



THE ESSEX FAMILY HISTORIAN

The Essex Society for Family History Magazine



www.esfh.org.uk

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August 2022

Essex Society for Family History

For full information about the Society, please visit our website - www.esfh.org.uk

At this time all our branch meetings and workshops are a mixture of online only and online and in person events. Open to all members. You will be notified by email of all events and events are posted up on the Events section of our website.

We offer Research Services (see page 89). For one-to-one to help with your "brick walls" to be held at our Research Centre at the Essex Record Office and booked in advance please contact Gill Peregrine on gpesfh@gmail.com.

Membership Rates

Annual membership of the Society runs from 1st April until 31st March. For rates see table below or our website. For membership payment details please see our website or page 89:-

Membership Category	Fees Payable (Paper Magazine)	Fees Payable (Electronic Magazine)
Single Member living in UK	£16.00	£8.00
Institutional Member	£18.00	£8.00
Single Member living outside UK	£25.00	£8.00

Benefits of membership include:-

- The Society has a Research Centre located at the Essex Record Office with an extensive collection of material that is useful to family historians. One-to-one meetings are bookable to help with family history "brick walls".
- Access to the ESFH Members only area of the website where members can find valuable data including in excess of 2 million genealogical records which are increased regularly.
- Receipt of the HISTORIAN publication 3 times per year in March, August and December.
- Capability to view or download from our website the latest issue of the HISTORIAN and copies of publications issued by other family history societies.
- Access to an archive with a selection of back numbers of the HISTORIAN.
- Member Surname Interests - All members are able to update and advertise their own Surnames Interests online.
- Concessionary Subscription Rates for www.findmypast.co.uk
- Essex Gazetteer - members have access to a database which includes place names in "old Essex".
- Access, anytime, to recorded presentations.
- Access to Essex Poor Law Indexes.

The Essex Family Historian

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For Your Information

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Editor: Colleen Devenish

Ladybrook Main Road Woodham Ferrers Essex CM3 8RW

Tel: 01245 429112

Email: editor@esfh.org.uk

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CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE

Contributors are requested to limit their articles to 2000 words, other than by prior agreement with the Editor. Contributions should be sent in Microsoft Word format or plain text files (Microsoft Notepad) Graphics/photos preferably as separate JPEG files.

Alternatively written or typed articles with photographs can be sent directly to the Editor at the address above. Photographs will be returned.

Contributors should make every effort to trace and acknowledge ownership of all copyright material and secure permissions. The Editor needs to be aware of any problems with contributors acquiring copyright.

Contributors should include their ESFH membership number. The use of material is at the discretion of the Editorial team and may be used in any print and electronic media relevant to ESFH.

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The Geographical Area covered by ESFH

The area covered by ESFH is that of the old Essex county with the exception of 'London Boroughs' which are considered to be in the area of East of London FHS and Waltham Forest which is in the area of Waltham Forest FHS.

From the Editor

This edition seems to have a theme of religious dissent running through the pages including invaluable transcriptions of the Coggeshall Independent Meeting House by Angela Hillier and Pauline Adlem's write up of the presentation "Ideas for Researching Nonconformist Ancestors". John Barrett reviews the latest book from the versatile historian Amanda J Thomas entitled 'The Nonconformist Revolution'. If you can't find your ancestors in the parish records they may well have been non-conformists.



COLLEEN DEVENISH

This edition also sees the first article by member Toni Neobard and I'm so pleased she decided to write about the important Essex 19th century censuses (and this is after I spelt her surname incorrectly in the last issue for which I apologised). Another member Denise Somers has penned her first article about her Chelmsford Tibbles family who left for "greener pastures" although it is questionable if they found them.

For those with military interests, John Sly needs some help with three unexpected burials and Linda Knock makes us stop and think about two young Essex boys who lost their lives at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Tony Benton, in his article concerning the Braund surname found in the Upminster area explores the rise and fall of fortunes of this family. It is really sad to see the photograph of their dilapidated family seat taken a few years ago. Stephen Norris continues to entertain us with the third part of his series, looking back at agriculture in the Chelmsford area.

To all the above and other contributors I thank you for your work towards this penultimate issue for 2022.

Now for some important news for all members. Users of our website can now add their DNA (GEDmatch) Kit numbers to our database allowing them to find out if other members have a connecting match.

As the summer draws to a conclusion why not enjoy the Heritage Open Days held throughout the UK in September or attend one of the Essex Record Office events? Failing that why not come and join your Society on the evening of Friday 11th November or Saturday 12th November 2022 at the FHF Really Useful Family History Show which is online. There are numerous talks and workshops, all from the comfort of your own home! Don't delay book your tickets today at www.fhf-reallyuseful.com

Happy Researching!

Notice Board

Please keep in touch with your Society by one or all of the following facilities:-

- Our website – where news is put up on the front page
- “Like” our Facebook page for regular announcements
- Send us an email using the ‘Contact us’ tab on our website
- Telephone or write to key members of the Executive Committee whose details are shown on the inside back cover

Any member is welcome to join our regular presentations via Zoom, the cloud based conferencing tool. Details of the forthcoming presentations are on page 7.

Essex Record Office presents:-

Tuesday 6th September 2022

Big Boys Toys

Ernest Doe is a family firm which can trace its history back to their first blacksmith's shop in Ulting near Maldon opening in 1898.

Since then they have grown and diversified providing agricultural machinery to customers across the UK.

Join Graham Parker to look at the history of the company and some of the “big toys” they have.

Tuesday 4th October 2022

Essex Rocks

Prepare to be amazed at the geological story of the county starting around 250 million years ago when Essex was just one small part of a large desert in a massive continent. By 450,000 years ago Essex was then covered in ice. With an accompanying display of rocks, geologists Ros and Ian Mercer will explain the complicated and incredibly ancient history of the county.

Events are held at the Essex Record Office, Chelmsford. For more information see their website www.essexrecordoffice.co.uk

Forthcoming Meetings

Our talks and workshops may be subject to change so **please always check our website under the ESFH Events tab for the latest information.**

Where the meeting is shown as being Hybrid, this means that you can attend in person or watch online.

Saturday 3rd Sept 14:30 BST	West Essex AGM followed by Members Short Talks.	Hybrid Meeting Harlow.
Saturday 10th Sept 14:30 BST	North East AGM followed by Q & A session with the Committee.	Hybrid Meeting Colchester.
Saturday 17th Sept 14:30 BST	My Ancestor has Vanished by Simon Fowler. One of the commonest problems faced by family historians is that ancestors suddenly vanish from the records often for no seeming reason. This thought-provoking presentation looks at why this might be so.	Online
Saturday 1st Oct 14:30 BST	South East AGM followed by TBA.	Hybrid Meeting Southend.
Saturday 8th Oct 14:30 BST	The Parish Chest by Lady Teviot. Details of information originating from Parishes.	Hybrid Meeting Colchester.
Saturday 15th Oct 10:30 BST	Searching for Ancestors When You Are Adopted by Dr Penny Walters. This session will discuss the practical realities, the excitement and pain of researching a 'new' family.	Hybrid Meeting Galleywood.
Saturday 15th Oct 13:00 BST	Society AGM followed by Member Talks	Hybrid Meeting Galleywood.
Last Week of October	Workshop - TBA	Online
Saturday 5th Nov 10:30 GMT	Old Wills by Dan Poffenberger	Online
Wed. 16th Nov 19:30 GMT	Workshop - Wills by Trevor & Mary Rix	Online
Saturday 19th Nov 14:30 GMT	Lost Cousins Downunder by Jill Ball	Online
Saturday 3rd Dec 10:30 GMT	Quiz with Elizabeth Cox	Online



Chelmsford 9th - 18th September 2022

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each September across
Chelmsford! Including
10 virtual events!**

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PATCH



The 1801-1831 Censuses for Essex

by Toni Neobard (ESFH 32898)

I'd like to thank Colleen, our magazine editor, for the lovely write up about a recent talk I gave to the Society. However one thing she said was she would have liked to have seen a bit about those early censuses for Essex. In mitigation, I was asked to fill in at a late stage for a speaker, so I didn't have an Essex-specific talk ready to give, hence I would like to take the opportunity to address that omission.

As I'm sure most of you will know there were censuses taken every ten years from 1801. But those censuses taken between 1801-1831 varied in two major ways from those that were undertaken from 1841 and beyond. NB I will refer to the 1801 - 1831 censuses as "the earlier censuses" and those from 1841 onwards as "the later censuses".

The first difference was in how the information was gathered. In order to administer the later censuses, the Government employed a system of Enumeration Districts and Enumerators, which were specifically set up for the task. However, the earlier censuses pre-dated this system and instead relied on the existing parish system to collect the information. In England and Wales the task mainly fell to the Overseers of the Poor; and in Scotland, schoolmasters.

The second main difference was in what was collected. The early censuses were taken for statistical purposes with the data being used to measure such things as population growth. The Government did not supply any household schedules to aid

FORM OF ANSWERS BY THE OVERSEERS, &c. IN ENGLAND,
To the Questions contained in the Schedule to an Act, intituled, *An Act for taking an Account of the Population of Great Britain, and of the Increase or Diminution thereof.*

County, &c.	Hundred, &c.	City, Town, &c.	Parish, &c.	QUESTION 1 HOUSES			QUESTION 2 PERSONS, including Children of whatever Age		Total of PERSONS in Answer to Question 2	QUESTION 3 OCCUPATIONS			TOTAL of PERSONS
				Inhabited	By how many Families occupied	Uninhabited	Males	Females		Persons chiefly employed in Agriculture	Persons chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures or Handicraft	All other Persons not comprised in the Two preceding Classes	

N.B.—If any Family occupies Two or more Houses in different Parishes, Townships, or Places, the Individuals belonging to such Family are to be numbered only in those Parishes, Townships, or Places where they severally happen to be at the Time of taking the Account.

REMARKS, in Explanation of the Matters stated in Answer to the preceding Questions.

1st Question.
2nd Question.
3rd Question.

ATTESTATION on Oath (or Affirmation) by the OVERSEERS or substantial Householders in ENGLAND

I, *A.B.* One of the Overseers (or a substantial Householder) of the Parish, Township, &c. of _____ in the County of _____ do swear (or affirm), That the above Return contains, to the best of my Knowledge and Belief, a full and true Answer to the Questions contained in the Schedule to an Act, intituled, *An Act for taking an Account of the Population of Great Britain, and of the Increase or Diminution thereof.*

The above-mentioned *A.B.* was sworn (or affirmed) before us the Justices of the Peace in and for the _____ of _____ this _____ Day of _____

C.D. and E.F.

1801 CENSUS – THE FORM THE OVERSEER WAS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE

collection of the data. They just required that the parish answer the questions asked. The data was to be provided at an aggregate level on the summary form provided – so no family names were submitted. This was then sworn as being an accurate representation before a local Justice of the Peace.

As a consequence, I think there is a popular misconception that the early household schedules or enumerator books were destroyed, but, in truth, there were never any - well any 'official' ones, at least. It is only the working notes and papers that the parish produced to help gather the information that are really of any use to the family historian. Unfortunately, survival of these is very patchy.

How the data was collected was down to the parish, so some bigger areas, such as a large town or city, might produce their own printed templates to aid data collection. In other places, the parish would draw up a table by hand. Whether hand-drawn or printed, the common approach was to have a column to contain names of inhabitants, plus other columns to keep track of the responses to the various census questions, such as occupations. In the main, they would collect the data at "head of household" level with just a statistical breakdown of the other household members.

Sadly, these working documents were mostly destroyed after the exercise was completed, but some do survive and Essex has one of the best collections of these in the country (Yorkshire just beats us). Where these papers survive they are usually housed with the parish collection and are now kept in the County Record Office.

There were 6 main questions asked for the 1801 census, but more questions were added for each of the early censuses, so by the time of the 1831 census, 16 questions were asked. For example, the 1801 census required each parish, town or place to provide the following information:-

how many inhabited houses, occupied by how many families; and how many uninhabited houses

what number of persons, the number broken down by males and females

how many of those were chiefly employed in agriculture, trade, manufacture, or handicraft, and how many in none of these

Then there were also questions for the parish clergy to answer:-

The number of baptisms and burials in the years 1700 to 1800, broken down by males and females

The number of marriages in each year from 1754 to the end of 1800

As a result of baptism, marriage and burial questions, these summaries are sometimes found within the parish registers themselves, such as those for Canewdon and Rayne. The parish registers for these villages and a few others have been digitised and, therefore, can be viewed online if you have a subscription to Essex Record Office archives.

By an account of the Population of Great Britain
by order of Government taken in July 1811,
The following Return was made for the Parish of
Caneudon in the County of Essex.

Houses.	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
101.	121.	355.	266.	621.

W. Atkinson - Vicar.

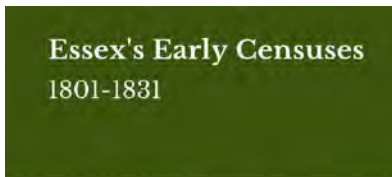
1811 CENSUS POPULATION TOTALS CANEUDON, ESSEX

THE IMAGE IS REPRODUCED COURTESY OF THE ESSEX RECORD OFFICE

Few other of the surviving Essex working documents have been digitised or transcribed. However, there are transcriptions for a handful of Essex parishes online through the Early Census Project which is co-ordinated by Brigham Young University in Utah. These include: Bradwell juxta Mare (1811), Leyton (1821, 1831), Little Baddow (1801, 1821, 1831), Walthamstow (1811), St Mary Walthamstow (1821, 1831). You can find them at: <http://ebc.byu.edu/>

But don't get too excited, as it has been estimated that you only have about 1:1,000 chance of finding your ancestor in one of these earlier censuses.

Richard Wall, Matthew Woollard and Beatrice Moring of the University of Essex attempted to draw together all surviving information for the country in their publication: Census schedules and listings, 1801-1831: an introduction and guide https://www1.essex.ac.uk/history/documents/research/RT2_wall_2012.pdf



Kate J Cole, built on the above publication with the aim to list all sources for Essex, including all the ERO references. You can get a free electronic copy of her publication: "Essex's Early Censuses 1801-1831" by subscribing to her blog <http://www.essexvoicespast.com/essex-ancestors/>



By Kate J Cole, MSc

All surviving Essex censuses are listed in the Essex Record Office (ERO) Catalogue. You can see whether there are any for your parish of interest by searching here (the advanced search facility is best): <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>

Although most listings only name the head of the household, occasionally all members of a household are listed such as the 1831 return for Steeple Bumpstead which lists the names of all inhabitants, including those of the children. According to the University of Essex publication some parishes went to greater lengths than others, with one listing both the number of windows and dogs in each household!

As a result of this 'head of household' approach few women appear in the listings. Typically they are only mentioned if they actually are the head of the household (often because they are widowed). Of course, as family historians, we always want more, and whilst we may be pleased to find one of our ancestors on one of these early censuses, the lack of details is frustrating. Especially the paucity of information about women.

For example, although the interestingly named Gamaliel Keys appears on a surviving Bradwell list for 1811, it fails to give much away in terms of his interesting situation. The entry shows that there were 13 of them in the one family, 7 men and 6 women. But a bit more digging reveals that one of the women was almost certainly his wife, Margaret whom he married in 1802 in Great Baddow.

THE IPSWICH JOURNAL
4 FEBRUARY 1826

DEATH.

Lately died, at Great Baddow, at the advanced age of 86, Mr. Keys, widow. The deceased was successively the wife of John Abell, Esq. and of Mr. Archer, both residents in Great Baddow, and last of Mr. Gamaliel Keys, of Bradwell. By the first husband only she had issue a son, who went to reside abroad, but whether at this time living or dead it seems to be difficult to ascertain, although rendered necessary, in order to prove the legal heir to an estate of some value at Great Baddow, which is at this time the subject of litigation.

Gamaliel died in 1824 aged 55, and his wife two years later in 1826. Helpfully there is a newspaper article that mentions her death, although the article does not name her but refers to her as Gamaliel's widow. However it says that she had died "at the advanced age of 86". This means that she was, surprisingly, nearly 30 years older than her husband. The article also mentions her previous two husbands, and that she had one child, a son, from her first marriage. It says that he went to live abroad, but that it wasn't known whether he was alive or dead. Her will makes interesting reading too, she makes mention of Mr Edmund Simmons whom she says she is "in friendly habits with" and with whom she seems to have some kind of joint venture around brewing beer and laying in of coals. Apparently, the will caused a bit of a stir anyway because of the missing son and the difficulty in proving a legal heir to the estate.

Another example is the Little Baddow census papers. They list several Campion males, including Samuel Campion.

Extract from the 1801 Little Baddow Census - Transcript

Head: Name	Samuel Campion	No. of men in Household	2
Head: Gender	Male	No. of women in Household	9
Image No.	61	How many persons in Agriculture	7
Total people in Household	11	How many in neither Ag or Trade	4

We know from other sources that he lived near the "Rodney" pub. In 1801 there are 11 people in his household, only two of which are men. But the bald facts belie the dreadful family situation which he was to face in 1817. For one of Samuel's daughters had died leaving an infant illegitimate son.

The task of caring for him fell to another of Samuel's daughters, Ann. However, it seems that Ann was unbalanced and drowned the child in Grace's Pond in

CUMBERLAND PACQUET
25 MARCH 1817

CHELMSFORD. - Ann Campion, was indicted for the wilful murder of Edward Campion, the natural child of her sister, two years old, at Little Baddow, by throwing him into a pond.

the village. To add insult to injury she said that her father, Samuel had done the deed. She later withdrew her accusation, but how dreadful it must have been for the whole family. Surprisingly, there was some sympathy towards her and she was found 'Not Guilty' of murder. But I suspect it was a very difficult time for the family.

I hope that you do seek out any surviving early census papers for your places of interest. And if you do find something, please don't forget to investigate the women in the family too, otherwise you might miss out on some interesting 'goings on'.

Toni Neobard can be contacted on tonifamilyhistory@gmail.com

LIST OF CENSUS DATES 1801-1931
AND REFERENCES TO RELEVANT ACTS OF PARLIAMENT

Census		Act of Parliament	
Year	Day	Scope	Reference and Date
1801	Monday, 10th March	Great Britain ...	41 Geo. III. c. 15, 31 December, 1800.
1811	Monday, 27th May ...	Great Britain ...	51 Geo. III. c. 6, 22 March, 1811.
1821	Monday, 28th May ...	Great Britain ...	1 Geo. IV. c. 94, 24 July, 1820.
1831	Monday, 30th May ...	Great Britain ...	11 Geo. IV. & 1 Gul. IV. c. 30, 23 June, 1830.

LIST OF EARLY CENSUS DATES

County of Essex.

PARISHES, TOWNSHIPS, &c.	Annual Value of the Real Property, as assessed April 1813.	POPULATION.				Aggregate POPULATION of Connected Places (1831.)
		1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	
	£.					
ABBATON - - - - - Parish	1,267	150	176	203	202	
Aldham - - - - - Parish	2,345	370	345	435	407	
Alphamstone - - - - - Parish	1,856	237	231	244	277	
Alresford - - - - - Parish	1,556	210	216	270	297	
Althorne - - - - - Parish	3,380	286	300	352	352	
Ardleigh - - - - - Parish	7,135	1,145	1,186	1,387	1,545	
Arkesden - - - - - Parish	2,075	400	403	415	490	
Ashdon - - - - - Parish	5,025	710	735	802	898	1,103
Bartlow-End - - - - - Hamlet		163	174	212	205	
Asheldam - - - - - Parish	2,248	127	143	156	144	
Ashen - - - - - Parish	2,107	217	260	293	373	
Ashingdon - - - - - Parish	1,519	59	102	97	98	
Aveley - - - - - Parish	4,623	543	598	733	758	
Baddow, Great - - - - - Parish	7,345	1,445	1,461	1,603	1,719	
Baddow, Little - - - - - Parish	2,562	456	548	381	366	548
Middle Mead - - - - - Hamlet				202	182	
Ballingdon - - - (*) - - Parish	1,547	530	532	662	283	
Bardfield, Great - - - - - Parish	3,534	833	822	887	1,029	
Bardfield, Little - - - - - Parish	1,652	282	247	308	295	
Bardfield, Saling - - - - - Parish	1,004	257	260	282	359	
Barking Parish:						
Town - - - - - Ward	20,366	1,585	2,421	2,580	3,404	8,036
Chadwell - - - - - Ward		317	373	461	733	
Ilford - - - - - Ward		1,724	2,462	2,972	3,512	
Ripple - - - - - Ward		280	287	361	387	
Barling - - - - - Parish	2,302	264	248	293	317	

COMPARATIVE ACCOUNT OF THE POPULATION OF GREAT BRITAIN - HOUSE OF COMMONS
PUBLICATION DATED 19TH OCTOBER 1831

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Death and Probate Years Apart

by Colleen, Editor

I always remember the genealogist Gill Blanchard (www.pastsearch.co.uk) stating at one of her lectures that death and probate can be years apart and during some recent research I found an example. On the England & Wales Government Probate Death Index John Pain died on 12th October 1949 however the probate date was 28th July 1955 in the London Registry. I wonder why?

