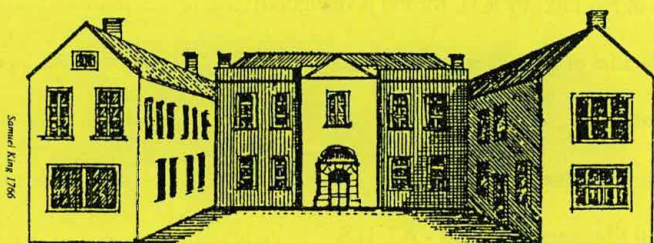


AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Norfolk History Fair 1998



The Assembly House, Norwich; 26 & 27 September

Vol. 5 No. 8

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The **JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER** is the Quarterly publication of the Aylsham Local History Society. It is published each March, June, September and December, and is issued free to members. Contributions are welcomed from members and others. Contact:-

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COVER ILLUSTRATION

The Assembly House, Norwich. Home of the Norfolk History Fair for 1998
(Samuel King 1766)



AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY

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CROIX DES BOUQUETS Dr. John Sapwell

One of the lesser known, but in many respects most characteristic of the successful engagements of the Royal Norfolk Regiment (at that time known as the 9th. Foot) in its long and illustrious record from the Battle of the Boyne to the defence of Kohima, is the action of 'Croix des Bouquets' on 7th. October. 1813

The Peninsular war was drawing to its close. The great frontier fortress of San Sebastian, the possession of which was vital before any further major advance was possible, had fallen at great cost after two assaults, and encouraged by the news of Napoleon's reverses in Germany, Wellington decided to force the crossing of the Bidassoa and carry the war for the first time into French territory.

The crossing of this river was likely to be a difficult and hazardous operation as it ran swiftly between steep banks, on the far side of which Marshall Soult had prepared strong defensive positions, and an element of surprise at one point seemed almost essential to success. Fortunately, Wellington had obtained secret information from some Spanish fishermen that two fords opposite the town of Fuentarabia, near the mouth of the river, were passable at low tide; a fact that was unknown to Soult.

The Fifth Division, (in which was the 9th. Foot) was on the left of the army, nearest the sea, and on the evening of October 6th. was moved up to a concealed position behind Fuentarabia, leaving their tents standing to deceive the French. Early the next morning, the troops forded the river, up to their waists in water, and meeting with only slight resistance, advanced eastwards for about a mile and a half. Halkett's Light Germans on their right had driven in the French outposts, and continued to advance up the slope of the Croix des Bouquets until they came to a French battery which brought them to a stand. At this critical point, the 9th. Regiment led by Colonel Cameron, came up and passing through the ranks of the Germans, charged and carried the position.

The French managed to withdraw their guns to a second ridge, but the 9th. continued to advance in good order, in spite of considerable enfilading fire, until they were only a few yards from the French position, when they gave a cheer and charged again with the bayonet, driving the French in confusion from the ridge.

Lieutenant Campbell of the 9th. (later to achieve still greater fame as Sir Colin Campbell in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny) had been seriously wounded while leading the forlorn hope at the first assault on San Sebastian, but left hospital without being officially discharged, and was again wounded while leading his Light Company in the action. Colonel Cameron, a strict disciplinarian, felt bound to rebuke him for leaving hospital irregularly, but his bravery at San Sebastian saved him from more than a formal censure.

The Duke of Wellington rode up soon after the last charge, and personally thanked the regiment which had sustained 82 casualties in the action. From what we know of the Duke, we may guess that his thanks were somewhat laconic, but a few words from "Old Hookey" went a long way with the troops, who received him with cheers, and in his despatch two days later he recorded his *particular satisfaction in observing the steadiness and gallantry of all the troops*, and mentioned the 9th. Regiment by name.

—ooOoo—

SOCIETY NEWS

Annual General Meeting - was held in the Friendship Club on Thursday, October 8th. before the best attended meeting that I can recall being present at. Several new members joined the society on this occasion. The business part of the evening was relatively brief, but still gave time for the reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and others.

Our secretary, Betty Gee, reviewed the past year's activities which included a wide range of meetings and lectures and occasional visits. The afternoon class on Vernacular architecture was reported to be a great success with more than 25 members attending. Betty thanked all those members whose activities made everything run successfully. Particular successes were the seminar held on the history of Aylsham, and also our involvement in the Norfolk History Fair. (*a separate report on the latter appears on page 232*)

Your editor reported on the *Journal & Newsletter* which manages to appear regularly, and also on the publishing activities of the society. During the year, one new publication, *Six high and lonely churches*, by Peter Holman has been produced, together with reprints of several other titles. He also hinted at future publications which the society might undertake during the coming year.

Our Treasurer, Gillian Barwick, gave her last report as Treasurer as she is retiring from that post after this AGM. Gillian reported on a busy year, and handed over the society's finances in a satisfyingly healthy state. Gillian was thanked for all her work, together with Graeme Johnston who kindly audits our accounts each year.

Elections proved unnecessary, as sufficient nominations produced the necessary number of officers and committee members resulting in the following:

Officers and Committee 1998-99

Chairman: Peter Holman

Vice Chairman: Julian Eve

Secretary: Betty Gee

Treasurer: Eileen Daines

Membership Secretary: Sheila Mollard

Committee: Last year's members were re-elected, i.e. Geoff Gale; John Harris; Derek Lyons; Jean McChesney; Ursula Warren and Tom West. Peter Pink was co-opted.

The Chairman's remarks included a report on a forthcoming meeting to be held in the Town Hall on 7th. November, on the history of Aylsham which four of our members would arrange on behalf of the parochial church council. Peter also commented that the society is evidently in good heart as the largest ever attendance and the reports of all our activities indicated. All very true, but I suspect that the main reason for the large attendance was the interest in hearing our speaker who followed the business meeting.

Elizabeth Gale gave an excellent talk on her researches into **"Aylsham Inns and Public Houses, past and present."** This proved most entertaining - lively and well illustrated with good slides. Aylsham's four inns are all that remain of the 26 that the town once possessed. We enjoyed a 'dry' pub crawl round the sites of all the inns that she had traced. There are, however, still some that remain to be traced; only the names are known so far. A talk like this could have gone on for many hours; so much detail is associated with pubs and inns. Time restricted the speaker to only the barest details. We still learned quite a lot - how there has been an inn on the site of the *Black Boys* since 1471, and the name itself has been known since the 1650s.

It would be a pity for all this research to go to waste, and it is hoped that one day it may become a publication of the society. John Harris thanked Liz warmly on behalf of the society, and we all went home gasping for a drink.

A BACKWARDS GLANCE - A reprint of this publication, which first appeared in 1995 and has long been out of print has now been produced. Copies are available at the original price of £5 and should be on sale at our public meetings.

Humphry Repton, Landscape gardener - The Society met on October 29th. to hear a talk by Anthea Taigel who is conservation officer for the

Garden History Society. Her subject was Humphry Repton. The very well attended meeting was treated to a scholarly and beautifully illustrated introduction to a man who was to follow Capability Brown as the leading landscape designer in England for some thirty years; setting him in the context of his times.

A picture emerged of a man of considerable charm and prodigious energy who was also a gifted artist and draughtsman. He overcame the various misfortunes and set-backs that beset him with great courage and fortitude. Our lecturer guided us briefly through Repton's early life and labours, before considering aspects of his style and vision.

