



BAHS Digital Newsletter

Issue 9

31st December 2022

www.bahs.uk

Welcome

Welcome to this rather delayed issue of the Blakeney Area Historical Society digital newsletter. This newsletter is sent to all current and past members plus individuals who have signed up to our information emails.

In this newsletter, along with much else, we have articles on:

- *Old buoys remembered* by John Wright
- *Customs Officers* by Richard Kelham
- *Sporting events* from Sylvia Claxton's Scrapbooks by Michael Archer
- *Lt-Col. R.F. Meiklejohn D.S.O* by Richard Jefferson

The editor would like to thank all those who have provided contributions. Contributions are always welcome and may be sent to the editor at any time and we will endeavour to publish in an upcoming issue.

Printing: A few days after the digital newsletter is published a copy is placed on the website. If you wish to print the newsletter it is best to use the one on the website.

Feedback: If you have any thoughts on how the newsletters may be improved, please let us know by emailing info@bahs.uk.

Finally, before you settle down to read the newsletter, please note that information contained in the newsletter is copyright of the author and is published as provided and with their permission. Despite best efforts, the occasional mistake may slip through. If so, please blame the editor not the contributors.

Richard Daley, Editor

2023 Lectures

The 2023 series of lectures starts with:

- Tuesday 31st January at 2:30pm
Members' Talks:
 - *Huguenot Connections* by Diana Cooke.
 - *William Allen's Ships: Work in Progress* by Jonathan Hooton.
- Tuesday 28th February at 2:30pm
Archaeology of the Norfolk Coast by David Robertson.
- Tuesday 28th March at 7:30pm
Fransham: People and Land in a Central Norfolk Parish by Andrew Rogerson
- Tuesday 25th April at 7:30pm
To Be Confirmed

All lectures will be at Cley Village Hall at the time stated above. If possible, they will run simultaneously on Zoom so those who cannot attend in person may do so online. Please visit www.bahs.uk/activities/events/planned-events for further details and updates.

Recorded Lectures

Lectures that have been recorded may be viewed by visiting www.bahs.uk/activities/events/lecture-recordings.

Payments By Card!



To minimise payments by cash the Society is now able to take payments at meetings by card whether contactless or chip and pin.

Richard Daley

Donations

Thanks to all who have made donations at meetings or online.

As you may remember, the Society restarted lectures in Cley Village Hall and the Committee decided to continue making lectures available (when possible) at the same time on Zoom and also, if possible, provide a copy on the website for viewing later. The Committee recognised that it had been charging those attending in person to attend whilst those watching online didn't pay which seemed inequitable so the entry fee was dropped. The consequence is that lectures run at a loss and we rely on donations to help reduce this loss.

If you do watch online or view recordings at a later date please consider making a donation to TSB, bank account *Blakeney Area Historical Society*, account number 18327968, sort code 30-94-34.

Richard Daley

Have Your Say

One benefit of sending out a newsletter is that it provides a means for the committee to ask readers to provide feedback on Society activities and publications. The committee finds it difficult to know if it doing the best for its membership and those who might be on the cusp of membership so it would be interested in hearing your thoughts on:

Lectures

- Is the mix of lectures appropriate for your interests?
- Are there any subjects that you feel are not covered sufficiently or covered too frequently?
- Is the balance of two afternoon meetings and five evening meetings appropriate?
The afternoon meetings in January and February were introduced to reduce evening travel during two winter months but possibly more afternoon meetings would be preferable.
- Do you benefit from meetings going out live on Zoom?
- Are recorded lectures of benefit if you cannot make a meeting either in person or on Zoom?

Membership

- Are the information emails too frequent, about right or not frequent enough?
- Do you have any views on the categories of membership, the cost of membership and communication to members?

