

News

Volume 6 Issue 3



Letter

Summer 2011

In this issue

FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS	2
LETS LOOK AT A CHURCH	3
FOOD FOR THOUGHT	5
IDENTITY THEFT! DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR THEM!	6
HE SHALL HAVE BUT A PENNY A DAY	6
RECENT SOCIETY MEETINGS.....	9
YOUR LETTERS.....	10
MAKE THE MOST OF THOSE LICENCES	10
FAMILY HISTORY DOCUMENTATION	15
MID-NORFOLK FHS NBI SEARCHES –.....	18
NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS.....	19
SHIPDHAM - A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME 1066-2009.....	20
FREE CHURCH TOURS.....	21
THE SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS	21

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*A date for your Diary ...*

*Gressenhall Museum History Fair*

*Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2011 ... 10am to 5pm*

## **A few words from your Editor ...**

Hello again, and thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Newsletter this time.

The Spring competition winner was Sue Vickerage, who has received her prize of one of the Society publications. Tom put the answer into verse ...

Victoria's children are listed 'on line'  
4 boys and 5 girls that makes **nine**  
So naming the eldest was a 'bit of a breeze'  
It was **Victoria Adelaide Mary Louise**

Please write to me if you have an interesting story, perhaps you need some help with your research or maybe you just have something to say!

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Format for Newsletter Contributions** .... Preferably typed using Microsoft Word or Works, or handwritten, then please either:

- email the file to me at [Familyhis@aol.com](mailto:Familyhis@aol.com) or
- post handwritten copy/CD/floppy disk, to me at the address on the back of the Newsletter

**Deadline for inclusion in the next Newsletter – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

*Kate (Editor)*

## **FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS**

|                |                                                |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 15 June 2011   | Families in East India Society by Peter Bailey |
| 20 July 2011   | Debts, Debtors and Bankrupts by Ian Waller     |
| 17 August 2011 | Marriage & courtship in the 1800s by Tom Doig  |

## LETS LOOK AT A CHURCH

### No.62 – St Nicholas, Twyford



St Nicholas, Twyford is tucked away from view on the edge of the busy A1067 Fakenham to Norwich road and it is easy for the unwary to drive straight past it as we did although those who do not seek it out will be missing an interesting and pretty little church set in an island of calm next to the roar of the traffic from which it is largely shielded by a screen of trees and undergrowth. The hamlet of Twyford is not large - the population at the 2001 census was only 26, showing a gradual decline from the 60 recorded in White's directory for 1864 and the 94 of 1848 when Samuel Lewis described the parish in his topographical account. Dating from Norman times and mainly Early English in style, the church of St Nicholas which is equally small is an estate church of which there are quite a few examples in Norfolk and in its present form at least, for it was thoroughly restored in 1858 and to a lesser extent in 1923, seems to owe its existence to Twyford Hall in whose grounds it is set.

Approaching the building, which is in many ways an architectural delight, the visitor is immediately struck by a number of interesting features. One enters through a porch that is built into the base of the church's squat square brick tower

