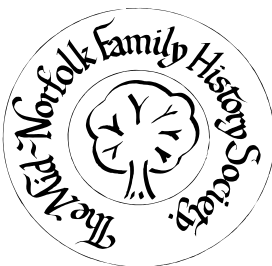


News

Volume 6 Issue 11



Letter

Summer 2013

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FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS

**at: Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Theatre Street, Trinity Close,
Dereham NR19 2EP Starting 7.30 pm**

19 June 2013	Researching a Single Surname by Derek Palgrave
17 July 2013	My Ancestor was a Miller by Laurie Page
21 August 2013	Women in World War I by Molly Housego
A few words from your Editor ...	

Thank you to everyone who sent in material for the Newsletter. In this edition Joy Lodey has written an article on emigration, she has given us lots of names and locations so you could be very lucky and find your ancestor there.

We have had some excellent speakers so far this year. In March, Gill Blanchard gave us some top tips for writing our family history, she has really inspired me to put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard).

A few months ago my 14 year old niece emailed me, she was doing a school project on WW1 soldiers, and did I know of any in our family? Well I was able to tell her the names of three, but little else. At the April meeting the speaker was Neil Storey, his subject was 'Tracing Casualties in WWI' so I am hopeful that I shall be able to find out more about them now.

I look forward to hearing from you with your comments, suggestions or stories of your research.

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

- email the file to me at kate.easdown@btinternet.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 - 18th July 2013

Kate (Editor)

LETS LOOK AT A CHURCH

No.70 – Great Witchingham, St Mary



As one is about to enter the imposing St Mary's Great Witchingham, or to give it its full title The Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, the eyes are drawn upwards by the magnificent carvings in the spandrels of the doorway arch which depict the Annunciation. To the left one sees the Virgin kneeling at a desk next to which is a vase holding her emblem, a lily, and on the right spandrel is carved Gabriel holding a sceptre and a scroll presumably bearing his message to Mary. The archangel is shown with two sets of wings rather like some ancient biplane and his body is amply covered in feathers. Angels of course were thought to constitute a kind of heavenly messenger corps with archangels forming the highest rank of these celestial beings. Heavily feathered angels seem to have been a typical feature in Norfolk churches, the Norwich School of Glasspainters which flourished in the 15th Century being particularly fond of them, and it has been suggested that the reason for representing them thus was the feathered outfit worn by actors portraying angels in medieval mystery plays. Be that as it may, it is perhaps fitting that our angel, which to the irreverent may look like nothing so much as a giant turkey, is carved on a church which stands not so very far from Great Witchingham Hall, home to Bernard Matthews, East Anglia's largest turkey producers. The parish of Great Witchingham contains, in addition to the subject of our article, a wildlife park, a Nowhere Lane and the hamlets of Lenwade and Little Witchingham. The area is known locally as either Great Witchingham or Lenwade and as well as St.Mary's has two other churches both called St. Faiths, all most confusing. Once inside The Assumption, which has its

origins in the late 14th century, it is worth immediately turning to inspect the fine two metre square painted canvas of the royal arms of Charles II, the subject of an interesting article by Tom Garland in the Winter 2010 Newsletter. Such royal arms, often painted on canvas squares, sometimes elsewhere on the fabric of the building are not uncommon in English country churches and are to be found in other countries also – we recall seeing the Spanish arms in Málaga Cathedral some years ago. Royal arms in churches seem to have been first introduced in Elizabethan times when the Queen’s Archbishop of Canterbury, Matthew Parker, introduced new rules governing the internal layout of ecclesiastical buildings and ruled that the Catholic Rood, a tall cross often flanked by statues of the Virgin and St. John should be replaced by a more protestant symbol. The donor of our example was one of the le Neve family who had the rather unfortunate name, for a professed royalist, of Oliver. Oliver le Neve Esq. who died in 1678 at the age of nearly eighty is buried in the building and according to his floor slab was ‘a faithful subject of the King and obedient sonne of the church’ as well as being among other things ‘no friend to Popery or Presbitery’. No doubt with the Restoration in full swing, le Neve like many others wished to underline his royalist credentials and perhaps he in particular felt the need to distance himself from his more famous republican namesake by a conspicuous display of patriotic fervour. Oliver, it is interesting to note, died childless and left his Great Witchingham estates to a relative, yet another Oliver, who later gained some infamy for killing a political rival on Cawston Heath in the last duel ever fought on Norfolk soil. The Seven Sacrament font however is the feature for which this church is particularly noted and one marvels at the carvings which still bear some of the original paintwork and depict the Mass, Baptism, Confirmation, Penance, Matrimony and the Last Rites. The life of a 15th century Christian is shown here from cradle to grave in graphic detail and bears careful examination. Leaving St. Mary’s, we turn for one last look at its fine clerestory and solid Norfolk tower which contains two bells but is unfortunately mute as they are currently unsafe to ring. Never mind, the church provides us with much to make up for this deficiency!

