

Aylsham Local History Society



AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER

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TUDDY REMEMBERS

Ron Peabody

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 Parish Council's archives.

I am grateful to our curate, Rev. John Pumphrey, and to Geoffrey Ducker for their assistance in the preparation of this article, and in the editing of the Tuddenham MS.

AS AYLSHAM WAS YEARS AGO by Arnold Tuddenham,

I was born in the "Cross Keys" in Red Lion Street, [1] January 31st. 1885, and I have seen many alterations in the happenings then and in the following years.



Albert Arnold Tuddenham
1885 - 1975

When I was living there, I remember Fred Starling's ironmongers shop in Red Lion Street[2] with its trapdoor opening on the pavement to where the men sat, under the shop, basket making of skeps[3] 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[4], 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[5], 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 the stick - and run.

March 23rd. Aylsham Fair Day, there were ponies and horses and donkeys galore - "Unicorn" yard, "New Inn" and the parade on the "Dog" Hill[6] of entire horses both cart horses and hackneys, and the Buttlands and Culleys Meadow[7] 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 Tom Gray, - ten little ponies on wooden poles, going round to the speed of an old Scotch pony, in the Unicorn Yard [fare $\frac{1}{2}$ d 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 [8] 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 her some of Mrs. Rhubarb's peppermint rock.

Then came May 29th, Oak Apple Day and Club Feast. Everywhere oak branches decorated the shop fronts, and old Christmas Stapleton [9] 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 Blofield's two black cart-horses, 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 30th. it was Sports Day on Purdy's pasture, Cawston Road [10]. 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 so 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 30th. May.

On 30th. July there was a lantern parade of the Cycle Club. The Cycle Club decorated cycles and tri-cycles 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 [11]. 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.

(To be continued)

REFERENCES

1. The Cross keys was a public house occupying numbers 28 & 30 Red Lion Street from 1839 until c1920. It is now Bond's butcher and fish shops.
2. Number 18, now Green's outfitter's shop.

3. Skeps are wicker baskets which hold a bushel of cattle feed.
4. Breese tailor's shop subsequently was occupied by Edward's china shop, Pages china shop and now 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 St., the "New Inn" in Red Lion St. [now Cooper's garage], and the "Dog" in Norwich Rd. on the site now occupied by the row of shops including the Midland Bank. The "Dog Hill" was the gentle slope up from Budgen's stores 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 the track leading off the south side of Cawston Rd. between Nos. 61 & 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 1877-1904
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 Rd. and at Wolterton and Blickling Parks.
11. The training ground for the Volunteers was Durrell's field, the land adjacent to the Old Pump House (opposite the Soame Pump) running between Blickling Rd. and Holman Rd. When used as a cricket ground, W.G. Grace is reputed to have played there and to have been bowled out first ball!

EXPLORING THE MILLGATE DOCUMENTS.

Valerie Belton

One of the pleasures of research comes when the connection between hitherto seemingly unconnected facts suddenly emerges - the light dawns, and the pattern takes shape!

This happened in a small way when I read the account of Aylsham Baptist church from H.Proudfoot's broadsheet, printed in the March edition of the Journal. Among those mentioned are, Mrs.Ann Harvey, a widow lady remarkable for 'innate dignity and firmness of character'; her sister, Mrs.Pedder, 'a person of great sweetness and humility of character'; Ann Harvey junior, her daughter; and John Bane, first Baptist minister in Aylsham.

The names rang a bell, and I eventually traced them to one of the bundles of documents in the Millgate collection of Mr. Tom Bishop, which the Archives group would be studying in the Autumn, and which I had browsed through. Ann Harvey first appears as the wife of a millwright in 1771. In that year, her husband, Thomas Harvey, bought part of the estate of Thomas Spurrell, copyhold land held from the Lord of the Manor of Aylsham Wood, late Sacred otherwise Sexton's. The property is described as - "All that Messuage situate in Millgate Street in Alyesham. . . next the King's Highway leading to the Bridge on the part of the west, and the street or way leading to the Water Mills on the North part. . . with the yard pump and garden to the same belonging. And also the barn and stable adjoining the said Messuage. . . with the piece of land on the south side thereof, containing by estimation 1 rood, more or less; and also, all that close of arable land called or known by the name of Maiden's Bower lying and being in Aylesham aforesaid, next a horseway leading to a meadow of the

said Manor, on the part of the east; and a meadow called Pope's meadow on the part of the west, and abutting upon the King's Highway leading from Aylesham aforesaid to Tuttington. . . towards the north, and upon lands of the Lord of the said Manor towards the south, containing by estimation, 1 acre and 1 rood, more or less."

In 1799, we find Ann Harvey claiming the lands in which her husband, now dead, had left her a life interest. She herself lived just long enough to have her name recorded as a householder, living in Millgate, in the 1821 census (edited by Tom Mollard, and published as Aylsham Local History Society's first Occasional Paper).

The next piece of the puzzle is supplied by Jane Nolan, who recorded the memorials in Aylsham Baptist Chapel in the course of the Chapel Survey, carried out by the Society for the Norfolk Archaeological Rescue Group. One memorial reads:-

In a vault beneath this tablet, are deposited the remains of John Pedder. Gent. late of this parish, who died the 7th. of Jan. 1827 aged 78 years Also of Frances, his wife, who died the 5th. of March 1831 aged 84 years.

