

News

Issue 15 -3/4



Letter

Autumn 2015

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PROGRAMME

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

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|--------------|--|
| 16 September | Nelson's Doctor by Tom Garland Followed by the AGM |
| 21 October | Digging Deeper into Family History PART 3 by Gill Blanchard |
| 18 November | The Diseases which killed your relatives by Geoff Lee |

A few words from your Editor ...

Hello again, and thank you to those of you who have contributed to the Newsletter.

In the Winter 2014 edition of the Newsletter we asked you to submit your entries for a new cover for the Members' Interests Booklet, thank you to those of you who entered, we finally decided to go with a design that showed a clearer version of the map of our area, but thank you to all who sent in entries.

I look forward to hearing from you, all your letters and emails are very welcome.

Kate (Editor)

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

- email the file to me at kate.easdown@btinternet.com or
- post handwritten copy/CD, to me at the address on the back of the Newsletter

Please contact Sheila Moulton, the Membership Secretary if you change your address or email address (contact details on back cover).

Deadline for inclusion in the next Newsletter - 21st October 2015

LET'S LOOK AT A CHURCH

No.79 – St Mary, Rougham



On our journey to St. Mary, Rougham, a church at the very western fringe of our area of interest, we passed the now defunct and quaintly titled Ostrich Inn. There is a thriving Ostrich at nearby Castle Acre and the unusual name is thought to be a corruption of 'Hospice', a guest-house run by monks.

Arriving at St Mary's, we found a fairly typical small village church with a square crenulated tower and a clerestory running along the north side only. Once inside the churchyard, we were at once taken by the array of interesting looking and well-kept tombstones. The first, we examined in detail had carved upon it a depiction of a large twin engine biplane and a clearly readable legend informing us that here was buried one Thomas Keppel North O.B.E. who died in Crayford, Kent on the 10th February 1919, aged 43 years and who was the superintendent of the Vickers works there and 'designer of the first aeroplane to cross the Atlantic Ocean'. The Vickers Vimy illustrated was of course the Great War heavy bomber which, piloted by Alcock and Brown, made the first non-stop flight from

Newfoundland to Ireland in June of the same year that Thomas Keppel North died so unfortunately he did not live to see his triumph, although perhaps it is only fair to point out that while he no doubt had overall responsibility for the aircraft and took understandable pride in it he should share his laurels with another Norfolk man, Reginald Pierson of Little Fransham, the Chief Designer at Vickers who as well as working on the Vimy and a number of other aircraft went on to design the Wellington of WWII fame. As we were about to enter St. Mary's, a villager appeared from what we took to be the church cottage and engaged us in conversation. After bemoaning the large number of thefts from nearby churches, our new acquaintance kindly pointed out some of the more interesting graves including one round the back of the building which had a large ornately carved armorial bearing and was dedicated to Major the Hon. Harold Edward Fitz Clarence, 7th son of the 2nd Earl of Munster and his wife who was the eldest daughter of Lt Col. W.H.A. Keppel. The Keppels and Keppel Norths feature prominently here and the Keppel family has its roots firmly in Norfolk, its most well-known member being of course Alice Keppel the mistress of Edward VII and the great-grandmother of the present Duchess of Cornwall. Proceeding inside St. Mary's relatively plain 14th and 15th century interior with its simple yet sturdy roof beams and fine 600 year old traceried font we came first upon a large memorial tablet surmounted by a painted coat of arms honouring Frederick Keppel North who was squire of this parish until 1948 and, we are told, 'a true Christian who read the lessons and worshipped regularly in this church'. Rougham was also the seat of the Yelvertons, some of whom were Lord Chief Justices of England and inside the church, where a number of them lie buried under a number of fine brasses, we read with interest of Sir Henry Yelverton who was attorney-general under James I but upsetting the king on some trifling matter was tried by the infamous Court of Star Chamber which was synonymous with the abuse of royal power and used by the King to suppress opposition to his wishes. Yelverton ended up in the Tower until 'The Duke of Buckingham, knowing his Abilities got him released' and found him a job on the bench but where 'his Niceness and Narrowness could not keep it, being too good a Man to follow Court Measures, and so he was put out.' As we finished admiring

the church interior, I noticed, hanging through a hole in the corner of the ceiling, a couple of large weights and pulleys obviously part of the clock in the tower and our guide intimated that St. Mary's is somewhat famous in horological circles for its timepiece although quite why he was at a loss to explain. Time was indeed by now pressing as we had a number of other churches to see that day and needed the scarce winter daylight to take photographs so reluctantly we went on our way.

