



BAHS Newsletter

Number 34

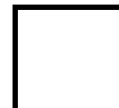
www.history-blakeney-area.org.uk

January 2013



The Time Team dig at Brancaster was broadcast on Sunday 6th January on Channel 4. If you missed it there may still be time to catch it via 4oD

and the Internet. Above is Time Team resident eccentric Phil Harding explaining a geo-physics readout using an,,, ice lolly. It was a hot day.



This is the blob of shame: if you have not yet renewed your membership there will be a mark in this box.

News from the History Centre

The summer exhibition *Tidal Lands*, held in collaboration with the National Trust, proved a huge success for both organisations. It was well attended with just over 300 people visiting on each of the four days, many making return visits. Even then, there was not enough time to take it all in. A sincere thank you to all those who prepared exhibits, volunteered as stewards and visited the exhibition.

Four months later the exhibition is still being talked about and numerous requests have been made to 'see it again' or even present it as a book. Now there's an idea! Meanwhile a selection of boards featured at the exhibition, will be on view in Blakeney Church throughout the year ahead. These will be found in the BAHS window bay located in the north aisle.

Accessions

We are now busy catching up with processing a backlog of accessions, all of which should have found their way onto the shelves in the Centre by the time it re-opens in February. New additions are:

- Books including Captain Maryat, Cley Marsh and its Birds, The origins of Norfolk, Victorian North Norfolk Sailing Ships (reviewed in this Newsletter), Maritime Norfolk, The Story of a Blacksmith's Forge at Cley, The Smiths of Ryburgh (with Morston connections) and RAF Langham 1940-1958.
- Photographs including the Yankee (1947), Binham Priory, Blakeney and Morston (1934), development of Samphire Close, Blakeney (2010/11) and 5 Judges postcards of Blakeney and Cley.
- Particulars and conditions of Sale for Estates in Blakeney and Wiveton that include a brewery and a pub (1839), Manor Farm House Blakeney (1929), The Morston Estate (1936), Ship Inn Blakeney (1968) and Friary House, also Blakeney (2012).
- Memories of a holiday in Morston, with photographs (1939); A



The Tidal Lands exhibition held at Blakeney Village Hall was a resounding success. Many visitors stayed for hours – and some even returned – as there was just so much to see and take in. (Top): Pamela Peake and Diana Cooke at bay.

Norfolk Childhood written by Mabel Kay, daughter of local GP, Dr Kay from the Manor Farm House in Blakeney; Fair Waved the Corn, Weybourne remembered 1920-1940.

- Board of Trade records for selected Ship Transcripts and Transfers 1826-1838 (BT 107) and Crew Lists, mostly 1837-1838 but some much later (BT 98). The latter are invaluable for locating elusive masters, mariners and early apprentices while the Ship Transcripts and Transfers are registrations for pre Victorian ships and thus, extend Stammers list featured in Victorian North Norfolk Sailing Ships.

Also from the Board of Trade are the records of locally born sailors with their Register Ticket Numbers (BT 120, BT 113 and BT 116). These Ticket Numbers provide dates of birth for those born before the advent of the GRO in 1837 and even more tellingly reveal their height, colour of hair and eyes, complexion, marks, whether they had ever been in the navy and for how long, age when they first went to sea and whether they could write – fabulous information for family historians.

- Masters and Mates Ticket Numbers (1850-1927) for those born in Langham, Morston, Salthouse, Stiffkey, Blakeney, Cley and Wiveton together with their place and date of birth.
- Sundry Papers that include Blakeney School Return of Staff 1903 and a catalogue of the Blakeney Festival 1951.

- The Letheringsett Deposit a parish archive researched and assembled over many years by David Mayes that he wishes to be kept locally, easily accessible by all. It is being deposited in two batches with the first deposit consisting of WI records; Village Notes 1937, Jubilee Year Scrapbook 1965, Minute Book 1920-1925 and Birthday photographs 1940. Also included here are the Diaries of A B Woodhouse, a Letheringsett Hall and Estate gardener, an estate map of 1800, Letheringsett and Little Thornage Cricket Club 1922-1952 and four Ordnance Survey Maps, 2nd edition 1907, covering the local area. The second deposit will feature the Coz-

ens-Hardy family and is expected shortly.