which was constructed in late Tudor times and which joins onto the end of the south wall only reaching up to the level of the roof ridge and is surmounted by a white painted Georgian wooden belfry or bell cote, a feature more usually found attached to the roof ridge itself. This is topped by a small cupola the shape of which looks to me rather different from that shown in Robert Ladbroke's 1822 print as do some of the church's windows so perhaps these features have been modified in the restorations of intervening years. But then, Ladbroke does not show the Norman slit in the old masonry of the west wall which is now clearly visible so perhaps there is some artistic licence here although this is unlikely as most researchers seem to trust Ladbroke as a stickler for detail. One thing Ladbroke's picture does show clearly is a large table tomb close to the south wall which is interesting as it houses, we are told in its inscription, one Robert Framingham a shoemaker (sic) by trade whose grandson Henry, a baker, was twice Mayor of King's Lynn and afterwards High Sheriff of Norfolk but who did not forget his old granddad building him this fine memorial when he died in 1683. The church was locked when we visited it but a lady who lives nearby is the keyholder and seeing us exploring the graves kindly came and let us in. The interior is simple with nave and chancel continuous under the same roof and the floor is laid with good old red Norfolk 'pammments' or terracotta tiles but it is a pity that the upholstered box pews and three-decker pulpit of Georgian times are long gone, removed during the first restoration. Exploring the interior, some of the tomb slabs make interesting reading for the social history contained on them and the bulky font which is said to be 13<sup>th</sup> century has on its modern cover a brass plate commemorating Cpl. Francis Edwin Barnes of the Norfolk Regiment who died at Loos in the Great War. The hundred year old alabaster reredos showing Jesus blessing the little children is described charitably in the church guide as 'not notable' and on the whole, to be fair, it is the exterior of this church which is its really pleasing feature and it is worth visiting on a fine day to admire its understated elegance as one enjoys a pleasant wander round the graveyard.

The original parish registers are held in the Norfolk Record Office (Cat. Ref PD261) and comprise Baptisms 1558-2002, Marriages 1558-2004, Burials 1558-1997 and Banns 1794 and 1807-1943 with Microform copies covering the same dates. Archdeacon's and Bishop's Transcripts all start in 1600 but end in 1919 for Baptisms and Burials and 1837 for Marriages. The parish chest is quite small but has Church and Benefice 1753-1980, Terriers (registers of landed property described by site, boundaries and acreage) 1753-1955, an Inclosure Act for Bintry and Twyford 1795, a Tithe Apportionment and map for 1840 and a table of charities in the parish of Twyford dated 1846.

*Roderic & Denise Woodhouse*

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT – An Antique Challenge

Currently on our TVs there are a plethora of programmes relating to antiques where, as a side-issue, experts give information regarding the history or use of the objects concerned. They are actually covertly educating us, giving an insight into things of yesteryear which our ancestors may have used.

In our last newsletter, I wrote a short piece about the guinea, which had been prompted by research for a poem, to complement an Editor's quiz question. Although I knew a little about the guinea it was definitely not enough to fill a page. But there is a wealth of information available and in the end I had to cull my facts, to reduce it to a 500 or so word article. Did it help make the newsletter a little more readable? Did our readers find it of interest? Maybe, I would like to think so. One of our members, Chris Cage, definitely did, for he took the trouble to provide a little more information – apparently gold was obtained by the Royal African Trading Company, from alluvial deposits in the hinterland of the *Gulf of Guinea* in West Africa (not the country of Guinea as we know it today). This area was known as the *Gold Coast*, it became a Crown Colony and remained so until 1957, when it obtained independence and became part of Ghana. You probably knew that BUT did you know that the early guineas bore all, or part, of the logo of the Company – *The Elephant and Castle*? Now there's a real piece of Antique Road Show extra information!

Which brings me to my 'thought for this issue' and a challenge. Why don't we, (NOT just I), write and send Kate short articles under the heading of say 'Antique of the month', about almost anything - a piece of headgear, footwear, a tool, a vehicle, an item of food or drink, a musical instrument etc., the list could be endless. You might find that it is not as difficult as initially it might appear, for there is a stack of information on virtually any subject on-line. In addition to widening the appeal of the newsletter, it might get those dormant 'little grey cells' working, encourage us to practice our forgotten literacy skills, and at the same, time learn more about how our ancestors lived.

TFG

## **IDENTITY THEFT! DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR THEM!**

Identity theft is a real threat nowadays, and it is up to us all to make every effort to keep personal information belonging to ourselves and fellow Society members safe.

The Mid-Norfolk Family History Society takes every care to ensure that any personal details you have submitted are kept confidential. Your details are published in the Members' Interests Directory for the sole purpose of providing means of contact to aid family history research and are intended for use by Society Members only and not for general distribution.