The original registers are held at the Norfolk Record Office (Cat. Ref. PD455) and consist of Baptisms 1538-1721 and 1783-1812, Marriages 1538-1672, 1685, 1712-1721 and 1784-1837, Burials 1538-1682, 1695-1720 and 1783-1967 and Banns 1784-1812. There are microform copies of all the above but with the record of Burials ending in 1900. The Archdeacon's and Bishop's Transcripts for Baptisms and Burials cover 1600-1883 with Marriages 1600-1837. Unusually, there are no parish chest records for this church held either at the NRO or anywhere else as far as we know.

Roderic & Denise Woodhouse

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Submissions and changes must be made before April 1st for inclusion in the directory.

Member 787 – Mr P Hxxxx, ----, ----, ----,
---- @----

HUBBARD Saham Toney NFK 16th – 18th C

Member 788 – Mrs E Bxxxxx, ----, ----, ----,
---- @----

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| ANDERSON Jeremiah | Swanton Morley NFK/Rotherham SYK | 1822 – 1866 |
| ANDERSON John | Dereham NFK | 1759 – 1836 |
| ANDERSON Robert | Gressenhall NFK | 1737 – 1822 |
| ANDERSON William | Swanton Morley NFK | 1795 – 1889 |

Member 790 – Mr C & Mrs M -----, -----, -----,

| | | |
|--------------|---|-------------|
| GODDARDS | Mid NFK | 1730 – 1830 |
| HOWARDS | Southburgh/Cranwich/Letton/ Shipdham NFK | 1720 – 1900 |
| JACOB/JACOBS | Houghton St Giles/Walsingham/ Fakenham NFK | 1770 - 1930 |

ARE YOU RESEARCHING THE LIVES OF MARINERS?

In introduction, I am a freelance maritime researcher, with over a quarter of a century's experience in researching the careers of mariners in British service, primarily from archival sources: covering both civilian and martial aspects.

For those in the Mercantile Marine (known increasingly from c.1920 as the Merchant Navy) this is effectively only realistic from 1835s through to 1972. Lumped in with these records for some periods, were also those for other sailormen, such as fishermen and whalers.

Covered by entirely different organisation, it is possible to research those in the Monarch's Navy far further back than for merchant mariners (especially for those holding commissions). Although I can work on Admiralty records as far back as the late 17th century, most call comes from those from the 1790s onwards. Also, with the gradual introduction of naval reserves during 19th and 20th

centuries, I routinely deal with their complexities: including the RNR, RNVR, RND, Coastguard and also the more esoteric varieties.

Mariners in the service of the various guises of the East India Company can theoretically be researched as far back as the early 17th century. While it is possible to get at least some information earlier for those in the Company's Maritime Service (that is their trans-ocean mercantile side), often there is far more information on individuals in what was known overwhelmingly as the 'Bombay Buccaneers' (that is their various local naval defence forces). While the Maritime Service gradually lost its monopoly status and was finally wound up (with the rise of free trade), the naval forces metamorphosized: eventually becoming the Royal Indian Navy in 1934. While not all of the latter's service records are yet available for scrutiny, a fair percentage up to and including 1947 are.

Not only do I research all of these 'genealogically', with deeper expertise, I also routinely work on all sorts of other records, commercial and governmental.

My website has extensive information on all the above services and its URL is <http://www.barnettmaritime.co.uk>. Also, my e-mail address is len@barnettmaritime.co.uk.

Len Barnett

OLD MAPS OF NORFOLK

This website looks good if you want to look up any old maps of Norfolk. <http://www.historic-maps.norfolk.gov.uk/>

THE LOST ANCESTOR
A genealogical mystery
By – Nathan Dylan Goodwin

A few weeks ago I received a request from an author to review his latest book 'The Lost Ancestor'. The Mid-Norfolk Family History Society library does not usually stock genealogical mysteries, but I accepted, and a few days later the book arrived.

