

FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

"To save Fulbourn's past for the future"

NEWSLETTER NO. 30 Autumn/Winter 2009

FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY COMMITTEE 2009/2010

OFFICERS

Chairman: Clinton Tweed

Vice-Chairman: Anthony Goodall

Secretary: Glynis Arber

Treasurer: Pauline Hunt

COMMITTEE MEMBERS;

Peter Halton, Jackie Newell, Norman Osborne,

Pat White, Bryan White

At the Tenth Annual General Meeting Pauline Hunt announced she will resigning from Treasurer at the end of the year. We are most grateful for her valuable contribution to the Society, and wish her (in the future), a very happy 'retirement' from book-keeping!!

As from 1st January 2010, the office of Treasurer will be undertaken by Peter Halton.

Gill Bradford and Ivy Smith have now stood down from the Committee, after serving for many years. We thank you ladies, for your hard work in furthering the interest of both members and the Society as a whole.

However, to date, we have had nobody coming forward to take up the **seven** vacant Committee positions (as set out in Fulbourn Village History Society Constitution) which are still unfilled.

This is of concern to us all as this extract (and warning) from the Chairman's Report at our recent A.G.M. makes clear.....

"Unless those people are replaced there will be no Society outing for 2010 and other aspects of the Society's fundraising will be adversely affected.

You are aware of the fact that, in future, we will not be running raffles at our usual monthly meetings. From now on the only raffle will be held at our pre – Christmas meeting.

The Society has, up to now, had ten very successful years but if it is to thrive and survive for the next ten years we really do need some new faces on the committee to help take us forward. If that does not happen we all know what the logical conclusion will be and that is something none of us want to contemplate I am sure".

Please contact Clinton Tweed, Glynis Arber, Tony Goodall, or any member of the Committee if you would be interested in helping the Society - in whatever capacity eg Fund-raising, organising the Summer Outing, Research. (You do not necessarily need to become a committee member).

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR VITAL ROLES.

For the last three year the Fulbourn Village History Society Summer Outing to Hatfield House, Hampton Court and Greenwich respectively, has been efficiently organised by Gill Bradford. Many many thanks to her, for all the work she has undertaken on our behalf in making these visits a wonderful occasion for all who participated. We wish her a well earned 'retirement'.

However...if similar Days Out are to be held in the future, we need a volunteer to take on Gill's role - and crucially, support from members (the last visit just

broke even, and only because several seats had been taken by guests of members). Please let the Secretary, or any member of the Committee, know if you would be willing to help the Society in this way (I understand Gill will provide useful advice based on her experience).

As our Chairman's Report made clear, Fulbourn Village History Society can only continue to maintain its Objectives and Aims (both social and research orientated as laid out in the Constitution) if the members, including YOU, become involved!!

PICTORIAL RECORD OF OUR SUMMER OUTING TO GREENWICH (with many, many thanks to Gill Bradford for organising such a wonderful day out.)



THE GROUP FOLLOWING SUITABLE REFRESHMENT ON ARRIVAL AT GREENWICH.



The 24 hour Shepherd Gate clock of 1852, the first clock to show Greenwich time to the public. The the same year the Greenwich Meantime service, domestic and foreign, which transmitted time signals by telegraph from the Observatory, was inaugurated by Sir Geore Airy.

We began our visit with a tour of the Royal Observatory, whose original purpose our guide explained, was set out when Charles II appointed John Flamsteed as his first Astronomer Royal in

1675, instructing him to ‘...find out the so much-desired longitude of places for the perfecting the art of navigation.’ This was now necessary since the long European voyages of discovery begun in the fifteenth century had resulted in an expansion of maritime trade - provided ships could find their intended destinations.

John Flamsteed succeeded in providing the accurate time-frame needed for charting the positions of the stars, but it was the clockmaker John Harrison who by perfecting the marine timekeeper, or ‘chronometer’ in 1759, put longitude calculation within reach of most seaman. However, the astronomical method was also used for comparison and both relied on the tables of the Nautical Almanac first published by the fifth Astronomer Royal at Greenwich, Nevil Maskelyne, in 1766 - and every year since.



The Time-Ball installed on Flamsteed House in 1919 (replacing the original of 1833) drops at 1 pm (according to our guide the astronomers were too busy at noon) and was originally for ships in the Thames to calibrate their chronometers.



The Queen's House, the first purely Renaissance classical building in England, created by Inigo Jones as a private retreat for the Stuart Queens, Anne of Denmark and Henrietta Maria of France.