We are therefore asking you take care when destroying last year's Members' Interests Booklet. Please would you *shred or burn* the booklet when you have finished with it.

If you have any queries or problems please contact Kate (Editor).

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HE SHALL HAVE BUT A PENNY A DAY

Most of us will know that these words are from the nursery rhyme 'See-Saw Margery Daw' When they were written, probably in the 1760's the penny that poor Johnny was to be given for his day's labour had been in circulation for about 1000 years.

A silver penny was introduced into England during the reign of Offa king of Mercia between 755 - 780. They were based upon the denier of the Merovingian kings of France and each contained a denarius' worth of almost pure silver which had the same weight as 24 barleycorns. Based upon the Troy system of weight a Troy pennyweight was defined as 24 Troy grains and a Troy pound of 240 pennies weighed $24 \times 240 = 5760$ Troy grains. One Troy pound was divided into 12 Troy ounces (from the Italian 'onza') or 20 pennyweights. The beginnings of our £.s.d were born with the 'd' (denarii) although it would be some time before the '£' (librae), and 's' (solidi or shillings) would come into use as coins in their own

right. For the time being they would be called 'money of account' ie. values of money used purely for accounting purposes. Apart from a number of temporary issues of other denominations the penny would be the only coin issued for the next 550 years.

Early coins bore the name of the ruler on the obverse and the name of the moneyer on the reverse. In the late Saxon period up to 90 moneyers were responsible for their manufacture. This must have reduced the temptation to issue coins of poor quality by substituting the silver with tin. The base metal ie. the silver was being removed hence the term to 'debase.' For those who took the risk the penalties were severe. At the 'Assize of the Moneyers' in 1125 150 moneyers were brought to account with 94 suffering mutilation by having their right hand and one testicle cut off.

By the reign of Henry II the value of money was falling sharply. In addition to debasing the silver coins were clipped and the metal used to make new ones - 'making money out of thin air.' Inflation set in as the coins value fell and prices rose. In order to restore confidence a new penny of good weight and quality was introduced. It was known as the 'short cross' type because of the design on the reverse. In 1247 the design was replaced by the 'long cross' type the theory being that by extending the cross to the edge of the coin no one would be willing to run the risk of eternal damnation by mutilating the symbol of our Lord's passion. Some coins however were sheared into halves and quarters to provide change probably in response to the transition from a barter to a cash economy. It was not until 1279 that halfpennies and farthings ('four things') were issued regularly.

In January 1344 a permanent gold coinage was introduced thus ending the pennies dominance. Further monetary reforms took place in 1346 and 1351 when the weight of the penny was reduced to 20 and 18 grains respectively. A further 3 grains were removed in 1412. By 1464 the weight had fallen to 12 grains and in 1546, to finance Henry VIII's wars the silver content was so small - perhaps as low as one part silver and two parts copper alloy - that the silver surface upon the copper alloy underneath soon wore away leaving Henry with the nickname 'Old Coppernose'

During the reign of Edward VI the silver testoon emerged as the shilling thus ending the time when it had been, like the mark, called money of account. From the time of James I the penny displayed its value in numerals and in the reign of Charles II it was, together with other denominations struck on Pierre Blondeau's hand powered machine presses. Although they are referred today as Maundy Money they were issued for general circulation. By the time of William and Mary the old hand hammered coins which were still in circulation.were so badly clipped that a tax to finance new coinage was imposed upon all births, marriages and deaths.

From 1729 onwards the silver penny was minted solely for Maundy distribution; its place being substituted by traders issuing copper tokens. As the name of the tradesman and his place of operation is shown on the coin they can have a significant value for genealogical research. In 1797 a copper penny containing 1oz of copper was minted. Known as 'cartwheels' because of their size and heaviness their value as weights for scales was soon identified by the nation's shopkeepers. Lighter copper coins were introduced in 1806 and 1807 until they were replaced by a bronze alloy in 1860. Copper plated steel replaced bronze in 1992.