The Centre has also ordered the four volumes of Mary Hardy's Diary by Margaret Bird. These are due to be published in April. Together with the Parish Records, all the censuses and numerous other documents and photographs held by the Centre, our coverage of Letheringsett has now grown enormously. Do come and enjoy looking through it.

Roots and Branches

Several of the new folders prepared for the exhibition contain much that will be invaluable for family history research: Blakeney Pilots of the nineteenth century together with their parents, spouses and children and then an A to Z of nineteenth century north Norfolk Coastguards. The latter also contains much information on the Morston Coastguards including baptisms of children as well as family profiles of the Kings and Eales families.

Other new Family Folders cover the Lee/Porritt, Pashley and Fox and families of Cley. John Lee, merchant and miller, was the father-in-law of James William Porritt, merchant, shipowner and farmer. He in turn was the great grandfather of Patrick Kearney, artist, who left a wonderful legacy of ship paintings. Many of these paintings were subsequently photographed at full size by his daughter at which time a small selection was presented to the History Centre, where they may be viewed.

Current family research and enquiries includes;

Bishop, Rev Hugh Arthur and his son of Cley

Cooke and Brook of Blakeney

Cubitt of Blakeney and Salthouse

Durrants of Holt and Cley

Gidney, Spooner, Holmes of

Blakeney, Bale and Cley

Hudson of Quarles, Blakeney and Wiveton

Mallett of Blakeney

Manns of Blakeney

Nurse Richard and Sarah, latterly of Cley

Pinchen of Cley

Riseborough of Morston

Russell of Blakeney

Starling, Samuel and Ann Eliza of Cley

Temple of Wells and Morston

Thorn of Gunthorpe and Cley

Pamela Peake

Making use of our website

www.history-blakeney-area.org.uk

A copy of each newsletter since June 2005 is held on the website. Since July 2011 the newsletters have been in colour – not something that has found its way into the printed edition. You might like to take a look at Newsletter 31 to see the painted medieval panels at Ranworth Church in full colour. For members, the website is a useful port of call particularly when you cannot lay your hands on the society's last newsletter.

The synopsis of each article of every Glaven Historian may be found on the website. If you are looking for information on a particular subject an online search to find potentially relevant articles may be easier than browsing through each Glaven Historian. How to do this is described on the website.

Details of our events programme may be found on the website. If there are changes to the programme these are published on the website.

If you are thinking of visiting the History Centre the website provides information about the Centre including details of when it is open for members and visitors. To avoid a wasted trip please check before making plans to visit.

The society is often contacted to help with finding information on local families, houses and other matters. These requests are placed in our guest book. Again, please take a look at our guest book as you may well be able to help with one of the queries – or you may have a query of your own.

Finally, if you have any suggestions on how the website may be improved or if you find a problem with it then please contact me via email at info@history-blakeney-area.org.uk or speak to me at one of our events.

Richard Daley

A Brief History of G-ADKL: an Aeroplane Once Owned by Hubert Blount of Cley



This article started with an email from Peter Johnson who is, with his wife, the current owner of this historic aeroplane. He wanted to be put in touch with Sarah Woodhouse (née Blount), the daughter of the original owner. This I was able to do, and in return he provided me with the above photo and a copy of a “non-technical” history of the plane which nevertheless runs to fourteen pages yet ends ten years ago.

A section of the original CAA Registration is also shown together with a cockpit view of another Hornet Moth, also preserved. What follows is a few extracts from the ‘History of G-ADKL’.

1938

On 11th April the aircraft is registered to Hubert Blount, of Byams Farm, Tetbury, Gloucestershire. The aircraft is registered as based at Whitchurch, Bristol, but Blount also had an address at Blakeney Point, Morston, Norfolk. The Certificate of Airworthiness was renewed at Whitchurch on 25th November. It may have been at

this time that the type A elliptical wings were replaced with type B square wings, as this corresponds to the sequence of the undated entry change in the CAA’s records.