Humphry Repton was born in 1752 at Bury St. Edmunds, the son of a Tax Inspector. The family moved to Norfolk when he was 10 years old, and two years later the young Repton left these shores for Holland as preparation for a mercantile career. Four years later he was back in Norwich, and set up in the textile trade though his heart was elsewhere and ill at ease. In 1778 he left Norwich and business, and bought a small estate at Sustead, living there the life of a country gentleman. During this period he became a friend of William Windham of Felbrigg, eventually becoming political secretary to Windham and travelling with him to Ireland in 1783.

On returning to Sustead, he found he could no longer maintain the estate and moved to a cottage at Hare Street, near Romford in Essex, and lived there for the rest of his life. It was in 1788 that Humphry launched himself as a Landscape Gardener - being the first to use that term. His first commission came later that year from Jeremiah Ives of Catton, and others quickly followed. Many of his clients would have been charmed into accepting his proposals by viewing the beautiful watercolour paintings presented in the famous *Red Books*. These would show 'before' and 'after' scenes of the scheme under consideration. Many of these Red Books have survived

Humphry was very responsive to the social changes round him, and sensitive to the needs of his clients, always wishing people to feel

comfortable within the landscapes he created or modified. His last commission, like his first, came from Norfolk - Sheringham Park for Abbot Upcher. Just prior to this, he suffered a carriage accident and was confined to a wheelchair for the remainder of his life. During these latter years, Humphry was often assisted in the work by his eldest son, John Adey Repton.

Unfortunately, the passage of time has not been kind to much of Repton's work. Many schemes of his have been returned to agricultural use, whereas the landscapes of those who worked on a grander scale have survived. Humphry Repton died in 1818 and was buried, at his own request, along the south wall of Aylsham parish church, to be joined in due course by other members of his family. **John Harris**

—ooOoo—

NORFOLK HISTORY FAIR

Julian Eve

This year the society decided to be represented at the Norfolk History Fair. This is a bi-annual event organised by the *Federation of Norfolk Historical & Archaeological Organisations*, and this year it was held in Norwich at the Assembly House on 26/27 September. There was a good attendance, and the display stalls filled six rooms.

Publishers specialising in Local History and Genealogy, as well as antiquarian booksellers also attended. Additionally, there were lectures, the showing of archive films, and musical entertainment. The theme for the Fair was the eighteenth century.

For their stall, the Aylsham Local History Society prepared four suitable panels demonstrating:-

1. Aylsham's treatment of its poor during the 18th. century.
2. Aylsham's plan to evacuate the town if threatened by Napoleon's invading army.
3. The 1814 Peace Celebration in Aylsham Market Place as portrayed by Humphry Repton.

4. A panel of quotes by well-known visitors to the town, such as Parson Woodforde.

Our stall was manned by volunteer members of the society, and various publications produced by the society and its members were offered for sale. A fair amount of money was taken.

The occasion was an excellent opportunity to see the work of other societies and/or purchase their publications. I particularly enjoyed visits to the Cringleford and the Wymondham Historical Societies. The Nelson Society's display, I thought, was outstanding, but there were plenty of other well designed displays.

—ooOoo—

THE HISTORY OF AYLSHAM

A talk on the history of Aylsham, by the Aylsham Local History Society was arranged, in the Town Hall, on Saturday 7th. November, on behalf of and at the request of St. Michael's church.

It was only possible to cover selected aspects of Aylsham's history, and four speakers from the society attempted this in the short time available. Speakers included our Chairman - Peter Holman; Vice Chairman - Julian Eve; Peter Pink and Tom Mollard.

It was an extremely well-attended meeting, and proved to be a very rewarding experience for the speakers, and hopefully for the audience. TWM

NOTES & QUERIES

"The Paper" - following on from the query in the last issue for copies of "The Paper", I am pleased to be able to report that two complete files of that paper have now been traced.

Starling family - Most of our members have read, or at least heard

about the memoirs of Frederick Starling [1852-1937] which we have a copy of in the Town archives. The editor has recently heard from a great-grand daughter of Frederick Starling who is interested in her family history and in Aylsham. If any member has useful information to pass on about the family please contact:

Ms. M. Keable. 14 Cypress Ave. WENDOUREE. Victoria.
Australia 3355

Experiences in World War I - We have been asked for help from a student who is researching the experiences of soldier patients in World War I, for her PhD. I imagine this means experiences locally, for example like Cawston manor (now Cawston College) which during the First World War was a military convalescent Hospital. If you can help please contact:-

Mrs Margaret Hewitt, 19 Merrow Gardens, Eaton, Norwich. NR4 6HH

—ooOoo—

THE HISTORY OF NORFOLK

R. H. Mason

[We have been reprinting the part of this work (published originally in 1885) which refers to Aylsham. So far two instalments have appeared, and I feel it would be more useful to conclude the item in one final instalment despite the fact that it will take up a large slice of the *Journal*]

(Continued from Vol.5 Part 5)

It appears, however, that by some means Baispoole evaded the payment, and eventually tired out the prosecutors of the suit against him. Another donation seems to have been designed by James Scamler, who died in 1689, but the school has never received any benefit thereby, and it seems probable that his bequest was revoked.

There was living in Aylsham, about the middle of the sixteenth century, one Robert Harrison, who for a short time was master of this school, and who afterwards became master of St. Giles Hospital at Norwich, and noted as the chief co-operator with Browne, the Separatist, who was the founder of the sect called Brownists. He had been a pensioner of St. Johns College, Cambridge, and of Corpus Christi also, where he took his M.A. degree in 1572. In the summer of 1573 a vacancy occurred in the mastership of Aylsham School, and Harrison became a candidate, strongly recommended by the Mayor and some of the Aldermen of Norwich, who described him as, "*honest and learned*", and it was also stated that Lancelot Thexton, the vicar, and "*divers others of the ancientest and gravest*" of Aylsham, were well inclined to him.

Bishop Parkhurst at first hesitated in admitting him, but eventually at the instance of the bailiffs, waived his objections on the condition that he should keep and execute the statutes of the school, in reading the authors therein appointed; that he should not be contentious; that he should have "*no evil or strange opinions*", nor indulge in prophesying; that he should play no unlawful games, nor keep disorderly company etc. After due installation, a month had scarcely elapsed before he found himself in direct collision with his ecclesiastical superiors. He presented himself as a godfather to a child, and demanded the omission of a certain portion of the baptismal service, just as, at his wedding, he had found objections to the marriage service. This was too much for the Bishop, and he cancelled his appointment, putting in his place one Sutton, concerning whose appointment there was some opposition on the part of the local authorities.¹⁹

At a manor court held on the 27th. February, 1792, James North, the then schoolmaster, was admitted by the grant of the lord to 1a, 1r. of land with a messuage thereon called the Schoolhouse, in Aylsham, to hold for his life, should he continue to be master; and again on the 29th. April 1825, James Gay, Robert Copeman, William Repton, John Warnes, William Wickes, Thomas Rackham, Edward Fennell, John Peterson and Robert William Parmeter were admitted to the same

premises in trust, to permit John Balls, schoolmaster, to hold the same. When the Charity Commissioners enquired into the state of the foundation in 1833, they found the school premises to consist of a dwelling-house and school-room, built by Mr. Clement Overton, and enlarged by subscription in 1814 and an acre and a quarter of land called the school pigstye. The present school-house was built in 1848, at a cost of £700 and greatly enlarged in 1875. There are now about 400 scholars, and the school is conducted by a committee of management, and is in union with the National Society. The small endowment is supplemented by school-pence and voluntary contributions.