The National Maritime Museum offered many glimpses into Naval history of the British Isles.

One of the many exhibits was admiral Lord Nelson's uniform coat worn at Trafalgar in 1805 with the fatal bullet hole in the left shoulder still visible. Wearing all those decorations must have made him a tempting target to the French marksmen



LEFT:
Planned from the onset of the Queen's House, was the first centrally unsupported spiral staircase in Britain.

Completed in 1635 at the height of the European 'Tulip craze' it derives its name from the pattern of the wrought iron balustrade.

BELOW:
For those of our members (secretary included) who enjoy retail therapy, Greenwich Market -which specialises in Arts & Crafts, provided a rich store of bargains. Overlooking the food stalls the Approach still bears the sign which could be an apt motto for Weight Watchers!



FURTHER REVELATIONS FROM URSULA LYONS. Based on her personal research. The facilities offered by Fulbourn Village History Society Archive Store have proved a great help. So why not pay us a visit and perhaps discover more about your own house, neighbourhood or family? (Any information/articles relating to Fulbourn places and people would be welcome by the Editor!!)

Stonebridge Land and its Cottages (Part 2)

For the history of Walnut Tree Cottage before 1872 (when the Missing family came to live there) the research gets more complicated. The Censuses of 1851, 1861 and 1871, together with Electoral Registers (which only start in 1926) and Land Valuations, have helped identify who was living in Broad Green on those dates. However, these lack any indication of who was living where, as house names and numbers for Stonebridge Lane first appeared in the Electoral Registers from 1945.

The 1871 Census lists 77 individuals as living in Broad Green and among these names there may be the occupants of Walnut Tree Cottage: Beaumont, Bowles, Dellar, Hardwick, Hart, Mason, Martin, Moule, Nottage, Outlaw, Parker, Turner and Willis. I am hoping someone in Fulbourn may be able to help * link these names to the different properties, and in particular to Walnut Tree Cottage. From the Fulbourn Chronicle, the Electoral Registers and the Censuses, I have compiled a list [see below] of all the names of people mentioned as living in Broad Green in the 19th and early 20th century, in the hope that people will get in touch with me if any of these names are familiar to them.

Twenty years earlier, according to the 1851 Census, Broad Green's population reached an astonishing peak of 90, living in some fourteen households (for the present day the figures are ten households and 24 individuals!). There were two more houses than now [see map] but two or three households often lived under the same roof, as was the case with nearly all the houses, except perhaps no 2 and Walnut Tree Cottage, both being too small: in the case of the latter, (merely a two-up two-down), it was just large enough for the Missing family and their nine children and later the Scott family and their seven children. How the houses were subdivided can be seen on all the Ordnance Survey maps but also can still be detected both inside the houses and on the outside.

So where were all these people living and who were they? My research into the history and inhabitants of the Stonebridge Lane houses has been producing some interesting results since I wrote in the last Newsletter. Thanks to the help of my neighbours in the Lane, who have kindly allowed me into their houses and shown me all the photos and documents they possess, I have been able to compile a list of all the occupants of every house from 1938 to the present day, whether owners or tenants. In particular

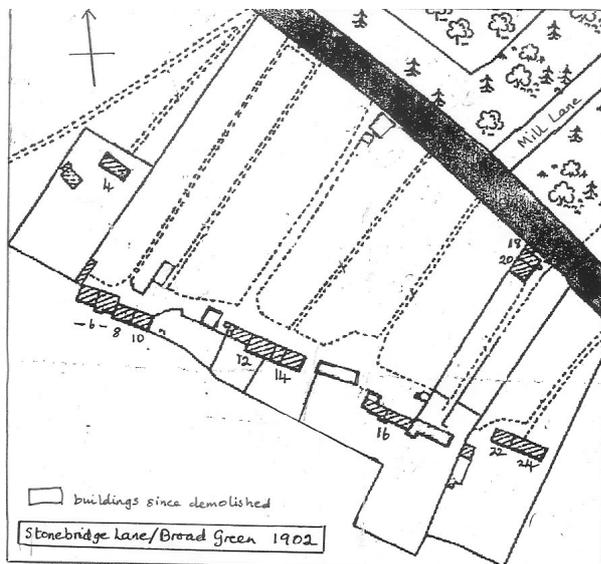
the help of Keith Nichols, who was born in Broad Green and has lived there for most of his life - his family lived in no 24 from 1937 to 1955 after which it was bought by Reginald Lambeth - has been invaluable in that he was able to tell me where people lived. Also to him we are indebted for yet another wedding photograph, this time from c. 1925, showing his Richmond mother and grandmother (born Emily Rule) and their Richmond and Taylor relatives together with the bride, Gertrude Taylor and the bridegroom, H. Scotcher, in front of no 10, the family home of the bride. His own house (no 18/20), to which he moved in 1969, does not appear on the first maps and so was built probably some time in the middle of the 19th century. It was not part of the Townley Estate, I discovered, but was bought by the sitting tenants - the Shippes and the Richmonds - from one W.Cole Ambrose in 1925 (who may be descended from an Ambrose listed among the Copyhold tenants of the Manor of Fulbourn Zouches in 1808).

