# AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



# **JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER**

Volume 11 No. 4

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Front cover: *A New History of Aylsham Public Houses*, published by the Society in November 2018.

Back cover: Ingworth Green viewed from where the Ingworth to Banningham road crosses the Aylsham to Erpingham road looking south-east. Note the old stream as a depression running horizontally across the picture, now a land drain. Photo by Peter Norton in January 2001.

The JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER is the publication of the Aylsham Local History Society. It is published three times a year, in April, August and December, and is issued free to members. Contributions are welcomed from members and others. Please contact the editor:

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We had another successful AGM on 4 October followed by the talk on *Buildings at Risk*. More details of both of these events can be found elsewhere in this edition. However, as well as welcoming back many of the existing Committee members, I would like to mention Ros Calvert, who has now combined the role of Treasurer with that of Membership Secretary following Ian McManus' decision to step down. And I would also like to welcome Roger Crouch – he had been co-opted but is now an elected member of the Committee – and Ruth Harrison who gamely offered to try stepping into Lynda Wix's role as Minuting Secretary. We still have one more vacancy on the Committee and if anyone is interested in joining us please have a word with myself or Roger Polhill.

Make sure you have the morning of Saturday 17 November reserved in your diary for the launch of the Society's latest book. *A New History of Aylsham Public Houses* is a complete revision of our earlier book written by Elizabeth Gale. It is being offered to Society members at £10 and if you join us for the launch on 17 November there will also be a free cup of coffee or tea for every book bought! See notice on p. 125.

We look forward to the remaining winter lectures, all at 7.30 pm in the Friendship Hall, with refreshments from 7 pm.

Thursday 24 January 2019. What the Victorians threw away by Tom Licence.

Thursday 28 February 2019. Roman Roads by James Albone.

Thursday 28 March 2019. A Moving Story: Transport in East Anglia from the Middle Ages to 1900 by Mary Fewster.

In the event of adverse weather conditions, members are asked to telephone a member of the Committee after 11 am on the day of the lecture to see whether the lecture will proceed. A notice will also be placed on the website: alhs. weebly.com

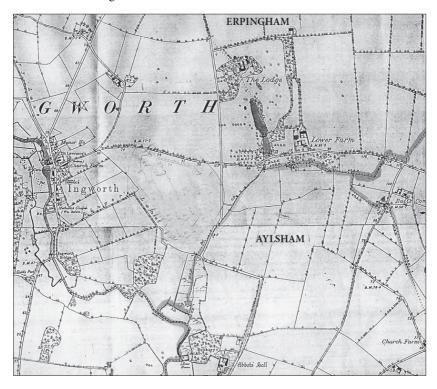
# Whatever happened to Ingworth Green?

# **Peter Norton**



This is a short investigation of an area marked on Faden's Map of Norfolk 1787 (above) as "Green" and "Ingworth Green". On Faden's Map there is a definite boundary to the Green with six roads feeding into it. There are ten buildings marked which are about the green. Greens are described by Edward Martin¹ "A distinctive feature of greens, in contrast to heath commons, is the presence (or former presence) of farmsteads and cottages along the edges of the green. The edge itself is usually being marked by a substantial ditch to stop livestock straying off the green – nearly all funnel out at the entry point, presumably to help with the rounding up and driving of livestock" and "greens are areas of common pasture – held in common in particular communities"². From

Faden's Map evidence, we seem to have a classic green near Ingworth, but by the time of the Ordnance Survey of 1885 there is no sign of the green and only one of the buildings seems to survive.

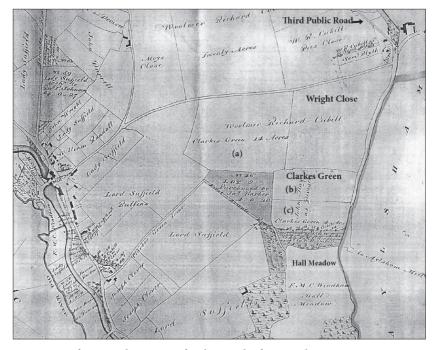


Ordnance Survey Map, 6" to 1 mile 1885

#### **Parish Boundaries**

The green would have lain in four parishes, Ingworth, Aylsham, Erpingham and to the east Banningham. The Aylsham boundary follows a stream northwards from the River Bure and this stream is marked on Faden as being in the middle of the Green in that section. A description of this parish boundary is given in the writings of Miles Baispoole, the document labelled 1444, but actually dating from the middle of the 14<sup>th</sup> century<sup>3</sup> "....and from that dyke goeth straight forth beyond the said moat and further ye said manor unto a post where bye gates of ye said Alice were set, and there being a certain common way which leadeth unto Erpingham Sygate, and from the said way beginneth certain dry dyke and extend itself unto the Abuttalls between the

land of ye said Sir John of Colbye, of the one part Jeffery and Roger Elys of the other part..." This part of the description is the section from the river where the boundary goes round a moat and then north up the stream to where the common starts and the road (common way) follows a stream and the lowest land past what was later to become the lakes of Erpingham Lodge and continues to the Ingworth/Erpingham boundary. The Aylsham boundary takes an easterly turn and follows a "dry dyke" which is most likely to be E. Martin's "substantial ditch" as at this point the parish boundary follows what the Enclosure Map appears to be the southern edge of the original Green. The boundary then becomes angular which is most likely to be areas of ancient enclosure and probably referred to by Baispoole as "the Abuttalls".



Part of 1824 Enclosure map for the Parish of Ingworth. Courtesy NRO.

#### Other documentary evidence

The Ingworth/Erpingham Parish Boundary referred to above as the 'common way to Erpingham Sygate' runs up the centre of a northerly finger of the Green. The Award Plan for the 1824 Enclosure map has a 'Third Public Road'. diverging at the cross-roads, the start shown at the top right corner of the

map above. However by 1885 this road is moved even further west where it lies now. This is due to the creation of a small estate – The Erpingham Lodge Estate – the deeds of which are in the Norfolk Record Office (MC 88). These deeds refer to the purchase of the land and the title under which previous owners held it. In these there is a reference to a 1769 manorial court judgement where "John Stacey acknowledged to hold a shed on the Lords waste of the said house an annual amount of 5 shillings to be paid for the same." It is interesting to speculate that this is one of the properties by the Green indicated on Faden's Map. The deeds also illustrate how the act of Parliamentary Enclosure of 1818<sup>4</sup> resulted in the sale of the common – "8<sup>th</sup> Oct 1819 Abstract of Title of James Barber....for sale of the Commons, Heaths and Waste Ground in the said Parish of Ingworth and did cause the same to be offered for sale by public auction on 8<sup>th</sup> May then last at the Black Boys in 3 allotments (3 weeks previous notice having duly been given of the said auction) at which auction James Barber was declared to be the Purchaser of 2 pieces of land – £235".

The final sale of parts of Ingworth Green as seen on the Enclosure Map of 1824 only gives some indication of the original extent of Ingworth Green.

