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A side effect of lockdown has been the opportunity to fulfil an ambition to update and publish Rutland village walks on our website. The annual visit to one of Rutland's villages is an important event in the Society's calendar and it is always an occasion of discovery for those taking part. Since 1997, a significant component of these visits has been the leaflet guided historical walk round the village. These walks are now gradually being updated and risk assessed prior to inclusion in the new Village Walks section of our website for all to enjoy. (<http://www.rutlandhistory.org/villagewalks.htm>)

The walks are in A4 PDF (Portable Document Format) for desktop and laptop computers, but they are also being gradually adapted by our webmaster for viewing on mobile devices (smartphones, iPads etc.). These will automatically detect the most appropriate format.

All walks are accompanied by a map, and both can be printed. If you are using a mobile device to follow a walk the map will be displayed in page-by-page sections, but it is a good idea to at least print the map if you have access to a printer.

On the Village Walks page, a map of Rutland indicates villages where a walk is available. Simply click or tap on the village name (in blue) of your choice to view the walk and its map.

As the routes of walks are mainly on public highways, remote members can also enjoy the walks virtually by zooming to the street view option in Google Earth Pro. This can be downloaded for free from:

<https://www.google.co.uk/earth/download/gep>

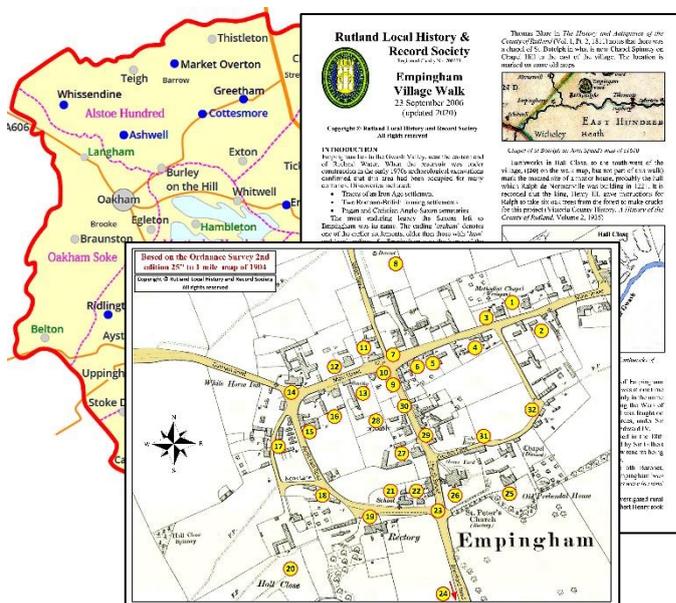
Lockdown, Zoom, and Village Walks for All

Having been in COVID-19 lockdowns of one level or another since the publication of the 2020 Newsletter, there have been no Society communal activities for more than a year. All our open meetings at Rutland County Museum were either cancelled or postponed, and the museum itself has been closed for much of this time. When it was open, only socially distanced individuals or small family groups wearing masks were allowed entry, so our group meetings were not possible.

Lockdown also meant that our Annual General Meeting, the annual Village Visit and the Built Environment Awards were cancelled, so there are there are no reports on these in this issue.

However, online video conferencing sites such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams are filling the gap, and the Society's Executive Committee has now started using Zoom for its meetings. Our 2021 AGM will now be by Zoom and this has one big advantage – many more members will be able 'attend' the meeting wherever they live. Watch out for details.

Until we can safely hold attended open meetings at the museum, we are planning Zoom meetings for our monthly talks programme. Once we get to grips with the technology, we could even have a Zoom link for those meetings where we have a live audience, thus opening-up these talks for remote members.



St George's North Luffenham

Debbie Frearson

One of the major volunteering commitments that the Society makes is towards commenting on planning submissions to the local authority. This can be anything from Listed Building Consent for change of use to the more major project of the Local Plan which was recently put to consultation by Rutland County Council. As a Society we were pragmatic: we understood the need for new housing and the re-use of the site at North Luffenham, but at the same time we felt that due consideration had not been given to the heritage of the site.

Following the announcement of the repurposing of St George's Barracks, the Rutland Local History & Record Society provided members of Rutland County Council (RCC) and the public with information about resources available which we hoped would enable a proper understanding of the heritage aspects of the proposed development to be achieved. This included heritage planning policy and conservation matters as well as the county's Historic Environment Record. The Society also presented this information at the Parish Council Forum held at the RCC Offices in 2019. We listed resources we had available as a Society and at the Rutland County Museum, which include maps useful for compiling a heritage mapping sequence.

As a Society we asked for a robust and comprehensive Heritage Statement for any development proposals, which should include both designated and non-designated values for the entire site. The project website alluded to only a small proportion of the available heritage information, mainly relating to modern history. It made no mention of many of the entries on the Historic Environment Record, one of the most important of which is the early Medieval (Anglo-Saxon) cemetery near the Main Gatehouse, which is significant as one of a number of high-status burial sites in England. As yet, the real size of this cemetery is unknown as it was discovered when a sandpit was dug for aggregate in the mid to late 19th century; swords, shields and jewellery were amongst the material recovered, and many of the finds are retained in the collections of the Rutland County Museum.

Currently the Portable Antiquities Scheme has a register of other finds in the area which add to the history of the site. The area may also include an Anglo-Saxon Moot Point (meeting place) as well as remains of the village of Normanton which was removed to enable the building of the manorial house of Normanton Park and its estate buildings. We expected a competent heritage specialist to consult fully with the Leicestershire & Rutland Historic & Natural Environment Team and its archaeological planning officers and then to provide a full heritage assessment of the area and its multi-period context which also includes prehistoric and Roman aspects. It is not sufficient just to rely on the limited presence of modern heritage assets.

When we initially put our representation into the plan none of the above was known to be available. Sometime later we became aware of a Heritage assessment, which had not been included on the St George's Redevelopment website – in fact this only went online to the public a few days before the end of the Local Plan consultation. This document recorded

nearly everything we hoped it would, with a detailed assessment of the site. We amended our representation accordingly and noted that this document had not been made available to responders in good time.

We also pointed out that as part of National Planning Policy Framework the developer must, in advance of any works, pay for a specialist to carry out archaeological investigation, if the County Archaeologist reports that this must be done. This could be an excellent opportunity for community involvement in the evaluation and examination of the site and would require a sustainable asset for post-excavation finds. Provision for the post-excavation storage of finds and possible display must be written into any brief. Excellent management skills are required for this.

Once this had been submitted, we were made aware that Historic England were investigating the Grade II* Thor Missile site in order to increase the curtilage and make it a Scheduled Monument and that there was an application to list the J-Type Hangers as part of the Thor complex. We combined our efforts with Sue Walling of Edith Weston and Tim Collins of North Luffenham to present a robust piece of research where we focussed on different aspects of the site, its heritage engagement potential, a literary search of the site and its importance, and a landscape survey of the site.



A Thor intermediate range ballistic missile arriving at North Luffenham (Tony Martin).

This was a steep learning curve for us and we had very little support. Over 50 hours per person is probably a mild estimate of the time it took to understand its context in Cold War terms and how the North Luffenham site came to be chosen, as well as how buildings were adapted. We also included its social history as an important aspect: for example, this site was a target of CND. We felt that this combined approach illustrated the need for further investigation as the official listing of the site had not noted all the Thor related features still present in the landscape and it had not referred to important documentation. We await the outcome of the Historic England Consultation.

The Rutland Local History & Record Society was the group which initially advocated recognition of the heritage value of the St George's Barracks site, and we signposted the information to other respondents. The historical and archaeological value of this site and its potential should not be underestimated.

Parish Boundary Project Update

Council for British Archaeology (CBA) East Midlands

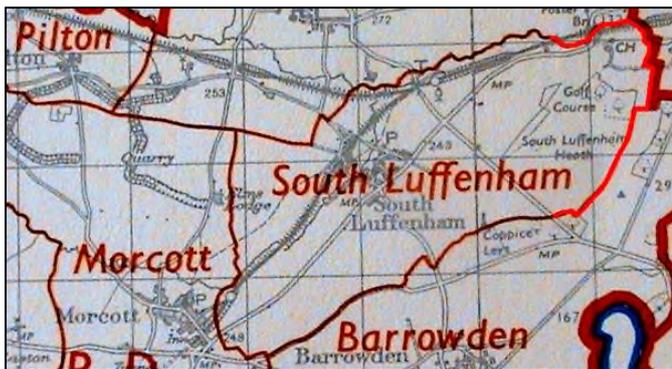
Tony Martin

Back in the spring of 2018 I announced that I would be embarking on this project in Rutland on behalf of the Society. The aim is to record as many of the existing Parish boundaries as possible in every County in the East Midlands region (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland) and to pass that information on to the CBA East Midlands who will record it on a dedicated website (<https://boundaryproject.cbaem.org>).

After a flying start, ably assisted by Debbie Frearson, our Society Chair, Elaine Jones and South Luffenham resident Janet Banks, which saw much of South Luffenham Parish recorded, the project unfortunately ground to a halt due to circumstances beyond my control. A year passed, and then just as things seemed to be getting back to normal the dark cloud of COVID 19 appeared on the horizon.

However, as it turned out there was a silver lining to this dark cloud. Enforced lockdowns meant there was no excuse not to get my boots on and get out and about again. Luckily, I have now recruited a willing assistant in the form of my wife and together we have been busy getting the project back on track.

Currently we have almost completed Uppingham and South Luffenham parishes, as well as large parts of Lyddington and Stoke Dry. So far, the survey has been fairly straightforward; with a little forward planning and a careful study of roads and footpaths most of the boundaries looked at so far have proved accessible. Wherever possible we seek permission from landowners for the bits that cannot be easily reached, but inevitably there are some sections that remain inaccessible and must be photographed rather than physically examined.



A typical Parish Boundary map, in this case South Luffenham. The bright red section is still to be surveyed (TM).

The object of the survey is to record the positions and physical features of each boundary as they exist at present, so we note the details of any hedges, walls, ditches and banks as well as the type and frequency of trees and other planting that exists. In addition, we also look for boundary markers; prominent stones or sometimes piles of stones placed in such a way as to delineate the boundary. One advantage of surveying in the winter months is that any such features are more easily seen as they are often found in a ditch or the

middle of a hedge where they would likely be hidden by foliage in the summer months.

With fifty-seven separate parishes to record, the task may seem a daunting one. But this project was always going to be a marathon not a sprint, and currently CBA East Midlands have not set an end date, so time is generally on our side. One unforeseen advantage is that every boundary surveyed actually covers two parishes so progress is a bit like a jigsaw, where gaps in one parish can be filled in by a survey of the adjacent one.

North Luffenham is next on our list. With the prospect of the St Georges Barracks development hanging over the parish like the Sword of Damocles it is important to record as much of the existing boundaries as we possibly can before any changes occur. We are also keeping a watching brief on other areas of the county that may be subject to a radical change, such as the proposed expansion of Oakham and the plans for Woolfox both of which would require a survey sooner rather than later. Sadly, once a boundary is removed for whatever reason, it is gone forever. So, the importance of keeping the project moving forward cannot be overstressed.

Anyone interested in taking part in this project should contact by email (steelback58@gmail.com) and I will be happy to explain what is involved and answer any questions.



Dry stone wall on Stoke Dry/Lyddington boundary. This once enclosed Lyddington Great Park and is medieval in origin (TM).



An example of a boundary hedge and ditch on the Uppingham and Lyddington boundary. This is the Lyddington side with Uppingham to the left and Uppingham Community College in the distance (TM).



A large boundary stone in the hedge on the Uppingham and Bisbrooke boundary. This lies on the footpath leading to what was the Gate Inn at Bisbrooke (TM).



A dainty foot points out where 3 boundaries meet! (TM).



A large, embedded boundary stone at the base of an oak tree on the Stoke Dry and Lyddington boundary (TM).



A pile of rounded boulders in the hedge line denotes the conjunction of the three boundaries of Uppingham, Stoke Dry and Lyddington (TM).

Thomas Cook Update

Following the publication of our 2020 Newsletter, we received the following email regarding the article on Thomas Cook, the pioneer travel agent:

Saturday, 4th April

I didn't expect, when I started reading the latest Newsletter, to come across a portion of my husband's family tree. He is directly descended from Henry Mason and Naomi Royce. I was familiar with much of the contents of your article, but I nevertheless enjoyed your account very much, and I hadn't seen the photograph of Marianne Mason before.

