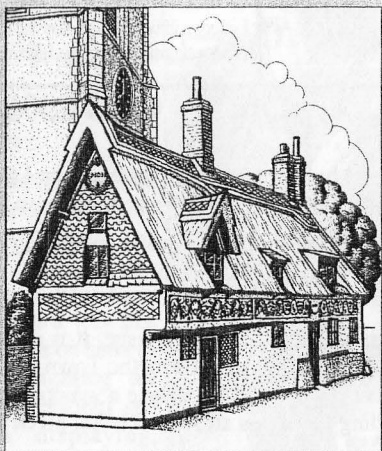


Newsletter free
to Members of DAS

Dereham's
Local
History
Group



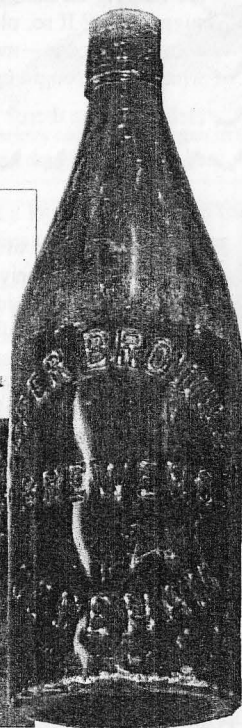
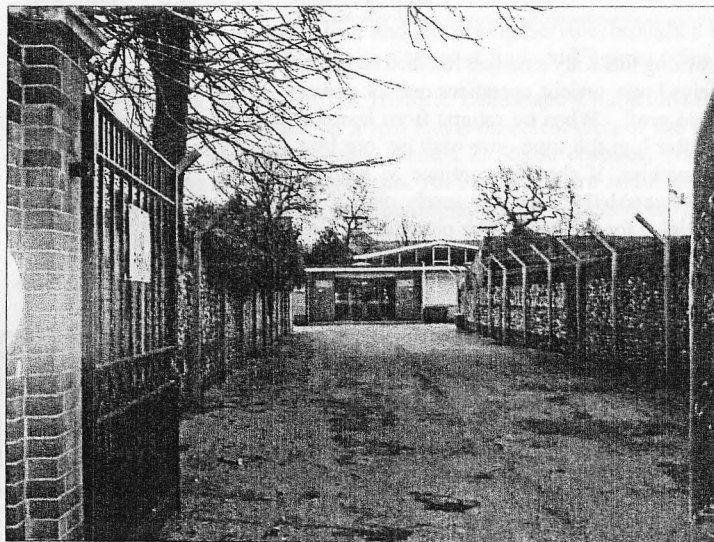
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SUMMER 2006

Educational
Charity No.
293648

Dereham Antiquarian Society

Newsletter Editors—
Cliff Allwright &
Kitty Lynn



Quick Quiz

What do the object and the photograph have in common?
(Answers inside on page 21)



Letters

Letters will be answered by the appropriate person, i.e. a member of the committee, society, archive gang, museum or muse group

Dear Readers,

Following the revamp of the booklets we sell in the Museum I thought that the newsletter could do with some updating too—not much—just a little—so here it is.

As you have probably already noticed, this issue is once again late. All I can say is that Cliff goes on holiday and then gets ill, and my body seems to tune in to Cliff's. This time I caught shingles—where from I don't know—but I wish I hadn't.

I hope you enjoy reading the old news in this issue. It is copied from the local paper just as it was so that you too can follow the way the Town Board used to work and the petty squabbling that went on. I could have done a synopsis of the proceedings but I think it makes better reading (once you are into it) being given in its entirety.

Maybe one of the articles in this newsletter will spark your imagination.

The regular features are already complete for September's newsletter but I wish someone would write us an article, send us a photograph or just write to the letters page with something to say. Sometimes I feel there are no members out there other than those I see helping on the Museum side. Do you enjoy the newsletter? Have you any ideas or suggestions? If so, please give us, the editors, some feedback. It's your chance to share your knowledge—more heads know more information—age equals wisdom (that's what I was brought up to think) so please show me it's true.

Hello, anyone there?

Kitty

Please Note: - Since writing this Kitty's mother has died suddenly and her father has received two serious operations one for cancer and the other for a skin graft. When he returns from hospital Kitty will be looking after him full time—we wish her our best and give her our sympathies. If she can continue to help us with things such as this newsletter then it is surely our job to help and give some articles for inclusion. She puts many of us to shame with her endeavours.



Is Kitty coming or going?

Winner and Answers to last issues Competition



Answers: - Winner: - Mrs Janet Hatton

- 1). Fred Guymer 2). A cavalry unit squadron number 3). 1100 4). William, Viscount Paston, Lord Yarmouth 5). Two people she knew called Bob Davies meet. 6). It came through the glass roof, and it all landed up on the balcony. 7). The Vicar of Dereham 8). 15th February 1847. 9). St Martin's Palace Plain. 10). Pat Skittrall. 11). Margaret Davies's mother's horse 12). At Bygones Day (a Morris Minor car)

Ancient History Discovery Fair

27th May, 2006

by Sue White

It was the first of what we hope will be an annual Bishop Bonner's Museum special event at Church House. The aim was to raise awareness of the wealth of archaeological discoveries from the Dereham area, in a way that would be lively and fun 'hands on history'. At the same time highlighting the partnership of local organisations and people involved in displaying, recording and collecting the material. Vince Butler and Damian Alger of the Norwich Detector Club put on a fine display of hundreds of their metal detector and field walking finds from the area. It was a wonderful opportunity to see and handle a wide range of coins and objects spanning thousands of years of our local history.

Erica Darch of the Norfolk section of the national Portable Antiquities Scheme based at Gressenhall, as part of the Finds and Identification and Recording Service, brought a laptop computer to explain the scheme and the database, with a range of finds and Roman coins to handle.

Megan Dennis of the Norfolk Historic Landscape Characterisation project, also based at Gressenhall, concentrated on a real hands-on celebration of the pottery from the Spong Hill Anglo-Saxon Cemetery. Megan, dressed in Saxon costume, encouraged visitors to make a small urn using the original methods. An incomplete urn and a handling shard from the Bishop Bonner's Museum collection were on display so that visitors could have a close look and touch an original urn.

Sue White of Bishop Bonner's textile section (dressed in a Roman toga) put on a display of Roman costume with examples from Norfolk sources. There was a range of togas etc for visitors of all sizes to try on. There was also a small display on Roman food with a free recipe sheet and information on Roman food evidence from Norfolk.

Other activities included reproductions of Roman wax writing tables to write on and a Saxon stone jigsaw puzzle to complete and take a rubbing from. Face painting and colouring sheets on a Roman theme were also available. There was a selection of the museums books and postcards on sale and the new Bishop Bonner's museum enamel badge. The constant supply of tea and coffee and lovely cakes were very popular. The only regret was that we did not attract the number of children we would have liked to the event. However we were pleased that despite the rainy weather the event broke even and we gained some new members for DAS. Thank you to everybody including some long suffering other-halves that helped with event.



Erica showing visitors various coins with Megan in the background making a dough Spong Hill Urn

Programme details By Sheila Jones



5th August Old & New Handicraft Afternoon— see advert opposite

9th August Place - **Lincolnshire Aviation Museum, East Kirby.**
Time - 9am—bus leaving the Cherry Tree Car Park
Cost - £16.50

This museum is on the site of an old airfield and has a Naafi for lunch, tea, coffee etc. There is a control tower, beautiful Memorial Chapel and lots of exhibits. A Lancaster is brought out on to the runway, the engines started and agile visitors may go on board for a small additional fee. I must mention that there is a large shop full of Airfix models, which, I'm sure, will please the real enthusiasts. There will be a coffee/comfort stop en route.

13th September Place - **Framlingham Castle (English Heritage).**
Time - 9am—bus leaving the Cherry Tree Car Park
Cost - £14.50

Framlingham is a pretty little town with plenty of tearooms and hotels for lunch, tea etc. We will visit the castle in the afternoon and the Lanman's Museum of local history which is inside the castle. Energetic people might enjoy a walk around Framlingham Mere and the castle's outer courts and moats, and the 'daring' could try to negotiate the impressive wall-walk (beautiful views, I'm told)

11th October Place - **Annual Dinner at Hill House Hotel, Dereham**
Full details later in September's newsletter.

