

Spring Newsletter 2021

Volume 17-2



Bishop Bonner's Cottage Museum
& Archive Centre -
Dereham Heritage Trust

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the time to do it - see page
15**

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Letter from the Chair *Trevor Ogden*

Those of us able to take daily exercise are enjoying the signs of Spring, but reflecting that during lockdown we have now seen a 12-month cycle of seasonal growth in the gardens we cultivate and admire. For at least one of our members, that includes a new lot of lambs. But we all look forward to getting back to things we have been unable to do. As far as DHT is concerned, we hope that it may be possible for us to have limited access to the Archive in the Assembly Rooms from April - please contact Robena Brown (candrbrown@hotmail.com) if there is something you need to consult. Under the government recovery timetable, we will not be able to get back to our face-to-face monthly meetings before the one planned for 14 July, on Norfolk's mills. There have been some advantages in the online meetings that we have been holding, so when lockdown is over we hope to be able to record our monthly talks and also make them available to members via our website. We look forward to that.



Welcome to Spring

We have now seen a first draft of the schedule of works for the remaining repairs to Bishop Bonner's Cottage. When those are finished, we will need to clean and restore the interior and displays, but we hope that it may be possible to open in early June. Everyone is grateful to the volunteers who help with the preparation, and with staffing the Museum when it is open. If you are able to help, and have not done it before or in recent years, please contact Catherine Hawkins (cg.hawkins@outlook.com). New people will be paired with the experienced.

Members have been sent an interesting report that Sue Walker has produced on the history of the colouring of the pargeting on the front of Bishop Bonner's Cottage, based on documentary evidence, and the long series of pictures that Sue has assembled. The report was discussed at their March meeting by the Town Council's Heritage and Open Spaces Committee, and they commended Sue's work. Sue confirmed that our pargeting was probably uncoloured until the 20th century, and recommended that it should remain uncoloured, to be faithful to this history, and to discourage any future use of the oil-based paints whose removal led to the damage last summer. The Committee accepted Sue's recommendation. Sue is now doing further work on the history of the pargeting itself. This photograph (taken in the rain last October) shows the uncoloured pargeting on the Ancient House Museum at Clare in Suffolk.



We still have an urgent problem with lack of room for the Archive. Although the Assembly Rooms provide us with good quality accommodation, we do not have space for everything we have, and we are continually offered new material which we feel that we need to preserve on behalf of the town. We have to provide somewhere for our collection which reaches the standard of the Arts Council scheme under which we are accredited. However, the Archive houses empty storage boxes for the items currently in the Museum, and these could be put in someone's box-room if we could find such a thing. We also have items like tools which do not need the office-type accommodation provided by the Assembly Rooms. Moving these would make room for documents which do need such a standard. If anyone has any ideas, please let the committee know.

And we need people. It has been good to see a small increase in our membership during lockdown, but we would also like to see a couple more people on the committee. The Trust covers a wide range of interests and activities, and we need a varied team leading it, partly to provide a range of viewpoints on issues we have to decide, and partly because there are always small jobs that have to be done. If you have any idea that this might be something that you might possibly want to think about, please contact me (ogden@ogs.org.uk, 07707 905 608) or another member of the Committee, to find out more about what we do and talk about. If then you decide that it's not for you, that's OK, at least you will have a better idea of how the Trust functions.

Martial Rose *Trevor Ogden*

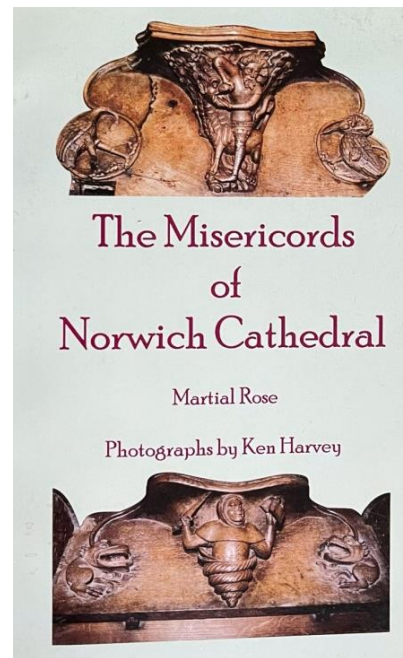
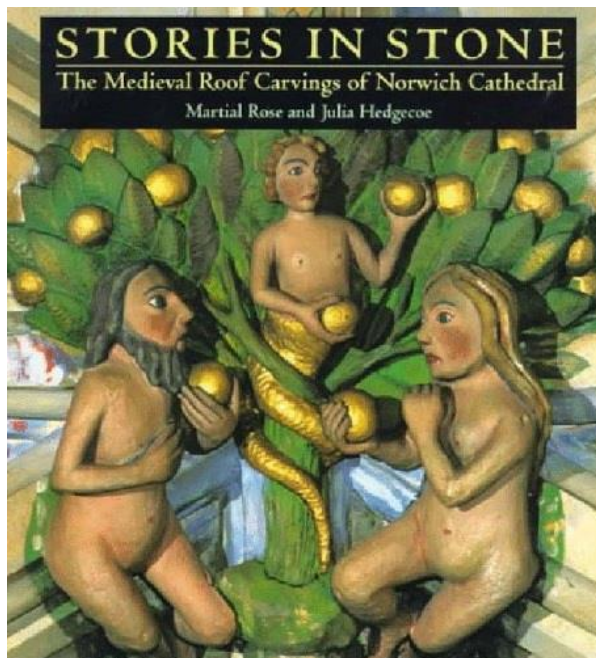
On 30 January we lost a distinguished and longstanding honorary life member, Martial Rose, at the age of 98.