And also of Ann Harvey, her sister, who died the 16th. August 1822 aged 83 years.

Ann Harvey and Frances Pedder were baptised in this parish on a personal profession of faith April 22nd. 1791 and became the founders of the Baptist Church in this place.

Peace to their memory.

John Pedder is the man described by Proudfoot as being "for some years a bitter persecutor" until he heard Mr. Kinghorn preach. This was a turning-point in his life and from then onwards he "did great good both in the church and neighbourhood". In the

documents, John Pedder is called 'a farmer of Hevingham' and later in life, he is given the title of "Gent.". In any event, he was considered to be sufficiently reliable to be one of two executors of his brother-in-law, Thomas Harvey's will, and indeed the only surviving one, when Ann died in 1822.

It was John Pedder, as executor, who sold the estate to Robert Harvey in 1823. The Abstract of his Title does not mention Robert's relationship to Ann and Thomas. I think he was probably their son, although as a carver and gilder, he had chosen not to follow his father's career of millwright.

In time, Robert too became a pillar of the Baptist Chapel, and his epitaph records his death in 1842, and adds:-

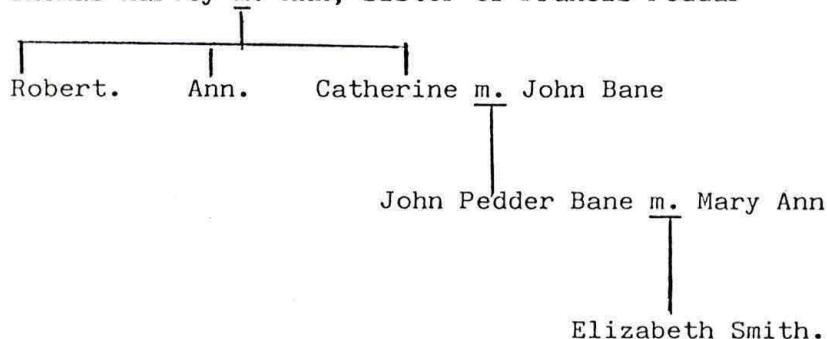
*"For 50 years he was a zealous and devoted Christian
The last 12 of which, he sustained the deacon's
Office in the Church assembling in this place.*

*He rests from his labours
And his works do follow him."*

Robert's will is interesting, as it provides further evidence of family relationships. He left the property (excluding the Maiden's Bower which he had sold to Francis Parmeter in 1825) to his sister, Ann Harvey for her life, and then to his other sister, Catherine Bane, wife of John Bane, 'Dissenting Minister'. After both sisters had died, the estate was to go to one of his executors, John Peddar Bane, millwright. The other executor was John Bane, and in 1846 we find them both described as living in Downham Market.