#### Map evidence

The Enclosure maps and the Tithe Map of 1839<sup>5</sup> indicate the same pattern of the Green as on Faden's Map. For instance lot 43 is clearly the southerly projection on Faden's Map. Clarkes Green is marked on 3 fields (shown as a, b, c on the map above). Pies Close is marked and on the Tithe map the field south of 'Pyes' Close is Wright's Close which all indicates late enclosure of previously open land of some sort, most likely to be open field cultivation.

What is very obvious by 1824 however is that the pattern of settlement has changed. The one remaining house from Faden's Map is Lower Farm (see 1885 OS map above) and this is dated 1686 on the gable. What seems to have happened is that many houses have been built actually on Ingworth Green. To the west of Lower Farm another extensive farm still exists in 1824 at the end of the Third Public Road which were not on Faden and are on the Green as indicated on that map. The 5 well-spaced houses corresponding to Wright's Close on the Enclosure map have disappeared as has the house(s) on the opposite side of the stream.

What is interesting is that the late enclosure of Greens seems to have been done in narrow strips as in lot 40–42 on part of Clarkes Green (marked c on the Enclosure Map). The one lot number 46 (between a and b on the map above) sold in 1824 is divided into 3 by the time of the 1839 Tithe Map. This pattern of development of the Green tends to confirm that the strips and small parcels of land associated with dwellings at the end of the Third Public Road



Ordnance Survey Map 2000, 1 in 19,000.

are on the original Green and did not exist in 1787.

The area today is shown in an up-to-date O/S map above. The housing pattern is substantially the same as that of the O/S map of 1885. The Lodge itself was created by 1885 with two lakes which lie on the Parish boundary and on the original 'common way' road.

# On the ground

# The Lodge

Erpingham Lodge is the most substantial development of the Green. The Georgian style house is built on the northerly finger of the Green and the lakes and parkland which is grass with mature trees, mostly oaks, extends south over that part of the Green. The lakes provide a vista from the front of the house. The creation of the more southerly lake involved the demolition of the substantial farm of Faden and the 1824 map and the two of the buildings

created prior to 1824 on the Green. The lower lake is now about 1 metre above the remaining houses and has a butyl liner. The more northerly lake is maintained on this gently sloping land by a bank and wall. It is therefore clear that these features are there primarily for aesthetic reasons as was the fashion in Victorian times. The road is screened by coniferous trees and the Lodge Park is the only part of the Green which is still used as pasture. Most of the remaining land of the Green has been turned into large arable fields.

#### Wood

One distinct lot number 88 and 89, south of the Ingworth to Banningham road opposite the Lower Farm buildings, sold to Woolmer Cubbitt about 1824 has been turned into a wood by 1885 and is still there. The wood is of mixed oak, ash and Scots pine, now used for pheasants and contains a substantial pit. The top soil seems to have been thrown up to 0.75m higher than the adjoining field to the east. The wood is on a slope and the Banningham Road is sunken at this point. This is certainly a sand pit probably used in the extension of the only substantial building nearby, the Lodge. Whether the site of the Lodge's upper lake supplied other material, clay or (deeper) lime is open to speculation. There is an ice house in the grounds and as mentioned by Rackham<sup>6</sup> a significant function of lakes was ice supply.

## **Hedges**

Many hedges have been lost since 1885 but the remaining hedges and field margins were walked by kind permission of the landowner. The hedges do not have a huge variety of species or very old trees even at the parish boundary, although the hedge to the west of the road just south of the Ingworth to Banningham cross-road is much older than that on the east side. The small piece of hedge on the south side of the Ingworth to Banningham road just east of the cross-roads is assumed to be on the original Green and probably present in 1824, though it is difficult to assess the age of the hawthorn stools. There are areas that show recent planting of hawthorn saplings – for instance to the east of the last mentioned – and such planting may well have been carried out in the past.

#### Trees

The Ingworth–Banningham road has oak trees along it mostly about 14ft in circumference and not pollarded and spaced at about 100m intervals, which seems to be less than indicated on the 1885 O/S map. Trees in hedges are infrequent and apart from a 16ft circumference tree on the west side of the road just north of the crossing, most trees are of considerably less

circumference. Just outside the Green area at the north of Hall Meadow, which runs south to the river, there are two 16ft circumference pollarded oaks and these seem to be the only remaining pollarded trees in the area. Around such a Green when actively used we might expect many pollarded trees and it is unlikely that any trees except in Hall Meadow are more than 200 years old.

#### Ditches

I could find no sign of the "dry dyke" which is the parish boundary between Aylsham and Erpingham and would be enclosed by the Green. There is only one feature I could find which could demark the Green. In Hall Meadow (see Enclosure Map), an ancient meadow in the south, there is an interesting feature. Along part of the northern edge there is a low hump which then falls away to the north into a substantial depression. This is a ditch which is about 12ft from hump to bottom and has about a 7ft fall. I propose that this is the remains of a ditch and bank which enclosed the Green at its southern edge.

Across the back cover is a picture of the original course of the stream along which some of the Ingworth Green was located. The depression which runs horizontally across the picture is the course of the stream and is now a land drain (the outflow is visible), it runs from a pit to the left (north) to an excavated ditch where it becomes a stream. The pit may have been useful for water for animals etc as this was the centre of the Green.

## **Buildings**

While walking the field edges I was also searching for signs of human habitation, particularly in the area of the disappeared buildings from Faden's Map. Only one area was found which indicated human habitation. A sample 10 x 2m count of artefacts was made at a point on the west side of the road just south of the Ingworth to Banningham crossing and compared with a couple of other areas similarly close to a road. The survey indicated that there was at least one habitation of substantial construction demolished before 1824 as it may appear on Faden's Map but not subsequently.

As mentioned Lower Farm House (now Old Farm House) is dated 1686 and behind this is Erpingham Lodge Farm, which includes a substantial hipped roof barn with two double winnowing doors and a machine shed. From the map evidence this must be dated between 1824 and 1885. In front of this are two large yards enclosed by cattle sheds, one of the more westerly of which probably predates 1824.

#### Conclusion

Of the houses around the Green, we only have one house left and we now have

evidence for one other. The inhabitants who lived here probably grazed their animals on the Green and we have an indication of a substantial ditch in one part to prevent those animals straying. Behind their properties they would have held their own land as at the substantial Lower Farm. In the case of the majority of the houses this separate land would have been areas of Wright's Close. Presumably these people were tenants, some possibly squatters, as indicated on the manor court documents and had little say on the way the land was disposed of. Prior to the Parliamentary Act many areas were encroached upon including the two cottages remaining at the junction of the Aylsham/Ingworth/Erpingham Parish boundaries. One area was used to create a 'county house' environment at Erpingham Lodge and most of the rest was incorporated into large arable fields by surrounding landowners. The largest landowner starting with W R Cubbitt and ending with D Clarke slowly bought up most of the land and not a great deal of evidence remains for the community of Ingworth Green!

#### Sources

This article is extracted from a thesis I submitted to the University of East Anglia in 2001 for a Certificate in Field Archaeology and Landscape History. A full version, including numerous colour photos and further maps and tables is lodged in the Aylsham Town Archive.