More on Mental Health: Colchester and John De Hailes

by Rita Harris (ESFH 2358)

As I read the interesting articles on mental health matters from Valerie Monaghan and Colleen Devenish (*HISTORIAN* March 2022), my mind turned to the case of John De Hailes, of Colchester, who was much troubled by mental health difficulties.

John De Hailes was a member of a Dutch Huguenot family, established in Colchester from the 17th century. The family first appears in the registers of the Colchester Dutch Church as Behagel or Behaegel, but evolved over time into Hailes, Hayles, Hales, and other similar variants. It was the branch to which John De Hailes belonged, who adopted the prefix “De”, giving the name a French sound.

John De Hailes was born in 1775. His family was comfortably-off, with property in Magdalen Street, a dairying business, and stalls in the weekly market.

John married, developed the business, and started a family, but, as he entered his 40's, things were not well, and, in 1815, the Overseers for the parish of Colchester St. Botolph issued an order for his committal to a lunatic asylum (Essex Record Office D/P 203/18/31).

From this point the trail went cold, with no further sign of him in Colchester.....until a few years later, when working on a different case, as I searched the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor for the parish of Colchester St. Botolph, my eyes lighted upon regular payments for John Dehailes, to Mr. Burrows of Hoxton, London. Mr. Burrows was also receiving regular payments for other paupers named in the Accounts.

D/P 203/12/41. 1816-1818. St. Botolph's, Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor.

1816 Nov 1.	Expenses for John Dehailes, Mr. Burrows in London	£15 16s. 2d.
1817 Jan 29.	Burrows, for Dehailes	£6 18s. 7d.
1817 Apr 22.	Mr. Butler as per bill delivered to the 25 March 1817 – paid Burrows & son for Board etc. of John Dehailes	£7 10s. 7d.
1817 May 15.	For Dehailes	10s.
1817 Jun 28.	Mr. Burrows for Dehailes to 24th June	£7 3s. 1d.

Similar payments continued through subsequent volumes; (Essex Record Office D/P 203/12/42-47 running from 1818 to 1833); regular payments for expenses for Dehailes, and also, occasionally, expenses for repairs and upkeep for his family premises in Colchester.

Just before the end of the Overseers Accounts in 1833, comes a payment, April 26, “Mr. Daniels bill for Dehailes writings; £1 6s.8d.”

Edward Daniels was a Colchester solicitor. John Dehailes was 59 in 1833, and died two years later, in 1835; maybe Mr. Daniels was helping him to get his affairs in order and draw up his will?

Curious about Mr. Burrows, of Hoxton, London, I did a bit of Googling, which turned up a website entitled “Maps of the Hoxton Madhouses”, one of these maps shows Holly House, Hoxton, the house owned by the Burrows family. Shoreditch Workhouse sent their lunatics there, and other workhouses were also doing the same, including some in Essex. Holly House was a long building, with grounds, on Hoxton Street, and not far from the present-day Geffrey Museum.

The website “Lost Hospitals of London” also fills in some interesting detail (<https://ezitis.myzen.co.uk>)

The first private lunatic asylum to be opened in the area was Hoxton House in 1695, a large brick building. Hoxton was rapidly changing, with many larger estates being broken up and their large houses converted into madhouses. Hoxton House took both private patients and pauper lunatics (especially from the City of London).

By the early 19th century, nearly all London’s private madhouses were in Hoxton and the area became synonymous with lunacy, mainly from unwanted notoriety.

However, reports and inspections of several of these houses, gave rise to concern, and there were public demands for improvement and reform.

Eventually, in 1845, the County Asylums Act was passed, compelling local authorities in each county to build their own lunatic asylums, along approved lines, so that mentally ill patients could be properly cared for in their own county asylums.

The website “Lost Hospitals of London” references the book, Parry-Jones WL 1972 *The Trade in Lunacy: a Study of Private Madhouses in England in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries*. London, Routledge and Kegan Paul.

So, through the sad case of John De Hailes, a whole episode in early mental health care came to light.

☆ ☆ ☆

Merchant Navy Seaman Service Records

By Colleen, Editor

If you are researching maritime ancestors then you may want to read up on a project announced by The National Archives earlier this year.

A project has begun to find the important missing links in Merchant Navy service records for the period 1845-1855 – the port rotation numbers, which link Merchant Navy ships’ crew lists to the service registers of Merchant Navy seamen. For further details read their blog dated 16th May 2022.

Ideas for Researching Nonconformist Ancestors

by Jackie Depelle

Summarised by Pauline Adlem (ESFH 6098)

I have been interested in nonconformists for some time after I found a family who were Baptists and greatly involved with the Broadmead Baptist Chapel in Bristol. Luckily the Bristol Record Office had records of the Broadmead Baptist Chapel which aided my research at the time. The birth of my 4 x great grandfather Francis Harris was recorded there along with his brothers and sisters. His brother Samuel, who married Sarah Fox, daughter of William Fox (who is credited with being the founder of the Sunday Schools Society) later went to America with his family and became the pastor of Aurora Baptist Church in Aurora, Indiana. Francis went out to visit him arriving on 9th January 1823 but was there only a few months before he died on 2nd Oct 1823.

Jackie, our speaker, became interested in the subject when she was researching her own ancestors in Yorkshire. She found that they were connected with a Moravian settlement in Fulneck in West Yorkshire, which is near Leeds in the UK. The Moravian church is still very active in the USA today.

The following covers many of the areas that she suggested using for your own research.

Use a dictionary of genealogy for checking definitions of terminology relating to non-conformists for example, dissenters and recusants. They are people who do not wish to join the Church of England and are drawn to alternative beliefs.

If you cannot find details of your ancestors in the Church of England (often referred to as Anglican) registers then you should consider that they might have been nonconformists. Marriage by license is often a clue and registry offices were used for marriages so there was no church involvement. Nonconformist registers, which usually record births and deaths not baptisms and burials, often have more information in them than Anglican registers, for example, birth records might have a sponsor's name, godparents, cradle roll or in the case of my ancestors the name of the midwife. Nonconformist records can also be found online at the subscription sites of Ancestry, Findmypast and The Genealogist by looking through their catalogued collections.

Local maps sourced at Alan Godfrey Maps (www.alangodfreymaps.co.uk) and those found in the National Library of Scotland (www.nls.uk) can help locate church buildings and burial grounds which might have existed at the time your ancestors lived there. Some of them will probably still be in use. Quarter Sessions records could be used to find details of applications for licenses to use premises for meetings.

Using newspapers found through the British Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk) or Findmypast subscription sites can be very useful for more background knowledge. In them you might come across notices of meetings, church openings, obituaries, announcements and maybe names of ministers and congregations.

The National Archives and County Record Offices hold records for nonconformists and also they provide very useful finding guides. They also tell you where you might find other useful records in other areas. One of these being the John Ryland Library in Manchester. (Incidentally his name was on the birth record of Francis Harris my 4 x great grandfather in Bristol. I have no idea whether it is the same person). Also you find information in archives, libraries, local study libraries and special collections at universities throughout the UK. Many of these can be found by using Google or any other search engine.

For information not found digitally or not found anywhere else a visit to the British Library might be needed. Again they have an online catalogue to browse through to see if they hold the information you need.

Many familiar businesses were founded by nonconformists who were more tolerant to employees needs and catered for them, for example by providing accommodation and looking after their welfare. Many of the businesses are still around today. To name a few - Cadburys, Carrs, Clarks, Rowntrees and Thomas Cook.

Jackie gave us a list of key dates to refer to:-

- 1534 Henry VIII's Act of Supremacy established the Church of England
- 1689 The Toleration Act : Own places of worship
- 1791 The Catholic Relief Act : Own chapels and schools
- 1836 Marriage Act : In any registered place of worship
- 1837 Royal Commission : Deposit registers with the Registrar General.
- 1898 Marriage Act : A member of congregation authorised to act as Registrar

Here are a few of the books she recommended:-

Tracing Your Nonconformist Ancestors by Stuart A Raymond

Tracing Your Roman Catholic Ancestors by Stuart A Raymond

Methodist Records for Family Historians by Richard Radcliffe

My Ancestors were (Society of Genealogist series) Baptists, English Presbyterians/ Unitarians, Inghamites, Jewish, Methodists, Mormons, Quakers, Salvation Army. You may be able to find these books in Local Studies Libraries or at the Essex Record Office or ESFH library.

She also suggested a variety of websites, I have picked out some that you might not have thought of using before:-

Family Search: www.familysearch.org

Parliamentary Archives: <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/parliamentary-archives>

Dissenting Academies Online: www.qmul.ac.uk

John Rylands Research Institute and Library: 70,000 Methodist Printed Books and Periodicals: Special Collections: <https://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/rylands/>

Dr Williams Library: The Library of Protestant Dissent <https://dwl.ac.uk>

My Primitive Methodists: www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk

Wesleyan Historical Society: <https://wesleyanhistoricalsociety.org.uk>

Nonconformity in Wales: <https://welshchapels.wales>

The talk Jackie gave us was very interesting and full of very useful information needed when researching nonconformist ancestors. I hope that in these notes based on Jackie's talk I have given you some ideas to expand your research.

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Timeline for Nonconformist Groups

by Colleen, Editor

1532 Anabaptists

1560 Presbyterians

1582 Congregationalists

1612 Baptists

1640 Unitarians

1650 Society of Friends (Quakers)

1729 Methodists

1827 Plymouth Brethren

1837 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons)

The Genealogist subscription site (www.thegenealogist.co.uk) is the official publisher for nonconformist records in collaboration with The National Archives (TNA) and provides the largest collection online with over 8 million records. (The above list omits Catholics and Jews who are technically were nonconformist - see TNA Nonconformist Guide).

Agriculture in the Chelmsford Area

by Stephen Norris

Introduction by Colleen, Editor

In Part 3 of Stephen's continuing article on agriculture in the Chelmsford area he looks at the changes in rural society from the late 19th century and the importance of two businessmen, Thomas Churchman Darby and Joseph Brittain Pash.

Part Three

By 1901 conditions had improved for most farmers in the area with wheat prices for farmers 14% higher. The agricultural labourer did not benefit a great deal. A small increase in wages was insufficient to prevent a large number moving from the surrounding rural districts to the town attracted by sufficiently higher wages in the new engineering firms. In 1914 there was a thirteen week strike in the county by the local branch of the National Union of Agricultural Labourers. Although it was ultimately unsuccessful it did ensure that more notice was taken of farm workers, who did well in general during the war.

The role of the farm labourer in Mid Essex was little different in 1900 from centuries before. "Growing crops and tending livestock still employed the same techniques that had been used in Tudor times". Farm workers had always lived in cottages but increasingly came to resent the fact that these were 'tied' to their job. This meant that there was always the threat of homelessness in retirement. The Workers Union used this to mobilise support in the county.

The natural order of rural society remained largely untouched in the years leading up to the first war despite the partial unionisation of the farm labourer. Although Mid Essex, like the county as a whole, was never noted for a predominance of big landowners, the local landowner or 'squire' always had a pre-eminent position in the local village community. A number of the villagers would work at his house or in his gardens. He was usually a magistrate or justice of the peace. The first five or six rows of pews would be reserved for family members in the local parish church. Improving and repairing the latter was often one way the owner could carry out 'good works' in his community. In 1900, four of the eight Essex Members of Parliament were Essex landowners.

Colonel William Nevill Tufnell (1838-1922) lived in the house Langleys in the Walthams and owned almost half of the cottages: of 57 households when Edward the Seventh died, Tufnell owned 25. "Edwardian Howe Street would have been very much a working place with three farms, a mill, a malting, a smithy, businesses in the building and allied trades, market gardening, timber sawing, shops and a post office". There was no publicly provided water and, of course, no electricity. It had no cases of divorce and it was rare for a baby to be born out of wedlock.



Langleys

"Five miles from Chelmsford, and four and a half miles from the station, on the road to Dunmow, is Great Waltham, next to Writtle the largest parish in Essex. Here is Langleys, the attractive seat of Colonel William Nevill Tufnell D.L. J.P., whose extensive estates in this county cover some 6582 acres".

Extracted from Seats in Essex by Joseph Arthur Rush published in 1897

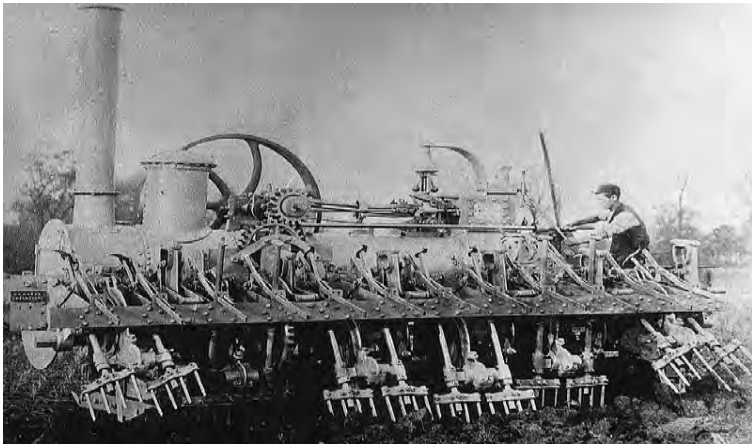
The Tritton family dominated Great Leighs as the vicar Andrew Clark noted in his published diaries. Herbert Tritton (1844-1923) was Lord of the Manor and his country seat was Lyon Hall. He was a partner in Barclays Bank, which had once been Barclay, Tritton, Bevan and Co. "The Trittons had done much for the village: the sick were taken to hospital in one of their cars, food was distributed and help given when babies arrived". They had a village pump built and a clock put on the church tower. His four daughters were always doing 'good works'. Clark appreciated Tritton's support of the parish but found his evangelical fervour difficult to stomach. Although he filled the front rows of the parish church with family and staff he also supported nonconformity. He had a parish hall built which was also used for nonconformist services.

Villagers in Great Leighs, such as Herbert Rolley, could not rely on just their wages for survival. He recalled that in 1904 *"I lived in a cottage in School Lane and I rented it for one shilling and six pence a week. There were 18 fruit trees and a huge walnut. These incidentally provided the greater part of our subsistence for my wages at the time were 10 shillings a week which I earned by working at a nursery from 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m."* Another villager Alfred Green said *"My parents were very poor. My father worked on a farm and his wages were 13 shillings for 54 hours. Our rent was about one shilling and sixpence a week and after buying a little coal and an ounce of 'baccy' for the old man 3d, and a pint of beer, 3d, it did not leave much for food and clothes".*

Before the first war most of the villagers in Great Baddow and Sandon still worked in local farms. As elsewhere in the rural districts they were housed in low cost cottages "often sharing a wash house with an earth toilet at the bottom of the garden". Les Sparrow's grandparents had an arable farm. *"We had two horses, a cow and loads of chickens. It was mainly a two man farm. My grandparents got in extra labour at harvest time. All Essex farm houses had a brew house"*. Fred Spalding senior bought Meadgate Farm in Great Baddow, near where the Army and Navy roundabout is today, when he retired from his shop. He used a steam plough when these were beginning to be used more before the outbreak of the first war. Spalding remembered extreme poverty in the village. There was a man in the village known as 'Donkey'. This was because when his family was starving he cut up a dead donkey and used it for meat and soup.

In every village the Great War resulted in a decisive change in attitudes within the community. As a member of Little Baddow parish council said "Never again would the schoolmaster cane a boy because a gentleman had complained that he had not doffed his cap to him".

By 1900 the Darby Digger had a national reputation. Thomas Churchman Darby was baptised in Little Waltham in 1842. At 18 he invented a horse hoe and established a small engineering works for its production. He was scornful of the plough because it made the soil 'sour'. Darby moved to Pleshey where he worked on his digging machine. Initially he sought help from Eddingtons, the Chelmsford engineering firm which had developed a machine for laying land drains. Darby's machine had mechanical digging forks driven by means of an ordinary single cylinder steam engine. His first machine, introduced around 1876, walked on six steam operated legs. This encountered severe problems, not the least being that it cost £1,600. A second prototype with eight legs and a double boiler was no more satisfactory costing £1,800. He then set up his own firm, Darby Diggers which produced a more successful third digger. The boiler was retained but the legs removed. Its engine



THE DARBY STEAM-DIGGER.

PHOTO WITH THE CONSENT OF THE DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT HASLER

drove both the wheels and the digging forks. In 1880 it was shown at the Royal Show at Carlisle. One significant problem that remained was the time that it took to get the machine back on the road after digging because the wheels had to be changed. In 1900 Darby moved the works to Wickford and formed a new company, the Darby Land Digger Syndicate, to market a rotary digger. One of these was inspected by King George V in 1913 shortly before production was discontinued. The new digger had cost the company the enormous sum of £100,000. "Had he had the advantage of the internal combustion engine his story might well have been different". In reality he was unlucky to have developed his expensive machine at the time of the agricultural depression. Thomas died in 1916 and his son Sydney later perfected the Darby 'All Weather' wheels to fit tractors.

The agricultural machinery firm of Joseph Brittain Pash (1839-1926) advertised "the largest stock of agricultural machinery, dairy goods and spare parts in Essex". He had started his workshop on his farm in Galleywood as early as 1866. He moved the business to near Chelmsford's new market. By 1900 he was producing comparatively few goods himself. He was the sole agent for Massey Harris, who claimed to have introduced reaping machines to Essex in 1866, sheaf binders in 1892 and tractors in 1915. Pash's workers were prepared to travel 100 miles to erect fences. Tom Turner remembered his warehouses at the rear of the Corn Exchange; "the pioneer of selling, servicing and repairing agricultural machinery". Pash was also admired locally for setting up the Essex Industrial School for abandoned children.

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Essex Society for Family History

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on **Saturday 15th October 2022** online and at The Galleywood Heritage Centre, The Common, Galleywood, Chelmsford CM2 8TR at 13:00 BST.

For confirmation of the arrangements please check our website before the event or contact Meryl Rawlings Secretary at honsec@esfh.org.uk

Nominations for the Honorary Officers and Members of the Executive Committee, signed by two paid-up members of the Society, should be sent in writing to the Secretary, to be received not less than 28 days before the date of the meeting.

Nomination forms are available from the Secretary or can be downloaded from the Society website www.esfh.org.uk.

MRS MERYL RAWLINGS
Hon. Secretary

The Braunds in Upminster

by Tony Benton

We don't know when (or indeed if) Benjamin Braund first met Captain Andrew Branfill (1642-1709) the owner and Lord of the Manor of Upminster Hall but their common Devonian origins may well have provided a connection and resulted in an acquaintance. Dartmouth-born Branfill had made his fortune at sea before buying Upminster Hall and two nearby farms for £7,400 in March 1686 and his Essex connections may have been linked to his 1681 marriage to Damaris Aylett of White Roding. Their eldest son Champion (b.1683), named after the ship that Branfill had captained, succeeded his father in 1709 and two years later in 1711 he was contracted to marry Mary Braund, with a marriage settlement valued at £2,500.

Mary was the 17-year-old daughter of Benjamin Braund, who was a Citizen and Vintner of London, living in Soper Lane, near St Mary le Bow. He had been baptised in Northlew, Devon on 16 October 1664, the son of William and Mary Braund née Axworthy alias Coombe and he was the first of the family to leave Devon when he came to London to be apprenticed.

The Vintners' Company's apprenticeship records show Benjamin Braund taking 16 apprentices between 1693 and 1723. He ran the Rummer Tavern in Queen Street, which was the home of a Freemasons' Lodge, and seems to have prospered enough to set up his eldest son, also called Benjamin, as commander of an East Indiaman, and he paid £300 and £200 for the apprenticeships of his other sons William and Samuel.



MARY BRANFILL NÉE BRAUND (1693-1760)
- PHOTO USED WITH PERMISSION OF THE
BRAUND SOCIETY

Benjamin Braund senior also endowed Mary, the first-born child of his marriage to Anne Warner, for her marriage to Champion Branfill. Mary must have been quite a catch as she was said to be a great beauty, known as the "Belle of Essex". Fortunately, we do have an engraving made in 1880 by her great-great-grandson Benjamin Aylett Branfill which is reproduced in TL Wilson's Upminster history and which offers an indication of her beauty. Mary went on to bear Champion Branfill 12 children between 1712 and 1734 but she was widowed in 1738. Under the terms of their marriage settlement she continued to live at Upminster Hall and received a life interest in the profits of the estate.