Charles Blount, Hubert Blount’s son, although born after the war, remembers cine films and photographs of the Hornet being towed down the lane and flown from Byam’s Farm.

1939

The day that war was declared Hubert Blount was at Blakeney Point, where he used the “cockle-sands” (beach) just to the west of the Lifeboat House as a landing strip.

“He had planned to stay the night in a small wooden hut there owned by the family, but that afternoon an urgent message reached him that war had been declared. Being high tide by then, and no take off possible, my father had to peg down the aircraft amongst the sand dunes and left by boat. The aircraft remained at Blakeney Point for two or three weeks while he sorted out his call up papers and before he could

get back to Norfolk to collect it and fly it home to Tetbury. (from a letter from Sarah Woodhouse (née Blount), Hubert Blount’s daughter, aged 4 in 1939) Sarah Woodhouse continues: “The second vivid memory I have is of the sadness and urgent hurrying during those tense few days before my father left for France with his regiment (13/18th Hussars). The (Hornet) Moth was normally kept in an open fronted shed in the yard and would be pushed down the road, wings folded, into the one field flat enough to fly it from. Knowing that the chances of the plane being requisitioned by the War Ministry were very high, my father ploughed up the “airfield”. Then I remember helping both my parents push the plane into the very back of our big barn and pile hay in front of it right up to the roof so that it was completely hidden”.

The Certificate of Airworthiness expired on 24th November and was not renewed until 1946. Byam’s Farm is close to the Westonbirt Arboretum and now houses the Willesley Equine Clinic.

DESCRIPTION OF AIRCRAFT *V.H. 87A "Hornet"*
2 seater biplane.

FILE No. *4457316/180*
do. *R2207/46*
S9AD 6653/2

CONSTRUCTOR'S No. *8035*

CERTIFICATE OF AIRWORTHINESS (if any). No. *5284*

CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION (if any). No. _____

CATEGORY *Normal*

SUB-DIVISIONS *(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)*

Certificate No.	Full Name, Nationality and Address of Owner		Usual Station	Date of Registration	From the Date Shown, Registration Lapsed on Account of—		
	Full Name and Address	Nationality			Change of Ownership of Aircraft	Destruction or Permanent Withdrawal from Use of Aircraft	Cancellation by the Secretary of State
<i>8448</i>	<i>Hubert Blount,</i> <i>Pyrams Farm,</i> <i>Willesley, Tetbury,</i> <i>Glos.</i>	<i>British</i>	<i>Whitchurch,</i> <i>Bristol.</i>	<i>11.1.38</i>	<i>18.1.40</i>		
<i>8448 1/2</i>	<i>Western Airways Ltd</i> <i>The Airport,</i> <i>Western super-Mare,</i> <i>Somerset</i>	<i>British</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>30.5.46</i>	<i>17.4.46</i>	<i>Sold abroad.</i>	
<i>8448 3</i>	<i>Western Airways Ltd</i> <i>The Airport</i> <i>Weston-Super-Mare</i> <i>Somerset</i>	<i>British</i>		<i>1.11.46</i>	<i>2.11.46</i>		
<i>8448 4</i>	<i>Stephen Karpeles-Schenker,</i> <i>64 Quenborough Lane</i>	<i>British</i>		<i>11.12.46</i>	<i>2.11.47</i>	<i>Sold abroad</i>	



1940
Sarah Woodhouse: *"The feeling of anxiety and the idea in my mind of evil intent by some unknown men was confirmed some months later, when men did come with a low loader and I watched the (Hornet) Moth winched up onto a lorry and driven off"*.

The registration was cancelled as sold on 18th January 1940 and 8035 was formally impressed into the RAF on 20th February.

