

# FRAM



## November Up-Date 2020

### Contact Details

John Bridges	President	<a href="mailto:john@bridgessuffolk.plus.com">john@bridgessuffolk.plus.com</a>	01728 723557
David Ransom	Chairman	<a href="mailto:cransom@btinternet.com">cransom@btinternet.com</a>	01728 720145
Bob Roberts	Editor	<a href="mailto:bobrob2100@hotmail.co.uk">bobrob2100@hotmail.co.uk</a>	07722127978

Welcome to the second of our monthly up-dates. In this issue we have a 'local' quiz for you. The answers will be published in the December publication to give you time to look for answers. There is no prize - just for fun. Many thanks to Giles Large for researching and compiling the quiz.

The second part of 'Our Town in Sound' can be found on the web site as can the links to other organisations that may be of interest (under Useful Links).

<http://framlinghamarchive.org.uk/about/newsletters-and-podcasts/>

If you like historical music then Hexachordia might interest you. They are a trio of professional musicians who play a wide range of Medieval and Renaissance musical instruments who have produced a thirty-minute, high-quality video performance of music and verse entitled "In Frost and Snow". Cost: £6 for a virtual "ticket" for this pre-recorded concert on Vimeo (as per a Little History of Suffolk) and for £2 extra, there is a shorter video talking about and demonstrating the instruments played. N.B. This pricing is for one household only. Contact [info@hexachordia.com](mailto:info@hexachordia.com) to order "tickets" with link and password distributed from mid-November.

An excellent site on the Framlingham pageant of 1931 can be found at:

<https://www.historicalpageants.ac.uk/pageants/1068/?fbclid=IwAR2R2MzN0lFWb8cdr1E5g705EdefzTkh6uq2uYBc4Jm9kpRAJ0adYhChoWU>

It is full of information on the pageant which appears to have been watched by 12000 people (six performances watched by 2000 each time)! There is also vast array of information on other pageants elsewhere such as one at Helmingham Hall in 1933, both largely organised by Mrs Herbert Hudson.



Episode V: 'Queen Mary at the Castle. The old Duke of Norfolk restored'.

From left, Mrs J M Martin as Lady Wingfield, Mr J Lee Hunt as Sir John Sulyard, Mrs A G Potter as a lady of the court, Mrs Henry Butcher as Lady Sulyard, and Miss Hunt as a gallant of the period.



The cast of the 1931 Pageant assembled within the castle walls. This was a truly impressive event which took place over four days and involved over 700 people from within the town and further afield. There were eight separate episodes each day, covering historical events with Framlingham connections.

Behind the scenes, applying the make-up.



## **From Earlier Publications:**

*First Published August 1998*

### **THE UNFINISHED TOMB** by Dr Bev Murphy

Amongst the impressive collection of Howard tombs in St Michael's Church, Framlingham, the occupant of the unfinished and largely unadorned structure, which stands on the north side of the altar, might easily be overlooked. Since Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond, died a young man, at the age of 17, it might be thought that he had little opportunity to attract the notice of history. Indeed, this might well be the case, were it not for the fact that this is the burial place of King Henry VIII's only acknowledged illegitimate son.

Born in 1519, Henry VIII's most trusted minister, Cardinal Wolsey, stood as a godfather, and the infant's surname "Fitzroy" advertised the fact that he was the King's son. The boy's mother was a Shropshire gentlewoman named Elizabeth Blount, who had been a maid of honour to the Queen, Catherine of Aragon. After the child was born, Elizabeth married a wealthy Lincolnshire baron, Gilbert Tailbois, and was to spend the rest of her life quietly in that county devoting herself to raising her six subsequent children.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> June 1525, the six year-old Henry Fitzroy became Duke of Richmond and Somerset, titles closely associated with Henry VIII's own family in particular his father, a former Earl of Richmond, and his grandmother, whose family had long been Dukes of Somerset. At the same time, a suitably magnificent household was put together for the young duke. No expense was spared, there were rich hangings for his chambers, costly vestments for his clergy, pewter and napkins for his table, and for his kitchen over 40 different types of pots and pans.

In July 1525, Richmond was dispatched to Sheriff Hutton Castle in Yorkshire to act as the King's representative in the north. In practice, most of his time was spent furthering his education. His studies included French, Latin, Music and Dancing. Richmond, however, clearly preferred sport to studying, and at least once Henry VIII bribed his son with the promise of a new suit of armour, if only he would settle to his books!