At some time, probably in the late 1720s or early 1730s, Benjamin Braund retired to live in Upminster, which he was doubtless familiar with from visiting his daughter in the decades since her marriage. He settled at Corbets Tey, a hamlet in the south of the parish, about two miles away from Mary's home but no record has survived of

where he lived there so he probably rented. Many of the premises there were owned by Michael Fallet, a London merchant, so he may have been Braund's landlord. Benjamin died at Corbets Tey in July 1734 and his death merited a mention in the Gentleman's Magazine and other publications. His will revealed that he owned properties in Crane Court off Fleet Street and Bucklersbury but none in Essex. While he was comfortably off it seems that he was not as wealthy as he once had been. As well as leaving reasonably generous bequests to family members and bequests of £20 to each grandchild he wrote that "I heartily wish that I had not been deprived (by a misfortune well known to my family) of leaving greater legacies to my said grandchildren".

Benjamin Braund's eldest son Benjamin, a Commander of an East Indiaman, lived in nearby Romford and died only a few years after his father in 1738, aged only 43. Samuel (1698-1766) was unmarried and from 1748 until he retired in 1760 he was involved as an important intermediary, a "ship's husband" in the supply of shipping for the East India Trade. He had business interests with his elder brother William (b.1695), who had been apprenticed to a prominent merchant, Christopher Emmett in 1712. William's business ventures concentrated on the Portugal trade in the first half of the 18th century when trade flourished between the two countries. The youngest survivor of Benjamin's children was Anne (b.1700) who was married to another of William and Samuel's business associates, Leonard Pead, Citizen and Clothworker, and Common Councillor of Eastcheap ward, London.

William Braund's business activities were more diverse and far more successful than his brothers. As well as making his fortune in the Portugal trade, he was a Director of both the Honorable East India Company and of the Sun Insurance Office. He was also able to turn from exporting woollen goods to Portugal to importing bullion, and towards the end of his career concentrated almost entirely on insurance and shipping.

Although he was by no means an unusual example of the wealthy mercantile class, what is unusual is that we know much about his business activities, and those of his brother Samuel, as their account books survive and form the rich vein of material mined by Lucy Sutherland in her 1933 book *A London Merchant, 1695-1774*. His account books are now in the Essex Record Office, but at the time Sutherland carried out her research they were in the possession of the Russell family, at Stubbers in neighbouring North Ockendon.

William Braund's business and family connections were inextricably entwined through his links with the Branfill family. His nephew Champion Branfill married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert James Secretary to the East India Company. Her sister Charlotte married John Harrison, Director and three times Chairman of the East India Company and Director of the Sun Fire Office, and a close associate of Samuel and William Braund in the East Indian trade. Their younger sister Amelia married Charles Harris, stationer to the East India Company, uncle of Elizabeth James and another business associate of the Braund brothers.

It is to William Braund that we now turn. It seems that William often stayed with his sister Mary at Upmminster Hall after she was widowed in 1738 until her death in 1760.

In June 1757 Braund strengthened his links with Upminster when he bought the 100-acre Hunts Farm in Corbets Tey Road for £2,800 from William Lloyd of St George's Bloomsbury, cousin and heir of John Milner of the Middle Temple, who had died four years earlier.

Instead of redeveloping the farmhouse at Hunts Farm, William Braund decided to build his own country residence in Upminster. By tradition it is said that this happened after William quarreled with his sister over a black servant although an alternative version records that the quarrel was with her son Champion Branfill. As Braund only started work in 1762, two years after Mary's death, the latter version seems more likely.

By June 1758 William Braund was the owner of a small farm at Hacton, a hamlet near Corbets Tey, in the south of Upminster, which brought him a modest rental income of under £12 annually from his tenant George Clark. It seems that Braund had acquired this farm, known as Mealmans and Skinners Croft, from his sister Mary, who must have acquired it from her son Benjamin Branfill, who had inherited it from his uncle Andrew Branfill in 1750. It had been bequeathed to Andrew Branfill in 1731 by his aunt Alice Aylett, who had bought this along with other properties in neighbouring Hornchurch some 30 years before.

In 1762 having decided to build his own home at Hacton, Braund set about adding the land surrounding his estate and his wealth seems to have persuaded the land owners to sell. After buying nearby 18 acres of lands called Sanders for £500 from Thomas Wright of Hornchurch in April 1762, Braund added a further 10 acre holding called Watts alias Shillings, bought from John Wolveridge for another £500 two months later.

Braund built for himself a gentleman's house on a corner site in Hacton at the junction of the roads leading to Hornchurch, Upminster and Rainham at a cost of over £4,000 over a three-year period. Braund's accounts show that from July 1762 onwards, he paid a Mr. J Burrell five guineas for plans, presumably for the house, and regular payments of £200 or £250 to one Michael Babb, no doubt the builder, with the final payment made in July 1765 – a total of around £2,650. Direct payments to painters, plumbers, carpenters, masons, upholsterers and other tradesmen which added another £1,750 to the total costs, suggest that Braund may have managed the project himself.

The Palladian-style residence, originally known as Hacton-on-the Hill or Hactons, and later as Hacton House, was described in 1841 as “substantially erected, and in excellent order throughout, possessing every convenience for a family of high class and respectability”. It boasted “six airy bed chambers” on the upper storey, with another three bedrooms, a library or morning room, a dressing room and a WC on the first floor, “a light cheerful vestibule” used as a summer room, and a wing with a large bedchamber, dressing room and another WC. The ground floor was graced by a “handsome hall”, an “elegant staircase” and stuccoed walls “enriched with foliage, fruit, and flowers” together with a breakfast parlour, library, dining room and a drawing room and “below stairs” were the engine house and servants premises to run such a mansion while outside were spacious stables, coach houses, kennels, cow houses, pigsty and poultry house.



EXTRACT FROM CHAPMAN & ANDRE MAP OF ESSEX 1777 SHOWING HACTON HOUSE (NAMED HACKTON HILL HERE)

Forty years later it was described as “a spacious well-proportioned red-brick building, with stone-quoins and dressings”. A flight of stone steps led to a portico and the “very effective façade” was graced by a “somewhat imposing balustraded parapet and cornice”. The carriage drive to the house ran from Little Gaynes Lane on the east and Hacton Lane on the west. This Hacton House estate comprised some 23 acres in 1841, with eight acres around the house, and a further 15 acres opposite, east of Hacton Lane and north of Little Gaynes Lane.

With Hactons nearing completion, Braund bought the adjacent 66-acre Park Corner Farm from Richard Lockley for some £1,200 in April 1765, and two years later laid out a further £1,400 to buy another nearby 30-acre farm from Charles Hornby. Two further fields followed for £1,000 in 1768 and Braund’s Upminster purchases concluded in December 1771 when he laid out £957 for another four fields, directly to the east of Hactons, part of Sir James Esdaile’s Gaynes estate as part of a transaction which involved selling Hunts Farm to Esdaile for £3,052. In total between 1762 and 1771 he had spent some £5,600 on acquiring land in Upminster in addition to the £4,400 spent building Hacton House. He also bought several other estates elsewhere.

William Braund and Sir James were already on bad terms after a dispute arising from the Hunts Farm sale and a few years later the pair again locked horns when, after Braund enclosed and fenced off a piece of land in front of Hactons, which was part of the Gaynes manorial waste, Esdaile’s steward ordered this fencing to be removed. Braund retaliated by taking down a fence that Esdaile had put up around a watering place opposite his New Place home in Cranham Lane. Peace was restored when Esdaile backed down and allowed Braund to put back the fence at Hactons.

William Braund was a bachelor and after he died in March 1774 under the terms of his will Hactons passed to his nephew and protégé Benjamin Branfill, who died without issue in 1780. Braund's will specified that his estates should pass successively through named male relatives and their male heirs. William Russell (d.1810), another of Braund's nephews, succeeded Benjamin Branfill, and then in turn his brothers John (d. 1825) and Joseph (d.1828). The final beneficiary was Benjamin Pead and after his death in May 1841 the estates were sold. Hacton House was bought for £2,450 by the Rev Richard Battscombe, Rector of Southmere, Norfolk and after his death Hacton House was sold in April 1874 to William Irlam (d.1890), a retired engineer. His niece Alice Robertson lived there until her death in 1916 and then his nephew, Alfred William Irlam (d.1936). The graves of William Braund, Richard Battscombe and William Irlam are found outside the porch of St Laurence's Church, Upminster

It's likely that Hacton House stood empty after Alfred William Irlam's death in 1936. During the Second World War it was requisitioned for use as an officers' mess for airmen at Hornchurch airfield, leaving it in poor condition. There is some evidence that in 1948 the single storey wings to either side of the main house, which had previously housed the servants' quarters and other non-domestic offices, were demolished retaining only the original façade, behind which modern bungalows were built.

There is also evidence that the paneling and fireplaces of at least one room from Hactons, the drawing room, were removed and shipped to America in or before 1948, when they were acquired by Summerfield G. Roberts of Dallas, Texas. These were bought in 1959 by the newly-established Anglo-American Art Museum, part of Louisiana State University. The "Green Drawing Room" from Hacton was installed in the Museum as one of a number of similarly recreated rooms. Unfortunately, this room is no longer on display as when the Museum - now known as the Louisiana State University Museum of Art - relocated to new premises in 2005, the period rooms



THE GREEN DRAWING ROOM FROM HACTON HOUSE, INSTALLED AT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN MUSEUM AT LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY IN THE EARLY 1960S.
(COURTESY OF LSU MUSEUM OF ART)

were not reinstated. They were crated and stored and at some time in the future they are set to be de-accessioned and sold, pending the legalities involved.

Hacton House again remained empty post-War and in 1954 it was described by Pevsner as "partly ruined". That same year it was considerably altered with the red-brick façade being rendered, the main building converted into flats and the roofline significantly altered to provide windows for the attic storey, destroying the Palladian design. These post-War changes meant that although the house is locally listed it has not received formal heritage listing despite now being over 250 years old. Plans approved in 2011 to restore the main building were never implemented and, sadly, the main part of William Braund's Hacton House remains in a distressed and dilapidated state.

This article was originally published in The Braund Society Journal Number 152 March 2020.

Particular thanks to Andy Grant and Tony Fox for many helpful comments. Also, many thanks to Olivia Johnson of the Louisiana State University Museum of Art in Baton Rouge for providing information from their accession files on the Green Drawing Room from Hacton House.

Note from Colleen, Editor

Tony provided extensive references to this article however with limited space I have not detailed them here. For pictures of the Branfill family refer to <https://upminsterhistory.net/2021/12/11/picturing-the-branfill-family>.



HACTON HOUSE - JANUARY 2020 (TONY BENTON)

Tracing Your Family History with the Whole Family

by Robin C McConnell

Book review by Helen Matten (ESFH 31242)

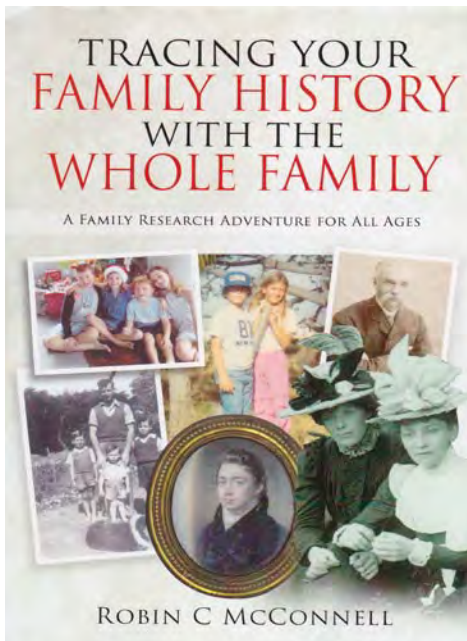
The author of this book is of an educational background from 'sole teacher at a rural school to university professorship'. He is noted as an experienced genealogist, team and leadership consultant. This is significant because this book is written as if preparing for a military strategy. The main mantra which is repeated often throughout the book is 'family history is a history of the direct family in the past and in the present – recorded for the future'.

Essentially this book, consisting of ten chapters, has many chapters detailing action lists, some stretching for over three pages and one reaching point 89! Each recommendation for 'engaging the young members of the family' is accompanied by such a list, including how to gather knowledge before the first family meeting. 'Make a clear list

of things to do before the first meeting'; 'plan for evaluation of the family meeting and your launching of the new venture'. Each step, or 'phase' is planned in meticulous detail, giving deadlines for younger members to produce their findings and how they can best utilise such information to devise activities for the rest of the family. These include inventing family board games, writing books and keeping their own detailed diaries as a tool for their own descendants to use in the future.

In chapter two it is recommended that you purchase four books to use as reference, the buying of which is included in the detailed costing exercise to be conducted before starting 'Practical Operational Considerations', written in the manner of a military operation, including family quizzes and the relative skills of the children. Whole chapters are dedicated to interminable questions. Follow-ups and family targets reinforce the educational regime for the hapless children expected to 'learn, acquire skills and knowledge' and become able to give presentations to other family members on their research results.

Chapter seven is dedicated to 'Agile-minded Teens are Agile-minded Researchers'. This explores the penchant for teenagers' reliance on social media and instructs them how to exploit it to gain family history information from remote family members. They



can refine their research skills and engage their school teachers in their project by initiating lessons in family history research at school. I know of few teachers with the time to do such projects alongside curriculum lessons and preparation for GCSE and A Level examination work! Teenagers can write on favourite topics (list of 31 suggestions follows!) including 'Teenage Detective Solving Family History Problems' or 'An account of a predecessor's life in terms of her struggle for equality'!

Chapter nine investigates how to record your own family history. The opening paragraph states that 'The recording of your family history is a marked reminder to have a very capable organisation of research and research files from the beginning of the family venture'. This is followed by suggestions such as writing a family book, poetry anthologies written by the family, creative writing and biographies of individual ancestors. Following another set of questions is how this endeavour can be divided between family members; 'chapters, photographs, charts and creative writing'. Younger members can contribute diaries of their own that illustrate their research results. Older ones can contribute recorded interviews, ancestor biographies and family trees. The inevitable lists are included in this chapter, which is the most useful chapter in the book. There is also a 30-page Appendix at the end of the book.

Would I recommend this book? If you have plenty of free time to dedicate to planning the venture as a military operation, and time to keep tabs on what everyone is doing, checking regularly on progress and holding a lot of family meetings, then this would be a good guide. For the average family historian aiming to enlist the help of usually resistant children, then probably not. Available from Pen and Sword Books cost £14.99 for 151 black and white pages. See <https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk> Tele: 01266 734222



Are you researching Irish ancestry?

by Colleen, Editor.

James G Ryan from Dublin (www.ancestornetwork.ie) has contacted me to tell me about his latest publication.

"It is a bibliography entitled 'Sources for Irish Family History - 2021' and lists around 6,500 books and periodical articles dealing with the history and other information on around 2,500 Irish Families. The total extent is 282 pages including a detailed Introduction. It is an updated version of a title we published in 2001 but has double the content".

The e-Book is available in Calibre and usable on all e-book platforms (Apple, Android on PC, Tablet or Mobile). It is currently not available on Kindle. It can be ordered only from Ancestor Network (<https://www.ancestornetwork.ie/product/sources-2021/>)

Any queries just call Jim on +353 87 2456402

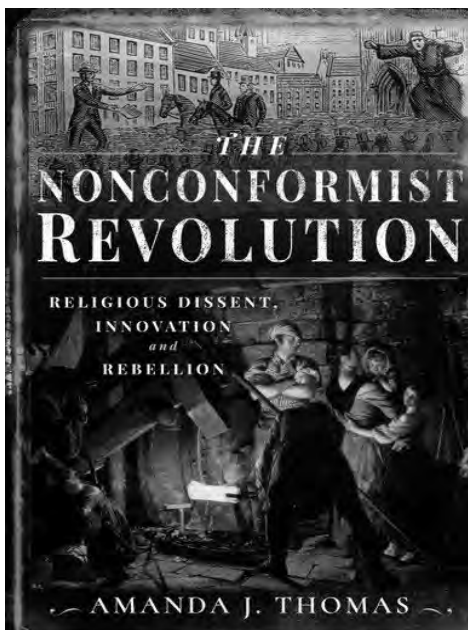
The Nonconformist Revolution - Religious Dissent, Innovation and Rebellion

by Amanda J Thomas

Book review by John Barrett BA, MA.

This book from Amanda Thomas takes us on a journey starting with the Black Death and its profound effects on society through to the early nineteenth century and the age of iron and steam. This well researched and highly readable book's central thesis is that religious nonconformity is the driving force behind social upheavals and the rise of industrialism.

She follows the path laid down by the German sociologist, Max Weber. In his 1904-5 masterwork: *The Protestant Work Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, he tried to rationalise the rise of mercantile and industrial capitalism in Western Europe. Calvinists and Puritans, basically in England and the Netherlands, despite leading religiously controlled lives, managed to become their countries' leading entrepreneurs and industrialists.



Ms Thomas starts with the Peasants Revolt of 1381, which of course was nothing of the sort. It was a movement by artisans and free labourers against restrictions to their wages and attempts to reintroduce pre-plague working conditions. The Black Death (especially in the South East of England) had de facto caused the collapse of Serfdom, a situation that the ruling classes, until the 16th century, strived to reverse. The rebels were spurred on by egalitarian preachers such as John Ball and the followers of John Wycliff, the Lollards, who tried to explain the Gospels in plain English. She provides an excellent description of the events and motivation of the rebels and their efficient communications system in Kent and Essex.

Industrial development in the 16th and early 17th centuries was largely thanks to the influx of foreigners into England. Many were refugees from religious persecution in France and the Netherlands, but as Ms Thomas emphasises, a goodly proportion were imported for their skills - especially German miners and forgemasters who gave technological impetus to an economy still dominated by small scale artisans and handworkers. The industries were naturally situated near their sources of raw

materials and we see the beginnings of primary and secondary production in Wales and the North and West of England and the concomitant growth of Chapel religions in these regions.

The rise of Quakerism and Unitarianism (i.e. a Protestant sect that denies the Holy Trinity and the divinity of Christ) is a major topic for Ms Thomas and she takes us through the Civil War and Commonwealth, where the rise of millenarian sects provided a danger to the Cromwellian regime and were actively suppressed during the Restoration. Her contention is that such religious groups provided the environment for the scientific and industrial discoveries and inventions that helped build the Industrial Revolution.

She takes as a case study the town of Lewes in Sussex, a hotbed of Quaker and Baptist activity. Lewes, then as now, was relatively well-off, surrounded by fertile land and heavily involved in ship-building (at Newhaven). Also many of the families involved in the dissenting movement had made their fortunes serving in Ireland with Cromwell, for which they were well rewarded. Lewes also provided the philosophical nourishment for radical political thinkers such as Thomas Paine, who had such profound influence on events in the American and French Revolutions. She outlines Paine's career, radical pamphleteering and active involvement in those revolutions as well as his spells in prison and narrow escape from the Terror in Paris.

This is an enjoyable, well researched book that rattles along at a good pace. It becomes bogged down slightly with describing the various families that came to dominate the iron and coal industries, but her descriptions of the Peasants' Revolt and Lewes are very well-written. As ever with Pen and Sword there is a question over the editing. Some of the chapters end rather hanging in mid-air, there is a tendency to lurch dramatically in a new direction half-way through some chapters and the conclusion is too short. Each chapter is its own essay and there is not always a flow into the next subject. She also only mentions the influence of William Tyndale and the printing industry. But these quibbles aside, Amanda Thomas tackles a mammoth task concisely and with aplomb.

Available from Pen and Sword Books www.pen-and-sword.co.uk 278 pp including appendices, bibliography and index, cost £16.99 Tele: 01277 734222

☆ ☆ ☆

Stepping Down Ian Boreham and Ann Wigmore

Two members have announced that they are stepping down from their Additional Roles with ESFH. Both have held important roles for a long time. We would like to thank Ann Wigmore for her role as Press Officer and Ian Boreham for his role as Archivist. Our sincere thanks for all their hard work from the Executive Committee on behalf of all the past and current ESFH members. Meryl Rawlings Secretary.