The original registers for this church are held by the Norfolk Record Office (Cat Ref. PD91). They comprise Baptisms 1539-1944, Marriages 1539-1992, Burials 1539-1895 and Banns 1756-2005 but there are no entries of Banns after 1971 however and those between 1849 and 2005 are in such a poor state that they are deemed unfit for production and are not available to

the general public. Microform copies cover the same dates as the originals but they are not available for 1849-2005 either. Archdeacon's and Bishop's transcripts record Baptisms and Burials 1600–1919 plus Marriages 1600-1837. In the parish chest, there is a list of incumbents for both Great and Little Withingham from 1293 to the early twentieth century and here are also to be found Churchwarden Account Books 1656-1837, a Vestry Minute Book covering 1838-1886, Overseers of the Poor Accounts, Vouchers and Poor Rate Books 1836-1893, Church and Benefice (the vicar's living) 1793-1992 together with Workhouse Admissions and Expenses 1789-1835. Also in the chest, are Terriers - registers of landed property described by size, boundaries and acreage, covering the period from 1820 to 1941.

Roderic & Denise Woodhouse

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

New Member 761 – Mrs P Pxxxx, -----, -----, -----,
-----@-----

RAYNER Dereham NFK 17th C

New Member 762 – Rev Dr C S Macxxxx-Dxxxx, 45 Porcher Way, Boston,
Lincolnshire PE21 8JQ

BARTRAM	Stody NFK	1600 to date
COMER & vari	Alby NFK	1800 to date
CRASKE	Erpingham NFK	1800 to date
DRAPER	Kings Lynn & All NFK	1600 to date
DRIVER	NFK	1600 to date
DRIVER	SFK & Philadelphia USA	1700 to date
DRIVER	SRY/SSX & Ontario CANADA	1800 to date
ELLSON	Hanworth NFK	1800 to date
JENKINSON	Matlaske NFK	1800 to date
MOOR	Stody NFK	1700 to date
WELBURY	Langham & Episcopi NFK	1600 to date

New Member 763 – Mrs G P Wxxx, -----, -----, -----,
 ----- @-----

HARDY	Watton/Carbrooke/Caston NFK	1624 – 1794
JUBA	Watton/Carbrooke/Caston NFK	1624 – 1794
OLEFER WYER	Watton/Carbrooke/Caston NFK	1624 – 1794
WYER	Watton/Carbrooke/Caston NFK	1624 – 1794

New Member 764 – Mrs P Hxxxx, -----, -----, -----,

HATCHETT	Amersham/Chesham BKM & All UK	Any
TYDEHAM	All UK & HOLLAND	Any

New Member 767 – Dr R Fxxx, -----, -----, -----,
 ----- @-----

FOX Thomas	Melton Magna NFK	1608
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New Member 765 – Mr T K & Mrs A Txxxx, -----, -----, -----,
 ----- @-----

COTON Thomas	Kingsbury STS	18 th C
HEAD John	Fotheringhay NTH	18 th C
LAMBOURN Mary	Hampton MDX	19 th C
LEWIS Richard	WAL	18 th – 19 th C
LUSHER Barnard	Kings Lynn NFK	18 th – 19 th C
RICHARDS Pryce	WAL	19 th C
TAYLOR Mary	BDF & SCT	19 th C
TUDDENHAM	Thetford NFK	19 th C
WARRE Harriet	West Hallam DBY	18 th – 19 th C

Changes of email

98 – -----@-----

436 – -----@-----

RECENT SPEAKERS

At the March meeting Gill Blanchard's subject was 'Top Tips for Writing Your Family History, Graham made some notes dealing with the main points of her presentation (2 x A4 sheets).