Other

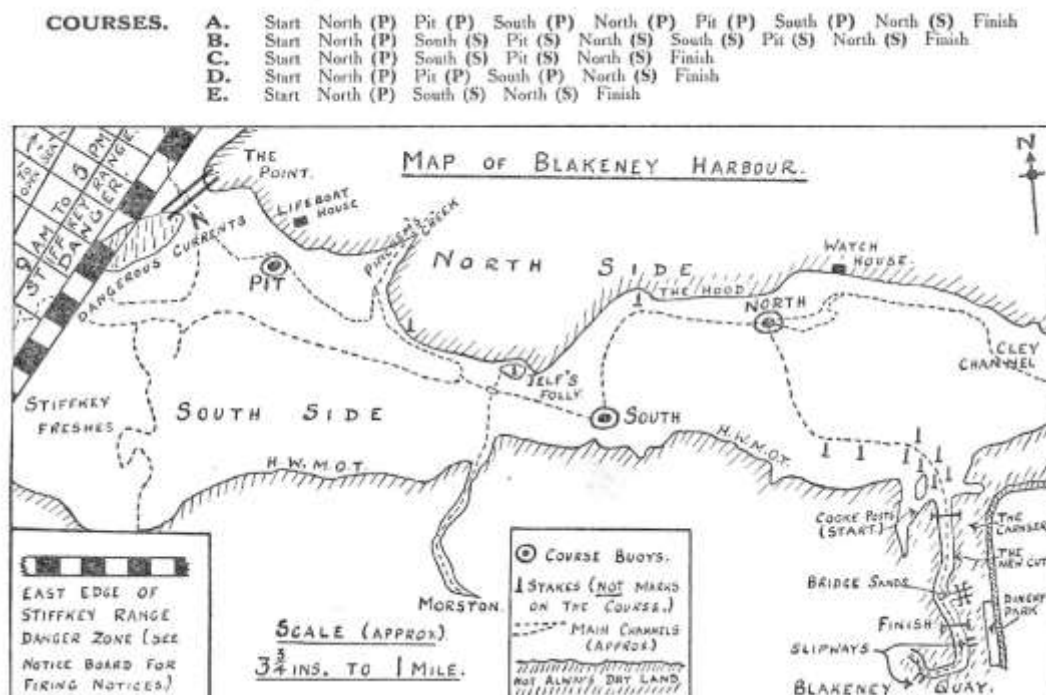
Do you have any other comments you would like to pass on?

Please address your comments to info@bahs.uk

Old buoys remembered

Among items received in the History Centre during 2022 was a small sketch-map produced by the Blakeney Sailing Club (BSC) in about 1954 showing the position of their racing buoys in the harbour and the various courses around them. The map is a simplified one but has some interesting features.

Prominent is the boundary of the Stiffkey firing range at the western end of the harbour. The straight line shown is a schematic boundary, the actual one is precisely defined in a set of bye-laws produced by the War Department in 1938 for the light anti-aircraft artillery range at Stiffkey. The range extended over marshland and sea with an eastern boundary along the edge of the West Sands, thereby excluding the Glaven estuary. The schedule has reference to the eastern entrance to the harbour, thereby implying the existence of a western one. This has had an intermittent existence and an echo of it appears on the OS map of 1838, illustrated in the *Glaven Historian No. 17* (2020). The bye-laws are quite detailed and prohibit anyone from entering the range when firing is taking place, although there are numerous exemptions for a variety of vessels and also for 'sheep grazing unattended on the marsh within the danger area'. The army camp at Stiffkey was closed in 1955.



The map also shows a channel separating the end of the Point from the main spit which appears to be the breach caused by the 1953 flood. The unwary might see there a bridge but the lines are a reminder that Sailing Club boats should keep clear of the 'dangerous currents'.

Only three BSC buoys are shown, fewer than exist today among all the navigation buoys. In his unpublished History of Blakeney and its Havens Peter Catling refers to these three buoys. While he was Commodore he had the Pit buoy moved towards the north-west, to a more sheltered spot out of the main channel. The South buoy was previously known as the Scaup buoy, from its location in the Scaup Run, and the North buoy at the junction of the Cley and

Blakeney channels was once known as the Eighteen Penny buoy. Peter does not speculate on the origin of the name.

Listed are five courses to be selected according to time, tide and weather, with P (port) and S (starboard) indicating how boats should round the buoys. In the 1950s races started in the New Cut at the Cooke posts and usually finished at the Sim posts between the Carnser slipways – with a shot-gun reception for the first three home in each race. The map shows no BSC boat moored in the harbour although their records show negotiations during the 1950s for the use of *Smuggler*, normally moored at the quay. Since then most races have begun and finished at a start-boat (currently *Lapwing*) moored in the main channel.

Names for features in the harbour change over time, but the few shown on the map are in current use apart from Jelf's Folly more usually known as Tibby Head, a name which appears on the 1838 map. The beacons marked on the BSC map were then mostly old tree trunks and some of these too had names. The one on the north side nearest to the Hood stands on a spot now known as Shingle Knoll whereas in the 1950s it was the Walls Back Beacon, marking a patch of shingle where fishing nets could be scudded. The origin of that name is not known, although on the map by Greenville Collins prepared in 1693 the word 'wall' is written in that vicinity – meaning what? Fascinating things, maps.