Martial was educated at Christ's Hospital School, Horsham, and then at Cambridge. He became a schoolteacher and then taught at Bretton Hall College of Education in Yorkshire, later marrying Heather, an ex-student there. In 1965, he was appointed Vice Principal and then later Principal of King Alfred's College, Winchester, which was at that time a College of Further Education. He successfully steered the College through a period of change and growth, which eventually led to its becoming the University of Winchester. The university library is now named after him.

By then, Martial had retired, but that retirement in 1984 effectively led to a new career which benefited Dereham and Norfolk more generally. He already had a reputation in his original speciality - drama - and in 1961 had published what became a standard edition of the Medieval Wakefield Mystery Plays. Later he wrote a biography of the actress Dame Gwen Ffrangcon Davies, and a separate volume of her letters.

Martial's first activity in the Dereham area that we have a record of, is a talk he gave to us in 1989 on George Borrow in Russia. In 1994 he published *The Misericords of Norwich Cathedral*, and then in 1997 (with Julia Hedgecoe) *Stories in Stone: the Medieval Roof Carvings of Norwich Cathedral*; and then with illustrators Ken Harvey and Heather Rose *The Norwich Apocalypse: The Cycle of Vault Carvings in the Cloisters of Norwich Cathedral* (1999). Both of the books about the roof carvings are still in print, and the "Apocalypse" is available on Kindle. Martial became a guide at Norwich Cathedral.





He also authored several pamphlets, on St Nicholas' Church, George Borrow, Sir John Fenn, Reverend Benjamin Armstrong, William Cowper, and two on Seven Sacrament Fonts, one in Norwich Cathedral and the other in St Nicholas' Dereham. At the age of 83 he published *A Crowning Glory*, about the vaulted bosses in the Chantry Chapel of the Great Hospital, Norwich.

Older members remember Martial and his involvement with our Museum, but clearly we just saw the final flowering of a long and productive career.

With thanks to Dorothy Sneesby and Jenny Rose for information supplied.

Recent talks *Ken Hawkins*

February : George Skipper - the Architect's life and works, presented by Richard Barnes

Richard's extensive pictorial survey of the work of George Skipper cannot be easily summarised for a newsletter, so rather than try, I will instead append the advertising leaflet for his book. The book has now been reprinted in paperback at £19.50. To buy a copy, either send a cheque for £22.50 to Frontier Publishing, Windetts, Kirstead, Norwich NR15 1EG (and ask if you want it signed) or go to Jarrold Book Department using use the special link <https://www.jarrold.co.uk/departments/books/local-books/george-skipper-the-architect's-life-and-works-by-richard-barnes>.

March : Digging Sedgeford - 25 Years of Education and Research in a typical Norfolk Parish, presented by Gary Rossin

Gary opened his talk by showing the location of Sedgeford (northwest Norfolk, a few miles inland from Heacham), and outlining the main features close to the sites that have been explored - Peddars' Way and Icknield Way, and Heacham River, now barely a stream but formerly a more important feature. The area being discussed was mainly south of the river, later moving north and changing to smaller areas, with the modern village developing north of the river in the 1700s.



The site: Peddars' Way (dark orange, at right), Icknield Way (red, at left), Heacham River (blue), modern village (light orange, at top), main dig area (red circle)

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Research in the area in the 18th century had discovered 3 cremation urns, while in 1913, burials and Roman pottery had been found, but its exact location had not been recorded - and the pottery was allegedly used in road construction! More recent work had been undertaken in 1953 and later in the 1950s, revealing an Anglo Saxon cemetery. In 1960, skeletons had been found, and further investigations in 1991 led to finds from the middle Saxon period.