Comedy Corner from Cliff Allwright

THE PROBLEM

Dai and Blodwyn had always been inseparable. They lived in adjoining houses in a tiny remote village in the Welsh mountains, had started school together, had worked on the same farm, and were now, at eighteen years of age and after an engagement lasting two years, standing together in the little chapel where the Pastor had just declared them man and wife.

The young couple spent their two-day honeymoon at a little seaside town which was just sixteen miles from their home, but it was the farthest that either had ever ventured, and so far as they were concerned it was 'abroad'.

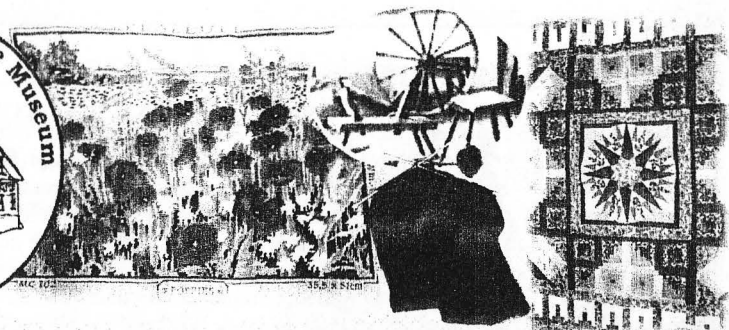
The evening following their return they stood anxiously in front of the Pastor, hand in hand, in the chapel, hesitant to ask the question that was troubling them.

The vicar, who had known them from birth, gently asked them what was the problem, and Dai whispered "Please your honour, is it permissible to have sex on Sunday?"

He looked from one to the other; this was something no-one had ever asked him before, and he didn't know how to answer, so he hedged by saying "This is a very grave matter, and something that I must discuss with the Elders, so come back in a week's time and I will let you know their decision".

The end of the week found Dai and Blodwyn once again standing expectantly in front of the Pastor, awaiting the vital answer.

"I have discussed the matter at great length with the Elders" he said gravely, "and they have decided that it is permissible to have sex on a Sunday - provided you don't enjoy it!!"



Old & New Handicraft Experience

Church House, Dereham, August 5th, 2.00-5.00pm
Admission £1*inc. free entry to museum on day

Come and have a go at some old & new handicrafts.
Watch hobby enthusiasts demonstrating their skills.
See some of the handicraft textile collection from
Dereham's Museum Archives.

Join in activities for the whole family and have a cup of tea.

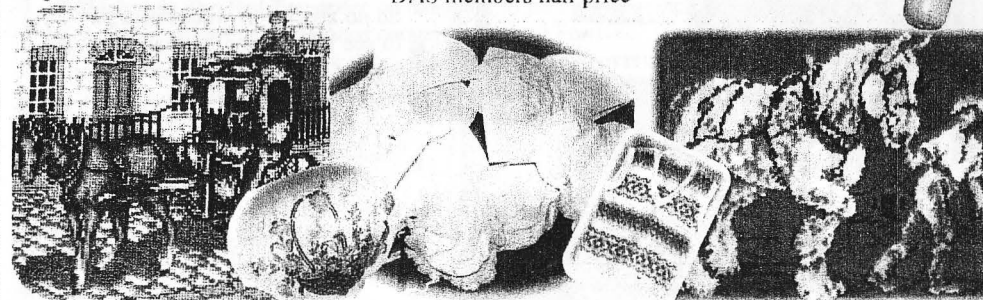
Find out about braiding from Lucet and Inkle to present-day friendship bracelets. Have a go at creating a patchwork design, learn to knit, go hook crazy with French knitting, crochet, and rag/latch rug making. Try on old fashioned caps and bonnets from re-enactments, bring your camera. Watch or try crafts from basket making, walking sticks, spinning and lace making to gold work, cross stitch, encaustic art, and paper crafts.

Something for everyone.

Handicraft Raffle (incorporating some of the crafts demonstrated)—draw at 4.30pm.

Join the Local History Group—Dereham Antiquarian Society

*DAS members half price





Chairman's Corner by Tony Jones

The Arcadian Club meeting on 29th April went very well. As you will know, the Arcadian Club is now incorporated as part of our Society and, therefore, future meetings will be arranged by Sheila. The intention is to continue to meet every six months, in April and October, and all our members are, of course, welcome to attend.

We were fortunate to have good weather (at least when it mattered!) for our visit to Birmingham on 24th May. We visited the Bournville Village—indeed a model village—created by George Cadbury, who was by all accounts a model employer. By contrast, our journey then took us into the City to see examples of the Back to Back Workers' Dwellings now preserved by the National Trust.

Again, I must ask volunteers to come forward to help in the museum and archive and also at the special events organised from time to time. Even assistance in some small way would be useful. However, I am well aware that not all members are able to help and I can only stress the importance of thanking those who do. Our aim must be to maintain a friendly atmosphere throughout. After all, everyone should enjoy their involvement with the Society.

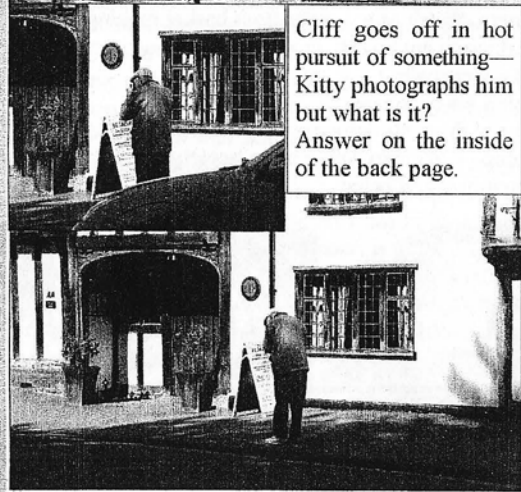
I hope you will be able to support our forthcoming monthly trips and please don't forget the Old and New Handicraft Day at Church House on 5th August.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and do your utmost to keep well. Best wishes to you all.



Food for thought

- 1) The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- 2) A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blown apart.
- 3) A lot of money is tainted. It taint yours and it taint mine.



Cliff goes off in hot pursuit of something—Kitty photographs him but what is it? Answer on the inside of the back page.

No copy received from Ann Ketteringham.



So no article—it would be a pity to see this section (a chain letter type of thing) finish does anyone else wish to write a piece for it and we'll start it again. Remember it doesn't have to be about Dereham just about yourself at some time in your life. We can put more than one in an issue.

VISIT TO LEISTON LONG SHOP AND ALDEBURGH 14th JUNE 2006

At 9 a.m., the coach, carrying thirty-one members and friends, left the Cherry Tree Car Park, bound for a reminder of the great days when England was the richest country in the world, and the forerunner for technology in what became known as the Industrial Age. This was the factory of the famous Garrett steam engine business, which is now a museum.

It was, of course, the Leiston Long Shop, in Suffolk, a vast hall surrounded by a balcony, which preceded Henry Ford's "flow line" set-up by fifty-five years, where the products began at one end as a set of wheels and drove off the other end as a complete vehicle. In the factory here, for around 150 years, a vast range of commodities were produced until the company finally closed in the 1980s, by which time what had begun as a small forge, employing just four people, had in its heyday employed some 5,000.

The company's main products, those for which most today remember them, were a wide range of steam engines; (not locomotives, of which they only built one, which didn't sell,) but virtually everything else in that line, several examples of which were on display there. On arrival we were greeted with coffee and biscuits, following which we were introduced to our tour guides. of which there were two, the present owner and his colleague, both of whom spoke well and clearly, and who between them told us about the history of the company, and introduced us to the various engines on display.