John Wright

Customs Officers



*An C18 woodcut of a Customs Riding Officer and his horse.
He would have received an allowance of £10 a year for the upkeep of his horse.*

In the Q&A session at the end of a recent BAHS Lecture by Margaret Bird the question was asked “What is a Tide Waiter?” The answer is that he (it was always ‘he’

in those days) was one of the Customs Officers, in this case based at Cley, in the eighteenth century who laboured under various peculiar, but apposite, titles. But first a few words about the organisation of HM Customs in this period.

Top of the pecking order were the three patent officers, so-called because they were appointed by "letters patent under the Great Seal" – in other words their positions were in the gift of some powerful noble. They were the Customer, the Controller (or Comptroller), and the Searcher. When, as was frequently the case, the customs were farmed out there would be a fourth officer known as the Collector whose function it was to make sure the other officers discharged their duties properly. Outsourcing, so beloved of this government, has a long and ignoble pedigree.

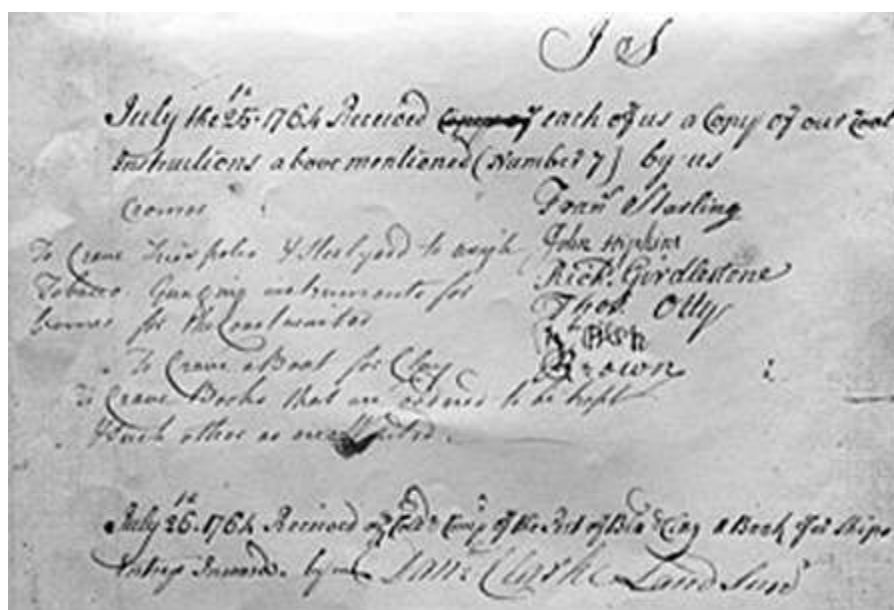
Of the regular complement, the Customer was signatory of all warrants, writs and other such documents, and would have half the seal used to authenticate the cockets and certificates that a ship's master needed to show that his cargo had been duly customed. The other half of the seal was in the possession of the Controller whose main job seemed to be to keep an eye on the Customer. They both kept copies of the accounts – which were expected to tally.

An outpost like Cley – remember the head port of this area was Yarmouth – would have had a range of lesser officers with such titles as Waiter & Searcher, Sitter in the Boat, Tide Surveyor, and Coal Meter among others, all of whose appointments were in the hands of the Patent Officers, who were not above extracting a fee for their patronage. Presumably the size of the premium would be related to the opportunities for enrichment offered by the post. In 1779 the establishment at Cley consisted of eight men (and a horse), whose combined salaries were £62 10s per quarter plus expenses. They were expected to augment their meagre stipends by charging fees for the issue of cockets and certificates, by taking commission on coal metered, and rewards for contraband seized, the cost being defrayed by the sale of confiscated goods.



Relief carving over the door of Cley Customs House depicting Customs officers at work.

In the National Archive at Kew there is a copy of a letter (CUST96/155) sent on 21 July 1764 from the head office in London to the Customs House at Cley spelling out the duties and responsibilities of the various officers at that place written in the florid style of the times which does at least list the posts in question – and bears the signatures of the six lesser mortals entrusted with carrying them out, though not the two most senior officers (possibly Peter Coble and Thomas Humphrey). The posts listed were Land Surveyor, Deputy Searcher, Landwaiter, Coastwaiter, Tidesurveyor, and Coal Meter. The signatories were Francis Starling, John Hipkins, Richard Girdlestone, Thomas Otty, ?Pilch (this man, who seemed to be effectively illiterate, I can find no further trace of), and Robert? Brown – presumably they signed in the same order as their duties were described.