I am going to send a copy of the article to my husband's children, sisters and so on because I don't think they take enough interest in their ancestors (and it might be an interesting project for those of them who are home-schooling their children at present).

We live in London, but a few years ago we spent a very pleasant week in Rutland and thereabouts visiting Barrowden, Seaton (where Naomi Royce was born), Wing (where earlier Royces and Masons came from), and a number of other places with family connections. It was after that visit that I joined your Society.

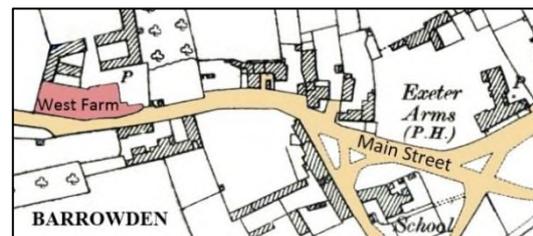
Best wishes

Carole Mason

Just to recap, Thomas Cook and Marianne Mason were married at St Peter's Church, Barrowden, on 2nd March 1833. Marianne was the 21-year-old daughter of the late William and Ann Mason of West Farm in what is now Main Street in Barrowden. Following the deaths of her parents, Marianne lived with her brother, Henry, a farmer and maltster, together with four other brothers and a sister at West Farm. Henry married Naomi Royce at Seaton on 23rd April 1833.



West Farm, Main Street, Barrowden (RO).



The location of West Farm (OS Series II 25-inch map, 1904).

Another Rutland Ploughing Trophy

Most of the silverware won by Richard Westbrook Baker is recorded in Vanessa Doe's *Improving Agriculture in Nineteenth Century Rutland – The Life and Achievements of Richard Westbrook Baker (1797-1861) Steward of the Exton Estate*, published by the Society in 2018.

However, of the 42 silver cups won by ploughmen and plough owners at the 20 ploughing meeting competitions organised by Richard Baker between 1828 and 1847, only one had been traced until recently. It was won at the 1846 Empingham ploughing meeting by John Turner, the 16-year-old son of James Turner, a blacksmith of Market Overton. The cup is now in the possession of John's descendants in Canada and is noted and illustrated in Vanessa Doe's book.

The ploughing competitions were established by Richard Baker so that others could learn the art of good ploughing by following the example of skilled men. They also provided an opportunity for his own Rutland Plough to be demonstrated.

Another silver cup has now come to light thanks to Hilary Crowden who reported that a silver ploughing trophy was to be included in the online auction conducted by Stamford Auction Rooms on 27th June 2020. It was described as 'An early 18th century silver trophy, London 1709, engraved to the front: *George Hibbitt, Mr Baker's Cottesmore Meeting Sept 1832*'. The guide price was £300 to £500. The hammer price is not known, but in October 2020 it was offered for sale on eBay, the online auction site, by a Warwickshire silverware dealer with a negotiable asking price of £3,250.

George was the 22-year-old son of John and Elizabeth Hibbitt, of Exton Lodge. The Ploughing Meeting at Cottesmore on 27th September 1832 was reported in the *Stamford Mercury* (5th October, p3) and the following extract records George's success:

The annual Agricultural Meeting at Mr. Baker's of Cottesmore, on Thursday the 27th ult., was without exception the most splendid exhibition of the kind ever witnessed in Rutland. The morning being foggy, the ploughs did not start so soon as usual by an hour and a half: the ground was admirably arranged right and left of the road opposite the house.
CLASS I.—A silver cup, value 10 sovereigns, given by Sir Gerard Noel, Bart., M.P., to a farmer's son of Rutlandshire, not in business for himself, who shall plough in the best manner half an acre of land in three hours and a half, not less than four inches deep, (horses abreast,) without a driver; and a silver cup, value 5 sovereigns, given by Sir Gerard Noel, Bart., M.P., to the second best, was won by George Hibbitt, of Exton, and the second by Bassett Rowell, of Ridlington. The other competitors were, Ed. Baines, George Bland, John Chapman, Richard Hack, and Henry Mantle.

Richard Westbrook Baker kept a detailed record of all his ploughing meetings (ROLLR DE 3214-734). As well as the prize winners, the owners of the ploughs and the judges, he also recorded the value of the cups presented. These were usually donated by local dignitaries, including Sir Gerard Noel, the Earl of Gainsborough and Sir Gilbert Heathcote. The main prizes were valued at £10, which is probably equivalent to about £800 in 2020 - a handsome prize for a young ploughman.



Images courtesy of Wentworth Silver, Tiddington, Warwickshire (<https://www.sellingantiques.co.uk/wentworthsilver/>).

The hallmarks indicate that this Queen Anne Britannia silver cup and cover with internal gilding was made by Robert Timbrell and Joseph Bell in 1709. It stands 20cm (8") high and weighs 784gm (27ozs). The engraving is as follows:

*Mr Baker's
Cottesmore Meeting
Sept ' 1832
GEORGE HIBBITT*

and on the opposite side:

*To
A Farmer's Son of Rutlandshire
Ploughing half an Acre of Land in the best manner
Horses abreast without a driver
Presented by Sir Gerard Noel Bart MP*

The good news is that Rutland County Museum has now been able to acquire this superb trophy, with the support of the Friends of the museum, for £2,825. The accession number is OAKRM:2020.16.

Obituary: David Joseph Carlin

David Carlin died on 17th March 2020. He was an enthusiastic member of the Society for 29 years from its formation in 1991 and a member of its Executive Committee for the whole of this time.



Anyone who knew David well would not be surprised to be told that his life was mostly dominated by aeroplanes.

He was born on 29th July 1934 and grew up in the Braunstone area of Leicester.

His childhood pastimes included the building of model aircraft and flying them in Braunstone Park. During the war, his school moved to Braunstone Hall,

which was also a temporary home of the US 82nd Airborne Division. One of the benefits of this situation was the doughnuts and ice cream handed out by the soldiers.

In his teenage years he often cycled to Desford Airfield to see what was flying. These cycle expeditions became more ambitious and they included an often-quoted ride from Leicester to a camp in North Wales.

In 1948 he joined 1(F) Squadron City of Leicester ATC (Air Training Corps) as a cadet, where he was later to become Civilian Instructor. A weekend camp at RAF Cottesmore was the start of his long association with the base. For this camp, the cadets were billeted in two Nissan Huts near the Astra Cinema. He remembered that these huts were very cold and any attempt to get the coke stove to produce any heat was impossible. He also recalled the uncomfortable uniforms, but he was very proud of his Forage cap, that is until a Leicester Corporation bus ran over it. Fortunately, he was not wearing it at the time!

During this encampment, No 7 Flying Training School was the resident unit, and his logbook shows that he had a 40-minute flight in an Anson Mk1. The aircraft was nicknamed 'The Glasshouse' because of its large window area.



The Anson Mk1 (Wikipedia).

In addition to flying in real aircraft the ATC cadets also had a chance to fly the Link Trainer in the days before the

simulators. The following year he returned for another camp and enjoyed more flights in the Anson and a Tiger Moth.

On leaving school, David's first job was as a printer's apprentice. However, he could not see his future in this profession. The ATC brainwashing must have worked because in 1952, aged 18, he decided to enlist in the RAF.

In 1954 he was posted to RAF Cottesmore following a course at the Central Gunnery School at Leconfield in Yorkshire, arriving as a Junior Technician Engine Fitter. He recollected marching from Cottesmore village to the base in full kit with webbing, as was the requirement at that time, and the Service Police gave him an on-the-spot inspection to help him understand how things were to be.

At that time, RAF Cottesmore was home to four English Electric Canberra bomber squadrons, but David was not attached to a particular squadron because he was working in the servicing hanger. During his tour there were many visits by foreign air force personnel to watch the fitters at work prior to their air forces being equipped with the Canberra.

At the end of 1954 he learned that RAF Cottesmore was to be moved into Care and Maintenance ready for the arrival of the new Handley Page Victor bombers. As a result, David was posted out to RAF Seletar in Singapore as part of the response to the emergency in the Federation of Malaya.



At the end of his 5-year service, David worked for a short time at English Electric in Whetstone, Leicestershire. Then, in 1958, he started work in Research and Development at Boscombe Down, a military aircraft testing site near Amesbury in Wiltshire. This work included aircraft trials in Libya, Norway and Bahrain. After a couple of years, he had the opportunity to go to New Zealand by sea, calling at Cairo and Melbourne on the way. In New Zealand he worked for an aircraft repair company.

Back in the UK, David had another spell at Boscombe Down then went to work for Air Canada at Toronto Airport. They offered low-cost travel as an employee benefit, so David took two trips to South America. A highlight was travelling to Valparaiso, the old seaport in Chile, as well as Machu Picchu and Cuzco in Peru.

David's next move was back to Leicester where he became a telecommunications engineer, working for British Telecom. It was here that he met Christine Fisher and they married in 1973 at St James the Greater. Christine was a secretary at Brockhampton Press, then became a personal assistant to the area secretary of the Royal Air Force Association, Eastern Area HQ. She left work to raise twin daughters Hazel and Rachel in 1978 and the family moved to Oakham in 1979.

The move to Oakham provided David with another opportunity to work at RAF Cottesmore. He was part of the British Telecom team tasked with rewiring the base for the arrival of the Tornado Tri National Training Establishment. He

remembered the arrival and landing of the first Tornado aircraft on a cold, damp and foggy day. Everyone heard it but saw very little until the aircraft taxied out of the fog on to the dispersal area.

Outside of work, David continued as an Air Cadets instructor with the 2248 Rutland ATC Squadron and was involved in the Rutland Aviation Society and the Rutland Branch of the RAF Association. David's daughters were both ATC Cadets, spending time on work experience at Cottesmore, and Rachel went on to join the RAF herself. His love of travel, music and aviation greatly inspired them.

David and Christine's interest in things historical was already evident before they arrived in Oakham. Christine had been a member of the Leicestershire Industrial History Society with Dr Marilyn Palmer for several years, and they shared many interesting visits together.

During his membership of this Society's executive committee, David was, until 2014, convener of the Historic Environment Group, being responsible for monitoring planning applications and organising the annual Built Environment Awards.

David was also an enthusiastic member of the Society's Archaeological Team. As well as actual field walking surveys, he helped with the identification of finds and used his drawing skills to illustrate some of them. He was also a knowledgeable user of the metal detector.

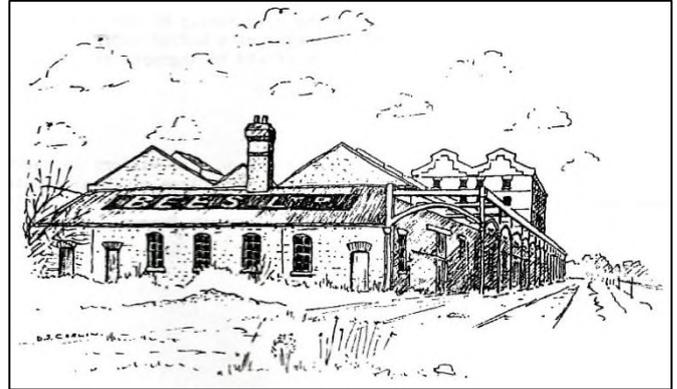
Elaine Jones, until recently our Archaeological Convener, provides some of her memories of David:

It is sad to see the passing of old friends and colleagues for it was only in the April 2019 Newsletter that I wrote on the passing of David's wife Christine.

David was a member of the Society's Archaeological Team from 1991. He and his twin teenage daughters Hazel and Rachel regularly field-walked on our projects around Oakham, Martinsthorpe and Uppingham. When a Roman villa site was found, it was David who illustrated the Roman pottery for the Oakham Parish Field Walking Survey published 2007.

To me, he was a quiet reticent man, yet I remember him delivering a memorably good lecture on 'Airfield Archaeology in the East Midlands' wearing his Rutland Aviation Society cap. This was at the Council for British Archaeology's East Midlands day school on 'The Defence of Britain Project' in 1995 – a lecture I cannot remember having been delivered to our Society – an opportunity missed. David's passing is our loss.

