



# Blakeney Area Historical Society Electronic Newsletter

June 2025

“Studying the History of Blakeney Haven and its Hinterland”



*Cley Quay at high tide viewed from the north east. A beautiful double ended gaff-rigged crab boat is sailing up to the Quay late in the 19th century. The old granary or maltings building that was later rebuilt as Beau Rivage is still extant, but other structures are obscured by the mill outbuildings and the boat's sails. In those days the quay heading extended as far as the entrance to Jackson's Creek just past the granary, and past the rather larger vessel moored there. It's not possible at this distance to tell whether it is smack or ketch rigged – but here is a close-up if you fancy a go.*



The BAHS are on Facebook [tiny.cc/yfo3001](https://www.facebook.com/tiny.cc/yfo3001)  
Follow the BAHS on X (Twitter) [x.com/HistoryBAHS](https://x.com/HistoryBAHS)  
and Instagram [historybahs](https://www.instagram.com/historybahs) for all the news and  
to keep up to date.





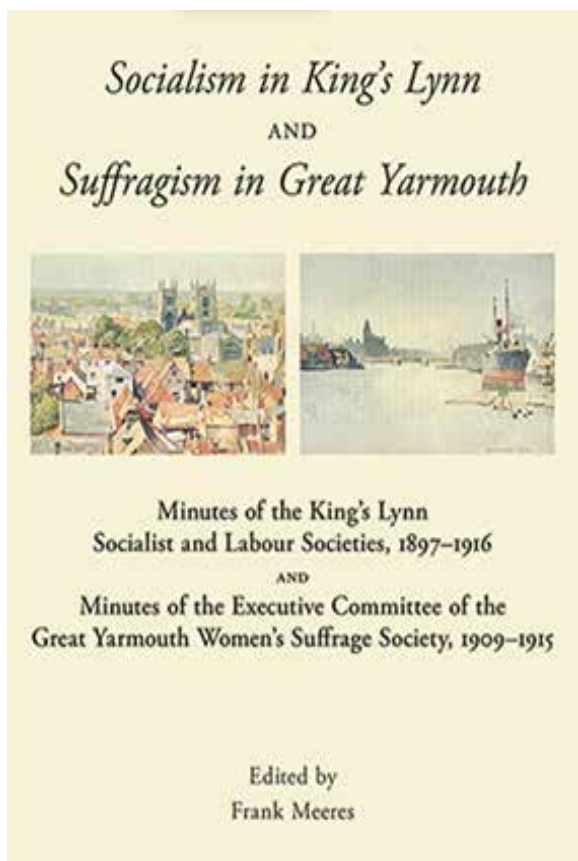
## Annual General Meeting

17 July @ 19:30 BST  
Online Via Zoom

The Norfolk Record Society's 2025 Annual General Meeting will be held via Zoom.

## Norfolk Record Society: Latest Publications

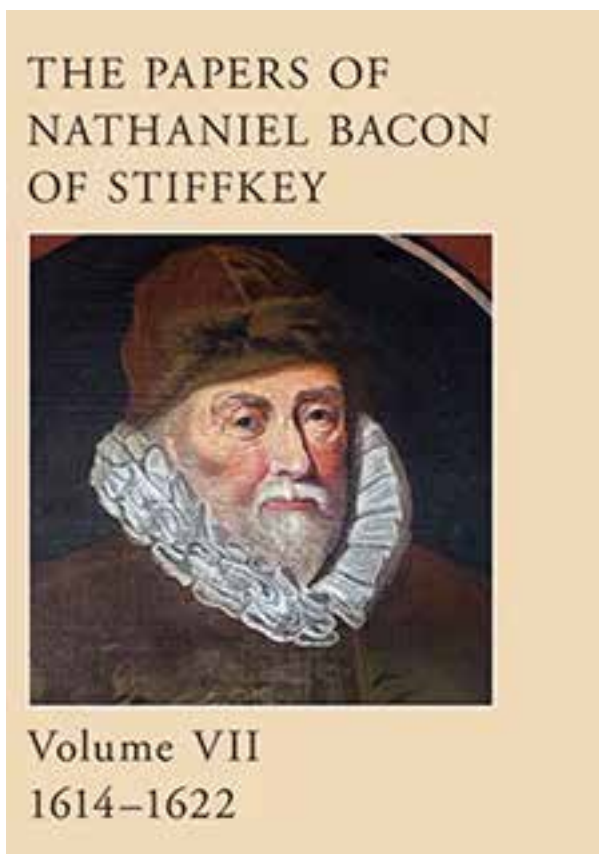
Further details available from <http://come.ac/UA20X>



This volume contains; Minutes of the King's Lynn Socialist and Labour Societies, 1897-1916, and Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Great Yarmouth Women's Suffrage Society, 1909-1915.