Unexpected Burials In Newport Cemetery

by John Sly (ESFH 10655)

As a long-standing researcher of Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) graves, predominantly of the Great War, I decided to photograph the headstones in Newport Churchyard. Having researched the CWGC data I knew that there would be several burials there of interest to me, and I was not disappointed. However, there were three CWGC graves which puzzled me. They were all dated the same day – 7 July 1960 – and all three were Royal Air Force personnel:

Flight Sergeant W L Hannant Age 34

Flight Lieutenant W H Jackson Age 38

Flight Lieutenant Z W Kaye Age 38

Clearly these were unlikely to relate to war deaths, because of the date, and as I had no idea what might have been the circumstances in which these three men died, I ordered the death certificates. The result was a surprise. Walter Leslie Hannant, William Henry Jackson, and Zenon Waclaw Kaye all shared the same information about their respective deaths:

Where and when died: '7 July 1960 Hardwick, Cambs'

Cause of death: 'Multiple injuries received while flying on duty in an aircraft which collided with another. Accident'

Informant: 'Certificate received from Vernon O D Cade Coroner for County of Cambridge Inquest held 11 July 1960'

The only difference on the respective certificates related to the 'Occupation' section.

Walter Hannant was 'of RAF Station Locking, Somerset, No. 3040526 Flight Sergeant Royal Air Force'

William Jackson was 'of RAF Station Debden, Essex, No. 182956 Flight Lieutenant Royal Air Force'

Zenon Kaye was 'of RAF Station Debden, Essex, No. 500035 Flight Lieutenant Royal Air Force'

All three deaths were investigated by the Cambridge Coroner, and all death certificates were registered in the Cambridge district.

My curiosity led me to research the accident, and I found a report on the website of the Aviation Safety Network:

'On 7/7/1960, DH Vampire T.11 XD549...of 8 FTS and Vickers Varsity WJ914 of 1 Radio School collided at approximately 1500 feet, and crashed five miles south west of Oakington, Cambridgeshire. The Vampire had just taken off from Oakington on an instructional flight with Pilot Officer Jarvis (recte Joseph) J Ball at the controls together with his instructor (Flying Officer A J Lakeman). This aircraft had amber screens with

P/O Ball wearing blue goggles. The Vampire made a climbing turn to the left and came up beneath the port wing of the Varsity whose pilot was seemingly unaware of its approach. The starboard wing of the Vampire prevented the instructor from seeing the Varsity. The Vampire sheared the port wing off and turned onto its back in a half roll to the left. The six crew of the Varsity and the two crew of the Vampire were all killed'.

Another website which I discovered in a roundabout way provided a list of the names of the two crews:

'The wreckage was between the villages of Comberton and Hardwick, Cambridgeshire, some 5 miles from Cambridge. Varsity Casualties (Aircraft based at Locking Weston-super-Mare) was en route to Debden (Essex) from Wyton (Hunts).

Captain Flt Lt Z W Kaye

Co-pilot Flt Lt W H Jackson

Navigator Flt Lt M(alcolm) B White

Signaller Flt Sgt D R (recte W L) Hannant

Engineer Officer Flg Offr L(ewis) S R Utton

Passenger Flt Lt B(rian) Walker

Vampire Casualties:

Flg Offr A(lbert) J Lakeman (Exeter)

Pilot Offr J(oseph) J Ball (student – Pretoria South Africa)'

My next query was: why were these three men buried at Newport, bearing in mind that the accident occurred over Cambridgeshire and the wreckage ended up near Hardwick? My first recourse was to the CWGC, but all I could elicit was this reply:

'With regard to your query concerning these three casualties however, they are some of the many thousands of post-World War 1 and 2 graves, that we maintain on behalf of the Ministry of Defence. They are termed Non War Graves, and our responsibility is simply to monitor their condition and clean them, as part of our UK Area maintenance schedule. However we have no information on their circumstances of death, nor information as to why that location was chosen for them.'

So no help there. I then tried to discover where the three men in Newport Cemetery were born, in case there were any connections with Newport. The only success I had was with Walter Hannant, who was born 21 October 1925 at South Milford, Sherburn, in Yorkshire, the son of Joseph Ernest Hannant and his wife Cecilia May. There was no obvious connection there with Newport.

William Henry Jackson was impossible to trace without having some idea of where he came from and exactly when he was born. FreeBMD listed many men of this name or similar born at about the right time, but even if one could have been identified as a distinct possibility there would be nothing with which to compare the evidence.

Zenon Waclaw Kaye had such an unusual name that I was sure that he would be easy to find, but he was not. On reflection, I was convinced that he was Polish and almost certainly born in Poland. At the age of thirty-eight in 1960 he would have been born in 1922, and would have been just about old enough to come to England in 1939 and to join the Polish element of the RAF. This, of course, is pure speculation.

Both of the Vampire casualties were buried at Long Stanton, very near Oakington where they were presumably based. However, the Varsity was en route to RAF Debden, which is only 3.3 miles from Newport, and the death certificates made it clear that both William Jackson and Zenon Kaye were based there. (RAF Debden is now Carver Barracks and is an Army base.) Why Walter Hannant, who was based at Locking, about as far west of Newport as possible, was included is difficult to understand, although there might have been unknown personal circumstances involved.

I would be interested to know whether any ESFH members have additional information about why those three airman were buried in Newport Cemetery as opposed to any other cemeteries or churchyards in the area. Please contact the Editor if you can help.



FLT LT W H JACKSON



FLT SGT W L HANNANT



FLT LT Z W KAYE

Cricket in the Second World War: the Grim Test

by John Broom

Book review by David Pracy (ESFH 32458)

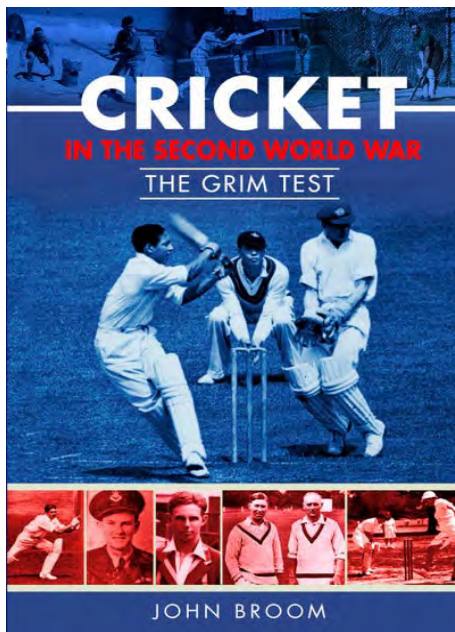
In *The Cricketer* in September 1939, Sir Home Gordon wrote: 'England has started the grim Test match with Germany'. Such imagery was common. After the 6ft 5in Kenneth Farnes, who played 15 Tests for England and was an Essex giant in every sense of the word, was killed in a flying accident, his memorial simply read 'He died as he lived, playing the game'.

During the First World War, sport was regarded as a frivolity incompatible with the serious business of war, and it was only after two years that a few fundraising cricket matches were organised. Second time round, the authorities took the opposite viewpoint and cricket was particularly encouraged as a morale booster as well as a fund raiser. But thousands of cricketers at every level from Test arena to village green lost their lives. John Broom has succeeded

in treating the fallen with respect, while conveying the sheer joy that millions felt in playing and watching cricket as an escape from the dark days of war.

No first-class cricket was played in England between 1940 and 1944, but first-class cricketers were involved in the thousands of friendly matches that took place all over the country. One of the most important teams was the British Commonwealth XI which played hundreds of matches and raised over £2000 in 1941 alone. As the name would suggest, it recruited players from all over the cricketing world. Among the most prominent were the West Indians Bertie Clarke, who later played for Essex, and Learie Constantine, who became a distinguished lawyer and member of the House of Lords. The racism Constantine encountered, when thrown out of a hotel after a complaint from an American visitor, contrasted with the huge affection and respect he enjoyed from cricket lovers.

The British Commonwealth XI was captained in most of its matches by Ray Smith, who also did much of the admin. needed to raise teams. Smith was an Essex cricketer who was also a farmer and therefore in a reserved occupation. Remarkably, at a time when class distinctions still permeated English cricket, Smith was a profes-



sional who often led amateurs, something that had been almost unheard of before the war. Broom was so fascinated by Smith that he is now writing a biography of him.

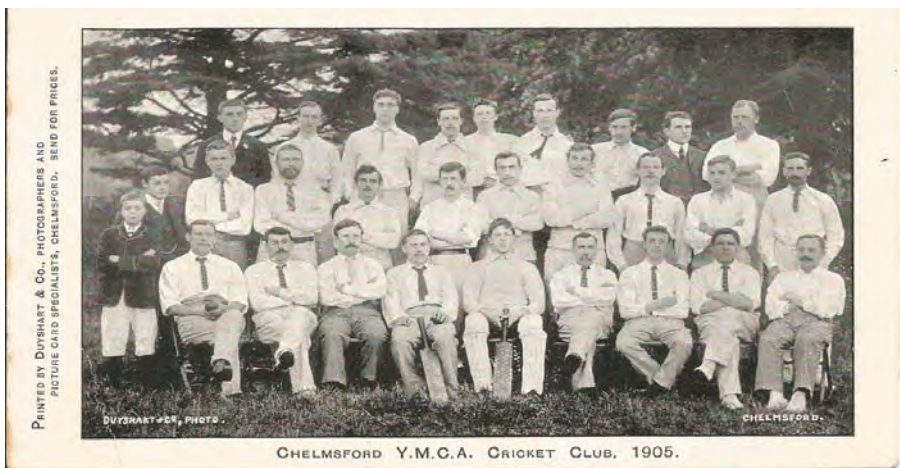
Essex cricketers played an important part in the bigger game. Lieutenant-Colonel JWA Stephenson, whose boundless energy and enthusiasm made him a true amateur in the original sense of loving the game, was awarded the DSO for his service in Tunisia. Pilot Officer Reg Taylor became the first professional to win the DFC, awarded for his courageous reconnaissance work during the retreat at Dunkirk. Captain Peter Smith, a senior staff officer in Egypt, found time to organise and play cricket, and coach youngsters there. Captain AV 'Sonny' Avery emphasised the importance of reading material for troops in Burma: 'The lads haven't been treated at all well ... they deserve best we can give them'. Smith and Avery were also professionals, whose qualities were recognised with promotion.

The ending of the European war a week into what would have been the 1945 season made it impossible to organise the traditional competitions, but some wonderfully entertaining cricket – much of it involving Commonwealth cricketers still in England – was enjoyed by large crowds just relieved to be able to do so in safety.

The breadth of John Broom's research is remarkable. While the main emphasis is on England and the traditional Test-playing countries, he has unearthed details of cricket being played in every theatre of war and even in concentration camps.

This is essential reading for any lover of cricket, for whom it is fascinating to see familiar names turning up in unfamiliar places and circumstances. I would have to say that readers with little or no interest in cricket will find parts of the book hard going, but the cricket is firmly set in the context of its social and military background, and the comprehensive index is well worth checking in case it mentions a person or place you are interested in. The book costs £25 and is one of seven books written by John Broom and published by Pen and Sword Books. www.pen-and-sword.co.uk
Tele: 01277 734222.

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Broken Heads and Shattered Truncheons

The Essex Special Constable 1800-1913

by Alan C. Cook (ESFH 31869)

Book review by Fred Feather (ESFH 27366)

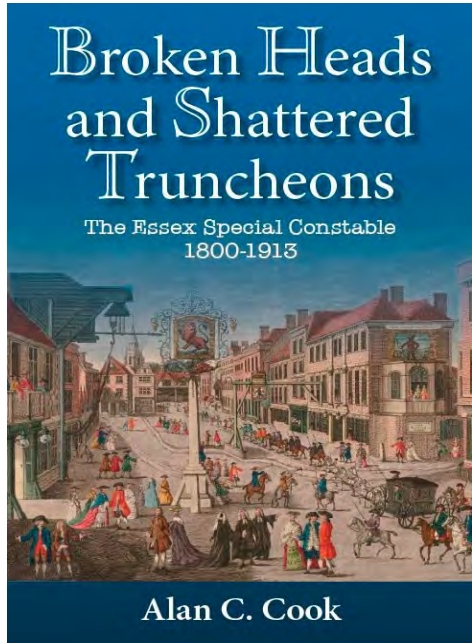
Here is something out of the ordinary, an encyclopaedic feast for readers who have male ancestors living in Essex. This extensive work has 4,300 names of men who served in any form of special constabulary in the 19th century up to the beginnings of the Great War. A second volume from 1913 is in process. They are the work of Alan Cook, a noted Essex Officer and Society member, with a track record of fine books and research. It is no exaggeration to say that this will be regarded as the definitive work on the subject in Essex.

Lots of the villages and their volunteers are named and the reason for employing them is made clear. Many names of working class families can be explored, a chance that researchers will not find in other occupations. This book will dispel many preconceptions about the role that their forebears may have undertaken. A

fine addition to anyone interested in the work of our Special Constabulary.

Published by and obtainable from the author Alan Cook, 2, Toga Close, Colchester CO2 9JJ. Normal price £20 plus postage and packing however available to ESFH members at a special price of £15 plus p&p. Alan can be contacted by email at: a_cook13@sky.com

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Marriage Customs

From Marriage Customs in Many Lands by Henry Heville (1856-1927) Published 1897 page 302 Source <https://archive.org>

“In some parts of Essex the bride used to take a seat near a table, her husband standing by her side while the guests came up in turn and gave presents of money, the piper exhorting them to be liberal. Who-ever gave the most received a pair of gloves, with a ribbon attached, and could claim a kiss from the bride”.



Thanks to members Susan Wilson and Meryl Rawlings for providing the photographs



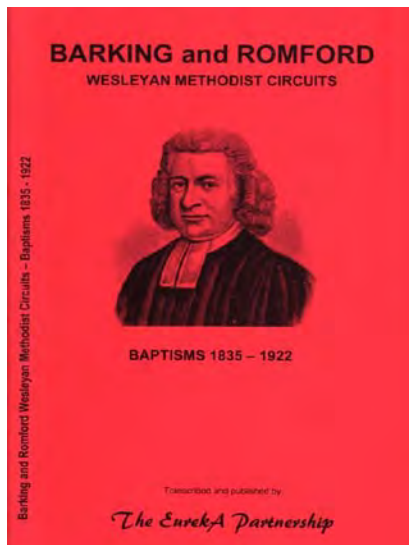
Latest Release from The Eureka Partnership for Family Historians

by Colleen, Editor

For those of you interested in ancestors in the Barking and Romford area I wanted to bring to your attention the latest release from The Eureka Partnership which covers the Baptisms of the Wesleyan Methodist Circuits 1835-1922. If you can't find your ancestors in the Church of England parish registers perhaps they were nonconformists? This 56 page booklet is available at £5.99 plus postage.

Also released is the Essex Entries in Doctor William's Non-Conformist Birth Register Volume One births 1743-1820 available at £5 for a download pdf file.

For ordering information and details of all the other counties they cover please see <https://eurekapartnership.com>



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Research Finds by Colleen, Editor

Peter Wynn (ESFH 8940) has contacted me to say he has clarified some dates in Figure 4 of his article Essex & Somerset Links published in the December 2020 edition. This is what he has found out since then.

"I have noticed that in Figure 4 of my article I show Edward Baber who married Elizabeth Cross as living from 1585 to 1665. This was based on a number of sources including an article by Sir Edward Strachey in the Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological Society. However it is not very compatible with his father, Edward Baber MP, dying in 1578! I have subsequently found from the image on Ancestry of the Chew Magna parish register that Edward, the son, was baptised on 8 July 1576. His will was proved in November 1655".

From the Chair

Since my last report we have held a mixture of online and hybrid meetings with mixed results. The attendance in the halls has been very low, which has meant we have missed out on the social aspect with our members and visitors, so are you, the local members, not wanting live hall meetings? However on the other side via Zoom I have enjoyed getting to know attendees from far and wide and learning aspects of family history research in their part of the world plus seeing them at other society meetings. This means those of us based in the UK are able to extend our trees worldwide alongside overseas members getting to know their Essex ancestors.



ELIZABETH COX

I have been enjoying in recent months trying to link in common ancestors as suggested in my DNA results in the hope it might help with the shared matches, but I wish when I have sent a query to a shared link that they would have the courtesy to reply as we could help each other. I am sure I'm not the only one in a similar situation. Has anyone any suggestions how to get them to reply, or is it that they take the DNA test but aren't into the hobby we all love?

Following the appeal for a Librarian for our Research Room I was pleased that 2 volunteers came forward, Jill Gooding and Carole Bartlett, currently they are adding the new books to the library catalogue and then going through the shelves to ensure the stock is in order. I wonder how many of you have looked in the library catalogue on our website to see what a mine of information we have in the room. You never know but in the pedigree section there may be a file, a book or just one piece of paper that would link in your tree. I am sure our volunteers would check for our out of County or Country members to see if it could. Also don't forget we have a research team and a One to One sessions to help knock down those "brick walls" details on the website and on the inside front cover of this magazine.

As our current programme is based on suggestions received in the survey we ran, please let me know if you have further suggestions for future talks and workshops because we all want to expand our knowledge, and we will be planning next years' timetable shortly.

On the 18th June we held a successful Open Day at Galleywood Heritage Centre, which included newcomers to family history. Was this as a result of the event being announced on the BBC Radio Essex 9am news that morning? Attendees were given advice on how to start their family history, help in resolving brick walls, usage of various free and subscription websites.

The tea bar did a good trade in bacon rolls and homemade cakes!

The British Record Society – a snapshot

by Colleen, Editor

www.britishrecordsociety.org

How many readers are familiar with the publications of the above charity? This Society was founded in 1889 with an objective “to compile, edit and publish indexes, calendars and transcripts of historical records in public or private custody throughout”.

In the past it concentrated on English probate records which are, of course, of great interest to family historians. They then went on to publish transcripts of the seventeenth century hearth tax returns. I came upon this organisation some years ago as one of my favourite reference books is *Essex Hearth Tax* edited by Catherine Ferguson, Andrew Wareham and Christopher Thornton. This is a great text showing the names of Essex inhabitants in Essex parishes who were eligible to pay the Hearth Tax in the Essex Hearth Tax Return of 1670. This tax was based on the number of fireplaces within each household, and relates to the document reference Q/RTH 5 held at the Essex Record Office. At the back of the book is a list of the 808 certificates not held at Essex Record Office which can be found at The National Archive.

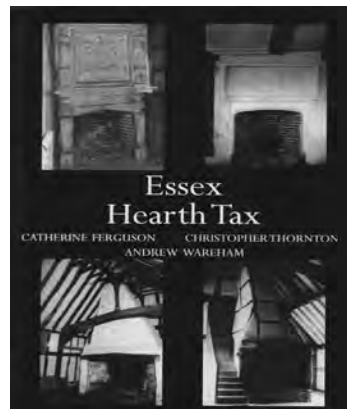
This weighty volume of over 600 pages comprises dozens of pages in the Personal Name Index section so it is easy to see if your ancestral surname is included. I found a reference to a Rob Devenish who was eligible to pay the tax on 6 hearths in the house he inhabited in Brook Street, South Weald. It also details people who were no longer eligible to pay the tax.

The Society has also published a number of books in the last few years in the Apprenticeship Series.

Their publications (which can often be found in county record offices and history archives) cover regions throughout the UK and are too numerous to mention here, so take a look at their website as they may well have published a reference book which is relevant to your family history research.

Hearth Tax Digital

To find the above enter 'Hearth Tax Digital' into any search engine. The site is run and maintained by the Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities (University of Graz, Austria) and the Centre of Hearth Tax Research at Roehampton University and supported by the British Academy.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Now available to all Members, by logging in to the
Members' Area of our website

ESSEX

Poor Law Indexes



All entries with Essex Record Office references for your
further investigation

1574 - 1895

31,371 Records

See if your ancestors are listed!

The Terling Fever 1867

by Colleen Devenish (ESFH 6237)

In 1992 M. R. Langstone wrote two short A4 pamphlets entitled 'Terling 1840 (or thereabouts)'.
I came across them recently with his additional text 'The Terling Fever of 1867' and decided to compare a list of victims of the disease with the entries in the local Church of England of All Saints burial register (Essex Record Office ref D/P 299/1/18) to ascertain how many had been buried in the local church and how long it took before they were buried. I expected that as the village was avoided by outsiders I would find most of the dead buried in the local church and I was correct. Nearly all were buried within a couple of days. Unfortunately, unlike some incumbents, the vicar did not believe in adding any comments to the burial register so no additional details were recorded by him.

In November 1867 a typhoid fever struck the village, but it was not the first time there had been an outbreak. In December 1862 and the early part of 1863 the village had been infected with the deadly disease leaving 5 dead. However the 1867 outbreak was more severe with some 300 inhabitants contracting the disease and it is known that about 44 inhabitants died. The high mortality rate attracted plenty of local press reports. The London and Medical press also printed reports including in The Times, The Lancet and even Punch. There were lots of theories as to the origin of the outbreak which included being caused by milk and spread by a dairy maid who worked in the local dairy, the weather, sanitation, poor housing, lack of water and even a suggestion by officials that it was as a result of the 'dirty' inhabitants and the interbreeding of families.