- <sup>1</sup> Martin, E., Greens, Commons & Tyes in Suffolk, East Anglian Studies. Ed. A. Longcroft, R. Joby, Norwich 1995, p. 169.
- <sup>2</sup> Ditto, p. 67.
- <sup>3</sup> Aylsham Local History Society Journal 5(5), March 1998, Ed. T. Mollard. Although the document is labelled 1444 the information dates from the middle of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, when Alice was the widow of Peter of Brampton in 1333–1337 and holder of the Ingworth manor, see Vaughan-Lewis, W. & M. (2017), Hearths and Heaths: Dispersed Settlements in Aylsham's Early Modern Landscape, p. 26.
- <sup>4</sup> Act of Enclosure, 58 Geo III, 8/5/1818, Norfolk Studies Library.
- <sup>5</sup> Appointment of Rent Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Ingworth 8/3/1839 by the Tithe Commissioners, Norfolk Record Office.
- <sup>6</sup> Rackham, O., The History of the Countryside, Phoenix Press 1986, p. 365.

# John Boyers, my 3× Paternal Great-Grandfather? Pamela Worth (née Bowers)

When I started seriously researching my family history in 2012, like countless others I was in for some surprises. In 2012 I was living in Dorset but I knew then I had many connections to Aylsham on both my mother's and my father's side. My first visits had been between 1953 and 1956 when I came with my parents. We were staying in Mundesley and came to Aylsham for a day visit on the train. The reason for our visit then must have been researching family history because I remember going into a small room in the church and my father looking at a big book. I have letters from the clerk of the parish council David L Walker to my father. The small room was probably the vestry and the individual we met could have been a church warden or clerk of the parish council, I don't think it was the vicar. I was only seven but we were regular church goers so I would have recognized a priest's dog collar. I also remember looking for the wheelwright's shop where Robert Bowers lived and worked. Reading my father's notes I am reminded that research was much more difficult then but it is clear he went to the Public Record Office, as it was then, and looked at tithe maps and court rolls.

He knew that my  $3\times$  great-grandmother Virtue Dodman, a minor, married a man called John, on the  $5^{th}$  February 1795 in Aylsham Parish church by licence. It can be seen that Virtue could write her name but John could not. On the marriage record John's surname is spelt as Bowers and that remained the spelling for their descendants. John was born about 1772 in or near Dorrington, Lincolnshire, and his name originally appears to be Boyers.

John and Virtue had four children; Robert born 1796, George born 1799, Elizabeth Dodman 1802 and Maria Virtue 1805. In 2012 my husband Jeremy and I started to make regular trips to Aylsham and the Norfolk Record Office. We joined the Aylsham Local History Society and I bought in Barnwells what must have been one of the last copies of Elizabeth Gale's book *Aylsham Inns and Public Houses* as it was soon to go out of print. A big surprise was in store for me! In the section on the White Hart Inn I discovered much more about Robert and Elizabeth Dodman, my 4× great-grandparents, their daughter Virtue and her husband John Boyers. John's life then becomes very interesting and rather sad.

In the Norfolk Chronicle for Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 1805 it was reported that John Boyers along with five others, one of whom was his brother-in-law George Walter, were to be tried for unlawful pursuit of game and shooting at John Booth, the gamekeeper at Gunton, and other men with intent to maim

or kill. The six offenders had been arrested on 12<sup>th</sup> January (according to the Assizes report in March) and taken to the city gaol in Norwich. The newspaper also reports that the prisoners thanked the Mayor and corporation for a cauldron of coals and £1 12s 6d from the Grand Jury. I have toured the dungeons and cells in the Castle and some warmth would definitely have been needed in January. I am guessing the money was mostly for the prisoners' families since it is reported they had 20 children between them. On 13<sup>th</sup> January John and Virtue's youngest child, Maria Virtue was baptized in Aylsham — poor Virtue.

On 12<sup>th</sup> March the men appeared at the Lent Assizes in Thetford (it wasn't until the 1830s that the Assizes were held only in Norwich). In the museum in Thetford there is a bible which I was told was the one used to swear the oaths. It was given to the museum in the 1830s. It looks well worn so it is possible that it is the one John Boyers made his oath on — quite a strange feeling to see something my ancestor might have touched. The Assizes began on the Monday morning. If the prisoners had had to travel to Thetford on the previous day they would have had to endure the shocking conditions in the town gaol, described in the late 1820s by Lord Suffield as being "a dungeon 18 feet 6 inches long and 9 feet wide, almost without ventilation, and housing 17 people: the stench was so great that the gaoler ran away after opening the door".

In the Bury and Norwich Post of 20<sup>th</sup> March 1805 it was reported that at the Assizes, which was held in the Guildhall, "there was the fullest attendance ever remembered, scarcely a bed being to be procured in the town". The proceedings began with the grand jury deciding which cases were to go forward to trial. Heading the 23 gentry were the Hon Wm Asheton Harbord of Blickling and the Hon Edward Harbord of Gunton, where the offence took place! This process lasted most of the day, allowing only two cases to be tried before the evening. The poachers' case, which was indicted under the fearsome Black Act, was reported in the *Bury and Norwich Post* of 27<sup>th</sup> March 1805.

Both Lord Suffield and the Hon Mr Harbord recommended the death sentence be commuted and on 31<sup>st</sup> March a reprieve was received by the Under-Sheriff, W. Foster. The *Bury and Norwich Post* reported as follows on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April:

"Those who have been instrumental in saving their lives will forever be entitled to the gratitude and blessings of these deluded men. It is impossible to express the various feelings with which these poor creatures were agitated, when the joyful tidings was communicated to them; and it is hoped their future lives will best illustrate and justify that mercy which they have experienced".

# THETFORD ASSIZES.

(Concluded from our last.)

At these Assizes, the following 13 prisoners were capitally convicted, and received sentence of death, viz.

Leeds Mays, for stealing a black gelling, the property of Mr. F. Richardson, of Chatteris, in the Isle of Ely, and also a horse hobby from Mr. Wm. Brewster, of Forncett St. Peter.—John Bobbin, for stealing a sheep, the property of Mr. T. Willis, of Choseley.—Robt. Wright, for having returned from transportation before the expiration of the term for which he had been sentenced.—Edward alias Edmund Slapps, for stealing six sheep, the property of Mr. Daniel Lack. of Gaywood.—William Brett. Wm. Webster and John Webster, (three boys) for breaking into the dwelling-house of George King, of Whitwell, and stealing therefrom be-

ween four and five pounds in money.

