

News

Issue 17 - 2/4



Letter

Summer 2017

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PROGRAMME

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

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 21 June | Home Fires - WW1
by Neil Storey |
| 19 July | With Whom Did Your Ancestors Meet
by Dr Colin Chapman |
| 16 August | The Wills of our Ancestors
by Simon Pawley |

A few words from your Editor ...

Hello again

A big thank you to everyone who sent in contributions for the Newsletter.

I finally finished my husband's family history booklet and I am glad to say that he was very pleased with it. Now I am going to start on my father's story, I wish I'd asked him more questions when he was alive, but in those days people didn't seem to be as interested in their past as they are now. It makes you realise that if we don't write things down the younger generation will know absolutely nothing about their family background.

Kate (Editor)

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, 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 - 19 July 2017

LET'S LOOK AT A CHURCH

No. 86 –St Mary, Marlingford



The village of Marlingford, just west of Norwich with its red brick “Old” Hall dating from 1608, early Victorian country pub and impressive watermill (there were once also two substantial windmills) is well worth a visit. The Parish Church of St. Mary, or if you want to stand on ceremony ‘The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Marlingford’, like so many in our region is very old. Tom Williamson writing in the informative guide available in the church points to its origins well before the Norman Conquest and notes that a few years prior to that foreign incursion a local worthy named Siflaed commanded in her will that ‘the church is to be free’ and that ‘my priest Wulfmaer and his issue are to sing in it for as long as they remain in holy orders’. Unlike today, the building then stood amidst the houses of the village but owes its present relative isolation to the movement of the settlement to the edge of what was once Marlingford Common. Although sharing the same location as its predecessor, nothing of the original wooden structure remains in the present building however and the oldest extant parts of St. Mary’s are near the entrance and probably date from the Twelfth Century. These include the striking south doorway which has a rounded arch and what has been described as ‘zig-zag dog tooth ornamentation’. The Anglo-Saxon age of church building covers the period from the mid-5th century, when southern England was first converted to Christianity, until the Norman Conquest of 1066 and surprisingly many churches claim to date originally

from these times. Quite a few settlements of this period, like Marlingford – ‘the ford belonging to Mearth’s people’, grew up around river crossings and each had their church. The basic structure of our present parish system developed in the tenth century and centred on the minster or major church which serviced a relatively wide area and which was often founded by one of the monarchs who ruled the separate kingdoms which made up what later became England. Later, local lords built small churches for their families, tenants and serfs, the so-called ‘Great Rebuilding’ (Marlingford was perhaps originally one of these) and this further consolidated the parish system but it was not until well into the thirteenth century that the English Church developed into anything like the organization we know today with its many parishes under the control of a body of bishops. The present St. Mary’s, however does not readily reveal its Anglo-Saxon roots and although an attractive little church looks overwhelmingly late Victorian, the period when, like so many other churches, it was largely rebuilt. Inside, there is a solid 13th century stone font with thick columns of a more recent date which matches rather nicely the massive stone pulpit, both obviously built to last. Other points of interest include a large hatchment board and another board from the 1800’s proclaiming the Ten Commandments with striking images of Aaron, Moses and Joshua supporting the stone tablets, a small Great War memorial plaque with recently added poppies and a sign rather touchingly reading Marlingford ‘Boys’ affixed, and of course, one of the ubiquitous Robert Ladbrooke prints of the church.

The original registers are held at the Norfolk Record Office (Cat. Ref. PD404) and comprise Baptisms 1558 – 1969, Marriages 1560 – 1969, Burials 1558 – 1969 and Banns 1756 -1969. Microform copies are available starting on the same dates but ending in 1901 for Baptisms and Marriages, 1900 for Burials and 1903 for Banns. Archdeacon’s and Bishop’s transcripts all start in 1699 but end in 1907 for Baptisms and Burials and 1837 for Marriages. The Parish Chest has mostly items from the twentieth century but there are various Charities 1606 – 1965, a Town book 1788 – 1829 and Surveyors of the Highways 1829 – 1940. Also items covering the Overseers of the Poor 1776 – 1838 and Churchwardens Accounts 1830 – 1910.

