



# BAHS Newsletter

Number 28

[www.history-blakeney-area.org.uk](http://www.history-blakeney-area.org.uk)

December 2009

## The European Common Market – c1400!

Replicas of boats that sailed around the Baltic and into the North Sea during the 14th to the 16th centuries have recently been built in the old trading ports associated with the Hanseatic League. The League was an association of merchants centred on cities in northern Germany, but it extended to Bergen and Brugge and as far as England. Two of these replicas have visited Kings Lynn in the past decade; a cog from Bremen based on detailed archaeological excavations and a caravel from Lubeck, called Lisa von Lubeck, reconstructed from early paintings as no remains of this type of ship have been found. The caravel made a dramatic sight as it lay alongside a quay with a large mainsail unfurled to show the large double-headed eagle of the Hanse.

Undoubtedly similar boats visited Blakeney Haven at a time when there was trade with continental Europe. This raises an interesting question – were any of these boats associated with the Hanseatic League? Certainly records show there were ‘alien’ – no, not Martian – merchants operating in Cley.

Blomefield records for St Margaret's Church in Cley 'east end of the south isle have been a chapel belonging formerly to the German merchants; on the roof are delineated several black spead eagles, with two heads'. It would seem eminently reasonable to conclude this was a chapel of the Hanse, whose mariners could have landed at Newgate Green and walked up to the Church to



give thanks for a successful voyage. But another suggestion has recently been proposed linking a double-headed eagle to Anne of Bohemia, who was the wife of Richard II, and her shield is on the exterior of the South Porch. Unfortunately, at present, there is no simple way of resolving this conflict.

*John Peake*

# News from the History Centre

The Centre has been visited throughout the summer by a mix of family historians, hot on the trail of ancestors, and then by members and general public alike with specific local history enquiries.

One of the more unusual was the visit by a British Museum representative looking into the 'Blakene' astrolabe i.e. was it named after the place or was 'Blakene' the name of the maker? This brass astrolabe is the earliest signed and dated (1342) English instrument. Whatever the outcome, the result is the History Centre now has a rather splendid photograph of a section of the astrolabe taken when it was dismantled. It shows the very fine pointers on the wheel that are used to line up with the stars in order to make calculations and predictions.

More recently, the Centre has been asked to identify the Waldy family who are linked to windows in Letheringsett and Blakeney Church as well as the large religious paintings in the latter. What was their connection to the area? To date, directories show Mrs Waldy living at the Lodge in Letheringsett while Mr Alfred Waldy was a committee member of the Blakeney and Cley Golf Club c1900. Prior to this, the family were residents of Kensington, London where the father and two sons are listed as commissioned officers in the army. Mystery not yet fully resolved.

## Recent Accessions

*BNHS 5th Annual Report and Accounts for year ending 1951*

*The Quest of a Pilgrim, (anon pub but in reality, F Brackley)*

*The Glaven Ports, by J Hooton (generous donation) Airfields and Airstrips of Norfolk and Suffolk - Part 1, 1987*

*Maps (whole and in part) and photograph submitted by Knott Trust (Cley Hall Estate) to the Public Enquiry, 2007*

*The Book of Hindringham, standing out in North Norfolk by*

*the Hindringham History Group, 2009*

*The account books of William Loads of Field Dalling (promised)*

*Conservation Statement for former Lifeboat House on Blakeney Point, National Trust, 2009*

From these items we learn that 1951 was the most active year yet for the BNHS. The Society had 105 members and owned 32 cottages, 28 in Blakeney and 4 in Wiveton.

During the First World War, Bayfield (TG064415) was the site of a Royal Naval Air Service night landing ground, satellite to South Denes, Great Yarmouth. Even more interesting to some will be the news that this very site was previously the Holt race course. Visit the Centre to find out more.

The Book of Hindringham, produced by Philip West and his team, is just released along with two other publications by Halsgrove, namely Holt Hall and Sheringham, but it is the Hindringham Book that has more relevance to the villages of the lower Glaven. The book has a wonderful account of the farming background of the village supported by an amazing set of photographs covering a wide range of farming machinery as well as the people that operated them. These will no doubt bring back memories of Philip's informative slide shows to the BAHS.