The signatures on the 1764 letter.

Other letters from earlier in the century list actual appointments and show that many of the posts could be doubled up. For instance, on 16 January 1715 John Reeder was sworn in as Surveyor, Waiter and Searcher. The same document shows that there were no fewer than eight men sworn in as coal meters at this port over the ten years 1715-1725, many of them serving concurrently, an indication perhaps of the importance of the coal trade. The 1764 letter instructs the coal meters to measure the stuff as it is unloaded into lighters in the Pit rather than wait until it is brought ashore. At least one man was outstationed at Cromer to check on the coal being unloaded on the beach there. In 1738 this was the task allotted to Anthony Ditchell, in 1861 to Robert Rooke. The letter also instructs how to rumage a vessel and the amount of dutiable goods that could be ascribed to the use of the Master and crew and thus ignored.

Other letters – the correspondence by modern standards was not voluminous – list the complement at Cley in other years, occasionally giving insight into just what was involved in “swearing-in”. John Hipkins, for example, who was 40 years old when originally sworn-in on 6 April 1762, had to provide securities of £200 from John Mann, Master Mariner, and another John Hipkins, barber. Interesting too is the implicit acceptance that the Customs were in competition more often than in cooperation with the Excise and that actions were taken on a first come first served basis. Sometimes the military were involved too, but only by invitation. It was a wild old time.

There is a mass of incidental information on the operation of our local Customs House to be found in the CUST96 class at the National Archives, material for a fine essay or two if anyone has the time or the inclination. The first part of this article is a re-working of something I wrote for the first [Glaven Historian](#) back in 1998 – ye gods, was it that long ago? – as part of an assessment of the accuracy of the Port Books. It is available from the BAHS website.

Richard Kelham

Connections with Tanks

At the meeting in November, in addition to the speakers Caroline Holland and Eric Hotblack a great niece and great nephew of Elliot 'Boots' Hotblack, were Liz Buxton, another great niece and her husband Jonathan. A further two more distant family connections, Sue Rosser and Graham Solberg also attended.

Another Norfolk man, Philip Hamond was an early tank officer, whose very good notes are often quoted in tank books, so it was nice to have two of his grandsons, Phil and Jamie Athill in attendance.

'Boots' Hotblack's number 2 reconnaissance officer was Clough Williams-Ellis (a Welsh architect known chiefly as the creator of the Italianate village of Portmeirion in North Wales) who ultimately succeeded him, wrote *The Tank Corps* in 1919. He was not really a writer so it was mostly written by his wife Amabel. Jenny Hudson who attended the meeting is researching this rather underappreciated writer Amabel Williams-Ellis (née Strachey).

Clough's story is interesting and his Wikipedia entry is a good introduction at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clough_Williams-Ellis.

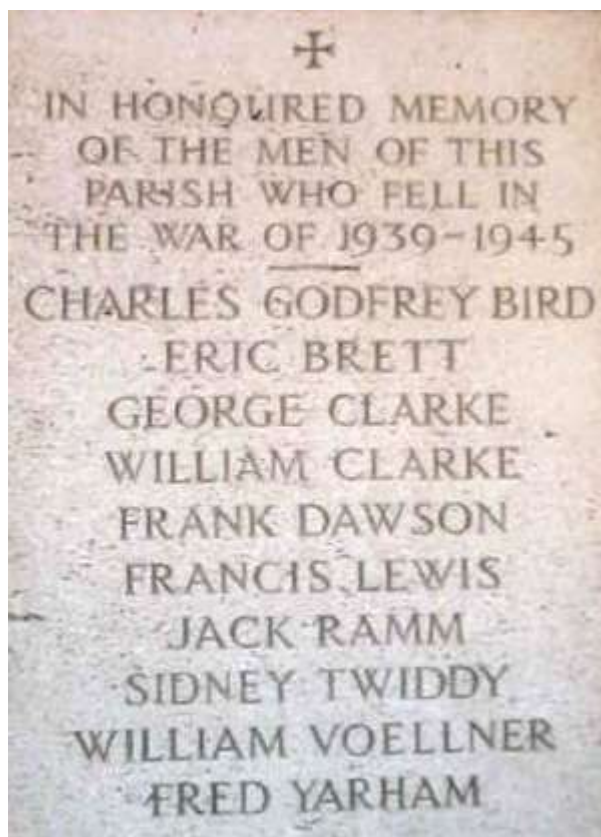
Most surprisingly at the meeting was a family connection of Walter Wilson, who whilst he cannot be called the inventor of the tank was certainly its chief designer. In 1919 Walter along with William Tritton was awarded £15,000 jointly – the largest award given which clearly recognised the contribution of his innovative design.