Roderic & Denise Woodhouse

YOUR LETTERS

IN SEARCH OF GEORGE LONG's FAMILY

In our Spring Newsletter (Issue 17 – 1/4) we printed a request for help in tracing the family of the maker of a steam model traction engine.

A plate on the engine reads "GEORGE LONG. MAKER. 1902. EAST DEREHAM."

Several society members have offered suggestions and **we are still open to more**, meantime we will keep you informed of any progress.

1. Talk to the Family

We are told that one of the first rules of family history research is to gather information from the family. In this case we only had an e-mail message, to which we responded, expecting to 'pop round' and talk to the owner – unfortunately, this was not possible, as the first sentence of the reply, written by a life-long friend, explains - *Anthony Case the owner of the engine, lives in West Somerset and has farmed there all his life as his father and grandfather before him. I have known the engine since I was 8 or 9. My memory tells me that Anthony's father bought the engine in Lincoln in about 1955/56 but I could be wrong. Anthony's mother's family farmed in Lincolnshire. No one knew George or have ever lived in Norfolk*



On page 5 is the engine, built 115 years ago by George Long of East Dereham, pictured in March 2017, with a new boiler and about to be “steamed up”. The maker’s brass plate has been removed for engine re-painting but will be re-attached.



2. Census 1901

As the date of manufacture was so near to a census year this seemed an obvious place to start. Fortunately there is only one George Long recorded as living in Dereham in 1901. He is aged 19 living at 68.70 Baxter Row with his parents, two sisters and two brothers. His occupation is given as Carpenter Journeyman. Could this be OUR George Long?

3. Local Newspapers on-line (findmypast)

More in hope than expectation entering ‘George Long’ and experimenting with several keywords eventually, the following article from the Thetford & Watton Times dated 9 July 1954 was found:

DEREHAM MAN’S HEART IS STILL IN STEAM

Steam traction engines came back into the news again when a group of them were on exhibition at the Royal Norfolk Show. For Mr George Long of Baxter Row Dereham, however, these engines are nothing unusual. He has only to unlock a shed in his back garden to see an excellent example of this almost defunct species. And what is more, he built it himself. True, it stands only about 30 inches high, and is only about three feet in length. But this little engine is perfect in every detail, and when it has steam up it can draw five grown people in its little trucks. Mr Long made it 52 years ago, in the same back garden. Although a carpenter and wheelwright by trade, he was a practical “steam man” by inclination, and with his home-made forge and a few simple tools he constructed this engine to his own design, incorporating ideas which have aroused the interest and admiration of experts.

Only the big cog wheels were “imported,” but even for these he made the patterns. And one of them he made himself, by cutting teeth in the rim of an old sewing machine wheel. He designed his own oil pump and fitted the engine with a set of gears, including reverse. He rounded off the job with a metal plate on the side of the boiler, inscribed “Maker George Long. East Dereham. 1902”

Mr Long has used the engine to drive a miniature threshing machine which he made a few years earlier, at the age of 17. He still uses this machine to sieve the cress seed which he grows beside the now disused forge in his garden. He has also made another steam engine with an upright boiler, which powers a miniature organ.

Arthritis has limited Mr Long’s activities of late years, but in his workshop, which he fitted up himself, he still sharpens lawn mower blades and knives and cuts rollers for mangles. But although he is well acquainted these days with the intricacies of petrol engines, at heart he is still a “steam man”. His maxim is still “You can’t beat steam.”

Why this article was written is unknown but this IS our George!

to be continued

IN SEARCH OF A GRAVE

I recently received a query from a lady looking for the grave of her great grandmother, Selina Frances Hewett, at Holme Hale, she gave me the following information:

My great grandmother, Selina Frances Hewett, died 21 March 1932 and was buried St Andrew Holme Hale 24 March 1932.