Prior to the amalgamation of the societies in June 1991, David was a member of Rutland Local History Society and many of his sketches illustrated the society's newsletters in the 1980s. Below are some examples:



Midland Provender Stores and Mill, Oakham, were erected in 1902 by the Midland Railway to supply feed for its horses. They closed in 1954 and were later taken over by Bees Seeds.



Oakham Brewery in Westgate was built in 1842 and closed in 1907 when it was taken over by Warwick and Richardson's Brewery of Newark for use as a distribution depot. It was later converted for use by a badminton club. The building was finally demolished in 1980 for the St John and St Anne sheltered housing complex.



These thatched stables in South Street, Oakham, were demolished for a housing development. This sketch was also used for the cover image of Rutland Record 16.

(Left) Empingham Manorial Dovecote had nesting accommodation for 700 pairs of birds.

Acknowledgements

Hazel and Rachel Carlin for memories of their father, Elaine Jones, and the Royal Air Force Association Rutland Branch for David's memories of RAF Cottesmore in the August 2012 Branch Newsletter.

William Cecil's Survey of Stamford 1595: a town in turmoil

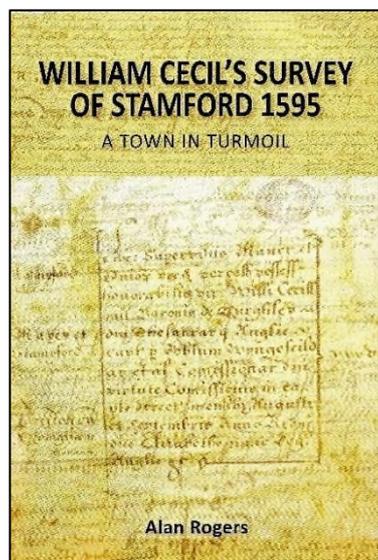
Alan Rogers

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144 pages £14.95

Published in 2020 by Abramis, Bury St Edmunds

Over the last decade Alan Rogers has published a series of volumes, sometimes under his own authorship but more often in collaboration, which have vastly illuminated our knowledge of late-medieval and early-modern Stamford. His latest publication focuses on the town's experiences towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth I.



The volume comprises four sections: an introduction, a transcript of the survey of Stamford Baron and Lordship of 1595, the Muster Roll of 1584 and substantial extracts and summaries of a range of documents relating to the town, mainly Acts of the Privy Council and extracts from the Cecil Papers. (The latter are held at Hatfield House, were published by the Historic Manuscripts Commission and are now available online).

Professor Rogers describes Stamford as a 'town in turmoil'. There is no reason to doubt this description, the town suffering not only from the decline of its export markets but also from the atrophying of its religious institutions. What brought this to the persistent attention of national government was the fact that the lord of the manors of Stamford Baron and Town was William Cecil, Lord Burghley, long-serving chief minister and Lord Treasurer of Elizabeth I.

Burghley seems to have been disinclined to intervene too directly in the affairs of the town, a reflection doubtless of the breadth of his more pressing national responsibilities and his own consciousness of increasing age and infirmity. As a result, he was prepared to delegate matters to his eldest son, Thomas Cecil. This was unfortunate as Thomas patently lacked the political and diplomatic skills exhibited by both his father and his half-brother Robert. Consequently, Thomas was dragged into a number of local conflicts, often incurring in the process the hostility of another aristocrat with local connections, Peregrine Bertie, Lord Willoughby de Eresby.

Professor Rogers has detected three levels of conflict. At the top was the conflict between Thomas Cecil and Willoughby. (There is a wider context here which Professor Rogers does not explore: Willoughby's links to the Earl of Essex.) There are hints in the accompanying sources that Burghley found his son's attitude exasperating. At the middle level were conflicts involving local officials, one of whom, Richard Shute, was heavily involved in the administration of the Burghley estate, until he incurred the Lord Treasurer's disfavour. By 1595 such

conflicts had been evident for at least two generations. At the popular level, the conflicts were conducted with great acrimony and there were several instances of violence which came to the attention of the Privy Council.

Professor Rogers is understandably cautious in specifying the causes of conflict. Religion does not appear to have been an issue and both Burghley and Willoughby played down any hints of personal animosity. Willoughby might have felt some resentment at losing some status in the locality, but by the late 1590s he was experiencing some financial difficulty and his Stamford interest was decidedly peripheral. Perhaps there was little more at stake than local pride and privilege, and that the only thing which differentiated Stamford from numerous other local conflicts was the Cecil interest.

There is much of interest in the published sources, though they often seem incidental to the local conflicts which form the core of the volume. The survey does hint at decay of the town. There is much here that might stimulate further research by local historians. Professor Rogers himself thinks he is merely scratching the surface, but considers that much can be inferred from Cecil's local relations about his personality and preferred ways of working. The local can thus illuminate the national picture.

Mike Tillbrook

In 1595, William Cecil, Lord Burghley, Lord Treasurer of England, commissioned a survey of some of his manors, including Stamford Lordship (the town north of the river) and Stamford Baron (the town south of the river). This survey, from the estate papers of the FitzWilliam family of Milton, now in Northamptonshire Record Office, is transcribed in this book, together with some other records of the town from the reign of Elizabeth.

But these papers are prefaced with an account of a series of 'troubles' in Stamford in the reign of Elizabeth I: when the followers of Lord Willoughby and of Thomas Lord Cecil, older son of Sir William Cecil, fought in the streets; when two parties in the town council quarrelled and dismissed and disenfranchised the other party's followers from the council and the town; when appointments to the main offices such as Town Clerk and Recorder were passed from hand to hand at the whim of rival groups; when three successive serving Aldermen (mayors) of Stamford were imprisoned by the Privy Council for refusing to obey their commands; when one Alderman mobilised a large contingent of citizens to march on London to try to preserve what they saw as their charter rights and privileges; when William Cecil's son was accused of riotous behaviour and William Cecil's chief agent Richard Shute was accused of corruption by William Cecil himself. In short when Lord Burghley's authority in the town was challenged openly by nobles and lawyers.

Yet through it all, William Cecil seems to have acted with moderation, keeping within the law and using the Privy Council rather than his diktat as lord of the manor and town of Stamford. This is a story which has never been told before and which has much to tell us about Stamford, about towns in the sixteenth century, and especially about William Cecil himself in the year of the five hundredth anniversary of his birth.

Hilary Crowden

Emma and Mildred Ward of Coles Lodge, Leighfield

Pupils of Uppingham High School for Girls

Sheila Sleath

In his article 'Thring's 'favourite wish': Uppingham High School for Girls, 1888-1893' in *Rutland Record* 38, Malcolm Tozer appealed to readers for any photographs of the former school's 'pupils, teachers or facilities'. Fortunately, Audrey Walker of Belton had seen the article and asked the author to pass on to Malcolm the cover image of a pupil's notebook which had come into her possession.

Audrey also had other ephemera relating to the pupil's family which, with her permission, enabled and inspired the author to carry out further research for this article.

From Malcolm Tozer's article in *Rutland Record* 38:

Minnie Perkins is the only identifiable pupil from the town for 1888. She was the daughter of Thomas and Martha Perkins who had a draper's shop adjacent to the Falcon Hotel. She became a teacher in the school in 1891/92. She was joined by John and Willie Wordsworth in 1889, sons of the Rector of Glaston, and in 1890 by two girls, Misses Wallis and Ward, who have left no trace.

and:

[In 1892] The school roll may have been 28 but perhaps lower. Three more pupils and their fathers can be identified: Uppingham's Baptist Minister, to add to the religious harmony in the town, a farmer from Leighfield, and a wine merchant from Ketton.

The Miss Ward noted in the above, who became a pupil at the school in 1890, was Emma Ward, the daughter of Richard Ward, a farmer of Coles Lodge, Leighfield. Emma's sister Mildred also became a pupil in 1892.

Emma and Mildred were the youngest of eight children born to Richard and Louisa Ward at Coles Lodge between 1862 and 1877. Their siblings were William, George Godfrey, Lewis Sault, Charles Herbert, Richard, and Eleanor Mary.

Richard and Louisa Ward



Richard Ward at Coles Lodge c1898 (Audrey Walker).



Louisa Ward at Coles Lodge c1898 (Audrey Walker).

According to the Census of 1861, Richard Ward was lodging at the Sun Inn, Belton. His occupation was given as a farmer of 70 acres employing one man, and he was probably renting Coles Lodge and its land at this time. He married Louisa, *née* Squires, on 24th October the following year. An announcement in the *Cambridge Independent Press* (1st November 1862, p8) confirms that he was of Coles Lodge.

Richard was descended from members of the Ward and Godfrey families who were farmers and yeomen, and possibly bakers, who, from at least the beginning of the eighteenth century, had lived in East Norton, Wardley and Belton. Compiling Richard's family tree, particularly during the pre-1800 period, was a complex exercise because of the repetition of Christian names, and the many marriages between the Ward and Godfrey families which, on occasions, crossed the generations.

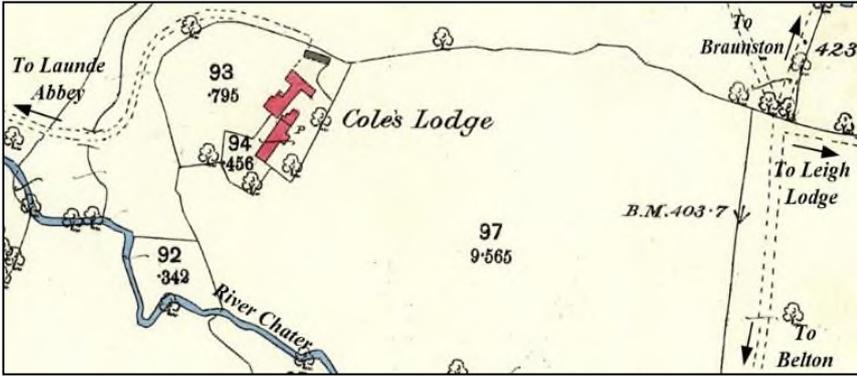
Richard was baptised in 1837 at Belton. Initially his parents, William and Mary, lived at Wardley House. They then moved to Beaumont Chase before finally settling in Belton.

Coles Lodge

Coles Lodge was located in a remote area at the north-west corner of Leighfield, adjacent to the Rutland county border. Access was via grass tracks and footpaths, the main one in 1886 being a long drive from nearby Launde Abbey. The lodge no longer exists having been demolished in the early 1970s. It was shown as Kings Lodge on early maps.



Kings Lodge on John Cary's map of 1805.



The location of Coles Lodge (Annotated OS Series 1 - 25" map of 1886).



Coles Lodge from the west in 1898 when Richard and Louisa Ward were in occupation. It was a location for hunt meetings at this time and the Wards must have enjoyed these bustling, colourful events in what must have been a lonely place to live (Audrey Walker).

Emma Ward

Emma was born at Coles Lodge on 13th April 1874 (1873 is recorded elsewhere). She was baptised at Belton on 14th June 1877 when her father's occupation was recorded as grazier. The 1881 Leighfield census records that Emma and her 9 year-old sister Eleanor were scholars. Perhaps they were privately tutored or attended the village school at Belton, Braunston, Loddington or Ridlington. Wills of their predecessors reveal that the family regarded education as an important part of a child's life. Of Richard and Louisa's children, four are known to have attended private schools. In 1881, Charles Herbert aged 13 was a pupil at Christ's Hospital School, Newgate St, London, and Richard aged 11, was a pupil at Spa House School, Humberstone Road, Leicester. Emma and Mildred later attended Uppingham High School for Girls. Additionally, a grocer's apprenticeship was funded for George in 1881. It is difficult to understand how all of this could be financed by a small time farmer.