I don't have the space to include these notes in the Newsletter but if you would like a copy please email me (kate.easdown@btinternet.com) and I will email a copy to you, or please send me a stamped addressed envelope (50p).

Kate (Ed)

RAILWAY WORKERS WHO DIED DURING WW1

The National Railway Museum (www.nrm.org.uk) has launched a free database of railway workers who died during World War One. The database took over 2 years to compile and the information was gathered from railway staff company magazines and items in the NRM archive and includes names of over 20,000



railway workers. The list includes names, rank, military number, rail department, railway occupation, address, information on their families, war memorial and date of death of railway workers. It also includes references to photographs in staff magazines. Alison Kay, Assistant Archivist commented " We're looking forward to welcoming people who want to look up details of former family members, friends or neighbours that may have died in the wars. We plan to keep on adding to the database over the coming years".

Information from FFHS January 2013 Engine.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT - A Boy's Dream & Father's Health Hazard

Cigarette advertisements were banned in the UK in 2002, but back in the late 1920s/early 1930s, in addition to conventional advertising, cigarette companies were offering gifts in return for coupons in their packets. This was to become a lucrative outlet for many manufacturers including Tri ang toys and the **Dereham** firms Hobbies and Bowman Models.

At the British Industries Fair in 1928, the latter company demonstrated an "O" gauge model locomotive pulling six large coaches making it almost 3m long.. With water for steam and a methyated spirit burner it needed refuelling every 40 minutes (equating to about 1½ miles) but it travelled 183 miles during two week exhibition. Such was its power and reliability, that it over-shadowed anything on the market at the time. Bowman's used

"Daddy-Mummy- PLEASE get me this!"

LNER 300

BOWMAN STEAM TANK LOCOMOTIVE value 20/-
FREE
For smoking only 75 packets of 20 Black Cat Red Band

Also Bowman's Steam Stationary Engine **FREE**
for smoking only 30 packets of 20 BLACK CAT RED BAND (a 100 coupons)

you get **Black Cat**
100% PURE VIRGINIA QUALITY and for finer gifts!

DON'T FORGET! 5 COUPONS IN EVERY 20 PACKET OF BLACK CAT RED BAND!

(Advertisement courtesy of Colin Laker author of Bowman's Steam Toys and Pond Yachts)

this exhibition feat in its adverts for years afterwards. It was every boys dream, originally selling for only 24s.6d (£1.25). However, this was a time of economic depression and more was needed to boost sales. Black Cat were one of the cigarette brands who provided that boost, by including Bowman's steam models in their free gift catalogues, thereby presenting parents with a means of providing their sons with the impossible.

This advertisement appeared in the 17 Dec 1932 edition of Hobbies Weekly. It is not offering the same 'exhibition' loco but the principal is the same, a free loco in return for coupons.

“For smoking only 75 packets of 20 Black Cat Red Band” The words read:

“Black Cat with their wonderful range of gifts are thinking of the kiddies too! This sound and attractive tank loco “double power” model 300 is of standard “O” (1½”) gauge. Its power is guaranteed to be equal to any 35/- steam loco on the market. The new Bowman safety valve and the loco’s ability to hold the rails at large varying speeds make it especially safe. Get the kiddies this fine loco and remember you will be smoking Black Cat, the 100% pure Virginia “quality” cigarettes. For lists of tracks, rails, signals etc. see the deluxe gift book with fine colour illustrations. Send for it and a ‘start off’ of 5 free coupons to...”

This offer may have delighted many young railway enthusiasts and been good for trade, especially for Bowman’s factory in Dereham and the makers of Black Cat cigarettes. On the other hand, with hindsight, it probably hastened the death of many of our ancestor’s fathers and friends. I wonder how many everyday activities are “normal” today which, in 80 years’ time, family history researchers will be looking back on as having been detrimental to health.

TFG

YOUR LETTERS

Request for help re **Dereham address**

I have an address from my family history research of Hubbards Yard, Dereham, taken from a school admission book in 1900. Is anyone able to advise me where this yard was please. The address in the census the following year was High Street, Dereham as was the address in 1891 so perhaps it was off the High Street somewhere.

