis of Frederick Street, Regent's Park, London, to whom John Cockrill (2) left the sum of £50. An amended version of his will was witnessed by Henry Ransom, mourning draper.

In the 1871 census for 59 Penn Road Villas, Islington, we see Harriett May Cockrill, 48, a widow, listed with her mother Mary Susan Curtis, 73, also a widow and head of house. Ten years later in the 1881 census at 175 Norwich Road, Ipswich, Harriett May Cockrill, 59, is again with her mother Mary Susan Curtis, 83. In the 1891 census at 20, The Broadway, Hornsey, the occupants are head of house and widow Harriett May Cockrill, 65, her mother Mary S Curtis, widow, now 93, and visitor Julia Ransom, widow (probably Harriett's sister Juliann). The 1901 census lists Harriett May Cockrill, a widow aged 80, living at 20 Sandford Crest, Cockington, Torquay. Harriett May Cockrill died on 19 July 1905 in Chelston, Torquay and is buried in Torquay Cemetery.

Help wanted

At the start of this article I mentioned George Curtis (2). Now I am trying to locate his brother **William Curtis**, born 1804 in Ipswich. He had a wife, **Leti** or **Leticia**? I have been unable to locate a marriage for them. There is a daughter Ann Curtis, born in Whitchurch, Hampshire, who married **Jabez Withers** on 13 May 1850 in Whitchurch.

I looked on the 1841 Census for William Curtis and found two likely candidates. The first was an agricultural labourer, aged 50, living at The Weir, Whitchurch, Hampshire, with wife Leti, 55, and three children – **Ann**, 25, **Jane**, 15, and **Charles**, 14. The second was at the Thoroughfare, Ipswich, aged 37, a butcher. In the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses for London Road, Ipswich, William Curtis is listed, aged 46, 56 and 66 respectively, as a retired butcher.

There is no mention on any census after 1841 of William's wife Leti/Leticia? or when their marriage took place – any suggestions would be appreciated. I did however find a death index record for a William Curtis, 70, in Ipswich, in Q4 for 1874. Whether this is our William Curtis I don't know, but it seems very possible.

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REGIMENTAL JOURNALS – AN UNDER-USED MILITARY RESOURCE

Many readers will have ancestors who served in the Army, probably as volunteers or conscripts in one of the world wars. However, there were thousands who served as Regular, professional, soldiers before, between or after the wars. Information about these men's Army careers can be hard to find; they might appear in a campaign medal roll but their daily peacetime activities usually remain a mystery. This is an area where regimental journals can help.

This article focuses on the Suffolk Regiment's journal, but if your ancestor served elsewhere in the Army there is no need to stop reading: virtually every Infantry regiment had a journal, all carrying the same kind of information as the Suffolks'. They can be accessed usually in the relevant regimental museum[(1)] or, less frequently, in the local Record Office.

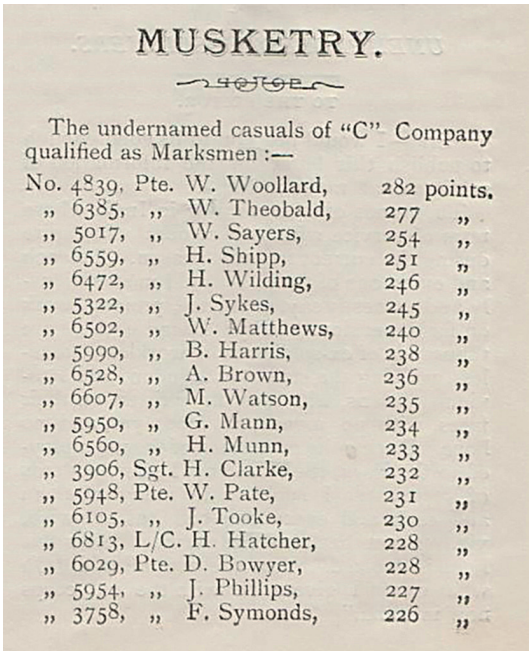
The *Suffolk Regiment Gazette*[(2)] started life in December 1863, the brainchild of a forward-thinking Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion; it is believed to be the first such paper to be produced by any regiment.[(3)] It was a short-lived venture, however, and it was 1890 before the title was revived, first as the *Second Battalion Suffolk Gazette*, renamed in November 1895 as the *Suffolk Gazette*. When the 1st Battalion took over publication in January 1909 the journal acquired its final name, the *Suffolk Regimental Gazette*. Until 1930 the *Gazette* was usually published by whichever battalion was on foreign service, and was printed by the regimental printing press; in 1930 publication was taken over by the Depot.

It appeared monthly until December 1926, then either bi-monthly or quarterly until August 1959 when the Regiment merged with the Royal Norfolk Regiment.[(4)] Initially

the content related almost entirely to the 2nd Battalion; during the 1890s there was an increasing amount of 1st Battalion news and from around 1904 the whole regiment, including volunteers and the Depot, was covered.

The great virtue of the regimental journal is the enormous amount of information it provides about the ordinary soldier – the 'Other Ranks' – as opposed to the officer class.

As it was a journal of record, some of the information in it was strictly official, as for example the periodic muster rolls of whole battalions, arranged by Company – the 1st in 1907, the 2nd in 1864, 1889, 1900 and 1906 – information not available anywhere else. There are lists of men joining and leaving the 1st Battalion between 1910 and 1913. Then there are the very many lists recording the progress of soldiers through their careers. These include grants of Good Conduct pay, promotions, transfers, appointments, awards of Certificates of Education and results of musketry competitions. Births, marriages and deaths at home and overseas are recorded in detail, even down to the cause of death.