Continuing on from the Agricultural Landscape chapter is the tumbrel featured on p.153. It stands outside Church Farm during the summer months where it can easily be seen from the road. The tumbrel was built by William Loads, whose accounts are mentioned above.

However it is the surnames of Flood, Dent, Daplyn, Moy and Hawes, etc., that are fascinating for they highlight just how much movement there was between Hindringham and the coastal villages with people courting and in search of work. It was two way traffic.

Thus William Flood moved away from agriculture to

Blakeney where he became a Pilot. Thomas Hawes, carpenter, married Jemima Sadler of Cley and Wiveton. Her grandfather was Jacob Jary, a customs officer at Cley and carpenter, whilst her father, baptized in Cley as James Sadler, sailed under the name of James Broughton.

Mary Hook nee Baines married Mark Dent widower of Hindringham. Then her son William Henry Markby Hook, coxswain of the Blakeney lifeboats Hettie and Zaccheus Burroughes married Eliza Moy of Hindringham, daughter of Henry Moy. William and Eliza Hook became licensees of the Ship Inn, following Daniel Dent and Bennington Fitt, the former being the brother of Mark Dent. The Dent ramifications continue with their niece, Elizabeth Dent. She married Samuel Southgate, postmaster, farmer and shopkeeper of Hindringham who inherited property in the High St, Blakeney that is still in the family to this day. And so it goes on, networking between villages, families and trades. All in all a fascinating book and well recommended.

## Roots and Branches

The following list represents the main surnames currently being researched:

**Starling** of Blakeney and this time it is by the descendants of **Walter John Starling**, half brother of **Bodham Butcher Starling** mentioned in the last Newsletter **Wright** of Field Dalling with **Dew** of Blakeney connections **Bone** of Wiveton and Blakeney **Jary** of Cley and Stiffkey **Woodhouse** of Blakeney **Adcock/Bishop/Claxton** of Blakeney **Beavis** of Blakeney

Then news of a new website that will prove interesting to some of our members,

**www.ancestorsofcley.com** Click on to see how research on the Jary family of Cley is progressing.

Another source for Cley families is the list of manorial tenants extracted by B Cozens-Hardy from the descent of Copyhold property found in the 9 volumes

of Manor of Cley Court Books 1618-1923. These extracts, while primarily related to property and therefore of interest to house historians, give much genealogical information by way of relationships, occupations of tenants and even addresses away from Cley.

The family of John Mackerell (1785) and his son James (1823) are an example of copyhold tenants. Their listing solves the problem of Mackerell Hill mentioned in a recent Newsletter when it was questioned whether the Hill was named after the fish or a family. The Mackerells trace their descent from the arrival of Nicolas and Josinne Macquerelle in Yarmouth 1592, from Holland. This family is also featured on the BAHS display board in St Nicholas Church where connections to the Morgans and Ponds are illustrated.

You will find the extracts for these manorial tenants bound in Volume VII, Box 10 of the Kenneth Allen Papers at the History Centre.

## From the Registers

With swine flu occupying our minds just now, this is what was happening in the spring of 1743 as recorded by the Cley burial register:

Susannah wife of Thos Imping of smallpox, buried 25th March  
Valentine son of Christopher Lewis of smallpox, buried 26th March

Mary daughter of Christopher Lewis of smallpox, buried 26th March

Robert Musset of smallpox, buried 9th May

## Family Portraits

Continuing with the Cley theme, two photographs of family groups are shown here, both with the fervent hope that an eagle-eyed reader may be able to fill in some of the many gaps. Both photographs were taken on the beach (or close by) but at very different times.

The earliest photograph is of the Cley Longs and the Wiveton Gants with their friends, it is possibly Margaret Charlotte Gant,



née Long standing in the centre of the back row. Margaret Gant was the owner of the photograph and the widow of Captain Robert James Gant who went down with the *Homer* near Spurn Head early in 1901 after being in a collision with the Russian vessel *Hoppet*.

The second and more recent photograph is dated to approximately the mid 1930s. Peter Catling is sitting in the doorway of the hut that was owned by Philip Chapman, butcher and farmer, of Fakenham and Norwich. It is a double hut with beds for overnight visits.