I couldn't put the book down once I started it. I won't give the plot away, but I will say that the research methods and records in the story – internet and record office – were accurate and up to date and the plot was very clever.

I can thoroughly recommend this book, it is a really good read and certainly adds excitement to family history research. You never know what you may find.

There is a copy in the Society Library for the benefit of local members.

Kate(Ed)

THE DEREHAM WAR MEMORIAL BOOK

To commemorate the 90th anniversary of the First World War Armistice, members of the Society began researching and recording the individual men whose names are recorded on Dereham's War Memorials. All information from on-line sources was included, plus extracts from the local newspaper, grave and memorial photographs supplied by members and material from family members who we were able to contact.

A book was produced and presented to the Parish Church at the Remembrance Service in 2008 and we were pleased to welcome Mr

Sidney Blanch, a surviving son, who was less than a year old when his father was killed in 1917.

An updated version in 2012 included details from the 1911 census, more pictures and information from family members and others who had got in touch and further photographs from the War Graves Photographic Project. Copies are now in the Parish Church, the Dereham Library, the Dereham Museum Archive, the Norfolk Heritage Collection and Regimental Museum in Norwich.

A copy of the pages on any name from the list below can be e-mailed to members. Contact p.skittrall@btinternet.com

Names of the Fallen
1914 – 1918

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Abbot Pte W J | Bell Pte E | Claxton Dvr J |
| Abel Sgt E G | Bell Pte A J | Claxton Pte L W |
| Adcock Pte L H | Betts Pte G R | Cooper Pte B F |
| Adcock Pte C F G | Betts Pte H J | Coreman Pte F C |
| Addison Sgt G F | Bidwell 2/Lt C A S | Cranmer Pte C E |
| Addison Sgt W | Blanch Pte C | Cranmer Sgt E W |
| Allen Pte R | Bowers Sgt R | Crick Pte E E |
| Back Pte A | Brain Lieut. J A L | Dagless Pte N |
| Bacon Pte E W | Brooks Pte A W | Drake Pte H |
| Baldwin Pte J C | Brunton Pte C | Eagling Cpl E |
| Barker CSM A C | Brunton Pte E A | Eagling Gnr H P |
| Barnard Cpl P | Brunton Pte B | Edwards Sgt E J |
| Barnard Pte A C | Buck Cpl A | Eglen Rfn P R |
| Barnes Pte H | Bunting Gnr C | Eglen A/S M H W |
| Barnes Pte H W | Burgess Pte E | Everett Pte V J |
| Barnes Pte W | Burton Pte S F | Farrow Pte C |
| Beckham Pte E | Catchpole Pte A | Farrow Pte F |
| Belding Lieut. C B G | Clark L/Cpl E | Firman Pte A |
| | Claxton Cpl C W | Frosdick L/Cpl E L |

Frost Pte R
 Frost Pte S
 Frost Pte H A H
 Girling L/Cpl A
 Grave Pte R W
 Gray Pte V S
 Green Pte A W
 Greeves Pte C
 Grummett Pte C R
 Guymer Pte B
 Hall Pte T R M
 Halliday Gnr W
 Hazelton Pte C
 Head Pte H C
 Head Dvr I
 Head Pte J
 Head Sgt G
 Head Pte H A
 Hill Capt J E
 Horne L/Cpl E R
 Howard Pte J J
 Howell Cpl H G W
 Howes L/Cpl W S
 Howes Pte C
 Isbell Pte G
 Jarred Pte E W
 Jimpson Gnr O R
 Johnson Pte P
 Johnson Pte W H
 Johnson L/Cpl D G
 Johnson Pte H W
 Jury CSM H J DCM
 Kelter Pte A G
 Kendall Sgt R
 Ketteringham Pte J