Both sets of minutes are rare survivals nationally, and the only ones known to exist for socialist and suffragist groups within Norfolk. They provide a uniquely detailed record of grass-roots activity in the battle for social, political and gender equality, and the men and women who fought it, whether the working people of King's Lynn or the predominantly middle-class women of Great Yarmouth.

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This volume covers Bacon's last years and ends with his death in 1622. He maintained an admirable commitment to his work as a county justice and as a deputy lieutenant, dealing with the usual wide range of routine issues that came before him (with the active assistance of his highly efficient secretary, Martin Man). He responded to orders from the central government, while consistently upholding the viewpoint of the locality against what he saw as unreasonable demands from above, and at the same time kept a careful eye on the running of his own estates.

This publication was supported by funding from: Trinity College, Cambridge, the Marc Fitch Fund and Mrs Jenny Hemming.

# Norfolk Archaeological and Historical Research Group

## NAHRG Norfolk Landscape History Day : 26 July 2025

This year's Norfolk History Day will take the form of a Norfolk landscape history conference as a tribute to the popular UEA landscape historian, Tom Williamson. It will take place on Saturday 26 July 2025 in the Thomas Paine Lecture Theatre at the UEA.

The speakers will be:

James Albone (Historic England)

Louise Crawley (UEA)

Jonathan Finch (York University)

Richard Hoggett (Freelance Heritage Consultant)

Nicola Whyte (Exeter University)

Booking details will follow.

Priority and a discount will be given to NAHRG members but non-members will also be welcome.

Meetings take place in the Thomas Paine Lecture Theatre at the UEA at 14:30

There is a hearing loop in the lecture theatre. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

Non-members are welcome to try one or two lectures before joining. Directions are below.

The Thomas Paine Centre is on the right towards the end of Chancellor's Drive from the Security Lodge. It is signed as such over the side entrance but the main entrance is styled 'Norwich Business School'. There is a convenient bus stop very close to the Thomas Paine Centre/Norwich Business School block. The West Car Park is right beside and is open on a pay-and-display basis at weekends (£1.00 flat fee). The entrance to it is on the right off Chancellor's Drive, just after the bus shelters (ignore the 'staff only' sign).

## Norfolk Records Office

The summer events programme is available from [norfolkrecordofficeblog.org](http://norfolkrecordofficeblog.org)

### Reading from the Archives

#### All creatures Great and Small



Book here [tiny.cc/xcdi001](http://tiny.cc/xcdi001)

#### Online

**Monday 23 June, 10-10.30am**

Pay what you can (£2.50 per person suggested).

Discover people's experiences of seeing different animals for the first time in our next Reading from the Archives. Hear about one man's visit to Great Yarmouth aquarium in the 1870s, listen to an account of a parade of elephants heading through Norwich as an advert for Barnum and Bailey's Circus in the 1890s and hear how mice were used as weather forecasters.

## Norfolk Museums Events and Workshops



### Ancient Egyptian Mummification Workshop (For Adults)

**Saturday 26 July 2025**

Start Time 14:00 16:00

**Lynn Museum - King's Lynn**

Price £10 per person.

Join us for a workshop on the Ancient Egyptian art of mummification. Find out why mummification was done, discover the ins and outs of the process, and learn what we have discovered by studying mummies. This workshop is for adults aged 18+. No need to supply your own corpse, I gather.

Booking is required as seating is limited.

For more details contact <http://come.ac/LKThr>

## Norfolk Heritage Centre

Norfolk Heritage Centre is on the second floor of the Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library in The Forum, Norwich.

We hold the most comprehensive collection of published material telling the story of Norfolk and its people. Nearly all of our collections are searchable on the libraries catalogue.