Immediately in front of Peter Catling is Eva Everett née Chapman, sister of Philip and on her right (your left) is Madge Chapman née Pashley, Philip's wife. Madge Pashley was the grand daughter of Henry N

Pashley, the Cley taxidermist of some considerable repute. The children standing far left are the cousins John Chapman then sister and brother Jean and John Everett, the children of Madge Chapman and Eva Everett respectively.

But who are all the other people, surely someone can shed some light on the mystery? All answers to the History Centre please, where these photographs may be found in the collections with many more that are just waiting to have people identified. Remember, the History Centre is shut all January for annual spring clean, stock taking and reordering of shelves so hold onto your answers till February when we reopen for 2010.

Pam Peake

## Committee Matters

In my report of the 2008/9 year attached to the AGM papers I highlighted the lecture series, the open day organised by the History Centre at St Nicholas Church Blakeney, Annual Public Lecture and the Autumn Course "The Story of Illuminated Manuscripts". We had good feedback for the increased size of the July Newsletter (contributors for future newsletters would be most welcome). Our yearly accounts held up better than expected for the year with a small loss, however we need to take heed of our Treasurer's comment that with sales of Blakeney in the 18th Century finished, no courses or summer meeting planned we have a challenging year ahead.

Changes in the management committee at the AGM saw Frank Hawes, our Secretary for many years, and the Rev Tim Fawcett retiring – our grateful thanks to them both. We haven't lost them altogether as both remain members of the Editorial Subcommittee. After the AGM we also said goodbye and thank you to Shaun Hill, the Society's Treasurer, who is leaving the area. We welcome Mrs Diana Cooke, Richard Daley and Mrs Barbara Ward Jones, co-opted onto the committee as respectively Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary.

The Glaven Historian (GH12) becoming biennial has proved to be a sensible decision, providing contributors more preparation time and we can look forward to the publication later this year.

The main administration posts having been filled does not mean the Society can relax. We do require help from our members to support and/or to organise courses and excursions.

*During our December lecture Lal Wright one of our founder members remarked the Society had come along way from the early meetings at the White Horse in the High Street. I thought it appropriate to recall the early beginnings of 20 years*

*ago. The University Of Cambridge Board Of Extra-Mural Studies advertised a series of 10 meetings to be held fortnightly at Blakeney from the 3rd of October 1990 under the direction of course tutor J C Barringer. The subject was Blakeney 1500-1800. This was the result of the Education Reform Act of 1988 driving vocational or liberal adult education. By February 1991, Cambridge University wanted to give up its Extra Mural activities in Norfolk; we were being pressed to decide if we wished to continue as a research group under a new administrative body the University of East Anglia. Decision made, the Blakeney History group continued to meet at the White Horse as a research group with the aim of producing a small booklet "Blakeney in the Eighteenth Century" which has proved to be a steady contributor to the Society funds ever since.*

Finally, I am sure that as a member you will join me in thanking the management committee and helpers for their continued efforts on behalf of the membership.

*Peter Wordingham*

## Subscriptions

Yes the dreaded 'S' word again, but have no fear, we're not after your money yet. Those who have failed to renew will have been notified by a slip of paper attached to the front cover of this Newsletter.

Subscriptions become due for renewal at the beginning of July, and there will be a proper reminder in the Summer Newsletter. This is just to let you know that the address for all renewals, and indeed any other membership matters, is:

Mrs Barbara Ward-Jones,  
Far House,  
Coronation Lane,  
Blakeney,  
HOLT  
NR25 7NS

Phone number and e-mail address are on the back page.

## Hereward Cooke

Just as we were going to press with this Newsletter we heard the sad and shocking news of the death of Canon Hereward Cooke, husband to our new Secretary Diana Cooke. In the relatively short time he had been back in Blakeney (his family connections here go way back) he made a significant impact, particularly in the fields of housing, the environment, and of course the Church. He will be much missed by all of us.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Diana and the family for their tragic loss.

## Did you know?

Did you know that the Society has a record of the Blakeney Parish Council minute books from 1894 to 1952 and a subject index on disc at the History Centre and available for you to view?