Richmond spent much of the next four years in the north. He returned to London in the summer of 1529 to take up a new role as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. But any suggestion that Richmond might actually go to Ireland was firmly blocked by the Duke of Norfolk. Norfolk had good reason to want to keep Richmond safely at home. It had just been agreed that his youngest daughter, Mary Howard, was to marry the King's son. In addition, Norfolk's eldest son and heir, Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, as now sent as a friend and companion to live with Richmond at Windsor Castle.

The marriage of Richmond and Mary Howard did not immediately take place. In 1532, the English court went to Calais to meet the French King. Henry VIII hoped that Francis I would be sufficiently charmed by Anne

Boleyn to agree to help him in his efforts to divorce Catherine of Aragon. So far the pope had refused to co-operate, but Francis I was soon to meet the pope in person. Richmond stayed in France, in the hope that his presence at the meeting would tip the pope's decision in Henry's favour. Richmond was, after all, living proof that Henry could produce a son ... but not with Catherine.

Richmond spent the best part of a year in France, living with Francis's own sons. But when the pope suddenly declared against Henry, Richmond was immediately recalled to England. On the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1533, he finally married Mary Howard at Hampton Court. However, the couple were still too young to live together. Mary returned to Kenninghall in Norfolk, whilst Richmond went back to Windsor Castle. It is clear that Henry VIII was very fond of his illegitimate son. He called Richmond "his worldly jewel", and it was widely reported that he loved the child "like his own soul". Richmond was given a vast array of lands, worth in excess of £4000, making him one of the greatest magnates in the country, and his father's presents – this time some arrows, next time a lute – reflect a genuine interest in the child.

Despite his youth, Richmond was required to shoulder the responsibilities of an adult magnate. Whilst at court, the young duke entertained ambassadors, attended Parliaments, and took part in the ceremonies of the Order of the Garter. When at home, he took an active role in the administration of his lands. When one poor fellow was arrested on the mere suspicion of wrong-doing, Richmond cheerfully assumed he was for the chop and did not waste time waiting for him actually to be executed, before asking if he could bestow the man's office as Steward of Banbury on one of his servants.

There was nothing to suggest that Richmond himself would die so young. Indeed, there was increasing speculation that King Henry VIII might name his illegitimate son as his heir. The repudiation of Catherine of Aragon and the execution of Anne Boleyn for adultery, had left both their daughters illegitimate in the eyes of the law. Many felt that if there must be a bastard on the Throne of England, at least it should be a male one. Henry had other ideas. He had just married his third wife, Jane Seymour, and the King was sure that Jane would provide him with his legitimate heir. However, Richmond's sudden death, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1536, must have dented even Henry's confidence. The child had been proof that he could sire a healthy son; now even that was taken from him. Henry's exact reaction is not known, but it seems to have been hysterical. Richmond was buried in secret. The young duke's corpse was hidden under straw and taken in a cart to Norfolk. Only two servants, dressed to disguise the identity of the body, were allowed to accompany it. When Richmond was interred in the Priory at Thetford, only Norfolk and his family were there.

Even now, Richmond could not rest in peace. As the repercussions of Henry VIII's break with Rome took their course, Thetford Priory was due to be dissolved. In 1539, Norfolk wrote to Henry of a costly tomb built there for Richmond. This is perhaps the tomb presently standing in St Michael's. Yet it appears incomplete. It is possible that the tomb has been damaged. Certainly 18<sup>th</sup> Century illustrations show 12 small figures ranged

around the lid of the tomb, where now only four remain.<sup>i</sup> Another explanation is that Norfolk simply did not bother to complete the tomb. In 1537, Jane Seymour gave birth to a legitimate Prince, later to reign as Edward VI, and Norfolk may well have considered that his money would be better spent on gaining the favour of the future King, rather than wasted on the memory of a dead duke.

However, it seems Norfolk now chose to build a new chancel at Framlingham to replace Thetford Prior as his family's ultimate resting place.<sup>ii</sup> Work was well in hand by 1547, when disaster struck. Norfolk lost the power struggle which had been building at court for control of the young Prince Edward. His enemies engineered the execution of his son and heir, the Earl of Surrey, and Norfolk himself only narrowly escaped the chop. Even then, he was deprived of all his lands and possessions and held prisoner in the Tower. Left with something resembling a building site, and no money, the churchwardens at St Michael's scabbled to make good the work in progress.