Thanks.

Sue Harris

.....

Can Anyone Help please: I have been very fortunate that my family has been able to trace our roots back to John Hamonde (circa 1500 1546). While his surname is spelled as HAMONDE in his will, the wills I have of his children spell it as HAMOND. The spelling has changed over the centuries and through DNA testing we have discovered relatives with these various spellings; HAMON, HAMOND, HAMONDS, HAMMON, HAMMOND, HAMMONS, and HAMMONDS. I have learned not to

exclude anyone out of hand based on the spelling! I was thrilled about a year ago when I was able to obtain a copy of his will but I realise that going back further is going to be exceedingly difficult. My question is does anyone have any suggestions as to how I might go about trying to discover if I have any living relatives in Norfolk. My Hamond family lived in the Scarning/ Wendling area until at least 1620 when several members of the family moved to the London area (Clerkenwell). This was my direct line but many of their relatives will have stayed behind and their descendants may still be living in Norfolk today. I do understand that this is an almost impossible quest but living across the big pond makes it even more difficult. Can anyone suggest where I might begin?

Rodney R. Hammons rodneyreo@gmail.com

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I am at present reading Gill Blanchards book '**Tracing Your House History**' and hope to be able to have written a full review for the next issue of the newsletter. There is a lot of reading and to give it a full review I do not intend to rush.

Sue Vickerage, Member No 7

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By e mail from Norfolk Family History Society

Can you explain why memorials to Walker Graham White and Alan Blomfield Flowerdew (full details attached) do not appear in your Billingford MI book as they were recorded as being in the church previously by a Dr Greer. Are they no longer there?

We contacted the Churchwarden and visited Billingford church. Our book is correct they are not there.

However, Google tells us that there are two Billingford churches St Leonard and St Peter. St Leonard is way outside our area near Diss. To add to ours, Norfolk FHSs and the churchwardens, embarrassment for not realising this the Norfolk Churches website www.norfolkchurches.co.uk has photos of both the memorials, in the Diss church

There is only one duplicate in our area that we know of – Hackford near Reepham and another at Kimberly. But there are several with parish names as a suffix e.g. Morley St Botolph and Morley St Peter, many with North, East, South or West's as a prefix and a profusion of Great's and Little's. Maybe this is a warning. If the 'locals' can be momentarily caught out, 'out of area' researchers should take extra care to ensure that they looking in the right place.

.....

Stephen Barrett has sent me the story of his family, the **Barretts of Gressenhall**. This is too large to put into the Newsletter so if you would like a copy I will email it to you, or if you prefer a paper copy please send me your name and address and a 69p stamp (8 double sided pages).

Kate (Ed)

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We have been asked to circulate the following information by Tessa Towner, Secretary of KFHS: The French Hospital has received initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a Huguenot Heritage Centre in Rochester. The project aims to tell the story of the Huguenots, a group of some 100,000 French Protestants who fled from religious persecution during the 16th and 17th centuries. The Centre will include resources for researching family history, as well as a programme of events and activities. For further information please visit the website <http://www.frenchhospital.org.uk/huguenot-heritage-centre/>

As supporters of local and family history, we would value your feedback on our ideas for the Huguenot Heritage Centre. Please complete our online questionnaire. It will take about 5 - 7 minutes and each participant has the opportunity to win a £50 shopping voucher. Thank you very much.

Link to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HuguenotHeritage>

Beryl Evans
FFHS Archives Liaison Officer

DID ANY OF YOUR FAMILY EMIGRATE OR ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO SO?

Before the Poor Law Amendment Act 1834 came into effect, those wishing to emigrate did so independently, or helped by their parish. Reference is sometimes in vestry minutes or overseers' accounts. Once the Poor Law Unions were established, the vestry committee needed permission from its ratepayers to borrow money on the security of the poors' rate, with the approval of the Poor Law Commissioners in London. The resulting paperwork, in parish documents, guardians' minutes and class MH 12, National Archives Centre, Kew, can be very useful to family historians. Some but not all in MH 12 have been digitised for **free** use on-line, but some need further research at Kew.