Finds are related to the following periods: Mesolithic, late Neolithic and early Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano British, medieval, and finally, World War I.

Late Neolithic and early Bronze Age The Chalkpit Field had 'archaeology all over it'. A large site (30m square) was opened in 2009, laced with features, making it hard to understand. A circular feature was initially thought to be an Anglo Saxon midden, containing a red deer antler, but further digging produced human bones in a crouch burial dated to 2300BC. More antler was found - in all 3 pieces which made up an antler pick, and which had been deliberately broken and put into the grave. Estimations of the occupant's age produced differing results - some suggested 15-17, others 21.

Iron Age Finds from this period were not everyday objects, but special or significant things. A pot, which had been deliberately smashed, was found in a pit. Nearby, in 2003, shroud burials were found. A cow's humerus was discovered by a metal detectorist - because the marrow had been replaced by 39 gold coins in almost mint condition. In the same year, below the Anglo Saxon burials, a horse burial dated to the Iron Age was found. All of these were close to the river's edge. In 1963, a torc had been found; in 2004, another crouch burial was discovered from the middle Iron Age - 20 metres and 2000 years apart.

Romano British A small Roman farm was found, which had grown in the 3rd and 4th centuries. A feature there was eventually identified as a grain drier. Within this was

found a burnt bone, which turned out to be human; the person had been killed and the body put into the flue system, not as part of a burial; this was dated to 350/375AD.

After these periods, probably mid to late 11th century, the settlement moved north, and activity south of the river faded. In 2004-5, 54 test pits were dug in the present village, and pottery finds from them showed clear differences from those south of the river. Gary also mentioned the airfield built in 1915, which started small then grew rapidly, and included many buildings and a railway connection.

Gary had withheld a major part of the dig to the last - the Anglo Saxon period, which he covered in 3 areas of excavation.

The settlement A major geophysical survey showed a grid pattern settlement, though investigation was made difficult as ploughing had disturbed the archaeology. Buildings were identified which had been moved twice when they were affected by water. There was evidence of drainage ditches used to control the water. There was a lot of animal bone, but in 2008, a ditch was found with a major deposit of 300,000 mussel shells, collected over only two seasons, more than enough for the settlement. Some coins were found, and there was evidence of on site smelting.

The cemetery Single burials were found, orientated west to east. There were 5 intercutting burial layers, with layering increasing nearer to the river. These were predominantly shroud burials - 126 initially found, then another 291 by Sedgeford Historical and Archaeological Research Project, with the latest dated to around 875; there were very few grave goods, but a further horse burial was discovered, containing also a woman and two juveniles - she was thought to be a possible Anglo-Saxon 'noblewoman'.

Malting complex This area, to the east, was dug in 2013. Unlike the other areas, where finds were close to the surface, nothing appeared until about 2m below ground here. Clay patches were found which seemed to be kilns, with much daub present. This is now believed to be a malting complex in an old filled in river valley, with three elements - a steeping tank, a germinating area and a drying area.

On that note, Gary closed his talk and then responded to questions from the 24 people who had watched and listened. We would also like to record our thanks to Gary for waiving the agreed fee for giving this talk.

Vernacular Architecture Group

has organised an online all-day conference on East Anglia Vernacular Buildings, with a range of talks of local interest. It takes place on Saturday 17 April. To see the full programme and to book your ticket, please go to : https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/east-anglia-vernacular-buildings-tickets-142114092075?fbclid=IwAR0FLDYWmuJ8MLcG_aCzQedM59vL59LV-oSv9IKMTqVnS7BA9hRermkniHQ. Delay is not recommended! Remember that you only need one ticket per device, not per person; and do cancel your booking if you find you can't 'turn up' (to allow others in).



The new Dereham Town Plan *Peter Wade-Martins*

In the last Newsletter Trevor Ogden's *Letter from the Chair* explained that Breckland Council will be developing a new Town Plan for Dereham over the coming months. Dereham will be the first of the five market towns in the District to be covered under this scheme. In response to this news, the Town Council and aboutDereham have set up a joint Dereham Town Plan Working Group to contribute to the project and to agree a common approach. There are four town councillors and four from aboutDereham involved, and as DHT's representative on the aboutDereham committee I volunteered to represent heritage interests in these forthcoming discussions.

It should be said that the last Town Plan was in 1976 when the marketplace was re-ordered to look as it is does now.