Cressey's Charity - Thomas Cressey, by will, devised twelve dwellings called Smithson's, in Millgate Street, to the use of the poor, directing that the rents should be employed for repairing the houses, and the overplus yearly distributed to the poor by the churchwardens. At a court held for the manor of Aylsham, October 18th. 1721, it was found that Miles Baispoole had died seised of the said premises, under a re-grant of the Lord. At a court on the 3rd. of June 1818, William Repton, John Warnes, John Peterson, James Bulwer, Robert Plane and William Saunders were admitted tenants to two messuages, some time before, made into a workhouse. On March 16th. 1842 the building materials of the old workhouse were sold by public auction, to be taken down and removed by the purchasers, and on July 10th. 1855, the land whereon the workhouse formerly stood, and a piece of land adjoining thereto, whereon some old cottages formerly stood, were sold by public auction. On September 29th. 1856, an order was sent from the Charity Commission to transfer the sum of £1,138-12-11d. belonging to Cressey's Charity, to the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds, and the interest therefrom, amounting to £34 3s 2d is now annually distributed in calico and flannel to the parish poor, by the churchwardens.

Porter's and Snellings' gifts - In the Parliamentary Returns of 1786, two tenements are mentioned as having been given to the poor of Aylsham, the one by Simon Porter in 1730, and the other by the lord of the manor in 1738. On January 30th. 1729, Simon Porter surrendered all his messuages, lands, etc. to the use of Jonathan Custance, John Soame and four others and their heirs, in trust for the then overseers of

the poor, and on September 28th. 1730, the said parties were admitted to one parcel of a cottage or tenement in Millgate Street.

At a court held 3rd. of February, 1737, Edward Snelling surrendered all his messuages etc. to the use of Thomas Bell, Coulson Bell and four others, in trust for the churchwardens and overseers of the poor, and on 10th. April 1738, the said parties were admitted to one tenement or cottage. At a court held 27th. April 1815, William Repton and the other parties who were admitted to the workhouse, were admitted tenants to a cottage in Millgate Street, also to a cottage with a parcel of land containing a quarter of a rood.²⁰

Town Meadow - It is stated in the Parliamentary Returns of 1786 that land, then let at 5s a year, was given by some person unknown for five widows. The meadow was in 1833 let to Benjamin Peterson at a rent of 16s. and the amount was carried to the general account of the churchwardens.

Powell's charity - Mary Powell, by a codicil annexed to her will, dated 14th. January 1822, directed that £200 should be deposited in some bank, the interest to be distributed yearly, during the Christmas week, amongst the most deserving widows residing in Aylsham, and £8 to be given yearly at the same time to the most deserving poor in the parish of Banningham. Upon the death of the testatrix, £180 (£20 being deducted for legacy duty) was placed in the bank of Messrs. Copeman. The sum of £8 was paid to the keeper of the workhouse, who had distributed it equally among about 28 poor widows, without exercising the required discretion, each widow receiving about 5s 4d. yearly, and the further sum of £8 was paid to the minister of Banningham who has distributed it in that parish. The Principal remaining in the bank after the distribution had taken place for Christmas 1831, was £62 17s 4d.

The National Covenant was subscribed in Aylsham on the 20th. January 1643, and the list of those subscribing may still be seen in the archives of the House of Lords. The first signature is that of John Phillips, minister, followed by Christopher Sankey and Robert Betts, churchwardens, Thomas Harman and John Elles, constables. The list

includes 270 names of the then householders.

The Council of State, 24th. October 1657, advised Cromwell to confirm a contract made by a Committee of Parliament for excise, with Robert Doughty of Aylsham, Thomas Garrett of Norwich, and William Life of Downham, for two leases, one of the new impost on beer in Norfolk and the Hundred of Lovingland(sic) in Suffolk, and the other for the same in Essex and Suffolk, at £7500 for the first half year and £36,000 for the other three years.

The **navigation** of the waters of the River Bure, which originally only reached Coltishall, was brought to Aylsham in 1779, at a cost of £6,000 by powers from Parliament obtained in 1773, and by the formation of a basin and wharves near the bridge, considerable facilities were secured for the corn, coal and timber trades of the neighbourhood.

On the road from Aylsham to Tuttington are a few houses at a locality called Dunkirk, and close by is a field described in the Court Books of Sexton's Manor as Kirkfield, which suggests the probability of a church or chapel having been thereabouts in early times.

Aylsham was for some years in the seventeenth century the chief country seat of the Bishop of Norwich, for after the very destructive fire which utterly destroyed the episcopal palace at Ludham, on the 10th. August 1611, with the bishop's library, many manuscripts and evidences relating to the bishopric, Bishop Jegon bought an estate and built a house here, which is represented in our illustration as the traditional residence of his lordship until his death in 1617. The house is now the property of J.R.Bulwer, Esq. Q.C. M.P for Cambridgeshire. The bishop's selection of Aylsham as a residence appears to have been very much to the displeasure of the citizens of Norwich. There were some doggerel lines circulated in the city after his lordship's death:-

*Our short, fat Lord Bishop of Norfolk, 'twas he
That caused that great fire at Ludham to be;
He could not abide the poor at his gate
Nor yet for to see them early or late,*

*He made strip and waste, most plainly we do see
Both of wood and timber in every degree.²¹*

Considering the antiquity of Aylsham, and the importance of some of its inhabitants, it is disappointing that more of its ancient houses are not remaining, at any rate in part. There are several in the parish, portions of which date from about the year 1600, but they are the houses of the smaller owners of the time. The "Valley Farm" is perhaps one of the most interesting, dating from about 1612, the property of the Dowager Countess of Lothian, and now occupied by Mr. James Lee Case. One at Kettlebrigg was the residence of the Coulsons, whose heiress, about 1680, married a Bell, when they left Aylsham and acquired Oulton, where they built the present Hall. The last Bell heiress married a Pittman. The Soame family occupied 'Woodgate', which was their residence for more than two hundred years, and added to it considerably, almost, if not entirely, rebuilding it in 1706, and they resided there until about forty years since. This is the house shown in our illustration, now the property of, and occupied by R.J.W. Purdy Esq.

One peculiarity of this town is the number and names of its gates (roads): - Stonegate, Drabblegate, Hungate, Fengate, Rodgate, Silvergate and Woodgate being all in its vicinity. There are also some fields bearing peculiar names - Garoldstones, Raggard, Millbonds, Futters etc.

The Churchwardens' Books show annual entries of payment for destruction of badgers as late as 1710, but pole-cats, "lobsters" (local name for stoats), hedgehogs, etc. were paid for much later.

A Town Hall was erected by a joint-stock company in 1857, at a cost exceeding £2,000, and there the magistrates hold their sittings, and the proceedings of the County Court take place. The large room measures sixty feet by thirty.