Beeston-with-Bittering wrote to the PLC on 26th March 1835 saying thirty to forty men, women and children were 'desirous' of emigrating, so the vestry meeting had agreed to ask for a loan of £300 to be repaid with interest by levying a proportionate rate. Two days later the PLC sent them the forms and instructions as they hoped to sail from Yarmouth to Quebec on 6th or 7th April. [MH 12/8474/27 on-line by courtesy of NAC].

The Rev. Edward Swatman wrote from **Little Fransham** on 13th May 1835 to say the ratepayers requested an early reply to use not more than £50 for the emigration of J. Crowfoot and family to North America in a vessel sailing from Yarmouth at the end of the month. [MH 12/8474/28]. In April 1836 he urged their speedy permission for approval of a £51 loan for the emigration of John and Alice Beckham, John, Mary Anne, Phoebe, James and William all under 14 years; John and Sarah Ward, Isaac, [mis-typed in précis as Israel], Jonathan and Joseph. In the past year the Beckhams had received 7s relief, the Wards £6. 17. 9d. [MH 12/8474/28, 120, 121].

In mid-January 1836 the curate of **Great Dunham**, Rev. Thomas Greene, requested the necessary instructions and emigration forms.

A month later he returned Form A, notice of a vestry meeting 21st January 1836 signed by himself, Jesse Palmer and James Carrington, churchwardens, James Hubbard and Jesse Palmer (again) Overseers of the Poor, witnessed by James Eldrid, Vestry Clerk. Form B confirmed the resolution to borrow £300 to finance emigration, as entered in the parish

rate books. Form C, signed 24 February 1836, testified compliance with the regulations. Form D was formal application to the Exchequer Bill Loan Commissioners. [MH 12/8474/46, 59]. He enclosed a List and description of the parties *desirous* of emigrating, and their relief from ratepayers during the past year:

William Frappell, wife and 4 children, £5.16.10d in addition to maintenance in the workhouse. William Ram, wife and 1 child £3. 4. 1d; Benjamin Maddis, wife and 1 child 14s 3d; William Maddis, wife and 2 children; Robert Maddis; Henry Horney wife and 2 children; Richard Haylett, wife and 4 children; Job Muffett, wife and 2 children; William Rush, wife and 2 children. None of the single men, John Carter, William Chamberlain, Thomas Atmore, James Cory, James Kiddle, Harry Pollington, Robert Hardy, James Hardy, Noah Roberts, had received relief. All were agricultural labourers. They should sail from Yarmouth for Quebec the first week in April and on arrival travel to Upper Canada.

The final list from MH 12/8502 has not been digitised, but I have a copy. Date-stamped June 29 1836 it does not include William Frappell, and William Ram, who had cost the ratepayers the most, or bachelor Noah Roberts. It added William Bridges 28, wife Mary 24. They had received £2. 5. 8d, annotated '*had been very ill*'. Since the previous list William Maddis 34 and wife Ann 32 had received £1. It details the others but not their children: Benjamin Maddis, 32, wife Elizabeth 26; Henry Horney 30, wife Mary 29; Richard Haylett 35, wife Ann 34; Job Muffitt 34, Blacksmith and Agricultural Labourer, wife Elizabeth 32; William Rush 27, wife Ann 25; James Cory 28, Robert Hardy 21, James Kiddle 20, Thomas Atmore 20, James Hardy 19, William Chamberlain 19, John Carter 18, Henry Pollington 17.

'The Emigrants here described are men of good Characters, and are Industrious, and I hope will be found good Members of Society – As it was their own Act and deed leaving England' signed James Carrington, Acting Overseer, Great Dunham, Norfolk.

On 25th February 1836 Rev. Henry Anson, G. Browne and John Hase, Churchwardens, John Nicholson and William Bunn, Overseers, sent **Lyng's** application forms to the PLC with a list of those *willing* to emigrate to Canada and poor relief in past year: Gidion Reeve, wife, 5 children

£7.8.6d; William Reeve, wife, 5 children £2.4.6d; John Fisher, wife, 3 children £14; James Howard, wife, 1 child '*no relief*'. John Trolop, wife, 2 children £6.4.2d; Robert Wright, wife, 8 children £11.6.6d; Matthew Chapman, wife, 1 child £4. John Carman, wife, 2 children 18s 6d; Widow Carman, 2 children £5; bachelors Robert Carman, Henry Simmonds, William Bullock '*no relief*' but Henry Howard £2.6.0. Total £53.8.2d. '*All Agricultural labourers who are nearly all out of employ at this time.*' [MH 12/8474/65]