The Working Group, chaired by the mayor, has had two meetings so far, and at the first one we all agreed to put our thoughts on paper listing what we wanted to see come out of this. The results were all remarkably similar and can be summarised as follows. This is my very unofficial list, and the Group will now work on a more formal version to present to Breckland and to the consultants it employs to carry out the review once they are appointed.

- *The town centre needs a very radical review. The marketplace is dreadful, some describing it as a disaster area. It has become little more than a large roundabout for buses. It all needs to be pedestrianised. Both the car parking and the 'bus station' need to be moved out of the marketplace to one of the car parks. The marketplace should be paved with seats and trees and become a pleasant place to shop and to meet friends. The town centre should become a welcoming environment, which it certainly is not now.*
- *There needs to be a designated route for a new north/south bypass linked to the Swanton Morley road to take traffic away from the town centre.*
- *This review should include greater emphasis on heritage conservation and the development of a heritage corridor between the station at one end and the church at the other.*
- *There need to be new and better town centre toilets.*
- *The town council offices are hopelessly over-crowded and appear unfriendly and could be moved out to one of the vacant premises in the marketplace. I actually went further and suggested that the Assembly Rooms could then become a heritage centre where the history and identity of Dereham could be celebrated and enjoyed. The other option is the open ground owned by the Town Council next to Bishop Bonner's Cottages.*
- *The Queen Mother's Garden needs a re-vamp, and Toftwood needs more green open spaces.*
- *More walks should be opened and walking encouraged.*
- *The Memorial Hall needs to be more developed as a cultural centre.*
- *To achieve these ambitions the three levels of local government (the Town Council, the District Council and the County Council) need to work together to produce an integrated plan to make Dereham become a welcoming place. A new traffic plan will be the key to making much of this possible.*

This is all a big ask and much of it can only be achieved over the longer term, but there is no harm in being ambitious. One member of the Group takes the view if you aim for the biggest task first, all the lesser ones more easily fall into place. Others feel we should be more realistic and be less ambitious. Perhaps no more than a New Vision for Dereham can be achieved at this stage, but we need to start somewhere. The next few months could be interesting.

From the Archive - East Dereham High School for Girls

Robena Brown

During lockdown many of us with more time on our hands than usual have had what we call in Norfolk 'a good ol' fie out' and I have taken great pleasure in rediscovering many interesting books and items I had forgotten were on my shelves.

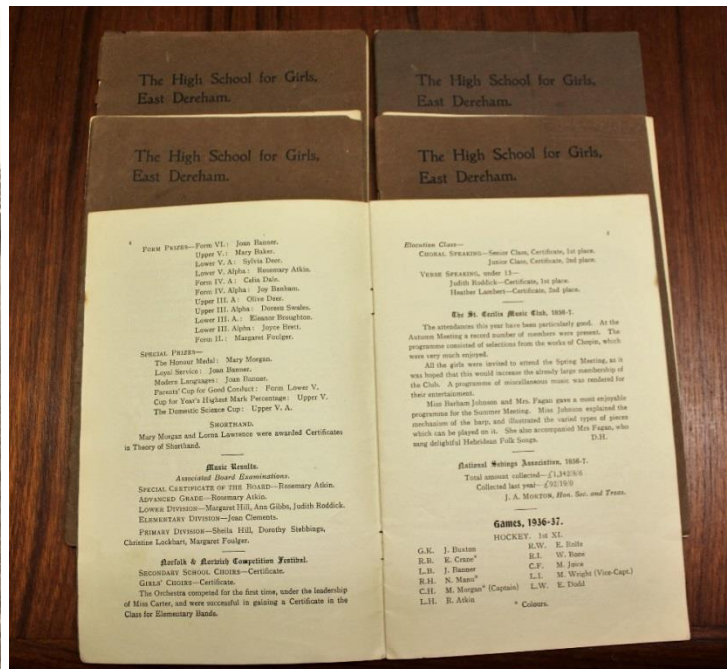
Others whose family have local roots have perhaps done the same and found and donated items to our museum archive which we have been very glad to accept because they improve and enhance elements of the collection.

Tegwen Doherty of Luton got in touch with us during the recent lockdown to kindly offer us a series of her mother's 'East Dereham High School for Girls' annual reports from 1931 to 1937 together with a few photographs including some of her grandfather and colleagues from East Dereham Railway Station. The photographs require further research and will feature in the next newsletter.

We were delighted to accept them all and they will prove a good source of information for the history of the school, staff and pupils as well as proving very useful documents for family historians.