Aylsham gives its name to a Poor Law Union, which comprises thirty five parishes in the Hundred of South Erpingham and eleven parishes in Eynsford. The workhouse, on the Cawston Road, was built

in 1849, at a cost of £12,000. and has about a dozen acres of land attached. It has space for 600 inmates, but the average is about 150.

The county lock-up, or Bridewell, formerly stood near the Market Place, and had the following inscription cut in wood:-

*God preserve our Suprem hed Kyng Henry Theight. Pray for the Good
Prosperyte and asstate of Roberd Marsham and Jone his wyfe the
wiche this Howse they cawsid to be made to the honor of the Towne be
thir qwyck lyves. 1543*

The building has been converted into tenements, and the inscription is at the present time in the possession of Mr. Robert Bartram, builder, of Aylsham.

The **market day**, as already stated, was formerly Saturday, but from the time of the grant to Sir John Hobart has been held on Tuesday. Two cattle fairs are held annually, one on the 23rd. March, and the other on the last Tuesday in September.

Oak Apple day (May 29th.) is regularly observed in Aylsham as a general holiday. There is a service with appropriate sermon in the parish church, and the Oddfellows, Foresters, and other local clubs, walk in procession with bands playing. Flags are displayed, and there is a general feasting.

The **CHURCH** of Aylsham, dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel, was in great part built by John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. It has a fine nave with aisles, transepts (which were formerly chapels), and chancel, a square tower with a small spire. The octagonal font has emblems of the Evangelists, with representations of the Passion and Crucifixion of Our Lord. The lower portion of the rood screen still remains, and exhibits numerous figures, very few of which, however, are wholly distinct. Portions of the screen were many years since made to form part of the reredos. The chancel stalls have figures of the twelve apostles.

Nicholas Stone, chaplain in 1417, gave legacies to the lights of Corpus Christi, the Holy Rood, and the Virgin Mary. In 1479, John Northawe, who was buried in the church porch, gave a black velvet altar cloth and provided for a wax candle to burn for one year before the image of the Virgin, and for lights before the images of St. John and St. Peter; also a legacy to St. Margaret's Guild, and 23s 4d to John Green, his chaplain, to go, the next jubilee year, to St. James at Compostella,²² and there to pray for his soul. John Boller, priest, buried in St. Thomas's chapel, gave a pair of organs, directing that the principal pipe should be five quarters of a yard in length, be of good metal and sweet harmony, and that it should stand on the side of the choir next the Lady Chapel. To the Guilds of Our Lady and St. John he gave legacies.

One of the chantries, above mentioned was founded by direction of the will of Robert Jannys, the founder of Aylsham Free School, under a licence granted by Henry VIII on the 8th. July 1534²³. It was in the south part of the church, with an altar of the Blessed Mary, for which one chaplain was provided, as the licence expresses it. *"that they may celebrate for ever the state of our health and of our dear consort, Anne, while we live, and for our souls, when we have departed this life, and for the soul of Robert Jannys and for the souls of all his parents, benefactors, and friends and of all the faithful deceased."* and it goes on to say that the executors, Nichols Lywhat, Wm. Rogers, Edward Wade, and John Tracey are to make the said chantry, and continues:-

The said chantry, when so made, shall be called by the name of the Chantry of Robert Jannys for ever. And that the chaplain shall be one body incorporate in cause, reality, and name and have perpetual succession, and be a learned person capable in the law, and called by the name of the Chaplain of Robert Jannys. And that he and his successors, chaplains of the said chantry, by and under the same name, in the parish church of Aylsham, might plead and be pleaded against; also sue all actions real, personal or mixed, suits and causes whatever, of any nature or sort, in any of our courts, before any justices, judges spiritual or temporal, or any other persons, and in the same courts may respond and be responded to and may defend the same. And by the same name they may purchase, have, enjoy and possess, for themselves and their heirs forever lands, tenements, and other

possessions and hereditaments. And in all other things may make, act and receive like all other lieges of ours and clever persons capable in the law in our Kingdom of England. The chaplain may have freedom to teach the free grammar scholars. And moreover of our grace and motion we have granted and given license to Nicholas, Wm., Edmund, and John, or to one or all of them that they might give and grant manors, lands, tenements, rents and services, with appurtenances of the annual value of £10, besides all charges and reprises, although held of us in capite for knight's service or for other service of us and of our crown by knight's service, or of other persons mediately or immediately to the aforesaid chaplain for one turn or divers turns, to have and hold, in any way the manors etc. to the chaplain or his successors for ever, according to the ordinance of Nicholas and the others, or each or any of them thereof to be made. And to the chaplain that he might receive the same manors etc. of the aforesaid executors to hold to him and his successors according to the same ordinance for ever by the tenor of these presents, we give special license without other or any manner of alienation paid to us, although these manors etc. are held of us immediately or otherwise by the statute of land and tenant or tenement, of Mort-main, or any other statute, act, or ordinance made, ordained or provided, notwithstanding inquisitions, etc.

In the first year of King. Ed VI, William Wythe, Henry Droury and Henry Olyver were churchwardens, and on the 31st October of that year they certified:-²⁴

That there is sold of the chirche plate too & twenty score unc^z, after y^e rate of iiij s viij d. y^e unc^z, unto those persons whose names are under written, yt is to say:-

John Wyllte	Nycholas Barker	Richard Thompson
Thomas Knolles	Willm. Harvey	Robert Pecke
Robert Clare	John Swanne	John Olyver
Henry Barker	Henry Droury	Thomas Champe
Christopher Wroo	Henry Olyver	Robert Marsham
Thos. Elvered	Symon Cressy	Gregory Chamberleyn

Sum of which plate amounteth to cij^{li} xiijs iiij d.

The use of which money is employed and to be employed upon these hereafter ensuinge -

First for the re-edifying of the north aisle of the church of Aylsham, decayed, fortye pounds.

Item. for making again of ye great brygge over ye King's river at Aylsham aforesaid, whiche brygge is a common passage for horse and cart both to ye market of Aylsham and to ye coast for ye countrie, xij^{li}

Item. for reparacion of the grammar school house and vj almes houses, very ruinous within ye same towne, viij^{li}.

And the residue of the said money is employed and to be employed upon the poor people of the same town, which are in number four score and more, which for debility of age, sickness and extreme poverty are driven to live upon ye allmoys of ye inhabitants of the same town.

And the said town is now of late time so greatly decayed by the meanes of owttownsmen who hath purchased and bought the best messuages, places and tenements within the same town to the quantity of the third part or more, almost the half of the said town upon which messuages and tenements the greatest and best households have been kept but now are [*piece torn away*] decayed and no household upon them kept, and the occupiers of the said third part and more, of the lands and tenements of the said town bear no charges of the same town, nor minister any relief to the poor people of the same. So that all the charges of the town rest upon a few householders yet inhabiting the same town, which otherwise not being able to sustain and bear the aforesaid charges, were enforced, of necessity, to sell the said plate for the uses above written.

And as concerning bells, lead or ornaments of the said church of Aylsham, there is none sold, exchanged nor altered.