Large Pte A G
 Laws A/S E E
 Lee Sgt H H
 Lee Pte F
 Lingwood Pte A
 Lovett Pte J E
 Mason Cpl H E R
 Mayes Pte H
 Mayes Gnr G
 Mayes Pte W
 Mayes Pte P
 Middleton Pte L S
 Miles Pte L F
 Milk Pte R P
 Milk Lieut A P MM
 Monument Pte J W
 Monument Pte J N
 Oakley RFN F
 Oldham L/Cpl R E
 Palmer Cpl P H
 Palmer Cpl B
 Parker Lieut S
 Parker Cpl T A DCM
 Parsons Gnr P B
 Pease Pte A
 Pells Pte H J
 Penning Pte L C
 Pigott Gnr G W
 Reeder Cpl T H
 Reynolds Pte J E
 Reynolds Pte A
 Rose Cpl V C
 Roy Pte B
 Rudd Pte F W
 Rump L/Cpl A W

Rushmore Pte H
 Rushmore Pte S
 Simmons Cpl G H
 Skinner Sgnlr F A
 Skipper Pte I J
 Smith Cpl E W
 Smith Pte S
 Stimpson L/Cpl R
 Sutton Pte J
 Symonds Pte E
 Teasel RFN T R
 Theobald L/Cpl M I
 Thompson Pte R
 Thompson Pte J R
 Thompson 1st Stkr
 W C
 Thurgill Pte P
 Thurgill Pte S
 Tooke Pte A E
 Tooke Gnr P J
 Tovell Pte N H
 Walpole Pte J F
 Warmer Pte F W
 Wells Sgt B M
 Wells Pte L M
 Williamson Pte S D
 Winter L/Cpl E R
 Woodgett Pte G R
 Woods Pte S S
 Wray Pte W F
 Wright 2/Lieut W S
 Wyatt Pte H W
 Yarham Pte A R

MERCHANT NAVY CREW LISTS – 1915

The following information has been taken directly from the project's free website:

[www. rmg.co.uk/1915crewlists](http://www.rmg.co.uk/1915crewlists)

For the first time ever, the Crew Lists of the British Merchant Navy from the year 1915 have been digitised and made available to search for free. Find relatives and loved ones via our database of over 39,000 crew lists, featuring over 750,000 names.

In 2012, the National Archives and the National Maritime Museum began a project using volunteers to transcribe and make available online, all the surviving Merchant Navy crew lists from 1915. As there are no records for individual merchant seafarers from this period, these records are of international significance in highlighting the vital contribution made by the Merchant Navy during the First World War. They are also of great value to family historians, as one of the few sources of information about seafaring ancestors active in 1915.

Crew lists (properly termed 'Crew Agreements') formed a contract between a seafarer and their employer. A seafarer signed on to serve for a defined period in the capacity (or rank) shown at the wages stated. Each agreement lists all the crew, their rank or rating, their address, rate of pay and dates of joining and leaving the ship. These range from small fishing boats and sailing barges, often crewed by father and son, to the largest passenger liners with whole departments of deck officers, seamen, engineering and victualling staff amounting to as many as 400 individuals. And it wasn't just men! Women feature in the crew lists too, as stewards, nurses, matrons and many other capacities. Even vessels that were sunk by enemy action sometimes appear in the lists, if there was time to evacuate the ship and save its documents.

The term 'British Merchant Navy' was not formally adopted until 1928 when George V made the Prince of Wales 'Master of the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets'. The term however was in common usage well before then. We use this term because other terms such as 'mercantile marine' or 'merchant service' are more confusing. It is also important to note that by no means all sailors in vessels registered under the British flag were British. As has become clear during the indexing project, the crews originated from all over the world and on some vessels British nationals were in a minority.

Half-yearly crew agreements for vessels in the home trade include some log book entries, for example recording a death on board or lifeboat drills carried out by the crew. Where they were created as separate documents, all the surviving log books from 1914-1918 are in the BT 165 series at TNA. These log books were retained by the Board of Trade because they have details of casualties

Where are the other Crew Lists?

Not all crew lists have survived. A 10% sample of all Merchant Navy crew lists is kept at the [National Archives](#) (TNA) in Kew.

The remaining 90% of crew Lists from 1861, 1862, 1865 and all later years ending with a five (1875, 1885, 1895 and so on up to 1995) are at the [National Maritime Museum](#) in Greenwich.