According to St Andrew Church Records : Grave No 476335 (GPR Ref 476807). Age 68, Born 1864.

The ceremony was conducted by Rev William Langhome Johnson, Rector St Andrew Holme Hale from 1931 to 1942.

I purchased the MNFH Society's MI book, mainly for the map of the churchyard, to be able to locate the actual burial plot.

This lady could not find any reference to Selina Frances Hewett in our Holme Hale Memorial Inscriptions book.

I queried this with Tom, as I knew he had recorded that churchyard and his reply is as follows (*Kate – ed*)

Tom's reply

Fortunately, I have experienced problems with interpreting GPR Reference numbers recently. I couldn't understand why there were more memorials listed in Shipdham churchyard than in our MI book. The following is a summary of my investigation:

To begin with, some of the enquirer's information has been taken from the on-line **Gravestone Photographic Resource (GPR)** website.

The GPR, created by Charles Sale in 1997 as a hobby has developed into an international directory of monuments, and today (April 2017), lists 598,000 monuments, but is being continually added to by volunteers. Once you become acquainted with the website, it becomes easy to use, is completely free and, with many FAQs (Frequently asked Questions), relatively easy to understand. So let's use the website and the query to explain how it works and answer the query

Go to: www.gravestonephotos.com

click on country flag (England)>Scroll down to bottom click on county (Norfolk)>Scroll down to places click on (Holme Hale St Andrews)
Now scroll down to "Notes about Burial Ground"

This tells us that there are 391 Graves and 883 Church Records

The Graves are those memorials which have been photographed and given an Image Name (number) and a GPR Reference Number

The Church Records, appear to be taken from the Burial Registers, not photographed, therefore no Image Name (0) ... But are also given a GPR Reference Number. The Burial Register simply tells us these people were buried somewhere within the churchyard.

Now, scrolling up and using the "Surname list" find "Hewett" (it is in the alphabetical list beginning with "Green") GRP Ref. 476335.

Clicking the name or GPR Number and scrolling down should give a photo of the memorial, which can be copied and pasted. But in our case it tells us that there "is no image for grave 476335"

This is because the information is from one of the 883 "church records", not one of the 391 "monuments" listed as being at Holme Hale's parish church (St Andrews)

As I understand it, the purpose of the Gravestone Photographic Resource is to provide an on-line photograph of the memorials together with an index to the names on the inscriptions, their year of death and age

If a higher resolution of the photograph is required that too can be ordered on-line. There is no charge for accessing the website and no charge to download photographs. There are no maps on-line to show location but, "a breadcrumb trail" helps you locate the memorial you are interested in by providing thumbnail photographs of memorials, in the order they were taken, before and after yours.

This has the potential to be very useful. Our MI booklets, although they have location maps and descriptions of memorials, do not show photographs and "a picture is worth a thousand words".

Subsequently, as there is not a memorial to Selina Hewett, I visited the

churchwarden at Holme Hale who kindly allowed me to look at her grave allocation plan. Obviously, churchwardens keep some sort of record to enable vacant grave spaces to be allocated.

However, unlike cemeteries, there doesn't appear to be a legal requirement for a plan of burials in churchyards. Holme Hale's is better than many I have seen but doesn't show a burial space allocated to Selina. So one must assume that she was buried before the plan was made or maybe, she is buried in another area of the churchyard no longer in use.

In conclusion, my answer has to be that Selina Hewett is buried in Holme Hale churchyard, proven by an entry in the Burial Register, but exactly where is not recorded.