Coles Lodge	1	Richard Ward	Head	42	1832	Richard Ward
		Louisa	Wife	40	1834	Do Wife
		Lewis	Son	15	1859	Do Son
		Richard	Son	9	1865	Richard Ward
		Emma	Da	6	1868	Do Da
		Mildred	Da	4	1870	Do Da

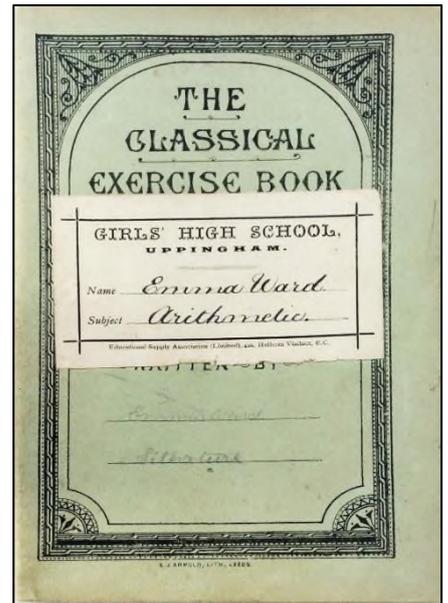
The 1881 Leighfield census records Emma aged 6 and Mildred aged 4 at Coles Lodge with their parents and two of their siblings, Lewis and Eleanor.

It also seems unlikely that William Ward, Richards's father, would have been able to finance his grandchildren's education. Although recorded as a grazier and one-time horse

breeder, he was declared bankrupt in 1845, and the 1861 census for Belton records him as 'out of business'. It is possible that Richard's sisters, Eleanor or Emma, who had married extremely well, had paid the fees as the family ties were evidently very strong.

Richard's brother, George Godfrey Ward, who was childless and lived at Netherfield House, Belton, may also have been interested in the education of his nieces and nephews.

In 1890, Emma, aged 16, attended Uppingham High School for Girls, almost certainly as a boarder. Miss Beisiegel was the school's principal.



The cover of one of Emma Ward's school exercise books (Audrey Walker).



Miss Beisiegel, the first principal of Uppingham High School for Girls (Audrey Walker).

Emma's exercise books show her to be a neat writer and a careful recorder of information. At the Speech Day held in August 1890 she received a prize for Divinity from Mrs Arthur Fludyer of Ayston Hall. Lord Carbery of Laxton Hall in his address given on this occasion, '*heartily congratulated Miss Beisiegel on the bright faces of her pupils, and the good work they had done, saying that a good beginning means half the work achieved*'.

Mrs. ARTHUR FLUDYER then proceeded to give the prizes, as follow:—
Form IV.—Form prize, M. B. Perkins; English, G. M. Rossiter; languages, S. E. Haslam; mathematics, C. Rossiter.
Form III.—Rose Stephenson; English, C. Haslam; mathematics, F. Stephenson; languages, Norah Haslam.
Form II.—E. Campbell; English, M. Haslam.
Form I.—Gerda Wanton.
Conduct: M. B. Perkins, S. E. Haslam.—Divinity: M. B. Perkins, E. Ward, E. Campbell, M. Haslam.—Drawing: C. M. Haslam. Sewing: M. B. Perkins.—

Emma Ward's prize for Divinity at Uppingham High School for Girls' Speech Day in 1890 (Grantham Journal 9th August 1890, p2).

Emma and her sister Mildred's attendance at this school was short-lived, as the school closed in 1893.

In 1891, Emma was in Hastings visiting her aunt, Eleanor Sidney (*née* Ward), a widow of independent means. She had married Thomas Sidney, a successful businessman who had served as Lord Mayor of London in 1853. In 1901, Emma was a visitor in the household of her brother Charles, a draper, who lived in Bolton, Lancashire.

In 1906, the year after the death of her father, Emma married John Chambers Twidale, a retired miller and farmer who was 38 years her senior. They made their home at The Cot, Tavistock Road, Laindon, Essex. Their children were Lily Florence, born 13th February 1908, and Lewis (Louis) John Richard, born 3rd December 1913. They were both baptised at Laindon on 3rd July 1917.



Emma with husband John and daughter Lily about 1910, possibly at The Cot, Laindon, Essex (Audrey Walker).

Emma lost her mother Louisa in 1921 and her husband John in 1922. By 1925 Emma, now a widow, had moved to Itchington, near Bristol. The National Register taken on 29th September 1939 shows that she was still there, living with her daughter Lily. Her son Louis, now a Technical Clerk on Air Ministry Group Production, was married by this time and was living in Chatham, Kent.

About 1950, Emma moved with daughter Lily to live in Allexton, which was close to villages where previous generations of her family had lived. Also, Allexton was not far from her childhood home of Coles Lodge in Leighfield, or Withcote where her sister Mildred and her husband farmed.

Lily worked as a domestic servant at Wardley House and correspondence shows that she was aware that she was working in the former home of her great grandparents William and Mary Ward.



Wardley House the one-time home of Lily's great grandparents and possibly earlier relatives (SS).

Surviving letters show that Emma and Lily kept in very close contact with their relatives. Emma died on 15th December 1952 aged 79 and Lily died in 1995 aged 86. Both were buried in Allexton churchyard. Emma's son Louis died in Leybourne, Brighton, the same year as Lily.



Emma and Lily Twidale's home in Allexton (Audrey Walker).



Emma and her daughter Lily are buried in Allextion churchyard (SS).

Mildred Ward

Mildred, Emma's sister, was born at Coles Lodge, Leighfield, on 29th January 1877 and baptised at Belton on 14th June 1877. Her brothers, Lewis and Richard, were baptised on the same day. She lived at Coles Lodge with her parents until she married in 1902.

NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION
Richard Ward	Head	M	34	Farmer
Louisa do	Wife	W	34	
William do	Son	S	8	Farmer's Son
Lewis do	do	S	7.5	do do
Richard do	do	S	7.5	do do
Mildred do	Wife	S	7.5	

The 1891 census return for Coles Lodge: Mildred was at home with her parents and three brothers.

The ARCHDEACON then presented the following prizes and certificates:—
College of Preceptors' Certificates.—Rose Stephenson, 2d class, 1st division; Frances Stephenson, 2d class, 1st division; Elsie Campbell, 2d class, 2d division; May Pinney, 2d class, 3d division; Nellie Peach, 3d class, 2d division; Mary Southwell, 3d class, 2d division. Francis Stephenson, special certificate for bookkeeping.
Prizes.—Form IV.: Form prize, F. Stephenson; mathematical prize, E. Campbell; drawing prize, Isabel Hazlerigg. Form III.: Form prize, Mary Southwell; progress prize, Mildred Ward. Form II.: Form prize, Robert Lightfoot. Form I.: Form prize, Alice Baker. Needlework prize, Mildred Ward. Music prize, F. Stephenson. Prize for collection of flowers, F. Stephenson.

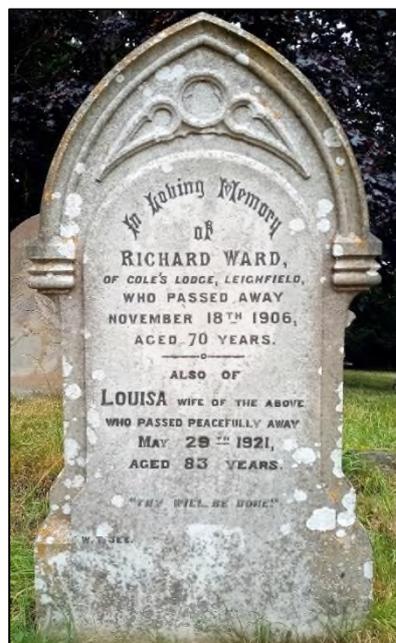
Mildred received two prizes at the school's Annual Prize Giving Day (Stamford Mercury 23rd December 1892, p7).

Mildred followed her sister to Uppingham High School for Girls in 1892. The Annual Prize Giving Day that year was held on 17th December in a 'large room ... decorated with evergreens, and the girls of the school, who all wore white, were grouped on a platform at one end of the room'. Mildred was awarded the Form III progress prize and a needlework prize. The presentations were made by the Venerable Archdeacon Lightfoot, the rector of Uppingham. The principal of the school at this time was Miss F M Wilde who had

succeeded to the position that year following Miss Beisiegel's departure to become a missionary.

In 1902, Mildred married James Ward, the son of William and Sarah Ward of Braunston. James, like his father, was a farmer, and they lived in Knossington parish at Knossington Lodge and Wood Farm, the latter also known as Preston Lodge, both only a short distance from Coles Lodge.

Eleven of their children were baptised between 1902 and 1918, either at Knossington church or at Withcote chapel. Sadly, one of their children died 1915 aged only 6 weeks.



Mildred's father, mother and brother Richard continued to live at Coles Lodge after she left. They died in 1906, 1921 and 1923 respectively and their headstones can be found in Braunston churchyard.

The headstone in Braunston churchyard in memory of Emma and Mildred's parents (SS).

However, Matilda still had family nearby. Her brother Lewis farmed at Owston and Withcote before moving into Coles Lodge about 1921. He died there in 1937 thus ending the family's 76-year occupancy of the lodge. Matilda must have been delighted when her sister Emma and her daughter Lily moved to Allextion from Bristol about 1950.

Mildred's husband, James, died at Knossington on 18th April 1951 aged 76. Mildred, also aged 76, died three years later. Their eldest child, George, recorded as a dairy farmer in



1939, raised his family at Withcote.

His son Donald carried on the family's farming tradition at Withcote.

Donald Ward, Mildred's grandson, driving a tractor at Withcote in 1947 (www.fwi.co.uk/farm-life/farming-forebears).

Acknowledgement

I am very grateful to Audrey Walker of Belton and Maisie Wright of Braunston for allowing me to research their Ward family documents.

The Occupants of Coles Lodge in Leighfield

Sheila Sleath

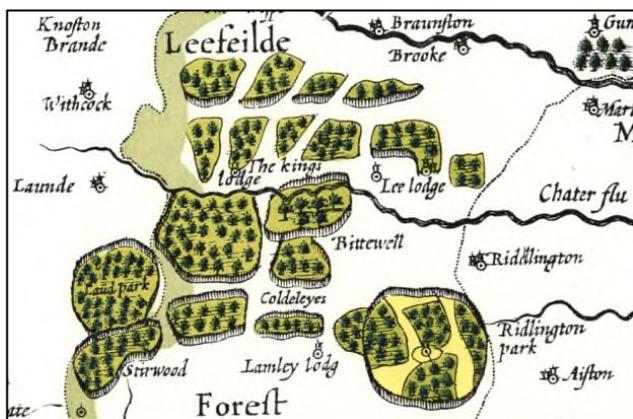
Kings Lodge

A Kings Lodge, situated in the former Royal Forest of Leighfield, is noted on seventeenth and early eighteenth-century maps. It later became known as Coles Lodge, a name that it retained until it was demolished in the early 1970s.

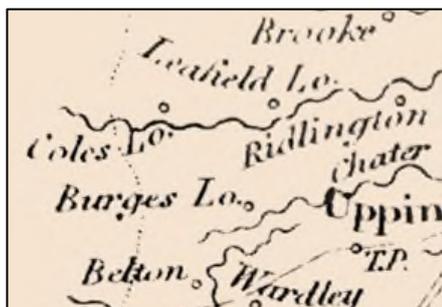
In 1609, The Kings Lodge is recorded in state papers relating to the first years of the reign of James I:

April 6. 52. Estimate of repairs necessary at the King's Lodge in Ridlington Park, Rutlandshire (Calendar of State Papers Domestic: James I, 1603-1610, p502).

Speed's map of 1610 shows The Kings Lodge close to the county boundary and the west boundary of the forest, and within a short distance of Launde. After 1673, maps omit 'The' and just have 'Kings Lodge'. The first use of Coles Lodge found to date is on Sidney Hall's map of 1820. After this, the building is always named Coles Lodge.



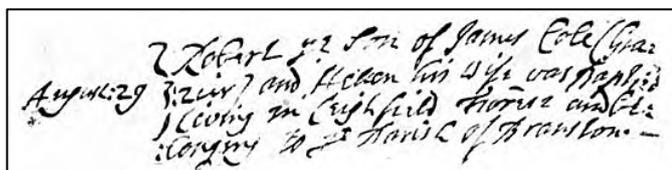
The Kings Lodge on Speed's circa 1610 map of Rutland.



Coles Lodge on Hall's 1820 map of Rutland.

Coles Lodge and the Cole family

Why the change of name? Research reveals that the lodge was named after a farming family who lived in Leighfield during the eighteenth century. The marriage of James Coles of Lyndon and Hellen Peak of Leighfield Lodge is recorded in October 1722. A year later, 'Robert ye son of James Cole (Grazier) and Hellen his wife was Baptizd living in Leighfield Forest and belonging to ye Parish of Branston'.