I think the family tree looks like this:-

Thomas Harvey m. Ann, sister of Francis Peddar

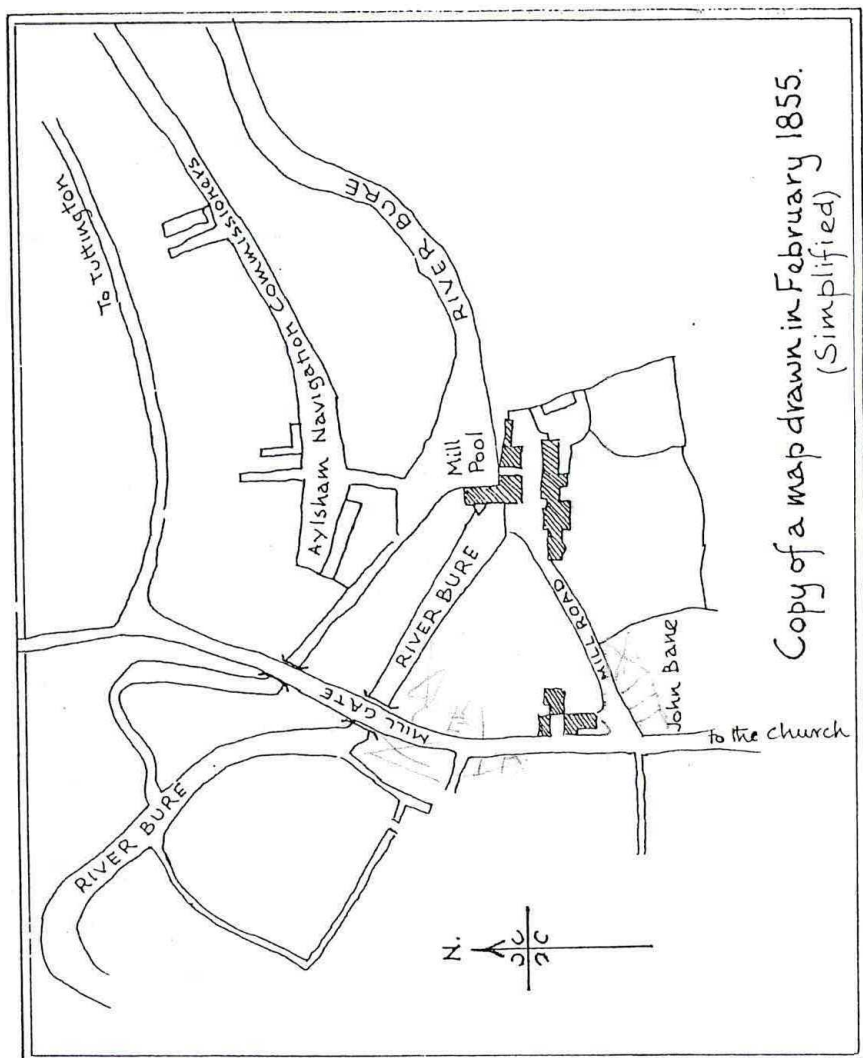


A map drawn in February 1855 shows the property in the corner between Millgate and Mill Road, and gives the name of John Bane, presumably as trustee. The land seems to have remained in the hands of the descendants of John Bane until 1950, when the representatives of John Pedder Bane's daughter, Mrs.Elizabeth Smith, then deceased, sold it.

Elizabeth had, in 1899, built a "villa" on the land, and this was referred to in 1950 as No.26 Millgate.

By way of a postscript, may I record my thanks to Mr.Bishop for telling me that there is a house in Dunkirk called "The Maiden's Bower", presumably on the site of the property so-called in Thomas Harvey's purchase of 1771. Again, documentary and physical evidence neatly dovetail, complementing each other.

--ooOoo--



THE NORFOLK HISTORY FAIR

Ivan Morris

The Gressenhall Rural Life Museum must have been pleased with their Fair, this year, for certainly it appeared to be much more wide-ranging and varied than it was on the last occasion, two years ago. This time, four large marquees housed the stalls and exhibits of a myriad of groups and societies, all competing for the attention of many thousand visitors over the two days-September 15/16.

Aylsham Local History Society decided to take part again, perhaps hoping to emulate their 1988 success when their display won an award. This time, the theme selected was "Railways of Aylsham, Past & Present", taking advantage of the opening, in July, of the new narrow-gauge Bure Valley Railway which links Aylsham and Wroxham using the old Great Eastern track which was closed in the early 1960s

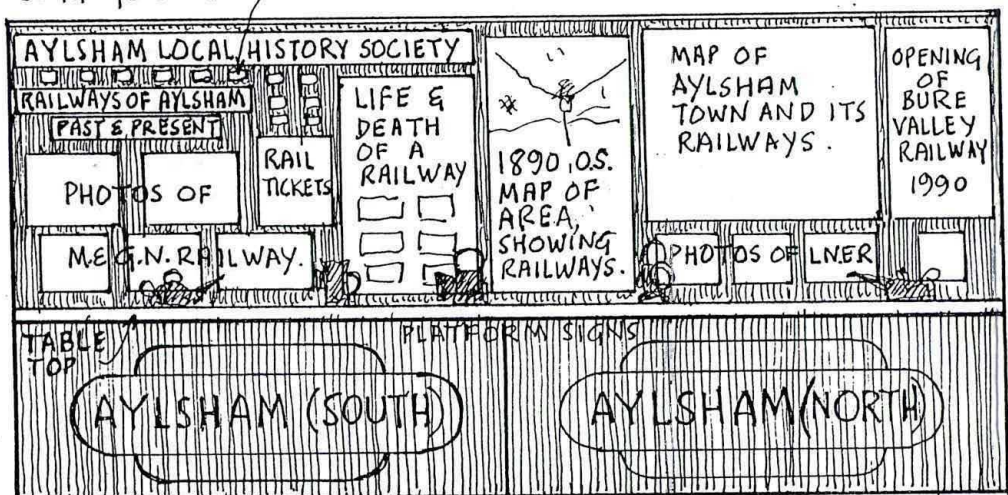
A small committee was set up, and efforts were directed to procure details of the two railways which used to serve Aylsham until the Beeching cuts finished them - the M&GN and the LNER. It was amazing how, little by little, from a word here and there, things turned up, proving that relics of Aylsham's history lie concealed, encouraging thoughts of a local museum to ensure the preservation of valuable artefacts before they are lost forever. We were able to present many interesting details and anecdotes arousing evocative memories. Photographs included the charming building which was the M&GN station in Millgate, (was it really "accidently-on-purpose" demolished by a carelessly swung demolition contractor's ball?) and two railwaymen, in the early days of this century, walking home past the Anchor Inn in Millgate, carrying their snap-basket.

A panel told the story of the 'Life & Death of a Railway' - before and after photos of the LNER station [now the Bure Valley Railway]. Spot the loco shed on the 1890 photograph, the only building surviving from

those days. The 1890 1" O.S. map intended to show the railways, also revealed much of interest to local residents, revealing the basic Aylsham devoid of all modern estates and developments. Peter Holman's large-scale map of the town and its railways, a collection of photographs taken at the opening of the Bure Valley Railway in July, and a display of old railway luggage labels and tickets concluded the panel display.

On the table were displayed numerous railway artefacts - signal lamps, oil torches and a true relic of the old M&GN station - a section of the ornamental canopy fascia. The two large station platform signs formed a frontispiece to the tables. Also on the tables were a number of little anecdotes and stories, of the navvies building the railway, and amusing incidents during the operation of the lines. Literature and leaflets setting out the aims and activities of the Society were on display, and throughout the two days much interest was aroused. (Sadly, however, we did not

LUGGAGE LABELS



SKETCH OF SOCIETY'S DISPLAY

win an award this year - perhaps next time!)