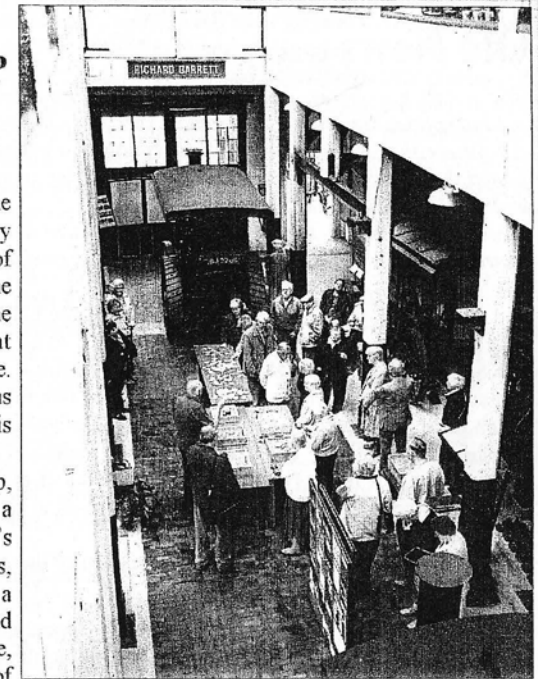
Lunch was booked at the local W.I. hall for 12.30, and after a sincere vote of thanks to our guides we climbed aboard the coach for the short run down to the hall, where a very welcome meal was awaiting us.

That finished, we clambered on board the coach again for the run to our second venue of the day, Aldeburgh, some-time home of composer Benjamin Britten, who became Baron Britten of Aldeburgh, the first composer or musician to be raised to the peerage, and died there in 1976, and the home of the famous annual Aldeburgh Festival.

Battling against a cold blustery wind, the sky sunless and overcast, some of us headed out into the Styx in search of the metal sculpture known as the Benjamin Britten Memorial. I don't know how many actually made it there, but believe me it wasn't worth all that effort, and those that didn't bother got the best of the bargain. To my mind it was hideous.

The 16th century Moot Hall, basically the Town Hall, which was open for the first time ever in the several times Pearl and I had been there, was a far better bet, and it was certainly warmer in there, as well as being a hive of information on the history of the town.

At 4.30, we were all back on the coach for the run home after a very interesting day, albeit a very cold and blustery one.



Cliff

Old News by Kitty Lynn



This article has grown from my research whilst cataloguing the old Dereham and Fakenham Times which started in 1880. For the next three issues the subject will follow the same vane—the Scavenging of Dereham Town in 1880. I have quoted the Dereham & Fakenham times precisely so you can get an idea of just what the Town Board was like.

Please note that the Medical Officer was called Mr H. Vincent and the Dr Vincent on the Board is entirely different person. Also for reference the Surveyor was called Mr Nankivell.

**Saturday, June 12th, 1880
SANITARY MATTERS.**

The Surveyor reported that several of the old Mason's cesspools in the streets were defective, particularly as related to the traps, and advised that where defective they be replaced by gullies, which latter were easily fixed and cleansed. Several of the gratings in the town were defective, and should be replaced. The Surveyor was requested to furnish plans of places where new gullies were required. A memorial from the inhabitants of the Railway Tavern Square was laid before the committee. That memorial directed attention to the nuisance existing in the Neatherd, and called upon the Board to remedy the evil.

The report was adopted, and the consideration of the memorial was postponed to a later period of the day.

Saturday, June 21st, 1880

The Medial Officer reported as follow: - "During the past fourteen days I have to report some cases of scarlet fever of a mild type occurring in Baxter's Row, amongst children attending the Board School in London Road. The Inspector has visited the houses and reports no nuisances of any kind. Printed instructions have been given to the parent of the children. I called on the mistress of the Infant School, in London Road, and asked her to send me the names of any children that were remaining at home through illness. I have had no names sent to me, so I presume the disease has not spread any further in the School. Whilst at the School I visited the lavatories in the girl's school, but found that there was water in the cistern for the supply of the different basins. I found that there was a supply of soft water in the tank. A recommendation from the Board to the School Board would, he had no doubt, put this important detail right. I would advise the Board request the Surveyor to draw up a report as to the structural condition of the following properties, viz.: - A group of cottages in Barnyard's Yard, Swan Lane, late the property of Mr Fox, and also the group of houses situated on the right-hand side of Perry's Yard. Church Street, the property of Mr Burrell. Some of these cottages are in a most dilapidated condition. The privies and ash pits of properties in Washbridge, abutting on the church, and belonging to Mr Gound, are filled with water percolating the rail to the churchyard. A trench requires to be cut in the churchyard to abate the nuisance. Last week, in company with the Surveyor, I walked the whole way along the watercourse extending from Swanton Morley Road to Scarning Fen. In my opinion, when the new system of drainage has been completed much of the nuisance now complained of (and it is no sentimental one) will be abated by the Railway Tavern. I should advise the Board to adopt the suggestion contained in the Surveyor's report, read at the last meeting providing that the expenses so incurred should be defrayed by a private improvement rate. The alteration would be a great boon to the tenants, and also to the public travelling along the Yaxham Road. Furthermore, the erection of sluice gates at intervals along the water course would be a great gain, as these would be opened at intervals, and a good head-steam of water would be sent throughout the entire length of the watercourse." The concluding portions of the report referred to the lack of troughing at certain houses, and the condition of privies, the latter of which required cementing. The use of carbolic acid was also advised.

Mr WARREN said, as they were upon the eve of commencing their general drainage scheme, he did not see the desirability of spending £70 in this improvement, however desirable it might seem to be at the present time. The CHAIRMAN concurred, and said when the general drainage of the town was commenced this part would be deal with. The Surveyor said that, by the alteration he suggested, the property would be improved, and the improvement would be a permanent one. It was eventually suggested that the plans for the proposed alteration and division of the water course be submitted to the owner of the property (Mr Marriott, of Narborough) for his consideration. A hundredweight of carbolic acid was ordered to be obtained

Saturday, July 17th, 1880

THE HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE TOWN.

The Medical Officer (Mr Henry Vincent) reported that he had made an inspection of the parish, and he found things in a very satisfactory condition, with the exception of the properties referred to in the report of June 21st. There were several cases of scarlet fever, but up to the present time there had been only one fatal case.

Mr ELVIN said in a report, recently presented by the Medical Officer, it was stated that water was not obtainable at the Board schools. This was not correct. The reservoir was never kept full of water, because the children dabbled with the water and wasted it, but when the water was wanted in the lavatories by the children, it was turned on and was at once obtainable.

Mr COOPER confirmed this.

Dr VINCENT said this resolved itself into a question of a constant service of an intermittent supply of water. Notwithstanding the excuse of Mr Elvin, there ought to be a constant supply of water, and if the children dabbled in it, they ought to be taught better. He asked what would be the result if the inspector went down one day and popped upon this defect.

Mr BRETT complained that no steps had been taken by the Board with reference to the report of the Medical Officer, in which that gentleman had pointed out the dilapidated condition of certain property, the insufficiency and defect in the troughing to houses, and the necessity to

(Continued on page 18)

D.A.S.

**Past Newsletter
Competition Volume 3, Issue 2**



(Block capitals)

Name

Address

Post Code Tel: (.....)

**Closing date
31st August, 2006**

Please return the competition answer slip form to: -
Spring Competition, c/o Kitty Lynn, Well House, Paper
Street, Clint Green, Yaxham, Dereham, Norfolk, NR19 1RY.



Competition

Be warned — keep those old newsletters, you could win £5.

Shame on you only one person answered, I can only hope there are a few more this time. All the answers to this quiz can be found in the last newsletter—but to find them you'll have to re-read some of the articles. Ha, Ha!

Lost it—shame, it's only two months ago, the museum sells them at £1 each, if you really need one. The prize is a voucher for £5.00 which can be used either as money off the 2006 outings or a year's subscription for the Dereham Antiquarian Society. All correct entries will be put into a draw and the winner notified and given their voucher in the next newsletter. Correct answers will be in the next newsletter along with the winner's name.