Stephen Tillett, George Walter, John Boyers, Edmund Gaskings, Thomas Goose, and Thonas Wiley, indicted under the Black Act, for vilfully and maliciously shooting at and maimng, with three or more loaded guns, John Booth, of Gunton, game-keeper, and Thos. looth, Thomas Smith, John Watts, John Wright, and Joseph Burrell, of Gunton, and Wm. Gay, of Hanworth, about two o'clock in he morning of the 12th of January last, in the parish of Suffield, with an intent to kill or main hem. It was proved on the trial of the last six nen, that they had conspired together, to oplose and resist with fire-arms any persons who night interrupt them in their lawless pursuit of boaching .- They were all left for execution : out Lord Suffield and the Hon. Mr. Harbord laving humanely applied to the Judge to recommend the offenders as objects of his Maesty's mercy, there are great hopes that their entences will be commuted. Leeds Mays was lso left for execution on the Castle Hill of Nor-

Reprieve did not of course mean the men were freed but they were taken back to Norwich to await transportation. John Boyers spent April and May in the gaol in Norwich and then a report in the Norfolk Chronicle for Saturday 1st June 1805 tells what happened to him next:

Tuesday last, the six poachers, and other prisoners, to the number of 17, confined in the goals of this county and city, under sentence of transportation, were conveyed from hence, in the Expedition double-bodied coach, on their route for Portsmouth, under the charge of Mr. Johnson, keeper of the Castle.-In the middle of the night, when the carriage had got about a mile on the other side of Chesterford, the convicts who were on the top contrived, unperceivedly, to get free from the chain by which they were confined together, and on a sudden throwing themselves off, with their irons on, some attempted to effect their escape, whilst the others proceeded to attack the coachman; upon which one of the guards immediately drew a pistol, and levelling it at the head of one of the fellows, endeavoured to pull the trigger, but was prevented from doing it at that moment by its being barred .- This determined conduct, however, which was promptly followed up by very spirited exertions on the part of Mr. Johnson, who in the conflict wounded one Fuller in the arm with his cutlass, compelled them to desist from further resistance, and they all (with the exception of a man of the name of Skinner, who, favoured by the darkness of the night and the confison of the moment, got clear off), shortly after resuming their former situations, quietly proceeded on their journey, and the following morning were safely lodged in the Surry New Gaot. - Skinner has been retaken.

On 30<sup>th</sup> November 1805 John Boyers and the other five poachers were received on prison hulk *Perseus* in Portsmouth. The sentence was transportation for life for all of them. The Prison Hulk Registers and Letter books for 1802–1849 are for the ships *Coromandel, Perseus* and *Laurel* and looking at the list of British Prison Hulks on Wikipedia, in 1805 the *Coromandel* had just been refitted as a store ship. HMS *Laurel* was the Dutch sloop *Sireene* 

captured at the second battle of Saldanha Bay in 1796. She was initially named as HMS *Daphne* but in 1798 was converted to a convict ship and renamed *Laurel*. She was sold in 1821. While on the prison hulks all able bodied men were set to work in the daytime doing heavy labour. One job was further building up the fortifications around Portsmouth to prepare for the expected war with France. At night the prisoners were chained to their bunks. Disease was rife on the ships and there were outbreaks of typhoid and cholera, killing many before they were actually transported.

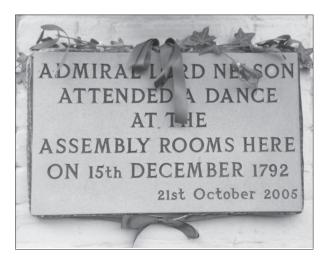
The records of the Prison Hulk and Letter Books indicate that John Boyers and the other poachers were not transported to Australia but recruited into the Royal Africa Corps. This was one of several penal corps or 'condemned battalions' raised about this time from convicts in the prison hulks and army deserters. Joining up was offered as an alternative to men under sentence of transportation for life. The National Archives remain to be searched to find out what happened to them next.

This brings me to the final twist in the tale. In 1811 Virtue gave birth to a son who she named Edward Dodman Bowers. He was born on 18<sup>th</sup> June and "publickly baptized" in Aylsham church on 14<sup>th</sup> July. Obviously John could not have been the father! In the baptism record is also written 'illegitimate'. Two entries above that of Edward is that of Henry Thomas Soame, son of Thomas Soame, and Deborah, formerly Dodman. Deborah was Virtue's sister who was married to another of the convicts, George Walter. Deborah remarried in 1808 to Thomas. On 3rd June 1811 Thomas Soame and Robert Dodman, Virtue's father, had signed an indemnity or bastardy bond promising to meet the costs of her lying-in and birth, education and maintenance of the said child up to £50. It is reasonably certain that Thomas Soame was father of both the sisters' babies, Edward and Henry.

On the right hand side of the path leading to the south door of Aylsham church is the tombstone for Thomas Soame and Deborah. My interest is that Edward is my 2× great-grandfather and so John Boyers is not a direct ancestor! I see the grave of my true 3× great grandfather each week but so far no clue as to where Virtue is buried. She died in 1855 when the churchyard was closed to further burials and the year before the cemetery was opened. A possible answer is the burial ground of the Baptist church but when Jim Pannell and Lynda Wix surveyed the burial ground nothing relating to Virtue was found. Her parents Robert and Elizabeth (4× great grandparents) are buried in Aylsham churchyard.

Edward was in London by the 1841 census where he remained for the rest of his life.

# Horatio Nelson in Aylsham: an update Maggie Vaughan-Lewis



The plaque outside the Black Boys commemorates the visit of Norfolk's most famous son to the town in 1792. Local researcher Geraldine Lee was allowed to decorate the plaque last December and wrote a short note for *Just Aylsham*. It started me wondering about that night and with Geraldine's permission I have come up with a slightly new version of the visit.

As she wrote, Nelson was then a Captain in the Royal Navy, on home leave between wars and receiving half pay. He and his wife Frances, known as Fanny, were both 34 years-old and living at that time in his old family home, the rectory at Burnham Thorpe. Nelson was a very sociable man and, like his father, a great letter writer. An edition of family letters\* tells us much about this time. Old Mr Nelson moved out of Burnham Thorpe rectory at the end of 1790, living in a cottage at Burnham Ulph. He wanted the young couple to have free range at the rectory but be close enough for Horatio to visit him often. His son 'delights in' the place but his father worried it lacked 'variety' for Mrs Nelson.

The couple of course travelled often to London and when at home enjoyed a constant round of visits. They attended the Lynn feast in October 1791 and stayed at Wolterton in December where the Walpoles were in mourning for the Earl of Orford (then of the Houghton line). Lord Walpole of Wolterton was Nelson's godfather after whom he was named and his great-grandmother

had been Sir Robert Walpole's sister so, as family, they were all in mourning for a fortnight.

The couple remained at Burnham for the whole of 1792 and in late October they stayed at Wolterton 'with my relation Lord Walpole'. On 15<sup>th</sup> December 1792 Nelson wrote to his sister Catherine (Kitty) Matcham that he and Fanny had been at the last Aylsham Assembly. From the newspaper, it is clear that the Assembly had been held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, two weeks before he wrote his lively account. Lady Durrant of Scottow Hall had made enquiries after his sister and her family and Mrs Nelson thought Miss Durrant 'is grown into a very fine tall young Woman'. Nelson described 'Lady D' as 'quite the old Woman, lost Her front teeth'. The two Aufrere girls (from Foulsham) Miss Caroline and Miss Emily 'came to Mrs Nelson' who thought they were 'grown extraordinary fine Ladies'.