The Local Government Act of 1888 separated Church from the State and this was followed by the 1894 Local Government Act which established the County, Rural District and Parish Councils more or less as we know today. In 1601 the Vestry was charged by Parliament with levying the poor rate in, addition to their parochial duties, to replace the failing manorial system principally because of falling income from land. This Vestry administration gradually became unacceptable to the community with the burden of the poor rate reaching £2 million in 1785 doubling by 1802, reaching £10 million in 1819. Parliament and politicians were urged to reform the failing welfare system by then widely acknowledged to be riddled with "jobbery and corruption". Blakeney Parish Council's first meeting was held on December 4th 1894 "to elect a chairman and secure candidate nominations for parish councillors". Unlike many parish records that have been lost, Blakeney's are complete from 1894 to the present day, a valuable record of the community. They give you a taste of a problem

or proposal, not always allowing a conclusion or action taken for a particular subject to be found, sometimes dismissing or supporting local folklore.

### **Blakeney Parish Councils Minute Book Vol 1 1894 -1929**

The principal subjects are:  
Blakeney Charities (98 entries);  
Blakeney Harbour Authority  
(11);Footpaths (Rights of Way)  
(12); Guildhall (11); Highways  
(18); Parish Meetings (31);  
National Trust (12); Overseers  
(39); Railway (3); School (8);  
Sewerage (27); War Memorial  
Cottages (19); Quay (23).

### **Blakeney Parish Councils Minute Book Vol 2 1929 – 1952**

New subjects now appear as  
times change:

Air Raid Precautions (10);  
Allotments (6); Blakeney Charities  
(58); Blakeney Hotel (6); Council  
Houses (19); Coronation Gardens  
(15); Fair (20); Guildhall  
(38); Highways (40); Lighting (14);  
National Trust (12); Playing Field  
(33); Quay (27); Rubbish (39);  
Sewerage (30); War Memorial  
Cottages (28).

The 1894 Act gave Parish  
Councils powers of adoption over  
many administrative and welfare  
matters and though you may  
have expected great things of the  
Parish Council there were strict  
expenditure rules based on  
population which minimised the  
effectiveness of the Parish  
Council. Not a great deal different  
to the present day.

The Lighting and Watching Act of  
1933; Baths & Washhouses Acts  
of 1846-82; The Burial Acts 1852-  
85; The Public Improvement Act  
1860 and The Public Libraries Act  
1892. Powers to appoint  
Overseers; transfer of certain  
Vestry powers to the Parish  
Council; Acquisition of Land,  
Hiring of Land for  
Allotments; Footpaths & Roads;  
Public Property and Charities;

### **Parish Officers and Documents**

A few items from Volume 1:

1895 Allocation of Charity mon-  
eys pp5,6 & 7; George Hudson  
appointed Surveyor of Highways  
p10; Electors allowed to Attend



***An early view of Blakeney Quay with the elusive crane in the centre of the view. Was this feature ever commented upon by the Parish Council?***

meetings p12; Calthorpe agrees  
additional Allotment land p14.  
1896: Overseers & Treasurer  
appointed; Sanitation discussed  
pp18 & 20.  
1897: Constables appointed;  
Overseer's salary charged to Poor  
Rate pp25, 26 & 27.  
1900: Parish Lighting; Sewage  
Discharge into Quay pp46 & 49.  
1901: Light Railway scheme pre-  
sented & Coroners jury expenses  
pp55 & 56.  
1903: Mr Augustus Hill appointed  
manager of Blakeney School p67.  
1906: Proposal to sell the  
Guildhall p81.  
1909: Sewerage & Mussels dis-  
cussed with Medical Officer of  
Health p90.  
1910: Police Constable appointed  
salary £9 per annum p99.  
1911: Walter Lester drowns in  
Quay, proposal for chain barrier  
p102.  
1913: Guildhall repairs, speeding  
motorists p123.  
1916: RDC requests details of  
Houses for working classes at end  
of war & committee for emergency  
food distribution, shortages fore-  
seen p139.  
1917: Public Telephone requested  
p146.  
1919: Sanitation of houses p156.  
And from Volume 2 1929 - 1952