From 1863 onwards, 90% of all other years are kept at the [Maritime History Archive](#) in Newfoundland.

Crew lists from the Second World War 1939-45 and from before 1861 (where they have survived) are at the National Archives.

Extracted by Tom Garland

DEREHAM – AS IT WAS



Reproduced courtesy Norfolk Library & Information
Service, Duleep Singh collection, Thetford

NATHANIEL FENN

My great x 6 grandfather was baptised on 26 February 1668/9 in the small village of Covehithe in Suffolk, once also known as North Hales. Neighbouring settlements include Benacre, South Cove and Frostenden. He was the second of four children, three boys and one girl born between 1666 and 1675.

But what do I know of his life? Well very little other than his birth, marriage and death details plus the name of his wife and children. But I wondered what else I could find.

I have been unable to get back further with this branch of my family tree but do know the name of Nathaniel's parents. This enabled me to trace a will for his father. I know this to be the correct will as it names Nathaniel and his siblings within it.

I went to visit Covehithe on a hot sunny day. It is on a beautiful part of the coast so initially I assumed he lived by the sea but this was not so. The coastline in the Covehithe area suffers from the highest rate of erosion in the UK and the settlement has suffered significant loss of land and buildings in the past. Once it was inland. Modern Covehithe now has a population of around just twenty. The parish has now been combined with that of neighbouring Benacre. This is where I believe Nathaniel's predecessors may have originated but unfortunately a fire in the early 1700s destroyed the church records so all records prior to that date are lost.

Today the village of Covehithe is little more than a few cottages and an impressive farm-house. The narrow road off the A12 which leads to it goes nowhere else. It ends at the edge of the cliffs where sometime in the not so distant past cliffs fell into the sea taking part of the road with it. Now there is a barrier warning people to go no further along the road. The cliffs are currently eroding at about 5 yards a year. The main part of the settlement at Covehithe, around a quarter of a mile from the current

shoreline, is expected to be lost to erosion by 2110, possibly even by 2040 when not just the houses but the church will be lost to the sea.

Covehithe was never as important as nearby Walberswick, but it had a prosperous past when the population was much greater than now. In the time of Edward I the village had a quay, and the grant of a fair on St Andrew's Day. In the Middle Ages light turf was cut, creating Covehithe Broad which can still be seen but now the sea runs into it. The village was neither wealthy enough to afford, nor large enough to need, the grand church which was built in its centre in the early 15th century. It is reputed that the building of the church was financed by a wealthy incumbent, William Yarmouth, who was appointed in 1459. When completed, the church was one of the finest in the area, with a massive west tower, great windows and fine flint flushwork decoration. But it was always too big for the modest village, the difference grew when the population fell with the changing fortunes of the area. By the seventeenth century, when my Nathaniel Fenn's parents were living there, both the church and the village were decaying. Then during the short-lived Commonwealth of England (1653-1658), Oliver Cromwell's army headed by William Dowsing the famous iconoclast broke down 200 pictures in the church, although he did little structural damage. Twenty years later it was finally decided that the building was too big to be maintained.

In 1672 permission was given to take down parts of the church and to erect a smaller building with the stone within the old nave. I visited the 'new' church standing in the ruins of the much larger church. It is a moving sight. This small church is still in use, while the tower and the ruins of the old church are maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust.

Nathaniel and his family would have watched with great interest as the old church was demolished and the new church erected. It would have been a very big event in such a small community. Nathaniel's father, also named Nathaniel was a thatcher and it is possible that he thatched the roof of the new church when it was built as it would have made sense to use a local craftsman to work on the building.

In early 1672 England declared war on the Dutch Republic for the third time in twenty years. Later that year 'The Battle of Sole Bay' occurred. Before then the town of Southwold had seen much coming and going of sick and wounded seamen as there had been periodic fighting up and down the coast prior to this battle.

The English and French ships were in the bay in a very negligent manner. On 7 June 1672 a fleet of 75 ships, 20,738 men and 4,484 cannon of the Dutch surprised a joint Anglo-French fleet of 93 ships, 34,496 men and 6,018 cannon at anchor in Solebay (now known as Sole Bay), near Southwold on the east coast. The Allies panicked when the Dutch fleet suddenly appeared on the horizon in the early morning. It appears that the English and French lay in the bay in a very vulnerable position with regard to fire-ships. When the enemy appeared there was a scramble amongst our ships attempting to sort themselves.