As Burnham is over 25 miles from Aylsham the Nelsons must have stayed nearby overnight. Geraldine suggested they may have stayed either at Wolterton or with Horatio's cousin, the Revd Benjamin Suckling. It seems that Wolterton would have been more likely as Lord Walpole had always supported the Assembly, attending regularly as a younger man. Benjamin Suckling had been curate at Burnham Thorpe in September 1792 and was not given the local livings of Matlaske and Plumstead until March 1793 (both presented by the Duchy of Lancaster). Like many rectors of small parishes, he preferred the status of living in a town and he lived in Aylsham for a while before moving to Holt where he died. However the poor rates only show him having a house and land in Aylsham from the summer of 1794 so it is unlikely that he was there in 1792 to offer accommodation to his cousin. His younger brother Horace Suckling shared his house for a year or two and Nelson's father was visited by 'the Mr Sucklings from Aylsham' in the summer of 1794: he thought his late wife's nephews 'seem sober, well behaved young men'. Horace was presented with a rectory in Suffolk in 1797 and Benjamin moved out of the Aylsham house in 1800 although he kept a small piece of land there.

After that sociable Christmas in 1792, Nelson was offered his eagerly-awaited commission and left Norfolk for Chatham in February 1793. Fanny left the rectory to reside in Swaffham although she stayed at Wolterton for a few weeks in December 1793. The rest of their story, as they say, is history.

Letters and Dispatches of Nelson, Sir Nicholas Nicolas, p293. Aylsham poor rates, digitised images available in Town Archives.

<sup>\*</sup> The Nelsons of Burnham Thorpe: A record of a Norfolk family compiled from unpublished letters and notebooks, 1787-1842, Mary Eyre Matcham. Ulan Press. Original, 1911. Facsimile nd.

# As Aylsham was Years Ago

# Arnold Tuddenham

[Reprinted from Aylsham Local History Society Journal 2: 343–348 (1990) and 3: 5–10 (1991), compiled by Ron Peabody, with the help of the Revd John Pumphrey and Geoffrey Ducker. The late C19 memories of pubs, Red Lion Street, Clarke's shop and festivities resonate with our current research and seem well worth reading again.

Albert Arnold Tuddenham, known as "Tuddy", was a well-known local 'character' about whom many apocryphal stories are told. He was the Parish (Church) Clerk from 1938 to 1968, and had been, also, a butcher, local cinema manager and bailiff. He had driven a miller's cart, and played the double bass in the Town Band. He carried out his church duties conscientiously, and woe betide any youngster he caught larking about in the church or churchyard. During the Armistice Day ceremony at the War Memorial, in the churchyard, a bugler used to sound the Last Post from the top of the church tower; it was Tuddy who gave the signal for him to begin by waving a white handkerchief. In his 91st year, not long before he died in May 1975, he wrote up his recollections of Aylsham in an exercise book which we are fortunate to have as part of the Town Council's Archive.]

I was born in the Cross Keys in Red Lion Street, January 31st 1885, and I have seen many alterations in the happenings then and in the following years.

When I was living there, I remember Fred Starling's ironmongers shop in Red Lion Street<sup>2</sup> with its trapdoor opening on the pavement to where the men sat, under the shop, basket making of skeps<sup>3</sup> for cattle-feeding. (Men I can remember) two Belwards and two Spinks, and when I was a youngster, I used to walk along to the trapdoor, and throw stones down at them. It was only about 20 yards from my home to the door of the "skeps".

My grandfather was Mr Breese's head tailor, and he worked at the tailor shop, up two flights of stairs in the oblong windows over Edwards china shop, which faces Cooper's garage still in Red Lion Street,<sup>4</sup> and he taught the late James Breese the trade, as before he came to Aylsham, he was a Bond Street tailor in London. When he first came to the town he took the Swan Inn in Hungate Street,<sup>5</sup> before the railway came to Aylsham. He kept that for years until he took over the Cross Keys and left his oldest son in the Swan, and he kept it until he took the old age pension.

Aylsham in my young days always had something doing all during the year. Although the wages were not much, the living was much cheaper, and men worked their gardens more heartily than they do nowadays. All I can remember, they had a good Christmas; farmers gave the men a joint of meat or chicken or goose in accordance to their requirements, and a Christmas pudding in a cloth.

Then came Valentine's Day (we had some fun amongst us youngsters then) – a blown up bladder [bullocks or pigs] on a strong stick, and a parcel on a step – knock on door, (snatch valentine) clout whoever came to pick it up with the bladder on a stick – and run.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> Aylsham Fair Day, there were ponies and horses and donkeys galore – Unicorn yard, New Inn and the parade on the Dog Hill<sup>6</sup> of entire horses both cart horses and hackneys, and the Buttlands and Culleys Meadow<sup>7</sup> full of Gipsy vans, and the Pleasure Fair in the Market Place. The Pleasure Fair varied in size in accordance with what was on elsewhere and how near it was to Tombland Fair at Norwich. I remember one of the first roundabouts I saw was old <u>Tom Gray</u>, – ten little ponies on wooden poles, going round to the speed of an old Scotch pony, in the Unicorn Yard (fare ½d a ride). I had a ride round, and my mother held me on, so you may judge the speed! One thing we must not forget – about three days before the Aylsham Fair happenings, the famous "Rhubarb" Underwood<sup>8</sup> always ran his one horse living van into the Unicorn Yard.

Next morning, he would be up at daylight, and take his horse back to wherever he came from and bring in his load of stall and range equipment, and his wife would be busy making her famous peppermint rock. I remember my dear old grandmother used to give me 6d to get some of Mrs Rhubarb's peppermint rock.

Then came May 29<sup>th</sup>, Oak Apple Day and Club Feast. Everywhere oak branches decorated the shop fronts, and old Christmas Stapleton<sup>9</sup> had oak branches at his place (the Black Boys), and extra barmen serving beer. The Friendly Societies, each with its brass band leading them, all came to church. The Oddfellows with the Town Band, the Foresters with the Hindolveston Band and the Shepherds with a band of their own were all in full regalia. The Foresters held "Bunker Pull" and "Billy Blackburn" [?] on Blofields's two black carthorses, and two boys rode two ponies right to church, then paraded the town

Afterwards the individual clubs had their Annual Dinner at their headquarters. On May 30<sup>th</sup> it was Sports Day on Purdy's pasture, Cawston Road.<sup>10</sup> There were all sorts of different races for children, and some for the ladies, and sack-races, and tug of war for the men. Walking the greasy pole, and letting out a pig into the lake used to cause much fun; the pig was yours if you caught it! The head man I ever saw at it was Fred Payne, he was a shunter



at the G.E.R. and horseman at the station. He always had a bag of sand with him to put on his feet before walking the pole and the pig was nearly always his.

During the summer, the Cycle Club used to have cycle races to different spots from the Dog – to Stratton Lodges and home by Buxton, and once a

month, the winners of each week would all meet for the final. There was always a fair on the Buttlands on 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> May.