Joan and friend 1933



Annual Reports 1931-37

The Norwich Road school was opened on 24 January 1912 by Mrs Evans Lombe as 'Dereham Secondary School for Girls' and was originally a fee-paying establishment that aspired to academic excellence for the young ladies who attended. The headmistress from 1912 to 1916 was Alexandra Fisher.

Taking over as Headmistress in 1917, Louisa Mary Galloway remained in post until 1945 and led her staff and pupils through the enormously challenging periods of both world wars. The annual reports she wrote show her love for her school and those who attended.

During the period (1931-37) of the annual reports we have been given, the school motto was **Not failure, but low aim is crime.**



Dereham Photographer Herbert T Cave took this photograph shortly after the school's completion



Dereham and Fakenham Times of 13 January 1912 announcing the school's opening

The 1944 Education Act reforms created state funded grammar schools and East Dereham High School for Girls (or EDHS as it was, and still is, affectionately known by former pupils) was created with an intake of 11+ pupils from the town and surrounding villages.

Many more changes followed education legislation in later decades and the much enlarged school, now known as Dereham Neatherd High School, caters for young people of all abilities and gender.

The Wreck of the *Invincible*, 220 years ago Trevor Ogden



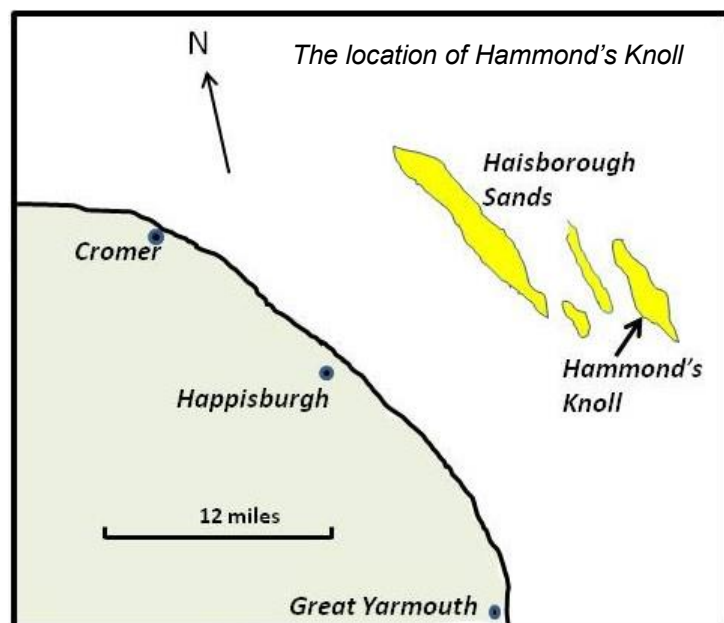
H.M.S. "INVINCIBLE," 1783.

HMS Invincible in 1783 (Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums)

I'm writing this in mid-March, when the winds are dying down after a very blustery period. It was the same 220 years ago, in 1801, when *HMS Invincible* sailed out of Yarmouth, heavy with stores, guns, ammunition, and 590 men. *Invincible* was a two-decker warship carrying 74 guns. It had been built about 35 years earlier, and had seen action in several battles. Now it was part of a squadron on its way to join the Baltic Fleet in the sound between Denmark and Sweden, where the plan was to pressure Denmark not to join France and Russia in the war against Britain.

As the squadron negotiated the shoals north of Yarmouth, at 2.30 pm on 16 March, the strong wind and tide swept *Invincible* onto the Hammond's Knoll sandbank.

The masts were cut away and the crew manned the pumps through the night as they tried to save the ship and themselves. The boats were launched, but were swept out to sea. At daybreak on the 17th, the ship slipped into deeper water and sank. Some men were rescued from the ship's boats later, but about 400 were drowned.



Meanwhile the rest of the squadron joined the Baltic Fleet on the 19th. The British had little time, as they feared that when the Baltic ice melted the Russian fleet would sail to support the Danes. The Baltic Fleet was commanded by Admiral Hyde Parker, but after failure of diplomacy the attack on the Danish ships at Copenhagen was led by Parker's deputy, a Norfolk boy, Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson. In the heat of the battle, Parker tried to get Nelson to withdraw, and it was on this occasion that Nelson famously put the telescope to his blind eye and said he could see no signal, and successfully pressed home the attack.

Back on the Norfolk coast, many bodies were being washed up on the shore. Cartloads were taken to Happisburgh, where they were buried in a mass grave on the north side of the church. The location was unmarked and forgotten until 1988 when a drainage ditch ran into many hastily-buried skeletons. The present *HMS Invincible*, the aircraft carrier, was contacted, and the ship's company joined with Happisburgh Parochial Church Council in arranging a memorial, which stands in the churchyard. The photograph was taken following a memorial service in 2017.