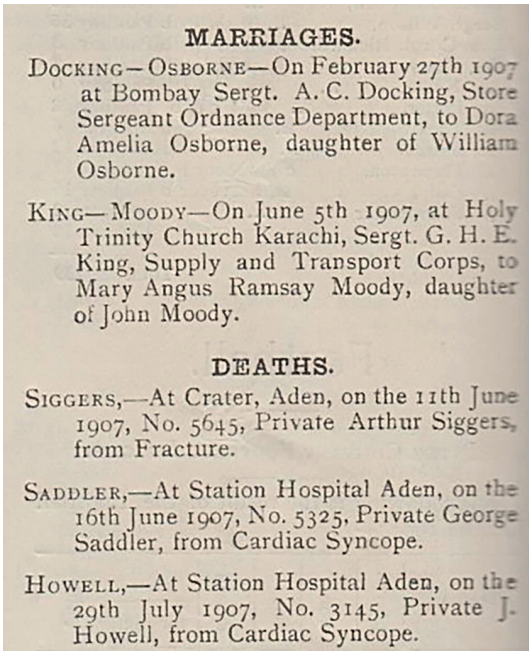


MUSKETRY.

The undernamed casuals of "C" Company qualified as Marksmen :—

No. 4839,	Pte.	W. Woollard,	282 points.
,, 6385,	,,	W. Theobald,	277 ,,
,, 5017,	,,	W. Sayers,	254 ,,
,, 6559,	,,	H. Shipp,	251 ,,
,, 6472,	,,	H. Wilding,	246 ,,
,, 5322,	,,	J. Sykes,	245 ,,
,, 6502,	,,	W. Matthews,	240 ,,
,, 5990,	,,	B. Harris,	238 ,,
,, 6528,	,,	A. Brown,	236 ,,
,, 6607,	,,	M. Watson,	235 ,,
,, 5950,	,,	G. Mann,	234 ,,
,, 6560,	,,	H. Munn,	233 ,,
,, 3906,	Sgt.	H. Clarke,	232 ,,
,, 5948,	Pte.	W. Pate,	231 ,,
,, 6105,	,,	J. Tooke,	230 ,,
,, 6813,	L/C.	H. Hatcher,	228 ,,
,, 6029,	Pte.	D. Bowyer,	228 ,,
,, 5954,	,,	J. Phillips,	227 ,,
,, 3758,	,,	F. Symonds,	226 ,,

List of 'C' Company men qualifying as marksmen, January 1906



MARRIAGES.

DOCKING—OSBORNE—On February 27th 1907 at Bombay Sergt. A. C. Docking, Store Sergeant Ordnance Department, to Dora Amelia Osborne, daughter of William Osborne.

KING—MOODY—On June 5th 1907, at Holy Trinity Church Karachi, Sergt. G. H. E. King, Supply and Transport Corps, to Mary Angus Ramsay Moody, daughter of John Moody.

DEATHS.

SIGGERS,—At Crater, Aden, on the 11th June 1907, No. 5645, Private Arthur Siggers, from Fracture.

SADDLER,—At Station Hospital Aden, on the 16th June 1907, No. 5325, Private George Saddler, from Cardiac Syncope.

HOWELL,—At Station Hospital Aden, on the 29th July 1907, No. 3145, Private J. Howell, from Cardiac Syncope.

Regimental marriages and deaths, August 1907

So much for the official aspect of the soldiers' service. There was, particularly in peacetime (and some soldiers never saw action throughout their Army careers) great emphasis on keeping the men fit and occupied, especially when serving overseas. As a result, there are regular accounts of sports – football, cricket, athletics, boxing, hockey, tennis, billiards, even tug-of-war – with details of participants, and reports of social occasions like dances and concerts.

The *Gazettes* are full of this kind of content up to 1914, but with the outbreak of war it understandably dried up. So too did publication: the *Gazette* appeared in 1916 but otherwise there was a gap from September 1914 to July 1920. Even so, the 1916 volume contains a lengthy list (940 names) of Prisoners of War and a list of promotions in the 5th Battalion (160 names).

When publication resumed after the war, content was initially similar to that of the pre-war issues. Gradually, however, these lists became less frequent. Instead, there emerged detailed reports on the activities of the various companies and lesser units like the Band, the Corps of Drums or the Signal Platoon, with many individuals mentioned (albeit sometimes identified only by their nicknames!).

As if to compensate for a relative falling-off in the number of names recorded, there was an increasing use of photographs (which had in fact started to appear in the immediate pre-war years). These illustrate sports teams, formal groups and miscellaneous regimental activities, all participants being identified.



BOXING.—Novice Winners and Inter-Company Runners-up.

Back Row: Pte. Daley, Pte. Chapman, Pte. Meads, L/C. Freshwater, Pte. Jay, Pte. Flack, Pte. Vince, Pte. Watkins, Pte. Kerr, Pte. Folkard.

Middle Row. Cpl. Flagg, L/C. Chapman, L/C. Matthews, 2nd/Lt. L. G. Young, Capt. S. H. Atkins, Pte. Thompson, L/C. Legg, Pte. Millard, Pte. Williamson.

Sitting: Pte. Began, Pte. Hunns, Pte. Ferrell, Pte. Harrison.

'A' Company, 2nd Battalion, Boxing team, May & June 1936

In the second war publication was unbroken, but of course subject to the requirements of the censor. Most of the content related to accounts of company activities but with very few names mentioned. There were, however, lists of Prisoners of War in German and Japanese hands and regular lists of wounded soldiers.

