



# BAHS Newsletter

Number 30

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

January 2011

## Celebrating 20 Years!



On 'Mardle' night we celebrated 20 years of the Society's existence both in its present form and earlier manifestation. We had hoped that Chris Barringer (left) would be able to join us, but due to ill health he has had to decline. Instead we reviewed our early history (see page 2), followed by a slide show illustrating a few of the Society's activities and some recent additions to the History Centre. This was accompanied by a celebratory cutting of a cake – see a forthcoming issue of the Glaven Valley Newsletter – and a toast to the next 20 years. There were several displays illustrating members' interests and a recent course on 'House History'.



*(see page 5) View from Mariners Hill, Blakeney where earlier coastlines were outlined and the now not so new New Cut, and working of the former harbour was discussed. Photo by F Landes.*

### Subscriptions

If you're one of the handful of members who have not yet renewed their subscriptions, this is the last Newsletter you will receive. **If there is a blob in this square, reach for your cheque-book now:**



Subscriptions are still £10 for an individual and £14 for a couple at the same address, cheques to be sent to the Membership Secretary at Far House, Coronation Lane, Blakeney, Holt, NR25 7NS.

## Celebrating: The Early years

Records will show that the BAHS came into existence in 1997 and has grown from small beginnings into the Society of today with some 160 members and a wide range of activities. In reality, as most members will know, we had a former life as the Blakeney History Group set up in 1990 – hence the ‘20 years’ celebration at the meeting on 14th December. It was a great pity that Chris Barringer was not able to be present as he and Morris Arthur were the key figures in getting the History Group started. Since 1950, and no doubt before, a good many people had been interested in the history of Blakeney, Cley and Wiveton, all significant ports in medieval times. Booklets and articles had been published but none had done justice to the stirring history of these Glaven ports: either they were too brief or else they relied on previous publications rather than primary research. Peter Catling and Kenneth Allen, in particular, had gathered together much material which might have been used to write a coherent local history, yet it was broadly true that those who had researched the most had published least.

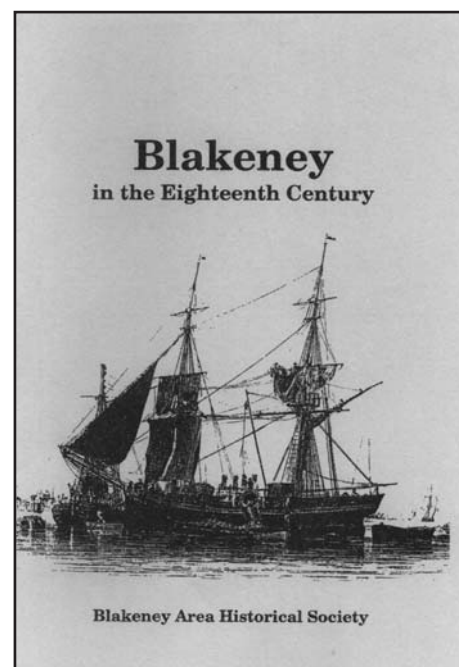
In the 1980s Morris Arthur was asking for some better record of Blakeney’s changing history. As a member of one of the prominent maritime families, he was aware that much knowledge was being lost as older residents – and the older way of life – passed on. In 1986, as a member of the Parish Council, he wrote a short report calling for existing knowledge to be recorded and preserved for future generations. He envisaged a village archive that would grow organically, have a safe home, and be accessible to all.

Meanwhile the Parish Council were prepared to support activities that would help the local community take an interest in its heritage. In 1986 Mary Ferroussat organised an exhibition of local

history in the Methodist Church which created much interest in the community, and she was among the small group of people who created Blakeney’s ‘heritage’ map portraying the most distinctive features of the village (copies are still on sale in the History Centre).