Richard Jefferson brought along a picture of a young family member standing beside a derelict tank in the battlefield immediately after the war. It was had a "D" designation so may have been one of the many D Battalion tanks wrecked at Flesquières.

Eric Hotblack

Information on George Clarke and William Clarke

Richard Jefferson is researching the Cley War Dead from the 1939-1945 War, listed below on the memorial in St Margaret's Church. He has put together writing on eight men, but has no proof on the identity of George Clarke and William Clarke. If anyone can help with these two, or with any detail on the others, he would be grateful if you could get in touch at rij91@btinternet.com



Richard Jefferson

Lt.Col. R. F. Meiklejohn D.S.O



Figure 1: Stone birdbath in Cley churchyard

In the extension churchyard to Cley Church stands a stone birdbath (figure 1) 'IN EVER LOVING MEMORY OF LT.COLONEL RONALD FORBES MEIKLEJOHN D.S.O 4th NOVEMBER 1949.' (figure.2). This feature has been known to me for over forty years, and reinforced about ten years ago when looking at the Cley Roll of Honour website as part of my research of the Cley men killed in the 1914-18 War and commemorated on the war memorial in the Lady Chapel in St Margaret's. The last item on the website, with illustration, is 'Birdbath Memorial in Churchyard to Lifelong Villager'. Meiklejohn 'died of old age' but is remembered as a war hero.



Figure 2: Dedication to Lt.Colonel Meiklejohn D.S.O.

It was only a few months ago, trawling the website, that I found Meiklejohn's medals (figure 3) had been sold at auction in May 2018 and had fetched £6,000. From the left: Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.) 'for conspicuous gallantry at the battle of Colenso' (December 1899 in the Boer War in South Africa); Queen's Sudan; Queen's South Africa; 1914 Star; British War and Victory Medals; Order of St Vladimir, 4th Class (a Russian medal); Khedive's Sudan – a fine group of medals.



[Click Image to Zoom](#)

Lot 14 [Back to Search Results](#)

Date of Auction: 9th May 2018

Sold for £6,000 **Estimate: £4,000 - £5,000**

A Boer War 'Colenso' D.S.O. group of eight awarded to Colonel R. F. Meiklejohn, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who was wounded and taken prisoner at Mons in August 1914, and interned in Switzerland for the duration of the war; he afterwards served with the North Russia Expeditionary Force and was later an intelligence officer in the Baltic

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER, V.R., silver-gilt and enamels, complete with top suspension brooch; QUEEN'S SUDAN 1896-98 (Lt. R. F. Meiklejohn, 1/R. War. R.); QUEEN'S SOUTH AFRICA 1899-1902, 2 clasps, Relief of Ladysmith, Cape Colony (Capt. R. F. Meiklejohn, D.S.O., Devon. R.) back strap of top clasp cut away to facilitate mounting, official correction to post-nominal letters and part of unit; 1914 STAR, with clasp (Major R. F. Meiklejohn, D.S.O. R. War. R.); BRITISH WAR AND VICTORY MEDALS (Lt. Col. R. F. Meiklejohn.) the British War Medal officially re-impressed; **Russia**, ORDER OF ST VLADIMIR, 4th Class, with swords, gold and enamels, 1908-17 kokoshnik mark and maker's mark to hilts of swords, maker's mark on suspension ring; KHEDIVE'S SUDAN 1896-1908, 2 clasps, The Athara, Khartoum (Lieut. R. F. Meiklejohn, The Royal Warwickshire Regt.) back strap of top clasp cut away to facilitate mounting, original Spink & Son court mounting, generally good very fine (8) £4000-5000

Figure 3: Meiklejohn's medals at auction

Ronald Forbes Meiklejohn was born in October 1876 and educated at Rugby School before joining the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in September 1896. He served in the

Nile Expedition in 1898. In the South African War in 1899 he took part in the relief of Ladysmith, then the actions of Colenso and Spion Kop, before operations in Cape Colony. Back in England he passed the Staff College exam. On 1st January 1903 he married Kathleen Stella Myburgh in Kensington, London. A son, Ian Forbes Meiklejohn, was born on the 16th July 1907. Various Staff appointments took Meiklejohn to April 1914 when he was appointed Major (figure 4) and second-in-command of his Royal Warwickshire Battalion.