After the war there was in general a much heavier emphasis on the activities of the Officer class, although as if to balance this trend there were even more detailed reports on the activities of the different units within the regiment. There was also increased coverage of the various branches of the Old Comrades Association, while the regular *'Beyond the Gates'* feature brought news of old soldiers to the modern reader of the *Gazette*.[5]

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References and Sources

The extracts from the *Gazette* are reproduced by kind permission of the Suffolk Regiment Museum.

1. For a directory of military museums in the United Kingdom, see *https://www.armymuseums.org.uk/museum-directory*
2. There is a complete run of the *Gazette* from 1890 to 1959 in the regimental archive at Suffolk Archives, Bury St Edmunds (GB554/W/2-51).

3. There is a manuscript copy of the first issue in the regimental archive (GB554/W/1).
4. It was succeeded by *Britannia and Castle*, the journal of the 1st East Anglian Regiment, which in 1964 became *Castle*, the journal of the Royal Anglian Regiment.
5. The Families in British India Society (FIBIS) is name-indexing the early 20th century *Gazettes (https://search.fibis.org/bin/aps_browse_sources.php?mode=browse_components&id=389&s_id=1030)*. So far, the years 1890-1896, 1905-1906 and 1912 have been covered.

THOMAS WATLING, PERIPATETIC SALVATIONIST

In the third week of January 1924, an impressive funeral took place at Seaton Delaval, a colliery community in Northumberland. Some 180 uniformed members of the Salvation Army assembled at the Corps HQ for a memorial service. The cortège then proceeded to the Seghill Churchyard, accompanied by no less than three Corps bands, from Seaton Delaval, Shiremoor and Blyth. Three hundred local people lined the route and followed, as Commandant **Jessie Watling** was taken to her final rest, at the age of 55. The chief mourners were her husband, Commandant **Thomas Watling**, and their daughters, Mrs Burt from Salisbury, **Miss Ina** and **Miss Ivy Watling**, plus several very senior officers of the Salvation Army.(1) Jessie Watling had been born **Jessie Last** in 1868 in Waldringfield, near Woodbridge, Suffolk, and had served in the Army for 31 years.

The Salvation Army had been present in Woodbridge since 1883, meeting some opposition at first, with disruption to their meetings and processions (and unsympathetic magistrates),(2) but that is probably where Jessie started out. In the autumn of 1898 she married Thomas Watling, a fellow Salvationist, and they began their Army life together.

On reading about Jessie's funeral, I was, however, nonplussed: *'What daughters?'* I had found no records of any Watling children with the mother's maiden name as Last; and I am aware of the transcription issues around Watling (Watting, Walling, Walting etc), and of the habit of various branches occasionally to spell the surname Whatling. The words *'Mrs Burt, Salisbury'* offered some hope of clarification: there was indeed a Watling/Burt marriage in the autumn of 1920, in Salisbury, **Eva Kathleen Watling** to **Arthur F. G. Burt**. I already had that in my Watling tree, and the couple were in the 1939 Register, too, with birthdates. Eva Kathleen was the daughter of Thomas Watling's *younger brother*, **Charles James Watling**. Could I be sure there were not two similarly named cousins?

Charles James Watling (1869-1941) had been born in Woodbridge. His father, **Ishmael James Watling**, a sawyer like most of his family, had died of TB when Charles was 15. Charles joined the Navy soon after, but was invalided out – in 1891 he was working in the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar. It was in Hampshire that he married **Laura Hedger**. Their first two children, sons **Charles** and **Winfred**, were born there, but their next two, daughters **Dorothy May** and Eva Kathleen were born in Woodbridge, in 1895 and 1898. By the time of the 1901 census, Charles James was based in Ipswich

as an agricultural fitter, and all four children were living with him and Laura. In that same census, his brother Thomas Watling and Jessie, still childless, had been posted to Chadderton in Lancashire, a town of 60 cotton mills, nearly 250 miles from Woodbridge. Moreover, *all* Charles's children were recorded with their mother's maiden name as Hedger. Their mother, Laura, died in the autumn of 1904, when Dorothy was 9 and Eva barely 6. Charles Watling remarried in 1907, in Fulham, Middlesex. The 1911 census shows him settled in Brook St, Woodbridge, with his second wife, **Julia** (**née Mingay**, born Barnet), a former asylum nurse, but without the children of Charles's first marriage. It seems to me that Eva had been taken in by her Aunt Jessie and Uncle Thomas after the death of her mother. By 1911 her two brothers were working outside Suffolk and her sister Dorothy was in service. Eva Kathleen I could not find. I wondered if the Salvation Army had sent Thomas and Jessie abroad, as Thomas's younger brother **Henry Watling** (1879-1941), a fellow-Salvationist, had emigrated to America in 1905.

The 1921 census came to my aid. Despite my resolution to buy entries only for my direct ancestors, I was too intrigued by this story. Commanders Thomas and Jessie Watling were in Wollaston in Northamptonshire, a village famous for shoes (Dr Martens boots are made there still), and with its own Salvation Army Corps. Indeed, a week prior to the census being taken, Thomas had attended the dedication of the village's war memorial with other local clergy and dignitaries. Alongside the Watlings in the census were their daughters Angelina, aged 13 years 4 months and born in Wick, Caithness, and Ivy, aged 10 years and 5 months, born in Greenock, Renfrewshire. Scotland! I had not considered that the Watlings might be sent to Scotland. So the girls were not, as I had speculated, further foster daughters (legal adoption was not possible until 1927).