The PLC rejected Lyng's request because the forms had not been filled in correctly! John Wright, Guardian and Vestry Clerk, who had witnessed them, promptly apologised for his mistakes and re-submitted them. On 11th March 1836 the PLC returned their official consent to a loan of £300. [MH 12/8474/66, 69]

The list of those 'who *have* emigrated' date-stamped July 4 1836 differs from 'those desirous' and gives ages (and poor relief as above): Gideon Reeve 34, wife Mary Ann 34, John 12, Susan 9, Tabitha 7, Hannah 5, Rahab 2; William Reeve 44, Sarah 42, George 20, James 16, William 14, Henry 11, Sarah 8; John Fisher 29, Virtue [mis-transcribed as Dortmons by NAC!] 23, John 4; Francis Fisher 14. James Howard 21, Elizabeth 21, George 1; John Carman 27, Elizabeth 27, Emily 2, Sarah Jane 1; John Trolope 42, Ann 40, William 16, Thomas 13; Robert Wright 42, Ellen 45, John 20, Mary 18, Henry 16, Francis 14, Catherine 11, Elizabeth 9, William 7, Robert 3; Matthew Chapman 28, Susan 24, Louisa 4; Widow Carman 56; James Carman 31, Robert Carman, 22, William Carman 14. Henry Howard 22; William Bullock 27. It also added Henry Allcock 20 and Peter Ringrose 18; William Allison 24, Elizabeth 23, William 3, Mary Ann 1; James Yallop 25, wife Maria 35 [*sic*], Elizabeth 4 and Henry 2. This entry is annotated '*The woman was confined at the time....*' but the rest is faded and partly illegible. The parish register records the baptism of Hephzibah daughter of James & Maria Yallop April 10th 1836 but there is no entry in the burial register. [MH 12/8474/138].

Lyng, is one of the few parishes where the emigration accounts have survived. An itemised bill dated 23 April 1836 illustrates the necessary purchases: bed ticks, hessian, 1 pr. sheets, 40 yards of sheeting, 6 yards calico for sheeting, thread, jacket, trousers, waistcoat and a pair of 'hose' for boy Fisher – total £5.12.3d less cash received £3.13.8d left a balance of

£1.18.7. In some parishes, e.g. Carleton Rode, detailed costs include clothing, pots, pans, tubs, sacks, flour, bread, beef, potatoes, sugar, salt, mustard, vinegar and beer!*

Usually it was the overseer, but at Lyng churchwarden George Browne, seems to have escorted the emigrants to Yarmouth, paid for their refreshments *en route* and ensured they boarded the ship. The expenses, including 5s for attending a meeting, totalled £9.12.10. He also bought provisions for the voyage, noting that had these been ‘furnished by the ship’ they would have cost £111.5.0d instead of £70.1.9d saving the parish £41.4.3d. The cost of the emigrants’ passage was £133.10.0 plus £11.2.6d tax. [PD 374/60, 5 & 6 by courtesy of Norfolk Archives Centre]. Usually a child’s passage was half price and infants under a year went free. A receipt for £59.5.0d

‘head money’ shows that each family was given money on landing.

The Rev. Edward John Howman of **Hockering** applied on 10th March 1836 for Richard Coplin 42, wife Elizabeth 43, William 18, John 16, Robert 14, Marianne 11 and George 2. During the three years ending 5 April 1835 the family had received £16. 1. 10d and £3.4s in the last year. Charles Keeler 31, wife Rebecca 31, Hannah 9, Rebecca 7, Ann 5 and Martha 1½ had received £9. 0s 6d during three years. The four men were agricultural labourers. [MH 12/8474/99]. William Bush, Bricklayer, a 26 years old bachelor offered to repay the £5 passage within two years if he could go, so the rector asked the PLC if they could require a surety, but he is not on the list of those who emigrated.