On 30<sup>th</sup> July there was a lantern parade of the Cycle Club. The Cycle Club decorated cycles and tricycles up and carried torches with the Band in a wagonette and with black faces, paraded round the town and finished up on the cricket ground, where the volunteers used to drill.<sup>11</sup> I remember the roundabouts coming to most of the fairs. Of course the old Tom Gray was one of the forerunners; he would be grandfather of the present Kenny Gray. Next came [?] grunting up the street with his big old tractor pulling his steam roundabouts, but I don't think he had a steam organ, only a crank organ.

Then Alfred Stock came with his smart galloping horses in the Market Fair, then, when nearing Easter, in rolled the Barker and Thurston's gondolas, and they spent a week on Starling's meadow<sup>12</sup>. Starling's meadow had three different entries – Dale's opening in Red Lion Street<sup>13</sup>, Blofields Loke, and Oakfield Road. September Fair was another horse fair, held at the end of September<sup>14</sup>, and then we were settled down for the winter session.

In Dr Sapwell's book of Mr Starling's notes, it mentions a Mr William Calver<sup>15</sup>, and Mr Starling says he does not suppose many people do remember him, but I remember him very well indeed, as I have cause to do so, when Mr William Calver dropped dead in my arms when I was about 14 years of age.

He stood on a hassock in the little hall of the house in Cawston Road, where Mr Bizley now lives<sup>16</sup> to wind up the grandfather clock. He would not trust me to do it. I could have done it as well as him, but that was his way, and I knew him. He taught me chess. He was a timber merchant, and had a sawpit in the yard opposite my place.<sup>17</sup> Yaxley's Lane divided his place from mine. He had the land up to the Great Eastern Railway – three or four fields to the bottom of Jewel's Loke. This loke afterwards got the name of Culley's Loke when Culley lived where D Stevens is<sup>18</sup>.

When I was a boy, Yaxley's Lane was always called Timber Lane, because the side was always crowded with timber trucks that had been brought home after he bought trees. He kept two men, regular saw men, at work in his sawpits – one in his yard, and one in Harry Keymer's yard, where his bus goes, along the wall that was Winterborn the millwright's yard<sup>19</sup>.

The sawmen's names were – Yip Yap Davison, and Juby Smihson. Mr Calver kept some fine horses for his jilling timber<sup>20</sup>, and he drove a roan horse in his cart and in his sledge in the winter time. Weather never stopped him, if he could get around. I have been miles and miles a day. He had a cider press in his shed, and he made his own cider, and bought empty brandy casks to make it in but he did not allow it to be touched for six months whilst he fed it. This he always did on his own, but I caught him one day, putting some raw beef in

it, which he had just got off my mother (that's how he fed it).

Now as I have got older, I wonder why these old ways are forgotten. Of course, the younger generation all live in a different world to what we did. If they were any use, we should all have a good horse and cart, but they want cleaning and feeding. The average young man hasn't the time for that. He must have a car, and now that they are beginning to cost money, I wonder what else will be their want. Certainly, in many cases they won't want money purses to keep it in, because there is too big a demand for money to keep one alive and doing, to give him a chance to save.

Of course, with a decent gang of very enterprising business people in the town we held an annual carnival, but what has it come to now? It used to last three or four days, now, these past years it is down to less than a day. I know when I first "cried" the carnival as Town Crier, the town was full of people on the Wednesday, and there was something on each night until the Saturday night dance at the Town Hall. Where is it all today? I think it is the wireless that has done away with outdoor amusements locally, of today, because nearly everybody has one, either their own, or on the hire system.

The Town Hall, either in the Autumn or in the Spring, had a busy time with visiting troupes from the seaside when they had finished and before going to their summer places of entertainment, or as they came off them. The Becketts and Cyril Getliffe's National choir were two of the companies which always came. I remember them so well because we used to put up about eight of the parties.

The Volunteers of the old 'C' Company ran a minstrel troupe, and gave one or two performances in the winter, and the church choir always did have a couple of concerts a year in aid of their summer outing. What a day we had! – two three-horse wagonettes for the adults and one two-horse wagonette for the boys. We went by Plumstead Cherry Tree to Sheringham Park for a ramble through the park, and then drive on to the Lobster at Sheringham. After a half-hour rest for the horses, and a look at Sheringham, we then went on to Cromer Lion where we had our dinner – about sixty of us, sometimes more.

The Revd J G Hoare<sup>21</sup> used to drive his pair of chestnuts into Cromer, and gave an order for so many strawberries to be brought to our tea room at the Red Lion. We left Cromer at 7pm and were back home by 8.3opm. Now I don't think the Aylsham choir could entertain three blind mice. Why??

Speaking of the visiting companies that used to hire the Town Hall, Getliffe had some very good turns. He had one item called the 'Hyperdocksyncopodty' in his programme. I have never heard of it since, but it consists of several glasses of various sizes containing water, stood on a table, and a Miss Ina Gilbey played tunes on the top of the glasses with her hands and touching the

water. His wife, Mrs Getliffe, was excellent on the cornet, and I especially noted how she played the 'Lost Chord' with the cornet. It's a good man's job, and I should know something, having been in a band myself since I was 13 years of age. I have played in different bands in concerts, including the old Crystal Palace, London, on several occasions.

I was also the verger at Aylsham church. Having been at the choir since I was eight – I finished up through sickness on my 75<sup>th</sup> Christmas anniversary choral service. I took over the verger's job after old George Neale, who had the job as verger for 50 years.<sup>22</sup> He taught me bell ringing and bell chiming; I already knew about organs from my childhood days, when I used to pump one (¾ hour for 3d).

I took the verger's job because Mr Robert Rust asked me to, until they could get someone else to take it over. Well I carried on for six months for them, and charged nothing. I did all the coke-stoking that winter, and in the Spring I was appointed Clerk and Verger by Mr Robert Rust and Major Johnson, and I held it for 29½ years after, until I could do it no longer. I hear that although they had people falling over themselves for the job as verger, after I left, (that is over four years since I gave it up), they have still got a long way to fall, because there is not one got there yet!

I missed only one 8 o'clock Communion in those 30 years. That was when the clock was not altered. I was on my way to church, as usual, at 7.30 as I thought – when I heard it chime. When a friend put her head out of the window and said "where are you going Arnold?" I said, "8 o'clock service, of course". She said "Did you alter the clock last night? It is now 8.30 not 7.30 as you thought". I could not go to church late, so I went home again, but I got my bike out and got to the church, and put the clock on so that she struck 9am at the proper time.