- 1) What shop had a kind owner and a small lending library and is back in town today?
- 2) What type of butcher lived at 21, Church Street?
- 3) How many great bells lay in the Churchyard on January 21st 1957?
- 4) Name the pub near where a man who is evidently used to having stoppages, had a fit.
- 5) Why should you dream of bread?
- 6) What archive group looks after the textiles?
- 7) When did Mr C. W. Bayfield loose his eye sight?
- 8) Who died on Christmas Day 1732 bringing a line to an end?
- 9) Whose face lights up upon seeing visitors coming down the street, according to a grand-daughter?
- 10) What type of mini urn could you make on May 27th, 2006?
- 11) What is green in the vat but goes blue on contact with the air? (no wise comments, please)
- 12) Who brought the 1956 photo of the Dereham Bowlers into Tom Quill at the D & F Times?

Answers (Block Capitals Please)

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1) | 2) |
| 3) | 4) |
| 5) | 6) |
| 7) | 8) |
| 9) | 10) |
| 11) | 12) |

Weather Lore by Kitty Lynn

Long before the days of computers and satellite pictures, the amateur weather forecaster could make fairly accurate short-term predictions by reading the signs in nature.



The Weather Prophet

The old-fashioned boffin used a variety of unusual forecasting devices, some more reliable than others. Seaweed, for example, hung up outside the door or window, is a natural barometer; when it shrivels up, good weather is forecast, but if it goes moist and limp it means rain.

When watering the garden on a summer's evening I look up and see a fading flush of a red sky I immediately think I must copy work on to the lap top for then I can sun bathe as well as work. Aren't I the lucky one? The one problem that might occur the next day is when I go to put the kettle on, yes, there under the kettle the ants are starting to swarm. Darn things. I rush to fill my small paddling pool with icy cold water knowing that I'll need it to cool down during the day.

High flying swallows, swarms of gnats, wakeful pheasants, circling bats (yes I have some - IN THE GARDEN), and later, a clear moon, shooting stars and the hoot of an owl - are all signs of a fine tomorrow.

People relied on signs like these perceived in nature around them to make their own predictions before the Victorian meteorologists instigated modern forecasting. This was especially true of farming and fishing

communities whose livelihoods so depended on the weather. Over the centuries they amassed and continued a treasury of weather lore ("saws") based on observation and country wisdom.

Thus, when the farmer woke to a dawn crowing cock and his wife complained of the cheese softening rain was on the way. Similarly when the sailor's rope tightened, the anvil of the blacksmith began to sweat and the shepherd followed his flock down hill the villagers knew rain was imminent. The poacher would also have noticed the leaves sighing and be making his way home. Women at home would be running out to get the washing in as soon as the animals in the yard began to sniff the air, the smoke drifting down being another classic sign of rain.

The many rhymes that had been passed down in generations like "Rain from the east, two days at least" or "Rain before seven, clear before eleven" meant they often knew how long it was going to last too.

Such instant predictions were reasonably accurate but long-term prophesies, shaped by short memory and superstition, proved less reliable.

However many "saws" linking day, month or season with weather wisdom, do not stand up to scrutiny. Only chance can substantiate sayings such as "so many fogs in March you see, so many frosts in May will be", "a Saturday's rainbow, a week's rotten weather", "if it thunders on All Fool's Day, it brings good crops of corn and hay", or "a wet June makes a dry September."

Though luck and the odd behaviour of the British climate did bring it off in 1962, for over 300 years before Sir Francis Bacon had written "a moist and cool summer portends a hard winter"; the summer of 1962 was extremely unseasonable - wet, windy, and cold; the winter that followed had 20 feet deep snow drifts, blizzards lasting several days and temperatures well below freezing. It was the worst there had been for twenty years.

The roots of weather lore lie in early religion. Its first exponents were priests or wise men who

decided the all important dates of sowing or harvesting. Fertility of the crops, on which survival depended, meant the accurate interpretation of weather signs. These were usually passed on orally, but from the earliest times it was also written for in the 8th century the Venerable Bede produced a treatise on forecasting.

The Anglo-Saxons even believed that the year's weather was predisposed by the day of the week on which 1st January fell. New Year's Day on a Monday promised "a severe winter, a windy spring, a rainy summer"; on Wednesday, "a hard winter, a bad spring, a good summer"; on Thursday, "a good winter, a windy spring, a good summer"; but as to the other days I can find no reference.

Forecasters of the medieval period attached great importance to holy days: these special times predictably took on subsequent connotations in the weather calendar.

St. Swithin's day – 15th July is perhaps the best remembered saying of these "St. Swithin's Day, if ye do rain, for forty days it will remain; St Swithin's Day, and ye be fair, for forty days 'twill rain nae mair." The year 1913, when it poured all day and then only nine days of the subsequent forty days were wet is probably the best contradiction to this, but another of the opposite trend was in 1924, when the 15th was filled with sunshine and the next thirty days with rain.

Another saint's day that supposedly predicts the weather is Michaelmas (29th September). If this day is dry then it indicates a dry spring. Others are "where the wind is on Martinmas Eve (10th November) there it will be for the coming winter"; and snow on Christmas night promises good harvests the following year, especially if Christmas Day falls on a Friday (for "know all well that winter shall be easy"). A well known Candlemas (2nd February) rhyme "if Candlemas Day be fair and bright, Winter will have another flight. But if Candlemas Day brings clouds and rain, Winter is gone and won't come again". Taken as a measure of winter's advancement it is surprisingly accurate. People would optimistically hope for a dry Lent or a November thunderstorm which promised a fertile year.

Later, other men of learning added to the store of meteorological observations – among them, the Shepherd of Banbury, an anonymous 17th century weatherman who compiled a fascinating list of medieval 'skyey influences'.

Sailors and navigators became adept in weather sayings, because failure could lead to certain death, so much of their lore is reliable. For example, an oncoming gale can set up a rolling swell which travels rapidly ahead, giving warning of bad weather to come before any other indicators such as cloud or rain.

But the most comprehensive collection was published 300 years later by Richard Inwards (1840 – 1937), a mining engineer: his knowledge of weather wisdom – initially a hobby – was so extensive that, by the turn of the century, he had become a world authority.

SKY WATCHING

Shakespeare said "Men judge by the complexion of the sky, the state and inclination of the day". To this day possibly one of the easiest ways to predict the weather is by the sky.

Clouds contain a wealth of information and similarly have a vast number of sayings about them. Below are listed a variety of types of clouds and looks of cloudy skies, if they have a meteorological reason then that is also given.

Looking at the movement of upper layers of clouds can tell you if a change in the weather is imminent, if their direction is very different from the winds blowing clouds below. Cirrus clouds form the highest layer of the cloud family, and sometimes stretch right up to the lower level of the stratosphere. In appearance they are fibrous and form thin streaks across the sky in all directions when a change in the weather is approaching. If they develop rapidly they resemble



Cumulonimbus cloud seen rising up from a long base line, building up for a storm.

shoals of fish and this normally means rain. Cumulus or heaped clouds, when they are nothing more than puffs of cotton wool, belong to fair weather but, "if thick clowdes resembling flockes, or rather great heapes of woll, be gathered, they shewe rayne". Similarly, stratus or layered clouds can be good omens when they are high and thin, but harbingers of heavy rain when they descend in a dense, dark sheet.

Perhaps the best known rhyme for clouds is when a Cirrocumulus cloud forms. It sometimes appears as faint ripples like those on wind blown sand, and is more commonly spoken of as a "mackerel" sky, (the clear sky gradually mottles with clouds looking like the back of mackerel skin). For this there are several sayings – all different: "mackerel sky, rain is nigh", "mackerel sky and mares' tails, make tall ships carry low sails", meaning rain, wind and unsettled weather is coming. However, the saying that contradicts this is "Mackerel sky, twelve hours dry", meaning that it's the end of unsettled weather.

From among the hundreds of old weather "saws" only a few have any foundation in meteorological fact, one of the truest of all proverbs is: "Red in the morning, shepherd's warning; Red at night, shepherd's delight". The western sky refracts the light of the setting sun and, in dry air, the red section of the spectrum predominates; at dawn, if there are rain clouds on high, these reflect back the red rays of the rising sun to give a rosy horizon. There is also a good deal of truth in the adage: "rain before seven, fine before eleven". It very often happens that a small trough of bad weather will start in the early hours of the morning and will usually clear within 6 to 7 hours at the most.