(It is interesting to read that in the 1540s the same problems that we suffer today existed, with many properties owned by outsiders, possibly second homes, and no 'community charges' paid by them, and so no contribution to the Poor Rate. Ed)

Notwithstanding this great sacrifice of the church's plate, five years afterwards its wealth was still considerable, there still remaining nearly £200 worth of church "ornaments" as the following shows:-

AYLSHAM CHURCH GOODS IN 1552²⁵

This indenture made 2nd. September, 6th. Edward 6 1552, between Wm. Ferme, John Robsarte, Chris. Heydon, Knt. Osburne Mondeford, Rob. Barney and John Calybut. Esqres. Commissioners directed to survey the church goods in Norfolk, of the one part; and Thos. Whitbye, vicar of

Aylsham, John Norgate and Robt. Marsham, churchwardens of Aylsham, Ric. Baxter, Thos. Knolles, John Tolwyn, Thos. Smyth, Wm. Wyett, and Nic. Barker, parishioners of the same town on the other part, witness that there remains in the custody of the vicar and churchwardens, to wit:-

- In primis, 2 shippes of white silv' with 2 little spoons of silver weighing 18 ounces - 60s. every ounce valued at 3s 4d.
- Item. 2 pair of censers of white silv' weighing 60 ounces - £10; every ounce valued at 3s 4d.
- Item. 1 pyxe, all gilt, weighing 76 ounces - £16-9-4; every ounce valued at 3s 4d.
- Item. A chrysmatory of silver and parcel gilt weighing 21 ounces - 77s. every ounce valued at 3s 4d.
- Item. 2 paxes, all gilt, weighing 16 ounces - 69s. every ounce valued at 4s 4d.
- Item. A cross of sylv', all gilte, weighing 85 ounces - £18-8-4; every ounce valued at 4s 4d.
- Item. 3 chalices, of silver, all gilt, with 3 patens, weighing 47 ounces - £10-3-4; every ounce valued at 4s 4d.
- Item. 2 candlesticks of silver, weighing 67 ounces - £11-3-4; every ounce valued at 3s 4d.
- Item. 1 altar cloth of blue velvet embroidered with flowers, valued at 6s 8d
- Item. 4 altar cloths of black velvet, valued at 10s
- Item. 1 canope of red damaske, valued at 20s.
- Item. 2 copes of blue damaske, edged with crimson velvet, valued at 40s
- Item. 2 copes of tawnye velvet, embroidered with angels, and a vestment and two tunicles and 2 albs valued at £6
- Item. 2 copes of red velvet and cloth of tyssue with 2 tunicles and 1 vestment and 3 albs. £10
- Item. 2 copes of blue colour, one of badkyn, 2 tunicles, and a vestment of the same badkyn, valued at £8
- Item. 3 albes valued at 6s.
- Item. 1 vestment with 2 tunicles of blue and red silk with flowers embroidered, and 3 albes, valued at 20s.
- Item. 1 vestment of tawny velvet embroidered, and an alb, valued at 20s.
- Item. 1 vestment of white damask with an alb valued at 20s.
- Item. 1 vestment of white silk with a cross of crimson velvet, valued at 5s.
- Item. a vestment of blue damask, with an albe, valued at 3s 4d.
- Item. 2 copes of blue velvet for 2 childer, valued at 10s.
- Item. 4 albes and 3 white copes and 2 tunicles, valued at 10d, the vestment of one sute, except one cope of white damask. £5

- Item. 4 little candlesticks of latten, weighing 5 pounds, every pound valued at 1½ the pound - 7½d.
- Item. 1 pair of great censers of latten, weighing 19 pounds, every pound valued at 1½ the pound - 2s 4½d.
- Item. 2 pairs of latten censers weighing 8 pounds; every pound valued at 1½ the pound - 12d. [reads viis?]
- Item. 1 lectern of brass, to read the epistle on, weighing a hundred and a half, 3 stone and 6 pounds, valued at 15s the hundred - 27s 9d.
- Item. 5 great bells, weighing by estimation five score hundred, every hundred valued at 15s whereof the great bell weigheth 30 hundred, the second bell weigheth 24 hundred, the third bell weigheth 20 hundred, the fourth bell weigheth 16 hundred, the fifth bell 10 hundred - £75 7s 6d.
- Item. 1 sanctuary bell in the chancel, weighing by estimation 60 pounds, every pound valued at 1½ the pound - 7s 6d.
- Item. 2 hand bells weighing 6 pounds, every pound valued at 1½d - 9d.
- Item. 4 clappers valued at 10s.

Whereof to be used and occupied in the church in the ministration of the divine service there, 2 chalices weighing 36 ounces, one great clock bell weighing 30 hundred and one little sanctus bell weighing 60 pounds.

In witness whereof the said commissioners and other the said persons to these indentures alternately have put their sign manually the day and year above written.

P. me THOMA KNOLLES

Per me THOMA WHITBIN, ibid vicariu'

P me JOHEM NORGATE

P me NYCOLAS BARKAR

The church contains, beside the monument to Bishop Jegon (who was buried at the north-east corner of the chancel) and memorials of several of the vicars, numerous monumental slabs and tablets, some inlaid with brass, amongst others one to the memory of Richard Howard, who in 1480, built the church porch; another to Thomas Wymer, who in 1507 provided for the beautifying of the screen and roof.

The vicarage was valued in K.B. at £17 9s 7d, a portion of the rectorial tithes, and the Vicarage Manor. In 1710 it was of the reputed value of £70. The present yearly rent charge is £685, awarded in lieu of tithes in 1838 when the rectorial tithes were commuted for £716 per

annum. The vicarage house was erected in 1701; rebuilt 1868, and has had frequent repairs and alterations. During the Commonwealth, the Committee for Augmentations disposed of the tithes, and they were supposed to be worth £70 per annum. Major Doughty offered £60. The seventeenth century found most of the Norfolk churches in a very decayed condition, and, besides the depredations of the Puritans, they suffered much from neglect of churchmen. Aylsham was no exception, and the year 1666 found its chancel in a "*very ruinous and decayed state, and had been so for many years.*"

Some very curious and interesting particulars in reference to tithes and vicar's dues were elicited in an enquiry held in Easter term, 1668. Saddle horses paid 12d apiece; fatted cattle 12d; every cow and calf 6d. For orchards, dues varying from 2d to 1s. For Easter offerings, 2d for every communicant; marriage by licence, 5s; without licence 4s was demanded by Mr. Gill, though one James Harris, who had been parish sexton for fifteen years when Mr. Phillips was vicar, "*had never heard of more than 1/6d being paid for a marriage by banns.*" The fee for churching a woman was 6d. The burial fee for a corpse in a coffin, 6d. if buried without a coffin, 4d, or in either case, if a child, 2d only. For wood or furze burnt by parishioners for their own firing, and being cut in their own grounds, the vicar had no tithe in kind, but instead had 1d a year as hearth silver of each householder. For wood sold, he received the tenth part of the proceeds. During the ten years in which Sir John Hobart and Robert Doughty had "*occupation of the impropriation of the church,*" whatever tithed corn had been yearly growing on the south and west side of the river had been usually paid and accounted for, to the impropiator²⁶. There are records of several women summoned before the Archdeacon's court for not receiving Holy Communion during the year 1667.

The parish register books contain baptisms, burials and marriages from 1653.²⁷

There were several guilds here, viz: St. Michael, St. Peter, St. Margaret, St. John the Baptist, and All Saints.