The baptism of Robert Cole in 1723 (Braunston Parish Registers).

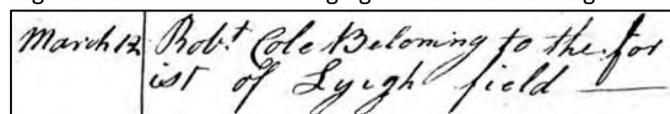
Although these records do not specifically state that a Cole family was living in the former Kings Lodge, confirmation as noted below, is clearly given in 1778 and 1821 that their son Robert did. Consequently, this lodge became known as Coles Lodge and its inclusion on maps from 1820 indicates that a Cole family had been tenantrying this farm for quite a number of years.

Robert Cole, the son of James and Hellen, married Ann Blanch at Launde Chapel 2nd February 1746; both bride and groom were of Launde (Loddington Parish Registers). Wills have been useful in identifying that Robert and Ann had two children, Mary and Thomas Blanch, but no baptisms for either have been found. Little has been discovered regarding Robert and his immediate family and many questions remain as to which members, if any, were actually tenantrying the lodge. Whether Robert's father James was a tenant there has not been established. It cannot be said with absolute certainty how the two James Coles buried at Braunston in 1731 (yeoman) and 1804 (late of Leigh Field) relate to Robert. The likelihood is that they were Robert's father and brother

In 1769 Robert is noted under Leighfield as paying rent to Daniel 3rd Earl of Winchilsea (*Rentals of Estates in Rutland 1769-1781; 1782-1794*). Further research of these Rent Rolls may provide additional details of what he was renting.

In 1775 he was recorded as living in Leighfield and renting out his freehold land in Blaston (*Leicestershire Electoral Roll*). In 1776 'A subscription given for the Benefit of the unhappy Sufferers by the late Fire at Belton' by 'Mr. Cole of Leigh Forest' was 3 guineas (*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, 27th July 1776). The will of William Ward of Leigh Lodge, proved in 1777, names Robert as his cousin who was 'of a lodge in Leighfield'. This William had married Jane Peak of Leighfield at Ridlington in 1714 and it is assumed that Jane was the sister of Robert's mother. Although the above facts do not identify Coles Lodge as Robert's place of abode, the Letters of Administration regarding his sister-in-law Mary Blanch's estate in 1778 does give confirmation (*Bank of England will extracts 1717-1845*). It also indicates that at some time Mary had resided at Coles Lodge.

Robert was buried at Braunston 12th March 1781; the register records him as belonging to the Forest of Leighfield.



The burial record of Robert Cole in 1781 (Braunston Parish Registers).

His will of 1746, made just after his marriage, gives his residence as Launde Abbey and the marginal note made for probate in 1821 (TNA PROB 11/1079) gives positive evidence that he had lived at Coles Lodge.

It is interesting that names in Robert Cole's will of 1746 link up with possible relations living elsewhere in Rutland. These include Henry Cole of Cottesmore and Elizabeth Pullin of Empingham. Elizabeth (née Cole) was of Cottesmore when she married in 1727/28. Thomas Briggs of Burley who married Eleanor Cole of Leighfield in 1733 was left Robert's freehold land in Braunston and Robert's will describes him as 'brother Briggs'. Robert's freehold land at Blaston was left to his wife Ann the sole executor of the will.

Ann, Robert's widow, was living at Knossington, Leicestershire, when she made her will in 1805. She was buried

at Braunston 9th April 1807. It is also interesting to note that Robert and Ann's son Thomas Blanch Cole, a grazier who lived at Knossington and Owston, was regarded as a highly respected member of the community.

In conclusion, it appears that a Cole family was living in Leighfield for most of the eighteenth century and it seems certain that Kings Lodge became known as Coles Lodge after the family of that name.

Coles Lodge and John Hart

After the death of Robert Cole in 1781, no tenants of Coles Lodge have been found until its occupation by John Hart - even then the only evidence was when he left about 1827.

John the son of John (a baker) and Dorothy Hart was baptised 25th June 1786 at Braunston. A newspaper announcement implies that in 1827 he was experiencing financial difficulties: '*John Hart, in the Forest of Leighfield, in the county of Rutland, farmer, hath, by Indenture bearing the date the 7th day of April instant, assigned all his personal estate and effects unto*' (*Stamford Mercury* 13th April 1827, p1).

A fortnight later, an advertisement in the *Stamford Mercury* (27th April 1827, p2) announced that a three-day auction was to be held in late May '*on the premises of Mr. JOHN HART, of COLES LODGE*'. For sale was livestock, implements in husbandry, brewing and dairy utensils, household furniture and linen. On leaving Coles Lodge, John moved to Braunston where he resided until his death in 1859. The 1841 and 1851 census returns record that he was married to Sarah (possibly *née* Needham) and his occupations were given as '*Cottager*' and '*Ag Lab (formerly Farmer)*'.

SALES by Wm. GLENHAM.
Valuable **LIVE STOCK**, Implements in Husbandry, Brewing and Dairy Utensils, **HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE**, Linen, and other Effects,
To be **SOLD by AUCTION**, for Ready Money,
By **Wm. GLENHAM**,
On Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 1st, 3d, and 4th days of May, 1827, under a Deed of Assignment, on the premises of Mr. JOHN HART, of COLE'S LODGE, Rutland.
THE LIVE STOCK, which will be sold on the first day, comprises 85 Sheep: viz. 43 ewes and lambs, 2 barren ewes, 40 lamb-hogs; 2 cows, 2 heifers, 1 steer, 3 calves; and a hackney horse.
Full particulars are given of the furniture, implements, and other effects, in catalogues; to be had of the auctioneer, Uppingham, and at the inns in Oakham.

The advertisement for John Hart's sale prior to leaving Coles Lodge (*Stamford Mercury* 13 April 1827, p1).

Coles Lodge and Robert Tomblin

The next occupant of Coles Lodge was Robert Tomblin. He was the son of Robert and Frances Tomblin of Edith Weston where he was baptised 10th August 1794. He married Mary Maria Tooms of Wing in 1834 and the announcement of their marriage shows Robert as occupying Coles Lodge (*Stamford Mercury* 9th May 1834, p3). At least four children were born to the couple at the lodge between 1836 and 1848. The 1841 and 1851 Leighfield census returns confirm Robert's abode as Coles Lodge; that in 1841 recording him as a grazier and the 1851 return as '*Grazier occupying 430 acres employing 2*

labourers'. In the latter census, Robert's place of birth was given as Coles Lodge, but this is an error. He was actually born in Edith Weston.

Robert's brother Joseph, a grazier, was farming at Leigh Lodge in 1841, but by 1851 Joseph's son, Robert junior, was farming here and Joseph had moved to Wymondham, Leicestershire. Robert junior was also recorded as farming 430 acres which leads to the possibility that uncle and nephew were farming the same land together.

When Joseph Tomblin married in 1819, he was of '*Lyfield*' and baptismal records of sons at Belton in 1820 and 1822 give him as living at Leigh Lodge. Although it is not known when Robert senior (Joseph's brother) first tenanted Coles Lodge it is assumed that he took over the tenancy after John Hart left about 1827.

An advertisement in the *Lincolnshire Chronicle* in 1854 (27th October, p4) announced the sale of 357 acres of Robert Tomblin's grass keeping, hay and oats '*in consequence of his leaving part of his Land*'. This was to be sold on the farm and premises of Coles Lodge.

Robert died 12th December 1859 aged 65 at Coles Lodge and was buried at Edith Weston four days later. His memorial in the churchyard is close to the south transept wall and near to other family members. The inscription reads, '*Sacred to the memory of Robert Tomblin who died December 12th 1859. Aged 65 years*'.

Robert's widow Mary remained at the farm until March 1861. By the beginning of April, she had moved to Bedford with her three sons. It was then that Richard Ward of Belton took on the tenancy of Coles Lodge.

COLE'S LODGE near OAKHAM, Rutland
To be **SOLD by AUCTION**,
By **JOHN LANGLEY**,
On Monday the 18th of March, 1861,
THE Household FURNITURE, Dairy Utensils, Kitchen Requisites, barrels, dog-cart, light cart, and effects, the property of Mrs. TOMBLIN, who is leaving.
Particulars in hand-bills.—Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.

The sale of Mary Tomblin's property at Coles Lodge in 1861 (*Stamford Mercury* 8th March 1861, p8).

Mary died the following year, and she was buried at Wing. A memorial to her and her parents stands alone in the churchyard near the north transept wall. It certainly makes a statement, but some of the inscription is difficult to decipher.

To date several people have been identified as living and being employed at Coles Lodge in the period between 1828 and 1861. In April 1828, John Page, a labourer, and Anne his wife, were in residence when their daughter Anne was baptised at Ridlington.

The 1841 census seems to indicate that labourer Robert Dickman, a 22-year-old shepherd, who was born at Braunston, and 22-year-old cook Ann Clarke, who was born in Leighfield, were in residence.

Ten years later, Robert Taylor, born at Tilton, Leicestershire, in 1821, was living at Coles Lodge employed as a shepherd. After Robert Tomblin's wife Mary had moved to Bedford, the 1861 census gives Thomas Webb as the sole occupant. He was born at Belton and recorded as a servant and agricultural labourer.

Richard Ward and his sons at Coles Lodge

Richard Ward was born about 1837 at Belton, the son of William (a gent and grazier) and Mary Ward. His mother died when he was just 7 years of age. Richard took up farming and as a bachelor acquired the tenancy of Coles Lodge in 1861. His holding was just over 70 acres.

The following year he married Louisa Squires and whilst at the lodge the couple raised eight children. (Further information regarding their offspring is given in *Emma and Mildred Ward of Coles Lodge* in this Newsletter).



Richard Ward with possibly son Richard on the top of the stack (Audrey Walker).



Louisa Ward (seated) with family members at Coles Lodge in 1898 (Audrey Walker).

Richard died 18th November 1906 aged 70 and was buried at Braunston. In March the following year, an auction sale at the farm included 'half-bred superior shorthorn sheep', 'superior active cart horses', and 'nag horses', along with an assortment of agricultural implements, carts, machines and other effects (*Grantham Journal* 9th March 1907, p5).

Richard's youngest son, also Richard, born in 1869, continued to farm at the lodge, renting it from the Earl of Ancaster. At some time, he served as Overseer for the parish of Leighfield. His mother Louisa died in 1921 aged 83 and was also buried at Braunston. Antique and modern furniture at Coles Lodge was sold in August 1921; a family letter gives a fascinating account on the distribution of certain items chosen by her children.

Richard junior aged 53 married Ida Jane Beadman aged 24 in January 1923. She was the daughter of John Beadman, a

Braunston grazier. However, the marriage was short as Richard died the following December at Wye House Asylum in Buxton, Derbyshire. His obituary in the *Grantham Journal* (22nd December 1923 p11) described him as 'widely known and much respected'. He was buried next to his parents in Braunston churchyard and a headstone was erected there as a memorial to him. Richard's executors sold his farming stock at a sale in March 1924.

Lewis Ward, Richard junior's brother, who had been farming at Withcote Lodge, Owston, became the next tenant of Coles Lodge in 1921. Ownership of the lodge during part of Lewis' occupancy was Robert Barr MacLean of Burrough-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire. After MacLean's death in 1930, Coles Lodge, as part of the Leigh Lodge estate, was initially advertised for sale by auction in 1932 by his trustees. The auction catalogue describes the lodge as a stone-built farmhouse with two sitting rooms, six bedrooms, kitchen, pantry, dairy and wash house. The brick and stone farm buildings included a stable, cowshed, barn, fowl house, piggeries, cart shed and a trap house. The estate was not sold at this time and it was re-advertised by the trustees in 1944.

Lewis lived at Coles Lodge until his death in October 1937, so ending the seventy-six-year-tenancy of Coles Lodge by Ward family members.

Coles Lodge after 1937

Coles Lodge was unoccupied in 1939 and the only known occupants after this date were a Mr and Mrs Jack Green who were living there in the 1950s. They left about 1960. During this time the lodge was owned by The Society of the Merchant Venturers. The unoccupied building remained in good condition until 1967, but it eventually fell into ruin and was demolished in the early 1970s.