As for the buildings themselves, I have been able to clear up the problem of what was dwelling and what was outhouse - in the pre-modern age washhouses and coalhouses occupied an important role. Also by comparing the maps one can see buildings marked which have since been demolished - in particular the east end of no 16 and a small house close to what is now Woodside. These two dwellings must have disappeared some time between 1902 and 1938, as they are on the 1902 map but not on the 1938 map. Keith Nichols remembers having pointed out to him by his Richmond grandmother a pile of rubble next to no 16 as being all that remained of where she once briefly lived.

As for the Townley Estate connection, it is still by no means certain whether the houses were built in the early 18th century by the Estate for its workers (as has often been maintained), nor for how long it owned them all - they seem to have been sold and bought piecemeal in the course of the 19th and 20th centuries - but what is clear is that the Estate owned all the houses in 1942 when the first of them were put up for sale. I have, however, been able to confirm when each of the houses was sold between 1942 and 1971. In Part 1 of my History I incorrectly claimed that Walnut Tree Cottage and all of its neighbours east were sold in four lots by the Estate, but now I know that it was only no's 4, 10, 14 and 16 that were put up for sale, the rest were sold individually at later dates. Reginald Lambeth, the curator of the Cambridge Folk Museum, first acquired no 10 (1942-2), then no 14 (1952-6), and

finally, in 1954, no's 22/4 where he died in 1981. In 1942 Walnut Tree Cottage and no 16 were both bought by a farmer, Herbert Mears of Milton Road, Cambridge, who sold Walnut Tree Cottage on the following year to the Barnard sisters. The tenants, the Scotts, remained in it, however, until 1947; while John Taylor, the tenant of no 16, also remained until the house was bought by Mrs. G.M.Wells. The Taylor family is of particular interest as Taylors are recorded as having lived in Broad Green since about 1869: in 1942 Cecil Taylor (seen as a boy on the 1925 photograph) was living at no 10 and John Taylor at no 16. In fact, the Fulbourn Chronicle refers to Mr and Mrs John Taylor celebrating their Golden Wedding in 1937, having been married in 1887: "Both are natives of Fulbourn and Mrs Taylor has lived for 68 of her 72 years on Broad Green." The Halls are equally interesting in that they, too, seem to have lived in Broad Green since about 1861 and were living in no 14 in 1942 when Reginald Lambeth bought the house from the Townley Estate. So that must rule out those two names as possible inhabitants of Walnut Tree Cottage prior to the Missing family – who lived in the house and who owned it being the prime object of my search into its origins and those of its neighbours.

Meanwhile, I need to find out more about the ownership of the cottages before they were acquired by the Townley Estate. In the Fulbourn Chronicle



there are three references to sales of properties in Broad Green – in 1886, 1919 and 1942 – and apart from the 1942 sale, it is unclear who was selling them. I had originally assumed all of Broad Green had belonged to the Estate from the start, which would have made my research much easier, but it became increasingly plain that the cottages and adjacent land belonged at different times to different owners. In particular, the Chaplin family appear at

an early date, with the name of John Chaplin marked over the fields to the rear of the cottages on the Enclosure Map of 1814 and one version of the 1806 pre Enclosure map even shows his name written over Walnut Tree Cottage. I have been shown an epitome of title relating to freehold property (no 12) in Broad Green dated 1913 which lists seven members of the Chaplin family and ends with the name of the Rev. C.F. Townley. The Chaplin connection is now a line I need to pursue.