In 1471, Katherine, widow of Robert Purdy endowed the following lights:- the lamp before the high altar; the light before the Holy Rood; the light before the image of the Blessed Virgin in her chapel, and contributed to the light supported by collections at the plowlode²⁸ of Hundegate. She also gave legacies to the fraternity of St. Michael, to her son Nicholas, a chantry priest.

The Vicarage Manor, to which the advowson was attached, was granted by William Rufus to St. Martin's Abbey at Battle in Sussex, but afterwards the Bishop of Norwich used to nominate, and the Abbot to appoint such nominee to the vicarage. On 23rd. May 1542, Henry VIII granted the advowson of the rectory and church to the Dean & Chapter of Canterbury and the presentation has since been in them.

The copyholds of the manor are being gradually enfranchised. The present income is about 3½ guineas.

VICARS OF AYLSHAM

- 1299 Eustace de Kymberle
- 1312 Ric. de Aylesham. He was of St. Peter's College, Camb. to which he gave a house
- 1325 John de Burnham
- 1328 Adam de Tirington
- 1335 Robert de Rokesby
- 1338 Roger de Heselarton M.D.
- 1340 John de Lenn
- 13— John de Thorney; alias de Dickleburgh.
- 1372 Thos. Gylman by provision of the Pope
- 13— John Bromley
- 1398 Nich. Stok.
- 1418 Thos. Frengde de Walsingham Magna
- 1429 Thos. Booth.
- 1444 Ralph Kemp
- 1451 Edmund Keche
- 1452 Thos. Scrope, Bishop of Dromore from 1434 to 1440. He was a Benedictine monk, and afterwards a Carmelite at Norwich, a man of great learning and strict austerity of life; was much employed abroad on public business and by Pope Eugene IV. Leland says he was in great favour with the Knights of Rhodes. Whatever he received from his revenues, or could get from rich persons he bestowed among the poor, or laid out on pious uses. Vicar general to the Bishop of Norwich. He appears to have left Aylsham in 1484 for Marsham. According to Bale he wrote, "*De Carmelitarum Institutione: De eodem Ordine ad Eugenium*" "*Catalogum Sanctorum ejusdem Ordinis.*" "*Compendium Historiarum at Jurium*" "*Privilegiarum Papaliam. De*

Sectarum introitu Ad Anglam "De sua profectione ad Rhodios" "*Sermones de decem Praeceptis*" Also 'very elegantly translated into English, ten books of Philip Ribot, a Catalan, on the particular Actions of the Carmelites' which work he dedicated to Cyril Garland, Prior of Norwich. His book of the Institution of the Order of Carmelites, dedicated to John Blakeney, Prior of Ingham, in 1349, is extant in the Public Library at Cambridge. He lived till nearly 100 years of age and died at Lowestoft, where Leland saw his grave, and has given us the following lines as his epitaph:-

Venit ad Occasum morbo confectus amaro
Spiritus alta petit, pondere corpus humum.

*Wasted with sickness, in the west he dies
and here intombed among the dust he lies
and while his spirit light as air ascends
his body to its mother earth descends*

1461 Nich. Stanton. LL.B.

1461 Wm. Brooke

1484 Hen. Falke. official to the archdeacon of Norfolk.

1489 Chr. Lytton

1490 Thos. Tylom - buried in the chancel

15— Wm. Bullein. This is undoubtedly the person described by Cooper, *Athen. Cant.* p.343 as a native of Ely born in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII, reputed to have been educated in Cambridge University, although we have been unable to obtain any definite information on the subject. He is also, with less probability, said to have studied, and appears to have lived for some time at or near Norwich. He travelled over several parts of Germany, visited Scotland, and made many tours in England, studying the productions of nature with a zeal and success not common in that age. Having taken orders, he was instituted in June 1550 to the Rectory of Blaxhall, Suffolk, where some of his relations resided. He resigned that rectory before November 1554, about which period he commenced practice as a physician in Durham. In or about 1560, he removed to London and was soon afterwards charged by William Hilton with the murder of his brother, the Baron, who, however, in reality died of a malignant fever. He was arraigned on this charge before the Duke of Norfolk, and honourably acquitted. It is said that he was a member of the College of Physicians and practised in London until his death, which occurred 7th. January 1575-6. He was buried on the 9th. of the same month at St. Giles, Cripplegate, in the same grave as his brother Richard, a divine, who died in 1563, and wherein John Foxe, the martyrologist, was interred in 1587. Over their tomb is a fair placed stone with an inscription commemorative of all three. So much of this inscription as does not refer to Foxe is subjoined:-

Sacra sub hoc saxo tria corpora mist quiescunt
Guillielmi Bullen, medici, fratrisque Richardi,
Ac Johannis Foxi qui tres mihi crede, fuerunt
Doctrina clari, rari, et pietatis alumni
Guillielmus Bullen medicamina semper habebat
Aequae pauperibus danda, ac locupletibus aequae
Sicque Richardus erat benefacere et ipse paratus

Omnibus ex aequo quibus ipse prodesse valebat.

He wrote many medical works.

- 1542 John Bury p. by Rich. Redman. Commissary to the Bishop. Bury himself became Commissary to Bishop Nykke, and according to Foxe was a madly enthusiastic persecutor of Protestants and the chief instigator of the proceedings which led to Thomas Hudson a glover of Aylsham, to the stake at Norwich, and '*made great stir about others which were suspected within the town of Aylsham and caused 200 to creep to the cross at Pentecost, besides other punishments which they sustained.*' In many respects he is described as a very wicked man. "*burnt all good books that he could get and divorced many men and women asunder for religion.*"
- 1547 Thos. Whitley S.T.B.
- 1554 John Bury, who had resigned in 1547 and became rector of Marsham, returned to Aylsham. He died suddenly in 1558
- 1573 Lancelot Thexton
- 1581 Wm. Burton "*A silly preacher. He hath another benefice 40 miles distant.*" (*Morice MS Vol.B, f.52*)
- 1584 Moses Fowler B.D. One of the Scrutators of Cambridge University in 1583. He was outlawed whilst vicar here. In 1604 was appointed Dean of the Collegiate church of Ripon, in which church he was buried in 1608, where on a stone altar tomb is his recumbent figure.
- 1591 John Firmane S.T.B. p. by Alice Norgate, widow. Archdeacon of Stow 1581. Buried in the chancel.
- 1610 John Hunt. p. by the King.
- 1633 John Phillips. p. by Thos. Paston D.D. Advocate to the Dean & Chapter of Canterbury.
- 1663 Nath. Gill²⁹ was re-instated, having been previously nominated and ejected during the Commonwealth. Walter Rye in his *Index of Norfolk Topography* says Gill was 'the scoundrel who blew up Cromer chancel with gunpowder'
- 1669 Robert Stannard
- 1669 Robert Fawcett
- 1687 John Cleaver. p. by Edmund Wodehouse
- 1700 Jonathan Wrench, who built the vicarage house. Author of '*A short view of the Principal duties of the Christian religion.*'
- 1731 Jonathan Fountain Wrench.
- 1765 Solomon Pawley
- 1777 Wm. Taswell
- 1800 Chas. Norris.
- 1834 John James Cory.³⁰
- 1835 Philip Hunt LL.D.
- 1839 Edmund Telfer Yates
- 1867 C.H. Aitkens
- 1883 Robert Hake
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NOTES

19 It is not needful here to follow Harrison's career, but it may be added that he was a writer as well as a prophet. There are several of his publications extant. One published in 1572 is entitled "*Of Ghostes and spirits walking by night; of Strange Noyses, Crackes and sundry forewarnings which commonly happen before the death of menne, Great slaughters and Alterations of Kyngdomes. Translated into Englyshe.*" In 1576 he was before Bishop Freke for some ecclesiastical cause. It was about 1582 he went to Middleburgh, in Zealand, and joined Robert Browne.