1930: Quay Carnser let for 10/- ,  
Timber sale, Car park on Quay  
charges for benefit of Parish  
pp1,7 & 8.  
1931: Carnser Payment to  
National Trust £5, Grays Fair £10  
rent offer but Hotel offers £4 to  
limit stay pp11 & 14  
1932: Blakeney Point: Parish  
objects to National Trust Actions,  
Quay Sub-Committee confirmed,  
Quay Rd closure by NCC,  
Blakeney Point Professor  
Oliver's assurances pp19, 23, 24  
& 25.  
1933: Blakeney Harbour: no  
record of free harbour charter  
found; Blakeney Point: 2 resi-  
dents appointed to Point  
Committee; Quay rd closure  
deferred; Rent paid to NT for  
Quay land; Prof, Oliver re leasing  
of more land reviewed  
pp26, 27, 28 & 30.  
1934: Blakeney Quay repair fund;  
Rights of Way Act 1932 & Open  
Spaces: Footpath preservation  
Society pp33 & 34.

There is lots more fascinating  
stuff in these records just waiting  
to be used.

*Peter Wordingham*



# Obituary: Dr Peter Carnell



**Peter Carnell, flanked by two other BAHS stalwarts, on Cley Eye during the 'Chapel' dig.**

Dr Peter Carnell, a prominent member of BAHS in its early years, died suddenly last August. He was best known for his expertise in resistivity, a form of geophysical survey known to all who have watched the Time Team archaeological programmes. At a time when commercial machines were prohibitively expensive, Peter was able to build his own from first principles, having a degree in nuclear physics and a knowledge of electronics, and he also wrote or obtained the computer programs necessary to analyse the data. It may be of interest to know that the Council for Independent Archaeology recently commissioned an electronics engineer to design a simple machine for use by archaeological societies which is now available for 'only' £1,000.

BAHS was very fortunate that Peter made his time and expertise freely available. He worked on various sites in the County, notably at Sedgeford, but one of his first resistivity studies was for the Society at Bayfield church, where the ruined chancel may

once have had a chapel attached – the report appears in *Glaven Historian* No 1 (1998). With this publication the Society was able to demonstrate that it had the necessary skills to tackle a much bigger project: the 'Chapel' on Blakeney Eye, a scheduled Ancient Monument about which nothing was known (for certain). Peter not only organised the resistivity survey but also conjured up a fluxgate magnetometer for a magnetic survey and a theodolite to produce site contours. The conclusions of the study, published in *Glaven Historian* No 2 (1999), were largely substantiated by a subsequent professional excavation of the whole site which demonstrated the nature of the large medieval building, though not its original purpose.

Peter's interests reached out beyond geophysics into other areas of archaeology. His studies of medieval jettons and trade tokens found at Wiveton appear in the *Glaven Historian* Nos 4 (2001) and 5 (2002). These objects had been found by metal detectorists and it was Peter who made the effort to contact the finders and persuade them that their finds could help to illuminate the history of the area. Peter not only did much technical work for the Society, on a scale unsuspected by some, but also contributed to social activities in the early years of the Society and its forerunner, the Blakeney History Group. Parties as well as committee meetings were held at his house, where Peter would demonstrate the uncanny understanding between himself and his dogs.

It was typical of Peter that when faced with a problem he could often devise unusual solutions – though not all were successful. When he wanted to take vertical photos of his resistivity sites he persuaded a bunch of otherwise sane people to help him experiment with a camera on the end of a parachute – propelled aloft by rocket fuel. Other users of the New Cut at the time were probably grateful that the device

was a small one. And yes, photos were taken, but the procedure seemed to be well ahead of its time .... Peter had various (ad)ventures unrelated to the Society, some of them appeared in the notice in the October issue of the *Glaven Valley Newsletter*. Not mentioned there is the time he skied seriously off-piste and had to be rescued from a tree – by helicopter. Peter's driving skills were also unconventional at times, with some predictable results, and perhaps it was no great surprise when he managed to overturn an excavator he had borrowed to dig out a large pond behind his house.