Thence to the Scotland's People website, where the births are recorded of Angelina Elizabeth Watling in Wick in 1908, of **Hattie Watling**, born and died in Barrhead, just outside Glasgow, in 1909, and of Ivy May Watling in Greenock East in 1911. Thomas and Jessie and their two surviving daughters were living in a tenement flat in Greenock at the time of the 1911 census, together with Eva. In this, often called the 'Fertility Census', Jessie said she had borne 4 children, 3 still living.

The *Banbury Advertiser* of 15 August 1918 reports that Adjutant Thomas Watling was part of a meeting to welcome the installation of a new Superintendent for the Banbury Primitive Methodist Circuit.

The *Buckingham Advertiser* of 19 August 1922 describes Commandant and Mrs Watling assisting at the Wesleyan Sunday School outing at Chackmore, just outside Buckingham; in November of that year Captain Watling took part in the Mayor's Procession in Buckingham itself.

The *Blyth News* of 12 November 1923 reports the solemn commemoration of the 5th anniversary of the Armistice at Seaton Delaval, addressed by local clergy, including Commander Watling.

So, starting out in Woodbridge, in the course of their 25-year marriage, Thomas and Jessie had been assigned to the mill town of Chadderton, to the Scottish port of Wick, to the docks and ship-building of Greenock, to the leafy Home Counties of Banbury and Buckingham, to the shoemakers of Wollaston and then to the colliery village of Seaton Delaval. At least seven postings.

And after Seaton Delaval?

Following Jessie's death, Thomas Watling made no further appearance in those newspapers that are online, and did not appear in the 1939 Register. There are one or two possible deaths, and I homed in on one in Salisbury in 1927. That was where Eva lived following her marriage and until her death in 1987. With little hope, given his calling, I looked for a will. No will indeed, but letters of administration of the £85 estate of Thomas Watling of 43 Park Street, Salisbury, who died on 8 July, granted to **Lilly Augusta Parkins**, jointly with her husband, a window cleaner. I realised that Lilly Augusta, née Watling (1874-1944) was one of Thomas's younger sisters, living in Islington, London – this was the correct Thomas. Lilly had married in London in May 1903, while working as a cook in domestic service. Her husband was then a skilled machinist. In 1927, Thomas's daughters were not yet of age: Angelina was 19 and Ivy May was 16. Was their aunt in fact looking after them? The modern-day equivalent of £85 might be £3,500 or, seen another way, about 8 months' wages for a skilled worker at the time.[3]

A few years later, both Thomas's daughters were in London. A 1933 Electoral Register has Angelina living in Southgate, North London, not with family; in the spring of 1942, she married **George R. Kennedy** in Bristol. She had already appeared as Ina Kennedy (corrected to Angelina Elizabeth) in the 1939 Register in Exeter, George being a public works labourer. Angelina died in 1978.

Meanwhile, it appears that Ivy May married **Gomer Daniel**, an expatriate Welshman, in London in 1937, and by the time of the 1939 Register they were living in South Clapham, where Gomer was a warehouse despatch clerk and police reservist. He joined the Royal Artillery and was killed in Belgium in December 1944. I have lost sight of Ivy after that.

Thomas Watling is a very distant relative – his grandfather **Ishmael Watling** (1813-1884) was my mother's great-grandfather. But his and Jessie's story gave me pause to reflect on researching family history, on making false assumptions and on personal dedication.

Dawn Adams Mb 11223
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References and Sources

Newspapers, censuses on Findmypast, London Parish Registers on Ancestry.

1. *Blyth News*, 24 Jan 1924.
2. The *Ipswich Journal*, 24 Nov 1883, contains a lengthy report of a case before magistrates of an assault on a female SA Captain, which reflects the situation at the time.
3. The National Archives Currency Converter: *https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/currency/*

PHOTOS APPEAL UPDATE

In March last year, *Suffolk Roots* carried an appeal by the Chair encouraging members to share information and especially photographs (people, events, places) if the photos a) belong to you; b) are identifiable (who, when, where); and c) are of good quality. We have since been able to print a number of fascinating photos supplied by members.

The intention is to create an online area where these photos can be viewed, but meanwhile here are some more of those so far submitted (others will follow in future issues).

If you wish to contact the provider of a photo, and no contact details are given, please email the Editors and we will attempt to pass on the enquiry.

Flatt and Folkard

Member **Sheralynn Poster** has contributed the following photos. The first group feature her grandfather, **Albert Edward Flatt** (1903-1994), in the Suffolk Regiment.



1st Bn. Suffolk Regt (?C Coy) India 1923. (Albert Edward Flatt is 9th from the right side, 2nd row from the top)



Albert Edward Flatt, peeling potatoes, 1922



Albert Edward Flatt in India – front row, end right



Barrack Square, Wellington, Southern India, 1922

Below is a postcard Albert sent from India in 1923 to his wife, Sheralynn's grandmother, **Irene Folkard** (1904-1973).



Postcard of himself with Irene's cameo included, sent by Albert Flatt from India to Irene Folkard, June 1923

This photo is of Sheralynn's great-grandmother, **Sarah Annie Sessions Folkard** (1865-1943). The girls are **Annie Nellie Folkard** (1902-1994) on the left and Sheralynn's grandmother Irene Folkard on the right. The date is unknown but may have been taken around 1914, in London or possibly Southwold. Sheralynn writes that she treasures this photo as one of her oldest, having nothing of this quality near this timeline for the American side of her family.



Sarah Annie Sessions Folkard (centre) with Annie Nellie Folkard (left) and Irene Folkard (right)

The final photos of this set show Sheralynn's mother **Pamela Flatt** and her twin sister **Doreen** (b.1937). In the first, one of the twins is on their mother Irene's lap, in a bomb shelter, probably in Leiston in the early 1940s.