We are all familiar with the pale watery-looking sunset that denotes coming rain, or after sunset an equally watery moon or one with a halo round it. "Last night the Sun went pale to bed, the Moon in haloes hid her head... 'Twill surely rain – I see with sorrow, our jaunt must be put off tomorrow."

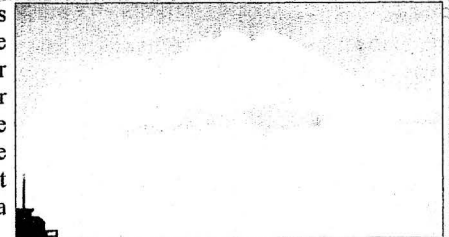
The night sky and moon have much to tell, some of the old saws being very difficult to kill in spite of the lack of any evidence of their being true. One of these is that the weather changes with the moon, or that "when the new moon holds the old moon in its arms, bad weather is at hand". The correct one relating to the moon and the weather is this: "Moon and weather may change together, But a change of moon does not change the weather".

Another familiar couplet about the moon relates to when one sees a halo around it: "The bigger the ring, the nearer the rain." This is quite true, when a rain area approaches, a ring or a halo is formed due to refraction by ice crystals of the high cirrus clouds. Associated with haloes are mock moons – these tell of the coming of storms. Since the halo or circle signifies the presence of a cloud layer there is much truth in the saying: "If the moon rises haloed round, Soon you'll tread on deluged ground". The farmers have several sayings about the moon, one of which is very similar to the last, "If the moon shows like a silver shield, you needn't be afraid to reap your field; but if she rises haloed round, soon we'll tread on deluged ground".

In Shakespeare's *King John* the report "five



Because this newsletter is black & white you can't see this photo properly, it shows a yellow sky at sunset, between clouds of greyish purple. This denotes rain and gales are on the way



This is a typical 'shower-cumulus' cloud, portending a showery day with sunny intervals.

moons were seen tonight" is subsequently followed by dire events and a terrible tempest. Colour is a further giveaway: "Pale moon does rain, Red moon does blow, White moon does neither rain nor snow." A bright moon means fine weather and, in winter, frost: "clear moon, frost soon."

Stars have two well known sayings only: "when the stars twinkle, wind is on its way" and "when the stars begin to huddle (hide), the earth will soon become a puddle".

PLANT WATCHING

The weather-wise can glean extra information from the world around them, particularly plants and animals. Several plants, among them dandelions, daisies and chickweed, fold up their petals before rain, an automatic reaction to increased moisture in the air. If the down flies off dandelions, coltsfoot or thistles when there is no wind, it is a sign of rain. "Rain from the east, two wet days at least".

Perhaps the best known plant like this is the simple man's barometer, the scarlet pimpernel. In the 1500s, herbalist John Gerard recorded that its blooms, if closed, "betokeneth rain and foul weather; contrariwise, if they be spread abroad, fair weather".

The rising humidity softens tree leaves, causing them to turn over and display their pale linings: "When leaves show their undersides, be very sure that rain betides", most obvious in the lilac, poplar, lime, sycamore, and plane. An habitual announcement of rain is also seen in the rapid growths of mushrooms and sinking pondweed.



An Open and Shut Case

Fir-cones are often used as crude weather barometers. The cones will open to welcome fine weather, but shut as soon as there is the threat of colder weather and rain

Other items classed as poor man's weather clocks for centuries are the seaweed and fir cones. A fir cone on the windowsill opens to welcome a fine spell, but shuts itself against wet and cold. Likewise a frond of kelp or wrack, hung by the door, can be as accurate as any broadcast bulletin: brittle and shrivelled for good weather, moist and fleshy for rain.

Several sayings have come about concerning dew on the grass, "Frost or dew in the morning light, shows no rain before the night" and the other well known one is "When the dew is on the grass, rain will never come to pass. When the grass is dry at morning light, look for rain before the night."

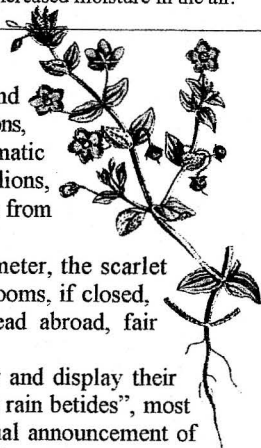
Perhaps the simplest rhyme foretelling the year's weather, and a favourite of mine because I've always found it to be the most reliable is done in the spring just before all the deciduous leaves come out. You do have to find somewhere, where the oak and ash are next to each other, "If the ash is out before the oak, you may expect a thorough soak. If the oak is out before the ash, you'll hardly get a single splash."

ANIMALS & HUMANS

Animals seem to be highly sensitive to atmospheric changes and their conduct reflects this, in advance of wild weather they become restless. Owl's hoot, dog's howl, foxes bark, bulls bellow and seek shelter; porpoises swim into harbour, toads

Nature's Weather Glass (below)

The delicate scarlet pimpernel has long been known as 'the poor man's weather glass'. A 16th century herbalist recorded that when the its petals were closed it 'betokeneth rain and foul weather', but when they were spread, 'fair weather' was in store. Other flowers, like the dandelion and daisy, also react in this way to increased moisture in the air.



make for water, rooks stay near their nest, and bees "who will not swarm near a storm" return to the hive. Oncoming rain also upsets animal rhythms, one of the most prevalent beliefs is that it will rain if cattle lie down in the fields. Possibly cattle have learned and passed on through their genes this process to ensure they have a dry patch of grass to lay on. The call of a curlew is said to predict rain as do frogs croaking, the loud long laugh of the green woodpecker, fish swimming near the top of a large pond, ducks quacking, deer feeding early, the "storm cock" the mistle thrush singing into the wind, horses shaking their heads, and the moorhen beginning to build her nest higher upon the pond.

If ants retreat into their burrows then rain will not be far behind. An American scientist, Dr Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory, investigated the movements of ants under varying temperatures. He found that the higher the temperature, the more swiftly they moved and, conversely, that when it was cooled, they moved slowly. His research was carried to such a degree of accuracy that he was able to estimate the temperature to within 1°F. merely by working out the different speed of ants and drawing up a relative timing chart.

The cricket has been known for centuries as "the poor man's thermometer." If you count the number of chirps within fifteen seconds, then add the number thirty-seven, you'll get the temperature in Fahrenheit degrees.

Fine weather on the way is shown when cattle or sheep graze on higher land, when spiders spin long webs, larks soar, goats stand head to the wind, "when wild geese hang out to sea, good weather there will surely be", robins sing from the treetops, and "fine weather next day if bats and beetles fly late in the evening", is a common East Anglian saying.

However, many insects hatch in the humid weather before a storm and swallows fly low to catch them. "Swallows fly high: clear blue sky. Swallows fly low: rain we shall know".

From below the ground "the busy heuing of moules declareth rayne" but, if the 'little gentlemen in velvet' surface, warm weather approaches.

Around the house, creaking furniture, falling soot, a dim candle or one that will not light easily, a sulky fire (and a broken loaf of bread!) all presage rain, while milk souring overnight (from a rise in temperature) guarantees thunder in the morning. A flickering candle flame means windy weather is on the way.

Outdoors, chimney smoke drifting down, slimy walls and strong-smelling ditches are watery omens; so, too, is a very clear day, for "the farther the sight, the nearer the rain".

Although human perception of atmosphere mood is less acute, some people do instinctively react when there is a change in the air. Ringing ears, if caused by increased pressure, can herald fine weather; aching joints usually indicate rain, as does rheumatism, and aching corns; whereas chronic indigestion, raging toothache and "dreams of a hurrying and frightening nature" reputedly precede storms. Many people can tell the weather through previous injuries and the way they react to atmospheric pressures around them. However, each person's predictions have no relevant bearings on what another's might be, everyone being different. An east wind is often maligned, especially as regards the couplet "When the wind is in the east, 'tis neither good for man nor beast." Although an east wind admittedly can be very trying in the winter, especially for elderly people, it will often in the summer herald a long spell of warm sunny weather. Widespread as this lore is, there is no evidence to prove the connection. Men, like plants and animals react quickly to climate, but other factors such as diet, temperament and anxiety levels also have to taken into account.

SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS

There are infinite books on how to practise meteorology, university courses and even a computer program to predict the weather. Science has taken over the old wife of the village foretelling and reading the weather from the saws. Computers process and analyse data, such as satellite pictures, radar scans and infrared images, received around the clock enabling the forecaster to make

continuous predictions. But how often do they get it right? For the weather often has a mind of its own, a fact that in the 19th century an Astronomer Royal recognised "I regard the science of meteorology as one of the most desperate with which we have to deal!".

Man has always sought to control or predict the weather, in an attempt to understand and come to terms with the environment especially in countries such as Britain where the climate is temperate. The country folk's oral knowledge of day-to-day weather wisdom is as good and workable today as it was in the Middle Ages. Many of the 'saws' have now been proved scientifically sound, even though the meteorological scientist has come up with other ideas, nothing can tell the local weather any better than "Hark I hear the asses bray, we shall have some rain today."

And finally - thinking of Comedy Corner this issue I have one last weather superstition of German origin to tell which is that "if it rains while a couple are having sexual intercourse (not necessarily out in the open!) then a girl child will result. Sex during fine weather will produce a boy".

One final weather saying on a lighter side of things.

Dirty days hath September
April June and November
From January up to May
The rain it raineth every day
All the rest have thirty-one
Without a blessed gleam of sun
And if any of them had two-and-thirty
They'd be just as wet and twice as dirty.



Raining Cats and Dogs

The old expression 'it's raining cats and dogs' is founded in weather mythology. In northern legend, the dog symbolizes the wind and is attendant on Odin, the storm god. The cat, on the other hand, is associated with several ancient superstitions. Seafarers used to describe an unusually frisky cat as having 'a gale of wind in her tail', while witches were said to assume the form of a cat when they rode on the back of a howling storm. Cruikshanks' cartoon shows the skies pouring 'cats, dogs and pitchforks'. One woman is taking advantage of the 'very unpleasant weather' by doing a brisk trade in cat and dog meat.

Harold Hemment, the "Sweet" Man

By Cliff Allwright

This is a cutting taken from the January 15th edition of the E.D.P. in 1998, recording the passing of the man who must surely have been the favourite adult of many of the kids in Dereham prior to his retirement in the 1960s, the near-God who ruled over the sweet shop at No.6 Norwich Street, Harold Hemment. I don't know how long the shop was there, but it's listed in the Directory of 1933, so it was obviously some time.

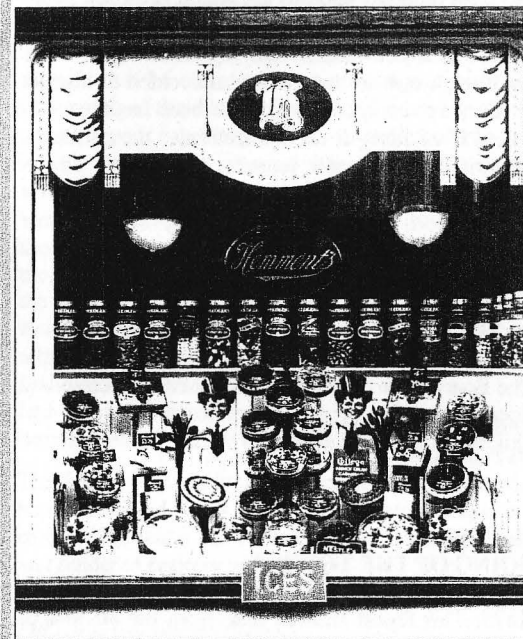
I'm sure that there are some of our Dereham-born members who will remember visits to his shop with pleasure, and perhaps they can add further details to this, his Obituary under the headline "Aim Was Always To Be Useful", which reads:

"A Dereham shopkeeper who always went beyond the call of duty has died aged 95. Harold Hemment was born in King's Lynn, but lived virtually his whole life in Dereham.

He was apprenticed to his father's profession at Dereham Foundry, but became a shopkeeper following the loss of most of his sight in an industrial accident.

Mr. Hemment ran Hemment's Corner Confectioners in Norwich Street with his late wife Margaret.

His aim was always to be useful to others, and he spent many decades helping the community. Mr. Hemment regularly went beyond the call of duty to help customers, and was known for his courteous and kindly manner.



SHOPKEEPER: Harold Hemment always helped others.

After his retirement in the 1960s he was a helper at St. Nicholas Church and a charity volunteer.

Among his interests were bowls, local history, and the Blind Club.

Mr. Hemment leaves a son Peter, daughter Zoe, and grandchildren Julie, Drew, Damian and Helen. His son said "It takes great courage to live so long and so well.

Harold has been so much to so many, and an inspiration to us all. He was always the life and soul of every occasion, keeping others moving and in good spirits with his irrepressible joy for life".

A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday January 21 at St. Nicholas Parish Church.

Family members will attend a service at St. Faith's Crematorium, near Norwich.

(Continued from page 9)

make a new drain at the Railway Tavern cottages. Upon that report the Board had simply ordered a supply of carbolic acid and disinfectants. In thus passing over these reports they were not treating their Medical Officer fairly.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that Mr Brett was present at the meeting of the Board at which the report was presented, and expressed his surprise that that member had not then made a motion in the matter.

The Rev. B. J. ARMSTRONG remarked that, if he remembered rightly, the matter of the cut was mentioned at the time, and it was then deemed inadvisable to do anything with it till the drainage works were completed.

Mr ASKEW said, in reference to the insufficiency of the troughing in certain places, the Board should attend to its own failings before they dropped down upon private individuals. He instanced the present condition of the engine shed, where the inhabitants were sometimes flooded out because of the defective troughing. Some discussion took place upon this, and it was moved by Mr BRETT "That notice be served upon Mr Nicholson and Mr Potter, that if troughing be not placed to their property – the former's in Church Street, and the latter's in London Road – within fourteen days, proceedings be taken against them." Mr Nicholson, it was stated, had already received notice. The Clerk stated that it rested with the owner, and not with the tenant, to remedy the defect in the troughing. The motion of Mr Brett was withdrawn, and the attention of the Surveyor was ordered to be directed to the matter.

Mr STEBBINGS then wished that the report of the Medical Officer of the 21st of June, as it referred to the dilapidated cottages condemned by the Medical Officer, should be then considered. This was seconded by Mr GIBBS, but an amendment moved by Mr BRETT, ordering the reference of the matter to the Sanitary Committee, and instructing the Surveyor to draw up a report was carried.

The condition of certain outside offices in possession of Mr Wigg, and in contiguity to the churchyard, and which were now flooded with water draining from the surrounding ground was then considered, this matter having also been reported upon by the Medical Officer, who recommended that a trench be cut in the churchyard for the reception of the water. With regard to this suggestion a difficulty was encountered, the churchwardens denying their liability to do the work, or that the water drained from the churchyard. In the end it was decided to instruct the Surveyor to serve notice upon Mr Wigg relative to complaint which had been made.

The Medical Officer also, in his report of the 21st of June, directed attention to the nuisances arising from the stagnant, offensive liquid lying in the open water course at the Railway Tavern cottages. The Medical Officer suggested a permanent improvement by means of a private improvement rate, but this did not seem to meet with much support, and Mr STUDD having mentioned Mr Marriott's relation to the piece of land in question, and that no reply had yet been received from him, it was resolved that the question be referred back to the Sanitary Committee, that body to await Mr Marriott's reply.

Some formal correspondence having been read, a petition was received from the inhabitants of Park Road, praying that the lighting and watering of that road should be carried out by the Board. Dr Vincent and other members of the Board were of the opinion that Mr J Warren had made a great public improvement in this locality, but this being a private road the Board had no power, unless the inhabitants were willing to accept a private rate. The matter was referred to the Lighting Committee.

The Board then adjourned.