Although decimalisation of our currency took place in 1971 the penny is still with us after 1250 years which is quite an achievement for such a small coin. But I wonder for how much longer it will be with us? Some countries are already abandoning small denominations and as production costs continue to rise it is likely that the penny will soon attract the accountants eye. Given the history and the folklore it has generated it will be sadly missed.

So what would poor Johnny have been able to buy with his penny in 1760 when the average daily wage of a skilled worker was about 12d or 1shilling? A loaf of household bread weighing 12oz 6 drams. As a child I remember buying hot penny buns from the local baker and if I was feeling extravagant 4 fruit salad chews or 4 black jacks. I even bought one for a farthing! Ah, those were the days!

Chris Cage

RECENT SOCIETY MEETINGS

At the February meeting Chris and Judy Rouse spoke about the “Wyvern” Midland Railway Index. It currently has 37,000 entries, 20,000 of which relate to Midland staff.

The talk started with a short history of the Midland Railway, which together with the Great Northern was one of the two parent companies of the M&GNR. It then went on to give a summary of the records for the Midland Railway available at the National Archives and elsewhere, as an example of the records available for researching any other pre 1923 British Railway Company. Examples shown covered Director’s Minutes, Staff Ledgers, Board of Trade Accident Reports, 19th Century newspapers etc. Finally Chris then gave a brief history of the M&GNR and examples of its surviving staff records.

Chris and Judy offer a **search of their Index**.

There is also a **search** available of the **Great Western Railway Staff and Pension Records**.

I have a synopsis of Chris and Judy’s talk, but do not have room to publish it in this edition of the newsletter, if anyone would like a copy or would like further details of the searches, please email or write to me.

In March Michael Gandy gave a very interesting and entertaining talk about “Tracing Your Huguenot Ancestry”, again this is too long for the Newsletter but email or write to me for a copy if you would like one.

Kate (Editor)
Email and address on back cover

YOUR LETTERS

Can you Help ...

Roger Matthews is researching the names Story and Matthews. The Matthews were tenant farmers of Lord Wodehouse and James Story was for many years postmaster of Wymondham. If you have done any research into the history of Kimberley which involves these people and can help, please get in touch with Kate (Editor) who will pass the information on.

In the Spring Newsletter Mike Christelow asked for help with his research of his g-g-g-grandfather, Thomas Tennant, who was living in West Bradenham in the 1800s. Margaret Bohn, who lives in West Bradenham at the present time was able to help.

So if you have any queries or need help drop me a line, the person reading your query may be the person with the answer to it!

Kate

MAKE THE MOST OF THOSE LICENCES

By Joy Lodey

What do you do when you find that a forbear was married “by lic.,” ? Do you just add that to your records, or see if you can find the supporting documents in case they provide additional information?

Banns and licences were used to safeguard the church from conducting invalid marriages such as bigamy, or consanguinity as defined in ‘A Table of Kindred and Affinity’ in C. of E. prayer books, or those under twenty-one who needed parental consent. We are all familiar with banns and marriages registers, but might not have looked for the allegation and bond issued with a marriage licence.

If the couple lived a) in the same diocese a licence would be granted by the bishop or his surrogate; b) if in different dioceses it would be issued by the Vicar-general’s office of the Archbishop of Canterbury or York; c) if in two provinces by the Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Some have been published e.g.

Allegations for Marriage Licences issued by the Vicar-General of the Archbishop of Canterbury July 1679 to June 1687 published by the Harleian Society 1890 includes:

1687 Aug. 10 William Long of S^t Dunstan's in the West, Lond., Merchant Taylour, Wid^r. ab^t. 35 & Hannah Strong, of St Mary Colechurch, Lond., Sp^r. aged 21 with consent of her father Mr Wm. Strong; at Weston, co. Norf., or any church in Norwich.