Hubert Blount was badly wounded at Alamein but started flying again as soon as he got home in 1945. He then had a Taylorcraft Auster and used it to

commute to Blakeney Point (Cley Windmill was then the family holiday home) before he moved permanently to Cley in 1950. He also had a Miles Messenger in which he taught his daughter Sarah to fly. His son Charles also became a pilot and flew professionally with the Army. The Auster was Hubert Blount's last aircraft and he stopped flying in the early 1960s. He died in 1982.

The aircraft was recorded as "surrendered" by H. Blount and was delivered to N° 5 C.P.F., Carew Cheriton, as G-ADKL on the 21 January and made its first Scarecrow anti-submarine patrol as W5750 on 19th March.

After the war it was sold to Western Airways at Weston-super-Mare in 1946 who in turn sold it on to Stefan Karpeles-Schenker. By 1947 it had been sold abroad to France and didn't return to the British Register until 1959. From 1961 it was based at Luton Airport and operated by a group unofficially known as the Luton Wildcats.

Flying back to Luton from

Plymouth on 9 July 1966 the pilot muffed his take off and collided with two other planes. G-ADKL was badly damaged and the remains were later cannibalised for spare parts, which ought to have been the end of the story but in the 1980s the plane was completely rebuilt and restored by Laurence Rice of Warminster, Wiltshire, before being sold on to Alain de Cadenet in 1989.

De Cadenet used it to fly around the Dordogne where he had a house, though it retained its British registration. As the result of a misjudged landing at Bergerac, de Cadenet damaged the undercarriage which resulted in another period of disuse as he searched for spare parts. After repairs it was little used and its C of A expired in May 1995 and was not renewed until 2002 by which time it was in the ownership of Peter Gould, though still based in France. It was later repatriated and in 2012 was sold to the Johnsons.

Will we see G-ADKL at Blakeney again? Only time and Mr Johnson can tell.

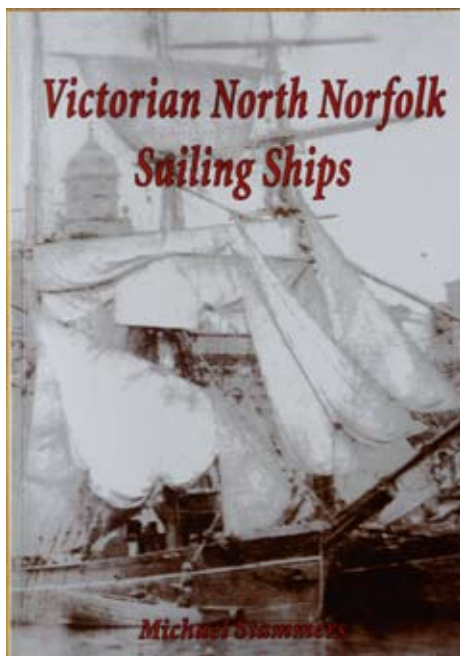
population could read. In 1870 the Government set up school boards aiming to provide a school place for every child and in 1903 responsibility for education was taken over by the County Councils with an intensive building programme between 1902 and 1909. Dr Wade Martins spoke of developments through the early twentieth century and resulting in the 1944 Education Act by which time there were greater efforts to prepare children for further education.

Qualification for teaching developed slowly and in 1902 training of teachers was taken over by the state though denominational training colleges had started in the nineteenth century. Most teachers started as assistants or pupil teachers and when training colleges were established applicants had to have at least two years experience as a pupil teacher before being accepted.

Through all this time there had been tension between those who saw the role of education as helping children to achieve their potential and those to whom education meant teaching children to be accepting of their given place in society. Farmers, who made up a large proportion of rural school governors and whose rates were paying for the schools, wanted a steady supply of labour and many parents wanted and probably needed the income from their children working in the fields. It was not surprising that there was emphasis on gardening for the boys and plain needlework, patching and mending for the girls but it was sad to see a child being instructed to be 'lowly and reverent to my betters'.

There was wider scope, greater detail and more entertainment in the talk than it has been possible to include here but it is hoped that the research will be written up and published so that it is available to all interested parties.