The French fleet, whether through accident or design, steered south and as a result there were French casualties of about 450. This left the Dutch to fight it out with the English, and the latter were hard pressed, as they had great difficulty sailing against the wind. During the battle the wind changed, now giving the English the advantage and in the late afternoon the Dutch withdrew.

Sunset brought the battle to a close, and the losses on both sides were about equal. The Dutch losses were forbidden to be published at home. It is said the French ships scarcely took any share in the action and for the most part kept out of reach of danger. A thick fog which came up suddenly hampered proceedings. In any case the Dutch fled. Both sides claimed victory.

Meanwhile, on land, the residents of Covehithe, Southwold, Dunwich, Aldeburgh and other local villages listened to the battle unable to see it due to the fog and the smoke hindering their view of the events. The constant roaring of the guns shook the houses of the communities nearby

leaving the local residents with a feeling of both excitement and panic. Many formed strong guards in case of a defeat at sea fearing that they might be invaded.

During the Dutch Wars of 1652 – 1674, Southwold, just 3 or 4 miles from Covehithe, was the headquarters of the English Fleet and its streets must have echoed with the sound of seamen's feet and voices. Several mementoes of the battle still exist in Southwold where cannon balls have from time to time been dredged up in fishing nets. Some can be seen in Southwold Museum.

In 1676 Nathaniel's mother died at what must have been a relatively young age. Nathaniel was also very young at the time as were his siblings, aged between 1 and 10 years. How did a man cope with young motherless children in that period? There wasn't an older daughter to care for them and to the best of my knowledge he did not remarry while the children were still young. If so there were no more children mentioned in his will.

Nathaniel lived during a period known as 'The Little Ice Age' when the famous River Thames 'Ice Fairs' were held on the frozen river. Times would have been hard as heating was extremely basic and food would be scarce when affected by wet summers or cold springs and autumns.

In 1687 Newton published 'Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica', describing gravitation and the three laws of motion. Would Nathaniel have read anything about this? He was probably illiterate; his father was. Would he have heard of this? I have no idea. Would he have understood it? Again probably not.

On 1 March 1688 a great fire devastated Bungay, 15 miles away. The town was almost destroyed. Local churches would have had collections to help the inhabitants of the small town. Did Covehithe help the victims? Could they afford to help? Fire was always a threat to thatched cottages which used open unguarded fires for cooking. There was no insurance either; people had to start afresh if such a disaster occurred.

On 1 October 1695 Nathaniel Fenn married Margaret Fisher in the neighbouring parish of Frostenden. They were to have nine children, 6 girls and 3 boys, my direct ancestor being the youngest of the family.

I don't know Nathaniel's occupation but as his father was a thatcher it is possible he continued in the same occupation, possibly working with his father.

On 24 November 1703 'The Great Storm' hit the southern coast. It was quite possibly the worst ever recorded in England, causing enormous death and destruction both on land and at sea. It was estimated that one fifth of the sailors in the Queen's Navy were drowned in the storm. The storm raged for about a week, reaching a ferocious peak on the night of the 28th/29th November, demolishing buildings, uprooting trees and sinking ships. Thousands of people died. Suffolk was not excluded and must have affected many families in the village.

In 1707 Nathaniel's father died. I don't know his age at death but as he married about 1665 he would possibly have been born about 1640 resulting in him being in his sixties when he died. Nathaniel his son, was left land with appurtenances in Covehithe. As he was by this time living in the adjoining parish of Frostenden with his family I don't know what he did with his inheritance. I cannot find any documentation concerning his property. Did he sell it? Did he rent it providing him and his family with a regular income? I suspect I will never know.

In 1709 between January and March England had unusually cold weather. 'The Great Frost of 1709' brought floating ice into the North Sea. The extreme cold would have made their harsh lives even harsher.