From 1553 '**Special licences**' were granted at the archbishop of Canterbury's discretion to couples who required the freedom to marry in any parish and at any time. This overcame the 16th-17thC prohibition of marriage during religious seasons such as Lent and Advent and, prior to 1886, having to be conducted before mid-day.

In 1603 the church said licences should only be issued to persons 'of good state or quality', but it was often ignored. When in 1886 the Harleian Society published its first volume of *Allegations 1660-1679* from Colonel Chester's manuscript it admitted it was incomplete as he had included '*all except those persons evidently of the very humblest rank.*' an omission it hoped to remedy in a subsequent volume. Their volume for 1679-87 includes gentry, clergy, professional men, a fascinating variety of tradesmen, but far less yeomen, husbandmen and labourers probably because they married within their own dioceses.

If a couple preferred to avoid the publicity of banns and applied for a licence, usually the bridegroom, but sometimes the bride, swore an affidavit there was no lawful impediment to the marriage and that either or both of them had been resident in the parish for 15 days.

The licence, which gives the names, marital status, age, parental consent if necessary, and the place where the marriage was to take place, was given to the couple. The *allegation/affidavit* of their intentions was kept with a *bond* (in which the groom and his relative or friend would give surety that the couple would marry in the nominated church or chapel) were deposited in the Diocesan Registry. Enter 'Marriage licences' on <http://nrocat.norfolk.gov.uk> to discover the wealth of possibilities.

At St John the Baptist church, Frome, Somerset the register records the marriage of my maternal great-grandfather: 1st May 1843: Henry Crees Milborne, minor, bach. tailor, Church Slope, son of Wm., tailor and Mary Anne Selfe, full age, Sp., Lower Market Place, dau. of Wm., Watchmaker. Witnesses: William Selfe & Eliza Milborne. By licence.

But it was much nicer to have a copy of the allegation headed **‘Diocese of Bath and Wells’** *‘On the 1st May 1843 appeared personally Henry Crees Milbourne of Frome, Somerset, Tailor, a Bachelor of the age of twenty years but under the age of twenty one years and prayed a Licence for the Solemnization of Matrimony in the Parish Church of Frome Selwood, Somerset between him and Marianne Selfe of Frome Selwood a Spinster of the age of twenty one years. On oath he said ‘he believeth there was no Impediment of Kindred or Alliance or of any other lawful cause or suit commenced in any ecclesiastical court’ to prevent the marriage and that Marianne had resided in the parish for the past fifteen days. ‘And he further made oath that the consent of William Milbourne’ his father had been obtained. Notice the slight differences between the two.*

On 6th September 1844 Marianne’s brother William obtained a licence to marry Henry’s sister Jane, who also needed her father’s consent. The marriage entry only said ‘minor’ but the allegation ‘eighteen years’, thus providing a more accurate birth/baptism date.

Some allegations can be even more revealing. Recently I was sorting out some old teaching notes which included the following:

‘December 1st 1772

On this day appeared Sarah Woodfield of the parish of Grandborough in the county of Warwick and diocese of Lichfield and Coventry and being sworn on the Holy Evangelist made oath as follows:

That she was married to William Woodfield of Grandborough aforesaid sometime about April 12th 1757 who afterwards thirteen years ago and upwards enlisted himself in the Marines and she has been informed and believes soon after went abroad in the King’s service from which time she has never heard nor received any certain intelligence of him: that she is now about to be married to William Brewer of Wednesbury

in the County of Stafford and Diocese aforesaid, Bachelour [sic] who is aged upwards of Twenty-one years. That she does not know whether any lawful let or impediment by reason of any precontract enter'd into before the 25th March 1754, consanguinity, affinity or any other cause whatever to hinder the sd intended marriage and she pray'd a Licence to solemnize the same in the Parish church of Grandborough and she moreover made oath that she has had her usual abode in Grandborough for the space of four weeks last past.