Members of the Society, unable to visit Gressenhall had an opportunity to see the exhibition when it was erected at the AGM, and a further opportunity came when an approach to the Bure Valley Railway elicited a willingness to have the display during their "Steam Weekend" in October.

This was a grand occasion, with three additional locomotives in steam (making five in all), and a large and evocative display of Hornby trains (operated by serious and dedicated grown-ups!) and lots of train buffs and others wallowing in engine smells, sounds and nostalgia.

Our exhibition fitted in well, and was quite popular, particularly as it was on home ground and many local people found it very interesting. The fact that it was used on three occasions made our efforts much more worthwhile.

The grateful thanks of the Society go to the following for the loan of various articles, many of which are irreplaceable, and of considerable value to collectors - Tom Bishop, mainly for the two platform signs (Aylsham North & Aylsham South) and old rail tickets - S.Dack [ex Aylsham Stationmaster] for an 1890 O.S. map of the area showing railways in their heyday. - Brian Hedge, for the screens and for photographs from his large and unique Norfolk collection - Peter Holman, for preparing a railway map of the town - J.G.Proud, for maps and books. - Robin Rush, for luggage labels, reminding-us of country stations long disappeared. - Tom West and Mollie Long for many relics of Tom's long period of service with the LNER, photographs, working tools and impedimenta, a complete uniform, with steam cap and diesel cap (and very smart too, looked our vice-chairman wearing the steam cap during his stint at Gressenhall!)

Altogether, a pleasureable and rewarding exercise and setting a precedent for future History Fairs. (Ideas for 1992? - it's the 80th anniversary of the Aylsham Floods.)

JOHN ADEY REPTON AND AYLSHAM 'CATCH-POLES'

In the Aylsham Local History Society's "Journal and Newsletter" [volume 2 page 293] a contributor asks - who was J.A.R. who wrote a description of the Aylsham Altar Piece in the 'Gentleman's Magazine' for 1839? The answer is John Adey Repton (1775-1860), the talented first son of the landscape gardener, Humphry Repton.

Despite being almost stone deaf, John Adey became a pupil of the famous architect, William Wilkins. It was probably Wilkins who sent the description of Aylsham Bridewell to the 'Gentlemen's Magazine' for 1795, which was recorded in the Society's "Journal & Newsletter" [volume 2 page 236]. Leaving Wilkins for London, John Repton became an assistant to the more famous architect, John Nash, and then took partnership with his father, Humphry Repton.

John Adey contributed several articles to Antiquarian journals, and died, unmarried, 20th. November 1860. One such contribution to "Archaeologia", volume xxii, described some thief-taking instruments from Aylsham Bridewell, and details of the article, as it later appeared in 'Literary World' are appended below.*

R.C.FISKE

* By pure coincidence, we have another of John Adey Repton's contributions elsewhere in this issue. See Page 362 .

"Popular Antiquities."

THIEF-TAKING INSTRUMENTS.

THESE two curious instruments for catching thieves were found, a few years since, among a collection of old iron from Aylsham Bridewell, in Norfolk, which has not been used as a prison since the last enlargement of Norwich Castle. The Bridewell, (according to the inscription carved in oak,) was erected in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, by R. Marsham, and Joan, his wife. The date upon the arch of the door is 1543; and, from the ornament of crockets, there can be little doubt that these irons are of the same date as the building itself. The instrument, Fig. 1, has a wooden handle nineteen inches and a half long, and has two iron springs, which move towards the dotted line *a, a*; and Fig. 2, by the springs, to *b, b*. The space *c*, in Fig. 1, received the arm or lower part of the leg: that of *d*, in Fig. 2, is large enough to seize a thief by the lower part of the thigh. This had formerly affixed to it a pole, about seven or eight feet long, and was very necessary to draw a thief in a retrograde motion out of a hole, when attempting to make his escape.

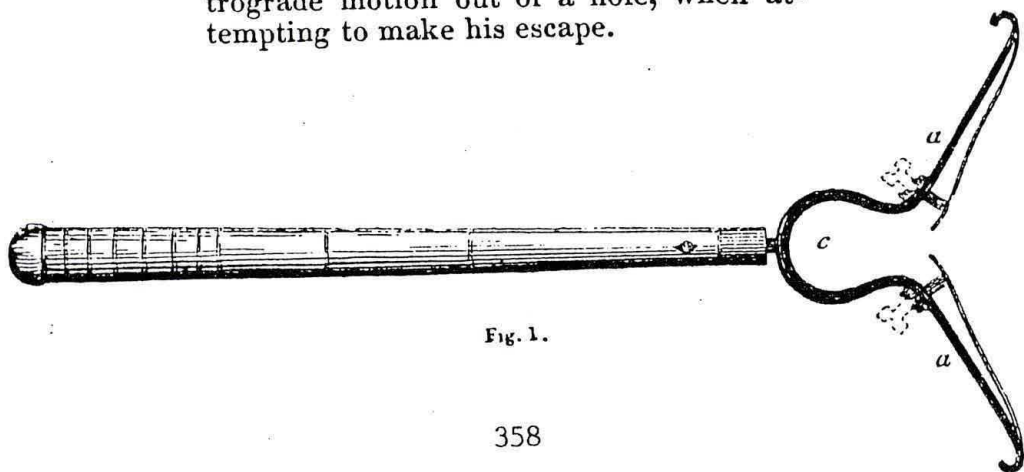
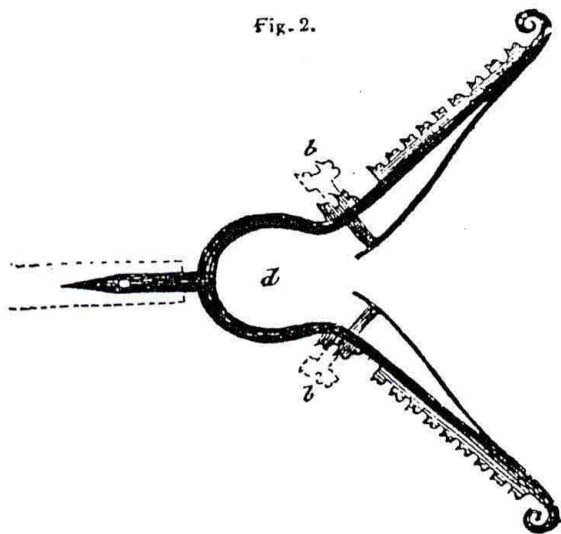