On his release in 1553, Norfolk wanted to rehabilitate his family's honour. The building work at Framlingham was resurrected, and it seems that Norfolk decided to commission a whole new series of splendid tombs, which now stand in the chancel.<sup>iii</sup> This work was apparently still in progress in 1554, for at his death Norfolk merely directed his body to be buried as most convenient, which suggest his plans had not yet come to fruition.<sup>iv</sup> If this is the case, the construction of Richmond's tomb would have been interrupted by Norfolk's death. Only Mary Howard, who, as Richmond's wife and duchess, was destined to share the tomb, now had any vested interest in ensuring that this tomb was suitably ornate, and her funds were limited.

A widow normally received a portion of her husband's lands to support her, but Richmond had been too young to make the proper provision for Mary, and Henry VIII was reluctant to honour the debt. He even tried to prove that the marriage had been invalid. For three years, Mary was reduced to selling her jewels and borrowing money whilst she attempted to change the King's mind. When Henry finally relented in 1539, she won only a modest income. It seems doubtful that she had much spare money to spend on the tomb before her own death in December 1555 would once again have curtailed the work.

In many ways the unfinished tomb is perhaps the best memorial to Richmond, who's own promise was destined to remain unfulfilled. Yet much of Richmond's historical importance stems from the fact that his early death ensured that he was never overshadowed by Edward, but remained throughout his life the King's only son.

---

<sup>i</sup> Loder, Robert, *The History of Framlingham*, (Woodbridge, 1798) p.301

<sup>ii</sup> Stone, Lawrence and Colvin, Howard, "The Howard Tombs at Framlingham, Suffolk", *Archaeological Journal*, 1966, 122

<sup>iii</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>iv</sup> PRO Prob 11?37



# FRAMLINGHAM PARISH RECORDS

*By Arthur Kirby*

First published August 1997

January 1702/3 17<sup>th</sup> Mr THOMAS MILLS interred in his garden without any Office or form and put in linnen whereof affidavit was made before Justice ALPE by HENRY BENHAM yeoman Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 1703 worth 200L p.annum.<sup>i</sup>

This is just one of the thousands of entries in our remarkable Parish Registers, which date back to 1560, when the 4<sup>th</sup> Howard Duke of Norfolk was still fully in control of his estates, as one of the Chief Ministers of Queen Elizabeth 1. It is remarkable as being that of one of the first non-conformists, now greatly respected, who had been in dispute with his fellow-citizens and the Established Church, and was buried as an outcast outside the churchyard. All these Registers have now been transcribed by the Suffolk Family History Society, and indexed, with every detail double-checked, from their original somewhat muddled and medieval state, so as to be readily available for anyone to consult. They consist of three books of Baptisms, one of Banns dating from 1754, one of Marriages, and two of Burials, all up to 1920. Thomas Cromwell, Henry VIII's Chancellor, issued an edict in 1538, at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries, that all Parish's should keep records, and clergy and their clerks have laboured since then to do so. I like to think that now their efforts are really appreciated; not only have we a priceless social record of the life of the Town, but every family with a Framlingham ancestry, a vast number, can now trace his or her ancestry with ease. True, Framlingham did not start keeping records until 1560, when Queen Elizabeth 1 was on the throne and there were not likely to be any more changes! Some parishes started in 1539, and those Registers were, of course, in Latin. *Civil* Registration was not compulsory until 1837.

Let us take a closer look at these records then. We start in 1560 with one Christian name and one surname. By the time we reach the 1900s, we find much greater detail, practically a family history. Early on there are considerable variations, because most of those giving their names were illiterate. The clerk did the best he could and some were more conscientious than others. Officiating clergy are often named too.

**BAPTISMS** The three volumes sadly are evidence of the very high rate of infant mortality, and there was a great rush to have a child baptised if it seemed likely to die; it could be refused burial in consecrated ground if not baptised. On the other hand, parents often left it for years, and a whole group of children were sometimes baptised together. So this is not evidence of dates of birth, which can often only be gleaned from age at death especially if there was a tombstone; when ages are sometimes recorded down to months or weeks. Reputed fathers are named.

**BANNS/MARRIAGES** These are the most informative registers, especially in later years, when all the main parties, witnesses, etc. are named, including their occupations. Also they cover a wide area, inasmuch as the bride was usually married in her own Parish, while that of the groom was recorded in the Banns.