The mark of Sarah Woodfield.

The sd. Sarah Woodfield being duly sworn, the mark of Wm. Brewer, and the sd. William Brewer having also made oath that he was upwards of twenty-one years a licence was decreed. By me Henry Homer.'

A genealogy web-site shows that Sarah Woodfield married William Brewer at Grandborough, Warwickshire on 1st December 1772, but it does not say by licence, as it would in the register. Even then descendants might not look for the allegation and the bond:

'Know all men by these presents that we William Brewer of Wednesbury in the County of Stafford and Thomas Good of Wolscott in the Parish of Grandborough in the County of Warwick, both in the Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, are held and firmly bound to Richard Smallbrook Doctor of Laws, Vicar General of the Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry in one hundred pounds of Lawful Money of Great Britain to be paid to the said Doctor Richard Smallbrook his certain attorney, executors administrators or assigns.'

The Rev. Benjamin John Armstrong, Vicar of Dereham from 1850-1880 gave an amusing story* in his diary:
19th August 1852:

'On Tuesday some people applied for a marriage licence which, in order to save time, I directed the Norwich officials to send by post to Beeston where the ceremony was to take place. Unfortunately they sent it to Dereham. So, in order that the wedding might come off that day, I cantered off to Beeston with the licence in my pocket. There I found the anxious couple had gone to Dereham by train, so I galloped to Fransham station in the hope of overtaking them. Fortunately they had been just a minute too late for the train. I next advised them to go to Beeston Church

as quickly as possible, while I rode round to the rectory and by the time that Mr Nelson and I had got to the church it wanted ten minutes to noon and the parties had not arrived. Moreover, the clerk was absent and he had the key of the vestry containing the surplice and the book. These difficulties were surmounted by my acting as clerk and the anxious bridegroom breaking open the vestry door, so that, after all, we only just managed to perform the ceremony in canonical hours. It was a complete chapter of accidents.'

And no doubt James Gimbert of King's Lynn, Cork Cutter and Sophia Steggles of Beeston, Servant, were very relieved that they just made it to the church in time!

* [included here by courtesy of Mr David J.M. Armstrong.]

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New Website ...

[www.bi-gen.blogspot.com](http://www.bi-gen.blogspot.com) This is a new website covering British and Irish Genealogy

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If you are planning a break in Shropshire this year

The Shropshire Family History Society will be holding their Open Day & Fair at the Shirehall, Shrewsbury, on Saturday 4th June 2011 between 10am and 4pm

For further information see ... www.sfhs.org.uk/openday

FAMILY HISTORY DOCUMENTATION

In the Spring Newsletter I asked if members would write in and let me know how they document their family history research. So thank you - firstly - to Sue Harris, who says ...

When I first started researching my Family History I was unsure of what software to use. Visiting Family History Fairs didn't help me as there were people keen to sell me software but not to show me what it looked like or what it could or couldn't do.

As a temporary measure I decided to use Microsoft Word and I am still using this, finding it simple to use and very adaptable with no disadvantages. If I want to send a record to someone in my family I have no worries about whether they have the appropriate software to enable them to read it. I am free to have the record in the format I want it in and I don't have to pay for updates, or worry about compatibility with the latest MS Windows system etc.

In a matter of a couple of minutes I had set up a basic template to work from. This can be altered at will for an individual ancestor without affecting all the other records. My basic template holds the fields:- Name, born, baptised, married, died, buried, father, mother, siblings, spouse, children, addresses, occupations, life history, documents and GRO references. I am able to add and remove fields for individual records as appropriate eg remove GRO references if a pre 1837 ancestor, add army records and schools for my grandparents etc. The record is titled XX, surname, forename, with XX being the number allocated to my ancestor – 2 & 3 for my parents, 4 – 7 my grandparents etc.