We have:

- More than half a million printed volumes, maps, newspapers and photographs
- PCs and free internet access
- Access to the most popular Norfolk Record Office archives
- Microform readers and reader-printers
- Free access to Norfolk Library and Information Service's online subscriptions, including Find My Past and the British Newspaper Archive



# From the Newspaper Archive

From the *Lowestoft Journal* 13 March 1875

Adjudication Cases.— On Thursday in last week. W. H. Cozens Hardy. J. Rogers, and E. B. Sparke, Esqs, heard a case of salvage Richard Smith, and others, of Wells, the owners of the French brig *Alma*, of Marseilles, being the other party. Mr. R. Mosely, of Yarmouth, was for the agents; Mr. Loynes, of Wells, for the salvors. The facts of the case were as follows: on Tuesday, the 6th of February last, the ship *Alma*, bound from Shields to St. Pierre, was stranded on Wells sands. Mr. W. Baker, of Blakeney, shipping agent, with Mr. Lilly, on behalf of Messrs. Small and Co., agreed to give the said R. Smith and others the sum of £50, provided they got the ship off during the next tide; if he did not succeed the payment for the following tide was to be £10. Mr. Baker asked if the vessel was got off that night, what would the salvors do with her. Their reply was. take her into Harbour. Baker then asked Smith if could find his way into Blakeney Harbour in the dark. Upon which Smith replied, Yes, if you have the Harbour lights lit, and the leading lights as well.” Baker agreed to make and had every arrangement made, and in order to prevent any mistake letter was sent to Smith to inform him he had complied with his request. The vessel was got off on the 8th of February, but when within short distance of Blakeney Harbour was run ashore on the Blakeney sands. This caused great deal of damage to the vessel, 300 tons of her coal bad to be thrown overboard, and £9 paid for harbour lights, and £10 to get her off the sand, with all expenses the loss being about £1,000. Smith, in his evidence, stated that the accident was occasioned by a certain ship in the harbour being parallel with the harbour lights. Thinking that the ship’s lights were in the harbour, he made for the same, and ran the *Alma* upon the sands. Her anchor made hole in the ship’s bottom. Mr. Mosely made a very able reply, stating that the light was in a contrary direction, and, therefore, it was impossible to make a mistake. Had Smith looked at his compass as all skilful men in his profession would have done the disaster could not have occurred. Witnesses from Wells and Biakeney were called to confirm this view of the question. The Bench retired to consider their verdict, and upon their return, the Chairman said—We have given the case our full consideration, and can came no other conclusion than that R. Smith did get the ship off from Wells Sands; that was entitled to £50 for his services and £10 for the loss of his rope, but that the said R. Smith, whilst towing the vessel along the sea, did not use that precaution that ought to have been used; and that through gross neglect he had run the ship on Blakeney sands, and occasioned great damage to the same, and that by his so doing forfeited all claim to the said ship, and was not entitled to any sum, and ordered each party to pay his own costs.

William Partridge Cubitt, of Bacton, Lloyd’s agent, was summoned by Robert Piggott, Salthouse, to settle claim for life salvage. Mr. Cowl, of Great Yarmouth, appeared for the salvors. The facts of the case are follows :—A ship called the *Peter*, of Riga, bound from Riga to London, laden with logs, was in distress near Salthouse on the 2nd of December last. Robert Piggott and others were called up, went to the ship, and found the crew in great danger. He immediately used a line, which was fastened round the men’s waists, and the line thrown to the crew, seven in number, who tied it round them and jumped overboard, and were hauled on shore safely. Mr. Cubitt called Mr. Cawthorne, of Weybourne, coastguard officer, to prove that no risk was incurred by the salvors, and also another coastguard. It was, however, proved that coastguard officer, Cawthorne arrived only in time (3.30 a.m.) to see the last of it. The Bench considered that the men were entitled to salvage of the crew, and awarded £10 and costs.

*The report on these two cases was published on the back page of that week’s paper, sandwiched between a couple of squabbling Cromer fishermen and a bigamist, also from Cromer. Such are the serendipitous joys of the local press in the 19th century.*

## BAHS Summer Outing to Norwich



*BAHS Summer Outing: a tour of Norwich Tombland led by Jonathan Hooton, followed by lunch at the historic Maid's Head Hotel, 11th June 2025.*