Saturday, September 11th, 1880
THE SCAVENGING OF THE TOWN

The Surveyor submitted to the committee a report of the scavenging of the district as undertaken by the Board under the Public Health Act, 1875. This report showed that, from the amount of

work to be done, no time was left the scavengers for any day work, supposing each privy was scavenged once only in a year. But the work would be very much accelerated by adding another slush cart and employing an extra horse half time, when probably the same staff of men would scavenge the privies three times in the year, and would remove the street sweepings, dust bins, &c., in addition. On this basis he had made the following estimate for the guidance of the committee: - Keep of 1½ horses at 15s. per week, £58. 10s.; hire of stable, 35; ditto land for depositing refuse, £5; wages of three men, at 18s. per week, £140. 8s.; incidentals, £9. 2s. Total, £218. Against this was to be set an estimated credit of £60 arising from the sale of refuse; £100 had been allowed in making the rate as the estimated expenditure for scavenging, leaving £58 as the amount unprovided for. Before deciding upon the new contract, the Surveyor submitted the following questions for consideration: - (1) How is the district to be defined? (2) How often are the privies to be cleaned? (3) What staff is the contractor to employ? (4) What is to be the division of labour – night and day work? (5) Will the board provide another slush cart? (6) Will there be any regulations between the Board and occupiers? (7) Who is to open and close vaults? (8) Are factories and workshops to be included? (9) Will street sweepings be included in the contract? (10) Will the Board defend scavengers against the occupiers who insist on removing themselves the dry refuse only?

The committee recommended that the portion of land connecting the drain on the field belonging to the Churchwardens with the commencement of the above open drain in the highway be opened by the parties owning or occupying land there, and that the original ditch on the side of the highway be re-opened by the Surveyor, and the water course made good. At a special meeting of the committee that body decided to recommend the Board not to enter into a fresh contract for scavenging the district at the expiration of the present contract. This was carried, an amendment, moved by MR WARREN, recommending the Board to invite tenders for scavenging the district for the purpose of testing the probable cost, being lost.

The CHAIRMAN said he was of opinion that the Board had no right to drain the surface water into the pit on the church land. It was quite open for the churchwarden to close the pit if they chose. Mr GIBBS said he was very glad to hear the Chairman speak in this manner. He had been a sufferer in this way during the past twelve months, the Surveyor having told him that he had the right to convey surface water into any land he might choose for the purpose. He had thought that he ought to bring an action against the Board for damage. With regard to the scavenging of the district, Dr VINCENT said he thought that a great hardship would be inflicted upon the poor inhabitants by the Board's ceasing their system of scavenging. But on the other hand it was open to his mind that if the Board undertook the work they would be subjected to severe penalties for any complaint which might be made. The Clerk answering, in reply to Dr Vincent, that the inviting of tenders would not be a binding commencement of an undertaking, it was now again moved by Mr GIBBS that the surveyor be instructed to prepare a specification of the proposed scavenging work, and to invite tenders in order to ascertain the probable cost of the work to be done. This being seconded, was carried. The board then proceeded to deal with the questions submitted by the Surveyor. It was resolved that the scavenging district shall remain as at present; that the privies shall be cleared three times a year, and more frequently if necessary in the opinion of the inspector.

Saturday, September 25th, 1880
SCAVENGING THE TOWN

The Sanitary Committee recommended that the tender of Mr Gamble, for scavenging the town, be not accepted. Mr R. Lane wrote complaining that the water in the well from which he ought to draw his water for culinary and domestic purposes was contaminated by drainage matter, and rendered entirely unfit for use.

Next time the tension begins to build—a letter from a member of the public and the Medical Officer condemns the Board.

The Vault By Cliff Allwright

A MYSTERIOUS MEDIEVAL WELL



Here's another little titbit I've come across that I think might be of interest, especially as it involves members of the Society, some of whom may remember it. All I can tell you is that it's a piece of a cutting from some unknown newspaper, and that the figures 1964 are written on it in ink. Here's what it says.

"... the discovery of the medieval well on the site of the old Vicarage, and within the moated site below the Vicarage. This well was not only filled when discovered; it had a 20 foot tree growing in it. But some of the younger members of the Dereham Antiquarian and Archaeological Society asked if they might excavate the site and began with the well. Under the leadership of Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Fanthorpe, a team of diggers got to work. They cut down the tree and dug up the roots, and then the work really began. Each evening the well grew deeper. Eventually a bucket on a pulley had to be rigged up and a ladder borrowed. The diggers disappeared down the well, but if they vanished from sight the water suddenly sprang to life again, after goodness knows how many hundred years. Eventually a large pump had to be borrowed, and gallons of water pumped out each evening previous to digging. The well, whose walls are made of flint and brick down to a distance of eight feet or so, then rests on a beautiful timber construction and the entire depth is around eleven feet. At one time there must have been six feet of clear water in it. Truth is said to reside at the bottom of the well. What came out of the mud? Lots of bones, lots of oyster shells, fragments of medieval earthenware of dates from about the 13th to the 18th century, and a 14th century gold plated ring".

And that's it. Surely someone amongst us must know what happened then. Some of our older members may even be amongst those involved. If so, why not either give me a ring (693357), or better still write about it for the Newsletter. It's all grist to the mill, whatever that means.

The Vault By Kitty Lynn **Kitty's Graduation to the Vault**



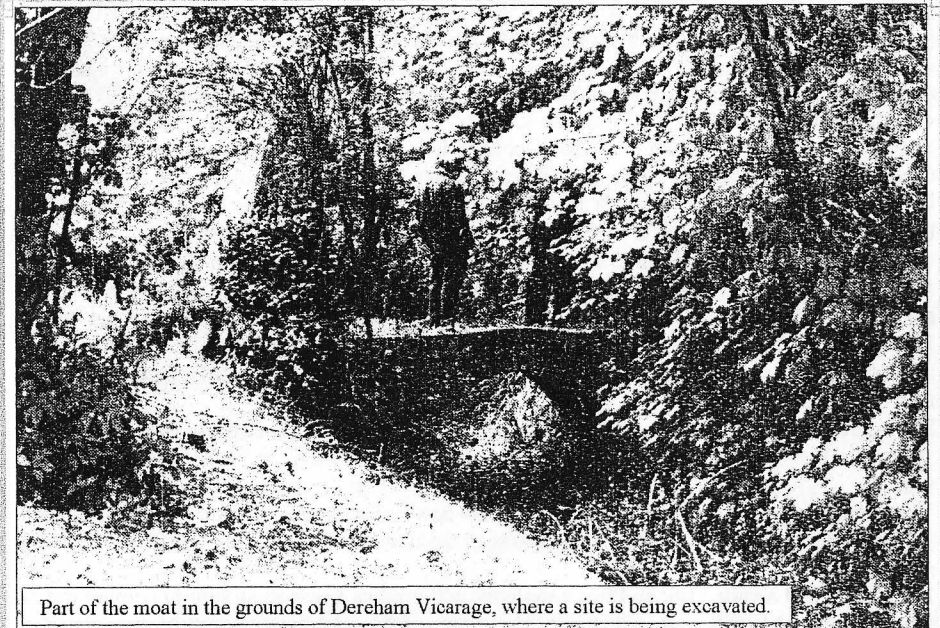
I know Cliffy, me, me, I know, well some of it—Theo told me when he gave me the following clipping. This article must be from around the same time if Theo retires this year and he was 22 years old when he was involved. 1963? Whoops—sorry Theo.

Diggers Searching Out A 'Vanished Vicarage'.

A century and a half ago, the original vicarage of Dereham was last mentioned in local records. It then "vanished" and now only the moat which surrounded it and a red bridge remain. No picture of the old vicarage exists and there are few clues to help those puzzled about its fate. But the mystery of the "vanished vicarage" is now on the point of being solved by members of the Dereham Antiquarian Society.

Five diggers, supervised by 22 year old Theodore Fanthorpe, are hoping to find the foundations of a small castle which belonged to the Bishop of Ely and was probably built in the 12th century. At the time of Elizabeth I it became the Dereham vicarage and was last mentioned in local records in 1806. The vicarage was ruined in the Civil War and restored afterwards. The original moat still surrounds the acre-large site which until last week had been used as a vegetable garden.

The excavators have found their first clue—a four-foot wide well, out of which was growing a thirty-foot chestnut tree.



Part of the moat in the grounds of Dereham Vicarage, where a site is being excavated.