Mr and Mrs Green and family members at Coles Lodge (The Villages of Rutland, vol 1 part 1, plate 27).

Don Ward of Withcote, the great grandson of Richard and Louisa Ward, used to do work for Jack Green: 'I laid a hedge for Jack in 1959 and helped him thresh his corn for several years ... I had my meals in Coles Lodge and could see a car go by up the hill towards Launde Abbey out of the kitchen window. The buildings and house were in good condition. There were little red tiles on the buildings, sliding doors on the barn and Collyweston slates on the house'.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are extended to Audrey Walker and Maisie Wright for the use of the Ward family photographs. Also to Donald Ward for his reminiscences of Coles Lodge.

Early Railways in Rutland

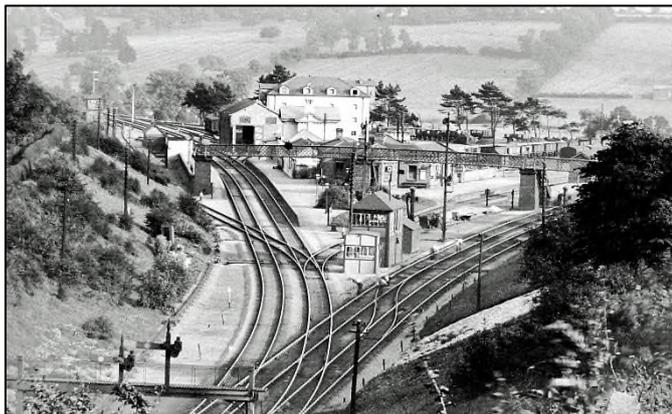
Paul Holmes

The 'Railway Mania' of the 1840s reached Rutland in 1848 with the opening of the Midland Railway's Syston to Peterborough line. Stations were established at Ashwell, Oakham, Manton, Luffenham and Ketton. Soon afterwards, the London and North Western Railway (LNWR) drew Rutland into its network with the opening of the Rugby to Stamford line in 1851. Villages served were Seaton and Morcott, the junction with the Midland Railway being at Luffenham. However, Morcott, the absolute latecomer, didn't open until 1898.



Ashwell Station in 1914. It opened in 1848 and closed in 1966 (Jack Hart Collection, RCM 2002.6.1230)

For the rest of the Victorian period, the railway companies' navies were at work in and around the county, remoulding the landscape and providing it by 1898 with no fewer than fourteen railway stations. No Rutland village was more than an easy pony and trap ride away from a railway station, most so close to one, that it is simpler to establish which village was furthest away. This was Exton, which was nevertheless blessed with the best connections at Oakham station, once one had arrived there.



Manton Station about 1910. It opened in 1848 and closed in 1966 (Jack Hart Collection, RCM 2002.6.0356).

The 'fourteen' include four stations just outside the county, but very much serving Rutland villages. They were Whissendine (which until 1891 was called Wymondham), Barrowden-with-Wakerley (on the Northamptonshire banks of the river Welland), Rockingham (for Caldecott, and much closer to it than to the village of Rockingham) and South

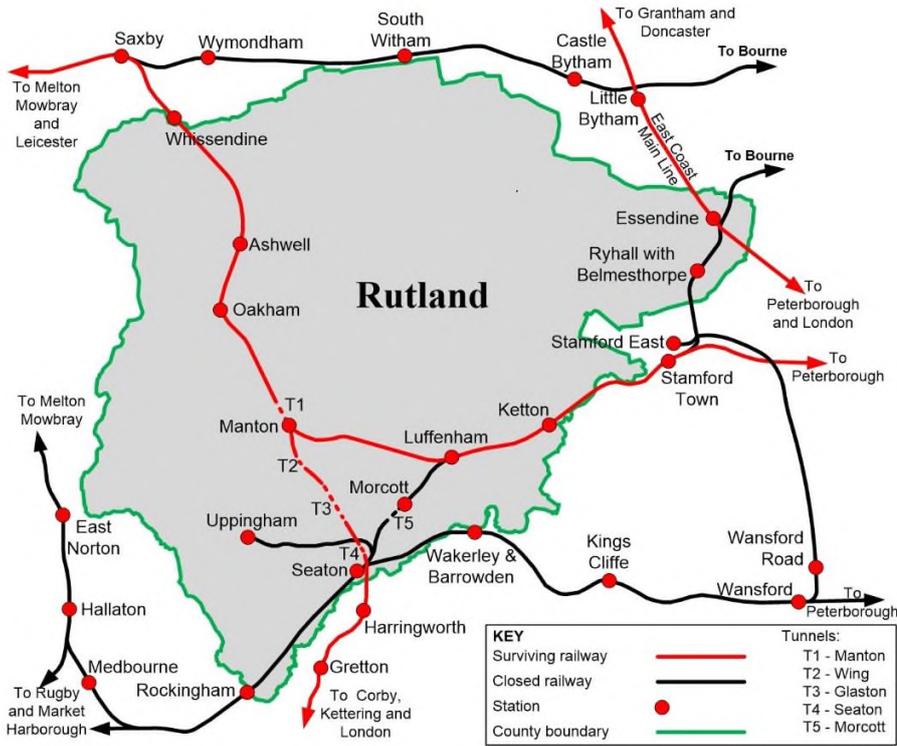
Witham (for Thistleton). All these stations provided easy access to the markets, auctions and fairs in Leicester, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray, Peterborough and Stamford. In addition, for many years into the last century, direct connections could be had from Oakham and Manton to London, and in recent years a once-a-day connection to and from Oakham has been reintroduced. A possible fifteenth was East Norton, which could serve Belton by pony and trap, or nearly an hour's walk on foot.

During the often heated debates of the 1840s as to the trajectory of the new railways, Stamford had resisted any such intrusion. The Great Northern Railway rubbed its hands in glee because a trajectory through Peterborough was topographically far easier to achieve and it was cheaper to construct. Stamford very soon realised its mistake, and efforts were made to provide corrective connections, one being a 'gift' from the Midland Railway, which was coming its way anyway in 1848, and two branches built by the then specially established Stamford and Essendine Railway (S&ER). The first of these branches went via Ryhall-with-Belmesthorpe station to the Great Northern Towns line (Doncaster and beyond) at Essendine in 1856. The other went via Wansford Road station, to the LNWR trunk line from Northampton to Peterborough in 1867. The LNWR by that time served Wansford with its own eponymous station (now on the Nene Valley Railway). The S&ER lines terminated at Stamford East, now no longer operative.



Wakerley & Barrowden Station in 1958. It opened in 1879 and closed in 1966 (Jack Hart Collection, RCM 2002.6.1290).

Out of the 'fourteen', this leaves only Uppingham without its own station. For years it was served by the Midland Railway at Manton which included its name on the station signboards. In 1875, the Midland suggested a branch line to a new station on the (now) A6003 south of Ayston, applying for parliamentary powers to build it. Other possible Uppingham terminals were also in planning. The following year, it was granted powers to build a new line from Oakham to Kettering, and again, the Midland Railway approached Uppingham with a revised suggestion for a new station on this line just south of Wing tunnel. Puzzlingly, Uppingham seemed to have other ideas, and was pursuing a link with the LNWR at Seaton, which was both longer and to be realised only through more difficult terrain. This proposed branch incidentally obviated any ideas of travelling directly by rail to the county town. The connection *en vogue* for merchants and schoolboys alike was Market Harborough and thence onwards to Rugby,



Surviving and closed railways in and around Rutland. (RO)

Uppingham School's great rival. After extraordinarily multifarious intervening prevarications, this line was indeed built by the LNWR and opened in 1894. Railway technology was by then as advanced and reliable as was motor car technology in the 1970s.

This was by no means the case forty years previously. Passengers boarding a train at Oakham in 1854 would have had the choice of a third class wagon open to the skies and provided with wooden box-pew seating, a second class compartment of a three-compartment carriage with similar seating and now a weather-protective roof, or a first class compartment in the same carriage, with cushioned seats and accompanying plush appointments. There was no interior lighting or heating, and the carriages mostly depended on the engine for braking, sometimes carrying a brakesman on the roof who would apply the carriage brakes at a signal from the driver. Station platforms were at ground level, so that longitudinal wooden steps were provided down the coach sides to enable the ladies in their crinolines to be assisted down from the train.

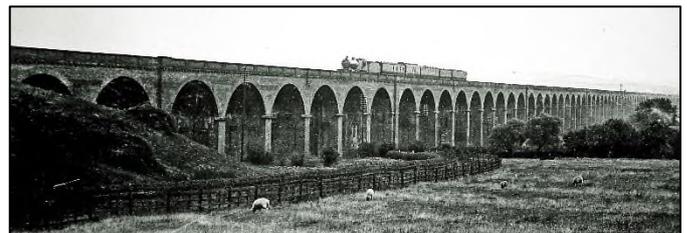
At this time, carriages were developments of the old horse-drawn stagecoach. They were built in wood with wrought iron reinforcements, springs and cast iron wheels, and manufactured in established coachbuilders' workshops. Engines were versions of George Stephenson's archaic 'Patentee' type 1A1 locomotive, which had established itself as the reliable option in the mid to late 1830s.

Progress along the line to Stamford was sedate. Maximum speeds of 35 mph were achieved, but intermediate station stops had to be well anticipated in terms of braking. According to Bradshaw's timetables of 1850, a train departed Oakham at 09:05, calling at Manton at 09:15, Luffenham at 09:25 and Ketton at 09:32, before reaching Stamford at 09:43.

1850s railway. From 1855, the LNWR headed its freight trains with one of the most successful engines of all time, the so called DX-class type-C. The trainspotter waiting, probably with aforethought, at Luffenham Station in the year 1860 for his onward connection to Seaton would by no means have been disappointed by the prevalence of these new locomotives on the freight trains rumbling past. These were the HGVs of their day, and before his Patentee-headed connection had arrived, four or five such Type-C headed trains (not just DXs) would have been able to have been logged.

The DXs trundled though the junction at a maximum speed of 25 mph, and this only if they had not been held by the signalmen. 25 mph was the speed aimed for by engine drivers without restriction in open country, an industrial revolution from the 4 mph (max) of the canal horses hitherto. 15 to 20 mph was normal speed. To us, this seems slow, but it was then a new world. Everywhere in Rutland, this new world is catalogued in the landscape.

In the form of the Welland Viaduct, Rutland has the grandest railway entrée of any county in the land. It must be seen as one of the finest legacies of the industrial railway expansion which the 1840s initiated for us all.



The Welland Viaduct about 1920. (Jack Hart Collection, RCM 2002.6.0345).

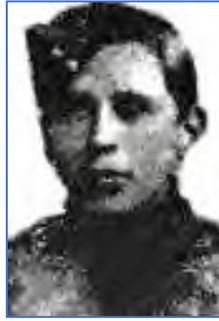
The price of a second class ticket from Oakham to Leicester was four shillings and sixpence, which contemporary newspaper reports chronicled as being 'exorbitant'. But then, much as with air travel today, railway companies were from the beginning amenable to train charters, the price being a matter of negotiation.

To complete the picture, a few words on general traffic would be appropriate. Railways to and through Rutland were built primarily with an eye to freight and parcels. Post Office carriages for mail delivery came to be built as early, and in the same manner, as passenger vehicles. Agricultural produce, building materials and above all coal needed to be moved around the country to relieve an exponentially growing demand.

In 1849, the government had relented on the huge trade restrictions with the continent (the Corn Laws), fuelling a strong growth in freight movements, and these would, even more than passenger journeys, have shaped people's impressions of the

Arthur William Cant DCM

Robert Owens
and Sheila Sleath

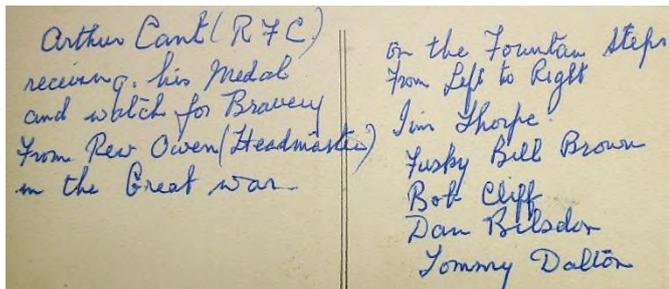


Browsing through the 488 picture postcards of Uppingham in the Jack Hart Collection at Rutland County Museum, we came across this image of a presentation in the Market Place:



(Jack Hart Collection, Rutland County Museum 2002.6.1757).