A crucial step towards initiating a ‘village archive’ was taken in 1990 when Chris Barringer, Extramural Board tutor, was invited to give a course of lectures for people prepared to take an active interest in village history. After an introductory public meeting in the Community Centre (now the Church Hall) Chris began his first course in October 1990 in the Gallery of the White Horse. Over 20 people attended the ten evening lectures in which copies of documents from the Norfolk Record Office relating to the Glaven villages provided the focus for discussion. Two more such courses followed in 1991 and 1992. After the first course some of the participants prepared the booklet *Blakeney in the 18th Century*, putting into effect the view that research should be followed by publication. Its production brought together the most active members who took the name The Blakeney History Group, not only to act as publisher but to pursue studies beyond Chris Barringer’s courses. At this stage the Group was still technically the Archival Subgroup of the Parish Council, for the Council had agreed to underwrite the cost of the courses, if necessary, and to provide a loan for printing the booklet. In 1994 this link was cut and the BHG became independent as an informal committee of 6 people, John Wright acting as secretary.

The Group became increasingly active during the next 3 years. Full UEA courses were held in the Chapel schoolroom on various aspects of Norfolk history. Course members studied the Romans, the Anglo-Saxons, agricultural history, coastal change and ecology, and there were walkabouts in Cley and in Stiffkey, and a visit to see some of the records in Holkham Hall. In 1995 the Group hosted the annual outing of the



**Blakeney in the 18th Century, our first publication, the fourth edition of which is now available...**

Norfolk Archaeological and Historical Research Group with an exhibition in the Chapel, talks in the morning and a walkabout in Blakeney in the afternoon. There were several meetings with Prof Brian Funnell who was keen to use early maps as part of his geological studies of the north Norfolk coastline but the collaboration ceased when he became ill and died. Other items on the Committee’s agenda included the offer of the undercarriage of a Lancaster bomber dug out of Blakeney channel, an offer declined when it became clear that the Guildhall was not going to be used as permanent exhibition space. Perhaps the most significant project was to record interviews with some of the older residents – which was started and ought to have progressed further.

Publication was a theme throughout the Blakeney History Group’s existence. Plans to produce another booklet along the lines of the first, but longer, did not come to fruition, but for a while Committee members supplied articles for the Glaven Valley Newsletter. The BHG also published *Blakeney Methodist Church 1812-1997*, with Committee members making contributions. The biggest project,

however, was to publish in 1996 *The Glaven Ports* in conjunction with its author, Jonathan Hooton. A superb study of the maritime history of Blakeney, Cley and Wiveton, it is fully researched and fully referenced, and still commands a high second-hand value. An initial edition of 400, numbered and signed by the author, was sold out before the launch date, and more had to be printed. Over 700 were sold by the BHG under a marketing agreement which entailed initial advertising and book distribution.

Another absorbing activity was to help Peter Carnell develop his own resistivity meter. The first trials were in Blakeney churchyard, followed by more at Wiveton Barn, although the discovery here of medieval walls owed more to the spade than to resistivity. Nevertheless, the experience gained was to lead to successful surveys at Bayfield church and at the 'Chapel' site on Blakeney Eye, as described in *The Glaven Historian*.

One item on the BHG's agenda was to have a significant impact on the Society's activities – the pursuit of space for a village archive in the proposed extension of Blakeney Village Hall. Peter Wordingham, chairman of the parish council at the time, led the search for funding. Bernard Crowe, District Councillor, also played a crucial rôle in this effort. The success of this project is there for all to see – and use – in the form of the History Centre which has been developed under the leadership of Pam and John Peake.

Even in 1993 the BHG had recognised the ambiguities in its organisation, for the Committee had contractual and financial commitments, and significant funds, but no formal structure – nor was there any formal membership. So in 1997 the Group took the plunge and became the Blakeney Area Historical Society, with a formal constitution and activities supported by members' subscriptions. An annual journal was introduced, with articles written by Society members, as well as regular Newsletters to keep members informed.

The History Centre and the Society's publications together are therefore fulfilling the original vision of the 'founding fathers': to record current information for future generations, and to provide opportunities both for research and for making the results known to a wider public. The Society has done much in its 20 years' existence and will continue to do so given the active support of its members.

*John Wright*

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## Keeping your hand in.

*by Dr Steven Cherry,  
26 October 2010*

**D**r Cherry started his very informative and entertaining talk by declaring his interest. He was, he said, a fan of cottage hospitals and he continued, while giving us a both a national and a local history of them, to stress the service that they gave in the past and can give now and in the future. He maintained that they were (and are) more important than most modern experts allow.