The further back one goes, the more important the documents and maps that survive become, although consulting these takes one away from Fulbourn and to the Cambridgeshire Archives in Shire Hall. Since it began ten years ago, the Fulbourn History Society has built up an impressive collection of documents and maps which I have been very grateful to be able to consult with the help of Pat White, Tony Goodall and their team of volunteers. Together we have pored over the maps of 1806 and 1814 (which are the earliest available maps of this part of Fulbourn). On these two maps the Broad Green buildings remain the same but the layout of the fields is different and they have acquired different numbers. On the 1806 map the name of Phil Hancock occurs written over plot 161 which covers Walnut Tree Cottage, while on the 1814 map the same name is written over the adjoining piece of land, now part of the Recreation Ground, but is labelled "late P. Hancock". Over a strip of land to the south of some of the cottages is written the name of Thos. Hancock who at that time lived in the Old House on Home End, while on the 1814 map the name John Chaplin is written over all the fields to the South of the cottages. These two farming families intermarried and I am hoping some of the answers as to who owned the Broad Green cottages in the 19th century and before will be found in their family histories and documents.

This fascinating part of Fulbourn has a lot more secrets to reveal and it will, no doubt, take time, some luck and a lot more research before a fuller picture can be gained of settlement in the Broad Green area. So far I have investigated – however sketchily – only the past two hundred years of its history and I am still far from being able to establish the age of Walnut Tree Cottage and its neighbours, which was my primary aim.

(To be continued)

*Names of Broad Green residents (from the earliest records to 1945):

Anderson, Banyard, Barker, Beeton, Bond, Bowles, Brasher, Carter, Dean, Dellar, Goldspink, Hall, Hardwick, Harris, Hart, Hewman, Ison, Kirk,

Lindsell, Manning, Martin, Mason, Missen/Missing, Mole/Moule, Matthew/s, Nottage, Ogram, Outlaw, Parker, Pearl, Plumb, Prince, Redhouse, Richmond, Rule, Rolph, Shipp, Taylor, Thurgood, Turner, Ward, Willis, Wilson, Wright

Ursula Lyons, January 2009

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Many thanks to all members who have paid their annual subscription promptly. It greatly assists with the administration and you will be receiving your membership card (with details of the new programme) by post or hand delivery within the next few weeks. For payments received after August, you will need to collect your card at the thursday meetings.

FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Around 100 people came to our Exhibition held at the United Reformed Church on Saturday 11th July. Celebrating the Ten Years since our Society was founded, it was a great success, with visitors staying for an average of at least an hour - some



YOUR SECRETARY ON THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT.

even coming back in the afternoon!

A selection of panels from the Millennium (2000), Golden Jubilee (2002), Fulbourn at War (2004),

Fulbourn Village Research Project (2006), 'Now and then' (2007) Maps (2008) Exhibitions gave a wonderful overview of the subjects and events covered since our Society was founded in 1999. These included information relating to Public Houses in Fulbourn (many no longer existing), the Churches and United Reformed Chapel, the Village School, Historic Buildings, Village Personalities, Fulbourn during the World Wars, Medieval Fulbourn and of course, the ever popular Maps and Photographs showing the Development of the Parish.

Our venue was ideally suited to demonstrate to the general public the facilities offered by Fulbourn Village History Society. As you entered the hall, a brief introductory section gave a background History of the Society, its hours of opening and programme of Talks for 2009-2010. The visitor could then continue around the room, looking at our chronological sequence of Exhibitions panels, or become fascinated by the Database on the computer - which allowed 'searches' to be carried out for people and places with their associated photographs and details then being viewed on a large screen using the digital projector ('manned' throughout the entire day, by the stalwart John Patten - many thanks!!).

There was moreover, ample space in the centre of the room, for a large table area on which maps, albums containing thumbnail photographs, together with newspaper clippings all with Fulbourn connections, could be consulted. Folders containing electoral roll lists, examples of documents kept in our Archive Store and past Newsletters of the Society were also available. Everyone was encouraged to browse and ask questions - and our team of 'local experts' could usually supply an answer (or at least, know what might be a helpful avenue to explore).

On display for the first time, was a recently framed watercolour of the Waiting Room at the old Fulbourn Station kindly donated to the Society by the Histon artist, Alan Eade, who painted it in the summer of 1989, as well as an embroidery depicting St Vigor's and All Saints, worked by Mrs Flo Missing, formerly Miss Flo Balls, one time Post Mistress Assistant at Fulbourn Post Office.