Peter's natural state was one of untidy bonhomie, laced with a grin and a chuckle, although some will remember that when disagreements over the Society's activities occurred (as they were bound to do) Peter could find it difficult to engage in discussions towards a resolution. This was probably the underlying reason for his withdrawal from the Society in recent years. Peter took this problem to heart and so derived some comfort from a late diagnosis of Asperger's Syndrome which helped him come to terms with relationship problems. Sadly, a variety of health problems (entailing numerous visits to Papworth Hospital) dominated his time in Blakeney, yet he bore these with fortitude and good humour, and was determined not to let such frailties curtail his contributions to the BAHS or his many other interests. Peter was a larger-than-life character, and there are many who miss his friendship and enthusiasm, as well as his sharp mind and leadership in technical matters.

*John Wright*

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BAHS and Contributors

## Coke of Norfolk

Talk by Dr Susanna Wade Martins  
24 November 2009

Susanna Wade Martins having recently published the biography, *Coke of Norfolk* came to tell us about him. First, as far as I was concerned, she needed to sort out my vague understanding of which Coke we were considering.

It was not Thomas William Coke 1697-1759, 1st Earl of Leicester of the first creation who after a grand tour which lasted twice as long as most, built and largely designed Holkham Hall to house the great collection of paintings and sculpture he had brought home with him.

Our subject was his great nephew and namesake, Thomas William Coke 1754-1842, 1st Earl of Leicester of the second creation famous for introducing new cropping rotations and agricultural methods to backward farmers and landowners. Again I discovered that what I thought I had learned at school was wrong. Enclosures and the new crop rotations and the growing of turnips to feed livestock were well established long before he took them up. He publicised them through his famous three day Sheep Shearing events and in his old age took more credit for them than was his due.

His true farming innovation, it seems, was in breeding, particularly sheep. He tried Leicesters and South Downs and Merinos but most notably crossed Southdowns with the Norfolk Horned sheep to produce what eventually for reasons known only to the agricultural community were named Suffolks.

Meanwhile, I discovered, he had a long career as a Whig MP. His politics were much more interesting and surprisingly radical, backing the colonists in the American war of independence and the people in the French Revolution while at home he supported both parliamentary reform and Catholic emancipation. How could his reputation have got so distorted in my memory and how better to sort it out than at a BAHS meeting? *Frank Hawes*

## The Siege of King's Lynn

Talk by Susan Yaxley  
27 October 2009

In the early 17th century Norfolk was a very prosperous, and populous, area and Norwich one of the most important cities in the land. Likewise Lynn was an important entrepôt, the chief seaport for a wide area of the English Midlands, including Northampton, Leicester, Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds.

When the simmering conflict between King and Parliament about divine rights and taxation among other things, boiled over into open warfare the leading citizens of Lynn being a pragmatic lot reacted by improving the town's defences and laying in fresh supplies of gunpowder. At the outbreak of the first Civil War in August 1642 the main officers of the town – and its two MPs (John Perceval and Thomas Toll) – were for Parliament, but they harboured traitors in their midst.

Indeed the people of East Anglia as a whole, and those of Norwich and Yarmouth in particular, were also for Parliament. but most of the major landlords in the area around Lynn were staunch Royalists. Led by Sir Hamon LeStrange of Hunstanton, these included the Mordaunts of Massingham, the Hovells of Hillington and the Pastons of Appleton. The LeStranges in particular had been marked down by Cromwell as 'malignants' for their refusal to contribute to parliamentary levies.

As early as 5 May 1643 the Lynn councillors expressed concern at the large number of 'strangers' and presumed 'malignants' "lately come into the town"; the hirelings of LeStrange and his cronies were being infiltrated into the town. Orders were issued for the arrest of LeStrange, his sons and brother-in-law, and eight others, but alas to no effect as by then at least one of the Captains of the 'trained bands' – the lawyer Kirby – was a Royalist.

Strategically, Parliament still

held Hull, the main Royalist army under the earl of Newcastle was sweeping south and had already taken most of Lincolnshire. Would they continue south to Lynn and thereby secure vital port facilities on the east coast? On 13 August 1643, Thomas Gurlin, the recently elected mayor of Lynn declared himself for the King and appointed LeStrange as 'Governor of Lynn'. Warrants were issued for the arrest of prominent Parliamentarians and preparations were made to welcome Newcastle's army.