The movement seems to have started in the second quarter of the eighteenth century. Dr Cherry gave us a number of dates for early hospitals and subsequent developments which your reporter was too slow to note down. He listed three principal characteristics of these hospitals: their small size, that they were run by general practitioners and that they mostly served paying customers.

Some early ones had only four beds. In 1867 Howard Swete in his *Handy Book of Cottage Hospitals* said that a six bed hospital could be set up for £350. Swete published a plan in 1870 which became fairly typical with services and administration in the centre and wings on either side housing wards for men on one side and women on the other. These buildings were normally domestic in scale and vernacular in style and would be shared by several doctors practicing in the area sometimes being in charge

three months at a time in rotation. In this way they could afford a better set of surgical instruments and even eventually such things as x-ray equipment. Some of these hospitals, Cromer for example, grew into District Hospitals; some such as Moorefields developed specialist expertise. The map of East Anglia which Dr Cherry showed us was dated 1860 – 1939 and showed 3 Major Hospitals, 5 District Hospitals and 26 Cottage Hospitals which were important to their communities for accessibility and to local doctors in boosting their income and in developing and maintaining their skills particularly in minor surgical procedures. Hence the title of Dr Cherry's talk.

Relations with the Major Hospitals were not always smooth; Cromer resisted having patients sent from the Norfolk and Norwich simply for convalescence though sometimes transfer was in the other direction. Dr Cherry told us of a man called Reynolds admitted to Cromer in 1895 having been shot in the back of the head. After three weeks in a coma he was transferred to Norwich where x-ray showed that the bullet had gone right through his brain and was lodged at the front of his skull. Surprisingly he came out of his coma and was able to be discharged but two Norwich doctors who were particularly interested bought from him the right to his head when he came to die. Dr Cherry was pleased to tell us that he outlived them both!

*Frank Hawes*

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# News from the History Centre

Open Day this year was different, being replaced by the Centre opening every Tuesday morning during August and on many other mornings during the good weather. These extra openings proved successful in alerting visitors to our presence and generated much interest and sales.

Then there was the long overdue guided walk around Blakeney finishing on the Friary site, see separate report. This was followed by a short course on House History later in the autumn. The results of the course were on show at Mardle Night when participants shared their initial results by mounting a small exhibition. Two Cley properties were quickly traced back to the sixteen hundreds while a more recent Blakeney property had a very full account of development from fields to present day home, including the name of the builder and subsequent occupiers.

## House History

The above course was oversubscribed and for those who missed out or want to join in now there will be another course starting in March. The course is designed particularly for the villages of Cley, Blakeney and Wiveton. It is an opportunity to find out more about your house, the houses in your street or your village in general. Again class size has to be limited because of space in the Centre.

- Week one introduces the wide variety of sources available in working out the history of a property.
- Week two looks at sources for finding out about owners, occupiers and neighbours. Time will be spent exploring Land Valuation records of 1910, censuses, electoral rolls etc., working back in time to the Tithe maps and Enclosure Awards of the early nineteenth century and even earlier taxation lists.
- Week three concludes with the paperwork associated with properties; deeds of both copyhold and

freehold property, enfranchisement documents and Manorial records.

Dates are Wednesday March 30th, April 6th and 13th, time 10 am till noon, Venue the History Centre. Cost is £15. Ring 740388 to book your place.

For a less intensive look at house history and working at your own speed, try visiting the Centre on Monday afternoons Feb 7th, Mar 7th and April 4th when guidance can be provided during Members' opening.

## Recent Accessions

Dr Steven Cherry, lecturer at the October meeting gave us copies of

- *Health and Medicine in Rural Europe (1850-1945)*
- *The Rebirth of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital 1874-1883*
- *Sources for the History of Medicine in Late Medieval England* for our library.