The address side of this otherwise unused postcard provided the following information:



The Rev R H Owen was the Headmaster of Uppingham School.

The presentation was to Arthur William Cant of Uppingham who had served in the Royal Flying Corps, a division of the British Army which became the Royal Air Force on 1st April 1918.

We decided to research this important event and the life of this local hero. The first step was to see what was reported in the local newspapers using *Find My Past*. This website and *Ancestry UK* also provided access to the census returns, parish registers and army records for this research.

The award ceremony was on Friday 17th May 1918. A newspaper report in the *Grantham Journal* (25th May 1918 p3) confirms that the Distinguished Conduct Medal was conferred on First-class Air-Mechanic Arthur William Cant, for

services with the Expeditionary Forces in France and Flanders. The award was made 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on reconnaissance and offensive patrols. He has on more than one occasion caused great confusion and many casualties amongst hostile infantry by attacking them with his machine-gun at a low altitude, and on two occasions had shot down hostile machines which attempted to interfere with his photographic work.'

At the ceremony he was presented with a gold watch inscribed: 'Presented by subscribers of Uppingham to A. W. Cant. D.C.M., in recognition of his bravery in the Air Service, May. 1918.' and a £5 War Bond.

The large gathering included some 400 Cadets of the Uppingham School Officer Training Corps and men of B Company Rutland Volunteers. Another postcard in the collection provides a wider view of the event:



(Jack Hart Collection, Rutland County Museum 2002.6.1964).

Arthur William, the son of William and Ellen Cant, was born at Uppingham on 23rd April 1898. According to the above newspaper report he had lived with his parents in Uppingham in the household of his grandparents, William and Ann Liquorish, from the age of three. His mother, Ellen, had died in Uppingham in 1904 and his father, William, had died in 1916.

As a youth, Arthur was employed by James Thorpe whose grocery shop was in Market Place, Uppingham. This was almost certainly the corner shop adjacent to the church passage shown in the above photograph with spectators on the roof (arrowed).

James (Jim) Thorpe is standing on the fountain steps in the first presentation photograph along with other members of the committee which had raised funds to pay for the presentation watch.

Arthur had enlisted in the Leicestershire Regiment at the Uppingham Recruitment Office, in what is now High Street East, on 3rd September 1915. He was then 17 years old, although his service record states that he was 19. Before going out to France he was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps, in which he served some eleven months. He then transferred to the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) in France as a First-Class Air-Mechanic on 27th March 1917 and qualified as an aerial gunner in the following month. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal the following October and the bar for this decoration in the November.

No.	Corps	Name
77690	10 WING	CANT.
	43 SQDN	
ICL AIR MECH	RFC.	19. W
Operations	Vol.	Page
DCM	LG	22.10.1917
		898-17

Arthur Cant's Medal Record Card (TNA WO/372/23/50358).



Uppingham Recruitment Office, with the flagpole, was next to The Crown in High Street. (Jack Hart Collection, Rutland County Museum 2002.6.1639).



A Sopwith Strutter of the Royal Flying Corps (Wikipedia).

Whilst serving in the RFC, he was in 10 Wing of 43 Squadron which at this time was flying Sopwith Strutter aircraft. These had two seats, one seat being occupied by the pilot and the other by the gunner, observer or photographer.

Arthur was transferred to the RAF on its formation on 1st April 1918 and was discharged a year later with a disability pension.

He is believed to have married Laura Selena Fisher in Scarborough in 1919, but despite extensive searches, no records have been found which clearly identify him after this date. In 1939 Arthur may have been living without his wife in Croydon, Surrey, where his occupation is noted as 'Company Secretary - Book Keeper'. A death for an Arthur William Cant was registered in Croydon in 1963 and the probate, administered in York, was given to Laura Selina Cant (widow).

Arthur's father, William, had an interesting background. Born at Uppingham in 1859, he enlisted in the Leicestershire Regiment in 1883 and served in Burma with the regiment's

2nd Battalion. The 1891 census for Uppingham gives his occupation as 'mason's labourer', serving with this same regiment. He married Ellen, *née* Diplock, the following year when his occupation was given as 'groom'. Their son, Arthur was born in 1898.

In 1900, William enlisted for a year in The Royal North Reserve Regiment. Although no record of him has been found in 1901, it seems likely that he was then stationed at Aldershot. The Aldershot census records that Ellen (recorded as Emma) and her son Arthur were visitors staying in a local public house known as *The Trafalgar*. Ellen died in Uppingham in 1904 when Arthur was six years old. In 1911 William, now a farm labourer, and his son Arthur, were living in Uppingham with William and Ann Liquorish, William's mother and stepfather. William died at Uppingham in 1916 at the age of 55 years.

The Distinguished Conduct Medal



The solid silver George V DCM awarded to Arthur Cant was 36 millimetres in diameter and had a scroll pattern suspender. It would have had his number (77690), rank (First-class Air-Mechanic), name and unit (10 Wing 43 Squadron) on the rim.

A bar to the medal was awarded in recognition of his subsequent act of distinguished conduct. The straight silver bar had a laurel-spray decoration. He could only wear it with full dress uniform. Otherwise, he would wear a silver rosette on the ribbon to indicate the award of the bar.



In WW1, the Distinguished Conduct Medal was only awarded to soldiers of the British Army and was second only to the Victoria Cross. After January 1918 recipients could use the post-nominal letters of DCM.

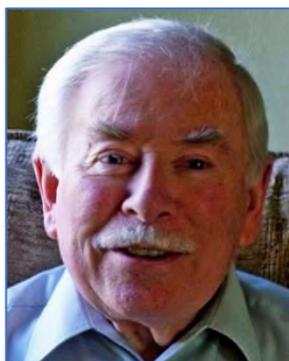
Unfortunately, most British WW1 service records were lost when the War Office warehouse (the Army Records Centre), where they were stored, was hit by a German incendiary bomb in an air raid in 1940.

Other Rutland men who were awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in the First World War were:

- Gunner H BOOTH*, of Oakham. Royal Fleet Auxiliary.
 - Sgt Gunner J T BURTON, of Oakham. Royal Fleet Auxiliary.
 - Bombd A W CROOK, of Oakham. Royal Garrison Artillery.
 - Corpl W DALBY, of Bisbrooke. 9th Leics Rgt.
 - Sgt Charles J DEXTER, of Barrowden. 6th Lincs Rgt.
 - Corpl G H HUBBARD*, of Tinwell. 1st Northants Rgt.
 - L Corpl F LIDDIMORE, of N Luffenham. Royal W Kent Rgt.
 - Col Sgt-Major A PEASGOOD, of Ryhall. Lincs Rgt.
 - Corpl W H PINCHIN*, of Ashwell. Scots Guards.
 - Col Sgt-Major C H UNDERWOOD, of Oakham. Northants Rgt.
- (* Killed in action)
(Phillips, G, *Rutland and the Great War*, p238).

Not included in *Rutland and the Great War*:
Sgt Stevens BUXTON, of Belton. Royal Garrison Artillery.

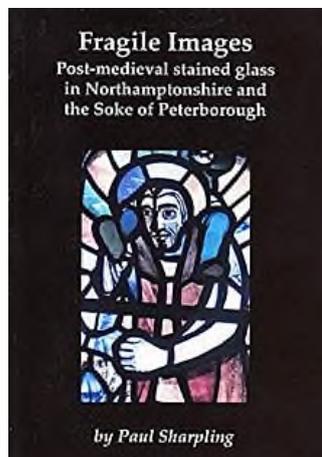
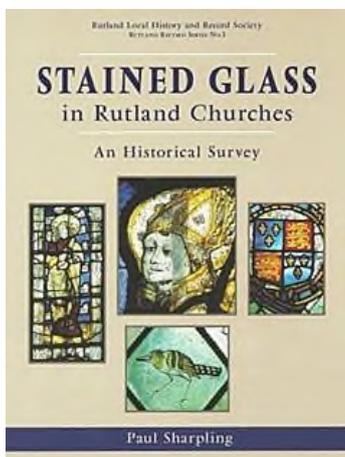
Obituary: Paul Sharpling



Paul Sharpling, who lived in Kettering, died on 18th July 2020, aged 81 years. Paul was author of *Stained Glass in Rutland Churches*, published by this Society in 1997.

Until retirement, he was a form master and teacher of GCSE and A level German at Kettering Grammar School. But he was best known as being an authority on the history and conservation of stained glass in churches. He was the stained-glass advisor for the Diocese of Leicester and the Diocese of Peterborough.

Paul was also the author of *Fragile Images – Post-medieval stained glass in Northamptonshire and the Soke of Peterborough*.



Rutland Agricultural Society Show Medals

A silver medal presented at the 1837 Rutland Agricultural Society (RAS) Show was included in specialist online medal auctioneers Dix Noonan Webb's sale on 2nd February 2021. It was acquired by Rutland County Museum for £244.

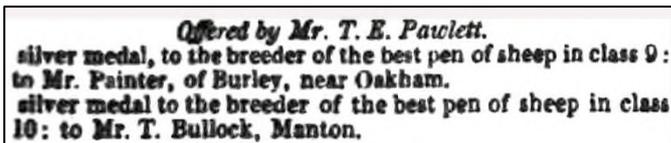


Image courtesy of Dix Noonan Webb (www.dnw.co.uk).

The 52mm (2") diameter medal by London silversmiths Charles Rawlings and William Summers is hallmarked London 1837. It was awarded to Thomas Bullock of Manton as 'THE BREEDER OF THE BEST BEAST IN THE YARD that has been Bred within the District' at the show which was held in the Riding School (now Rutland County Museum) at Oakham on Tuesday 28th November.

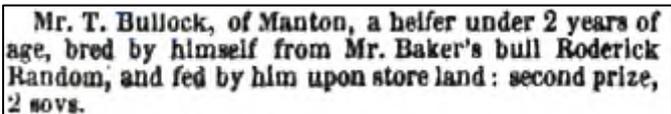
The medal was presented by Robert Smith, a farmer of Burley. He was secretary of the RAS and won several prizes in this show himself.

Thomas Bullock also won another silver medal for his sheep and a commendation for his ox at this show.



Stamford Mercury 1st December 1837, p2.

Thomas Bullock also won a prize at the 3rd December 1839 show with a heifer bred from Richard Westbrook Baker's favourite bull Roderick Random.



Stamford Mercury 6th December 1839, p4.

In 1841, Thomas Bullock a grazier, aged 70, was living with his wife Elizabeth at Manton. The marriage of Thomas Bullock, then of Uppingham, to Elizabeth Peach on 16th February 1807 is recorded in Stoke Dry parish registers. Thomas was buried at Manton on 16th March 1843 and Elizabeth his wife was buried there four years later.

The Yellow Earl

Paul Reeve

Hearing of The Yellow Earl in a Rutland context, many will think of Hugh Cecil Lowther, 5th Earl of Lonsdale (1857-1944). His several residences included Barleythorpe Hall, Rutland, and later, Stud House, Barleythorpe. Yellow was his favourite colour. The uniform of his servants was yellow as were his cars and carriages. One of his yellow two-wheeled carts can be seen in Rutland County Museum. The Earl of Lonsdale was the first president of the Automobile Association and yellow features prominently in the Association's livery and logo. The Earl of Lonsdale's yellow credentials are therefore impeccable.

However, he was not the only yellow earl associated with Rutland. As a young man, George Finch, 9th Earl of Winchilsea and 4th Earl of Nottingham, briefly became a yellow earl in circumstances not to his liking.



The graduation portrait of George Finch by Sir Nathaniel Dance-Holland RA (1735-1811) painted in 1771 (Wikipedia).

George Finch was born on 4th November 1752 at Westminster, London, the only son of William and Charlotte (*née* Fermor) Finch. He was educated at Eton and Christchurch College, Oxford, from where he graduated in 1771.