In the section 'documents' I list documentation I have acquired eg photos of the church they were baptised in, the house they live in, their gravestone etc together with copies of wills, army records, birth certificates etc. I now have a large number of ancestor records and am still finding my system easy to use. The only shortfall being that I can't easily produce family history charts, although Microsoft Excel can be used for a small family tree. I have resolved this by downloading PAF from the FamilySearch website and by feeding in just the basic information – names and dates. It is sufficient to produce charts in several formats including large charts of

descendants from early ancestors.

I also set up a MS Windows folder for each individual ancestor in which I store the digital images of wills, census returns, photos etc.

Using the above method I have no concerns about having to upgrade software, it is in the format I want it to be, and it is free.

Sue Harris

Thank you also to Mike Dack ...

The following is my personal view of Family History sites/programs that I have used, I have tried others but these three I consider are in the 'Premier League' - I now realise that each has its own distinct advantages - i) For contacts = GenesReunited; ii) For searching = Ancestry; iii) For presentation/charts = MyHeritage.

Mike Dack

Mike gave us his comments on the three programs ...

GenesReunited (2 Stars) - £45.95/6 month Platinum membership

Pros: large membership, hence possibility of making contacts with similar interests; Upload GED file functionality available; 1911 census available.

Cons: Terrible online navigation around tree, especially with large trees; Census and BMD searches cumbersome; No separate software available for working offline; Uploading new GED file merges but erases any existing images; Expensive, especially pay per view.

<http://www.genesreunited.co.uk/>

Ancestry (4 Stars) - £61.27 for software this includes an annual Premium membership normally £77

Pros: By far the best online tree navigation; Easy access to census, BMD and many other searches; Upload GED file functionality available; Very good Family Tree Maker (FTM) software available to purchase, produces good reports and charts.

Cons: GED files cannot be merged to online site, hence new tree has to be created and old tree deleted each time.

<http://www.ancestry.co.uk/>

My Heritage (4 Stars) - Free software and free website with up to 250 names; 2500 names £54/yr.

Pros: Upload GED file functionality available; Outstanding free software Family Tree Builder (FTB) is available with options to create excellent charts and ancestor or descendants reports. Premium membership includes monthly back-ups made to separate location in case recovery is needed. Auto 'Smart match function'. The software is free and can be used independently once registered, it can be set to automatically update the online tree including photos and video although it is not essential to have an online tree.

Cons: Website navigation not as good as Ancestry. Limited search functionality; Currently map locations do not display since introduction of Windows 7; Customer support slow to respond but at least there is support. <http://www.myheritage.com/genealogy>

... And Finally ...

Thank you John Clarke, who wrote to me with details and examples of family trees and other information from his 'Roots Magic' program.

John also enclosed a GRO Death Certificate Application Form with the advice ...

If you fill in the application form and include the GRO reference on the reverse, the GRO will use this reference, so unless you are very sure that the GRO reference is correct, leave that information off the form, and the GRO will check the family information which you have supplied.

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## MID-NORFOLK FHS NBI SEARCHES – SPECIAL OFFER

### Mid-Norfolk FHS National Burial Index Project

- The society's Mid Norfolk Burial Index is a database of entries taken from burial registers within an approximate 10 mile radius of Dereham. The society provides a reduced version to the National Burial Index at the Federation of Family History Societies. All Parishes are included for the period of 1813-1837, but the project is ongoing and most are covered more extensively. It currently holds in excess of 136,000 entries.
- This search lists the forename/s of all deceased persons with that surname within the database, together with their date and place of burial along with further information (if included in the original entry) such as age, marital status, relationship and occupation. A list of all parishes and dates included is provided with the search results.

*During the month of June 2011* Mid-Norfolk Family History Society National Burial Index (NBI) searches, as detailed above, will be free to Society Members on the following conditions:

- Applications will be accepted by post or email but the results **will be sent to you by email.**
- Applies only to applications **received during the month of June 2011.**
- You may request searches of any number of names.
- If you want the results by letter then the normal charges will apply (£1 per name for members).