Other gifts included an early brochure of the newly opened Blakeney Hotel and examples of their early letter headed notepaper, a printout of the transcript of the first parish register book for Wells-next-the-Sea (1547-1653) and a series of Deeds. These deeds were either for the Centre to copy or, in some instances, to retain the originals. The properties covered and date range are varied but are briefly described here as;

- Hilldrop Cottage, Wiveton 20th century
- Unidentified property in Wiveton belonging to John Aram, 1803
- Methodist Chapel site, Blakeney x 2, both dated 1786
- Westgate Street, Blakeney, initially two properties, Pightle and Driftwood (No.20), but then extending to include some aspect of Boat Barn Cottage, Store for Hills Home Supplies, Nos 18, 8 and 6 and the Kings Arms Inn. Date range is 1829 to 1992.

The last mentioned Deeds are a significant deposit for under-

standing the evolution of **Westgate St** as they begin with both a freehold and copyhold property immediately after Enclosure (1824) and act as markers through the censuses, the Land Valuation records of 1910 and then into living memory.

This is perhaps the time to remind members that Deeds are becoming scarce as property is registered with Land Registry and Deeds are no longer required as legal documents. Without this paperwork outlining sale and purchase/mortgage/gift or exchange of property, the history of a house, street and even the village, becomes harder to follow in less than general terms. Please consider allowing the Centre to copy any Deeds that you may hold, excepting always the more recent with personal details. Single Deeds or short runs are equally valuable, they are all part of a much bigger jig-saw and would be safely housed at the Centre for future research.

Another major deposit was a selection of **Peter Catling's photographs**, a scaled plan of the powered barge *Yankee* and a selection of maps, some original but mostly copies. The photographs cover street scenes in Cley, ships at Blakeney quay and out to the pit, the 1953 flood from Salthouse through Cley and Wiveton and onto Blakeney and finally a selection of family photographs, mostly of Catlings, Pashley and Parkers. The quality of reproduction is very good, (see photograph of George Corner, Cley before the rebuild in the late 1880s) and all have a caption. Some of the ship photographs will be familiar to members as they were used by Jonathan Hooton in his *Glaven Ports*, where he acknowledges the help Peter Catling provided as an "authority on Cley and an expert on the haven's ships and all matters maritime".

Lastly, two books have been purchased for the library; *William Faden and Norfolk's 18th Century Landscape* by Andrew MacNair and Tom Williamson and *The North Norfolk Coast* by Frank Meeres.

Andrew MacNair will be talk-



ing about his book in our spring program, while the second book is a chronological history of the coast and its villages from Hunstanton to Cromer, all in all an easy read with something on almost everything and plenty on the Glaven villages.

One example from page 84 gives a brief account of Mary Ann Arnold, described as 'a cross-dresser' who was shipwrecked and brought ashore at Blakeney. Like all shortened stories, there is much more and the full story can be read in the **Shipwreck and Misadventure** folder in the Centre. In essence, Mary Ann was an orphan aged 10 working in a rope-factory in Sheerness, Kent for just 2 shillings and sixpence a week. She quickly discovered that boys of her age, who went to sea, earned more money and were better fed. So she renounced her petticoats at that point and off she went. She succeeded in her quest until found out when she was 15 years of age and on board the *Robert Small* an East Indiaman off the Cape of Good Hope. An enterprising lass indeed.

### **Roots and Branches**

The following list of names represents the main families and individual currently being researched by visitors to the Centre;

**Riseborough** of Stiffkey, Morston and Blakeney

**Gerald Ackerman** artist

**Mountains/Laurence** of Wiveton

**Gooch** of Morston, Wiveton and Blakeney

**Pyman** of Blakeney

**Lake or Leake** of Blakeney

**Russell/High** of Blakeney

**Shinkfield/Mayes** of Blakeney

### **Picture Gallery**

No photograph to ponder over this time, just some answers to the photograph of the choir featured in the summer issue No.29. The photograph had neither names nor date and your help was requested. Surprise, surprise, I am delighted to say that answers have come in and read as follows (thank you one and all);

**Back row** (left to right); 1 Bill Hayward, 2 and 3 ?, 4 Malcolm Ormerod, 5 Leslie George, 6 Mr McEwan, 7 Aubrey Lubbock, 8 Jack Dale, 9 John Fish

**Middle row** (left to right); 1 Dick Wade, 2 Pat Ormerod or Edie Starling, 3 Jean George, 4 Renie Goldsmith, 5 Betty Bishop, 6 Vera Hill, 7 Elizabeth Hill, 8 Elizabeth Bishop, 9 Josephine Hill, 10 Sally Starling, 11 Pat Ormerod, 12 and 13?