**There is no image
available for grave
number 476335**

Footnote: Kate duly forwarded my findings to Elizabeth, and in appreciation, Elizabeth sent us a small gift and a nice letter of thanks. Up to this point all correspondence had been by e mail – the letter had an address near Canterbury, where I was born and spent the first fifteen years of my life. But there was more; my wife's maiden name is Hewett (a posh version of the more common Hewitt) and she too also came from that corner of Kent. Has serendipity struck again? In a way I hope not, as there really are not enough hours in my day for yet another investigation!

(Tom Garland)

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

Member 45 – Mrs L Pegg

Member 130 – Ms J Lodey

The Society has been informed of the deaths of Mrs L Pegg & Ms Lodey and wish to send their condolences to their families.

BOOK REVIEW

THE MISSING MAN

A genealogical mystery

By – Nathan Dylan Goodwin

Forensic genealogist, Morton Farrier, is back! This time he is researching his own family history, still searching for his father.

This story takes place on the East Coast of America, where Morton and Juliet are on their honeymoon. After a lot of twists and turns, Morton finds the truth, but keeps you guessing right until the end.

If you enjoy a good mystery with a family history theme, you won't be able to put this book down.

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

To find out more about the Author and his books his website is:

www.nathandylangoodwin.com

Kate(Ed)

‘MISS MELLOR AT ETAPLES’ BY OLIVE EDIS:

The Cromer photographer Olive Edis¹ was featured in an Eastern Daily Press article.² Cromer Museum has a major collection of her photographs, including some of those taken on commission for the Imperial War Museum in France and Belgium in 1919.³ One is this particularly striking portrait of Miss Juliet Vivien Mellor, M.M., M.B.E., believed taken on 10th March 1919. Others of Olive Edis’ war photographs are in the Imperial War Museum.

Olive Edis in her journal for 10th March 1919 recorded:

“The run to Etaples was not very long, and we went straight to the V.A.D. Motor Ambulance Convoy, where Dame Rachel Crowdy met us and took charge of us for the day. They were a very nice set of girls. Miss Mellor was commandant, also very attractive.”



British Red Cross Society
Motor Ambulance Convoy
Commandant
Miss Mellor at Etaples, by
Olive Edis.

Glass plate negative,
1919. © Norfolk
Museums Service (Cromer
Museum)

(Dame Rachel Eleanor Crowdy, DBE [1884-1964] was Principal Commandant of Voluntary Aid Detachments in France and Belgium from 1914 to 1919. Well over 500 British Voluntary Aid Detachment [V.A.D.] staff – mostly women volunteers – worked at Etaples during the war.)

Juliet Vivien Mellor (1880-1968) was the youngest daughter of Joseph and Catharine Mellor of Bolton. Her father was a cotton spinner.⁴ She was born at 33 Collingham Road, Kensington (a very large house now in 12 flats) on 29th Nov 1880 and died on 30th November 1968, aged 88. She attended Roedean from 1894-1898, and entered Lady Margaret Hall (LMH), Oxford, in 1899 to read History. LMH produces an annual *Brown Book* (an annual journal of news for former students). An obituary was in the 1969 *Brown Book*. She had private means (which she used generously), and had a love of cars. There is a photograph of her with a 1906 8h.p. De Dion Bouton; she had a larger 1913 5-seater touring car, probably a De Dion 14 h.p.

The Grantham Journal of 19th June 1909 reported: *"The first conviction against a lady motorist in Huntingdonshire was recorded at Huntingdon on Saturday, Miss Juliet Vivien Mellor, St. Augustine-mansions, Westminster, being fined £7 and costs for driving to the common danger through Stirkeley village. The speed was stated to have exceeded twenty-nine miles an hour."*

Between the wars, she had several open Alvis sports cars; when over 70, she had *"a little open sports car based on the Austin Seven"*. Her wartime service made her able to *"do most of the jobs required in overhauling a car"*.

The College Archive of Lady Margaret Hall holds another photo of Miss Mellor with (possibly) a Buick ambulance presented for the British Brewers' Convoy: no self-starter, quite a challenge to start by swinging the handle in the cold weather.