Interestingly this list, 2 July 1836, includes John Frost 36, wife Elizabeth and Ann 2, relief in past year £1.3.7d annotated ‘*has been transported*’ and William Frost 26, wife Mary 22, Maria 2 and Hannah 10 months, relief 2s 6d - ‘*a bad character – brother to the former.*’ Details not included in the typed précis. [MH 12/8474/137].

At **Sparham**, James Nelson, Churchwarden and Guardian, John Middleton Jr., Churchwarden, Stephen Seals and James Lynn, Overseers, Robert Winters, John Forby and Richard Rocham wrote to the PLC saying at a meeting on 18 March the parishioners resolved to ask for a loan of £60 so agricultural labourers Francis Hall 52, wife Martha 50, sons Francis 18, Henry 16, Jonathan 13, William 9; Henry Patteson 39, wife Elizabeth 35,

Mary 11, Samuel 10, Rebecca 8, James 6 and Eliza 1, could emigrate to Canada and James Anthony Jr., was willing to go to America. The forms were returned on 3rd April and on 12th April the PLC sent authorised the loan. [MH 12/8474/89, 111, 112. Further information in NRO PD 17/35 & 42.]

At **Mattishall**, Thomas Paddon, Churchwardens John Keeler and Matthew Yull, Overseers Charles Edwards and William Boulton applied on 28 March 1836, for £70 to send William and Elizabeth Gathercole, Michael and Marianne; Robert and Hannah Gathercole with Catherine; Robert and Sophie Day with Samuel; Samuel Parnel; Samuel Birket; Robert and Mary Meachen, Samuel and Marianne. The PLC said they could have £50 but would have to borrow the balance. But on 16th April 1836 Thomas Paddon wrote to say since his last letter they only needed approval to borrow £20 from the Rev. George Smith. Only Robert Day, his wife and infant and Samuel Birket would be sailing from Yarmouth next Wednesday as the rest only wanted to go to New York! [MH 12/8474/103, 110, 122].

Hoe had a problem when the District Auditor refused to allow £13.15s agreed at a vestry meeting 6 May 1836, towards the emigration of James Tuck's family to Upper Canada. In September the Union Clerk, Samuel King appealed to the Poor Law Commissioners for their retrospective sanction, because the parish had taken the decision before the formation of the Union. [MH 12/8474/165, 166.]

From **East Tuddenham** Rev. William Smith sent forms signed by J.K. Gooch and John Utting, Churchwardens, and John Newman, Overseer. But then had to admit the meeting notice had only been published in church, not also displayed on the church door. They wished to borrow £150 towards the £180-200 to send 20 men and women, 17 children under fourteen and 3 infants to Canada by private vessel from Yarmouth in June. It had been difficult to find a berth, so now they needed arrangements to be completed by 15th April.

The first list 6 April 1836: John Rumble 54, Mary 50, James 20, John 18, Clerk 16, Elizabeth 13, Charles 9, relief £4.10.0d; Thomas Rumble 32, Emma 30, John 2, George 12 weeks, 9s; Robert Rumble 27, Hannah 26, Mary 7, William [crossed out] 5, Sarah 3, Thomas 9 months. The names Charles Reeve 36, Mary Ann 30, Sarah 10, Charlotte 8, Thomas 6, William

4, James 1, £1.14.0 are crossed out '*Charles Reeve is presently confined by severe illness: on which account the names of himself and family are withdrawn.*' ; William Howard 34, Mary 29, Hannah 13, Charles 11, William 7, Emily 1½; James Thain, Mary, (ages not given), Engledow 1.

The final list date-stamped Aug. 1 1836, includes all the Rumbles except James 20, but relief to August was 17. 6d. Robert Rumble and family *including* William 5, relief 13s; William Howard and family, relief 1s 6d; and the Thaines – James 35, Mary 34, Engledow 11 months, 10s. [MH 12/8474/82, 83, 108,]

Some parish officers were very outspoken in their comments about their less desirable residents. At **Gateley** in October 1836, Robert Utting, 24, single, was a 'Musician' who in the last year had received £7. 9. 0d relief because he was seldom employed and although athletic was '*of no use for labour and not honest*'. Robert Bangay, 23, single, had received £5. 13. 6d in relief as he was seldom employed, '*of an unsettled and idle habit & of suspicious character.*' [MH 12/8474/185]. They emigrated to Montreal. Did they make a success of the opportunity they were given?