The memorial stone at Happisburgh, following a service in 2017

The disaster emphasised the importance of Happisburgh Lighthouse, which was originally one of two built to guide ships round the south side of the shoals. The lighthouse is place number 70 in the forthcoming book, *A History of Norfolk in 100 places* by David Robertson, Peter Wade-Martins and Susanna Wade-Martins.

A new traffic sign in Church Street *Peter Wade-Martins*

Observant members will notice that a new traffic sign has recently been erected by County Highways part-way down Church Street in Dereham, advising drivers of HGVs that there is a width restriction ahead and that they should turn right into Quebec Street and not continue down the hill past Bishop Bonner's Cottages.

We hope this ... will prevent this



County Highways have erected the sign after pleas from us to try to reduce the number of heavy vehicles which rumble past the cottages every day. We are quite sure that some of the cracking on the external plasterwork of the cottages has been caused by this problem. We now need to monitor the situation and see if there is any reduction in damage. We hope to give the matter some local press coverage as well.

George J Skipper - now that reminds me *Robena Brown*

As a collector and thereby custodian of many things historical, it is extremely satisfying when a chance word or image can trigger a memory recall to connect and enhance knowledge of a subject.

In February we were treated to an excellent lecture by Richard Barnes, author of a recent biography of George J Skipper, Norwich architect and son of Dereham. During that very enjoyable and informative session, Richard told us that George Skipper worked with a marble expert named Brindley, who travelled the world to find the finest quality materials for architectural and artistic creations. Though no photographic evidence was available to Richard, it was said that Brindley not only brought the best materials to England to build new, and to improve existing, grand buildings but had also brought the very finest sculptors and workers in marble from Italy to fashion his materials.

In 2013 the Zanella family shared all their family photographs with me for an exhibition in Cranworth village hall as a memorial to Mrs Marion Zanella who had been headmistress of Cranworth School during World War II until 1968, when she became headmistress of Barford School.

Among those family photographs was this wonderful image of a group of sculptors showing Mrs Zanella's Italian father-in-law, Ferdinando Zanella at the rear on the left, 'with fellow Italian marble-workers who sculpted the finest marble to produce statuary at Sennowe Hall, Guist.



Italian marble workers with sculptor Henry Fehr after completion of 'Morning'

Richard told us that it was rumoured, though undocumented, that some of the Italian marble-workers had remained in Norfolk marrying locally. Ferdinando Zanella was indeed one of those who stayed, marrying an English girl and subsequently becoming father to seven children, all born in Norfolk. His son, Ferdinando Pietro Zanella, married the young lady destined to become our small village's long-standing and much respected headmistress.

A copy of this photograph was sent to Richard Barnes before our interesting DHT 'Q & A' session about his lecture and he was pleased to identify the gentleman seated as Henry Fehr (1867-1940), a very well-known monumental and architectural sculptor, responsible for many significant pieces including the dragon on the top of Cardiff City Hall as well as the statuary at Sennowe.

On speaking to the owner of the photograph the following day (after eight years) he happily gave his permission for Richard to use the image in the reprint of his biography of George Skipper, which should be available from the summer.

It is by sharing what we know that we all learn so much more.



Henry Fehr's dragon on Cardiff City Hall



Modern image of 'Morning' at Sennowe, Guist

Ask the Expert: Museum Bugs

Did you know that there are some insects which can damage certain types of museum objects!

Join us for our Ask The Expert session and meet Dayna, the Assistant Curator at Lynn Museum. Find out about Dayna's job and one of the strange behind the scenes tasks - checking the museum insect traps. The event is on 8 April at 10:30 - in some places it says it's 30 minutes, in others, 45.

<https://norfolk-museums.arttickets.org.uk/lynn-museum/2021-04-08-ask-the-expert-museum-bugs>



A History of Norfolk in 100 Places *Peter Wade-Martins*

This is the second extract from the book by Peter and Susanna Wade-Martins and David Robertson using locations which have public access to tell the story of Norfolk over the last million years.

Warham Iron Age Fort



Warham Camp Iron Age fort from the south west with the earthworks showing up well in the evening sunlight. Photo by Mike Page

The Iron Age covers the period from about 700 BC to the defeat of Queen Boudica by the Romans in AD 60-61. The arrival of ironworking technology using locally-sourced ore transformed agriculture with the introduction of iron tips to wooden ploughs so that more marginal land could be brought into cultivation, particularly on heavier soils. This was a period when the population grew, more woodland was cleared and there was increasing competition for the best farmland. Some of the easily worked soils of Breckland were perhaps already over-exploited and were becoming heath, while the central clay lands became much more extensively developed by the end of the period.