Mr Langstone gained access to the notes of a Dr Gimson who wrote a paper entitled 'Characteristics of the outbreak of Typhoid at Terling' and 'Reports on an Epidemic of Typhoid Fever at Terling January 26 1868' by Dr R Thorne and in addition the correspondence between the local dignitaries such as Lord Rayleigh, Richard Strutt, Clara Strutt and a Mrs Drummond. After it was all over there was a presentation to Dr Gimson as the local doctor for his dedication to the sick of the village.

Here is a reproduction of the list of those in the text that died and their ages. I have added to the table in bold my comments, other comments were on the original table.

Year	Month	Day	Name	Age	Notes
1867	Dec	14	Lucy Smith	44	
		22	Samuel Payne	9	
		24	M. A. Steele	?	Martha Ann, aged 25 according to burial entry
		26	Harriet Hicks	19	
		26	Laura E. Game	4	Edith according to burial entry

Year	Month	Day	Name	Age	Notes
		26	Emma Collard	25	(a child of this woman died of typhoid fever after removal to another village)
		26	M. A. Thurgood		
		28	Elizabeth Thurgood	23	
		29	Dinah Thurgood	20	
		29	Eliza Reed	18	
		29	John Guilder		
		30	Joseph Willett	19	
1868	Jan	3	Susan Aves	17	
		4	Owen Aves	20	
		4	M. Ann Long	32	Mary Ann according to burial entry
		9	M. Ann Jones	23	Mary Ann according to burial entry
		10	John T. Smith	12	Thomas, the middle name, according to burial entry
		14	John Wager	50	
		16	Edward Russell	45	
		18	Sarah Smith	19	
		21	Mary Valentine	4	
		23	Susan Duddley	63	
		28	Stephen Richardson	22	aged 23 according to burial entry
		28	John May	66	
		29	Sarah Ardley	77	(Diseased Liver)
		30	Charles Cole	59	aged 60 according to burial entry
		30	James White	28	aged 38 according to burial entry
		30	Maria Knight	??	(Mr. Goodchild) No entry
		31	William Church	17	(Died on getting up too soon)
	Feb	5	Minnie Aves	15	(Peritonitis after app. Convalescence) Could be Marina?
		8	Jane Webb	41	
		8	Alfred Turner	32	

Year	Month	Day	Name	Age	Notes
		11	Fred Steele	2	Martin as middlename in burial entry
		13	Jane Thurgood	15	
		15	George Royce's wife	25	Shown as Eliza Royce
		18	Cottis widow	67	Shown as Martha in burial entry
		22	Emma Middleditch	12	Burial entry shown as Anna
		22	Hannah Hines	22	
		29	Charles Walford	41	(General T.B.)
	Mar	3	Mrs. Clift	71	no trace in burial records
		5	Reuben Jiggins' wife	31	could this be Sophy Jiggins buried on 7th March?
		7	William Payne	16	
			Marshall's wife		no trace in burial entries
			George Valentine		no trace in burial entries



TERLING VILLAGE

An observation was made by Mr Langstone at the end of the list of the dead.

'This list varies in some cases with the names in correspondence of Lord Rayleigh and the Hon Clara Strutt to Mrs Drummond. These do not mention all the names mentioned in the above list, but include others: - John Slater's wife, the 'Boy' Smith at the mill (his mother was said to be very ill – was this Sarah Smith aged 19 on 18th January?) Mary Steen; the Boy Price and Mrs Pearson. In another case Clara Strutt speaks of Reuben Jiggins' wife, while Dr Grimson's list says Reuben Jiggins. Other discrepancies include John Wagon or John Wager and Edward Rupell or Russell'.

For any readers who are particularly interested in Terling in the 19th century including this epidemic, a set of the original booklets can be read at the Little Baddow History Centre, Essex. From time to time I have seen copies come up for sale on the internet.

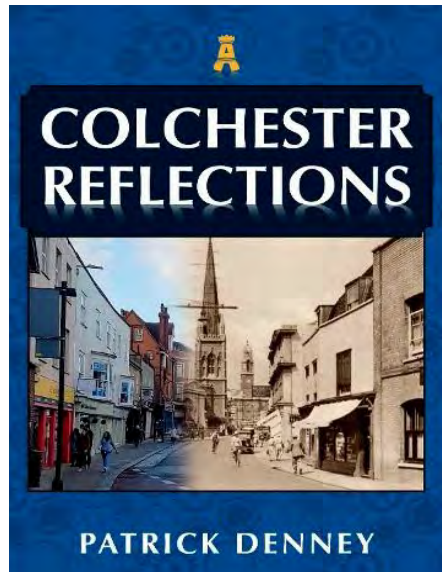
☆ ☆ ☆

Colchester Reflections

by Patrick Denny

Book review by Colleen, Editor.

Just released from Amberley at £15.99 another publication from the local Colchester historian Patrick Denny. Rather than a straightforward book about the history of Colchester the contents of this book are a number of photographs with a twist. The twist is that historic and modern pictures have been individually merged to show how a location has changed over time. Each of the 180 pictures combines a recent colour view of Colchester with a matching sepia archive scene. Once your eyes have adjusted to the view and your brain has acknowledged the location all is revealed. This would be a good addition to anyone's library. Accompanied by the book they could walk the streets of Britain's first recorded settlement imagining they had stepped back in time. This book, in the Amberley Reflections series, will appeal to local, social and family historians. . For further details see www.amberley-books.com and search for Colchester Reflections. Tele: 01453 847800



Surname Interests Facility on ESFH website now includes DNA Option!

by John Young Vice-Chair (ESFH 6399)

For far longer than I can remember, family history societies have provided a facility for members to advertise their Surname Interests. The ESFH offering has been a leader, with members able to edit their own content at any time. We have recently further enhanced our facility by adding the ability for members to include a GEDmatch Kit Number, along with the surnames they are researching. This lets others compare their own Kit number with yours, to see if there is a match.

As family historians, we use our DNA profile to confirm relationships and discover cousins, proving or disproving the evidence obtained from the documented records. We can obtain our DNA profile by buying a test from any one of several testing companies.

Whichever company is used for the test, they will compare your profile with all the others in their database, to produce a list of 'Matches'. These are people with whom you share segments of DNA. These are ranked by the amount of DNA that they share and are measured using a unit called the centimorgan (cM). This may be thought of as the total length of the segments that are shared between the matches. This may be distributed across several chromosomes. The source of the shared segments, that is the common ancestral line, may be deduced by examining accompanying family trees, and other evidence, with the person whom you match. Looking at the people with whom you both share matches, may provide further evidence.

It is very easy to download one's raw DNA data from the site you tested with and upload it to another site to get a list of matches from their database. Ancestry and 23andMe are the exceptions as they do not accept data from other testing companies. The site that does accept uploads from all sources is the free third-party website, GEDmatch (www.gedmatch.com).

When a profile is uploaded to GEDmatch, it is assigned a Kit Number.

The ESFH website is now equipped to store members' GEDmatch Kit Numbers and to display them alongside Surname Interests when a search is made.

GEDmatch Numbers are now included in the Members Profile, so may be added to one's Profile at any time. Please log in and enter your own GEDmatch Kit Number today.

Knowledge of this number enables a comparison to be made with any other known Kit numbers.

GEDmatch provides a one-to-many match list and several tools including its one-to-one comparison which produces not only a graphical display but the numeric data on which it is based.

To display comparisons of your own shared segments with several others at the same time, the GEDmatch comparison data may be copied and pasted into tools elsewhere. A good site for this operation is DNA Painter (<https://dnainter.com>).

Better still, is to inspect the detail of the shared profile by means of a chromosome browser. This is a tool that displays graphically where the sharing occurs on individual chromosomes. A chromosome browser is available on most of the DNA testing sites, but not on Ancestry, the company with the largest database.



Marconi Oral History Project

by Laura Owen.

Summarised by Colleen, Editor.

The evening of the 3rd of May last Laura Owen gave a talk to ESFH regarding details of a project called Communicating Connections. This project, which is in conjunction with the Essex Record Office and Essex County Council, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, began in September 2020. The overall objective is to raise the profile of the history of Marconi in Chelmsford. There are 100,000 photos to digitise, 30 oral historians to record, an exhibition to produce, plus other activities to support the overall objective.

Contact details for any enquiries relating to the Communicating Connections project are: Project Coordinator, Laura Owen, at :
communicatingconnections@gmail.com

For enquiries regarding the Essex Sound and Video Archive, please contact: Sound Archivist, Kate O'Neill, at **kate.oneill@essex.gov.uk**

For general enquiries to Essex Record Office (including donating items and to arrange a visit to see the Marconi Photographic Collection), please contact **ero.enquiry@essex.gov.uk**

Digital heritage trail – Chelmsford. To find details of the digital heritage trail, please visit **<https://www.gojauntly.com/marconi>**

You can also download the GoJauntly app from the App Store or Google Play to access the walks. Please note that you will need to download the app in order to access the full trail and route.

Christening Records recently added to our Genealogy Database

Parish	Church	Dates	Records
Barnston	St Andrew	1813-1851	253
Broxted	St Mary the Virgin	1813-1851	826
Chelmsford	St Mary the Virgin	1813-1851	4403
Chickney	St Mary the Virgin	1813-1851	61
Chigwell Row	All Saints	1860-1921	1272
Chigwell	St Mary	1746-1812	2105
		1852-1922	2002
Fyfield	St Nicholas	1684-1862	2309
Good Easter	St Andrew	1813-1851	532
Great Canfield	All Saints	1653-1880	2070
Great Dunmow	St Mary the Virgin	1813-1851	2539
Great Easton	St John & St Giles	1813-1851	754
Greenstead-juxta-Ongar	St Andrew	1562-1812	601
		1852-1919	176
Hatfield Broad Oak	St Mary the Virgin	1728-1789	2092
High Beach	St Paul	1837-1922	899
Horndon-on-the-Hill	St Peter & St Paul	1813-1851	599
Kelvedon Hatch	St Nicholas	1783-1812	345
		1852-1930	774
Lambourne	St Mary & All Saints	1709-1812	1388
		1852-1918	1431
Langdon Hills	St Mary the Virgin & All Saints (Closed Church)	1813-1851	413
Lindsell	St Mary the Virgin	1813-1851	473
Little Canfield	All Saints	1729-1931	1455
Little Dunmow	St Mary the Virgin	1813-1851	392
Little Easton	St Mary the Virgin	1813-1851	449
Maldon	St Mary	1813-1851	1072
Mashbury	The Parish Church	1813-1851	97

Parish	Church	Dates	Records
Navestock	St Thomas the Apostle	1741-1812	1460
		1852-1923	1304
Norton Mandeville	All Saints	1784-1812	67
		1852-1921	248
Pleshey	Holy Trinity	1813-1851	433
Shelley	St Peter	1687-1812	343
		1852-1932	397
Shellow Bowells	St Peter & St Paul	1700-1924	566
South Weald	St Peter	1813-1851	1336
Standford Rivers	St Margaret	1803-1812	211
Stapleford Tawney	St Mary the Virgin	1770-1812	279
		1852-1923	435
Stondon Massey	St Peter & St Paul	1783-1812	135
		1852-1913	481
Thaxted	St John the Evangelist	1813-1851	1501
Theydon Mount	St Michael	1700-1812	469
		1852-1924	218
Tilty	St Mary the virgin	1813-1851	101
West Ham	All Saints	1813-1851	8496
Willingale Doe	St Christopher	1705-1925	2606
Willingale Spain	St Andrew	1700-1927	1134

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1752 Calendar Change

by Colleen, Editor

When reading early documents it is as well to remember the passing of the Calendar Act in 1752 (often referred to as Chesterfield's Act). The implication of this Act meant that New Year's Day from 1752 fell on 1st January in England and Wales, not 25th March. Under this Act the UK accepted the Gregorian calendar as most of Europe had and abandoned the Roman Empire Julian calendar. To bring the calendar in line with the seasons (and church holidays) 11 days were skipped in 1752, from 3rd to 13th of September inclusive. Dates around this time were often written twice and noted as "OS" for "old style" or "NS" for "new style".

Some documents were dated by Regnal Years i.e. not dated by the calendar year but by the accession date of the sovereign.

For further information about dating documents go to www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/quick_reference.htm

The Chelmsford Tibbles family

and their link to the Felt Hat industry in Stockport and Bury

by Denise Somers (ESFH 30932)

Like so many people researching their family history your origins are not what you expect. I was brought up in Bury, Lancashire (now under Greater Manchester) and was always told our family were from Lancashire and Yorkshire. Growing up in the 1960s in an industrial mill town it was the felt industry that had the biggest impact on my life. One of the largest mills was the Hudcar Mill which produced felt for the toy industry, snooker tables, piano hammer felts and the car industry etc. From 1904 the mill was part of the Bury Felt Manufacturing Company and by 1965 was merged with Bury and Masco Industries. The mill was just under a mile from my home but the hooters that went off to inform employees the start and end of the day and lunchtime could be heard in our house. Our neighbours worked in the mill and we always had a plentiful supply of offcuts of beautiful coloured felts to make toys or dress our dolls and then it was made of natural fibres unlike today's cheaper felts used in crafts. Before I was born my mother worked as a typist in the offices of the Hudcar Mill. She met my father when she became a pen friend for the son of a couple who worked at the mill, as he was serving with the army during the Malayan Emergency in the 1950s. My grandmother Nellie worked in the mill and my grandfather Oswald was an operative felt dyer. This branch of the family of Oswald Pearson is descended from the hat makers of Stockport and the Tibbles family from Chelmsford.



CHRISTY'S HAT WORKS IN THE MID-1880S SHOWING THE CANAL STREET WORKS, HILLGATE MILL AND SOUTH MILL. IMAGE USED COURTESY OF STOCKPORT LOCAL HERITAGE LIBRARY.

The Tibbles family go back many generations living around the area close to the parish church of St Mary the Virgin (now Chelmsford Cathedral) in New Street, Legg Street and Mariages Square. There are references to the family back in the 1500s as they always seemed to require poor relief and were housed in homes for the poor. William Tibbles, son of Joseph Tibbles, was born in 1818 in Chelmsford and lived in New Street Chelmsford. His first wife Sophia was from Willingale in Essex. He was a journeyman tailor and for a few years lived in St Botolph, Bishopsgate in London. They had two daughters, Eliza and Charlotte. Unfortunately Sophia died in 1852. William then moved back to Chelmsford and I can only presume this was out of necessity as his two daughters were only 4 and 5 years old. He married Mary Ann Cook, daughter of George, in 1853 at St Mary's. Mary was my 3rd great grandmother and she was a tailoress. Mary was born in Writtle and the Cook family go back many generations in Writtle. William and Mary Ann had 5 children together including my great great grandmother Minnie Annie Tibbles. William died in 1866 and Mary then married George Butcher who was a gaol messenger at Springfield Prison. After his death she married a George Horsnell, 13 years younger than herself. He was a labourer in a timber yard. Mary had two further children. Between 1873 and 1875 the family moved to Bury in Lancashire. They moved to the Freetown area of Bury, close to all the mills, where George worked as a labourer in the timber yard and two of the older children worked as cotton weavers. Their daughter Minnie worked as a felt hat trimmer. Their home was a two-bedroom terraced house and accommodated 9 of them including a lodger. I often wonder how they arrived there, who paid for their transport costs and how they were recruited for employment. I can only presume they lived in great poverty in Chelmsford to move to another area of poverty with their family, but work in the mill towns was still plentiful at that time.

Mary Ann's daughter Minnie Annie Tibbles (my great great grandmother) was how I discovered the family came from Chelmsford, as there were only two women on the Ancestry subscription website with that name at the time. In 1886 Minnie married Horace Wales who was born in Norfolk. Horace was a journeyman felt hatter. They had 7 children together and lived in the area around Freetown in Bury where there were five mills including small hat works such as Chesham Hat Works and small felt works such as Springfield Mill and the large Hudcar Mill. Their daughter Mary Ann Wales (my great grandmother) was born in 1888. She worked in the cotton mills. Mary Ann Wales married James Pearson. James was born in Bury in 1888 and came from a family who were Stockport hat makers. His father William was a hat maker and had moved from Stockport in the mid-1870s. My family of hatters all lived in the area around Canal Street within walking distance of four felt hat manufacturers with the main one being the Hillgate Hat Manufactory. This mill was owned by Christy & Co. James worked as a painter but his brother Edwin was a hatter. Both of these men were killed in the 1st World War and have graves in Malta and France. Their son Oswald, apart from serving in the navy for the whole of the 2nd World War in the Far East, continued the tradition of working in the felt industry for the rest of his life by working in the dye works.

Though there is no longer anyone working in the felt industry from my family (I went to have a career in the NHS) I have been the only one in the family who has kept the

felt legacy going. I am a felt maker for textile art and embroidery and hand-make my own felt using the same processes that were used in the old cottage industries of felt making. I am a member of the International Feltmakers Association and have always been interested in the felt hat industry and visited the Stockport Hat Museum before I ever discovered my family descended from there.

Further reading on the Stockport Hatting and the Felt Industry in Britain:

Felt in Britain by Peter Walter. ISBN 9781490923833. Printed and published by Amazon.co.uk

The Felt Industry by Peter Walter. ISBN 9780747807537. Published by Shire Books.

Stockport Hatting by Penny McKnight. ISBN 0905164849. Published by Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council. For a review of this book see page 58.

Note from Colleen, Editor

The Hat Works Museum in Stockport is currently closed for refurbishment.

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Southend Baptist Church

by Reg Wells (ESFH 9422)

I have produced a history of the Avenue Baptist Church, Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, where the South East branch of our Society hold their meetings. This is an illustrated history of this building and would make an excellent read for those of you who have past or present connections to this place of worship. For further information please contact me at: rallyreg@hotmail.com

Here is an extract from my history:-

History of Avenue Baptist Church

Avenue was the first Baptist Church in Southend. It all started when Henry Edward Lester, a Plastow shipwright Retired and settled in Southend in 1865 And decided to hold a weekly prayer meeting In his home at 8 Belmont Villas, now part of Cambridge Road during the winter of 1874. Eventually Lester's home became too small For meetings, so with the help of John Edwards And the Baptist Union he hired the Public (Town Hall for 1 year on the beginning on the 6th June 1875.

On the 4th June the Southend Standard carried A notice with a view to the formation of a Baptist Church



At the beginning of the summer season of 1876 it was considered time to establish a Permanent Baptist church and the vicar of St. John's decided to sell his iron chapel, a Mission hall in Hamlet Road. Lester with the help of Captain Dickson raised the £650 to purchase the chapel and renamed it a Baptist Tabernacle. The old iron building was disposed of and a new building was built at a cost of £950 and then a school room and caretakers house was built in 1892.



Stockport Hatting

by Penny McKnight

Book review by Denise Somers (ESFH 30932)

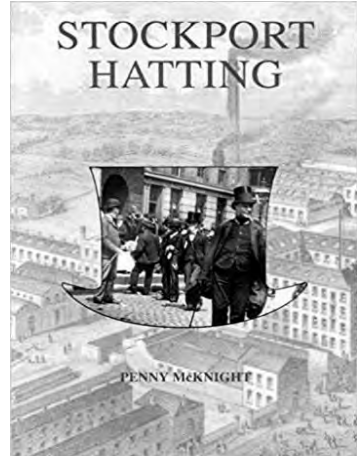
For any other members who are interested in hats and hatting I thoroughly recommend this book. Although produced in the year 2000, as a result of a recording project of Christy's Higher Hillgate Hat Works in 1996, secondhand copies are available online.

Stockport in the 19th century was at the centre of British hat manufacture and was held in high regard across the world. Though hats have been made with various materials through the centuries Stockport was renowned for the felt hats and particularly top hats and bowler hats. The book covers the history of felt hatting and the early hatting industry in the North West. It also covers the industries that supported the hat making industry such as manufacturers that built the machines and those that produced the trimmings to finish the hats. The processes for making hats is described in detail and this enables us to have a greater understanding of the working practices of our ancestors. Hatting was originally carried out in the homes to support the incomes of the agricultural labourers and gradually moved to factories due to increasing industrialization.

Hatting succeeded in this area because of the abundant water supplies and access to coal. Stockport was well served for transport taking five days from Manchester to London by flying coach and wagons. The wages were cheaper than in London. The hatting industry continued growing until the 1st World War when vital links with overseas markets ceased. Europe started building their own factories and there was a shortage of the stiffening agents. The last hatworks in Stockport closed in 1997 although Christy & Co continue to operate from premises in Bury, Greater Manchester.

The book is well illustrated with black and white images of men and women working in the factories and many images of adverts for a huge variety of hats from everyday wear, to formal wear, military uniforms and sport. At the turn of the 20th century there were 30 major hat manufacturers in the town of international repute. The book gives a short history of eight of the hat works and three of the industries that support the hat making process. There is a map showing the hat works that are still standing but converted to other uses.

