

FRAM

**The Journal of
The Framlingham & District
Local History & Preservation Society**

Number 6

**5th
Series**

April 2007

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

**5th Series Number 6
April 2007**

President: Canon D. J. Pitcher
Vice President: Mrs. T. Durrant

Chairman: J. M. Lilley
Vice-Chairman: C. W. Seely
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Seely
Membership Secretary: Mrs. H. Stevens
Minutes Secretary: Dr. J. Black
Hon. Treasurer: J. A. