

# FRAM

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The Framlingham & District  
Local History & Preservation Society

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Number 8

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*Fram*  
**The Journal of the  
Framlingham and District  
Local History and Preservation Society**

**4th Series Number 8**

**December 2003**

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*Heir of Antiquity! - fair castle Town,  
Rare spot of beauty, grandeur, and renown,  
Seat of East-Anglian kings! - proud child of fame,  
Hallowed by time, illustrious Framlinghame!*

From: *Framlingham: a Narrative of the Castle*,  
by James Bird (1831)

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# FRAM

4th Series Number 8

December 2003

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Editor : M. V. Roberts, 43 College Road, Framlingham

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At our Annual Dinner in November 2002, I discovered that our splendid guest speaker, Roy Tricker, and I had a common interest in the little hamlet of Holyfields, a mile or two from my home town of Waltham Abbey, Essex. Roy spent his earliest youth in Holyfields, while my own cousin (another Bob) has lived in a small and isolated cottage there for many years. When Bob first bought this property in 1964, it had a packed earth floor, outdoor lavatory, and a Closing Order placed upon it. The Sanitary Inspector for the local planning authority (as it then was), Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council, told my cousin verbally that the sooner this derelict and life-expired property was razed to the ground, the better he would like it.

It survived.

Some twenty-five years later, cousin Bob applied for Planning Permission to build a rear extension to the property. The local planning authority (reborn under another name) expressed its concern to ensure that at all costs the integrity of this valuable specimen of seventeenth century vernacular building should not be compromised or impaired.

*Sic crescat gloria mundi.*

\*\*\*\*\*

The Society needs a new Secretary.

The present incumbent, Andrew Lovejoy, has been serving the Society, man and boy, as its Hon. Secretary, for more years than it would be appropriate to reveal, and would very much like to hand over the reins to another willing volunteer. The duties are not onerous - minute taking at committee meetings and the AGM, contacting speakers for our monthly winter lectures, arranging summer trips out, and dealing with general correspondence. There might even be a possibility of splitting up these duties into two separate jobs, if two members were willing to come forward.

Volunteer(s) please.

\*\*\*\*\*

Finally, with regard to the abattoir referred to in footnote 5 of our last issue (4.7. August 2003) and also on page 15, in A. R. Staniforth's splendid article, Arthur now explains that the abattoir was in fact in Vycy Road, near the butcher's that then was trading there. The building itself can still be seen, though converted some five years ago to residential use.

## THE "SHIMMAN" NAME IN FRAMLINGHAM AND EAST SUFFOLK

By S. E. M. Willmoth

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For about twelve years my husband and I have been researching our family history. *Fram* reflects local history and changes over the hundreds of years of the existence of Framlingham. During that time many people have lived and died in the town, all adding their streak of colour to the overall pattern. Our discoveries led us to Suffolk for both my father's and my mother's forebears. Mother's female line were the Hempstead, Byford and Deaves families of Glemsford near the Essex border, but my father's name, Shimman, led us to Framlingham.

We are told that in tracing family lines one begins with the present and works backwards. This method was satisfactory until we came to the eighteenth century. A family in Oakley, near Diss, at that time has the right name, spelt **SHIMMAN**. There are many possible entries in the parish registers there for marriages and baptisms. The names of the children connect with individuals who spread into Yarmouth, Bedfordshire, London, and many parts of Suffolk. However, because we cannot find a particular marriage of great-great-grandfather, we are not able to connect him with the family living in Oakley. A **Robert** in Oakley produced a son of the same name, his wife died so he took another and had a second son also named **Robert**. The first son married and called his son **Robert** as well. The true facts of the marriage between **Robert Shimman** (my great-great-grandfather) and **Charity Clark(e)** are still unknown until we perhaps may discover them about 1800 in some parish register, probably in Suffolk.

While browsing at Ipswich Record Office, we found an index of Suffolk wills 1400 to 1700, which led to our interest in Framlingham.<sup>1</sup> It was clear to us that the name of **Shimman** had been around in this area for centuries. The people we have become familiar with through their wills have given us a picture of the place. Many indicate relatives in surrounding villages which leads on to other parish registers to try to unravel the net of relationships. Obviously after such a time-lapse many facts cannot be fully verified and we cannot always make exact links. However, we thoroughly enjoyed our study of the thirty-nine documents consulted. They ranged from one of five lines to others of several pages, according to how much property they owned or how many repetitions the scribe could fit in. Many of them were residing in Framlingham. Some give their abode as "at the Castle". Others came from surrounding villages such as Saxtead, Glemham, Ilketshalle, Soham, Sweffling and Stradbroke. From their wills one gets a detailed picture of their lives and families, and also the names of friends and neighbours.

Last year we went to Arundel Castle to look at some of the ancient documents there which relate to Framlingham Castle. In the Duke of Norfolk's archive there were Manorial Rolls and accounts of various sorts. The surname was about in the fifteenth century; it appears on a rent list and **Thomas** was mentioned in a sixteenth century document, the Latin stating that he was deputy to the reeve (bailiff). The earliest document that we came across was the will of **John Shymmyng** of Ilketshall proved in 1477. The last entry for a marriage in Framlingham parish registers was in 1698 (**Jeremy Shimming** (baker) and **Susan Crose**), the last burial was in 1715, and the last baptism in 1724. While transcribing the wills, we found the names of many other people, relatives, friends and witnesses. Their descendants may be even living in this area today.

The first Framlingham inhabitant who left a will was **THOMAS SHYMYNG** whose wife **Margery** was to have the "howse and landes ... my howse in the hollow". This was proved in 1503 and mentions children: **John, Watte, Wylyhem, Thomas, Robarde, Anne and Margett**.

His executors were **Robard Smyth** and **John Fordley**.

In 1519 **WILLIAM SCHYMYNG** gives his abode as "Framlingham at the castle". His wife was **Jelyon**, his children **Thomas**, **Agnes**, **Richard** and **Robert**. He instructed that "evr oon of them a cow to be delyed at the day of ther maryage". Made in the presence of **Roberd Smythe** priest, **Roberd Nottell**, **John Bocher**, **David Briggs** and others.

Next in date order comes **JOHN SHYMMYNG** ("at the Castell"). His wife was **Margaret**. His son **John** was to have "hwsys and landys bothe free and bonde". He also had a son **Thomas** and daughters **Olive** and **Agnes**. Further on he speaks of "my house and my londs in the uplande both free and copy", to pass to his son **John**; this was in 1531. "I will that myn executors reseyne all my detts ... first of **William Nuttall** fower marks of old dette ... and also fyve weye of chese and a barell of butter". Witnesses were **John Gale** "clerke" and **Reynold(e) Brown**.

In 1542 the will of **THOMAS SCHYMYNG** was proved. He lived "under the woods of Framlingham at the castyll". His wife **Margery** was to have "all my tenement called Frostys with all the londys and other prmys that therto is appartynyg or be-longing ... condyconally that she bring up my chydren honestly and also to make neyther strypp nor waste". The children were **Kateryn**, **Jellyon**, **Roger**, **Robert**, **George**, **Olyf**, **Margery** and **Richard**. The witnesses were **John Helwys**, **John Durrant**, **John AtWood** "bond tenant to my Lord of Norfolk" and **John Schymyng** (brother of **Thomas**).

**WALTER SHEMINGE** was a husbandman of "Framlingham at Castell". In 1577 his will states "I gyve and bequeath to **Margaret** my wife all that my tenement and yard with thappurtenaunces wch I of late did pchase of **William Edwardes** alias **Barefote**". Also listed are **Marye** the wife of **Henry Bartlett** (his wife's daughter), **Katheryn Burye** and **Johane Burye** sisters of **Margaret**, **John** his younger son, **Cycelye Sheming** and **Johane Sheming** his sisters, **Thomas Burye** and witnesses **John Nuttall**, **Phillip Burche**, **John Petyver**.

**JOHN SHEMYNG** who died in 1579 was "of Wyotts in Framlingham att castell, yeoman".<sup>2</sup> This appears to have been a substantial property; "Wyotts with all the houses, edifices, yards, ortcheyards, lands, tenements, meadows, pasture, feadings, woods, underwoods, grovetts" ... **John Pope** ("my belchilde" [son-in-law?]), **Mary Hartte** ("my mayde"). **Marye Pope**, **Hanser Pope**, and **Katcheryne** all sisters of **John Pope** are listed as beneficiaries; then **Robert Shemyng** ("my nephew"), **Clement Hoggon** ("my mayde"); **Thomas Shemyng** and **Marye Shemyng** son and daughter of **Roger Shemyng** ("my nephew") and "My trustie and well-beloved friend **Godfrey Ireland**". Another person named is "**Robert Helwys** my trustie friend and neighbour". The witnesses were **Robert Hellwys**, **John Pope** (senior), **Nicholas Sutton**, **John Durrante**, **John Petiver**. A codicil has as witnesses **Robert Hellwys**, **Roger Smyth**, **Julian Hellwys** (probably female) and **Clement Huggin**.

The next will of 1582 is of **CECILY SHEMMYNG** of Framlingham Castle. To **John Shemyng** her brother she bequeaths "fyve pounds of lawful english money by vertue of the will of **Wme Carmpen** late of Marlesforde my grandfather". Witnesses to this document were **George Spalding**, **William Hutton** and **John Petiver**.

In 1582 **MARGARET SHYMMINGE** appears to be the widow of **Walter** who died in 1577. Names appearing are some that have been quoted in other documents. These are **Thomas**, **Katherine** and **Henry Bury**, and **John Shyming** her son. The will was witnessed by **Frances Warner**, **Lawrence Giberthin?**, **Nicholas Cadembery?** and **John Shiming**. An inventory exists for this will.

**THOMAS SHEMINGE** ("at the Castell, blacksmith") died in 1591. His son was **Thomas**, his daughter was **Frances**. He left to **Alice** his wife, "My house wherein **Thomas Goffe** now dwelleth". There was also "five acres and a half of lande called Kinkseele [or Rinkseele?] Wood". **George Spalding** of Framlingham, **Thomas Dorrington** ("clarke"), **Thomas Goffe**, and **Thomas Marshall** (notary) were the witnesses.

**THOMAS SHEMYNG** the younger, blacksmith, who died in 1602 seems to have had no wife or children. He leaves

to Roberte Sheminge my brother and to his heiers and assignes all and singular those message lande and tenemte hereditaments with thappurtenances situate Lying and beinge in Framlingham which I lately purchased of Roberte Sheming my grandfather and all my rights to the interest therefrom remaynder which I the said Thomas or my heiers have brought to have in or to the said lande. After the decease of the said Roberte my grandfather ... to Frances my sister all my movable goods ... my mynd is that the said Roberte my brother shall paye out of my sayd Lande unto Margarett Raynolde now dwelling with Joseph Raynolde her brother the some of vil [£6].

Witnessed by **John Goodeng** and **Antoni Goodeng**. Probate has three names: **John Ireland**, **Hugh Butcher** and **John Gooding**.

Next we come to **ROBERT SHEMYNGE the elder** who died in 1610 who was a yeoman of Framlingham "at the Castell". He was obviously the most wealthy of the dynasty. From his will it appears that he had no children but many nephews. His wife **Alice** inherits quantities of chattels, but land and property go to the next generation. **Peter Hubbard**, **John Harvey**, **James Bulle** and **Christopher Phillips** are sons of his four sisters. **Ollyve**, **Elizabeth** and **John Hubbard**, **Thomas** and **Nicholas Harvey** and **Mary Buller** wife of **John Buller** are also beneficiaries. Other local people are named in respect of a transaction ... "the meadow tenement wch I sold to **John Bucke** and the piece of grownde wth the wynd Mylle therupon now standing in the Mellfeld in Framlingham, which I sold to **Christopher Ritches**". **Robert Maidstone**, gent, is also named. "To **Edward Nuthyll**, son of mye cosen **John Nuthyll** (the writer hereof), I give mye beste gowne, mye beste cloke and mye best dublett and mye beste payer of britches and mye sylver cuppe". Other men who get a mention are **John Buller** and **Joseph Reynolde(s)** ("mye fermers") and **Richard Everys**. Witnesses were **Thomas Mosse**, **John Crosse** and **Francis Baylie**.

**EDWARD SHEMYNGE** was also a yeoman, whose will was proved in 1635. He appointed **Francis Ireland** ("Apothecarye of Framlingham") as his executor. **John Sheminge** the son of **Francis** his brother was to have "thirty pownds of good money".

I will that Marye my wife and Marye Tompson her daughter ... shall have and hold the message wherein I now dwell and all the houses thereto Belonginge and yarges adioyning and one Close conteyning about fiftene acres in Framlingham caled Some Close. Read sealed published and delived in the psence of **John Lane**, **William Tompson**, **Edward Shemynge**.

**JOHN SHEMINGE** is described as a cordwinder<sup>3</sup> in his will proved in 1648. He left to **Margreat Sheminge** (his wife)

All my freehold house And tennent and the all and singuller the Appurtinces to the same belongeinge which I purchased of one Marye Scrutton lyeing and beinge in Framlingham to her the said Margreat ... also All that my Copiehold Message or Tennent in Framlingham lyeing neere the stable yard Style there now in the tenure and occupation of the widow Thompsone ... I give and bequeathe the residue of the said Copiehold Message or tennent to Marie the wife of **John Bourne** And Judeith the wyfe of **Francis Edwards** boothe of them my daughters equallie to be devided betwixt them ... I do alsoe make and ordaine **Robert Seaman**[?] of Framlingham

Glover my Supervisor. Witnesses: Robert Seaman[?], Stymsons, Lawrenc Habergham.

In 1686 the will of **JOHN SHEMINGE**, yeoman of Framlingham, leaves all his

lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever, both freehold and copyhold situate lying and being in Framlingham [to his wife Mary]. After the decease of the said Mary my wife I give and bequeath the same unto John Sheminge and Thomas Sheminge sonnes of my brother Henry of Wantisden (yeoman) ... except one freehold tenement wherein Samuel Francy[?] late dwelt with one piece of freehold land to the same belonging by estimation one acre which said tent and piece of land I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Sheminge my kinswoman late daughter of Robert Sheminge of Great Glemham ... yeoman my late brother deceased. Also: I give and bequeath unto the same Mary my wife all those five pieces or enclosures of freehold land situate lying and being in Cransford and Sweffling and now in the tenure and occupation of Thomas Lillistone and Thomas Elmy ... otherwise unto Ralph Dowsinge the younger, eldest son of Ralph Dowsinge ... John Sheminge.

No witnesses listed but "Jurata fuit Exeutex coram me" [sworn by the executrix in my presence] Edmund French Surr.

Two years later **MARY SHEMING** his widow died. She left the houses and land to **John Shiming** and **Thomas Shiming** sons of **Henry Shiming** of Wantisden.

I give and bequeath all those five pieces or inclosures of land meadow or pasture with appurtenances lying and being in Cransford and Sweffling ... late in the tenure or occupation of John Shiming and Edward Calver ... I give and bequeath unto the said John Shiming the son of the said Henry Shiming of Wantisden one bedd and bedstead marked IH: EH now standing in the hall chamber wjth all the furniture thereto belonging. Also one trunke as it stands in the said hall chamber and also one brass clock with the weights and lines belonging standing in the hall ... I give unto Grace Brown the daughter of my brother John Brown in Benhall ... one bed and bedstead with the furniture thereto belonging as it stands in the parlor and also one pair of sheets fit for the said bedd ... I give unto Elizabeth the now wife of John Aldrich of Woodbridge (mercier) £30 I give unto May Brill the daughter of George Brill of Bredfield £30 ... I give unto the five youngest daughters of my cosen Samuell Wightman of Framlingham (the elder) £5 apeece;...I give unto the five other daughters of the said George Brill 40s apeece ... I give and bequeath unto the five children of my cosen Nicholas Brown of Framlingham Grocer, £5 apeece. I give unto Rebecca the now wife of Adam Crosby £5 ... Sealed published and declared by the said Mary Sheming to be her last will and testament in the presence of us: Thomas Woolnough, Simon Wyeth, Robb. Hawes and Mary Shiming.

The executor of this will is **Ralph Dowsing**.

That is the last of the wills that we were able to study, but there were others too fragile to copy. It looks as if the name died out in Framlingham in the early eighteenth century. Original spellings have been used throughout. It appears that a castle was in existence in Saxon times, perhaps as far back as the sixth century.<sup>4</sup> That leads me to wonder if our family name was Saxon (Schymmyng). Certainly people of that name have been found in the eastern part of Suffolk for hundreds of years. We don't know the town well enough to be able to place any of the properties mentioned, but if anyone who reads this article can enlighten us we would be thrilled.<sup>5</sup>

Notes:

- 1 The author is grateful for the help given by Suffolk County Record Office at Ipswich and for the photocopies of the wills which they hold.
- 2 See also *Fram*, 4th series, number 5 December 2002 p. 26.
- 3 "cordwinder" variant of cordwainer *i.e.* shoemaker.
- 4 T. Hinde, *editor. The Domesday Book ...* (London. Hutchinson. 1985).
- 5 The editor would be happy to forward any correspondence to the author.



# WILLIAM JEAFFRESON OF FRAMLINGHAM 1790 - 1865 PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON

By Andrew A. Lovejoy

---

William Jeaffreson of 12 Market Hill (Old Bank House), Framlingham, was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons on 26th August 1844.<sup>1</sup> His life then changed. John Cordy Jeaffreson, William's second son (1831 - 1901), noted the following:<sup>2</sup>

From the happy season in which he [William Jeaffreson] attained to the dignity of FRCS he went yearly to London for the annual dinner of the Council and Fellows of the College for the pleasure of regarding the faces and listening to the speeches of the London surgeons. The admiration was not one-sided. The great London surgeons showed their good feeling and good taste in making so much of the fine old fellow from the Suffolk Woodlands, that he always returned in the cheeriest of good spirits to his peaceful and secluded neighbourhood where he was honoured by rich and poor as no doctor ever had been or will be honoured in that district.

Mr. William Jeaffreson was known as Dr. Jeaffreson in Framlingham and its neighbourhood. His chief claim to fame as a surgeon was that he conducted pioneer operations in ovariectomy (the removal of ovarian cysts etc.) and lithotrity, "crushing a stone in the bladder, kidney etc. so that its fragments may be passed naturally from the body".<sup>3</sup> East Anglia was known for the incidence of bladder calculus, ovarian cysts etc.<sup>4</sup> Professor Erickson in his book *Surgery* puts Jeaffreson's achievements in perspective:<sup>5</sup>

Ovariectomy is probably the greatest triumph of modern operative surgery. In its original conception as in its ultimate perfection, this operation reflects the greatest lustre on the British School of Surgery. The operation was originally proposed and its practicality discussed by John Hutton in 1762. In 1823 Lirzars operated for the first time in this country. But that operation though several times repeated fell into discredit in a great measure owing to the imperfection of the diagnosis of the cases in which it was done and was not revived until 1836 when Jeaffreson of Framlingham practised it successfully through a small incision of one and a half inches long. From this operation we must date the revival of ovariectomy in Great Britain. The operation was followed by others performed by King of Saxmundham, Crisp of Harleston, and West of Tonbridge. The examples of these provincial surgeons was followed by their brethren in London, and the operation was practised by many.

Jeaffreson carried out the operation of removing ovarian cysts on five occasions successfully.<sup>6</sup> The operation involved the following:<sup>7</sup>

Mr. Jeaffreson assisted in 1836 by King of Saxmundham made a one inch incision midway between the umbilicus and pubes through the linear alba, emptied the cyst through a cannula inserted by means of a trocar, removing twelve pints of fluid. As the sac emptied, it was seized and drawn forwards, a second cyst containing two ounces was similarly emptied. A ligature was then placed on the pedicle, the ends of the ligature were cut close to the knot, the sac was removed, and the wound sutured. The woman recovered and continued in good health.

To say that Jeaffreson's pioneer work was fundamental may be an understatement.<sup>8</sup>

It was such work by him and others, though the pace of progress was slow, which led to those oscillations in the judgement and favour of the profession which frequently precede the final establishment of a great advance in practice.

Not only was Jeaffreson the surgeon of Framlingham; he was also the town's main physician. Even in the first half of the nineteenth century, physicians were still perceived as being

impractical, bookish and ineffectual.<sup>9</sup> In contrast, Jeaffreson's work as a surgeon gave him an intensely practical approach to his medical duties. As his reputation in Framlingham and elsewhere reveals, he was also compassionate and fully committed to his patients in Framlingham and the surrounding villages. A rare glimpse of his attitude to life is revealed by a note written by his son John Cordy Jeaffreson.<sup>10</sup>

East Anglians were remarkable for the interest they took in Literature. The reverence with which they spoke of poets of a high order was so extravagant that one cannot record it without a smile. After spending an hour with George Crabbe at Parham Lodge or chatting with him for ten minutes in one of the Glemham highways, William Jeaffreson rode the remainder of his day's round a proud and happy man.

Jeaffreson performed almost all his operations at 12 Market Hill. A true measure of his achievement has to be assessed in the context of medicine in his day. Today medicine owes much to the pioneers who brought to us the benefits of anaesthesia from the 1840s onwards,<sup>11</sup> the importance of cleanliness and antiseptics from 1860,<sup>12</sup> the uses of radiology as an aid in medical diagnosis,<sup>13</sup> and by no means the least, the discovery by Alexander Fleming of the benefits of penicillin in 1928, and its derivatives.<sup>14</sup> None of the above were available to Jeaffreson in his pioneering years.

Modern medicine is in the public mind an exact science rather than a subjective process. Was medicine in Jeaffreson's day a primitive affair? Medicine in the early days of the nineteenth century had progressed hugely since Chaucer's day, when the human constitution was thought to be composed of the four elements (air, water, fire and earth), with the four humours corresponding to those elements.<sup>15</sup> Many medical landmarks had been passed since that time. To name one or two, we can include Leonardo da Vinci's pioneer studies in anatomy.<sup>16</sup> (Was Leonardo's work known in England in the sixteenth century? It seems so.<sup>17</sup>) Rembrandt's famous picture of Dr. Tulp conducting an anatomy class tells us much. Even more pertinently, in 1628, Harvey published in England his *De Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus* (on the motion of heart and blood in animals).<sup>18</sup> Harvey was indeed a key figure, pointing the way forward for scientists in all disciplines, not just medicine. Other medical discoveries followed, such as Jenner's discovery of the benefits of immunisation in 1796.<sup>19</sup> Joseph Priestley discovered nitrous oxide (laughing gas, an anaesthetic) in 1776,<sup>20</sup> but it was not used medically until 1844.<sup>21</sup> Medical science in the early nineteenth century was on the cusp of achieving much, as soon as such discoveries as anaesthetics and antiseptics came into place, as regular and accepted procedures.

The Royal College of Surgeons was founded in 1800 and the Royal College of Physicians as early as 1518.<sup>22</sup> Clearly, medicine was well regarded and basically accredited by Jeaffreson's day. For all that, medicine in his time appears to have differed widely in the efficacy of diagnosis and prognosis from place to place. Healthcare then was perhaps of a higher standard in rural areas, than in the major concentrations of population in cities and large towns.<sup>23</sup> Framlingham was indeed privileged to have had such a pioneer surgeon and doctor in its midst, who within the constraints of medicine of his day, must have been exceptional.

A true picture of what those constraints meant in practice can be demonstrated by the following two examples of medical shortcomings elsewhere. In 1852 cholera struck Great Britain and claimed some 18,000 lives. Medical science was almost entirely helpless. In the words of *The Lancet* in 1853,<sup>24</sup>

What is cholera? Is it a fungus, an insect, a miasma, an electrical disturbance, a deficiency of ozone, a morbid off-scouring from the intestinal canal? We know nothing, we are at sea in a whirlpool of conjecture.

The Crimean War (1854 - 56) brought to the public attention the appalling state of healthcare in a war situation. 19,584 combatants on the English side died in the War; of those only one in ten died in battle itself. In the Home army 20% of its strength was lost each year to illness and disease.<sup>25</sup> If that was happening in one of the key institutions of the country, how on earth did the civilian population fare?

In Jeaffreson's years of practice, without our modern medical facilities and communications, nearly everything was left to the intelligence and intuition of the local practitioner. It says much for medical judgement and expertise in Jeaffreson's day that so much was accomplished; his own achievement was surely a proud one.

William Jeaffreson was born the posthumous son and fourth child of Samuel Jeaffreson (1761 - 1790) of Pettistree. His mother was Anne née Bennington.<sup>26</sup> His grandfather was Samuel Jeaffreson of Fir Tree Farm, Brandeston, who in turn was the third son of John Jeaffreson of Roushall, Clopton (born 1667). The Jeaffresons were a large and proud family whose family tree can be traced back at least to Sir John Scott, who was Lord Chief Justice in Edward III's reign (1327 - 1377). Sir John and by descent the Jeaffreson family settled in the Eastern counties.<sup>27</sup>

William Jeaffreson's mother was left in straitened circumstances by the early death of her husband. She was assisted by her cousin Christopher Jeaffreson (1769 - 1846), Rector of Tunstall with Dullingworth and Iken. William was educated at Bury St. Edmunds Grammar School, the Eton of East Anglia in those days. In 1804 in his fifteenth year, he was apprenticed to Dr. George Lynn of Woodbridge,<sup>28</sup>

chief doctor of that town and a member of a highly intellectual and charming family.

The Lynns were described by John Cordy Jeaffreson as:<sup>29</sup>

a family of several fine endowments who were especially fortunate in their personal comeliness and the excellence of their irresistibly winning manners. Gentle by descent they mated with gentle people.

William Jeaffreson's time in Woodbridge seems to have been very pleasant. Woodbridge was then a small and delightful garrison town, which was much favoured by army officers for their retirement.<sup>30</sup>

In 1809 William Jeaffreson started his studies at the combined medical school of Guy's and St. Thomas's under the renowned Sir Ashley Cooper.<sup>31</sup>

whose genius and personality had raised to prominence Guy's and St. Thomas's medical school above all the other schools of medicine and surgery in the capital of Great Britain.

William Jeaffreson had a full and good time in London. He was, it is reported:<sup>32</sup>

a strenuous student who found ample occupation for his leisure in going to the theatres and visiting the many families ... Introducers liked to see much of him because he was a singularly handsome man who danced well, talked brightly and knew how to please people of every age and temper.

On the conclusion of his studies in 1812, William Jeaffreson returned to his native county curiously ignorant of the slang side, the Tom Jerry side of London life and was as inexperienced in dissipation as students of the severest religious seminaries. He had no repugnance to enjoyment.<sup>33</sup>

In 1812 he gained by examination the MRCS (Member of the Royal College of Surgeons) which meant that he was now licensed to cure or kill any number of patients. He returned to Woodbridge and stayed for two years as Dr. Lynn's assistant on a salary of £200 per year.<sup>34</sup>

In 1814 he bought a practice in Framlingham. At the time of his arrival in Framlingham he was well esteemed. At that time there were two other doctors in Framlingham: one was infirm and the other was disliked. William straightaway made double the salary the apothecary of the town had predicted.<sup>35</sup>

Jeaffreson had left Dr. Lynn's of Woodbridge in order to support his mother financially. He first set up his practice in Mr. Rodwell's house in Double Street and then in the house of F. G. Ling, presumably in Church Street. In 1828 he bought 12 Market Hill from Mr. R. Bloss, a butcher. He completely refurbished the building, adding a third storey. He died in that house in his seventy-fifth year, in 1865.

William Jeaffreson was a family man, though sadly no images of him and his family have come down to us. In December 1816 he married Caroline, daughter of George Edwards and Anna Cordy.<sup>36</sup> They had four sons and six daughters, and one child who died in infancy. The second son, John Cordy Jeaffreson, noted that his father's establishment was a delightful one. His mother appears to have been exceptional:<sup>37</sup>

Caroline was charming in her middle age and lovely in her life's decline, and in her prime was rated one of the brightest beauties in East Suffolk. She was commended by the singular sweetness of her mental graces ... William Jeaffreson's family with six sisters and some of them marvellously clever who were ever full of droll remarks and quick at repartée, he was never in want of bright companions when he had done his work ... for the day.

What was Framlingham like in William Jeaffreson's day? It was a quiet secluded place 87 miles from London, and eighteen miles from Ipswich.<sup>38</sup> After 1846, it was thus eighteen miles from the nearest railway at Ipswich with only a coach running from Ipswich to Norwich on alternate days, through Framlingham. (There was a coach service from Framlingham between 1839 and 1851 run by Sam Bloss of the Crown and Anchor Inn, Framlingham, which made connection with the Blue coaches from Great Yarmouth to Ipswich; the service was not a success).<sup>39</sup> The town's population in 1841 was 2,523 persons. Geographically, Framlingham consisted of the present day Conservation Area. It was then as now a market town for the local sub-region. There were, in 1800, sixteen premises licensed to sell beer etc. in the town. In 1832 the number of public houses had strangely fallen to six.<sup>40</sup> Framlingham was then as now a bustling place. In 1851 fifty-eight different trades and professions were practised in the town.<sup>41</sup>

According to John Cordy Jeaffreson the town was dominated by eight leading families with Edwards connections, and seven other leading families including from 1837 that of the Rector George Attwood.<sup>42</sup> The Edwards' were rich, but were kept in check, for it was generally agreed that the other families would have been quite able to subdue the arrogance of the Edwards, if the latter had given themselves airs. Clearly the Jeaffreson family made their mark socially in the town of their day, but there were others who were worthy of note. The Rector for the last thirty years of William Jeaffreson's life was George Attwood. Attwood's father was Thomas Attwood, organist of St. Paul's Cathedral and said to have been the only person in England to have received musical tuition from Mozart in person.<sup>43</sup> A friend of Mendelssohn, Thomas Attwood is rumoured to have brought Mendelssohn to Framlingham, where he played on the organ in St. Michael's Church.

Framlingham, especially prior to the coming of the railway in 1859, prided itself on its autonomous control of affairs. Education, health and policing were all, in Jeaffreson's day, a matter for the town authorities. Framlingham as the centre of a small sub-region mirrored directly the economic well-being of the area. It was an environment in which Jeaffreson flourished.<sup>44</sup>

Robert Lambert, as Editor of the *Framlingham Weekly News*, published there in 1894 a series of articles entitled "Framlingham 65 years ago". He noted that:<sup>45</sup>

It might be hastily assumed from the numerous curious characters described as living in Framlingham that its most conspicuous individuals were all cranks. But the same sturdy independence which had manifested itself in these eccentricities when turned into a nobler channel produced men who shone as pure metal.

Framlingham in the days of Jeaffreson was known for its gaiety.<sup>46</sup> The fifteen leading families<sup>47</sup> of the town were well read and provided with all the up-to-date books on travel, biography, history and poetry by Mr. William Dove Freeman, the book-seller situated in Double Street.<sup>48</sup> There was no public library or reading room in Framlingham in the first decades of the nineteenth century.<sup>49</sup>

Jeaffreson's family and the circle in which they mixed socially was for the time one that was financially secure, compared with most ordinary people of Framlingham, who were much dependent on the flourishing state or otherwise of the local economy. Suffolk and Framlingham, for instance, were critically affected by the success of agriculture. The Napoleonic Wars saw grain prices at a level to encourage farmers to grow ever more grain.<sup>50</sup> The price of grain then tumbled from eighty shillings a quarter in 1815 to thirty-nine shillings a quarter in 1835.<sup>51</sup> Eighty shillings a quarter was considered to be the price to return a reasonable profit for the farmer. In Suffolk wages fell by a third. Men were laid off and instances of Luddism crept in as mechanisation arrived on the scene. After 1815, violence flared up at regular intervals over much of Suffolk, despite the imprisonment and execution of offenders. Criminal damage in that vein reached a peak in 1843-4.<sup>52</sup> John Constable, the artist, writing from south-east Suffolk noted that the riots there were not the customary bread riots.<sup>53</sup>

Fires are kindled in all directions ... Individuals are denounced in a spirit of bold and systematic defiance of authority. Incendiary outrage is the almost necessary consequence of inflaming the passions and demoralising the habits of the poor.

While there is little evidence that such riots took place in the vicinity of Framlingham in Jeaffreson's day, the prevailing situation then in Suffolk must have been a worry to the worthies of Framlingham including Jeaffreson himself. Did the worthies of the town extend their helping hand to the poor of Framlingham in those days? The acute depression in Suffolk agriculture, which followed, continued well into the 1850s, the beginning of the Golden Age of English agriculture.<sup>54</sup>

Despite the unsettled social situation in Suffolk in the first half of the nineteenth century, the county marched with progress. In 1846 the railway from London reached Ipswich and Framlingham had its own branch line in 1859.<sup>55</sup> Efforts to re-organize the delivery of social support were put in hand with the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, though that legislation had many detractors. It is enough to say that by 1834, half the working population of Suffolk was receiving some form of relief.<sup>56</sup>

Jeaffreson and his associates in Framlingham were intelligent people more than inclined to take an interest in the fate of Suffolk and beyond. There were many changes in England in the first few decades of the nineteenth century. Yet one could still feel then that the social order was in many ways the same in 1850 as it had been in 1800. The concept of an age of reform from 1815 would not then have registered as a fact of life outside a small coterie of people who realised the huge possibilities of applied science.<sup>57</sup> Demands for reform were more for the redress of grievances or for a return to standards perceived as existing in some past golden age. There was to the establishment something absurd in suggesting that the years after 1815 were the beginning of a key period of social betterment.<sup>58</sup> Jeaffreson was like all of us today, a creature of the time. He was an intellectual who viewed things in the context of his own and others' wellbeing.

In 1837 Queen Victoria started her long reign. She was a breath of fresh air after the corruption of her two predecessors. There must have been sighs of relief in Framlingham that the country was now blessed with such a person as sovereign. That surely kindled in many minds a sense of change and progress.<sup>59</sup>

The early years of Queen Victoria's reign have been described by G. M. Young as follows:<sup>60</sup>

Anchored to its two-fold faith in goodness and progress, the early Victorian mind swung wide to the alternating currents of sentiment and party spite, but the virulence of the Press, and the gush of the popular novel were play on the surface of a deep assurance. There were whimperings, sometimes bellowings, of self pity, but defiance was no longer the mode. The greater and better part of English Society accepted the social structure and moral objective of the nation, as a community of families, all rising or to be raised, to a higher respectability.

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It would be good to know in much more detail the nature of William Jeaffreson's character. As noted earlier, no picture of him or of his family appears to have survived. His son John Cordy Jeaffreson in his *Recollections* can tell us a little. He writes as follows:<sup>61</sup>

In August 1845, the first August of my apprenticeship [to William Jeaffreson] my father entered his fifty-sixth year, being in several respects older than his age, though he had lost nothing of his perfect stature of five feet eleven inches, and was still as remarkable as he ever had been for the dignity of his aspect and bearing. On nearing his fiftieth year, he had been so unfortunate as to suffer from an attack of whooping cough, whose violent paroxysms did him irreparable injury. After that illness he was seldom seen on horseback, and we were compelled in the colder seasons to use a close coach. Fortunately, his mental vigour and spirits were not affected by this impairment of his bodily health, and he preserved his enthusiasm for scientific study and all the brighter qualities of his charming personality to his seventy-first year, when his intellectual powers began to decline.

Being human he was not absolutely faultless. A man of fervid temperament, he suffered throughout his life from a whimsical excitability that often displayed itself in brief fits of vehement anger at trivial annoyances. With the exception of this solitary and venial infirmity, my father had not a failing. Charitable in his judgements of individuals, he was benignant in his dealings with men. A romantic worshipper of his friends, he was placable to his enemies. Overflowing with sympathy for the poor, he befriended them at every turn, cheering them with kindly words and relieving them with a bountiful hand in the season of their urgent distress. It has been my good fortune to know some of the brightest spirits of my period, under circumstances that gave me singularly good opportunities for studying their finest qualities, but I have never made the acquaintance of a man in domestic privacy or general society, who was superior in personal dignity and mental refinement to the country doctor who was my sire.

The *Framlingham Weekly News* reported his death as follows:<sup>62</sup>

We record the death of William Jeaffreson Esq. who for a great number of years practised as a Surgeon in the town. He died in his 76th year and was for a long period a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. He was a gentleman who manifested the greatest kindness and sympathy for all his patients and he ever evinced the greatest care and study to maintain the high position he so ably fulfilled. He was greatly respected for his scientific knowledge and gentlemanly conduct through a long life.

He was succeeded in his medical practice at 12 Market Hill (Old Bank House) by George Jeaffreson, his third son. George served Framlingham for over forty years, and after a career of considerable achievement, died in 1911 at Moat House, Castle Street, Framlingham.<sup>63</sup>

William Jeaffreson was a pioneer who loved Framlingham and Suffolk. His was a full life in all senses of the word; it is a proud story. His contribution to Framlingham's life in the first half of the nineteenth century and beyond was an exemplary one. The memory of Mr. William Jeaffreson, FRCS is surely one to savour.

Notes:

1. *Plarr's Lives of the Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons*. Revised edit. (London, The College, 1930), vol.1, p. 608.
2. J. C. Jeaffreson. *A Book of Recollections*. (London, Hurst and Blackett, 1894), p. 31.
3. *Chamber's English Dictionary*. (London, Chambers, 1990), p. 835.
4. *Plarr's. op. cit.* vol. 1, p. 609.
5. As quoted in Jeaffreson. *Recollections, op. cit.* p. 29.
6. *Ibid.* p. 30.
7. *Plarr's. op. cit.* vol. 1, p. 609.
8. Jeaffreson. *Recollections, op. cit.* p. 30.
9. J. Duffin. *A History of Medicine* (London, Macmillan Press, 2000), p. 224
10. Jeaffreson. *Recollections, op. cit.* p. 332.
11. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia*. 2nd edit. (Cambridge, University Press, 1994), p. 61.
12. *Ibid.* p. 656.
13. *Ibid.* p. 918.
14. *Ibid.* p. 422.
15. Geoffrey Chaucer. *Canterbury Tales*; translated by D. Wright. (London, Oxford University Press, 1986), p. 466.
16. *Cambridge Encyclopedia. op. cit.* p. 644.
17. J. Hale. *England and the Italian Renaissance*. (London, Fontana Press, 1996), p. 59.
18. J. Gribbin. *Science: a history, 1543-2001*. (London, Alan Lane, 2002), p. 29.
19. *Cambridge Encyclopedia. op. cit.* p. 589.
20. Gribbin. *op. cit.* p. 257.
21. *Cambridge Encyclopedia. op. cit.* p. 61.
22. Duffin. *op. cit.* p. 225.
23. [Certainly in the case of rural East Anglia, and notably Suffolk itself, county directories of the mid-Victorian period generally record several medical practitioners in most towns of the size of Framlingham. The comparison in terms of population/practitioner ratios with those few much larger conurbations in the county such as Ipswich and Bury St. Edmunds could provide a fertile and rewarding area for further research. - Editor]
24. A. Wood. *Nineteenth Century Britain, 1815-1914*. 2nd. edit. (Harlow, Longman, 1992), p. 119.
25. T. Royle. *Crimea: the great Crimean War 1854-56*. (London, Little Brown, 1999), p. 502.
26. C. Woods. "Mr. William Jeaffreson FRCS and his family." (Unpublished, 2003), p. 1.
27. M. T. Jeaffreson. *Pedigree of the Jeaffreson family*. (London, 1922), p. 4.
28. Woods. *loc. cit.* p. 1.
29. Jeaffreson. *Recollections, op. cit.* p. 298.
30. *Ibid.* p. 300.
31. *Ibid.* p. 299.
32. *Ibid.* p. 300.
33. *Ibid.*
34. *Ibid.*
35. *Ibid.* p. 310.
36. Woods. *loc. cit.* p. 1.
37. Jeaffreson. *Recollections, op. cit.* p. 311.
38. *White's Directory of Suffolk 1844*, p. 186.
39. O. R. Sitwell. *Framlingham: a short history and guide* (Linton, Plumridge, 1982), p. 16.
40. *Framlingham Weekly News (FWN)*, 10.2.1894; 6.1.1894, respectively.

41. M. L. Kilvert. *A History of Framlingham* (Ipswich, Bolton and Price, 1995), p. 37.
42. Jeaffreson. *Recollections, op. cit.* p. 35.
43. Obituary in *Gentleman's Magazine*, May 1838.
44. Kilvert. *op. cit.* p. 57.
45. *FWN*, 10.2.1894.
46. Jeaffreson. *Recollections, op. cit.* p. 37.
47. See note 42 above
48. *White's Directory of Suffolk 1855*, p. 366.
49. [However, the introductory narrative for the Framlingham section of both Kelly's and White's county directories around the mid-century consistently refer to a "parish library" in the town. - Editor]
50. Wood. *op. cit.* p. 62.
51. *Ibid.* p. 61.
52. D. P. Dymond and P. Northeast. *A History of Suffolk* (Chichester, Phillimore, 1996), p. 91.
53. M. Rosenthal. *Constable: the Painter and his Landscape* (London, Yale University Press, 1983), p. 210.
54. Dymond. *op. cit.* p. 96.
55. [Bradshaw's *Railway Manual 1869*, p. 108. - Editor]
56. Dymond. *op. cit.* p. 91.
57. L. Woodward. *The Age of Reform, 1815 - 1870* (Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1962), p. 40.
58. *Ibid.*
59. [At a slightly later date this is consistently reflected in successive issues of *Framlingham Weekly News*. - Editor]
60. G. M. Young. *Victorian England: portrait of an age* (London, Oxford University Press, 1936), p. 13.
61. Jeaffreson. *Reflections, op. cit.* p. 26.
62. *FWN*, 11.11.1865.
63. A. A. Lovejoy. "Framlingham in 1900", in *Fram*, 3rd Series, no. 8 (December 1999) p. 16.



**PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTRE, CHURCH STREET, FRAMLINGHAM  
FML 039. ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION, AUGUST 2001  
FINDS AND CONCLUSIONS**

*(This project was commissioned by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, to whom due acknowledgement is here made. Copyright in this paper is held by Suffolk County Council, and no reproduction of any part of its contents by any means electronic or otherwise may be made without the prior written consent of the Suffolk County Council. A full version of the paper, of which the very brief extracts below form a part, may be consulted by prior arrangement with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. Anthony M. Breen's paper "Documentary search", prepared by him as a sub-contractor to Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, was published in our last issue.<sup>1</sup> Further acknowledgements should be made to Phil Camps of SCC Archaeological Service who operated the mini-digger, Geoffrey Pickup who provided help with tools, refreshments, and access to the hall, and not least the invaluable assistance from members of the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society and other volunteers, who sorted spoil for finds and dug test-holes. The finds were processed by Amy Jones and by Sue Anderson, Finds Manager, Jez Meredith was Project Officer, and Tom Loader was the Field Officer responsible for the project).*

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### *Introduction*

The site of the proposed community centre is situated in the grounds of the present hall for St. Michael's Church off Church Street, grid reference TM 2857 6355. Framlingham Community Centre Charitable Trust was advised by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service that any consent on a future application would be conditional upon an agreed programme of archaeological work taking place before development began. As it would be necessary adequately to assess the archaeological potential of the site prior to development, the Trust opted to commission an archaeological evaluation of the area proposed for redevelopment. The resulting fieldwork was conducted on 16th August 2001 by the field team of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

The site lies within the medieval core of Framlingham, between St. Michael's Church to the south and the inner bailey ditch of the castle to the north. Excavations at Site FML 002 adjacent to the bowling green, some sixty metres to the north, had previously revealed pre-castle burials and pottery of Middle Saxon date.<sup>2</sup> The concentric street pattern to the east and south-east of the site might indicate a relic of an earlier town defensive system.

The site is at present occupied by the Parish Room which appears on the 1904 (second edition) Ordnance Survey map.<sup>3</sup> This building has rendered walls and a tin metal roof construction with timber detailing. Much of the site not used for the hall or for car parking is occupied by trees, with mature horse-chestnuts along the northern boundary and adjacent to the churchyard. The underlying drift geology of the site consists of heavy boulder clay.

### *Method*

Trenching, using a mini-digger with a one metre-wide toothless ditching bucket, was carried out to investigate a representative sample of the site not covered by trees or the present building. The trenching took the form of short linear cuts and test squares. The machining was undertaken by a trained archaeologist. Soil and car-park surfaces were removed by the digger to either the top of the underlying clay natural or to the maximum depth that conditions allowed. The upcast soil was checked thoroughly by volunteers from the Framlingham Historical Society for any archaeological finds.

The deposits encountered were described and measured for each trench. Archaeological features observed in the base of the trench were cleaned and then hand-excavated. Pits and ditches were excavated and sampled for finds. Excavated features were recorded on plan at a scale of 1:20. A photographic record was made of general views of the excavation using both colour slide and black and white film. Different deposits encountered, archaeological or otherwise, were described and given separate context numbers.<sup>4</sup>

Finds recovered from the excavation were assigned to their archaeological context and recorded using the appropriate context number. All finds were inspected, cleaned and analysed at the County Council Archaeological Service office in Bury St. Edmunds. The site archive is deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Shire Hall, Bury St. Edmunds. The site archive has been assigned the County Sites and Monuments Record (S.M.R.) number FML 039.

### *Discussion*

Whilst the majority of finds collected from the site are of post-medieval date, there is still a significant quantity of medieval pottery of eleventh to fourteenth century date. Medieval building stone had clearly been brought to the site for re-use, but it may be evidence for a Norman structure nearby, presumably the pre-fifteenth century church.

### *Conclusions*

The site occupies a central position in Framlingham's medieval core. Whilst a quantity of finds of this period were recovered, the traces of any occupation appear to be very ephemeral. Three features of the early to high medieval period were recognised, but the stiff nature of the clay might have discouraged the pit digging normally associated with medieval occupation. It was quite likely that refuse and other waste materials were deposited in the castle ditch rather than having to dig pits for their disposal.

No human remains were recovered from the site. The south-west side of the area, nearest to the graveyard, was, however, poorly sampled due to the presence of trees, the present building and fences.

The high finds recovery rate, thanks to the thoroughness of collection by the Framlingham Historical Society, has shown the wide spectrum of artefacts in the area. The recovery of Neolithic flintwork and of Roman pottery points to the pre-Saxon utilisation of this area, unsurprising given the close proximity to the river and the mere. A huge quantity of soil would have been shifted during the construction of the castle and finds similarly could have been moved around.

Fragments of dressed building stone were recovered. These were unstratified and in some instances were certainly used as hardcore for the car-park or earlier surfaces. Where these stones had come from originally is uncertain, but it does seem likely that they were recycled from a local medieval structure, with the twelfth century church and the nearby castle as likely candidates.<sup>5</sup>

### *Recommendations*

Archaeological features were shallow and ephemeral in the evaluation trenches. It would however be unwise to allow the mass stripping within the footprint of the proposed building to take place without prior excavation. At present a footing design incorporating piles and ground beams seems favourable and could probably be dealt with by on-site monitoring of ground beam trenches and pile-caps.

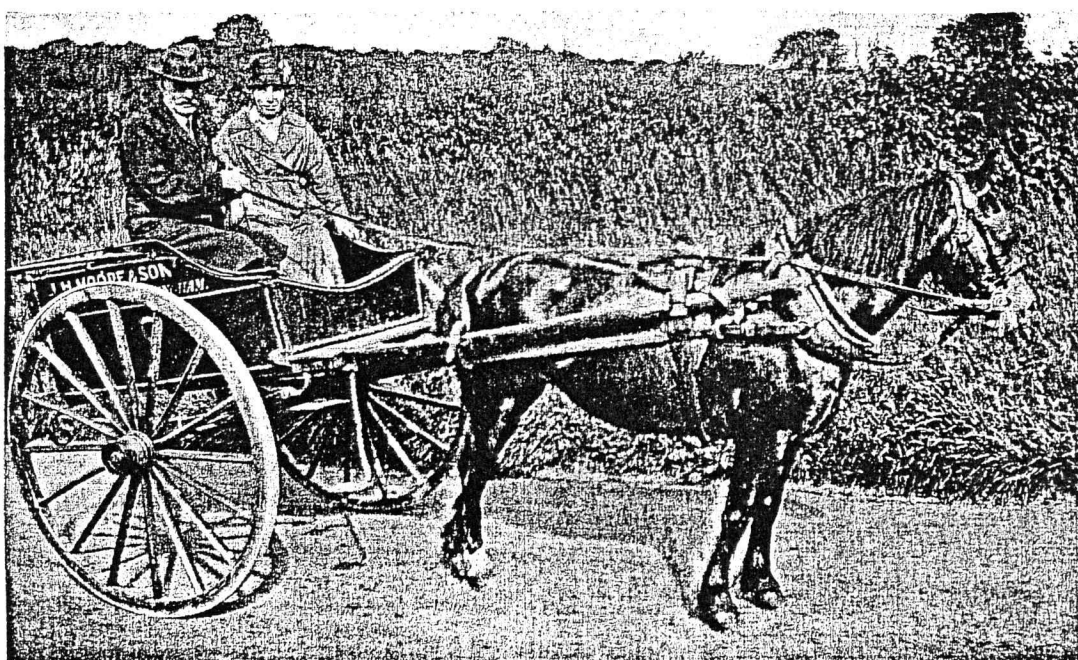
Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Division alone. The need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its archaeological advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting service cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

### *Editor's notes*

1. *Fram*, 4th series, no. 7 (August 2003) pp. 22 - [29]
2. G. M. Knocker, "Excavations at Framlingham Castle, 1954", in Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History, *Proceedings*, 27(2) (1956), pp. 65-88
3. *Fram art. cit.* (maps reproduced at conclusion of text).
4. These are transcribed in appendix 3 of the full Report - see note in pre-ambule to this article re access to same.
5. See also V. B. Redstone, *Memorials of Old Suffolk* (1908), pp. 164-166; edited transcript in *Fram.*, 4th series, no. 1 (August 2001), pp. 22-23.
- Anon. "Framlingham Castle" in Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History, *Proceedings*, 32(3) (1972), p. 284

## MOORE OF FRAMLINGHAM: A FILE-NOTE

Framlingham as a town has been a significant sub-regional centre from both an economic and a social point of view for a good few centuries. It would be surprising, therefore, if there were not a considerable number of businesses in the town which could themselves claim a long continuous history. Abbots, grocers, of Debenham, which had a presence in this town for a number of years until very recently, can trace its history under the same family ownership back to 1707, while Carley's, which continues to flourish as grocers and delicatessen in Church Street, dates back to 1837, though ownership of the business has changed over that time. What follows in this file-note is a schedule in chronological order of directory listings of the Moore family firm from the early nineteenth century to the 1970s, taken from the Framlingham listings in trade directories, mainly but not exclusively from county directories. (The titles of these directories have been truncated in the list that follows for reasons of space, but never substantively altered. A small number of directories listed in A. V. Steward, *A Suffolk Bibliography* (Suffolk Record Society, XX) have not been checked, but there appears to be no reason to think that the Moore listings therein would cause one to alter sequentially or in content the entries that follow below).



John Moore in relaxed mood

*Pigot's general directory 1830* [no reference]

*Pigot's general directory 1839*

John Moore wheelwright [Listed under Framlingham: no address given]

*Robson's general directory 1839*

John Moore wheelwright [Listed under Framlingham: no address given]

*White's Suffolk directory 1844*

John Moor [sic] wheelwright Saxtead Road

*Kelly's directory of the Norfolk Counties 1846*

John Moore wheelwright Mount Pleasant

*Kelly's directory of Cambridge, Norfolk and Suffolk 1853*

John Moore wheelwright Mount Pleasant

*White's Suffolk directory 1855*

John Moore wheelwright Hermitage Place

*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1858*

John Moore wheelwright Hermitage Place

*Harrod's directory of Suffolk 1864*

John Moore wheelwright The Hermitage

*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1865*  
 John Moore wheelwright Hermitage Place  
*Morris's directory of Suffolk 1868*  
 John Moore wheelwright Vyces Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1869*  
 John Moore wheelwright Hermitage Place  
*Harrod's directory of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire 1873*  
 John Moore wheelwright The Hermitage  
*White's Suffolk directory 1874*  
 John Moore wheelwright Hermitage Place  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1875*  
 John Moore wheelwright College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Cambridge, Norfolk and Suffolk 1879*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Cambridge, Norfolk and Suffolk 1883*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
*White's directory of Suffolk 1885*  
 H. Moore & Co. [sic?] carpenters and wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1888*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
 Charles Moore carpenter Bridge Street  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1892*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
 Charles Moore carpenter Bridge Street  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1896*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
 Charles Moore carpenter Bridge Street  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1900*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
 Charles Moore carpenter Bridge Street  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1904*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1908*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1912*  
 Henry and Charles Moore wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1916*  
 Moore Brothers wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1922*  
 Moore Brothers wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1925*  
 Moore Brothers wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1929*  
 Moore Brothers wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1933*  
 Moore Brothers wheelwrights College Road  
*Kelly's directory of Suffolk 1937*  
 Moore Brothers wheelwrights College Road  
*D. A. Yates directory of Suffolk 1968*  
 Moore Bros. builders and contractors College Road  
*Norfolk and Suffolk trades directory 1972*  
 Moore Bros. building contractors College Road

The business moved to its present address in Station Road after this date.

The following variant forms of business address - Hermitage Place, The Hermitage, Vyces Road and College Road - probably refer to the same premises, as the first three appear to be used inter-changeably, and the last reflects the change of road-name later in the nineteenth century, after the establishment of Framlingham College.

MVR

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 29th OCTOBER 2003

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The past year has been a time for consolidation, building on what we have as a Society achieved over past years, but also preparing the way for what one hopes may be significant developments in the future. We remain the third largest membership group in the town, after the Horticultural Society and the Friends of St. Michael's with some one hundred and thirty members. Once again between sixty and seventy members represent an average attendance at our monthly winter lectures, and it is also gratifying to report a large increase in attendees for the Society's summer evening visits. Over recent years these numbers have almost doubled to between twenty-five and thirty persons per visit. Unlike last year, our annual day out was almost fully subscribed, and this was also the case with our Annual Dinner, when we were so memorably entertained and instructed by Roy Tricker.

The administrative support required for our scale of activities cannot be insignificant, and the provision of a full membership database for the Society has to some degree reduced the burden upon our Honorary Secretary. The generous undertaking of most of the Society's photocopying (free of charge) at Sizewell, courtesy of Committee Member Mike Churchill, has significantly eased pressure on the Society's purse-strings. Heart-felt thanks are also due to Past Chairman Brian Collett for running so effectively the Society's Dinner, and to John Black for looking after our publicity, both prior to Society events in terms of posters and press notices, and after them, in the form of newspaper reports. With regard to the latter, his detailed and informed summaries have once again ensured that the Society's activities are reported to a wider Suffolk audience. The Society also owes a debt to Alicia Bond for providing tea, coffee and biscuits after our indoor meetings - what a pity more members do not find it possible to stay on after lectures to socialize!

Sadly we have lost of late several stalwarts from the Society's Committee, John Morris having passed away, Anne Hudson and Stella Sills have resigned due to other commitments, and Arthur Kirby (formerly Chair of the Society's Development Sub-Committee) has moved away to Oxfordshire. Their places have been most effectively taken by John Black, our Publicity Officer, and Stephanie Bennell, whose one-person news-sheet, *Framfare*, has recently proved such a splendid addition to the town's media.

Thanks to the efforts of our Secretary Andrew Lovejoy, members have enjoyed lectures over the past year by Peter Kemp on policing in Suffolk, Bill Flemming on Framlingham in the Forties, John Sheeran on Framlingham through artists' eyes, Ronnie Blythe on Edward Fitzgerald, and Angus Wainwright on Sutton Hoo. Our 2002 AGM was followed by talks by Paul Briscoe and Brian Collingwood on the vicissitudes of Suffolk farming. In addition to our day-out in Wymondham in June, we enjoyed evening visits to Leiston Abbey, Earl Soham Brewery and to Quaker burial grounds in the area.

Although now operating from a sound financial base thanks to generous legacies in the recent past, the Society's Committee is at pains to ensure that we do not sit on our laurels, and live off our capital. Two highly successful fund-raising events have taken place over the past year, a showing of cine-films of local interest on 14th March, and a Coffee Morning on 10th May. The films came from and were expertly presented by staff of the East Anglian Film Archive at the University of East Anglia, and we were most grateful to our Vice President Thelma Durrant for accommodating the Coffee Morning in her Durrant's Barn - at that event we were delighted also

to display photographs of Framlingham in the recent past kindly loaned by Janet Adcock. This worthwhile and successful initiative needs, however, to be followed by further fund-raising events, and suggestions (and volunteers) for these will be most welcome under a later item on this meeting's agenda.

Under the terms of the Society's charitable Scheme, we are empowered to support in cash and kind measures for the historical preservation and betterment of the town of Framlingham, and I have reported to earlier AGMs initiatives relating to (*inter alia*) the restoration of the Carley and Webb crane, the Mary Tudor plaque, and the gates to the Pageant Field. Recent measures have been more modest: a donation was made towards the cost of a memorial seat to a long-standing member of the Society, and we hope shortly to contribute to the cost of restoring one of the doors to the Unitarian Chapel in Bridge Street. On a very much larger scale, we are examining ways in which restoration can be funded and procured for the splendid wall-paintings in the house at 7 Castle Street. Given the nature of the property and critical issues of public access, this may present major problems, but some small initial progress has been achieved in terms of public exposure, by the display of copies of the images at the Lanman Museum at the Castle, provided by the Museum's Curator Alison Pickup, supported by narrative captions provided by our Committee member John McEwan.

Three issues of our Society journal, *Fram*, have been published over the past year, containing a range of articles relating both to Framlingham itself and the surrounding area. Of late we have been able to achieve, at modest cost, a higher quality of reproduction of images in the journal, by use of bromides generated from the originals at the Leiston Press, which also produces *Fram*'s coloured covers and over-printing. The journal itself has grown substantially from its early days in the nineteen-fifties, when it typically comprised four typescript pages, to its present size, twenty-four to thirty-two pages per issue. This growth could never have been achieved without the long and greatly valued support for production of the journal by British Energy Generation plc, so well deployed by our Committee member Mike Churchill. It is pleasing to note that, in addition to providing a source of information (and even entertainment) for Society members, the journal also serves a much wider scholarly constituency. Archive copies continue to be passed to Suffolk Record Office, Pembroke College, Arundel Castle Archives, and several specialist London repositories as well as the British Library.

This Society could never hope to survive without the continued and energetic support of its elected officers, backed by our General Committee. The burden upon these people continues to increase, as the range of Society activities becomes more diverse and ambitious. There is now a desperate need for a greater hands-on involvement by members, to spread the load of tasks that necessarily have to be performed in order to maintain Society services.

To end on a sad and sober note, we are now losing the benefit of the support of our long-serving Society President Canon Richard Willcock. His wit and wisdom will be greatly missed. Perhaps providentially, it has proved possible for the Society to have identified a worthy and willing successor, for approval by members at our meeting this evening.

MVR

## CORRESPONDENCE

3 Station Terrace  
Framlingham

25th August 2003

Dear Editor,

I was thrilled and honoured to read the notice of *Framfare* in your august and scholarly journal. I too hope that it will outlive *The Advertiser*, which incidentally was not exclusively devoted to Framlingham, but also covered Earl Soham, Debenham, Stradbroke, Rendham, Saxmundham and Wickham Market. It also lasted slightly longer than mentioned - its first issue, measuring 9¾" x 6", was published in July-August 1954 - and by its first anniversary it had grown to a single sheet of roughly 14½" x 19½".

Leslie Heron had many trials and tribulations to overcome, as we read in his editorial address in the July-Aug 1955 edition:-

... this paper proudly celebrates its first birthday - a birthday which has been reached after many pitfalls and obstacles have been overcome; indeed it is no understatement to say that it has been a very difficult journey since the appearance of the "little slips of paper" towards the middle of last year - the first issue. Some people were curious to know what purpose they were intended for - others laughed and jeered - very few there were who were prepared to come forward and make use of it - and help it by sending in advertisements - and it must be remembered that with a paper such as this one which is issued (at present) free of charge, it is only the paid advertisements that keep it going - so to those first few who helped it in the early stages - both with advertisements and distribution - VERY MANY THANKS!

I echo the final remarks, although I am pleased to report that, unlike him, I have received great support and encouragement on all sides from the very beginning. I am also delighted that the Lanman Museum is keeping *Framfare* in its archives alongside its illustrious predecessor.

Yours faithfully,

Stephanie Bennell,  
Editor and publisher, *Framfare*

*[The Lanman Museum Trustees have been privileged to acquire a significant quantity of paper items and artefacts relating to Leslie Heron and his printing operations, and hopes to be able to mount in the future a display at Framlingham Castle relating to this notable former inhabitant and trader in this town - Editor].*

Castle View  
42 College Road  
Framlingham

27th August 2003

Dear Editor,

In his otherwise excellent article about life at D'Urban's Farm and Framlingham itself during the '20s and '30s, Mr. Staniforth perpetuates the myth that W. H. A. Whitworth sailed his yacht to Dunkirk, during his time as Headmaster at the College.

The late Leslie Gillett dealt fully with this episode in his book *Framlingham College: The Second Sixty Years* and I am sure he would want the record put straight again. Mr. Gillett wrote that a Woodbridge parent asked Whitworth whether he would navigate a yacht from the Deben (not Pin Mill, which is on the River Orwell) to Dunkirk. Whitworth correctly gained permission to do this from Archibald Rose, Chairman of the Governors' Executive Committee, and duly set sail. However, when he reached Harwich, word was received that no further boats were needed and he returned home.

It was later asserted that Whitworth had sailed for Dunkirk without permission and that he was dismissed for that reason.

In 1940, the implications of invasion were seriously considered by the Governors, and Whitworth was asked whether, in that event, he would act as a civilian, as they wished, or as a combatant. His military background made him unable to accede to the Governors' wishes. He offered his resignation, which was accepted.

Five years before he died, Hervey Whitworth wrote to the Editor of *The Framlinghamian*, the College magazine:

Rendham Oct. 11th, 1955

Dear Sir,

In his recent book, Rendall of Winchester, Canon Firth has described how in 1940, when I was Headmaster, I sailed my yacht to Dunkirk to take part in the famous evacuation of the Army. I regret to say that I did not have the honour of being numbered among those who took their small ships to Dunkirk on that occasion. The yacht I owned at the time was not of a kind acceptable to the authorities. Canon Firth goes on to say that this mythical voyage of mine was later looked upon by the Governors as so serious

an "error of judgement" that they asked Dr. Rendall, their Chairman, to inform me that I must be replaced! Since all this nonsense is published as serious history, it seems wise to state quite clearly that the fact that my Headmastership came to an end in December 1940 had no more to do with the operations off Dunkirk than with the battle of Trafalgar.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. A. Whitworth  
Headmaster, 1929-40

In the following issue of *The Framlinghamian*, Canon J. D'E Firth wrote in his capacity as Master of the Temple, London, EC4, and retracted his allegation that "the then Headmaster of Framlingham was suddenly inspired to take his yacht and sail for Dunkirk". He added his apologies for making this mistake.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. Martin  
Hon. Archivist to the Society of Old Framlinghamians

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28 Pembroke Road  
Framlingham

15th September 2003

Dear Editor,

Readers of *Fram* might like to know that the journal has gained international status. *Fram* is sent to Mrs. D. Baldemore of Mesa, Arizona. Mrs. Baldemore's forebears lived in Framlingham in the seventeenth century. Altogether rather extraordinary.

The article on the Wingfield family of Letheringham, which appeared in 4th series, issue number 6 of *Fram*, was viewed by the head of the Wingfield family in the United States who lives in Miami. The Wingfields in Iowa, USA also, it seems, read that issue of *Fram*. *Fram* gets everywhere.

Readers may also like to know that I have recently been reading a biography of Nansen the Norwegian explorer. It appears that the word FRAM means Forward in Norwegian.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew A. Lovejoy

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49 Birch Tree Drive  
Emsworth  
Hampshire

7th September 2003

Dear Editor,

The article by A. R. Staniforth in your August issue interested me greatly as I was at the College at about the same time, though he must be younger than I, as I left in 1932, but I remember his name. The more I read, the more the memories came flooding back, but he does not seem to have had such severe punishment as sometimes befell me for very trivial escapades. I can remember all the masters at the College and W. H. Allen Whitworth and the mathematical problems he set us at times relating to his flying accident in the First World War. Bruno Brown, who had a house, "Strawberry Hill", built after he sold his house further up the road to my father, seemed to get particularly annoyed if, while writing on the blackboard, he heard someone talking, and would turn round and hurl the chalk at the offending pupil with great force.

The Fire Brigade was rather primitive by today's standards, and a fire of any sort or dimension was not too frequent; they were usually haystack fires, and the church bells were all rung together to call out the part-time firemen to collect the horses which pulled the fire engine. Hatcher's, the coal merchants, provided the horses, which might be working or out in the fields and had to be rounded up, so it was not a very speedy process. If the fire lasted for quite a while, the firemen would be supplied with refreshments in the shape of beer and sandwiches delivered from the nearest public house, and the bill would come into my father's office in Double Street, as he was the Clerk to the Parish Council.

It is difficult to believe now, how the farm workers existed on 27/3d (£1.36 today) a week or 30/- if you were a horseman or cowman, and often laid off in the winter with no unemployment money because they did not pay in for it. They would have to apply for Parish Relief to keep the wolf from the door. In addition to being the Registrar of Births and Deaths, for which he received no salary, my father was also the Relieving Officer, the forerunner of Social Security, and when stood off in the winter, farm-workers would apply for help, and he would collect all their personal details and put it before a local Committee who would grant perhaps a pound a week, or more if there were children, or sometimes only a food voucher to be spent at the local shop.

Father had moved from Harrow a few weeks before the First World War, and had purchased Shimmens Pightle on the Dennington Road to house the pony, and here we kept a goat, chickens, bantams, tame rabbits and at one time a red-poll cow. He was



responsible for 22 villages in and around Framlingham and journeyed to them with set hours of attendance, usually at the village shop, in the pony and cart. The two books for Births and Deaths had 500 entries in each, the former being a red book and the latter black, and when full they were deposited with the Superintendent Registrar at Wickham Market.

Another of Father's duties as Relieving Officer was to arrange for the removal of persons of unsound mind to the Mental Hospital at Melton, and with many of these cases he had to arrange with the local Police for their help. I accompanied him on many occasions in the hire car from Potter's garage, and found in many cases the local PC had had to spend all the night with a violent man at a farmhouse or cottage, trying to keep the patient as calm as possible. They had no radios or means of getting assistance if the patient suddenly turned violent, and this must have called for courage of the very highest order, because the strength of some of these men was truly enormous, and this was why my father nearly always tried to get their boots off because of the tremendous injuries they could inflict with these on anyone near them.

Another of Father's duties was to give admission tickets to those people we knew at the time as "tramps", who travelled from one workhouse to another, and one in particular was well known to us; his name was Tom Wink. He was a small red-faced man, and he would call at our house in College Road for his admittance ticket to the workhouse at Wickham Market, now I believe a block of flats. My mother would give him a meal and he would wait in the shed for Father to return in the pony cart, at times very wet and cold, and one can imagine he was not a very welcome visitor, but after receiving his ticket he then had a seven mile walk to Wickham Market, and here he would have to stay for three days and work in the kitchen garden attached. The permanent residents of the workhouse, if over 70 years, received ten shillings (50p) old age pension, but they were only allowed to keep one shilling (5p) for themselves. Father collected all the books once a week and

cashed them at the local Post Office, and the Master and Matron of the workhouse distributed the shillings to the inmates whose books had been cashed.

Canon H. C. O. Lanchester was a very popular and well-known figure in the town with a large family; I believe he had nine children, and on attending Father's office in Double Street to register the last-born child, Father rather cheekily said something like, "You will soon have to decide you have enough children Canon", to which he understandably replied, "Perhaps, but surely it's the pot calling the kettle black", (or words to that effect) as my father had seven sons and one daughter.

The Saturday market on Market Hill is well remembered with the fire-eating demonstrations and the huge hands of bananas, a complete branch from the banana bush. There was also the man who staged a boxing match with a fully grown kangaroo, both wearing boxing gloves. The man concerned was always very careful when he saw the kangaroo go backwards and sit on its huge tail, as it always seemed to be the prelude to a kick from its huge hind feet, as of course this could have resulted in serious injury to the boxer.

I shall be forever grateful that I grew up in Framlingham in the heart of the Suffolk countryside, where I learned so much about nature and country people, and the habits and ways of the birds and the wild animals. That stood me in good stead a few years later when I served in Burma in the Royal Berkshire Regiment, and frequently with my platoon in thick jungle we were able to anticipate a Japanese patrol looking for us, by the behaviour of the wild animals and birds, who would give us warning of their approach by scurrying away or remaining quite silent in the trees. This ability was noticeably lacking with men from the cities and towns, who did not notice such behaviour by the wild creatures, and on our short rests the men from the country were always able to get a fire going before anyone else, for a welcome mug of tea.

Yours faithfully,  
Geoff Taylor

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### Departure Point

Yet another supplicant, in consideration of his great losses [in the Fire of London], asked for a patent for a scheme ... whereby no foreigner could remain a night without full information being available as to whence he came, where he lodged, and the like ... that robberies, murders, and other mischiefs might be prevented. Popular resentment against aliens remained intensely strong. To some of these unfortunates, writs of protection were given, entitling them to reside in the Kingdom and quietly prosecute their affairs, without molestation or acts of violence being offered to them.

From: W. G. Bell, *The Great Fire of London in 1666*. (London, 1920)

*"History is five minutes ago"*

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