20 Court Rolls of the manor of Aylsham Wood.

21 Ad. MS 14,823

22 Compostella - Santiago, in Spain. It is the richest See in Spain. It is pretended that the body of St. James was buried there. The name Compostella is derived from *campus stella* the legendary history informs us that a star pointed out a spot for the saint's sepulchre.

23 State papers Dom. 26th. Henry VIII No. 1026 (20)

24 Augmentation Office, Miscellaneous Books, Vol 500 No.196

25 Ibid. Vol 505 No.44-47

26 As to the value to the impropiator, there was evidence given in 19 Charles II by Thomas Norgate, of Thorpe next Norwich, that whilst he was farmer, the impropriate rectory and great tithes were worth yearly eight score pounds, and he had several renewals of leases from the Dean & Chapter of Canterbury, in all of which there was a covenant by which the lessees were bound from time to time, to repair the houses belonging to the rectory, and also the chancel of the church. Neither he, or his father and mother (who had farmed before him) were ever required to repair the chancel, though they did the houses of their own accord. Mr Firmine and Mr. Hunt, former vicars, did repairs. He had known several persons buried in the chancel, but he had never authorised the breaking up of the ground, or received any profits therefrom.

27 In 1653 and 1654 agreements of "*consent to marriage*" were published at the Market Cross on three several market days.

28 The Plough Lights, or as they are sometimes called, Plough Loads, seem to have been supported by a collection, in small towns, where there was one only; in large towns where there were several, in the several parts or districts of the town, and this collection seems to have been made by carrying a plough about the town or district upon some certain day of the year, probably Plough Monday, which it may be, was so called from this custom. Thus, Adam Sweyn of Smallburgh, by his will dated 1468, gives a legacy, "*Ad lumen collectum per aratrum ex parte orientali*" and another, "*Ad lumen etc, ex parte occidentali.*" of the said town. i.e Eastgate District and Westgate District. Richard Ferthing, of Baketon, mentions the holding of a plough light, which must have been the day of collecting the money. - Ad. MS 27,967 p.156

29 Gill brought an action in the 20 Chas.II against the executors of Phillips, his predecessor, for dilapidations, but was unsuccessful.

30 There is a story that at Cory's induction, on his proceeding to toll the bell, he could not make it sound more than once; on which people said he would not live out the year, and that proved to be the case.

FINIS.

(Previous instalments were published in Volume 5 Nos. 3 and 5)

AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

LIST OF MEMBERS - DECEMBER 1998

Below is a list of paid-up members of the society, correct at the time of issue of this number of the *Journal*. This list appears in each December number of the *Journal*, together with the notice that it will form the distribution list for future issues. So - if your name does not appear on the list, then this is the last issue of the *Journal* to be automatically delivered to you!

However, all is not lost. If your name does not appear, you can easily put that right. Just forward your annual subscription to our Membership Secretary and she will be delighted to add your name to the list. Membership Secretary is Mrs. Sheila Mollard, Flint Cottage, Calthorpe Rd. Erpingham. NR11 7QL and current subscriptions are :-

Single membership -	£7
Couples	£12

With apologies to any members who might have renewed their subscription within the last few days and missed inclusion on the list

BAKER Mr. D.W.	COOK Mrs. M	DYBALL Miss A.J.
BALLS Mr R.	COOTE Mr. A	EVE Dr. & Mrs.J
BARWICK Mrs. G.	CORBIN Mr & Mrs.N	FLETCHER Mrs.G
BAYES, Mrs. R.	CRIPPS Mr & Mrs A.	GALE Mr & Mrs.G
BELTON Miss V.	CROUCH Mr.R	GARDNER Miss O
BIRD Mrs. M.	DAINES Mrs E.	GARRATT Mr & Mrs A
BRATT Miss R.	DAVY Mrs D.	GEE Mrs.B
CASE Dr. D.E.	DOWNING Mrs E.	HALFORD Ms. M.
CLARKE Mrs. B	DUCKER Mr. G	HARRIS Mr. J

HAWKE Mr & Mrs D.A	NEWELL Mrs. J.	STEWART Mrs L.
HAWKINS Mr & Mrs A.	NOBBS Mr. G.	SUTTON, Mrs. G.
HENDRY Mrs C.	NOLAN Miss E.	TAYLOR Mr. H.J.F.
HOLMAN Mr & Mrs.P	PEABODY Mr & Mrs R.	TULLOCH Mr & Mrs B.
HOWES Miss B.	PINK Mr P.	TURVILLE-PETRE Mrs J
JOHNSTON Mr.G	POLHILL Mr & Mrs R.	VYSE Revd. Canon J
KING Mr & Mrs M.	RADFORD, Miss N.	WARREN Mrs. R.
LAMB Mrs.J.	RICHARDSON Mrs B.	WARREN Mrs U
LLOYD Mrs T.	ROWE Mrs. M	WEST Mr.T
LONG Mrs. M.	RUST, Mr. B.	WICKENS Dr & Mrs. G
LORD Mr & Mrs.	SEWELL Mr. M.	WIDDERS Mr R.
LOWE Mr. B.	SHAW Mr & Mrs A	WILLIAMS Mr & Mrs G
LYONS Mr D.	SHERINGHAM Mrs.J	WILSON Miss. C.R.
McMANUS Mrs. S.M.	STEVENS Mr C.	WINTLE Mrs. S.
MINNS Mrs E.	STEVENS Miss S.	YOUNG Mrs M.
MOLLARD Mr & Mrs T	STEVENSON Mr. I.	

DIARY DATES

Below are dates of some meetings between December 1998 and March 1999 which are listed in the Norfolk Federation Diary, and which may be of interest to our members. The initials (in brackets) show which society is arranging the meeting, and a note at the end gives details of the societies mentioned.