Frank Hawes



Victorian North Norfolk Sailing Ships

by *Michael Stammers*

This, the latest book from Michael Stammers, is a must for any student of North Norfolk history. He is a well-known maritime historian, Keeper Emeritus of the Merseyside Maritime Museum, a Norfolk man and member of the BAHS.

After a general introduction he goes on to describe over 450 ships that were owned or operated in the North Norfolk ports of Cley and Wells during the Victorian era. Mostly this consists of entries from the Ship Registers maintained by the Board of Trade and the Customs & Excise, with additions from the local press and other sources. The registers were introduced in 1826, but the earliest extant registers for this area date from the 1830s, hence I suppose his choice of period.

The most basic Register entries consist of registered tonnage, dimensions (using the rather odd metric foot), date and place of building, and the first Master. Often, subsequent Masters and ultimate fate are noted and even changes in ownership are recorded for some vessels.

Unfortunately there are a number of typos which seem to hint at a rather hurried production, but stranger still are the omissions: several well-known North Norfolk ships do not appear even

though they were still in operation in 1837 at least, this being the year of Victoria's accession to the throne, and are recorded as such in the Board of Trade transcripts of the Registers available at the National Archive.

Prominent among these missing vessels are the *Cruizer*, the *Gough*, and the *Friends' Adventure*. Also worth a mention are the *Naiad*, the *Juno*, the *Rising Star*, the *George & Dragon*, the *Silver*, the *New Glory*, the *Messenger* and the *Pomona*.

These quibbles apart, this book is still a must buy and at only £7.50 direct from the author, has to be a real bargain. Send your cheques to:

Michael Stammers
Wodehouse
55 Kimberley Drive
Great Crosby
Liverpool
L23 5TA

My thanks to Pam Peake for her great help in compiling this review. There is a copy of the book in the History Centre for those who want to try before they buy.

Richard Kelham

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 the square on the front page, reach for your chequebook now:

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

Spring Outing

A Spring Outing is being arranged to visit churches at Barton Turf and Worstead – date and details yet to be confirmed. Places are limited so anybody interested in going should contact Diana Cooke on 01263 740320 or at the next Meeting.

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Winter/Spring Programme 2013

Events

Unless stated all the 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 29**

Mardle Night. History in the Making: Bernard Bishop, Graham Lubbock and Johnny Webster will reminisce about their work in the local and changing landscape.

**Tuesday
February 26**

River Bure: Philip will be exploring the landscape and agriculture of the upper Bure through photographs and postcards.
Philip West

**Tuesday
March 26**

Camel, Eye of a Needle and Christmas Colours: Spike Bucklow led a major survey of Norfolk's rood screens. He will talk about the results of this research.
Dr Spike Bucklow, Hamilton Kerr Institute, Cambridge

**Tuesday
April 30**

Ancient Egypt and the Blakeney Connection: revealing a little known but important connection with Egyptology which arose in 1934 when the Brackley family purchased The Old Rectory.
Christopher Coleman, Honorary Research Fellow, UCL

**Tuesday
September 24**

Cities, Cogs and Commerce: historically the North Sea was the super-highway for trade and people, Brian will explore the material culture of this world. NB This is the lecture Brian had hoped to give last December.
A short AGM will be held at the start of this meeting.
Dr Brian Ayers, Research Associate, UEA

History Centre Diary: New opening hours

The History Centre is closed throughout January and will reopen on 5th February and thereafter on the first and last Tuesday morning in every month, 10.30am to 1.00pm. Other times by arrangement, phone 01263 740388 to make an appointment.

Members' Sessions on Monday afternoons, 2pm till 4pm: February 4th, March 4th and April 1st.

Anyone wishing to use maps and film or fiche readers is advised to book in advance. Phone, as above, or send SAE envelope to History Centre, Blakeney Village Hall, Langham Road, Blakeney, Norfolk NR25 7NP
More information available on: www.history-blakeney-area.org.uk

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