Figure 4: Lt.Colonel Robert Forbes Meiklejohn D.S.O.

At the start of hostilities against Germany the Royal Warwickshires were in France, and at the Battle of Le Cateau on 26th August 1914 (with the British Expeditionary Force in retreat after the Battle of Mons) Meiklejohn was wounded by a shrapnel bullet, which passed through the front of his foot and broke three bones. He was taken to a church in the village which was full of wounded. That night the British troops evacuated the village leaving the wounded, who were captured by the Germans the next day. Meiklejohn was sent by train to Germany and was held there until being interned in Switzerland in May 1916.

Repatriated after the war, Meiklejohn was appointed a Staff Officer with the North Russia Expeditionary Force (hence the Russian medal), then in 1921 was attached to the Finnish Military Mission where he was employed in the Foreign Service in the Baltic States as an intelligence officer up to his retirement from the army in 1927. His marriage had not lasted. His wife Kathleen, living in France, died there in May 1938.

Meiklejohn was clearly an authority on birds, and articles by him on the internet

have been tracked down. It was through this serious pastime that he had met and befriended Margaret Barclay (yes, of the Norfolk Barclay family). There is evidence they were on a bird watching excursion abroad together in the early 1930s. Within two months of the death of Meiklejohn's wife in France, he and Margaret Barclay were married in Norfolk in July 1938. He was aged 62 and she 51.

In a birding magazine, under the heading 'NOTES', is a short article jointly signed by the newly married couple which started, "While staying near Interlaken (Switzerland) in September 1938, we watched with binoculars a Nutcracker (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*) on a tree some fifteen yards from where we were sitting'. Keen bird watchers indeed.

The Meiklejohns lived in Cley, where he died on the 4th November 1949.

Richard Jefferson

POSTSCRIPT: My late wife Pauline grew up in Cley in the 1950s and Peggy (Margaret) Meiklejohn was a family friend. When I appeared in Cley from the middle 1960s I met Peggy on several occasions. She by now was in her late seventies. I remember well that she had a red face, an unusually large nose and walked round the village with three corgis that she could only just control. She lived in Arcardy, now flattened and the site of the large wood faced house nearly opposite Cley Church. I also recall that every Monday evening Richard Richardson, the outstanding ornithologist (and artist), came for a bath and a scrambled egg supper. Peggy was a great character.

It is only recently that I have proved (having been blinkered for years) that Peggy was the wife of Lt.Col. Meiklejohn. On the far side of the birdbath to his inscription are the words, ALSO HIS WIFE MARGARET FEBRUARY 1972. (figure 5).



Figure 5: Dedication to his wife Margaret

Sylvia Claxton's Scrapbooks: Sporting events

A previous article (BAHS Digital Newsletter, Issue 7, 13 November 2021) told of Michelle Hewitt's gift of Sylvia Claxton's scrapbooks to the Society. One of the delights of these scrapbooks is their depiction of "unknown unknowns", to use Donald Rumsfeld's phrase; all of the information in the scrapbooks is taken from local newspapers, but one would be hard pressed to trawl through a century or more of library archives looking for items of interest. These scrapbooks provide information about events that are, to some of us, "unknown unknowns" and give us a direct link to archive material that we might otherwise never find.

This selection is taken from the first scrapbook, dating from the first half of the twentieth century and started by Sylvia's father, Ernest Claxton. A few of his earliest handwritten entries describe sporting fixtures of the nineteenth century, well before his time, some of which were played for very high stakes:

- **August 1807 Cley**
Bowls match at Cley between three men of that parish, and three of Holt, for fifty guineas a side
Holt winning five games out of seven
- **July 1819**
A cricket match for £500 a side was played at Newmarket between the Holt and Cambridge clubs
Holt 95-56 Cambridge 65-34
- **September 1819**
Holt v Bungay, played on Bungay common. Pilch of Holt made 57. Much wrangling took place, Bungay refusing to go on with the game. Holt 120-73 Bungay 73-104. Holt publicly declared their intention to decline any further contest or connection with the Bungay club.
- **Sport at Blakeney in 1823**
Blakeney races on Wednesday night were numerous attended. The Town Plate of 50 sovs was won by Major Wilson's Lawrence, beating Mr Smith's Sailor. Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each with 30 added, Major Wilson's bl.F [sic] by Juniper walked over. Handicap sweepstakes of 5 sovs with 20 added, won by Mr Warner's Huntress, beating two others. The Hunters Stakes of 20 sovs were won by Mr Dewing's Brush, beating Mr Chapman's Haphazard. The Ladies Purse for nags won by Mr Gibb's Radical, beating Mr Cay's Violante. Match for 50 sovs Mr Smith's Sailor beating Gibbs Radical. Match for 10 sovs Mr G Goulds Smallhopes, who also won match for 10 sovs, beating Mr Underwoods Amy. Upwards of 200 persons sat down to an excellent dinner at the King's Arms.

Michael Archer

Blakeney Bulldogs: Name the Team?

A recent item received at the History Centre along with Blakeney FC's newsletter the Blakeney Bulldog was this photograph of the 1962 Blakeney Bulldogs.

Can you name any of players in the team? If so, please email info@bahs.uk.



Richard Daley

Gloucester Exhibition

The Last Voyage of *The Gloucester*: Norfolk's Royal Shipwreck 1682
Norwich Castle Museum Art Gallery, February – September 2023

This summer, the story of 'Norfolk's Mary Rose' made headlines across the world, and Norwich Museum's exhibition **The Last Voyage of *The Gloucester*** will be open between February to September 2023.



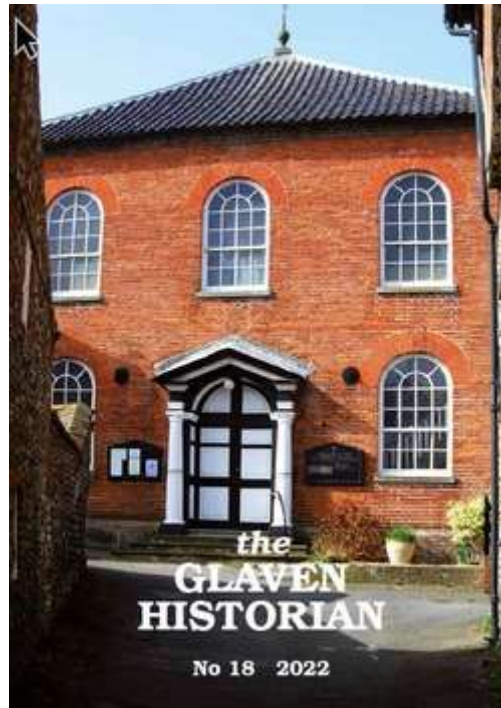
This exciting exhibition will chart the historic story behind the sinking of *The Gloucester*, and the modern-day discovery of the wreck. Despite lying on the seabed for over 300 years, much of the ship's cargo has been amazingly well preserved - spectacles kept in a decorative case, navigational instruments and many wine bottles, some with their corks intact – all give a glimpse into the lives of passengers and crew, including the future King James II.

Read more at <https://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/norwich-castle/whats-on/exhibitions/last-voyage-of-the-gloucester>.

Richard Daley

Glaven Historian 18

In the last issue of the newsletter it was announced that Sylvia's scrapbooks had been donated to the Society



The early Methodist chapel in Walsingham

Glaven Historian Issue 18 was published in August 2022. The table of contents plus synopses may be found at www.bahs.uk/publications/glaven-historian/glaven-historian-18-2022/

On This Day: 31st December

1999

Putin took over as acting president as Boris Yeltsin resigned. Putin was elected to the post the following year.

1991

The Soviet Union legally ceased to exist. Russia and other former Soviet republics declared themselves independent and founded the Commonwealth of Independent States on December 21, 1991.

1973

The three-day week began in Britain as a result of power strikes. It led to the downfall of Prime Minister Edward Heath and his government.

1964

Donald Campbell (UK) sets world water speed record (276.33 mph)

1948

Malcolm Campbell, British racing driver died surprisingly of natural causes. Campbell broke nine land speed records between 1924 and 1935. He set his final land speed record at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah on 3rd September 1935, in the process becoming the first person to drive an automobile at over 300mph.

1857

Queen Victoria chose Ottawa as new capital of Canada.