Irene Folkard Flatt (Sheralynn's grandmother) near the back, on the right, with one of the twins on her lap, in a bomb shelter

The second is of Pamela and Doreen Flatt in the Girl Guides. The photo is undated, but as they appear about 10 years old, it was probably taken around 1947. They lived in Leiston as children.



Pamela and Doreen Flatt (centre front) as Girl Guides c.1947

NUNNS IN TASMANIA

New member Karen Thorne has supplied this information about her forebears:

> *'My great-grandfather **Robert Nunn** was born in Chevington, Suffolk, about 1835. He joined the British Army and served in the Maori Wars. He then went to Tasmania, and possibly served as a policeman in Port Arthur and Hobart. He married **Mary Ann Ashby** in Hobart (date unknown) and they had two boys, both of whom died as infants. At about age 40 he married **Margaret Riley** at Bushy Park (Tasmania), and undertook farmwork. This is where my family started.'*

If this information rings any genealogical bells, Karen can be contacted via the Editors.

GREAT-GRANDPARENTS IN COMMON

We are still receiving submissions for this series, which has proved popular as a potential means for Suffolk FHS members to make contact with other members with whom they share a great-grandparent.

A subsequent direct exchange of information about those ancestors-in-common will hopefully enable one side – or possibly both – to expand their knowledge of the shared great-grandparents and even, perhaps, to add new branches to their family tree.

If your published data leads to making such contact, please be sure to let *Suffolk Roots* know. Whether there is a story to publish, or not, we shall be glad to hear of your success: knowing that families find connections through this or any other section of the journal helps to ensure that best use is made of the available space.

Great-grandparents of:
Bob Marshall contact: *bm.peacehaven@gmail.com*

Walter Gainsford Walford *b.1833 Stratford St Mary, Suffolk* *d.1891 Sudbury, Suffolk*	*&*	**Margaret Scott Turpin** *b.1839 Wivenhoe, Essex* *d.1917 Harlesden, Middlesex*
George E Davey *b.1839 Bures St Mary, Suffolk* *d.1918 Brentwood, Essex*	*&*	**Wilhelmina Blunden** *b.1843 Gislingham, Suffolk* *d.1913 Brentwood, Essex*
Joseph Marshall *b.1839 Merton, Devon* *d.1919 Huish, Devon*	*&*	**Mary Luxton** *b.1836 Petrockstow(e), Devon* *d.1910 Huish, Devon*
Richard Gill *b.1827 Rattery, Devon* *d.1916 Newton Abbot district, Devon*	*&*	**Ellen Boon** *b.1826 Rattery, Devon* *d.1908 Newton Abbot district, Devon*

HELP WANTED – 'THE WANDERING SOLDIER'

In the March 2010 issue of *Suffolk Roots* there was a story called *'The Life of a Wandering Soldier'*. I found the article interesting because for a while this soldier was stationed at Weedon Bec Barracks, Northampton, and he finished his career in Greenwich, South London. I actually did the reverse, as I was born in Greenwich and currently live near Weedon Bec, so I kept note of the article. It was only many years later during my family history research that I found I have a family connection with this soldier.

The soldier in question, **William Percy**, married a local girl while at Weedon Bec, and the article goes on to say that at one time he served a spell in Australia where a son, **Robert**, was born. William was invalided out of the army, and initially returned to Weedon Bec before moving to Greenwich, where he spent the rest of his life with his family.

I thought no more about it until last year when I was looking at my mother's family line. She had a brother with four Christian names, which was most uncommon in our family. Two of those names stood out and they were 'Robert' and 'Percy', which reminded me of Robert Percy, son of William.

I discovered that in 1877 Robert had married a local girl by the name of **Julia Louisa Moore**, who was the sister of my grandmother, **Martha Isabella Moore**.

William Percy died in Greenwich in 1897, followed shortly afterwards by Robert who died there in 1905. Further investigations found a grandson of Robert's living on the Isle of Wight, and we were able to meet.

If anyone has further information about this family, please contact me.

Graham New
grnew@btinternet.com

HELP WANTED – VALE/VEAL/VAIL AND SAWYER

For a family history I am writing, I am particularly interested in the Vale (Veal, Vail) family that first appears in the *West Stow Parish Registers, 1558 to 1850* (available on the Internet Archive) on 27 October 1772, with the marriage of **Martin Vale** and **Mary Halls**, both of West Stow (page 47). They were probably the parents of a direct ancestor, **William Vale**, whose baptism most likely is the one that took place at St Mary's, West Stow, on 23 July 1775, listed as *'William, son of Martin and Mary Veal'*.

I am wondering where the Vale/Veal/Vail family came from before appearing at West Stow in 1772. I assume they were agricultural workers or servants of some kind, but would love to know on which Suffolk estate(s), and for whom they worked.

Our William Vale, whose father's name has been confirmed as Martin Vale,[1] was convicted at the Suffolk Assizes, with **Philip Harrold**, of stealing poultry at the Mildenhall market on 25 March 1802 (a report is in the *Bury and Norwich Post* of 31 March 1802). Vale and Harrold were committed to Bury Gaol on 14 November 1801 and spent some time incarcerated there, and on the *Captivity* hulk at Portsmouth, before being scheduled to be transported to the colony of New South Wales (NSW) on the *Coromandel* and *Experiment* in November 1803. For some reason, presently unknown to me, the pair did not sail then. They eventually departed on the *Fortune* on 28 January 1806. The journey took seven months, the *Fortune* arriving at Port Jackson on 12 July 1806. The two appear to have been separated on arrival, Harrold ending up on a supply ship to Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land), before returning to NSW.