LMH women students and former students were active in war relief work of various kinds. The December 1915 LMH *Brown Book* records the war work of many, and says of Miss Mellor: *"Motor Driver under Central Committee for Women's Employment (taking large assortments of shirts to and fro daily from dressmakers in and around London)"*.



Miss Mellor with an ambulance donated for the British Brewers' Convoy. By kind permission of the Principal and Fellows of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

Miss Mellor was one of over twenty female recipients of the Military Medal after German bombing at the Base Hospital at Etaples on 19th – 20th May 1918. Her Military Medal ribbon can be seen on her uniform jacket in the first photograph, and three Overseas Service Stripes (chevrons) on her right sleeve, above her bands of rank. The London Gazette gave a detailed citation for her Military Medal:

There is a medal card for her in the National Archives. She was awarded M.B.E. in 1920.

9000 SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 30 JULY, 1918.

**Senior Section Leader Juliet Vivien Mellor,
B.R.C.S.**

**For gallantry and devotion to duty during
an enemy air raid. She showed exceptional
courage and efficiency as senior section
leader.**

B. Scholes

References:

1. "Face to Face. Sheringham Norfolk. The remarkable story of photographers Olive Edis & Cyril Nunn." Alan Childs et al. Halsgrove. 2005
2. Eastern Daily Press 24/11/2016.
3. "Olive Edis | Through the Lens of Britain's First Female War Photographer" <https://oliveedisproject.wordpress.com/>
4. 1878 - 1882 - Lancashire OnLine Parish Clerk Project:
http://www.lan-opc.org.uk/Bolton-le-Moors/Deane/stmary/baptisms_1878-1882.html

Acknowledgements for help given for this article:

Liz Elmore, Project Assistant (Olive Edis, Britain's First Female War Photographer), Cromer Museum.

Oliver Mahony, College Archivist, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

Phil Christian, Grantham Library.

SHIPDHAM HISTORY GROUP – In the beginning

Having long collected old books of the topography and history of Norfolk I started collecting photos and all kinds of ephemera to better research my extended family tree and find out more about both paternal and maternal families.

Years ago, parents and grandparents didn't readily impart family information with the alacrity that we do today so I was lucky that my father's older sister had already done much of the leg-work on my paternal line but had been unable to cope with modern technology so gave up and passed on what she had found to her siblings, none of whom were much interested but it all found its way to me and I was off on the most enjoyable and absorbing journey into the past.

Then came a computer into my life – oh joy! Access to all that wonderful information and subscriptions to online ancestry sites followed and while researching Shipdham relatives I came across many fascinating nostalgic photographic postcards of the village from the late C19.

Before long I began staging local history exhibitions showing pictures of places and people long gone which I hoped would be of interest to a few others. Many appeared for a nostalgic trip down memory lane at the first exhibition in Cranworth in 2005 followed by a very successful exhibition in Shipdham in 2007. By this time it was impossible to do everything single-handed and two friends, helped with collecting, sorting and displaying all the items loaned to us and Shipdham History Group was born.

That first Shipdham history weekend was very enjoyable and remarkably well-attended. Hundreds of people came - justifying the huge amount of work taken to reproduce and display everything. People from the village and further afield had turned up in the preceding weeks armed with carrier bags full of photographs and newspaper cuttings – all treasure to us. All we had to do was scan and save everything and return to those who wanted to share their histories. We amassed photos of school classes and activities, sports teams, pub darts teams, church, chapels and clubs, WI, village hall gatherings, fetes– there's no end to the list.

Many other local groups have done the same: Bradenham, Ashill, Necton etc. More exhibitions followed in halls and churches for remembrance and various themes including Shipdham GI brides and their USAAF husbands along with period wedding gowns and, after an appeal on Radio Norfolk, we were offered a wedding dress from Toftwood made from parachute silk for our display.