1759

Arthur Guinness signed a 9,000 year lease at £45 per annum and started brewing Guinness at the St. James's Gate Brewery, Dublin. Ten years later Guinness exported his ale for the first time, when six and a half barrels were shipped to Britain.

1720

Bonnie Prince Charlie (1720-1788) the 'Young Pretender' to the English throne was born in Palazzo Muti, Rome, Papal States. He landed in Scotland, with his followers, in 1745, capturing Edinburgh and setting up court at the Palace of Holyrood.

1695

The window tax was introduced in Britain.

1600

The East India Company, formed for the exploitation of trade with East and Southeast Asia and India, was incorporated by English royal charter.

Computer Tips & Tricks

This column of the newsletter, whilst not about historical matters, provides tips and tricks that may help in improving your use of computers and the Internet for historical research and in general.

Document or Spreadsheet?

Often, we have a choice of the program/app used to create material. Creating a document or a spreadsheet are the most common approach to creating new material. A document may be created in Microsoft Word, Apple Pages, Google Docs or similar. A spreadsheet may be created in Microsoft Excel, Apple Number, Google Sheets or similar.

However when is a document the best solution and when is a spreadsheet preferable?

If the information is principally numbers and best organised in a tabular format then a spreadsheet may be the best option particularly if it will be used for calculations, further information derived from it (averages, totals, ...) or it will be manipulated in a number of different ways by, for example, sorting it by date or value. If the intention is to create graphs from the information, then a spreadsheet will be the choice. Sometimes lists of words or phrases may also be best suited to a spreadsheet. For example, if a list of all house names and yard names in Blakeney High Street was being created then a spreadsheet may be best as the information is likely to need manipulating. New names may be added to the end of the list then the list sorted to keep it in alphabetic order (and the sort capability of a spreadsheet will be most helpful).

A document may be preferable if the information within it is best organised into sentences, paragraphs and chapters, especially if there is the possibility of needing headings and a table of contents.

However most word processing programs allow the creation of tabular information and offer basic manipulation and calculations. Likewise it is possible in most spreadsheets to enter text although formatting into sentences and paragraphs may not be so easy as in a document. It is often possible to embed a spreadsheet into a document but that is not for the fainthearted.

Making a decision isn't easy but it is worth considering the material being created and the likely ways it will be used and modified.

Spreadsheet Formatting

If you use a spreadsheet you may have experienced information not appearing as you think it should or as you would like it. Possibly you have entered some holiday costings and they don't appear with a Pound Sterling (or Euro) symbol or the number of decimal places varies from number to number.

Visit www.bahs.uk/website-and-computer-tips/formatting-in-microsoft-excel for information on how to manage formatting in Microsoft Excel. Whilst this is about Excel it may provide ideas on how to achieve similar formatting within the spreadsheet of your choice.

Richard Daley

The BAHS

Joining BAHS

If you are not a member and wish to join you may join online or download our membership form from the BAHS website.

[Click here](#) to join.

Information Emails

If you receive this newsletter then you are receiving information emails.

Members automatically receive information emails. Non-members may receive information emails by signing-up.

[Information Emails sign-up](#)

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due from 1st September for the year 2022/23.

Membership rates are unchanged at:

- Individual £12
- Family £18
- Corporate £25

Renewals & Standing Orders

Many members have renewed their subscription using standing orders and others have paid online using faster payments.

If you can pay this way it helps as it creates less work for the Committee.

If you are planning to renew, details may be found by [clicking here](#).

Helping the BAHS

The BAHS Committee has many things that it would like help with and you don't have to serve on the Committee!

History Centre

The History Centre is a small confined area. We are now open to individuals by appointment only. There is normally a charge to visitors. To book an appointment to visit the History Centre please view www.bahs.uk/history-centre/history-centre-openings.

History Centre Collection

The History Centre is always interested in items of historical relevance to the Blakeney Area. These may be old wills, deeds, postcards, Blakeney Regatta programmes, ... the list is endless.

Please don't bin it before checking if it is of interest to the History Centre.

BAHS Committee

Chairman: Richard Kelham [*Temporary*] chair@bahs.uk

Secretary: Diana Cooke secretary-bahs@bahs.uk

History Centre: historycentre@bahs.uk

Membership Secretary: Bridget Candy membership@bahs.uk

Publications: Roger Bland publications@bahs.uk

Treasurer: Andrew Otterburn treasurer@bahs.uk

Lecture Programme Manager: Roger Bland [*Temporary*] lecture.programme@bahs.uk

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