The book is an A4 spiral bound book. It was published by Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council, Community Services Division. ISBN 0-905164-84-9, it has 82 pages and is illustrated.



Coggeshall Independent Meeting House Deeds

by Angela Hillier (ESFH 28397)

Searching through the Essex Record Office Essex Archives Online catalogue I came across the deeds of The Corner House, which became the Independent Meeting House in Coggeshall, and other land and premises connected to it. Normally I wouldn't be interested in deeds because although they contain names and often other things such as intents to marry and marriage settlements, they generally relate to the more wealthy families in society. This set piqued my interest because the bundle covered a long period, 1669-1804, and were for a nonconformist chapel. The staff at the Essex Record Office have been through the deeds and extracted the names – though I don't know if they have noted all of the names in each deed as I haven't checked the deeds themselves. I thought the names may prove useful to someone looking for ancestors in the Coggeshall area, and further afield in some cases. I have arranged the names in alphabetical order and have put the deed numbers relating to them before their names. In some cases I think people may have been named slightly differently in different deeds e.g. gent in one or esqr. or no prefix in another. I have therefore listed them separately as I am not sure if they are the same person or not. If you find someone of interest it may repay you to have a look at the originals to see exactly how they were involved with the land, the chapel and each other.

Essex Record Office Ref. D/NC 1/2/1

Deed number	Name
15	John ABBOTT – named in a deed of 1804
14	Thomas ANDREW senr, cabinet maker of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
14	Thomas ANDREW junr, gent of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
15	John ARMOND, a bankrupt – named in a deed of 1804
14	John ARCHER, grocer of Messing – named in a deed of 1802
12	Thomas BABBS, wheelwright of Gt. Coggeshall, named in a deed of 1777
12	William BABBS, gent of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
5, 7	John BAINES, clothier of Langham – named in a mortgage of 1708
7	John BAINES - named in a deed 1716
6	John BARNARD senr, draper of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1715
6	William BARRICK, yeoman of Feering – named in a deed of 1715
13	Henry BEADON, coachman of Colchester, named in a deed of 1793
6	Edward BENTLEY, clerk of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1715
14	Anthony BLACKBONE, farmer of Rivenhall – named in a deed of 1802
7	Mary BLOOMFIELD, wife of John, eldest daughter of Henry & Mary WHITING – named in deeds of 1674 and 1687

Deed Number	Name
5	Francis BLYTHE, stationer of Colchester – named in a mortgage of 1708
6	Richard BREWER, yeoman of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1715
14	Thomas BROWN, gent of Lt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
6	William BROWN, gent of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1715
6, 8	Isaac BUXTON, clothier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in deeds of 1715 and 1723
15	John BUXTON – named in a deed of 1804
10, 11	Bartholemew CHURCH – named in deeds of 1765 and 1772
15	Samuel CLEMENCE – named in a deed of 1804
7	Isaac COOKE – named in a deed of 1674
1, 3	Isaac COOKE, mercer of Gt. Coggeshall – copy of his will dated 1701 and named in a deed of 1707
6	John COOPER, gent of Kelvedon – named in a deed of 1715
7	Samuel CRANE gent of Coggeshall – abstract of part of his will of 1669
14	John DAVEY, farmer of Gt. Tey – named in a deed of 1802
5	Moses DELIGHT, scrivener of Colchester – named in a mortgage of 1708
6	Richard DUCANE, esq of the City of London, named in a deed of 1715
12	Edward EVANS, gardener of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
12, 15	John EVERETT, gardener of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deeds of 1777 and 1804
15	Joseph EVERETT – named in a deed of 1804
15	John FENN – named in a deed of 1804
14	James FRANCIS, farmer of Kelvedon – named in a deed of 1802
12, 14	John GODFREY, surgeon of Gt. Coggeshall – named in deeds of 1777 and 1802
14	Peter GOOD, brandy merchant of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
13	Joseph GREENWOOD, gent of Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1793
7	John GURTON, gent – named in a deed of 1707
14	John GURTON, farmer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
7	Martha HAYWARD d of Simeon – named in the will of Isaac COOK 1701
7	Mary wife of Simeon HAYWARD – named in 2 deeds of 1720
7	Sarah wife of Simeon HAYWARD – named in the will of Simeon HAYWARD of 1704 and deeds of 1708, 1716 and 3 of 1720
5	Sarah HAYWARD, wife of Symeon rower of Colchester – named in a mortgage of 1708

Deed number	Name
1, 7	Simeon HAYWARD son in law of Isaac COOK – named in his will 1701
2	Simeon HAYWARD, rower of Colchester – copy of his will 1704
3, 5	Simeon HAYWARD, rower of Colchester – named in a deed of 1707 and a mortgage of 1708
7	Simeon HAYWARD son of Sarah – named in deeds of 1716 and 3 of 1720
3, 4	John HIGHAM, gent of Bernards Inn London – named in a deed of 1707
7	John HOPPER – named in a deed of 1720
10, 11, 14	Elizabeth JAY, widow of Gt. Coggeshall – named in deeds of 1765, 1772 and 1802
13	Fudgell JAY of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1793
10, 11	Fudgil/Fudgel JAY, deceased – named in deeds of 1765 and 1772
11, 13	Fudgel JAY son of Elizabeth, rower of Colchester – named in deeds of 1772 and 1793
14	Thomas JOHNSON, farmer of Feering – named in a deed of 1802
5	John KING junr, merchant of Colchester – named in a mortgage of 1708
7	Elizabeth LAYTON, wife of Samuel – named in the will of Samuel CRANE of 1669
12	Habakkuk LAYMAN, farmer of Lt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
15	Peter LAWRENCE – named in a deed of 1804
10	Rebecca LESWELL, spinster of Whitechapel – named in a deed of 1765
6	William LEPPINGWELL, gent of Kelvedon – named in a deed of 1715
15	Robert LEVITT – named in a deed of 1804
7	John LITTLE – named in a deed of 1720
15	Nathaniel LOVE – named in a deed of 1804
6	Nehemiah LYDE, esq of Hackney Mddx – named in deeds of 1715 and 1802
4	Thomas MAYHEW, gent – named in a deed of 1707
7	Sarah MOUNT daughter of Isaac COOK – named in the will of Isaac COOK 1701
7	Sarah MOUNT grandchild of Isaac COOK – named in the will of Isaac COOK 1701
3	Roger MULLINS junr – named in a deed of 1707
6	Thomas NICHOLS, yeoman of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1715
5	Elizabeth PARRENDINE, wife of George – named in a mortgage of 1708
5, 7	George PARRENDINE, baymaker of Colchester– named in a mortgage of 1708

Deed Number	Name
7	Christian wife of Henry PARSONS – named in a deed of 1687
14	Jacob PATTISON, brewer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
3	[not given] PICKETT, deceased – named in a deed of 1707
6	Thomas PORTER senr, gent of Messing – named in a deed of 1715
7	Thomas PORTER – named in deeds of 1716 and 1720
7	Thomas PURCAS – named in a deed of 1693
13, 14	William POTTER, gent of Gt. Coggeshall – named in deeds of 1793 and 1802
12	Edward POWELL, clothier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
12, 14	Thomas POWELL, clothier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in deeds of 1777, 1802 and 1804
6	Jeremiah RAVEN, yeoman of Feering – named in a deed of 1715
12	John RAVEN, farmer of Gt. Tey – named in a deed of 1777
14	John RAVEN senr, farmer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
6	Moses RICHARDSON, gent of Patteswick – named in a deed of 1715
12, 14	Haddon RUDKIN, tallow chandler of Gt. Coggeshall – named in deeds of 1777 and 1802
12	Edward SACH, farmer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
14	Samuel SACH, tanner of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
8	James SALMON – named in a deed of 1723
8	Mary SALMON, wife of James – named in a deed of 1723
12	Robert SALMON, clothier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
12	William SANDFORD, grocer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
12	Henry SHETELWORTH senr, baker of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
14	Henry SHETELWORTH senr, baker, Elder of Gt. Coggeshall– named in a deed of 1802
12	Henry SHETELWORTH junr, baker of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
7	Jon SHETELWORTH – named in 3 deeds of 1720
6	John TAYLER senr, glazier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1715
8	Henry TURNER, of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1723
15	Ann UNWIN, widow deceased – named in a deed of 1804
12, 14	Fisher UNWIN brewer of Gt. Coggeshall named in deeds of 1777 and 1802

Deed Number	Name
15	Fisher UNWIN, esq of Gt. Cogeshall – named in a deed of 1804
14	Jordan UNWIN, farmer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
12	Jordan UNWIN senr, farmer of Lt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
14	Jordan UNWIN junr, farmer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
12	Stephen UNWIN, clothier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
14	Stephen UNWIN, clothier late of Gt. Coggershall now of Black Notley – named in a deed of 1802
14	Stephen UNWIN junr, clothier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
12	Thomas UNWIN, clothier of Lt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
14	Thomas UNWIN, gent of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
15	Thomas UNWIN senr, - named in a deed of 1804
14	Thomas UNWIN junr, farmer of Lt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
15	Thomas UNWIN junr, gent of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1804
7	Margaret VENTRIS, wife of Peyton – named in the will of Samuel CRANE 1669
8	James WAYNE – named in a deed of 1723
8	Sarah WAYNE, wife of James – named in a deed of 1723
3	Thomas WHISTOCKE – named in a deed of 1707
13	Rich WHITE, clothier of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1793
7	Judith WHITING – named in the will of Samuel CRANE 1699
7	Mary WHITING sister of Samuel CRANE – named in the will of Samuel CRANE 1669
10, 12	Ephraim WILLSSHER, yeoman/farmer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in deeds of 1765 and 1777
14	Ephraim WILLSSHER, gent of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1802
14	George WILLSSHER senr, farmer of Gt. Tey – named in a deed of 1802
12	Thomas WILSSHER, farmer of Gt. Coggeshall – named in a deed of 1777
14	Thomas WILLSSHER junr, of Gt. Tey – named in a deed of 1802
12	John WRIGHT, farmer of Feering – named in a deed of 1777
14	John WRIGHT senr, farmer of Feering – named in a deed of 1802
14	John WRIGHT junr, farmer of Feering– named in a deed of 1802

☆ ☆ ☆

Monumental Inscriptions Strays from Herefordshire

by Colleen, Editor

I wish to express my thanks to Mrs A Golding from Herefordshire Family History Society who kindly sent the following:-

Fownhope Herefordshire	Elizabeth Mead, dau of John of Essex wife of James Kidley d 1708
Leominster, Herefordshire	Sarah Shepherd, formerly of Thundersley, Ess. 14 Mar 1945 a 91
Ross-on-Wye Herefordshire	Phebe Rattton widow of late Joseph Lewis Rattone [sic] of Colchester, Essex d 8 Mar 1853 a 57
	Mary Ann Boutwell [or Boutrell] of Maldon, Esx d 25 Nov 1869 a 89
Little Hereford, Herefordshire	Jean Patricia d/o G & E Ablett of Dovercourt, Ess 10 Jan 1939 – 20 Apr 1941
Leominster Plymouth Brethren, Newlands Drive	Callow family [from] West Mersea Ess
	E.S. Jan 20 1881 a 5
	John 22 Jun 1881 a 12
	James 26 Jul 1920 a 86, Sarah [wife] 2 Apr 1922 a 83 & Amelia 21 Jan 1948 a 83, these 3 interred West Mersea
Tyberton, Herefordshire	Edmund Marshall of Essex listed on monument for William Brydges [1668]
Leintwardine Cemetery Herefordshire	Emma wife of Joseph Angier of Brightlingsea, Essex d 1927 a 86
Knill, Herefordshire	Susan March dau of Leslie & Jessie of Chingford, d 8 Oct 1946 a 12
Ledbury Cemetery, Herefordshire	Harriet Emma Bourne [d/o Davey Bourne of Chelmsford & now Mrs C W Stephens] b 29 May 1848 d 11 Sep 1922
Ledbury Church, Herefordshire	Elizabeth [now Mrs R Biddulph] d/o George Palmer of Nazing [sic] July 22 1808 – Jan 25 1899
	Robert Biddulph of Ledbury 1864 a 63 & wife Elizabeth d/o George Palmer of Nazing [sic] Ess no date

Essex boy dies with Lord!

Eric Francis Henry Robinson of Widford

by Linda Knock (ESFH 10154)

Eric was born on 2nd July 1898 at 21A, Pembroke Road, Walthamstow to William and Kate Robinson. They moved to Romford where, sadly William died in July 1911, leaving Kate with nine children at home, one son, William working, five children at school, two toddlers and a new-born baby. Sometime after her husband's death in the Romford infirmary, Kate brought her family to live at 5, Spains Croft, Widford. This was on a small estate of houses behind the Sir Evelyn Wood public house, where at some stage in her life, Kate was employed as a cleaner. She remarried in 1916.



Before he joined the Navy, aged sixteen, Eric was a gardener's boy. When he enlisted he was 5'1" tall, with brown hair and eyes and a fresh complexion with a scar between his eyebrows. He signed up for 12 years service in the Navy on his 16th birthday – 2nd July 1914 and then joined a training establishment. His number was J34703. He went from there to HMS Impregnable, a training ship, as a Boy 2nd Class on 12th February 1915 and on 3rd April he went on to HMS Victory, a land-based establishment where sailors went whilst waiting for a posting.

On 21st May he was promoted to Boy 1st Class and then went to his final ship – HMS Hampshire on 30th May 1915. The photographs show Eric and a postcard he sent to his mother.



He was promoted to Ordinary Seaman on 6th April 1916, before he reached his 18th birthday, when he officially would start service as a 'man', but is still recorded as Boy 1st Class on the memorials, perhaps because he was under 18. However in the Naval War Medals record he is given the rank of Ordinary Seaman.

On the 5th June 1916 the Hampshire set sail from the Royal Navy's anchorage at Scapa Flow for Archangel in Russia, with Lord Kitchener aboard, as part of a diplomatic and military mission aimed at boosting Russia's efforts on the Eastern Front. Lord Kitchener was to meet the Russian Tsar. At about a quarter to nine in the evening, in stormy conditions and within two miles of Orkney's northwest shore, she struck a mine laid by German submarine U-75. Only twelve survived. There are many conspiracy theories about the sinking of the Hampshire! While some believed that Lord Kitchener was the victim of a German spy attack, others claimed he was assassinated in a plot led by Winston Churchill or that he had actually survived the sinking of his warship, HMS Hampshire. We do know that more than 600 men, including 17 year-old Eric, were drowned.

The record of Eric's death states - 'When HMS Hampshire was sunk' and on the UK Royal Navy Graves Roll it says 'body not recovered for burial'. He is named on the Naval Memorial in Southsea, Portsmouth and there is also a memorial to Lord Kitchener and the crew of HMS Hampshire on the cliff edge, close to where the ship went down, at Marwick Head on Orkney West Mainland.

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Baxter Essex Marriage Index 1754-1851
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Chelmsford, Essex
CM2 9BT



After his death he was awarded the following medals - the Victory Medal, the British War Medal and the Star Medal. However the record is marked 'MR' and one wonders if the medals were refused by a mother grieving for her young son.



LORD KITCHENER (1850-1916)

Summaries of a Selection of Online Presentations

February 2022

The Golden Age of Coaching

by Graham Sutherland

Summarised by Andrea Hewitt (ESFH 6398)

Graham began his talk with an old Christmas card image showing a coach apparently flying through the snow, with joyful driver and passengers, but he suggested that we consider whether coach travel really was this idyllic?

Until the railways were introduced there was no standard time, so coaches and other services could dictate when they would be available. Often a horn would be sounded at the local inn when a coach was about to arrive or depart. Apart from sedan chairs, which were very impractical, only the very wealthy could afford their own carriages, so personal travel was very limited.

There was however a great need to transport goods, 'flying wagons' were used, but they could only cover about 15 miles per day. Heavier 'slow coaches' were also used for passengers and goods but, during the winter, mud, snow and ice could slow their progress or even stop them completely, often many miles from assistance. Even in summer when the rutted roads dried out, horses and wheeled vehicles could only make slow progress on the sun-baked uneven surfaces, which could break a horse's leg, or a stage coach wheel.

Hills could be hazardous, in all weathers, so an extra horse would be needed. This was called a 'cock horse' and would be added to the team harnessed to the back of the carriage to keep it at a safe speed going down a hill. To get up a steep hill, the 'cock horse' would be harnessed at the front of the team, to provide extra power. Passengers might be told they had to get out of the coach and walk, or even help push their coach themselves, which no doubt came as a shock to a first time user!

Pack horses could be used for goods, and they were quicker than coaches, as they were less likely to get stuck in the mud. They could also make use of drovers' roads which weren't so rutted and were often more direct.

During the stage coach era, about 1784-1848, many people were illiterate, so horse brasses were often displayed depicting the names of the inns that the coach would be stopping at, these being the 'stages' of the journey.

The Roman invention of 'milestones' was increasingly used to indicate distances to and from the next town or village where the coach would be stopping. The first coach resembling the shape we would recognise today was reported in Budapest in 15th century, with 4 wheels 2 doors and 2 windows, probably without glazing and very basic. Coach wheels were not fitted with springs until much later. Elizabeth 1st was the first person to enjoy this level of comfort in England.

Early coaches didn't have seating on the roof, though people often sat there as they couldn't afford to travel inside the coach. It was said that they would frequently fall asleep, and then fall off onto the road, hence the phrase we still use today 'dropping off to sleep'.

It would cost about the equivalent of £30,000 today, for the annual upkeep of a coach including staff, horses and feed and maintenance. Many private coaches and carriages would have their coat of arms displayed on them however it was only the landed gentry who could afford this luxury.

As there were virtually no regulations in towns until the 1800's, the street scene could be chaotic and dangerous. Many artists including Hogarth, recorded pedestrians, horse riders, coaches and even animals going in any direction they pleased. The first one way street was designated in the 1600's in Pudding Lane, London, but there were few others. Old canons were often used as bollards to attempt to protect pedestrians. It seemed that everyone wanted to travel as quickly as possible, with little or no regard for others, which obviously lead to many accidents, often resulting in death.



Post boys had always ridden horses, but the service was slow and far from secure. John Palmer, the owner of a theatre in Bath, regularly travelled by stage coach to London and back to Bath on business. He contacted the Post Office and suggested that the stage coaches could carry post alongside passengers and other goods. Initially the idea was rejected, but in 1784 there was an attempt to take post to London from Bath, via stage coach in 24 hours. This was a huge success and mail coaches were soon recognised as a safe and effective means of regulated travel. By the 19th century coaches were made much larger and able to carry several passengers more comfortably, inside and out.

The development of the stage coach service inevitably attracted criminals and speed was important. Ten miles per hour was usual to reduce the chance of being held-up

by highwaymen. As a consequence three years was the average working life of a coach horse. As there were no regulations for the health and safety of these animals, they could be overworked and made to work when injured. Some rogue carriers would even use a blind horse in the team of four or six as they could follow the others. This inhumane treatment must have contributed to many accidents.

By 1815 a speed limit had been imposed, but this was allowed to be broken by the coach travelling from Chatham to London, carrying the news that Napoleon had been defeated at Waterloo.

The Royal Mail coaches, as they came to be known, could not be hindered. To save time at stages, mail would be thrown off the coach to an attendant who would then throw the outgoing mail onto the coach.

Tollgates had to be open 24 hours a day for mail coaches, who would sound their horn to ensure that the toll man opened gates in time for them to drive straight through. Their tolls would be paid later and the tolls helped to maintain and improve the road system.

Coaching inns/public houses afforded a popular break from travel but in the early days only lodging was available so travellers needed to bring their own food. It clearly didn't take long for publicans to realise that they could make more profit if they offered food as well as lodging to coach travellers.

The coach horn would sound and if you didn't embark quickly, they would leave without you. Passengers, however, often had to wait for a coach for hours in quite remote areas, making them vulnerable to highwaymen and other criminals.

Dick Turpin, perhaps the most infamous highwayman, hailed from Hempstead, a village near to Saffron Walden, Essex. Graham explained that although Turpin's image was romanticised by novelists after his execution, I was disappointed to learn that he was responsible for murder, rape and torture in the course of his many robberies. Having killed an accomplice in a botched robbery, Turpin fled north to York, stealing horses along the way. He used the assumed name John Palmer, but drew attention to himself by threatening to shoot someone. Using the alias John Palmer, he wrote to his brother in law in Hempstead to request money for bail to allow him to be released from York Castle prison. His brother in law didn't recognise this name and attempted to return the letter. Somehow, the teacher who had taught Turpin to write, identified his hand-writing and told the authorities. As a result of this he was tried and hanged for his many crimes in 1739. (He didn't have a horse called Black Bess and he didn't ride any other horse at breakneck speed from London to York - as included in the later novels about him)

The first steam locomotive in 1829 heralded the demise of the stage coach and many redundant coachmen became drivers of horse-drawn buses or cabs. With the development of the railway system passengers could expect that their warmer, covered carriage would arrive according to a timetable, an altogether more comfortable experience.