Having spent a considerable amount of time perusing all the various material present, visitors were able to enjoy a relaxing cup of tea and slice of

home made cake - these Refreshments being organised by Ivy Smith and her very efficient assistants (many thanks, ladies - and to everyone who donated the cakes).

It was very gratifying to have members - and a very satisfying number of new faces, acknowledging that Fulbourn Village History Society has since its inception, provided a much valued resource to the village, especially in its first objective to 'research, keep and maintain records of all aspects of the Village's social and historical



The well attended exhibition provided many items of interest to the general public

THE LAST WILL & TESTAMENT OF AGNES FROGGE (widow) OF FULBOURN *(transcribed into 'modern' English by Clinton Tweed)*

In the name of God Amen the sixth day of June in the year of our lord god 1559

I Agnes Frogge of Fulbourn widow being of whole mind and of good and perfect remembrance Lord and praise be unto God

do make and ordain my testament containing therein my last will in manner and form following

that is to say first I commend my soul to unto almighty god my body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Saint Vigors in Fulbourn aforesaid.

Item I do give unto Dorothy Frogge my daughter my worsted kirtle and my red petticoat.

Item I do give unto her the white hangings over my bed and two painted cloths.

Item I do give unto her there(?) pewter dishes and cupboard.

Item I will she shall have my greatest kettle.

Item I give to her a pair of pot hooks and salt and a pewter pot.

Item I do give to her my best quilt (?) a pair of bed socks and my worsted mattress.

Item I do give her three kerchiefs (?) two pillows and a lyonnaise bolster.

Item I will to her a rood of saffron ground to be set this year and all things that shall set it with all and a hook that shall help set it and a little kettle.

Item I do give unto Elizabeth Frogge my daughter my gown and my russet petticoat.

Item I will to her my red hutch a flaxen sheet and three pewter dishes.

Item I give unto her a pewter pot two salts a brass pot and a kettle.

Item I give unto her a pair of bed socks a linsey woolsey blanket and a bolster.

Item I give unto her two painted cloths and three kerchiefs a frying pan and two chairs.

I do give unto her a rood of saffron ground of two years set a pair of pot hooks and an old grid iron.

Item I do give unto A Kymnell four pounds of wool and a towel sheet.

Item I do give unto her a pillow and the beer with all and a hen.

Item I do give unto Henry Frogge my son my table a form and a seat.

Item I will to him a brass pt my black hutch a pewter dish and a platter and a candle stick.

Item I do will unto him all his fathers tools belonging to the smiths science.

Item I do give unto him a calf and the hangings about the hall my saffron kiln and my ladder.

Item I give moreover to Dorothy Frogge four pounds of wool a pillow a towel sheet and my best chair.

Also if any of them depart this present life afore either his or her part so deceasing I will equally to be divided to the other living.

These being witnesses Robert Cakebread John Buere and William Palmer.



A bed showing pillows and bolster, as described in the will of Agnes Frogge. According to the guide at Strangers Hall, Norwich, bolsters were used to support the bed's occupant in a semi-reclining position, which was thought to be more healthy (and probably aided the digestion - for those wealthy enough to own such items who no doubt could also afford a diet of rich food!)

It appears clothes eg a worsted kirtle, red petticoat, gown and russet petticoat were of great value and therefore passed down to the next generation. The bed socks, together with the quilt, worsted mattress and linsey woolsey blanket, indicate that keeping warm at night was an issue in the sixteenth century!! The 'painted cloths' may have been a down market (and cheaper) version of tapestry/embroidered wall hangings. The references to saffron and a saffron kiln illustrate the importance that growing saffron had in the Fulbourn area - this cash crop was not just confined to Saffron Walden. It is interesting that Henry Frogge, Agnes' son, did not legally obtain his father tools 'belonging to the smiths science' until after his mother died.



The Fan Museum

Greenwich, London



Your Newsletter editor and Secretary took time out on the summer visit to visit the World's only museum entirely devoted to the history of fans and acquired this extract from The Grand Magazine, London, November 1760. She identifies with the sentiment that it..... ***“Exercises the office of the zephyrs and cools the glowing breast.”*** However she is less than enthusiastic about its role in ***“hiding bad teeth, malicious smiles and frowns of discontent!!”***

REMEMBER..... First meeting of our 2009/2010 season is on Thursday 15th October when Tony Kirby will speak on 'The Rise & Fall of the English Seaside' (which as a holiday destination has now been re-branded as the 'Stay vacation.')