With this growing prosperity tribal groupings were emerging, and their chieftains were competing for dominance. The arrival of the iron blade transformed tribal warfare. Cattle raiding was probably common, and communities centred on hillforts were commonplace in many parts of Britain. Indeed, hillforts in all their various forms and sizes can be found from the south coast of England to the north of Scotland (although the term 'hillfort' seems to be a little inappropriate when Norfolk has so few steep hills).

Evidence for dating hillforts in Norfolk is limited, so the best we can say is that they were constructed and used during the Iron Age.

Warham Camp is surely the most impressive prehistoric monument in the county. It lies on the side of the valley of the River Stiffkey between Wighton and Warham. The fort has a double bank and ditch enclosing an area of 1.5 hectares. There are three entrances, although none of these are thought to be original. Excavations have demonstrated that

the defences actually continued into the valley, and estate maps show that the earthworks in the marsh were levelled when the old meandering course of the River Stiffkey was straightened in the 18th century. So, where was the entrance, and why was the whole fort built, not on a hill or on high ground, but on a valley side sloping down and actually into the valley floor? A possible explanation is that there could have been a causeway across the valley leading to the fort. With marshes on either side this may well have created a perfectly defensible entrance.

There were excavations here in 1914, 1929 and 1959, but none provided clear dating evidence from sealed locations and only 11 Iron Age sherds were recovered in total. The most interesting discovery from 1959 was a series of post holes and trenches for holding timbers along the crest of the inner bank probably representing a palisade and a fighting platform. The Norfolk Archaeological Trust used this significant evidence to show a palisade on top of the bank on the information panel near the site entrance. If the inner and outer banks both held continuous timber palisades, then the amount of timber needed to provide an effective defence was extraordinary. One can only imagine the resources needed to dig these great ditches and to build these palisades.

The fort is owned by the Holkham Estate which permits access from the end of a footpath running down a long straight green lane off the Warham St Mary to Wighton Road (NR23 1NZ). Care needs to be taken to find a place to park the car beside the road without obstructing the lane or the road. [OS map reference - TF 944 409 - ed]

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Dereham Flower Show 1950

Here is another photo from Tegwen Doherty, this time of her grandfather Charles Wood. The reverse of the photo says 'Dereham Flower Show 1950 - Charles Wood on left': we would be very glad to identify the other two gentlemen in the photo and where it was taken.



Safari Way

The same Town Council meeting that discussed the pargeting was also concerned with litter left alongside one of the town's public footpaths - Footpath 24, also known as Safari Way. An item in the Dereham Times (<https://www.derehamtimes.co.uk/news/calls-to-clear-up-safari-way-dereham-7846952>) notes that this is named after *HMS Safari*, a third batch S-class submarine built for the Royal Navy during the Second World War. The people of Dereham raised £250,000 to fund the vessel.