**BURIALS** There were some 9,000 burials in the church and churchyard between 1560 and 1856, when the churchyard was closed on grounds of public health, and the cemetery was opened; and thousands, of course, earlier. They were mostly in linen, but after about 1700 many were able to afford memorials, and it was these that took up the space, making it impossible to use that ground again! (Prior to 1700, memorials were usually of wood, with a simple head/body/foot board, and not many of these remain). One of the advantages of having a memorial was that you were not likely to be disturbed, and also members of your family could be interred with you later. Memorials are, of course, a form of record, and Framlingham is again very fortunate in that Richard Green in his *History* left a list by North/South/East up to 1829, and in 1931 Charles Partridge, seeing that there was a gap unrecorded between 1829 and 1856, made an even more detailed record of that period, so that even if there is now no trace, we know with some accuracy where these memorials were, as families were usually buried in groups. Those extant today in St Michaels's church as well as the churchyard have again been recorded and charted, so relatives can see where their ancestors lie. The registers themselves, of course, include details of domicile, and many other notes of interest (such as 'Waterloo Veteran'), and epidemics such as the plague in 1666 and the influenza outbreak in 1919 are clearly visible.

**NON-CONFORMIST RECORDS** Apart from burials in one's own garden, like that of **Thomas Mills**, separate records were kept of Baptisms/Marriages/Burials in the Unitarian Church, and of Baptisms in the Methodist Chapel, and efforts are being made to record these also. Most Non-Conformists like **Samuel Lodge** and **Say Toms** were buried in the parish church or churchyard anyway, but 97 burials actually took place in the Unitarian churchyard, and there were some in the garden of the Methodist Chapel.<sup>ii</sup>

**OTHER RECORDS** This is an area which has yet to be investigated, and offers scope for much fruitful research, though it may be necessary to travel to **Arundel** or **Cambridge** quite apart from the **Ipswich** Record Office! Most earlier listings were part of the process of raising taxes. The numbering of the children of Israel about BC 1200 was an early census, and that held in AD 6 by Governor Cyrenius in Palestine had unexpected consequences, quite apart from the riots. Then there was the Domesday Survey of 1086, and in 1181 a Saladin Tithe was imposed on the personal estate of individuals to help finance the Crusades – this was not repealed until 1623. More relevant perhaps and nearer our time were the following: -

1795 A national duty on Hair Powder.

1796 A dog tax with a sliding scale for breeds and purpose for which kept.

1798 Defence of the Realm Act (Napoleonic Wars) – all men aged between 15 – 60. And many more – any volunteer researchers?!

Then of course there was the **Census** effectively from 1841 to 1891, at each 10 year point.<sup>iii</sup> This tells us who was at home on a particular day and is very accurate as far as it goes, with much useful detail such as who was in the Workhouse or deaf! The Family History Society, who are all unpaid volunteers, has recently completed an index on the 1851 Census for Suffolk, so it is possible to check around the whole County and then look up the actual Census or obtain a copy.

[Census information is now available up to 1911. Parish records can normally be seen on fiche at Suffolk Archives (Suffolk Record Office), but the new Hold building will not be open until 2021. These records can also be accessed on line at *Find My Past* and *Ancestry*. These are annual subscription services, but you can pay for individual sessions.]

---

<sup>i</sup> The year is shown as 1702/3 to avoid confusion, because up to 1752 New Year's Day was 25<sup>th</sup> March, since that was nine months before the birth of Jesus Christ, 25<sup>th</sup> December. In 1752, when the Gregorian calendar was adopted, January 1<sup>st</sup> became New Year's Day.

<sup>ii</sup> The site of this Chapel and garden is now occupied by the Railway Inn, its garden and yard (Lambert's Annual Almanack 1874).

<sup>iii</sup> There were also censuses in 1801, 1811, 1821 and 1841, but the records generated thereby and held centrally were purely statistical. Decennial census returns after 1891 (plus the one in 1966) are still closed, owing to the "hundred-year rule".



## East Anglia Quiz, (plus 1 that isn't) researched and compiled by Giles Large

There are 45 questions, some of which require two answers.