I am not sure if either man ever returned to England. This is unlikely in the case of William Vale, whose age listed at death, 92, appears to be incorrect, and may have been confused with that of Harrold, the older of the two men, born c.1767.[2] Phillip Harrold was granted a Certificate of Freedom on 9 January 1810, a little over seven years after both men had received seven-year sentences. There are several Phillip Harrolds who died in England after 1810 and one in NSW. I have been unable to find a Certificate of Freedom for William Vale for that same year.

I have a lot more information about William Vale and Philip Harrold, should other members of the Society be interested, and plenty more questions relating to them if anyone else is researching them.

Jonathan Sawyer (born c.1800), another convict from Suffolk who was transported on the *General Stewart* in 1818, was apparently assigned to William Vale at Wilberforce between 1825 and 1828. Sawyer created somewhat of a stir in the colony when he absconded with property belonging to Vale, but was apprehended. Any more information on Sawyer from the Suffolk end would also be appreciated.

Jane Morrison Mb 12574
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Author's Notes

1. Recorded in New South Wales BDM Deaths, entry no. 4829/1859, where William is listed as '*VAIL, William, 24 January 1859, Burials in the Parish of Richmond in the County of Cumberland*'.
2. I have unearthed a lot of my primary sources from repositories like Ancestry, the Biographical Database of Australia (BDA) and NSW State Archives and Records. Some information on the BDA was compiled before many records became available online, and unfortunately the bio of William Vale contains some errors. He was actually born in Suffolk c.1775, not c.1767 as some records indicate. William Vale was aged 27 (so born c.1776) when he and Phillip Harrold, aged 36 (so born c.1767), were incarcerated on the *Captivity* hulk at Portsmouth on 19 November 1803. It seems that after they arrived in NSW on the *Fortune* in 1806, their ages and years of births were somehow mixed up.

THE *LUSITANIA* DISASTER & SUFFOLK OUTCOMES

SUFFOLK FHS ZOOM PRESENTATION BY COLIN CHAPMAN – 2 APRIL 2022

On 2 April we were delighted to welcome **Colin Chapman** to present on the above topic. Colin set the scene with the background on why such a ship was built in the first place (pride – German ships held the unofficial record for trans-Atlantic crossings). *RMS Lusitania* was built and launched at Clydebank in 1906, and her home port was Liverpool. Colin shared pictures and postcards of the ship and its interior showing beautiful and well-appointed first-class accommodation, and even the third-class dining area looked very acceptable. Colin also shared pictures of the boiler room and stoking of the boilers.

Britain declared war on Germany on 4 August 1914, but Atlantic crossings continued. The *Lusitania* started her 202nd crossing on 1 May 1915 from New York to Liverpool, with 1,959 passengers and crew. Germany had declared unrestricted submarine warfare and so could attack any ship flying under a British flag. Germany took out adverts in the American press proclaiming that passengers travelled on British ships *'at their own risk'*.

There have been suspicions raised that the *Lusitania* was carrying a lot of ammunition, but Colin said that his research had failed to unearth any relevant evidence other than that the hold contained food supplies and .303 rifle cartridges – which, although ammunition, were not a major component.

On 7 May, the *Lusitania* was approaching the Irish Coast when a German U-boat, U20, fired one torpedo, though there were two explosions, which seems to support the theory that there were explosives on board. Colin however believes strongly that the second explosion was due to the fracture of high-pressure steam pipes from the boilers to the turbines, which would also cause loss of electric supply and loss of control of the ship.

The *Lusitania* sank in 15 minutes with the loss of 1,195 lives; 764 survived. There was press and public outrage in Britain, but Germany celebrated and issued a commemorative medal. The anti-German feeling in Britain, fanned no doubt by the media, led to the harassment of anyone with a German-sounding name, regardless of whether they were British citizens or not; and led to increases in both internment of civilians (on the Isle of Man) and deportation/repatriation.

Suffolk connections

The following were called out by Colin, some were passengers, some were crew, others were commentators (e.g. **G W Hunt**):

- G W Hunt: *'poet'*, living Bury St Edmunds, c.15 May 1915. Identity unknown to Colin.[(1)]

- **Alice Maud Lines** (1896-1997), daughter of **William J Lines**, cabinet maker, Saxmundham.[2]
- **Stanley L B Lines** (1885), son of **Rev. Michael D Lines**, Vicar of Yoxford.[3]
- **Ethel Lines** (b.1881), wife of SLBL.
- **Ada Manby** (b.1879), dau of **Henry W Manby**, farmer, Hoo.
- **Stewart Southam Mason*** (1885-1915), son of **H W Mason**, oil-seed miller, Sproughton.
- **Leslie Mason*** (1886-1915): wife of SM. On honeymoon. Thought to have lived in Woodbridge.[4]
- **Cyril Elmore Pells** (1891-1918), son of **Arthur Pells**, architect, Beccles.[5]
- **Mary Pells** (b.1883): wife of CEP.[6]
- **John Pells*** (1915-1915): son of CEP & MP.
- **David James Smith*** (1856-1915), son of **James and Eleanda (Hannah) Smith**, Orford.[7]

There is, in addition, a report in the *Halesworth Times* on 11 May 1915 (p.3, col.F) of the son of widow **Kemp** of Beccles who was said to have been a steward on the *Lusitania's* fatal voyage.