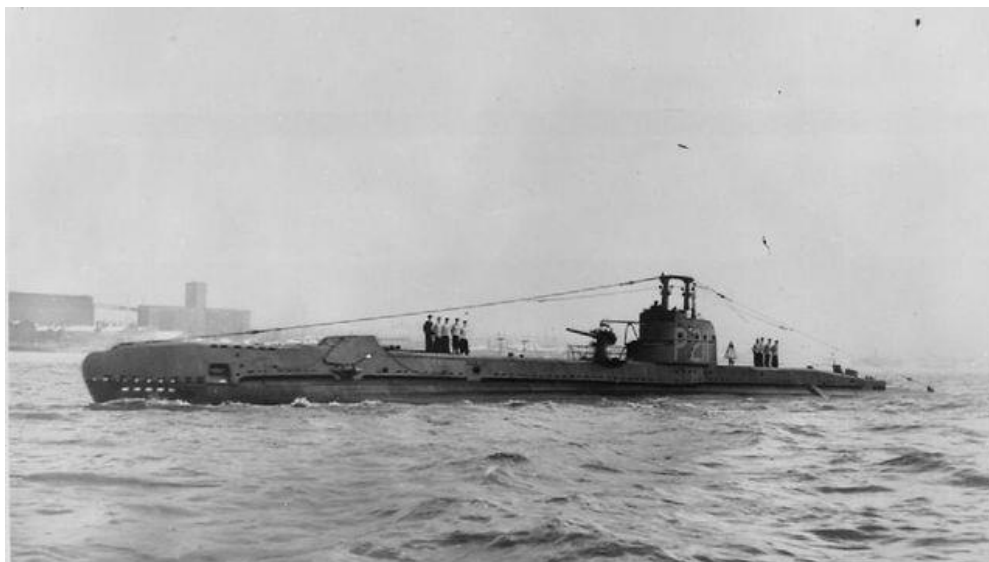


Photo: Imperial War Museums/public domain

Membership matters

Membership subscriptions are now (over)due for existing members. Our membership year runs annually from 1 March to the end of February; the normal subscription rate is £12 for a single member, £20 for two people at the same address, the same as last year. In normal circumstances, we can take payment at one of our meetings, but while these are suspended, there are two ways open for payment, as set out below. **Please make sure you let us know of any change in your postal or email address.**

Not a member but want to join?

If you are not currently a member, can we invite you to consider joining? Go to http://www.derehamhistory.com/uploads/1/6/2/3/16236968/dht_membership_leaflet_2020.pdf for our membership form, or request a copy from Ken Hawkins. Then either send your completed form, with a cheque payable to Dereham Heritage Trust, to Ken Hawkins, DHT, 26 Hillfields, Dereham NR19 1UE, or scan and email ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk your details, and pay by bank transfer to Dereham Heritage Trust, sort code 20-28-20, account 10179752 - but if you use this method please make sure you quote your surname as a reference so that we can recognise the payment as coming from you.

Programme of events 2021

We have a full programme of speakers and events planned through the year, though it has to remain open to change. We still hope to resume meetings when government guidelines allow and are keeping this under constant review, but until at least June 2021, we are showing on line presentations; if you get this Newsletter by email, we will send you links to these. Some of our talks have been recorded in advance; in those cases, we

send you a web link which will enable you to watch a presentation at a time of your own choosing (up to the date of the meeting). We will also send you a second web link to a Zoom meeting to take place at the scheduled meeting time of 19:30 on the planned meeting date. This will enable you to join a virtual DHT meeting, involving the presenter, to allow you and the other participants to ask questions and join the discussion. For the others, the presentation takes place on the scheduled night as usual (but on line). Our recent 'meetings' have enabled those who had seen the talks to take part in some very interesting and extended discussions. We hope and believe that the same will apply for our future talks too. **If you get this Newsletter through the post, but would be able to get Internet access, please let Ken Hawkins know, and we will send links to your chosen email address.** Recorded talks are generally available to members for a week after meeting date; you can find them on our website.

We are not making the usual £1 charge to members to watch the talk or join the meeting, but we will be pleased to **welcome donations** to offset our costs - our speakers still deserve full recompense for their time and effort! Payment can be made by cheque or bank transfer as noted in the [Membership matters](#) section above.

The April talk is *Lost Buildings of Dereham*, presented by Sue Walker and Robena Brown. The link for the talk and meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14 April is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86395491012?pwd=SkhMNnNFT0ZXSFlpPde1HQ2w2M1FLUT09>, with the Meeting ID: 863 9549 1012, Passcode: 944228 (but you shouldn't need those).

If you know any non members who might enjoy the talk, please ask them to contact ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Planned dates continue to be the second Wednesday of each month. As and when we can restart physical meetings, they will be at Trinity Methodist Church, 31 Trinity Close, Dereham NR19 2EP (off Theatre Street), and start at 1930. Admission to talks is £1 for members of Dereham Heritage Trust and £3 for non members. Visitors are always welcome, with the fee payable on the door, refreshments included.

12 May
Making tracks through Mid-Norfolk
Speaker Dr Patrick Anstey

9 June
John Abel, Horse-dealer of Norwich
Speaker Judith Havens

14 July
An Introduction to Norfolk's Mills
Speaker Alison Yardy

11 August
Narborough Bone Mill
Speaker Graeme Brown

8 September
Five o'clock tea with Betsy
Speaker Elizabeth Fry (Georgette Vale)

13 October
The Norwich Castle: Gateway to Medieval England Project
Speaker Dr Robin Hanley Assistant Head of Museums, Norfolk Museums Service

10 November
Hobbies
Speaker Martin Flegg

8 December
Hexachordia
Venue Wellspring Family Church

Next issue

We plan to produce a Newsletter every quarter, in January, April, July and October; the press date for the next issue is **22 June**. If you have material for this issue, please send it to Ken Hawkins. And please don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any other comments of any sort. In between Newsletters, our website www.derehamhistory.com is updated regularly so please have a look now and again.