Some applications were straightforward so dealt with quickly. In others the correspondence was lengthy, but if only the typed précis is read details and amendments can be missed, so it is advisable to download and read the correspondence as there is more than space allows reference to here, so enter MH12 emigration with parish.

On 16 January 1837 Philip Gurdon, Rector of **Cranworth** asked the PLC to finance the emigration of '*a pauper having a wife and eleven children*' to New York. '*The individual is anxious to join his brother at the above place and is not inclined to go to Quebec.*' The rector asked if the PLC could recommend a ship and the cost per head. The PLC replied normally they only gave loans for emigration to the colonies, Canada and Australia, but because Hubbard's brother was already in New York they would approve the loan. He should enquire of the emigration agents about the ship. [MH 12/8475/10, 11, 12]

Three weeks later the rector wrote urging a decision, this time naming James Hubbard, wife and 10 children [mis-typed as 13 in NAC précis] Mary Ann 14, James 13, Lydia 12, Harriett 11, Maria and Hannah 9,

Charlotte 8, Frances 7, Jane 2 and infant Elizabeth. On 9th March he told the PLC he had written to the emigration agent Mr Pinnock for an account of the expense, but a fortnight later received a letter saying he no longer held that office. He enclosed names and (this time) ages: James Hubbard 42, Labourer, wife Ann 33, and children (as before), said they were not receiving relief and urged an early reply so they could prepare and the parish raise the money. [MH 12/8475/33].

The PLC sanctioned £46. 10s, cost of travelling to the port 3d per mile and 11s 2d for each child, adding that if the emigrants could afford any of this they should pay it themselves. On 11th April Philip Gurdon returned the forms to borrow £50 to be repaid by the ratepayers in equal annual instalments of £10. During the last three years the rates for relief had cost £272.14. 0d. He assured the PLC James Hubbard, wife and [this time] *nine* children were ready to sail. [MH 12/8475/34, 50]

The PLC forwarded the order on 28th April so Captain J.M. Chadwick could execute it before forwarding it to the Commission. On 30th April the rector replied that because the owners of the ship to New York were ignorant of the PLC's regulations, he had caused the parish '*an infinity of trouble and expense*'. He enclosed the agreement for the emigrants to sail on the *Ontario* on 17th May, because the '*poor individual*' and his family had been waiting to sail for more than a month. The PLC said they would send the passage money ten days before sailing, and an order for the residue when they were satisfied the money '*had been spent properly*'! [MH 12/8475/60]

The shipping agent, Mr. Phillips, insisted they had to find their own provisions and pay at the time of embarkation, but to prevent further delay, the PLC had come to a special agreement. The full tax and hospital dues for each emigrant would be paid and £6 given to the head of the family. Mr Phillips had agreed to allow them to use the provisions merchant for the voyage and would see they were supplied with bedding. This should prevent the hardship and personal suffering which would happen, as passengers were expected to provide their own on board. To speed payment, orders were being sent for the parish officers' signatures. On 9th May the rector returned the signed orders, but pointed out the parish would never have entered into any agreement where the captain or agents did not provide the necessary support for the family on the voyage. [MH 12/8475/

62, 63].

So were any of your family caring parish officers or daring emigrants? Do let me know!

Joy Lodey

* 'Fly away Peter, fly away Paul' an illustrated article in the *Eastern Daily Press* Sunday Supplement 11 May 2002 in which I explained how over five thousand men, women and children in Norfolk emigrated to Canada in the 1830's.

If you have any queries, comments or information for Joy please contact me, Kate (Editor), and I will pass them on to her.

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BEHIND THE SCENES - THE SOCIETY E-MAIL SERVICE

An explanation in response to questions about our e mail information service.

Many years ago we introduced an e-mail service for our members. The original aim was to provide an 'emergency' system to pass on society/family history information that had missed the current newsletter and could not wait until the next one. Joan developed the idea to advise members of the subject of the next meeting and the latest news from the 'Family History' press – a very worthwhile, but time consuming task.

Joan has now resigned consequently, unless someone would like to volunteer to run a society e mail service we will, officially, be reverting back to the original idea of providing an 'emergency contact' to pass on information that cannot wait until the next Newsletter.

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