Fig. 1.

Dr. Johnson, in his *Dictionary*, says, the word *Catchpoll* is from *catch* and *poll*, a ser-geant or bumbailiff; but, if any conjecture

Fig. 2.



be allowed, may it not be derived from *catch* and *pole*, the instrument being fixed to a long pole?

The "*Cachipollis*," described in Wiclif's New Testament, (Dedis of Apostles, c. xvi.,) were sergeants under the magistrates, but are thus described in the glossary: "*Cacche-poles*, bailiffes, lictors, from *catch* and *pole*, because these officers, in executing their office, lay hold of the man's neck."

Such irons appear to be still used by the Swedish and Danish watchmen; for the watchmen of Stockholm, like the brethren of Copenhagen, are described as perambulating the town at night, with a curious weapon, like a pitchfork, each side of the fork having a spring barb, used in securing a running thief by the leg. The employment of it requires some skill and practice, and constitutes no inconsiderable part of the art and mystery of thief-catching."

It was with some interest that I noted in the last Journal & Newsletter that six of the seven Protestant dissenters recorded in the returns to the Bishop of Norwich in 1706 were described as being Quakers, i.e. members of the Religious Society of Friends. They were: Peter Gill, Nicholas Howse, Eliz. Malster, John Reeve and Anne and Peter Rolf.

Quakerism began in the middle of the seventeenth century, a period of great political and social unrest which included the Civil War. Quakers suffered much persecution at the hands of church and state, and their refusal to pay church tithes led to great poverty and much distress. As these six Quakers must all have been born before 1690, I consulted Arthur Eddington's "First fifty years of Quakerism in Norwich". Only Peter Gill's name is listed there as a Quaker; the entries about him give us a glimpse of Quaker ways and attitudes of the time, reproof and caring intermixed. For example, a minute of the Monthly Meeting [the Quaker business meeting] orders that Peter Gill of Aylsham "do speak to Michael Hubert and John Doutye and own his condemnation for yielding to them, in drincking with them, so as to abuse his reason". Later in the same year, we find a reference to his death and that he had "left it to Friends to sell or mortgage his house, for to satisfy his debts". We read in a later note "that care was taken about it".

Help to the poor and needy seems frequently to have been in kind: "the piece of cloth received from Yarmouth Friends was carried to Fakenhamside to be distributed upon poor Friends at need thereabouts, and the rest is to be returned". A note adds "Received back from Fakenhamside, 8 yards. . . 7 of which was sent by William Kiddle to Peter Gill (of Aylsham)."

Distributions of sacks of coal were often made to the needy, and we find a widow Gill on a list of widows receiving five sacks in 1695. She was also given in 1694, the sum of 6/- being a portion of a legacy left to the Meeting.

While turning the pages of Arthur Eddington's fascinating history, I found a reference to a John Soame of Aylsham, one of only two Friends recorded as having paid tithes. In 1671, "it was ordered that Jno.Hart and John Allen should go to John Soame of Aylsham and speak to him about some disorderly things, that tends to the grief of Friends and dishonour of truth, as paying tyth to the priest. . ." We read in a later minute that "it was brought back that his answer was, if they could show him a way he and his family might not be ruined, he would not pay them; and could get but little answer but to that effect."

There was never a Quaker Meeting in Aylsham. The fact that these two Friends are clearly seen as members of Norwich Meeting, suggests that Norwich was the centre to which Aylsham Friends were drawn. But there was quite a large Quaker Meeting also in Lammas (the Meeting House is still there) and maybe I might find the names of the other five Quakers amongst Lammas records if I were to look. Research is never ending!

COVER ILLUSTRATION - The Cover illustration is a small section of the Town Map, drawn by Peter Holman. It gives an indication of the amount of detail included in the map, but of course, it cannot do justice to the colours of the original. I am grateful to Peter Holman for permission to use it, and I am also indebted to him for the map which accompanies the article by Valerie Belton.

EXCAVATIONS AT STOW HEATH.