Naturally, as all this accumulated the archive grew and we received more enquiries from people researching their own family history. We gladly exchanged information.

We know that time is of the essence when gathering information and we've sadly lost a generation of villagers since we began. Their memories and knowledge of bygone days was invaluable and before it was too late we gathered nicknames of old village folk in living memory and how they earned those names.

Older people are happy to visit exhibitions in the summer months but to continue our work we needed to make contact with the younger generation who are more comfortable on smart phones and i-pads.

Computers not only give us access to a wealth of information but also allow us to share what we have on social media.

Everything we do is self-funded so Facebook – love it or hate it – works excellently for us for it's a cost-free way of connecting with anyone online who is interested living in any corner of the world.

We regularly share and receive photos posted on the Facebook page by others. Almost 600 people follow it and some post their own photos hoping for a response not just from us but from others to learn more about their ancestors.

Our latest project, started initially at the request of the Parish Council in 2014, is to research and write the life histories of the 29 men from Shipdham who died in WW1. Month by month these life stories are printed in the parish magazine and now with 28 finished and only one left to write we plan to incorporate these into a book about Shipdham in the Great War to be published in 2018.

An extract from Beanies Brown's Notes for a Society in Feb 2017

ALL BECAUSE I ATTENDED A TALK AT DEREHAM!

Some time ago (October 2013) I attended a Society Meeting at Dereham. The talk was Preservation of your Family Photographs by Lorraine Finch. My mother had died a few months previously and I had taken responsibility for sorting a suitcase full of old photographs. Two of these were framed studio photos of my Mum's and my Aunt's (they were sisters) weddings, 1932 and 1937. They were dirty and in poor condition so I took them to the talk and Lorraine said they were a good example of "deterioration" and gave me some advice.

I have only recently had the time and courage to attempt to clean them. The backs of the photos were attached to the frames with tacks so I had to find small tools to remove them. I attempted my mother's first. When I took the back off I was faced with a plain card backing. Of course I was

interested to know whether there were any notes or dates, but there was not. I lifted the card and turned it over – wow – eureka moment, a photograph of my mother aged about 10 years old. It was a studio portrait with a card surround perhaps used as backing for the wedding photograph? I cleaned the glass and frame and surround of the wedding photograph and put it back together as close to how it was originally as I could (a whole new craft hobby seems to have developed!).

I then did the same for my Aunt's wedding photograph, very excited in anticipation at what I might find. There was the same card backing and a portrait photograph of my Aunt, making a matching pair. This time on the backing was a pencil note "*Mrs Lovick (their mother) St Marg. Stores (a pub they managed in Westwick Street, Norwich) 2 Photo ½" dark wavy with struts @ 4/- each* (a description of the wedding photograph frames).

How intriguing! Family history always throws another question at us. What is the story behind my family using the two frames for the wedding photos and then using the portrait photos as backing, with no note or information?

I was so excited at this "find" that I felt I must share it with you because I may not have attempted to preserve these photos without the encouragement gained from the talk. When searching for replacement tacks at a professional framing shop (they now use staples) I was told that it is not unusual for older photographs to be behind the current one in the frame. I encourage you to get preserving and searching! Also, "thank you" Graham for your excellent programme of talks.

Jean Palmer

THE HISTORY OF MY HOUSE

Last autumn Graham said he was needing speakers for next year's meetings and he hoped for some volunteers amongst members to give a short presentation, perhaps on some research they'd done or a solution to a problem they'd had with their own family research. After a little gentle persuasion I decided to have a go.