Parliamentary forces under Captain William Poe were immediately despatched to blockade the town. Large mortars were set up on the west bank of the Ouse and a regular bombardment of the town began. The Earl of (God)Manchester set about raising an army to besiege Lynn. Meanwhile, with the King focussed on taking Gloucester and Newcastle reluctant to venture further south while his flank was exposed to the Roundhead forces in Hull, Lynn was beleaguered and very much on its own. By 7 September the siege had begun in earnest.

Manchester's army – some 8000 men according to some estimates – made up in quantity what it patently lacked in quality so when he announced that "a final assault" on the town would take place on 16 September it was enough to induce the 'Governor' to negotiate surrender so as to avoid major bloodshed. The siege, which lasted all of three weeks, resulted in a fair bit of damage to the town, and the imposition of a garrison of Roundhead soldiers with LeStrange having to contribute over £1000 to the cost of repairs and of maintaining the garrison. It did at least mean that Lynn, like the rest of East Anglia, escaped the further ravages of the Civil War.

Those sublime historians, Seller and Yeatman, summed up their take on the Civil War in typically succinct style when they declared: "the Roundheads were right, but repulsive; the Cavaliers were wrong but wromantic". In reality the Cavaliers were also pretty wrepulsive. *Richard Kelham*

## Help Needed!

I have been trying to sort out the history of the buildings around Cley Quay and in particular the terrace of houses called Beau Rivage which appears as above in most views of the much photographed and water-coloured Mill.

Early photographs and the famous 1885 painting by Frederick George Cotman show a line of warehouses on the site and these seem to have been only partially demolished when the terrace of houses was created.

I have narrowed the date of the development down to a year or two around 1906 but for want of further evidence am reduced to searching back numbers of the EDP in the Millennium Library in Norwich in the faint hope of finding a reference to the development. There are an awful lot of EDPs in a year and with the temptation to get sidetracked by irrelevant news items I have so far examined only a small fraction of the possibly relevant issues.

If anyone has any information or clues as to the date of the development or the name of the owner/developer at that time I would be very grateful.

*Frank Hawes 01263 740981*

## From the Editor's Archives



***The interior of Starr's shop in Cley High Street, date unknown but probably late '60s, with, from left to right, Mrs Carr, Miss Pinchen, Ivy Starr, Freda Starr and Charles Francis. I know that's right because it was written on the photograph!***

## Feedback

"I always enjoy receiving the BAHS newsletter. It, along with the White Horse webcam and news from my cousin John Wright keep me in touch with Blakeney.

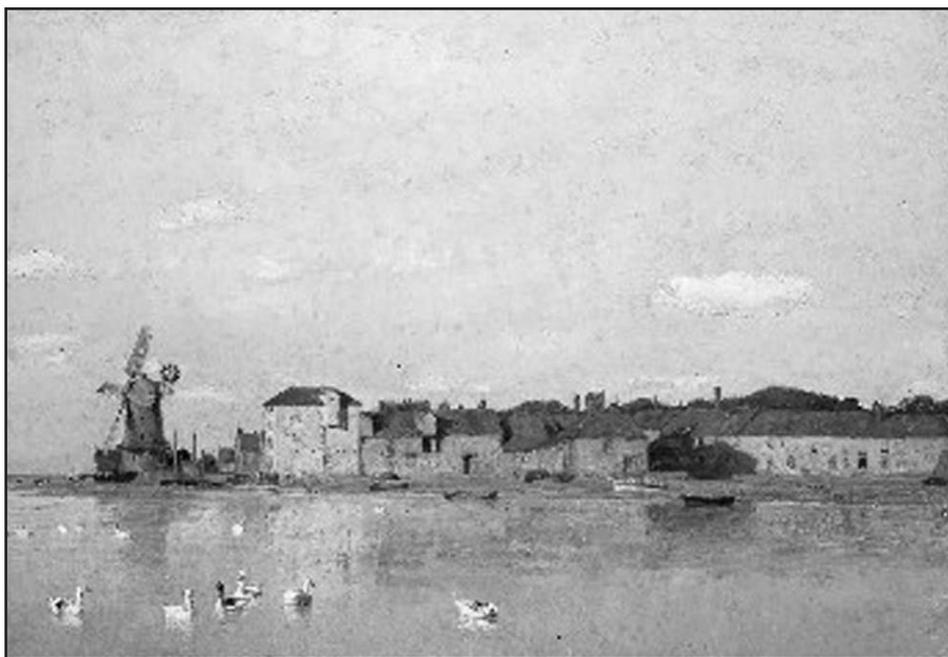
I was particularly interested in the mussel fishery article in the July issue and Sammy Long's and Mary's memories. Some years ago