So, Colin has thrown out three challenges for us:

1) Is anyone able to add to the report about the son of widow Kemp of Beccles?
2) Did Sproughton's bells ring on 21 April 1915 to celebrate the Mason marriage, as claimed?
3) Who was Mr, Mrs or Miss G W Hunt (Bury St Edmunds), the poet?

Respond in the first instance to me, and I will collate and send on to Colin.

Andy Kerridge
chair@suffolkfhs.org.uk

Notes

**Drowned. All other passengers named above survived.*

1. *G W Hunt was not on the* Lusitania *but provided a poem on its sinking to the* Bury Free Press.
2. *Nurse to* ***Pearl*** *family (USA); saved* ***Audrey Pearl*** *(1915-2011), baby wrapped in shawl.*
3. *Engineer, born in Wales. Rev. Michael D Lines moved to Yoxford in 1894. No relation to Alice M Lines. SL & EL returned to Toronto in June 1915, lived and died there.*
4. *SSM and LM (née Lindsey) married 21 April 1915, Boston, MA, US. The bells at Sproughton church said to have been rung on 21 April 1915 in celebration. Is this true? SSM buried Cobh, Ireland; LM in memorial chapel, MA.*
5. *CEP volunteered for BEF and was killed on 27 May 1918 at Battle of Aisne. Commemorated on Soissons Memorial and on Stechford War Memorial, Birmingham.*
6. *MP returned to Canada in Sep 1919, moved to California, biography known.*

7. *DJS was butler/valet to **Elliott Torrance Galt** (1850-1928), a Canadian bachelor, businessman and politician, involved in projects in Lethbridge, Alberta; Galt was educated in Canada and at Harrow School, England. DJS travelled across the Atlantic on various vessels, including the* Carmania *(1913) and* Franconia *(1914) on several occasions with Galt and Galt's unmarried sister, **Selina**. He was living in Montreal in 1911 (Canadian census). DJS had a sister, **Mary Rogers**, living in Dunlace Rd, Clapton Park, Hackney and a niece, **Mrs Hawkes**, in Paddington. Probate was granted to **George Albert Hawkes**. There is a memorial window to DJS in Orford Parish Church, dedicated 4 November 1928. Researched by Colin after his presentation, following a lead from Suffolk FHS member, **Stuart Watson** – George Albert and Mrs Hawkes were Stuart's maternal grandparents.*

SFHS FAIRS AND EVENTS 2022

As *Suffolk Roots* goes to press (June 2022) there are both physical and online events being organised. These are often advertised on the Family History Federation's website at *https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events*

We aim to bring Suffolk a little closer to those members living outside the county by attending a variety of events across the country, but as yet, unfortunately, not overseas! Below are details of out-of-county Family History Fairs at which Suffolk FHS will be present, with all available publications and up-to-date, searchable information on our database.

Do come and make yourself known to us when we visit your area.

The Family History Show
at **Kempton Park Racecourse**
Sat 24 September 2022 10:00-16:30
Details: *https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/london/*

Oxford FHS Fair
at **The Marlborough School, Ship Road, Woodstock**
Sat 22 October 2022 10:00-16:00
Details: *https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/london/*

In addition, there are the following shows which may be of interest:

The Family History Show
at **York Racecourse**
Sat 25 June 2022 10:00-16:30
Details: *https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/york/*

The Suffolk Military Show
at **Suffolk Show Ground, Trinity Park, Ipswich**
30-31 July 2022 10:00-15:00
Details: *https://suffolkmilitaryshow.co.uk/*

We are planning to hold our 2021-2022 AGM and Fair on **22 October 2022**, at a venue in or near Ipswich. We are hoping to hold this as a 'blended' event, so that people who are not able to travel can at least join the AGM and enjoy the two presentations we are lining up. However, this depends on the facilities at the venue. More information to follow.

GROUP PROGRAMMES

All Society members are entitled to attend any or all Group meetings.

GROUP MEETINGS START TIMES VARY – PLEASE CHECK THE GROUP CONTACTS PAGE. ALSO CHECK THE SOCIETY WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION

TBA = To be arranged : TBC = To be confirmed

AS WE GO TO PRESS, GROUPS HAVE CREATED PROGRAMMES OF INDOOR PHYSICAL MEETINGS, AS LISTED BELOW. IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF ZOOM PRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED

JUNE

LOCATION	DATE	EVENT	SPEAKER
Bury	15	'To Relieve Need and Distress' *(The story of East Anglian almshouses)*	*Sarah Doig*
Haverhill	09	Old Land Sea Songs from East Anglia ***(At Haverhill Arts Centre)***	*Harbour Lights Trio*
Ipswich	01	TV and Radio – the Way We Were *(100 years of the BBC – an audiovisual feast)*	*David Howlett*
Lowestoft	07	A Long Way From Home *(Lowestoft Evacuees – 80 years on)*	*Sandra Delf*
Sudbury	28	Regency Low Life in Bury St Edmunds	*Kevin Pulford*
W. London		No Meeting	

JULY

LOCATION	DATE	EVENT	SPEAKER
Bury	20	Visit – TBD	
Haverhill	14	Guided walk – Long Melford – fully booked	
Ipswich	06	TBA	
Lowestoft	05	A Wander Around the Churchyard *(Exploring St Margaret's Parish Churchyard)*	*Group Led*
Sudbury	26	The Soil Cinderellas *(The story of the Land Army)*	*Nicky Reynolds*
W. London		No Meeting	