Mr Fanthorpe said the casing of the well was relatively modern, but the original well was probably eight hundred years old.

Another find was a large section of a 12th century piece of pottery and other pottery fragments of later origin.

The "dig" is expected to take more than a year. Mr Fanthorpe explained: "We have to go slowly and we are terribly understaffed, but I am hoping for more volunteers."

There has already been outside interest, and Barbara Green, assistant keeper of archaeology at Norwich Castle Museum, has visited the site. She said that it was the first major excavation of a Norfolk moat site.

The Vicar of Dereham, Canon Noel Boston, who is in overall charge of the excavation, said he hoped the uncovered site would remain "a permanent feature of Dereham."

Now I have a question—what was the end result?

Do you know, Jonathan, and can you help with the following picture (your father) which unfortunately Theo had covered up the writing to with a **blank piece** of paper.

The title reads **Dereham Dig Turns Up Gilded Ring** and under the picture is the following comment—"Canon Noel Boston examines -" and there it is cut off.

When family commitments allow I just know I'm heading into see Ian again at the D & F Times. I'm sorry about the quality of these two pictures but they are a scanned copy of a photocopy.

Kitty's phone number—01362 695397



Doctor Jessopp, Vicar of Scarning by Ron Clark



At this year's AGM of the Antiquarians Society, members were asked if they would consider accepting the Arcadian Club of Scarning in the Society. The Society agreed to incorporate the Club after Mr Clark, representing the Arcadian Club, had given a synopsis of the Club's activity, this being the study of the life and works of Dr. Augustus Jessopp. Dr. Jessopp was Vicar of Scarning from 1890 to 1911 and during this time wrote about twelve books and visited many of the well-known people in the county. He was both a Cambridge and an Oxford man. In his early days he took up an appointment as schoolmaster in Cornwall and while there he was invited to take the living of St. Agnes. (This small town was the last place to hear Cornish Gaelic spoken and it was still being used by old folk as late as 1940.) At Scarning Vicarage he had one of the largest private libraries in the county but before giving up the living he sold his collection of quality leather bound books to the county gentry.

His wife died in 1905 and was buried in the church cemetery. Dr Jessopp died in Virginia Water, Berkshire February 1914 but was brought back to Scarning to be buried alongside his wife.

The Arcadian Club intends to put a library in the new Scarning Village Hall (when it has been completed) and members will be invited to read the items and articles he wrote for the parish magazine.

Dr Jessopp had a varied life and this newsletter will publish items about him in coming issues which I think you will find interesting. These items will have been written by the late Fred Hoskins, one of the founder members of the Arcadian Club, who died in February 2005.

(May I remind members of the Arcadian Club that I have only been given issues 1, 2, & 4 of their newsletter and so if they do not write in with articles or give me other newsletters, then I'm afraid this spot will have to be terminated when articles from these are finished. Kitty)

The following is taken from Issue One of the Arcadian Club Newsletter No 1 — October 1998.

Aims of Arcadian Club

Following a get-together in the winter of 1995 between Fred Hoskins and David Bunting who discovered a mutual interest in the life of Augustus Jessopp, a meeting was called for Saturday, 4th May 1996 with the aim of forming a Club or Association to study the life and literary works of Augustus Jessopp.

Thus the Arcadian Club came into existence; at the initial meeting it was agreed to meet half yearly in May and October to pursue this object.

It was felt that this group should be formed on an informal basis and should be held in Scarning Village Hall. The annual subscription was set at five pounds.

Since the meetings and formation of the Arcadian Club on 4th May 1996, four further sessions have been held including one highly interesting visit to Mannington Hall by kind permission of Lord and Lady Walpole.

The consensus of opinion amongst club members is that a half-yearly newsletter should be published to make available to all the large amount of information collected from various sources on the life, work and family of Augustus Jessopp.

Continuity is the essence and it is hoped that members of the Club will participate in forming the content of future newsletters for as a group, we have a personal and collective interest in

the life and literary works of Augustus Jessopp.

All regular members are now familiar and well acquainted with Augustus Jessopp's history, his childhood, his education, his first clerical appointment, his change of direction in midlife into education and finally his long period as Rector of Scarning, the Parish he faithfully served for over thirty years.

Biographical Details.

1. Born at Chestnut, Herts on 20th December, 1823, the third son and youngest child of John Sympson Jessopp D.L. (Barrister), and his wife Elizabeth.
2. The family moved to the Low Countries in the Spring of 1831. Augustus received a roving education abroad and later at Clapham under the Rev. A. J. Plow.
3. Three years in a merchant's office in Liverpool c.1841/1843
4. Sent to St. John's College, Cambridge in 1844. Awarded his degree in 1849.
5. Curate at Papworth St Agnes (then in Huntingdonshire) c.1847/1854
6. Married Mary Ann Margaret, daughter of Charles Cotesworth R.N. of Liverpool, also in 1847.
7. Short period at 52 Regent Road, Cambridge following resignation at Papworth St Agnes in 1854.
8. Headmaster of Helston Grammar School, Cornwall c.1855/1859
9. Headmaster of Norwich School 1859/1879.
10. Rector of Scarning 1880/1911
11. Mary Ann Margaret died 1905 (Buried at Scarning).
12. Incorporated at Oxford (From Worcester College) and took degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1890. In 1895 his Oxford and Cambridge Colleges elected him Honorary Fellow on the same day. In the same year he was made Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral and in 1902 Chaplain in Ordinary to King Edward VII, a position which he held until 1910.
13. Resigned living in 1911. Removed to The Chantry, Norwich.
14. Died at Virginia Water, Berkshire 12th February, 1914.
15. Buried at Scarning alongside his wife on 14th February, 1914.

The front page object is a Cooper Brown beer bottle and the picture is of the TA Hall, Dereham. This was the site of the Cooper Brown Brewery was in Dereham. However, the Brewery went right through to Cowper Road but the TA Hall site doesn't.

Page 6, the Pictures of Cliff—He is focusing his camera.

Dereham Antiquarian Society

Dereham's Local History Group

Society Committee

Chairman – Mr Tony Jones
(01362) 820580

Vice Chairman – Mr Ron Clarke
(01362) 687370

Secretary – Mr Gordon Powell
(01362) 697318

Membership Secretary – Mrs Joan Cole
(01362) 693688

Programme Secretary – Mrs Sheila Jones
(01362) 820580

Publicity Officer – Mr Peter Bradbury
(01362) 690096

Sue White – (01362) 695652

Margaret Davies (01362) 692009



D. A. M. S. Committee

Dereham Antiquarian Museum Section

Chairperson/Curator – Mrs Kitty Lynn
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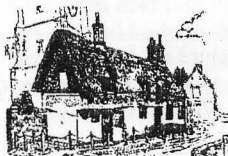
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Charity No. 295648

Well I Never by Kitty Lynn.



The first saying is for Rose.

CATS

A restless cat means a storm is brewing.
When a cat licks its tail, rain is coming.
If you throw a cat overboard, there will be a storm at sea.
Never kick a cat or you'll get rheumatism.
Never drown a cat or the Devil will get you.
If a cat meows on board ship, it will be a difficult trip.
It's good luck to have the family cat at your wedding.
When a cat puts its tail toward the fire, bad weather is coming.
When a cat licks itself clean, it means fair weather, rain, or company, (depending on who you ask).
If a cat jumps over a corpse, the corpse will become a vampire.
You must stop the funeral immediately and wait until the cat is caught and killed. (Since killing a cat is also bad luck, you can't win when this happens, no matter what you do!)

And the second for the sneezers at the archives (must be all the dust they're stirring up amongst the documents).

SNEEZING

Gesundheit!
How many times have you heard that? In fact, how many times have you said it; or God bless you; or any of the benedictions that save the soul? Well here's a rhyme for you.

On Monday, sneeze for danger
On Tuesday, kiss a stranger
On Wednesday, receive a letter
On Thursday, something better
On Friday, sneeze for sorrow
On Saturday, see your lover tomorrow
On Sunday your safety seek
Or the Devil will have you the rest of the week.

(Harland, Lancs. Folk-Lore)



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