**Front row** (left to right); 1 Deborah Hill, 2 Jane Barker, 3 Jane Hill, 4 Sarah or Alison Bishop, 5 Nicky Ormerod, 6 Rector Alan Gates, 7 Sarah Bishop? 8 and 9 ?, 10 Sarah Hill, 11 ?

Dated about 1969 to 1972

*Pam Peake*

## **Doing The Blakeney Walk**

**W**ith a dark sky threatening to open up throughout the day 18 members, locals and visitors joined John and Pam Peake for a fascinating amble through Blakeney.

We started at the church looking at the early graffiti inside the church, then through the churchyard looking at various interesting gravestones.

Crossing over the main road we started down the High Street, flattening ourselves against the walls when necessary, looking at the false fronts that have enhanced the importance of many of the older cottages. The size of flints used was also indicative of the 'standing' of the house's owner. The cottages opposite the residents' car park proved of great interest, at one time providing a High Street entrance for the large house behind.

A brief stop at the Methodist Chapel for biscuits and a cold drink, time to study some old photographs and plans, and to receive our excellent information packs.

Moving on down the High Street past the existing delicatessen (once a hardware shop?) to the White Horse, now a much larger establishment than it ever was in the past. A brief visit to the undercroft of the Guildhall before studying the line of the 19th century New Cut from the quayside and the route of the medieval road which crossed the marshes from the front of the Manor Hotel to the sea. In later years this was used as the access track to the golf course.

Descending Mariners Hill and walking up the track to the site of the Old Priory and Mill Tower, we then made our way back to the church.

Throughout the afternoon Pam and John continued to provide us with a constant stream of information. It was an afternoon well spent and we appreciated all the hard work and preparation that went into this interesting and informative walk.

*David Ford*

## Souvenir Crested China

At the end of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century visitors to the area had a vast array of real photographic and later printed post cards to use, or buy as mementoes.

The History Centre has a very large selection of these for Blakeney and Cley, many showing people who were likely to be residents and some with horse drawn or early motor vehicles as well.

Now it is much harder to find examples of souvenir crested china for Blakeney or Cley, but from about 1890 when the firm of W.H.Goss of Stoke on Trent introduced their first small pieces of souvenir crested china - initially copies of items in museums with the arms of the town, village or city - to the late 1930s crested china was a boom industry.

With the rise of sea side holidays and bank holiday excursions hundreds of thousands of homes had collections of crested china.

The firm of W.H. Goss started the industry and probably produced the best quality pieces. They created an efficient retailing system by appointing a single agent in each location who initially had sole rights to a specific crest, or locally based designs. The published works do not show that Goss ever produced items for Blakeney or Cley so had no need for an agent in either village.

Numerous other firms took advantage of the huge popularity of these usually relatively inexpensive mementoes. Arcadian is listed as producing items with Blakeney, Blakeney Norfolk and Cley-next-the-Sea. The fluted trumpet shaped vase with Blakeney Norfolk and the Cley-next-the-Sea comical cat (photos 1 and 2) are both marked Arcadian. The mark on the vase with the Blakeney crest was probably introduced in 1912.

The narrow necked vase (photo 3) is marked Willow Art China, a trade mark used by Hewitt & Leadbetter from about 1907.

The vase with four necks



**Photo 1: Arcadian Blakeney fluted vase.**



**Photo 2: Arcadian Cley cat.**



**Photo 3: Willow Art vase.**

(photo 4) is marked Alexandra China Made in England – a mark thought to have been used by the firm of Sampson, Hancock & Sons.

In the early twentieth century significant quantities of generally poorer quality crested china were imported from the Continent, particularly Germany and Czechoslovakia.