AUGUST

LOCATION	DATE	EVENT	SPEAKER
Bury		No Meeting	
Haverhill		No Meeting	
Ipswich	03	The History of Ipswich firm – Ransome Simms and Jefferies	*Chris Turland*
Lowestoft		No Meeting	
Sudbury		No Meeting	
W. London		No Meeting	

SEPTEMBER

LOCATION	DATE	EVENT	SPEAKER
Bury	21	Dissent, Riot and Rebellion	*Terry O'Donoghue*
Haverhill	08	The Festival of Britain	*Geoffrey Kay*
	24	Open Day (TBC) ***(At Haverhill Library, 10am-3pm)***	*Group Members*
Ipswich	07	TBA	
Lowestoft	06	'Open Surgery' – research evening	*Group Members*
Sudbury	27	Quiz – General Knowledge *(All Welcome)*	*Group Members*
W. London		No Meeting	

NOTE THESE ARRANGEMENTS MAY BE AFFECTED
IF FURTHER COVID RESTRICTION ARE IMPOSED

Please check latest arrangements and details of the meeting topic
on the Suffolk FHS website

Organisers: Please inform *Suffolk Roots* of your upcoming Group Programmes

ZOOM TALKS

Zoom talks for June and July 2022 for Society members are listed below.

Please put these in your diaries and/or into your computer-based calendars.

Further talks, prior to the next edition of *Suffolk Roots*, will be publicised via Facebook, and on the News area of the website. Please check regularly for updates regarding upcoming talks, and any future talks.

We intend continuing our very popular Zoom online talks even now our Groups are beginning to meet again, as a bonus to members both at home and abroad.

Members will receive an email **shortly before each talk**, notifying them of the event and giving a link to register. If you do not receive such an email, please contact Andy Kerridge, at *chair@suffolkfhs.org.uk*.

Please ensure that prior to watching your first Zoom presentation you have downloaded and installed the Zoom software, which may be found at *https://zoom.us/download*, onto your PC, phone or other device.

Tuesday 14 June 2022 at 7:30pm
The Garretts of Leiston ~ the Long Shop & the Garrett family story *Anna Mercer*

Tuesday 19 July 2022 at 7:30pm
Exploring Suffolk Churches *John Vigar*

THEMES FOR *SUFFOLK ROOTS*

The theme of the September issue will be 'Ancestral Homes'. Please tell us about the places and houses where your ancestors lived. Did they live in the same house, village, or town for generations, and what did they do there? How has that place changed through time? If your ancestors were in service, what type of property did they live/work in? Have you researched a house history – perhaps a property you or your ancestors lived in, or one of general interest in the locality?

Also below are the provisional themes for upcoming issues, to seed ideas for future contributions.

STATUS	ISSUE	THEME TITLE	DATE TO THE EDITOR
Final	**Sep 2022**	**Ancestral Homes**	**Deadline 20 Jul**
		The places and houses our ancestors lived Did your forebears live in the same village for generations – what did they do there? How has the village/town changed through time? Were your ancestors in service – what type of property did they work in? Have you researched an (ancestral) house history?	
Provis'nl	**Dec 2022**	**Floods and Other Tragedies**	**Deadline 20 Oct**
		Approaching the 70th Anniversary of the 1953 East Coast Flood, we remember this and other tragedies, like the Great Storms of 1987 and 1703, or those which happened during the Great War and WW2, and how Suffolk families were affected Do you remember, or have family stories of these events? Were your ancestors affected by any disaster or tragedy? Were they involved in helping or rescuing people? What did they do? How was your village or town affected by such events?	
Provis'nl	**Mar 2023**	**My Ancestor was a …**	**Deadline 20 Jan**
		Trades and Occupations of our Ancestors What did your ancestor(s) do for a living? Did they follow a particular trade? Did it run in the family? Were your ancestors involved in unusual occupations? Or occupations specific to Suffolk/East Anglia? Did they change occupation, and if so why? Was your village or town the centre of a particular trade?	
Provis'nl	**Jun 2023**	**All Aboard – It's faster by Rail**	**Deadline 20 Apr**
		Railways in Suffolk and their Workers With 2023 being the 75th anniversary of rail nationalisation, and the 100th anniversary of Britain's railways being grouped into the 'Big Four' (LNER, GWR, SR, and LMS), we ask: Did your ancestors work on the railways, or use the railways for their trade? Were they killed or injured in their work, or involved in rail accidents? Were they involved with other aspects of railway infrastructure (e.g. buildings) or publicity (e.g. posters, artwork). How did the coming of rail affect the places your ancestors lived, and their daily lives? What was the impact of the old lines that went bust or were closed?	

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GROUP CONTACTS FOR 2022

Bury St Edmunds:

Meet 3rd Wednesday of the month, at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated, at:
The Hyndman Centre, Hospital Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3JT
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Haverhill:

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Ipswich:

Meet 1st Wednesday of the month, at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated, at:
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Lowestoft:

Meet 1st Tuesday of the month, at 7:30pm (doors open 7:00pm), unless otherwise stated, at:
St Margarets Church Hall, Hollingsworth Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 4BW
Contact – Chair: Janis Kirby **e-mail:** ***lowestoft@suffolkfhs.org.uk***

Sudbury & District:

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Long Melford Village Hall, Long Melford, CO1 9LQ (Opposite Bull Hotel)
Contact – Chair: Sheila Piper – Preferred contact is by e-mail
Tel: N/A **e-mail:** ***sudbury@suffolkfhs.org.uk***

West of London:

Meet occasional Saturdays from 2-5 pm at:
Bishopshalt School, Royal Lane, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.
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Tel: 01753 537673 **e-mail:** ***westlondon@suffolkfhs.org.uk***

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