December 98

Wed. 2nd. *Why Battles?* - Elizabeth Armstrong -----[NHS]
 Wed. 2nd. *Smuggling in Norfolk* - Joy Lodey-----[WLHG]
 Fri. 4th. *The Norfolk Phantom Coach* -Jennifer Westwood---[FNNH]
 Sat. 12th. *Images & Realities of a nation in arms, Britain 1914-18,*
 - Professor Ian Beckett -----[HA]

January 99

Wed. 6th. *Boudica*, - Keith Leesmith-----[WLHG]
 Thurs. 7th. *The Panhard is older than the Queen Mother,*
 Barre Funnell -----[NIAS]

Fri. 8th. *History of Costessey*, - Peter Larter. -----[FNNH]
 Sat. 9th. *After the vote was won: what happened to the Womens
 Movement after 1918* - Prof. Pat Thorne-----[HA]
 Tues. 19th. *The second year at Sedgford* - Neil Faulkner[WNKLAS]
 Sat. 23rd. *Excavations at Dragon Hall*, - Andy Shelley---- [NAHRG]

February 99

Fri. 5th. *"To the Guild of St. Agnes, 12 pence."* Cawston church
in the 15th. and 16th. centuries - Chris Barringer. - [FNNH]
 Sat. 6th. *The Welney Bridge Project*, - S. Al Qazzaz-----[NIAS]
 Sat. 13th. *Caterpillars of the Commonwealth.: Courts and
 courtiers in the Middle Ages* - Dr. R.E. Horrox-----[HA]

March 99

Wed. 3rd. *Early church in East Anglia* - Kenneth Penn ----- [WLHG]
 Sat. 20th. *Industry in an Agricultural landscape*
 - Mary Manning -----[NNAS]

Notes:

FNNH = Friends of Norfolk and Norwich Heritage, Dragon Hall.
 Lectures at Wensum Lodge.
 HA = Historical Association, meets at Chantry Hall, Norwich, 2.30pm
 NAHRG = Norfolk Arch. & Historical Research Group. Meet at
 Centre for East Anglian Studies. UEA at 2.30pm
 NHS = Norfolk Heraldry Soc, meets at the United Reform Church,
 Princes St, Norwich at 7.45pm.
 NIAS = Norfolk Industrial Arch. Soc., meets at the Bridewell
 Museum, Norwich at 7.30pm
 NNAS = Norfolk & Norwich Arch. Soc. meets in the Music Room,
 Assembly House, Norwich at 3pm
 WLHG = Wells Local History Group, meets at the Maltings
 Community Centre, Staithe St. Wells at 7.30pm
 WNKLAS = West Norfolk & Kings Lynn Arch. Soc. meet at the
 Farmers Arms, Knights Hill, Kings Lynn at 7.30pm

—ooOoo—

THE NORWICH TO CROMER TURNPIKE

Up to now, very little seems to have been written on the turnpike roads of Norfolk. Arthur Cossons wrote an article on the whole network of Norfolk Turnpikes in *Norfolk Archaeology*, some years ago [NA Vol.30 pp.189-212]. A few other articles have also appeared in *Norfolk Archaeology* on individual Turnpikes*

Now, at last, we have an account of the Norwich to Cromer Turnpike by one of our own members, Valerie Belton, to add to the sparse literature that does exist on the county turnpikes. This excellent book, drawn largely from information in the Town archives, is a most attractive publication tracing the whole history of the road from Norwich to Cromer as it developed along its two sections - Norwich-Aylsham (1794) and Aylsham-Cromer (1811).

Rich in detail, it even records what must be Aylsham's earliest recorded traffic accident outside the *Dog Inn* in February 1852. There is much useful information on the financial fortunes of the enterprise from its start until . . . "*. . . the advent of the railway linking Norwich with Cromer . . . which made closure inevitable.*"

This is another attractive publication by a member of the society, which adds to the growing output of works relating to the history of Aylsham.

[BELTON, Valerie. *The Norwich to Cromer Turnpike*. Published by the author. - 0-9534134-0-3. Price £3. 1998.]

Copies can be obtained directly from the author at Cherry Tree Cottage, Ingworth, Norwich.

* for example - "The Stoke Ferry Turnpike" by J.F.Fone, (pub. 1982) and "The Holt Road" by B. Cozens-Hardy. (pub. 1957)

NORWICH, AYLSHAM & CROMER TURNPIKE ROAD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

That Tenders will be received for carting Materials, for the repair of the said road, from the Pits and other repositories, in the undermentioned Divisions:--

- No. 1.--*From St. Augustine's Gate, Norwich, to boundary of the parish of Horsford next Felthorpe.*
- 2.--*From the second mile to Hainford beck.*
- 3.--*From Hainford beck to the end of Stratton Common, next the boundary of Hevingham.*
- 4.--*From thence to the end of the parish of Hevingham.*
- 5.--*From thence to the end of the parish of Marsham.*
- 6.--*From thence to the 12th mile stone in Blickling.*
- 7.--*From thence to Hanworth Cross, and the branch road from Erpingham side gate to Erpingham "Eagle" Inn.*
- 8.--*From Hanworth Cross to Cromer Street.*

Farmers, Carters and others, wishing to tender for any of the aforesaid Divisions, are requested to specify the same at per mile, per load of 24 bushels each; the Materials to be filled by the carters and laid on the side of, or on the road, at the option and under the direction of the Surveyor.

Persons desirous of supplying any of the above Divisions with Materials delivered on the road at such time and places as the Surveyor may direct, must also specify price per load of 24 bushels each, and to name the Division or Divisions for which they will supply.

WATERING.

Tenders will also be received for Watering the said Road in the following Divisions:--

- No. 1.--*From St. Augustine's Gates, Norwich, to the 2nd mile stone towards Aylsham.*
- 2.--*From thence to Hainford beck.*
- 3.--*From Hainford beck to the end of the parish of Hevingham.*
- 4.--*From thence to the 12th mile stone.*

Persons desirous of contracting to water any of the above Divisions at per day, must find an able Man and Horse for each, to work 10 hours per day, and the Man to assist in the pumping.

The whole to be done under the direction of the Surveyor or whom he may appoint.

Tenders to be delivered free, on or before Tuesday, the 12th of March, 1850 12 o'clock at noon, at the office of MESSRS. REPTON AND SCOTT, endorsed "Tenders for Carting, Watering, or Materials."

GARRETT TAYLOR KNOTT,

Eye Park, March 1st, 1850 .

SURVEYOR.

AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY **Account for the year ended 31st. August, 1998**

<u>1997</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>1998</u>
56	Sale Books Bacon's Bookshop	53	88	Officers' expenses reimbursed	84
28	Sale Publications Books	63	304	Journal Printing & Photocopying	274
37	Visitors	70	67	Payments for Visits	-
534	Donations	15	343	Party Costs	311
7	E.A. Landscapes Fees	320	370	UEA Course Costs	192
336	Maps and Postage	9	126	Friendship Club Rent	126
636	New Year Party	320	35	Quaker Room rent	60
	Subscriptions	628	10	Carnival Stall	-
	Day School 9th. May	105	133	Lecture fees	85
	Broads Tour	260	20	Subs - NAHRG & FNHAO	20
19	Bury St. Edmunds visit	228	-	Programme cards	29
76	Bank Interest	34	-	Donations	40
30	Receipts from visits	-	-	History Fair Fee	27
12	Refreshments	23	-	Bury St. Edmunds Exp.	202
	Carnival stall receipts	-	-	Broads Tour Exp.	275
			-	Day School Exp	47
<u>1771</u>	<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>2128</u>	<u>1496</u>	<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>1772</u>
	<u>Balances, 1st. September 1997:-</u>			<u>Balances, 31st. August 1998:-</u>	
118	Bank Treasurer Account		79	Bank Treasurer Account	55
362	Bank Moneymaster Account		628	Bank Moneymaster Account	959
16	Petty cash		15	Petty Cash	-
<u>376</u>	Girobank Publications account		<u>425</u>	Girobank Publications account	<u>489</u>
872		1147	1147		1503
<u>2643</u>		<u>3275</u>	<u>2643</u>		<u>3275</u>

Checked with records and found to be correct. 8th. October 1998. Graeme Johnston, Accountant,
Treasurer, Mrs. G. R. Barwick