The Blakeney example uses a similar design to the Blakeney Neighbourhood Housing Society and the Fish/dolphin is based on a design in Blakeney Church. It is interesting because it also has the name of the retailer printed on the base (photo 5). J.C. Parker was a local entrepreneur who had various business interests in Blakeney being a photographer, draper, retailer of fancy goods and as we can see souvenir crested china.

If a village or town did not have a crest often the crest of a local family or the Lord-of-the-Manor was used instead. The examples showing Cley appear to imply that this is the crest for Cley-next-the-Sea, when in fact it is the arms of the Cozens-Hardy family living at Cley Hall who held the Lordship of the Manor of Cley (see *The Glaven Historian* 12). It is likely this transfer was based on the black and white printed book plate (photo 6) of Clement William Hardy Cozens-Hardy (1833-1906) who lived at Cley Hall from 1855 until his death. Experts in heraldry can distinguish colours from the slight differences in the engraved lines and hatching.

These intricacies were presumably confused by many manufacturers over the years though it must be said that the Arcadian Cat has the correct colouring so perhaps this is later when the error had been spotted, or just that some firms were more careful in checking the accuracy of the crests. None of these examples of Cley crested china have any details of the retailer, so for the time being it is likely to be difficult to determine who retailed souvenir china in the village. [there were only a handful of shopkeepers to choose from...]

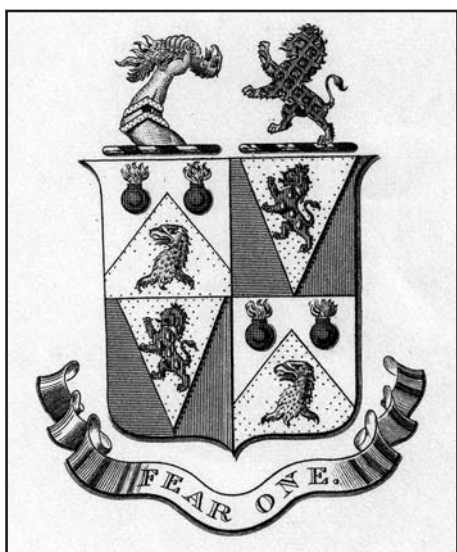
John Ebdon



**Photo 4: Four necked pot by Alexandra China.**



**Photo 5: Base markings for Arcadian's Blakeney china sold by J C Parker.**



**Photo 6: Cozens-Hardy book-plate thought to be the origin of the Cley crest.**

## The Whirlygig

by Fred Butcher  
28 September 2010

On 28th September some 65 members and guests heard an authoritative talk by Fred Butcher, a former RAF pilot, on the 'whirlygig', the local name for an enigmatic tarmac circle on Stiffkey Greens, astride the boundary with Warham. The tarmac is 16ft wide, the circle has a diameter of 150 ft, and in the centre is a metal post with remnant wires attached. What was it used for?

At Weybourne, just before WW2, large radio-controlled planes, based on the Tiger Moth, were catapulted aloft to act as targets for naval gunnery. These planes were known as Queen Bees – 380 were built, and there is a picture of one in the Muckleburgh Collection. In 1952 the US Airforce built the whirlygig at Stiffkey in order to launch their own target planes. For many locals, these too were Queen Bees .... wrong! They were the unromantically-named RCATs (radio-controlled aerial targets): much smaller, only 12 ft in length and wingspan, with a 4 cylinder 2-stroke engine. They could be launched from a ramp, but for a rotary launch they were strapped to a trolley and twice round the circuit was enough to get them airborne by cable release at c.85 mph. Top speed was c.200 mph. The Americans used them during and after the War, and some 50,000 were built.

The whirlygig had no connection with the adjacent Anti-Aircraft Practice Camp at Stiffkey. It was operated solely by US servicemen, based at Langham and occupying quarters either side of the Langham to Morston road. The RCATs were used not only for ground-to-air target practice, but also for simulated air-to-air practice (upwards only!) using guns that were normally mounted on B29 bombers, known hereabouts as Washingtons, stationed at Watton and Marham. If the planes were not shot down, they ran out of fuel and landed by parachute. And not always on the

ground: your reporter lived only 650 yards from the whirlygig and can vouch for one parking itself in the neighbour's garage and another landed on the roof of a house in the village. Mercifully, perhaps, the whirlygig had a short life – it closed in 1955. It was not quite unique: the British Army built another in the 1980s on Benbecula, in Scotland, for a jet-propelled version of the RCAT.