His father died in 1766, so following the death of Daniel Finch, his childless uncle, on 2nd August 1769, he became 9th Earl of Winchilsea and 4th Earl of Nottingham at the age of 17 whilst he was at university. As a result, he inherited the great house at Burley on the Hill together with estates in Rutland and elsewhere.

In 1772 he set off on a Grand Tour which took him to France, Italy and as far as Constantinople. He did not return to England until late 1774. Of interest here is the time he spent in France and Italy on the outward journey and the dates and details of this account are largely derived from letters written by Lord Winchilsea to his family in England, mainly to his mother Lady Charlotte Finch. The originals are with the Finch

family papers held at the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland at Wigston in Leicestershire.

In early July 1772 he wrote to his family from Boulogne. A little later he was in Paris and then in the Loire valley. By the 18th of July he was in Tours, staying in this area until the second half of September. At the beginning of August, he reported that he had been bathing in the river Loire, and then on 12th September he wrote that he had been unwell. Towards the end of the month, at Orleans en route to Paris, he reported that he had been ill with the ague. It seems probable that he had contracted malaria and that this was the source of his later yellowness. It is not clear precisely how this happened, but the Loire valley was well known for malaria.

After Paris he had reached Lyons by the end of October where he met Charles Loraine Smith and a Mr Doughty. Charles Loraine Smith was from Enderby Hall in Leicestershire and had been at Eton with George. He next travelled on to Nice, then to part of Savoy within the Kingdom of Sardinia and from there he took a ship to Genoa, accompanied by Loraine Smith and Doughty.

On 28th December, Lord Winchilsea wrote from Florence, where he stayed until the end of March or the beginning of April 1773, reporting that he had seen Johan Joseph Zoffany's painting *La Tribuna of the Uffizi*. Queen Charlotte, wife of King George III, had given Zoffany a commission to paint La Tribuna, a room within the Uffizi Palace of the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. This was a hexagonal, domed room displaying masterpieces from the Grand Ducal art collection. Zoffany's painting is now in the Royal Collection and gives visual confirmation of Lord Winchilsea's presence in Florence. He appears in the painting together with his travelling companions Loraine Smith and Doughty. Zoffany actually painted Lord Winchilsea twice as part of a reworking of the painting. But what Lord Winchilsea really wanted, as he mentioned in a letter written from Florence in mid-February, was to sit for a portrait by Pompeo Girolamo Batoni in Rome. A portrait by Batoni was the choice of many wealthy Englishmen visiting Italy as part of the Grand Tour.

Lord Winchilsea's journey from Florence to Rome was delayed by another attack of the ague but on 3rd April he was able to write from Rome that he had had no ague on the journey. This was only a temporary relief as two weeks later he wrote of a further attack and treatment by a Dr Drummond. The doctor's treatment had included the use of bark from the cinchona tree or shrub. This was sometimes called Jesuit's bark. Cinchona bark contains quinine and by 1773 it was widely used as a remedy for malaria. Lord Winchilsea revealed in letters written in May, after he had left Rome, that he was travelling with 4lbs of bark and two large medicine chests.

All this had consequences for a possible portrait by Pompeo Batoni. When Lord Winchilsea arrived in Rome Batoni was too busy. By 17th April, Lord Winchilsea was too yellow with ague and the portrait had to be deferred. The earl left for Naples a little later without having sat for Batoni. As compensation he appeared in Zoffany's painting but was only a minor feature in an elaborate and well peopled composition painted for the royal family.

In this way the Yellow Earl of 1857-1944 was preceded by the yellow earl of 1773.



The Tribuna of the Uffizi by Johann Joseph Zoffany RA in the Royal Collection. Oil on canvas (Wikipedia).



Charles Loraine Smith



George Finch

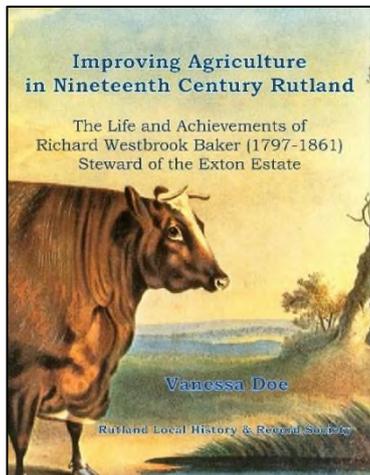


Mr Doughty

Obituary: Dr Vanessa Schwabe Doe

Julian Parker and Robert Ovens

Vanessa Doe (*née* Parker) died on 18th February 2021 at Foxholes Care Home, Hitchin, Herts. She was author of *'Improving Agriculture in Rutland: The Life and Achievements of Richard Westbrook Baker (1797-1861), Steward of the Exton Estate'*, published by the Society in 2018 as No 6 in the Record Series.

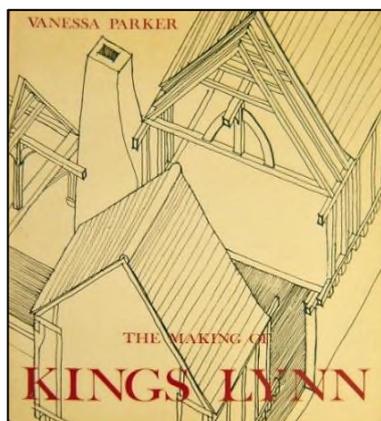


Vanessa was born in Bolton in 1939 where her father, an industrial chemist, was the managing director of James Hardcastle and Co specialising in the dyeing and printing of cotton and silk fabrics.

In 1942 the family was evacuated to the Lake District where Vanessa grew up. She was educated at St James' school in West Malvern.

Excelling both academically and in physical sports, she succeeded in qualifying to enter Cambridge University where she graduated in History in 1959. From there she worked for the next three years in the Historic Building Section of County Hall in London. One of her projects was recording the architectural and historic elements of the Euston Arch. Work which has again come into prominence with the building of the HS2 terminal.

She then returned to academia as a Research Fellow at Sheffield University where she completed her PhD on a thesis based on her work surveying and recording the development of the North Sea trading port of Kings Lynn spanning the years from the 11th to the 15th Century. Her book *The Making of Kings Lynn* was published in 1971 under her maiden name of Vanessa Parker. It is still used as an authoritative reference in the local museum. Her supervisor was W G Hoskins whose seminal work *The Making of the English Landscape* (1955) had a major influence on her understanding and teaching of local history. They remained very good friends until he died in 1992.



For the next two years Vanessa joined Leeds University as a lecturer in the School of Architecture. However, finding that her real interest lay in local history, she joined the Extra-Mural department of Sheffield University where she lectured and taught students how to evaluate the environment and survey buildings. She also published, often with her students,

features for the *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal* and the Derbyshire Record Society.

In 1970 she married Brian Doe, a retired army architect, who during a service posting to Aden undertook a number of visits to historic sites in Oman and South Yemen. After leaving the Army, Brian studied Archaeology at Cambridge University where they were married. He went on to write several books about Middle Eastern settlements.

They lived on a smallholding in Derbyshire where Vanessa bred Texel sheep and followed the Barlow, Meynell and South Staffordshire hunts.

After Brian succumbed to the disabling influence of Alzheimer's disease in 2006, Vanessa sold their smallholding.



It was then that she moved to Rutland, initially to Teigh and later Market Overton, together with her horse, Texel sheep, hens, dogs, and cat. It was here that she returned to her passion for local history and joined our Society.

Vanessa contributed several articles for this Newsletter and worked with Nick Hill on 'Preston Manor House, Rutland' in *Rutland Record* 35.

She was also a major contributor to the Heritage Lottery funded project commissioned by Lyddington Manor History Society with a chapter on social and economic history in *Buildings and People of a Rutland Manor* which was published in 2015. This book is available to read on the Society's website at <http://www.rutlandhistory.org/pdf/bprm.pdf>.



In 2013, Vanessa made the first of many visits to the Record Office at Wigston in connection with her major project to research and document records relating to Richard Westbrook Baker for her forthcoming publication *Improving Agriculture in Nineteenth Century Rutland*. What was to be her last major work was launched at Rutland County Museum by our Society on 10th May 2018.

In 2019 Vanessa moved to a retirement complex in Ely where she began a study of river borne trade in the fenland area. She moved to the Foxholes Care Home in Hitchin in 2020.

Book Reviews

All Aboard the Rutland Belle!

A short guide to the sights and history of Rutland Water

Gerald Rennett



Paperback. 56 pages. £7.00. Kindle edition also available. First published in 2019.

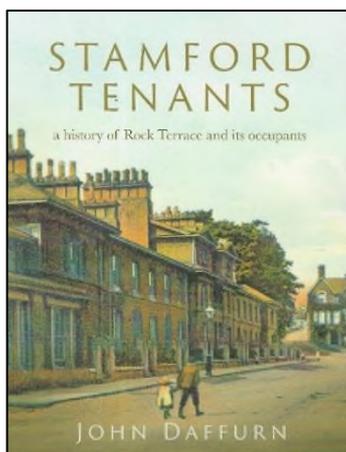
This little book is a guide to the sights of Rutland Water, as seen from the Rutland Belle. It provides information on the places of interest usually seen on the Belle's forty-five-minute cruise around Rutland Water. Included are details of Whitwell village and harbour, Sykes Lane Monument, the dam, Empingham, Normanton Church and Park, fly fishing, sailing, the Nature Reserve, Rutland Ospreys Hambleton Peninsula and village, and Burley-on-the-Hill.

The Kindle version can be download to a smartphone by installing the Kindle app.

Stamford Tenants

A history of Rock Terrace and its Occupants

John Daffurn (johndaffurn.com)



ISBN 9780993147920
Paperback. 159 pages.
£14.99. Published by
Eptex, Stamford, Lincs.

This is a handsomely produced and well-illustrated paperback by a local Stamford author. It merits a brief mention as an example of how an extensive trawl through primary sources and study of buildings can produce an

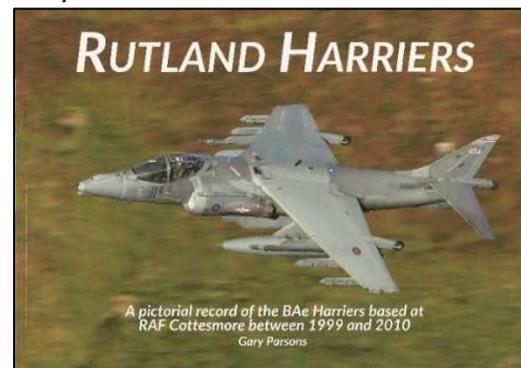
interesting, in historical terms, 'repopulation' of a property, or in this case, group of properties. This is very much in line with the BBC 'A House through Time' series in its methodology and findings. There are some minor textual errors but that notwithstanding there are a number of references to Rutland families, for example: the Cunningtons; Saunders of Manton; Twopenny of Little Casterton; Halliday; Syson; Smith/Jackson as well as the fascinating history of the Newcomb family who built the properties in the early 19th century.

Hilary Crowden

Rutland Harriers

A pictorial record of the BAe Harriers based at RAF Cottesmore between 1999 and 2010

Gary Parsons



Paperback.
144 pages.
£25.
Pub. by
Trackpad.

This comprehensive history of the Harrier jump jet at RAF Cottesmore is rather technical but would appeal to anybody interested in military aviation and the history of the base.

It is lavishly illustrated with colour photography and lists and describes each aircraft, the operations/exercises they were involved in as well as an explanation of the demise of the Harrier as an operational aircraft in the RAF. Apart from an unfortunate mislabelling of Roger Begy as High Sheriff Robert Bingley, it has much to commend it. It was originally produced earlier this year as a limited-edition and self-published but it has been taken up by Trackpad publishing and is available to order on eBay and other online sources.

Hilary Crowden

Membership Subscriptions and Renewals

Membership Subscriptions are due on 1st May 2021.

The current rates are unchanged as follows:

Individual Membership:	£14
Family / Joint Membership:	£16
Institutional Membership:	£16
Overseas supplement (all grades of membership):	£5

A membership renewal form can be downloaded for printing from our website using the link:

<http://www.rutlandhistory.org/pdf/membership.pdf>

If you are a UK taxpayer, please help the Society by signing the Gift Aid Declaration on the form

If you pay by standing order, please ensure that it reflects the current rate relevant to you.

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Many thanks to the contributors to this issue. Please contact me if you would like to contribute an article or suggest an idea for the next issue.

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