Search requests to me please ... [familyhis@aol.com](mailto:familyhis@aol.com) or if by letter, to my address, which you will find on the back cover of this Newsletter.

*Kate Easdown*

## NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Member 730 – Mr N Bxxxxx, ----, ----, ----,

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|         |                 |                                       |
|---------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| BOLDERO | NFK             | 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C |
| KIDDLE  | NFK             | 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C |
| HARPER  | London, MDX     | 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C |
| PAVITT  | London, MDX     | 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C |
| KNIGHT  | High Ongar, ESS | 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C |

Member 731 – Mrs P Bxxxxxx, ----, ----, ----,

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|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| BREEZE Robert | NE NFK          | 18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C |
| MOLLETT John  | Surlingham NFK  | 18 <sup>th</sup> C                    |
| BALDWIN Henry | Blakeney NFK    | 1803                                  |
| BLY Thomas    | Gt Yarmouth NFK | 18 <sup>th</sup> C                    |
| FITT Robert   | Briningham NFK  | 18 <sup>th</sup> C                    |
| HERRIEVEN     | NE NFK          | Any                                   |

Member 732 – Mr G M Cxxxxx, ----, ----, ----,

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|                |             |        |
|----------------|-------------|--------|
| COOPER William | Dereham NFK | b 1785 |
|----------------|-------------|--------|

Member 733 – Mr D G Cxxxxx, ----, ----, ----,

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## **SHIPDHAM - A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME 1066-2009**

For anyone investigating their links with Shipdham this book is well worth a read.

It is the result of research carried out by 6 members of the Shipdham Wives Group who were invited to participate in the research and study of historical documents relating to Shipdham as part of The Churchyard Enhancement Project.

A former head teacher of Shipdham School, Mr Parry had in the 1950's researched the history of Shipdham using documents and church minutes which at that time were kept in the Church Library , but are now held at the NRO. This research was used as a starting point and over the next four years numerous visits were made to the Norfolk Record Office in Norwich the Dereham Library, The Heritage Centre, and All Saints Church .

Old school log books were poured over, Church Warden's Accounts, Kelly's, Harrod's and White's Directories were a great source of information and local residents were interviewed and encouraged to give their memories of the old days and to donate photographs . The group were delighted that there was so much information on Shipdham available and they have used it to capture a broad view of Shipdham village life and its people. There are chapters on the Church, the schools, The USAF ,Public Houses, Farming and organisations, clubs and societies and much more, plus photographs and maps.

In 2010 the book was short listed for the Jarrold East Anglian Book award. The book is for sale at £5. To obtain a copy contact Sue Dewing on 01362 820324

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FREE CHURCH TOURS

Did you know that every year, the Church Tours Committee in association with the Norfolk Churches Trust organise monthly tours of Norfolk churches, between April and July.

These tours, for which there is no charge, are planned to help you discover the fascinating wealth of interesting history and architecture in village churches. They are organised for Sunday afternoons, starting at 2.30 pm. Tea is provided and the tour ends with a service

(optional) of evensong, at 6 or 6.30 pm.

Essentially it is a car trail. You make your own way to the start church and the organisers sign post directions to the other three. You've missed the first two for 2011 but the remaining tours are:

June 19th Meet at THARSTON to visit also Forncett St Peter, Forncett St Mary, and Fundenhall

July 17th Meet at WELLINGHAM to visit Whissonsett, Horningtoft, and Colkirk

THE SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS

There is a new publication available this month, it is the Memorial Inscriptions of the Churchyard and Churches of St Mary and St Michael, **Reepham**. The book costs £3.10 plus 92p p&p, making a total of £4.02 (UK postage).

Postage costs increased on the 4th April 2011 – please see the Mid-Norfolk Family History Society web site for the current rates ...

www.tsites.co.uk/sites/mnfhs/

Kate

Visiting Norfolk to do some research?

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