John gave me a copy of the Blakeney Harbour Mussel Fishery Order 1966. It was issued to John's father Tony on the 22nd August 1966. The order came into operation on August 5th "and will remain in operation for 60 years unless annulled in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament...". The order gave the Blakeney Harbour Mussel Society Ltd....the right of several or exclusive mussel fishery over all those parts of Blakeney harbour being parts of Simpool, Morston Strand and Scalp (sic) Run containing an area of 105 acres or thereabouts.....".

It is sad that it has not needed a resolution of Parliament to put an end to the mussel fishery in Blakeney long before the order runs out in 2026.

I remember so many feasts of mussels brought home by George Long, Tony's stepfather. I often wish when ordering mussels in restaurants that my grandmother Mally, George's wife, could go into the kitchen and show the chef how not to overcook them. And I remember Tony's wonderful mussel sorting machine on the carnsar, made from parts of an old mangle....

Looking forward to the next newsletter, greetings from Canada." *Gilian Sandeman*



***The well-known Cotman painting of Cley at (very) high tide, showing the range of granaries and warehouses that became Beau Rivage.***

# Winter/Spring Programme 2010

## Events

Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month in the Harbour Room at the British Legion Hall in the High Street, Blakeney starting at 7.30 pm.

Entrance: £2 for members and £3 for visitors, including refreshments.

**January 26**      **Members' Night:** three short contributions by members.  
*Richard Jefferson:* Thanks to Google  
*Pam Peake:* Ralph Greenaway of Wiveton - London Grocer  
*Rev Neil Batcock:* Medieval Painted Churches

**February 23**      **The Herring Fishery:** for many centuries herring were caught around the Norfolk coast, culminating in a major industry in Great Yarmouth in the 19th and 20th centuries.  
*Dr M Fewster*

**March 30**      **Cromer Lifeboats:** one of the most famous RNLI stations  
Come and learn more about its history.  
*Peter Stibbons*

**April 27**      **Boudica:** an iconic figure in the history of East Anglia. Yet what is fact, what is myth? Learn more from the author of two recent books on Boudica and her kingdom.  
*Dr John Davies (Norwich Castle Museum)*

**September 28**      **Details will be announced in the next Newsletter**  
A short AGM will precede this meeting

**Medieval Wall Paintings:** as a follow-up to the lecture by Matthew Champion on Church Wall Paintings it was agreed at the meeting to arrange an excursion in Spring 2010 to Houghton-on-the-Hill and Lakenheath to see the wall paintings. Rev Neil Batcock agreed to organise the excursion, and he together with Matthew Champion will provide the commentary in the two churches. A list of potential participants was gathered on Mardle Night in December, if you missed this opportunity and would like to be contacted when more information is available please send your name and telephone number to [peakeblk8@btinternet.com](mailto:peakeblk8@btinternet.com)

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## History Centre Diary

**Reopening** Tuesday, February 2nd: 10am till noon, then the first and last Tuesday morning in every month. Other times by arrangement.

**Members' Sessions** on Monday afternoons, February 1st, March 1st and April 12th: 2pm till 4pm. *Note: not April 5th which is Easter Monday.* Remember there is a £1.00 entrance.

**For more information:** [www.history-blakeney-area.org.uk](http://www.history-blakeney-area.org.uk)

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## Officer and Committee Members Contacts (Officers \*)

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