1. Which former Archbishop of Canterbury is buried in a Suffolk churchyard and where is the church?
2. The headmaster of a North Norfolk school decided immediately after the First World War not to alter the school's clocks for an entire year. What was the school?
3. What was the last station on the British Railways network to use horses in its goods yard?
4. From which USAAF airfield did President Kennedy's brother take off on his last short-lived flight?
5. What ecclesiastic building was claimed to be the tallest in the world for about 300 years?
6. A Russian prince, who scored what many considered to be the finest try when England beat the New Zealand All Blacks, was killed in a training accident at RAF Martlesham Heath. What was his name?
7. Why are the nearby villages of Earl Soham and Monk Soham so named?
8. King Edmund was killed by the Danes after losing a battle, when, according to legend, he was spotted hiding under a bridge. In which North Suffolk village did this event occur?
9. A Dutch fleet was involved in an inconclusive battle with an English fleet in 1672 off the Suffolk coast. Where did this battle take place?
10. What links – or rather doesn't link- Southwold, Laxfield, Harleston, Bungay, Framlingham, Aldeburgh and Thorpness?
11. What, for a short time, once stood on top of the Martello Tower to the south of Aldeburgh?
12. Which small Suffolk town was a Rotten Borough and returned two Members of Parliament until the Great Reform Act, by which time, it only had 22 men entitled to vote?
13. What is the most unusual feature of the Laxfield Low House (aka The King's Head)?
14. Bawdsey Manor is best known as the base for the development of what major advance in technology?
15. Henry Ford's production line system for building cars was claimed to be ground-breaking. But he was beaten to this by a Leiston engineer. Who was he and what was he building?
16. The engineer's family included the first female mayor of Aldeburgh and what many claim to have been the first qualified female doctor in the UK. Who was she?
17. In which season did Ipswich Town win the old First Division Championship and who was the manager?
18. Which Cambridge College owns 3,400 acres of land that makes up the bulk of what is now the Port of Felixstowe?
19. Which foreign company now owns and operates the Port of Felixstowe?
20. Which Suffolk port rivaled London in the early Middle Ages and was another Rotten Borough until the constituency was abolished in 1832?

21. Where were children encouraged to win T-shirts emblazoned with the message: "I caught crabs at xxxxxxxxxxxx!"?
22. In 1991, which Ipswich building became the youngest in the country to be given Grade 1 Listed Building status, and who was the architect?
23. There is a grave site beside the road from Newmarket to Bury St Edmunds. Who is reputedly buried there?
24. Although it is now a private house, Wingfield College was founded in the 1360s by a soldier who made a fortune by ransoming French aristocrats captured at the Battle of Poitiers. Who was he?
25. Who designed the Scallop, to be found on the beach between Aldeburgh and Thorpness?
26. The church tower in a Waveney valley town has a clock face on three of its four sides. Which town is it and why, according to local legend, isn't there a clock on the fourth, north-facing side?
27. Which condiment was partly responsible for funding the construction of the old Norfolk and Norwich hospital and which family supplied it?
28. Who was the Swedish opera singer who gave her name to the Children's Hospital in Norwich?
29. Looking due east from Holt in North Norfolk, what is the name of the first bit of higher land?
30. What is unusual about Happisburgh, Wymondham and Stiffkey (and possibly, Cley, depending on who you talk to)?
31. After a lifeboat disaster, when the crew kept attempting at great loss to themselves to rescue some stranded sailors, the coxswain of which lifeboat replied: "xxxxxxx men never turn back."
32. Which Waveney Valley village contains what is possibly the oldest surviving example of a reinforced concrete structure in the country? Constructed in the 1860s, the bridge over the river consists of a wrought iron frame encased in concrete, with cast iron balustrades.
33. Mary Tudor used which castle in Suffolk to gather her forces before marching on London to claim the crown?
34. What seafood is Cromer most famous for?
35. What have the inhabitants of Long Stratton, on the Norwich-Ipswich road, been seeking for decades, so far to no avail?
36. Where did King John lose the crown jewels?
37. What happened to the castle in Eye?
38. According to legend, how many churches and public houses were at one time to be found in Norwich?
39. Many of us growing up in East Anglia in the 1950s and 60s learned to drive on the numerous disused airfields. What was the only manoeuvre which couldn't be learnt on them?
40. What makes Adnam's distribution centre environmentally friendly?
41. Where is the only chain ferry on the Broads based?

42. A small Suffolk coastal hamlet was evacuated in 1940. Rumours later circulated that a German invasion there had been foiled. This has now been disproved. What is the name of the hamlet?
43. Which Suffolk forest was the site of a supposed UFO sighting in 1980?
44. Which famous artist, who was fond of a drink or two, gave a number of paintings to the landlord of a pub in Harleston as a way of paying his bar bills. Unfortunately, the pub changed hands and the paintings have disappeared. Who was the artist and what was the name of the pub?
45. Another local artist, who was equally fond of a drink, and whose work is to be found in numerous local pubs, was better known as a very accomplished cartoonist, often featuring his family, including his long-suffering wife, a fearsome Granny, and his Land Rover, registered: LRT 140. Who was he and where did most of his work appear?

Answers in the December issue.