Only nine years after his father's death Nathaniel died, just 48 years of age. He left six children under the age of sixteen. Whether the death was sudden or not I don't know but I cannot trace a will. Of course he may have written one but it has been lost.

What a different life to our own! For us food is readily available, central heating keeps us warm and healthy, benefits look after the sick and old and the country is at peace with no threat of invasion. Yes, we have a degree of terrorism and murder but nothing to compare with what Nathaniel faced throughout his life. The Church does not tell us how to live and the royal family has no power over us. No, we may not be happy with the government, but we do not face the fear of being charged with being a heretic or imprisoned for our beliefs (well, not in this country). We are really a lot of softies compared with the harsh reality of the 17th and early 18th centuries. Would my great x 7 grandfather, Nathaniel's father, have ever been able to comprehend that more than 300 years after his death his descendant, living in the 21st century would actually handle his original will, which still survives, take an image of it with a camera and then transfer the image onto a computer where it can be viewed on a screen. Would such technology be considered magic, or even possibly the work of the devil? It was not until 1735, several years after Nathaniel's death that the Witchcraft Act of Great Britain ceased to make witchcraft an act punishable by law.

Sue

Harris

WDYTYA – Next Series Celebrities

This might interest fans of the TV show **Who Do You Think You Are**. The August edition of *Family Tree Magazine* lists the celebrities who will be featured in the next series. They will be:

Paul Holleywood

Anita Rani

Jerry Hall

Sir Derek Jacobi

Anne Reid

Jane Seymour

Frances de la Tour

Garreth Malone

Frank Gardiner

Mark Gatiss

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

LANARKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Local & Family History Fair

on Saturday 22nd August 2015, 9.45am - 4.30pm

in Motherwell Civic Centre

Please visit our dedicated Events website for more information

www.lfhsshow.weebly.com

CAMBRIDGESHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Family And Local History Fair

Saturday 5th September 2015 10am to 4pm

At Girton Glebe Primary School

Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0PN

For more information www.cfhs.org.uk

WEST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Family History Fair And Open Day

Saturday, 31st October 2015 10am – 4.30pm

at Woking Leisure Centre,

Kingfield Road, Woking GU22 9BA

Free admission – plenty of parking (there is a charge for parking)

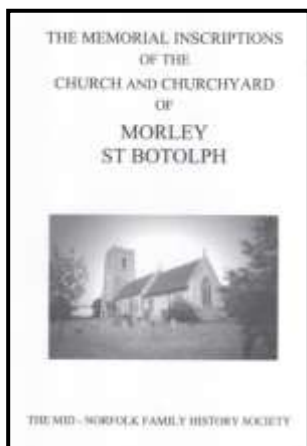
YOUR LETTERS

Help wanted: COKER – if you are researching the Coker families of Holme Hale and Shipdham (c. 1765-1889) and would like to exchange information, ... please contact Anthony Coker (01787-224783 or anthonymcoker@gmail.com)."

WHERE IS MORLEY, NORFOLK?

The scattered village of Morley is on the extremities of our Mid-Norfolk Society Area and lies a few kilometres SW of Wymondham, accessed via a maze of minor roads. It wasn't until we decided to record the Memorial Inscriptions in the churchyards that we discovered local anomalies with identity. Morley was originally two distinct parishes, each with its own church.- Morley St Peter and Morley St Botolph. A note in the Morley St Botolph Burial Register for 1935 informs us that the two civil parishes of Morley St Peter and Morley St Botolph were united into one parish, designated "Morley" on April 1st 1935. Subsequent entries for the next few pages show the "abodes" of the deceased as "Morley" then they revert back to Morley St Peter or St Botolph where appropriate. The local school is Morley C of E Primary and there is a common Morley parish council. However, the inhabitants of each area seem to prefer to retain their own identity, address, church and churchwarden.

Our original idea was to record the memorial Inscriptions as two distinct booklets, one for each church, but we are now considering combining the two church's memorial Inscriptions into a single booklet under the title



"Morley". However, Morley St Botolph's memorial recording has been completed and printed "for church use". It will probably be several months before Morley St Peter 's booklet is completed and a final decision on a combined book made,. Consequently, just for any society member who "can't wait", St Botolph's is available now (but not on our website list)

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