The lecture was followed by several comments from listeners who had some personal memory of the whirlygig in use. One had seen a plane shot down in flames, another had witnessed the launch of an RQ-3, an early and smaller British version of the RCAT. Fred Butcher was uncertain whether his work would be published, as his whirlygig findings are only part of extensive research on PTAs (pilotless target aircraft) started by Reginald Denny, a Briton living in USA. The speaker emphasised how hard it had been to find information about an activity whose detailed operation had almost disappeared from living memory – Ken Wallis, of autogyro fame, was the only known British 'expert witness' of a Stiffkey launch.

*John Wright*

## Feedback

### **Mrs Helen Knott, Sweetmaker**

A correction is required unfortunately: in the last issue there was a Feedback item giving further details of the sweetmaking 'career' of Mrs Knott. Embarrassingly I referred to her as Mrs *Hilda* Knott when in reality her name was Helen. In 14 point type too!

### **Mary Norwak**

Following the death in 2010 of celebrated cookery writer and 'food historian' Mary Norwak, her daughter, Sophie Archer, has given us the opportunity to publish some of her mother's writings. In the next Newsletter we will be publishing her 'History of the Dessert'.

# Spring/Summer Programme 2011

All the following meetings are 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.

Tuesday  
January 25

**Members' Night:** three short contributions by members.  
*Carole King:* 'Out and About': transport & leisure 1900-1950  
*Malcolm Paton:* My Nelson Connection  
*Richard Jefferson:* W J J Bolding & the Hamonds

Tuesday  
February 22

**'Where We Live':** Dr Bridges has made a special study of the coastal geology of North Norfolk and in this lecture he will explore the landforms and distribution of settlements in this area.  
*Dr E M Bridges*

Tuesday  
March 29

**Industrial Norfolk:** a return of a very popular lecturer from 2010 now talking on the development and ultimate demise of industry from the 18th century onwards.  
*Dr M Fewster*

Tuesday  
April 26

**Faden's Norfolk:** Faden's map, published at the end of the 18th century, provides an insight into the development of the Norfolk countryside. Dr MacNair has made a detailed study of Faden and the map, recently publishing a book on the subject.  
*Dr Andrew MacNair*

Tuesday  
September 27

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

Tuesday  
October 25

**Treasure** – the Staffordshire hoard and other recent finds.  
*Dr Roger Bland* (British Museum)

Reminders of all meetings are sent out to members every month by email. If you haven't received one, but want to in future, please let the Membership Secretary have your current email address (her email address is [farhouse@btinternet.com](mailto:farhouse@btinternet.com)).

**Spring Excursion on Tuesday 22nd March:** an outing is being organised to Ranworth Church with its magnificent and historically-important rood screen. Details have still to be finalised, but we will visit Ranworth in the morning, followed by a pub lunch, and visit another church in the afternoon. The leaders will be Revd Neil Batcock (Rector of the Glaven Valley) and Revd Nick Garrard (Rector of Ranworth). Cost will be £5. Names and money will be collected by Diana Cooke at the January and February meetings or phone her on 01263 740320. Diana Cooke's email address quoted in the last Newsletter was incorrect. It should be [cookediana@paston.co.uk](mailto:cookediana@paston.co.uk)

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## History Centre Diary

**Reopening** Tuesday, February 1st: 10am till noon, then the first and last Tuesday morning in every month. Other times by arrangement, phone 01263 740388

**Members' Sessions** on Monday afternoons, February 7th, March 7th and April 4th: 2pm till 4pm. Remember there is a £1.00 entrance.

**House History Workshop** by request this course is a repeat of the successful autumn course. Wednesday mornings March 30th, April 6th & 13th. 10am to noon at the Centre. Cost £15. Please phone 01263 740388 to book a place.

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