The Victorians were renowned problem solvers but one issue they could not resolve was horse manure! In London alone in 1830 there were 1000 coaches daily which required 4000 horses. One horse produced 9 tons of manure a year.

In England by 1902 3.5 million horses needed 15 million acres of land to produce their feed.

These horses would generate 31.5 million tons of manure. We know the Victorians loved their roses and their rhubarb, but as efforts were being made towards public health, this amount, especially in metropolitan areas, was polluting the streets and was expensive to remove.

The Golden age of Coaches lasted for only about 50 years. Was it as idyllic as the Christmas cards illustrated? Graham said that rather than the driver with his passengers travelling on top of the coach, waving and smiling, some of these passengers apparently froze to death. He said he had been able to experience how it felt to ride on top of one of these old coaches. 'We only travelled a short distance with the horses trotting, but I had never been so terrified in my life, as my family and I were struggling to hold on'.

Did Graham find his trip idyllic? It seems not.

This was a highly informative, interesting and humorous talk filled with images that he described so well. He has agreed to leave his talk on our website until 05/02/2023, so if you are able to view it then I recommend that you do so.

March 2022

Exploring Your Ancestor's Parish Church and Churchyard

by Celia Heritage

Summarised by Gill Peregrine (ESFH 5204)

As a professional genealogist one of Celia's objectives is to help family historians extend their knowledge when visiting churches and churchyards so that they can gain a greater insight into the lives of their ancestors. She has recently published a book entitled *Cemeteries & Graveyards* which is a guide for local and family historians.

Celia started her lecture by taking us right back to the beginning of Christianity and described how it had evolved up to medieval times when lords of the manor had ownership of the parish which included the right to appoint a priest. Religious communities encouraged local lords to set examples of religious rites which the local population would copy as the lords had great social and economic power over their parishioners.

Our speaker reminded us that churchyards were sometimes much older than the church itself and that it was a valuable exercise to examine maps of the area to see the extent of the churchyard and where the church building was located. Churchyards were not enclosed to begin with and often were used to hold fairs and graze sheep, however as the years passed it became common practice to enclose them with a wall or fence.

Accompanied by illustrated examples, Celia demonstrated architectural features of the church both inside and out.

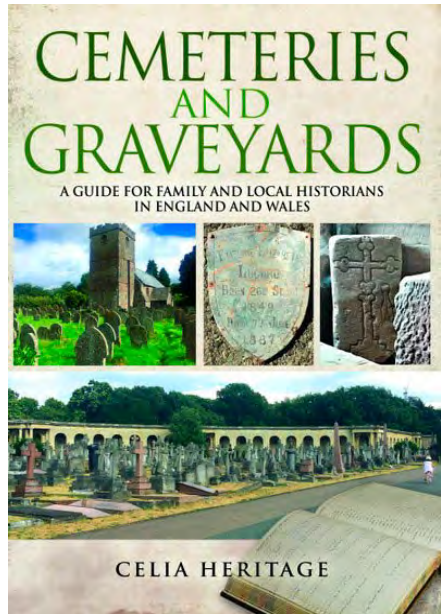
Celia suggested that when we visit a church we should first observe the outside of the building and look out for any indication of a change in the structure including where doorways used to be or where windows have been blocked in. Looking at the larger toms gives an indication of the status of the occupants in that community. Very few poor people had a marker of any sort.

Often found inside a church are artefacts such as the font, rood screen, frescoes and Doom paintings, plus the toms of high status people who often had very elaborate effigies on the top. The nearer to the altar the higher the status of the dead. Wealthy people were interned under the church floor in the crypt. Before Henry VIII all churches were Roman Catholic where

Latin was spoken and imagery helped people understand religious stories as most of the people standing in the nave of the church were illiterate. After the Reformation of the 1530's churches were painted white inside covering over most of the art work plus many other treasures were destroyed.



FOUND IN GREAT CANFIELD CHURCH THIS
IMAGE OF THE VIRGIN AND CHILD



Our speaker emphasised that many features of churches and their surroundings were changed over the centuries and a common practice in the graveyard was to clear headstones which were often repositioned around the edge of the churchyard boundary. Nowadays authorities still disturb headstones for ease of maintenance.

Although I am sure most of us have visited parish churches to see if we can find the graves of our ancestors, after Celia's lecture I shall look again with a keener eye. Thank you Celia for a great talk. Celia's notes on this presentation can be found on her website www.heritagefamilyhistory.co.uk under the heading Talks & Courses.

Note from Colleen, Editor

Here are a few Essex locations where medieval art can be found in the parish church. Was your ancestor baptised, married or buried in any of them and do you know what it looked like in their day?

Fairstead	Layer Marney
Belchamp Walter	Copford
Little Eastern	Great Canfield
Little Tey	West Bergholt

April 2022

Churchill's Secret Army or The Stay Behinds

by Dr Hugh G. Frostick

Summarised by Gill Peregrine (ESH 5204)

What was Churchill's Secret Army? They were groups of men set up between 1940 and 1944 whose purpose was sabotage in the event of an invasion. They were to let the invasion army pass and then follow to create as much mayhem as possible. These men were made up of local farmers and landowners. It was essential that they knew the lie of the land since they had to be able to cross the terrain in the dark. It is thought that an Essex group was based in Earls Colne.

Hugh told us his father had been in one of these groups.

Their headquarters was located in Coleshill House near the Wiltshire town of Highworth. The bases that the men used were mainly scattered across Essex and Kent, with a few in the North East. They were trained in unorthodox warfare to act as a resistance group. Unlike the Home Guard they were provided with plenty of weapons. They also had a local base to store their guns and ammunition and in which they could hide. These hideouts were all underground, dug into banks, gravel pits and hillsides. They were small with a main room and another with bunks. They also had one or two escape tunnels.

They did have trouble from the Home Guard who thought that these men were not pulling their weight as far as the war was concerned. So the men were given a uniform and this seemed to solve the problem. They were disbanded in 1944 and fortunately were never needed.

There is an example of one of their bases at Parham Airfield Museum and also at The British Resistance Museum which has a website www.staybehinds.com.

The National Archives has the records for the men involved in this project and there are names of leaders participating in the groups on the above website.

This was a really interesting talk about a subject that few of us knew anything about. Hugh is still looking for family members who have relatives who worked in the groups to enhance his research so if you have any information you think he may be interested in please contact Colleen, Editor.

May 2022

The Empress of Ireland – Canada's Titanic

by Helen Baggott

Summarised by Pauline Adlem (ESFH 6098)

Helen started her talk by explaining how, over 20 years ago, she became interested in researching family histories. Her father bought a postcard at a car boot sale, sent from America, not for what was on the card but for the stamp and Helen realised that there was a lot of interesting information to be found on a postcard. It was from a soldier in America and from that postcard she was able to piece together his family connections.

Over 100 years ago postcards were the means of communicating with friends and family. Sent daily by millions of people they were inexpensive and cost less than sending a letter. One could expect 7 deliveries a day so messages written in the morning could be received later the same day.

Helen showed us a postcard of a ship, The Empress of Ireland, and told us how she had researched the history of the vessel and the tragic story of her demise.

Another of the postcards Helen displayed was addressed to a girl called Edith Stainer, The Grove, Dorchester, Dorset. Helen found the family on the censuses and from there her research followed Edith from Dorchester to Braunton, Devon and Hampstead, London where in both places she worked as a maid. In March 1911 she emigrated to Canada. There was a lot of advertising at the time recommending a new life in Canada and many people took advantage of the opportunities on offer.

What Helen found surprising during her years of research were the number of people who came back to England for business purposes or on holiday to visit family and friends once they had gone to live in another country.

The Empress of Ireland was a relatively small ship regularly travelling from Quebec, Canada to Liverpool England. The captain was Henry Kendall, who, when the captain of a different vessel, had alerted the police that Dr Crippen was on board, resulting in his arrest when he arrived in Canada.

In 1914 Henry had only recently become the captain of the Empress of Ireland and this trip down the St Lawrence River was his first.

Many of the passengers had travelled some distance to reach the ship in Quebec which was due to leave on the evening of 28th May 1914. Those on board had settled down for the night and were asleep when the ship left. As they sailed down the St

Lawrence River the crew sighted the mast lights of another ship some distance away but it then became very foggy and difficult to see what was ahead and consequently the ship veered from its position. Unfortunately this caused a collision with the other ship, a Norwegian collier the S.S. Storstad, also off course. This caused the Empress of Ireland to sink on 29th May taking only 14-15 minutes with a great loss of life.

Among those who were on board the ship on that fateful voyage were Edith Stainer who was probably coming home to visit family. Others included Mabel Hackney and her husband Lawrence Irving, the son of Sir Henry Irving, both actors who had been on tour in Canada. Helen had found photos of them. There was Albert Mullins from Wimborne in Dorset who owned a company trading in musical instruments. There was a large contingent from the Salvation Army Canada including the staff band. Two of those people included Sydney and Harriet Mademount born in Bournemouth, who married in Denmark and their children who were born in many different countries around the world. None of the people mentioned above survived.

It was headline news in the Daily Mirror on 30th May. The Titanic took 2 hours and 40 minutes to sink, a lot longer than the Empress and though the Empress had fewer people on board they lost a bigger percentage of people than the Titanic. On board the Empress of Ireland were 1,477 people of which 1,057 were passengers and 420 crew. 465 people were saved of which 217 were passengers and 248 crew. It is thought that more crew were saved because they were on deck at the time of the sinking.

An inquiry was held and eventually it was decided that neither ship was to blame. The Empress was better equipped with lifeboats but the ship went down too quickly for the crew to release many of them. The S.S. Storstad, still afloat, lowered their lifeboats to pick up survivors.



S.S. THE EMPRESS OF IRELAND

In the UK this disaster is not so well known as the sinking of the Titanic. Liverpool Museum in Liverpool has a number of references to the ship on their website including a downloadable list of the crew, indicating who survived and in their archives the Marconi telegraphic message regarding the sinking of the vessel.

In Canada every year the Salvation Army hold a remembrance service <http://salvationarmy.ca>

There is The Empress of Ireland Museum near Rimouski, Quebec and a memorial in Toronto's Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

For further details on the disaster see books and the internet for YouTube videos, passenger lists etc.

Thanks Helen for a very interesting talk on a subject not many of us knew about.

Bricks and Brickmaking

by David Cuffley

Summarised by Martin Haydn Roberts (ESFH 3860)

It's been a long 2-and-a-bit years not being able to mingle amongst friends we haven't seen, but now we're back together (all 40 of us on this occasion), guest speaker included, the one and only David Cuffley with a presentation on Bricks and Brickmaking in Essex - the one disappointment for me was that he wasn't there in the flesh. Instead we had to rely on the software product Zoom for David's talk.

Practically every town and village had a brickfield. Whether the material needed to make the bricks was lying just below ground level or deep enough to be mined, there was a living to be made. As to the type of brick, that was determined by the lie of the land. The greater part of Essex is underlain by London clay from the Epping Ridge to Hadleigh, and from there continuing to places like Great Wakering. Boulder clay, as it is called, is a mix of clay, flint, pebbles and chalk. At a lower level the mix mostly consists of clay and sand.

The number of companies and traders mushroomed during the 19th century, especially in places like Essex. The clay was freely available, so why not profit from it? And many did who weren't native Essexites. The various censuses tell us that. Many of the workers would have come from Kent, often because they worked for the same company who had brickfields on both sides of the Thames. Southend had its own brick works, northeast of the station.

Papers, Journals and Directories.

Palmer's Index to The Times newspaper, which is the standard reference work for any library holding the newspaper in print or on microfilm, would be a good place to look for information regarding this industry and the people who worked in it. Also Kelly's Directories and the Illustrated London News are really useful. Trade journals, specialist magazines of a similar nature and as previously mentioned the various censuses should you be looking for an ancestor you know worked for a company in the business of making bricks, some of which also built houses from the bricks they

made. One book David recommended which I found particularly interesting was Brick in Essex by the late Pat Ryan published in 1999. Thank you to David, his talks are always entertaining and instructive. For further information about this lecture please see page 85.

June 2022

Findmypast by Paul Nixon

Summarised by Colleen, Editor

How lucky ESFH members are to have access to a Chelmsford-born employee of the subscription company Findmypast (www.findmypast.co.uk) enabling us to learn how to get the most out of this website. This lecture was intended for both experienced and inexperienced users and did not disappoint.

During the presentation Paul went through all the major sections of the website and gave explanations on how to access the datasets and get the most out of the way you search them. He explained that results are dependent on the way you search as there are several ways to search for the same data. He thought this was important to understand by the pay to view subscribers as this would mean they obtained the most information for their payment. He informed us that new records are published on a Tuesday and the information is announced by email the following Friday. If you are a subscriber and do not receive this information I suggest that you sign up for their updates straight away. As an avid user of this website I find the updates every Friday really useful.

A few facts that Paul revealed during his talk included:-

- 1) They have worked with a third party so although the General Register Office death records finish at 2007 they are able to publish modern death data up to 2020.
- 2) They have a very large collection of Catholic records.
- 3) Their *MarriageFinder*TM software is patented and is a very comprehensive tool for finding marriages.

He demonstrated the importance of using the wildcard search facility and how it can bring up data which you might not find if you only entered a single phrase and covered the searching of newspapers especially the use of inverted commas to facilitate more dedicated results.

It was extremely interesting to hear about how to use an aspect of searching military records, which is a huge topic in itself. I thoroughly recommend that you listen to his talk up on our website entitled 'Piecing Together the Jigsaw' dated 21st May which is all about researching military records.

Paul felt that the School Records information was often overlooked. He also mentioned that it is worthwhile putting up your family tree on their site as the hints can often open up new research areas.

Listen for yourself to all the facilities he spoke about by accessing his lecture which is up on our website indefinitely.

☆ ☆ ☆

Little Baddow - A snapshot at the time of the Battle of Waterloo

by Joanne Phillips (ESFH 2506)

Background

The battle took place on 18th June 1815, but first let us look back to the April of that year. King George is mad, his son was “looking after” the country as Regent and the Napoleonic Wars had been going on for the past twelve years.

The country was depressed, the cost of living was rising faster than wages and many were unemployed.

Unbeknown to our ancestors on 10th April 1815 on the other side of the world an event occurred that was likely to affect all of their lives for several years to come. The Indonesian volcano Tambora erupted on a massive scale (arguably still the most destructive volcano to have erupted in the last 10,000 years) and in those days, before the telegraph, word of the eruption would spread no faster than the speed of a sailing ship. The eruption threw enormous amounts of dust and sulphur dioxide into the stratosphere which spread around the globe and had disastrous consequences on weather in England and elsewhere.

So a mere 2 months later when the Battle of Waterloo took place our ancestors were still none the wiser as to what was to come!

What do we know about what was happening in Little Baddow?

The village was smaller than it is now. The 1811 census tells us that there were 105 houses/families comprising 548 people (301 male and 247 female). It also tells us that the split between the households which earned a living through agriculture and those through trade/manufacture/handicrafts was:

76 agriculture (73%)

28 trade/manufacture/handicraft (27%)

1 neither of the above

We can assume that the village profile changed little in four years.

In 1815 there were two places of worship, St. Mary the Virgin parish church and the Congregational Chapel (now the United Reformed Chapel).

The Vicar at St. Mary’s church was the Reverend Arthur Johnson who had been the incumbent since 1789. The vicar lived to be 95 years old and had three sons in the military.

Baptisms

In 1815 Rev Johnson baptised 9 children, Betsey Mary Ann Mihill on 6th January, Jane Ellis Dennis on 2nd February, Lydia Peacock on 26th February, Charlotte Crow and William White on 26th March, Maria Linstead on April 3rd, John Foster on 28th

May, Mary Ann Gage on 2nd July and Robert Hills on 23rd July. One child was baptised in the Chapel, this was George William Cottee on March 15th 1815.

Marriages

At this time all marriages would have taken place in the parish church, St Mary the Virgin. The following couples married in the church:

William Gowlet of Little Baddow to Elizabeth Stock of Little Baddow on 22nd July

George Ellis of Hatfield Peveral to Harriet Simmons of Little Baddow on 19th July

Joseph Wills from Barnstable in Devon to Eleanor Shanon(?) of Little Baddow on 29th September

Jacob Bones of Danbury to Hannah Baker of Little Baddow on 11th October

Thomas Davey of Springfield to Sarah Brown of Little Baddow on 20th October

A couple of interesting facts about the marriages:

Four couples signed their names

One Lazarus Blanks, village blacksmith, was a witness to four marriages.

Burials

In the same year there were only 7 burials at St Mary's.

William Dace, son of Elisabeth Philbrook(?) April 4th 10 weeks old, John Bunton January 8th aged 35, Elizabeth Ellis July 7th, William Math from Ulting August 26th, Elizabeth Peacock October 14th 14 months old, Hannah Campian October 19 aged 26 and Eliz Cal(?)raft November 6th 6 months old.

There are no chapel registers for that period.

Other Factors Affecting Little Baddow in 1815

Land Tax 1815.

In this year Land Tax for Little Baddow was chargeable at 4/- in the pound on rent.

The total rental income in Little Baddow for the year was £726 16 shillings.

The surnames of the major land owners were Bridges, Strutt, Phillips and Pledger.

A year earlier in 1814 papers in the Mildmay family regarding the redemption of land tax on Essex estates referred to the sale particular of Argols and Elm Green Farm in Little Baddow (Essex Record Office Ref. D/DM T 103).

Muster Rolls

Men from Great Baddow, Danbury, Hatfield Peveral, Chelmsford etc. are mentioned in the records at the Essex Record Office. There was a large camp and no doubt soldiers would have been seen as they marched to and from the village but there is little evidence of soldiers in Little Baddow.

The Militia Lists of 1826

These show the status of the men aged 18-45 so it may well be that some of the men on the list were well aware of the fighting at Waterloo.

Register of Aliens

There was a request from Parliament on 7th July 1815 to the Constable of Little Baddow to furnish to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent's Justices of the Peace at the Shire Hall in Chelmsford on Tuesday 18th July a true list of aliens resident in Little Baddow.

Poor Relief

In her book on Little Baddow the late author Sheila Rowley notes that Poor Relief rose from just over £400 to £800 in 1815/16.

In Little Baddow in 1816/17 Poor Relief reached the dizzy heights of more than £1000 for the year. It continued not far below this figure until 1820, from which time up to 1834 it remained around £700 a year.

Petty Sessions

In 1815 it was recommended by the parish surveyors "to employ the necessities poor on the highways to prevent their frequent application for relief". Roadworks could not absorb all the unemployed all the time and the overseers sought out other solutions. They continued the policy of employing some of the poor to look after or do work for others and also sending some people to London to seek work.

Battle of Waterloo

The Battle of Waterloo brought to an end wars which had raged across Europe since the 1790's. It is estimated that 15,000 British soldiers were killed or wounded in battle.

Every man who took part was awarded two years' pay and a special campaign medal, the Waterloo Medal was issued. The recipients were known as 'Waterloo men'. This was an important landmark as far as recognition is concerned because it was the first medal issued to all participants of a battle and the awarding of medals to all participants of a war has continued to this day.

Returning to the Volcano Tambora

Victory celebrations, to celebrate the Duke of Wellington's victory over "Boney", were short lived as the effects of the eruption took hold and the weather deteriorated with the sun's rays struggling to penetrate the ash-polluted atmosphere. Temperatures dropped worldwide and the average in London was the lowest on record. 1816 was dubbed the "the year without a summer". There was far more rain than normal and snow was recorded in London on 14th April, 12th May and 30th August. By September lakes were frozen over and a bitter winter followed. The low temperatures inhibited crop growth and much of what did grow rotted in the wet conditions before it could be harvested. Food was in short supply and prices were already high as a result of the years of war.

The Corn Laws

The Corn Laws of 1815 were passed which set out to keep wheat prices at about 80 shillings per quarter (a quarter being roughly one-fifth of a tonne) by controlling imports. It stated that whenever the price of wheat was at or above 80 shillings, imports of wheat were allowed. When the price was below 80 shillings, then imports were banned for three months. The Corn Laws were unpopular with the public and disappointed the farmers. The cost of living for the inhabitants of Little Baddow was not going to reduce anytime soon!