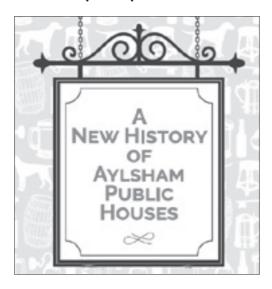
On looking in my Daily Press, this week, I see the Bishop has again brought our Canon, Baldwin Sapwell, to the front, not forgetting his beloved bicycle. I have known him since he was a boy, and he never came to Aylsham, unless he looked me up. We called him 'Slasher' when he was a little boy, but he was one of the best you ever knew, and would not hurt a worm. I knew him and his wife too, before they were ever married. I went into Haddiscoe post office for some stamps, when I was that way on business. I did not know he was the vicar there, or I should have called to see him. Anyway, I said "Good morning, Mrs Sapwell" and the lady looked at me, surprised that I knew her, and then I told her how she should know me. Had she ever sat inside a roped-in round-clock machine, and had her weight tested by the butcher who killed the pig? Then she knew who I was – I was the man who weighed her, and I was the butcher for Mrs Ives of Calthorpe's pig.

## [Apart from a few more unrelated notes, the memoir ends there].

#### References

- 1 The Cross Keys was a public house occupying 28 and 30 Red Lion Street from 1839 until c1920. It is now Bond's fish shop.
- 2 Number 18, now The Old Tea Rooms and Broadland Framers.
- 3 Skeps are wicker baskets that hold a bushel of cattle feed.
- 4 Breese tailor's shop subsequently occupied by Edward's china shop, Page china shop and then part of Clarke's ironmongers shop.
- 5 The Swan Inn stood on the site now used by the British Legion club as their private car park. Commemorated by the nearby Swan Close.
- 6 Public Houses Unicorn in Hungate Street, the New Inn in Red Lion Street, later Cooper's Garage, now modern shops and houses south of Blofields Loke, and the Dog in Norwich Road on the site now occupied by the row of shops including Fisher's funeral parlour. The Dog Hill was the gentle slope up from Budgens to Barclay's bank car park.
- 7 Culley's Meadow was off Culley's Loke, or as it is officially named, Jewel's Lane. This lane is a track leading off the south side of Cawston Road between numbers 81 and 83.
- 8 Rhubarb Underwood was a fair proprietor who used Aylsham as his home base, and stayed in Unicorn Yard all the winter.
- 9 Christmas Stapleton was landlord of the Black Boys Inn from 1877 to 1904.
- 10 Woodgate, Cawston Road, was the venue for the so-called Aylsham Derby event which was popular during the 1880s. These sports were also held at Sankence, Cawston Road, and at Wolterton and Blickling Parks.
- 11 The training ground for the Volunteers was Durrells field, the land adjacent to the Old Pump House (opposite the Soame Pump) running between Blickling road and Holman Road. When used as a cricket ground, W G Grace is reputed to have played there and to have been bowled out first ball!
- 12 Starling's meadow extended from behind their shop in Red Lion Street (now The Old Tea Rooms) to Oakfield Road.
- 13 Dale's shop, now Bon Bon confectioner and card shop.
- 14 The last Tuesday in September, see Sapwell, A History of Aylsham.
- 15 William Carver, timber merchant, Cawston Road, is listed in directories from 1864 to 1890, after which he is entered as a private resident in Cawston Road from 1892 to 1904. In 1908 the entry changes to Mrs Calver, so presumably William had died by then. The surname is variously spelt as Carver or Calver by Starling and in the directories. Starling says he was a violent man "given to picking fights".
- 16 Number 66 Cawston Road.
- 17 The Ordnance Survey Map (25" ed. 1886) shows a large timber yard at the junction of Cawston Road and Yaxley's Lane; and a smaller yard in Jewel's Lane.
- 18 Dick (Richard) Stevens, agricultural contractor.
- 19 In Jewel's Lane.
- 20 Mr Mervyn Ellis, who owns the mill at Stratton Strawless tells me that "jilling timber" was the transporting of the felled trees from the woods to sawmills on carriages called timber jills, or drags.
- 21 Vicar of Aylsham 1888-1921.
- 22 George Neale, Parish (Church) Clerk 1888-1937.

# A New History of Aylsham Public Houses



The Society has a new book out, just in time for Christmas. A New History of Aylsham Public Houses covers all the known sites – many newly discovered – of licensed premises in the town, including alehouses, beer houses and inns. A complete revision of the ground-breaking work published by Elizabeth Gale in 2001, the new book is full of fascinating detail about brewing and the important role of women in the business. With only three pubs remaining open in the town, the numbers of busy – often noisy outlets – may come as a surprise to newcomers and younger readers. There may be a few surprises for older residents too as new research has overturned some former 'facts'. The Angel, for example, was not as previously suggested at Old Bank House but stood in Red Lion Street!

The book was researched and produced by the publications sub-committee with Maggie Vaughan-Lewis as its editor. William Vaughan-Lewis acted as project consultant, having researched the manorial court rolls for the early history of all the sites. Roger and Diana Polhill created the index and Roger prepared the text for Barnwells the printers. A review of the volume will appear in the next journal. The book is priced £15 but £10 to members (plus p&p if being posted). Any member who was not able to attend either the launch or the evening meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> November should contact Caroline Driscoll on 01263 731808 or via the Society website.

# Buildings at Risk – a talk by Barbara Hornbrook and Kate Knights

Following our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 4 October, we had a very interesting talk on 'Buildings at Risk' from Barbara Hornbrook and Kate Knights of Broadland District Council. The two of them job share to fill the Historic Environment Officer role working within the Development Management team of the Council's Planning Department. It is a wide-ranging role that includes listed building applications, advice to listed building owners, conservation area appraisals, award schemes, grants as well as buildings at risk. A significant amount of their work involves Aylsham.

The title Buildings at Risk has now been changed to Heritage at Risk, for which there are not one but three registers: one produced by Historic England; another called SAVE Britain's Heritage; and the third produced by Broadland DC. The latter has 35 buildings or monuments on the list. Barbara and Kate explained that there is no statutory duty for owners to maintain their listed buildings. However local authorities do have important enforcement powers and can intervene under certain circumstances. Decay in buildings or monuments is often not apparent until it has already reached a critical point after which the deterioration is rapid – what they characterised as a cliff edge. Clearly, they aimed to act well before that point was reached.

Barbara and Kate then gave some specific examples to show the problems they had to deal with, including Burgh Mill, Salhouse Hall, Hainford Hall and Clarke's shop in Aylsham. They were also able to provide some success stories including Aylsham Mill, Hackford All Saints Church Ruin in Reepham and St Peters Barn at Stanninghall Farm.

Within the Broadland area, are 19 conservation areas which Barbara and Kate review and report on annually to identify risks and opportunities. In 2013 Broadland was involved in a pilot project with Historic England to use volunteers who were trained and given specific buildings to view from the street to see if they could identify problems. In future they plan to introduce a volunteer Heritage Warden scheme but this is currently on hold because of the planned merger of the back-office functions of Broadland with South Norfolk District Council. When implemented, Heritage Wardens will be asked to identify local buildings of interest and to update conservation area statements. At the end of the talk, there was a lively question-and-answer session focusing mostly on the issues of Aylsham.

Geoffrey Sadler

# **Annual General Meeting**

Thursday October 4th 2018

**Apologies:** Ros Calvert, John Cragg, Sue and Martyn Fox, Geoff Gale, Valerie Hills, Angela Lake, Joan Roulstone and Jeremy Worth

Minutes of the AGM 2017 were signed as a true record. The Chairman asked how members felt about having refreshments before the winter lectures trialled this year. There was no dissent.