Readers of the Journal & Newsletter who have followed each issue since the appearance of Vol.1 Part 1 in July 1985, will be familiar with the series of extracts from the Norfolk directories which cover Aylsham, starting with the first one of 1836.

In every extract, starting with that first one of 1836, right up to the last-but-one that we have reached (1877), there is a short, three line entry which states:

On Stow Heath, about 2 miles to the east, are several large tumuli or barrows in which two urns containing human bones and ashes were found in 1808.

From time to time, I have been curious about these discoveries - what exactly was found, and by whom?

Now, at last, I have turned up the original report of the excavation, as it was delivered to the Society of Antiquaries of London, by John Adey Repton. The report was published in Volume 16 of "Archaeologia" in 1808.

An Account of the Opening of the Great Barrow at Stow-Heath, near Aylsham, in Norfolk, in July 1808. Communicated by John Adey Repton, Esq., F. A. S. in a Letter to Craven Ord, Esq. F. R. S. and F. A. S., V. P.

Read 23d February, 1809.

DEAR SIR,

Hare Street, near Romford, 23d February, 1809.

THE enclosed paper contains an account of the opening of the great Barrow at Stow-heath, near Aylsham, in Norfolk, in July 1808. If you think it deserving of attention, I hope you will have the goodness to communicate it to the Antiquarian Society.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN ADEY REPTON.

To CHAVER ORD, Esq.

The diameter of the great Barrow at Stow-heath is thirty yards, and about four yards high. Having ordered a hole to be opened in the middle, about four yards wide, and two yards deep, we came to the sand, the natural soil of the whole heath, but continued digging through the sand, about two yards deeper, without finding any thing, but on shoving down the sides to fill up the cavity, at about two feet further from the centre of the Barrow, a curious Urn was discovered, which was cut through in the middle by the spade, from whence the sketch, fig. 2, is made, before it was quite destroyed, it being too soft a substance to be taken up in large fragments. Supposing that the two projecting parts might be handles, I took it out from the hill carefully, and found that the projection went quite round the Urn, whence the sketch, fig. 3, is formed. This Urn was found, placed with the mouth downwards, and resting upon a square tile, but contained only a few dry bones; its form is curious, and probably intended as an expedient to protect the bones from the water, which soaked through the Barrow. At three or four feet (but at the same distance from the centre) from the Urn, was found another, of a broad flat shape, with the mouth upwards, see fig. 4, containing a small quantity of burnt ashes, and bedded on flints.

Between the two Urns, but a little farther from the centre, were found fragments of thin pieces of charcoal, with ashes.

Fig. 1. is the section of the Barrow, shewing the part that was opened. The dotted line shews the original shape of the ground, before the Barrow was formed.

Fig. 3.



Fig. 2.

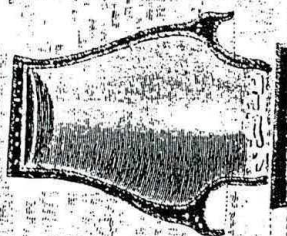


Fig. 4.

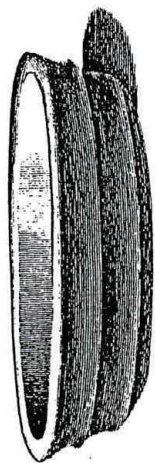
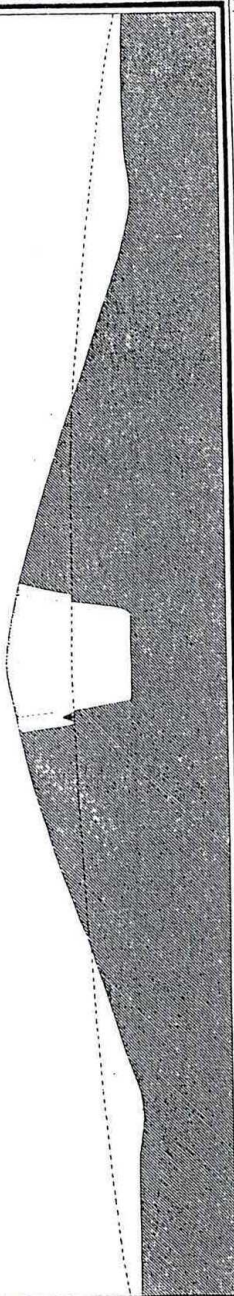


Fig. 1.



J. Hunter del.

John, filius Martini del.

Published by the Society of Antiquaries of London 23^d April 1840.

This great Barrow is surrounded by several of smaller size, of about twenty yards diameter. Stow-heath is about two miles eastward of Aylsham: between these two places is Tuttington Common, which contains a few Barrows of twenty yards, and two of only twelve yards diameter; every one of which, besides those at Stow-heath, I caused to be opened, but found nothing, except a few burnt bones collected together, and not far from them, a quantity of ashes; these were all placed on the natural surface of the common.

It is curious to observe, that one of the Barrows is actually the boundary mark of the three parishes of Aylsham, Burgh, and Tuttington.

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CLOCK AND WATCHMAKERS OF AYLSHAM

In volume 1 there were several references to Clock and Watchmakers of Aylsham. [see Vol.1 pages 66-67, 125-126, 230.] These included a list of all recorded makers. Below, is an up-date of that list with additional information.