Archives to search for further information about the Battle of Waterloo and those that took part:

A good place to start is by understanding the background to the battle see **www.britishbattles.com**. The regiment named the 44th Foot later became the Essex Regiment and then the Royal Anglian. In the Battle of Waterloo 4 officers and 61 men from the 44th Foot were killed or wounded.

National Army Museum **www.nam.ac.uk**

National Maritime Museum **www.rmg.co.uk/national-maritime-museum** gives 200 results when searching with the word 'Waterloo'.

Imperial War Museum **www.iwm.org.uk**

Forces War Records **www.forces-war-records.co.uk**

The Waterloo Roll Call is on **www.findmypast.co.uk** and details almost 4,000 men (mostly officers) who took part in this epic battle. It also has The British Army Service Records 1760-1915.

36,855 UK, Waterloo Medal Roll on **www.ancestry.co.uk**

The Gazette dating from 1666 published details of all Army Commissions in both the Regular Army and the Militia, so that the indexes may be used to trace such events for officers. **www.thegazette.co.uk**

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Dedham Essex 11th October 1890 Essex Standard

"The oldest inhabitant honour belongs to Mr Robert Ray who enters his hundred and first year on 12th October.

He can reflect when he was 15, the national refrain "England expects every man to do his duty" was first signalled forth from the mast of the Victory in the Trafalgar Bay. The battle of Waterloo had occurred when he was 25 years of age, must have stirred him with the enthusiasm of those exciting days and the storming time of the repeal of the corn laws were coeval with the most active period of his life, for it appears that no source of his reminiscences is more fertile than that which relates to the time when he used to carry his seven shilling pieces to market, and pay for produce prices now unheard of.....".

Isaac John Everard's Final Leave

12th November 1918

by Linda Knock (ESFH 10154)

I wanted to share this story with readers as I think it is unusual to see a Commonwealth War Grave Commission war grave which mentions both husband and wife.

Isaac John Everard's parents were Samuel and Sarah (née Day). He was born in 1885 in Writtle. In 1891 the family were living in Oxney Green; Samuel Everard was an agricultural labourer, as was his oldest son, also Samuel, aged twelve. Alice, aged 10, Emily, aged 8, and Isaac, aged 5 were in school, and three-year old Thomas and four-month old Minnie were at home with their mother.

In 1901 the family were still living in Oxney Green and Alice, who had married George Woolman in London, was with them, with her baby, George, aged three months. Emily was the oldest child still at home.

Isaac Everard married Rose Ellen Day on Christmas Day 1909 in All Saints Church, Writtle and in the census of 1911 they were living in one of the Hylands Estate's Causeway Cottages, with George Day, Rose's widowed father, who was the householder. Isaac was a bricklayer's labourer and George Day was a horseman, most probably on the Hylands Estate. The cottage was substantially erected, detached with a good garden. It had a parlour, a kitchen, a scullery, three bedrooms and a privy. The rent was 7/6d. At that time the water supply to the row of cottages came from two wells, and the water was supposed to be of high quality. The local doctor called in frequently to drink from the well (at number 16), proclaiming it to be 'the best water in Essex'.

Isaac signed his enrolment papers on 4th November 1916 in Rugeley, Staffordshire, and became a gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery. His regimental number was 125412. He was 31 years old, 5'6" tall and fit for army service apart from defective teeth!



On 25th April 1917, his unit, 52 Siege Battalion, was mobilised and sailed from Southampton to Le Havre. He then had UK leave on 13th December 1917, returning to France on 27th December. His final leave home was just after Peace had been declared from 12th November until 26th November 1918; but he was not to return to the army after his leave. During this leave, on 22nd November his wife Rose died from influenza with pneumonia in the East Ham Isolation

THE HEADSTONE ISAAC AND ROSE EVERARD

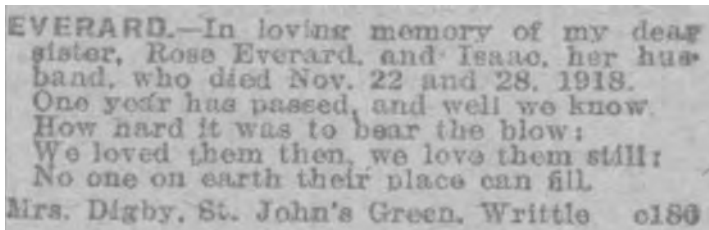
Hospital. Tragically he died from influenza with chest complications on 28th November in the same hospital.

To add to the family's woes, the army had to have evidence that Rose had died and that someone else was now Isaac's next of kin to receive his pension. On 26th November 1918, the registrar of East Ham sent a copy of Rose's death certificate to the Regimental Records Office in Dover, requesting payment of 2/8d.

Both Isaac and Ella were buried in the churchyard of All Saints, Writtle on 5th December 1918. The grave is recognised by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission as a war grave, but is an unusual one as both Isaac and Rose are mentioned. It can be seen behind the alms houses, in the churchyard.

On 20th May 1919 a letter from the War Office to the Records Office in Dover requested that they send any articles of personal property belonging to Isaac and medals awarded to him to his father, Samuel Everard, 10 Victoria Road, Oxney Green, Writtle. There was some delay and confusion created by his sister in a letter saying that his death was on 12th November 1918, and asking about his clothes. The date was then corrected to 22nd November and a letter of sympathy was sent to the next of kin.

The following was placed in the Essex Newsman of 22nd November 1919, by Rose's sister, Mary Ann Digby.



REMEMBRANCE NOTICE IN ESSEX NEWSMAN. SOURCE

WWW.FINDMYPAST.CO.UK

On 12th March 1920 a letter was sent to Mrs G Roberts (Isaac's sister, Minnie) asking for a form to be filled in so that Isaac's commemorative plaque and scroll could be sent to his family. The form was filled and gave the names and addresses of all the living relatives – Samuel Everard (father), Sarah Everard (mother), Mrs Emily Saunders (sister) and Mrs Minnie Roberts (sister) – all living at 10 Victoria Road, Writtle; Mrs Mary Beamish (sister, living in Holborn), Mrs Alice Woolman (sister, living in Chelsea) and Thomas Everard (brother) living in Chequers Lane, Writtle. The signature on the form to certify that the information was correct was that of the vicar of Writtle and the date was 16th March 1920.

Isaac was awarded the British War and Victory medals and on 4th November 1921, Isaac's mother acknowledged the receipt of the medals.



WRITTLE WAR MEMORIAL



INSCRIPTION ON WRITTLE WAR MEMORIAL

Tracing Your Scottish Family History on the Internet

by Chris Paton

Book review by Andrea Hewitt (ESFH 6398)

Having a half Scottish husband whose family hails from Banffshire in the North East of Scotland, and trying to research them from Essex, I would dearly love to have been able to find this fantastic book earlier!

Chris begins by introducing readers to the 3 major 'gateways' that will enable you to access your Scottish ancestors: Scotland's People, the National Records of Scotland and the Scottish Archive Network, he gives clear advice on what they offer and how to make use of each of the websites.

He also stresses the importance of utilising local archives via the Scottish Council on Archives, and also points out that The National Archives at Kew, also hold a large number of Scottish records, many of which are now available online.

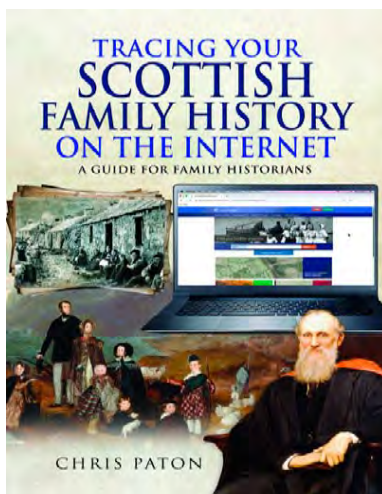
I am pleased to say that he also advises readers on how to look for Family History Societies in the areas where their ancestors lived. They may be

able to provide details of members already researching the same ancestors as you and/or be able to offer expert local knowledge or assistance with your research.

The guide contains lists and details of numerous websites featuring local directories, newspapers, maps and biographies, which will be invaluable when researching your Scottish roots. Basic information on using DNA to break down 'brick walls', when documentation can't be found, or needs corroboration, is also included. A whole chapter is dedicated to websites giving information regarding searching occupational records and another on searching by county.

In my own research I had been confused by the use of 'tee' names, (nicknames for surnames) and also the unusual way the Scots sometimes used 'pet names' (nicknames for forenames) so I was pleased to note that Chris gives guidance on this. I have no doubt his advice could save you time, and perhaps even money spent on your research!

This guide is an excellent resource not only for the beginner researching their Scottish relatives, but also for those who have 'done their family tree' as they could find out so much more by using the information it contains. It has 167 pages with a useful index and a further reading list. It is published by Pen and Sword Books and is priced at £14.99 www.pen-and-sword.co.uk Tele: 01226 734222.



David Cufley's presentation on Bricks and Brickmaking

by Colleen, Editor

Thank goodness that ESFH record presentations for all members to access on our website or I would have missed this informative lecture.

The above talk, resulting from David's research and extensive knowledge of this subject was full of detail and lavishly illustrated. If anyone, and I estimate it will be a fair number of readers (as there were hundreds of brickfields in Essex), has ancestors who worked in brickfields or were involved in using products produced by brickmakers then do not miss this lecture. It is up on our website indefinitely for you to view with two PDF documents that you can download including his index of UK Brickmakers and five pages of bibliography.

The Victorians used a huge number of bricks for house building and for engineering projects such as warehouses, factories, mill chimneys and railway viaducts. At one time brickmaking was an April until October industry as those employed had to work in daylight hours so people who worked in brickfields often lived near the site.

In addition to explaining the process of how bricks were manufactured with all the names of parts of a brickfield used including moulding shed, ash ground, hackfields, washback, pugmill, greenbricks etc., David gave information about where to find further details about the industry including maps, where often brickfields are shown, newspapers, trade directories, journals, censuses etc. The Factories Act made it compulsory to register child workers, and many were used in the industry. He presented a list of brickmaking terms – (who knew that under-taker also meant a contractor who undertook to make a number of bricks for the owner of a brickfield?). David described the changes to the industry over time and made us think about the dreadful employment conditions our ancestors experienced.

Overall an unmissable presentation for those that have an interest in the industry and one which social historians will find fascinating. After listening to his lecture if you have something to contribute to either the CUF(F)LEY One Name Study or to the Brickmakers Index, please do not hesitate to contact David. His email address is davidcufley@btinternet.com



ARTISAN COTTAGES WERE BUILT IN HUGE NUMBERS IN VICTORIANS TOWN REQUIRING MILLIONS OF BRICKS.

TELEPHONE 15. TELEGRAMS: "POTTER, FAIRFIELD, CHELMSFORD."

H.Y. POTTER & SON,

Works:
Wood Street, CHELMSFORD.

Fairfield Road, CHELMSFORD.

BRICK, PIPE & POT MANUFACTURERS.



RED SAND-FACED, HAND-MADE, Plain and Ornamental Bricks. Roofing Tiles.
Chimney Pots. LAND DRAIN PIPES. Garden Edging. FLOWER POTS.
Oven Pavements. Garden Vases. Bread Pans, &c., &c.

LOCAL DIRECTORIES OFTEN HAD ADVERTISEMENTS BY BRICK MAKERS ADVERTISING THEIR OTHER PRODUCTS LIKE THIS ONE FROM HENRY POTTER & SONS OF CHELMSFORD IN KELLY'S DIRECTORY OF ESSEX DATED 1910.

The Wellcome Collection online – Essex Strays

by Colleen, Editor

Information about our Essex ancestors crops up in all types of organisations and luckily, with more and more digitisation of records, is available for family historians to view from the comfort of their home.

In my recent keyboard travels I came across these interesting digitised archives under Archives and Manuscripts in the Wellcome Trust collection (<https://wellcomecollection.org>).

Following up on the research I have been doing regarding mental health institutions, I found the Trust's site has scans of asylum patients' records for several institutions including Camberwell House Asylum (London), Gartnavel Royal Hospital (Glasgow), Ticehurst House Hospital (Sussex) and the York Retreat.

I then went on to explore their database for Essex connections and came up with the following:-

1. Calling all researches of the surname Payne. On line there is a copy of the recipe book, part veterinary (mainly horses) and human from Walter John Payne builder, carpenter and carter of Fobbing Essex dated 1880-1900.
2. Papers relating to Alicia Barker, Quaker, a gentlewoman of Walton-on-the-Naze including a letter written in 1868 from her home after her discharge from hospital. She was aged 53.
3. Newspaper cutting advertising a reward for Harris Hill of Earls Colne, Essex, who left his lodgings in York, apply to Dr Kitching (Retreat Medical Superintendent). Mid-19th century.
4. Rules of the Co-operative Sanatoria registered New Lodge Billericay Essex (1914).
5. Papers and souvenirs of Sergeant George Edmund Essex RAMC dated 1917-1918. (not an Essex man but worth reading).
6. An amazing collection of correspondence between Mrs D Mannaton (Mannaten) of Southview Road Danbury, Mrs Nesta Bromley Martin of Woodlands near Maldon and authorities including Essex County Council regarding the setting up of a Family Planning Clinic in the Maldon area in 1946-1949.
7. A letter from Sister C Poole regarding the folklore and history of Greenstead Church Essex 1922-1932.
8. The fingerprints of a man called Crick from Well Cottage, Kedington End, Sturmer Essex dated 1969.

The archive also has digitised pictures including :-



OTES MANOR HOUSE

CREDIT: OTES MANOR HOUSE IN HARLOW, WHERE JOHN LOCKE (1632-1704) SPENT THE LAST FOURTEEN YEARS OF HIS LIFE. ETCHING. WELLCOME COLLECTION. PUBLIC DOMAIN MARK

John Locke, philosopher, author and physician took up residence with Lady Marsham's family (formerly Damaris Cudworth) at Otes, near High Laver in Essex where, in 1694/5, he wrote 'The Reasonableness of Christianity'. Whilst living in Essex in 1694 he received news from the Court from Martha Lockhart, a Woman of the Bedchamber, who sent him an account of Queen Mary II's death from smallpox which Dr Radcliff had mistaken for measles. In 1696 Locke was appointed one of the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations which involved his dealing with colonial issues. He died on 28th October 1704 after making his will, writing to James Tyrrell about the disposal of some of his books and attending the wedding festivities of his cousin and heir Peter King (c.1669-22nd July 1734) a lawyer who later became Lord Chancellor.

Society Information

www.esfh.org.uk

Payment of Membership, Services and CD's by post

Facilities on our website allow for Membership, Services, CD's published by the Society, Birth, Marriage & Death Certificates etc. to be ordered and paid for using a credit or debit card (payment taken via the PayPal website) or a PayPal account. New members wishing to pay their membership fees by cheque should send an email, or write, to our membership secretary Miss A Turner to enable her to send them a membership application form. A payment by cheque must be in GBP, payable at a UK bank, in favour of the "Essex Society for Family History" and crossed.

Membership applications and queries should be sent by post to Miss Ann Turner, 1 Robin Close, Great Bentley, Colchester CO7 8QH or by email to [**memsec@esfh.org.uk**](mailto:memsec@esfh.org.uk).

Research Centre and Services

Our research centre is based at the Essex Record Office Wharf Road Chelmsford CM2 6YT and is open to both members of the Society and non-members from 1.00pm - 4.00pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays 10.00am - 1.00pm when you will find volunteers on duty. There is a direct telephone line during opening hours: Tele: 01245 264773.

Our research team offers a service to search indexes and databases where we hold the relevant data at our Research Centre. For details of the indexes we hold please see our website under the Searches tab followed by Search Services. For all enquiries regarding our Search Services please email [**searches@esfh.org.uk**](mailto:searches@esfh.org.uk). For products sold via our online shop and how to order and pay please see our website under the SHOP tab.



Bolding of email addresses in this issue is to ensure that they are easy to read; they are not hyperlinked, whereas web addresses are bolded so that electronic readers may click on the link and be taken directly to that web address.

Society Information

Members with Additional Roles

Archivist: Position vacant

Communications Manager: Andrea Hewitt Email:andiehewitt@hotmail.com

Data Controller: John Young Email:johnm.young@ntlworld.com

Editor: Colleen Devenish Email:editor@esfh.org.uk

Executive Committee Minute Recorder: Janice Sharpe Email:sharpejms1@aol.com

Librarians: Jill Gooding Email:jill.gooding@btinternet.com

Carole Bartlett Email:carolebartlett1@talktalk.net

Membership Secretary: Ann Turner Email:memsec@esfh.org.uk

MI Co-ordinator: Position vacant

News and Events Co-ordinator: Pauline Adlem Email:pladlem@aol.com

Production Manager: Ian Fulcher Email:iagf73@hotmail.co.uk

Programme Co-ordinator: Barbara Harpin Email:beemail2@hotmail.com

Projects Co-ordinator: Mary Rix Email:mary@clapstile.co.uk

Research Centre Committee Chair: Elizabeth Cox Email:emt.cox2@btinternet.com

Research Centre Volunteers Co-ordinator: Gill Peregrine Email:gpesfh@gmail.com

Research Team Leader: Shirley Harman Email:searches@esfh.org.uk

Strays Co-ordinator: Ann Church Email:ann.church@mypostoffice.co.uk

Webmaster/E-Commerce: Paul Stirland Email:webmanager@esfh.org.uk

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Harlow

Chair: Vacant

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Patron: To Be Appointed

Vice-Presidents:

Ann Turner Email: memsec@esfh.org.uk

Ann Church Email: ann.church@mypostoffice.co.uk

**The Trustees and Executive Officers of the Society
(who hold bi-monthly meetings) –**

Chair:

Elizabeth Cox, 9 Riverside Court Cambridge Road Harlow CM20 2AD
Email: emt.cox2@btinternet.com Tel: 01279 434267

Vice-Chair:

John Young, 46 Paddock Mead Harlow CM18 7RR
Email: johnm.young@ntlworld.com Tel: 01279 416204

Secretary:

Meryl Rawlings, 4 Barbrook Way Bicknacre Chelmsford CM3 4HP
Email: honsec@esfh.org.uk Tel: 01245 225200

Treasurer:

Tanya Sewell, 24 Pyms Road Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8PY
Email: thesewells24@gmail.com Tel: 07790 584906

Executive Members – some members can be contacted via the Contact Us section on our website.

Colleen Devenish

Mary Rix

Heather Feather

Trevor Rix

Andrea Hewitt

Janice Sharpe

Helen Matten

Paul Stirland

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Chair North-East Essex Branch (Colchester)

Pauline Adlem

Representative West Essex Branch (Harlow)

Barbara Harpin

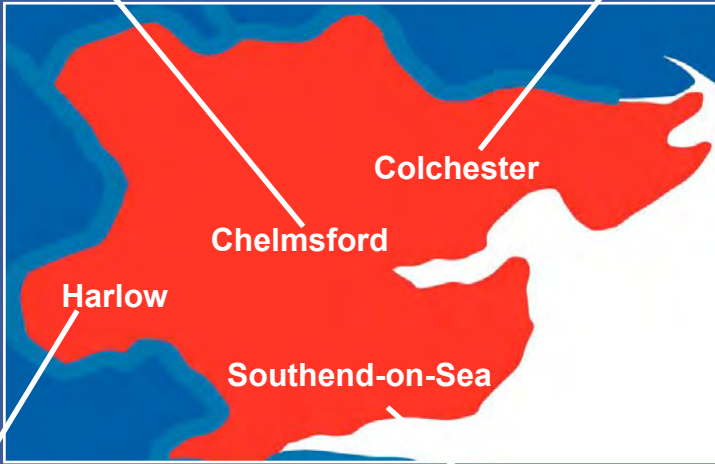
Chair South-East Essex Branch (Southend)

Eric Jude

HEADQUARTERS

The Galleywood Centre The Common (off Margaretting Road) Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8TR
Chair: Elizabeth Cox
Email: emt.cox2@btinternet.com
Secretary: Meryl Rawlings
Email: meryl.rawlings@btinternet.com

COLCHESTER North East Essex
Oyster Room Hythe Community Centre
1 Ventura Drive Colchester CO1 2FG
Chair: Pauline Adlem
Email: pladlem@aol.com
Secretary: David Cooper
Email: davidcooper@cantab.net



HARLOW West Essex

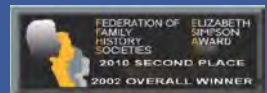
St. John's Arts and Recreation Centre
Market Street Old Harlow CM17 0AJ
Chair: Elizabeth Cox
Email: emt.cox2@btinternet.com
Secretary: Sue Spiller
Email: suespiller@yahoo.co.uk

SOUTHEND South East Essex

Avenue Baptist Church Hall Milton Road Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7JX
Chair: Eric Jude
Email: eric_j_jude@hotmail.com
Secretary: Heather Feather
Email: hfeather2038@gmail.com



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