#### Secretary's Report

I stepped in to the experienced shoes of Jim Pannell with trepidation. He did all the work for last Autumn's lectures which included the entertaining and extremely informative Matt Champion giving the Afternoon Series entitled: *The Art and Archaeology of the Birth of England A.D.410 – 1066*. Matt always presents information in a way that you look forward to the next instalment (and makes you think you'll remember it all!).

The evening lectures were well attended and the experiment with refreshments beforehand seems to have gone down well.

The annual dinner became a tea at The Dales Hotel right next door to Sheringham Park in the year of the *Repton 200* celebrations. We were given a short talk by Rob Coleman from the National Trust at Sheringham. [The meeting was reminded about *Repton Revealed*, a light show at Sheringham early in November.]

This year's option for socialising includes the chance to join us for Fish and Chips in Cromer as part of this years' Autumn Course with the title of *Cromer*. There are three different speakers with different specialisms, Peter Stibbons (Poppyland publisher), Chris Branford (Retired Foundry Manager) and Alistair Murphy (Curator at Cromer Museum).

If you have any suggestions or comments for future talks or events, please use the slips provided.

# Treasurer's Report

The accounts reflect a flourishing society with a strong and increasing membership and in good financial shape. The various events and activities have been enthusiastically supported and carefully costed and you will see that this year we have an excess of income over expenditure of almost £400.

It should be noted that our brochure on Aylsham Street Names was sponsored and largely paid for by Broadland District Council.

The accounts are at present with Graeme Johnston, who very kindly checks them for us. They will be published in the Journal in due course.

I have enjoyed serving the Society as treasurer and am sorry that I cannot continue. I wish my successor well.

#### Report on Newsletter, Journal and Publications

The three parts of the Journal and Newsletter published this year start Volume 11 in our 33<sup>rd</sup> year of publication. Geoff Sadler has kindly trialled one part on the Society website, and now we know the pdf sent to the printer can be transposed we can do this as a regular feature for a wider community. I am most grateful for all the contributions and look forward to your continued support.

Sue Sharpe's leaflet on the People of Aylsham Through its Street Names was printed by Barnwell Press in December 2017 generously supported by a grant from Broadland District Council. Sue added she was very grateful to people who had helped with the compilation. It was distributed to all the houses on the new estates and is available free from Barnwells and the Heritage Centre.

A New History of Aylsham Public Houses, edited by Maggie Vaughan-Lewis, based on the work of Elizabeth Gale with new research by William Vaughan-Lewis, goes to be printed at Barnwells next week. Geoff Gale has kindly passed on photos and other material he had from Aylsham Inns and Public Houses a History by Elizabeth Gale in 2001 and has been supportive of the new book to be published under the auspices of the Society. We have had a small group working with Maggie to help in small ways with the design and production over the last year.

We are grateful to Caroline Driscoll for marketing and restocking our current books. In the current year we sold 16 copies of *Sail and Storm*, 10 copies of *About Aylsham* and *William Starling's Memories of Aylsham* and 9 of *Millgate*, also a few of the others, raising £318. She has obtained very reasonable quotes for restocking *Memories of Aylsham* and Millgate. The story of Millgate has been revisited by Maggie and William Vaughan-Lewis in chapter eight of their *Hearths and Heaths: Dispersed Settlements in Aylsham's Early Modern Landscape*, published last year and other more recent publications.

#### Report on Visits

We had two very successful visits this year. Annabelle Stretton-Derham made us very welcome to Earsham Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and guided us through a most interesting tour of the house and garden, ending with a sumptuous tea.

On Friday 29 June we had a very memorable visit to the Castle Museum, where Dr Francesca Vanke gave us a wonderful insight into the Paston Treasure Exhibition that she had taken a large part in putting together.

An outing to Cromer is proposed for 18<sup>th</sup> October as part of the ALHS Autumn Term on Cromer, open to members even if not taking part in the course.

#### Report on Membership

The Chairman explained that Ros Calvert had very kindly agreed to take on the responsibility of membership secretary as well as that of Treasurer, but unfortunately could not attend the AGM this year.

#### **Election of Officers**

The Chairman explained that Lynda Wix was leaving Aylsham and asked, in vain, if anyone would be willing to take on the role of Minuting Secretary. He then noted that there had been no nominations for other positions and the Committee stood down for re-election as follows.

Chair: Geoff Sadler	proposed by Victor Morgan
	seconded by Sue Jay
Vice chairman: Roger Polhill	proposed by Jim Pannell
, and the second	seconded by Gillian Barwick
Secretary: Sue Sharpe	proposed by Margaret Rowe
· -	seconded by Diana Polhill
Treasurer/ Membership Secretary	·
Ros Calvert	proposed by Geoff Sadler
	Seconded by Jill Sheringham
Rest of the Committee en bloc	proposed by Geoff Sadler
	seconded by Gillian Barwick

#### **Any other Business**

Members were reminded of the book launch of **Among the Wolves of Court The Untold Story of Thomas and George Boleyn** organised by the Book Hive in the Town Hall at 7 pm on 11 October.

Geoff Sadler reminded everyone of events organised by the Heritage Centre.

# RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

reasurer)	Ian McManus (Treasurer)		1088.94		Funds held on deposit at vear end	Funds hel
			6625.10	l forward	Represented by:- Bank balance carried forward Cash balance carried forward	Represent Cash bala
				6645.26		
				378.92	Add excess of income over expenditure 378.92	Add exces
				33.22	Cash balance at 31/08/17	Cash balaı
				6233.12	Bank balance at 31/08/17	Bank bala
					<u>ıtion</u>	Reconciliation
4263.93		4589	285	4642.85		4209.62
197.35	Aylsham High School prize					
4.00	Bank Charge-unpaid cheque					
50.00	Donations	50.00				
25.00	Gratuities	30.00				
54.04	Stationery, posters, copying	49.45	32.30	32.	50.00 Refreshments	50.00
180.00	Lecture fees	180.00	14.00	14.	Donations	
75.00	Professional subscriptions	83.00	:35	427.35	Social event	875.00
440.30	Social Event	900.00	20	1220.20	Sales of publications	483.62
1282.2C	Visits	1470.90	00	1233.00	Visits	1025.00
288.00	Hire of halls	345.50	00	00.999	Autumn Course	810.00
1445.00	Publications & printing	1080.15	00	36.00	Visitors	90.00
225.00	Autumn Course	400.00	00	1014.00	876.00 Members' subscriptions	876.00
2017/2018	EXPENDITURE	2016/2017		2017/2018	INCOME	2016/2017

## LIST OF MEMBERS

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# **ENDPIECE**

# Correction for 1851 census for Aylsham

A word of caution to anyone using the 1851 census for Aylsham: the enumerator has reversed the west and east sides of Red Lion Street! So John Chapman, who was running the Red Lion pub, appears on the 'East side' when the pub was of course on the west ....

Maggie Vaughan-Lewis