I decided to speak about the history of my house. Having lived at The Old Rectory East Bradenham for some 35 years I had accumulated quite a lot of information about the Rectors and their family and servants who'd lived here since the house was built in 1850. The builders were from Dereham, Baxters Row, a William Peebles and Henry Burton. We were fortunate to find the plans of the house at Norfolk Record Office plus invoices and receipts as the work progressed. When restoring the windows we found writing on the wooden frame which said Henry Burton of East Dereham made these windows in 1849 for W Peebles of East Dereham Norfolk, and more interestingly on another piece of wood it said "We may be happy yet Mr and Mrs Gage, Henry Burton, Henry Payne July 14th 1849, joiners East Dereham. There is a good time coming yet. Payne shopkeeper East Bradenham, all relation to each other, a very heady young woman. Mrs Hall an ill tempered old woman. This was very exciting especially when i managed to locate all these individuals on the 1851 census. Mrs Hall the ill tempered old woman was in fact actually only 40 Her niece Susan Payne age 21 was it seemed the heady young woman!

I also managed to research the Rectors with help from census records, Crockfords Clerical Directories, local newspapers and of course Armstrong's Diary which was invaluable having various references to the East Bradenham Rectors, George Robert Winter and his son Edward George Adlington Winter. The Rectory was built in 1850 and replaced an older dilapidated property on the same site. George Robert Winter who moved into the newly built Rectory was the Rector here for 21 years, his 10 children were all born in Bradenham and his son Edward trained for the ministry and in the 1870's followed in his father footsteps returning to his childhood home at the Rectory to become the Rector,(his father having moved on to Swaffham). Edward was in East Bradenham for 13 years, moving on for a spell in Scotland before returning to East Bradenham Rectory where he stayed for a further 7 years until 1923. I was fortunate to meet a granddaughter of Edward Winter who kindly gave me photographs of the Rector in the garden with his family, his early motor car, pictures of his cats and Susy the pig and her piglets on the day they finally left Bradenham.

Living opposite St Marys church which is now redundant and in the care of The Churches Conservation Trust I have met many visitors researching their family history and links with the village. On one occasion i met the gt.granddaughter of Edward Winter's Housekeeper, Jane Savory. Jane Savory on the 1891 census was a widow and her occupation is given as cook and domestic servant. I was given a lovely photo of Jane plus others of the Savory family who were employed at the Rectory . When i came to the village Janes granddaughter was still living in Bradenham and she told me how her father had been the gardener for many years.

There is still much for me to discover I'm sure but giving this talk enabled me to sort and organise some of that enormous pile of information that we family historians become overtaken by at times. I must say I couldn't have undertaken this talk without the help of Beanie (Robena Brown) who made it I possible with her understanding of putting images on USB sticks etc!.

St Mary's Church Bradenham is Grade 1 listed and is well worth a visit. It also houses some of Bradenham village archives.

Margaret Bohn

DEREHAM & FAKENHAM TIMES - Offices Closure

March 2017 saw the closure of the Newspaper offices in both Dereham and Fakenham. The closure of the Dereham office will be particularly felt by local history researchers for they hold Annual bound copies of the Dereham Times which visitors where allowed to browse.

However, there are a few years on film in the forum Heritage Centre in Norwich kept 'behind the desk' (not on the self-service display)

Alternatively it is possible to view newspapers at the ECN Newspaper Office library in Norwich. You have to make an appointment and they make a small charge (£3) However, the real disadvantage when Tom tried it out for 1954 was that the Dereham Times was on a reel, along with several other Newspapers by month. Consequently, if you wish to browse the whole year you need to look at 12 reels.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

1st July – Open Garden at 7 Lime Tree Close Dereham, to raise funds for Guide Dogs. Graham and Jill Dorken and Guide Dog Lloyd

MID-NORFOLK FAMILY HISTORY WEBSITE

Matt Walker has volunteered to update the MNFHS website and would like YOUR input

**PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT HIS PROPOSED NEW
FORMAT at:**

<https://midnorfolkfhs.wordpress.com>

What do you think?

Is there anything else you would like to see added?

Please send your comments [positive and/or negative] to Matt Walker at

afamilyhistoryblog [at] gmail.com

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Or contact by email: Willie.h.1945@virgin.net

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