John CHRISTIAN	Calthorpe, Parish Register 1729; First Aylsham reference - Poor Rate Book 1760; Parish Constable 1766 Partnership with Thomas PAGE, Norwich 1777; Died 1778.
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Joseph BOWLES	1752-55	Clocks and watches
Samuel DAVY	1793-1820	
John FRARY	1790	
Mark READ	1800	
Matthew READ	1791-1826	Watchmaker

Charles Rice WADE	1830-1875	
R.WADE	1800	Clockmaker
Thomas CONNOLD	1822-69	
William BARBER	1830-36	
John FITT	1835-65	54 Red Lion Street
George SILENCE	1836-45	White Hart Street
LAZARUS	1836	Red Lion Street
George MILEHAM	1839	Workhouse Lane
James MACK	1839	Market Place
Thomas FOX	1869	54 Red Lion Street
Charles WADE	1883	34 Red Lion Street
William REEVES	1892	
Last WHITTAKER	1896	Market Square
Sydney D.BONE	1896	54 Red Lion Street
E.T.STONER	1900-35	54 Red Lion Street
Wm. Thomas COOPER	1914-45	34 Red Lion Street
S.CHASE	1935-39	54 Red Lion Street
R.A.W.LANSDOWN	1939-86	54 Red Lion Street
G.HARMER	1969-86	17 Red Lion Street
D.R.GIBBARD	1986	54 Red Lion Street

SOCIETY NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Our 7th. Annual general meeting was held in the Friendship Club with some 30 members in attendance. By reaching our 7th.AGM we are clearly building up a bit of a history of our own - we are becoming established. Nevertheless, after reminding ourselves from the minutes of what we did the year before last, and listening to the Chairman's and Secretary's reports of what happened in the last twelve months, it is heartening to see how much, as a society, we have packed into our "long" existence. Actually, seven AGMs include our inaugural meeting, so we are not that old.

What have we done? The photocopy of the WI churchyard survey, which we reported as acquired from the Record Office last year, is now bound up in permanent book form and is now in the Parish Archives for all to consult. The NARG Chapel survey in which we participated is concluded - at least our part of it is - and we can rest on our laurels and wait to see the results of the completed survey. Our two series of lectures were successful. These were the day-time course on the study of old documents, and the evening course on the Towns of East Anglia. Two of our visits were very successful and enjoyable, - these were the visit to Kings Lynn and Castle Rising, and the visit to the Celtic Art Exhibition at the British Museum, but our other visit to Bury St.Edmunds had to be cancelled through lack of support. Our evening visit to the Record Office was well attended

Our other lectures were well supported; with Dr. Knowles on the Roman water engineers and Brian Ayers on the Castle Mall exavations. Other activities included the completion of the Town Map by Peter Holman. This can now be seen on display, or a copy can be purchased from Peter at the special price [to members]

of £5 (not £7 as wrongly reported in the last issue of the Journal) A town trail was also produced by the Society for sale by the Bure Valley Railway to their passengers. This is available from the Tourist Office at the Aylsham station and is quite an attractive production. Some of our members welcomed and guided the Ulph family gathering at Aylsham, and we all enjoyed our usual successful New Years Party.

Finally, our Society was represented, once again, at the Norfolk History Fair at Gressenhall. The display on this occasion was prepared by Ivan Morris, and featured the railways of Aylsham. The display used was on show again at the AGM, and attracted great attention.

The Treasurer's report appears on Page 372 of this issue. For the first time the Society's funds were much lower than usual. In her chairman's remarks, Jane Nolan explained the reasons why, and highlighted the various exceptional expenses incurred this year, which reduced our balances to the present level.

Following this and the editor's gloomy report on the costs of producing the Journal, it was almost inevitable that there would be ready agreement to an increase in our member's subscriptions; these will be £4.50 per head for the coming year.

Our chairman thanked all who had assisted during the year in the affairs of the Society, and thanked those officers and committee members who were retiring from office.

Elections of Officers and Committee followed, resulting in a new Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, and a new appointment of a Membership Secretary. The names of all the Officers and Committee members appears on Page 342.

Following refreshments, we were splendidly entertained by Ron Peabody, who had prepared a sequence of extracts from the Local History tape-recordings held

in the Parish Archives. Ron's selection was most interestingly put together, and covered a wide range of people and topics. We heard excerpts from the Bure Valley Singers, the Aylsham Town Band, and some memories of the trading wherries which once sailed up to Aylsham Mill. It was a pleasure to hear the voice again of our first Chairman, Jack Vyse, and it was a surprise for Sidney Dack, sitting in the audience, to hear his own voice, talking about Aylsham South Railway station. It was a most entertaining session. If you don't come to the AGM, you never know what you are missing!

THE MILLGATE GROUP - The Millgate Group which has been dormant for some time was revived on a grand scale with the start of the Tuesday morning classes held by Chris Barringer.

A group of about 20 members is studying the changing ownership of properties in the Millgate area of the town, in the nineteenth century, with the aid of several property deeds and other documents loaned by Tom Bishop, together with information culled from the 1839 Wright's map of Aylsham and its schedules.

With all this and the details from the 1841 census of Aylsham, we should be able to try to re-create a picture of who lived and who did what there in the last century. It will all be carried out under the expert guidance of Chris Barringer, so it is possible that there might be some tangible end-product to all the research.

JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER - This issue [Vol.2 No.12] completes the second volume of our Journal & Newsletter. This will be slightly larger than Volume 1. but it enables us to end the volume in a neat and tidy manner with the issue for December 1990. The first part of Volume 3 will appear in March 1991.

For those who would like to bind up the completed volume 2, we will eventually produce a Title-page and Index to the whole volume, as we did for Volume 1. These parts should be ready by March 1991, so details of

costs, and how to acquire the parts should be included in the March '91 Newsletter. It will be necessary to charge for copies of the Title-page and Index.

If we can obtain a suitable quotation, it may be possible to quote a price for having your volume bound-up, and to arrange this for you.

"SEVENTEENTH CENTURY MAPS" - At a well attended meeting on 25th.October, the Society was introduced to 17th. century maps by Dr.V.Morgan. He had brought many slides with him.

We were shown early, strangely shaped maps of England - beautiful, but inaccurate. Accuracy arrived with Christopher Saxton in the 16th.Century. We saw his famous coloured map of England and Wales showing all the counties and their towns. For the first time, central government was able to get an overall view of the kingdom. One of Saxton's maps was hung in the royal apartments so that the monarch could put his finger on the whereabouts of every county sherriff. He was also able to tax each county according to its size.

Saxton had royal patronage and was able to gain access to high points and take distant bearings for the first time. Earlier map makers were often refused access for fear of a tax increase if the extent of the estate became known.

We saw some fine slides of early ocean charts, and learned how maps came to be used as wall-coverings, were later regarded as works of art, and finally became collectors items. Altogether, an interesting and entertaining evening.

Dr.J.E.

"THE STRANGERS" Despite the bleak and foggy evening, over 20 members struggled to the Friendship Club to hear Dr.Hassell Smith talk about being a labourer in the 16th.century. Due to a last minute, unavoidable cancellation, we actually listened to Dr.Jim Holderness talking about the 'Strangers of Norwich' - Dr.Holderness had stepped in at the last minute as a very able substitute speaker.Judging by the number of questions that followed

it was clear that we had all enjoyed his hour-long talk, as much as we would have enjoyed the one advertised. Driven out of the Low Countries in the mid 16th.C. by the Spanish, they fled to many places including England, settling initially in London and later spreading to parts of the provinces and Norwich in particular. They brought many skills with them, but excelled as weavers and cloth-makers. In horticulture, they introduced the turnip to Norfolk. As a group, their numbers reached 4,000 before they eventually became absorbed into the local population. They revived the dying commercial life of Norwich with their 'new draperies', and boosted the existing established trades.

T.W.M.

KAY MOSSE

It is with great sadness that we record the sudden death of Kay Mosse, on 19th. November 1990. Kay had always been very active in the affairs of the society, and readily undertook many of the humdrum tasks which keep a society like ours ticking over and running smoothly. For most of our visits and excursions, Kay arranged the transport that got us there; she regularly collected fees and dues from those of us attending courses, and never failed to address the envelopes that brought our copies of the Journal to us; earlier, she had acted as our Minute secretary.

Kay was a former radiographer at the West Norwich hospital until she retired to Aylsham. Her interests were many. Although an active member of our society, she was even more involved with the Norfolk Naturalists Society which claimed a greater part of her affections. She was also a keen water-colour artist.

Born in India, Kay had only recently celebrated her 70th birthday. Not long ago, she re-visited India, after an absence of many years, and she was planning a visit to Gambia which was due to take place just a few days following her death. No longer will anyone have to risk being 'savaged' by her innumerable miniature Yorkshire terriers when visiting her, but she will be missed in a variety of ways by all those who shared her interests.

Tom Mollard

AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Accounts for September 1989 to August 1990

EXPENDITURE

INCOME

Balance B/F 31.8.89	673.73
Sale of Newsletters	18.75
Sale of Publications	7.00
Subscriptions	274.50
Publication fund (gift)	30.00
Norfolk Archaeological Research Group	15.01
CUEMB Day course	167.50
CUEMB Evening course	217.00
Donations	11.50
Coffee sales	5.00
NY Party	206.50
Interest Dep.Acc. 31.12.89	16.25
Celtic Art Exhibition	168.00
Kings Lynn visit	93.50
Lecture 3.4.90	5.00
Interest Dep Acc. 29.6.90	16.38
Stamps in Petty Cash	1.20

1926.82

Norfolk Naturalists (Joint meeting)	18.95
Secretary's expenses (1988/89 & 1989/90)	74.14
Chapel Survey	15.01
Recording equipment	159.28
Printing & photocopying	222.20
Programme cards	21.00
Watson & Sewell (Wright's map photographs)	68.54
Postage	3.25
Dr.Knowles (lecture)	15.00
Bridget Yates (NY Party)	20.00
NY Party	81.26
Fed. Norfolk Hist. & Arch. Orgs.	10.00
Aylsham Parish Council	10.00
Keymers Coaches	175.00
CUEMB	173.50
Friendship Club	300.00
Sanders Coaches	80.00
Gifford's Wine Bar	20.30
Public Record Office	20.90
Refreshments	8.50
R.F.Barwick (wall cabinets)	172.50
Income over Expenditure	257.49
	<u>1926.82</u>

Accounts checked: Ted Hicks

Treasurer George Collins

5.9.90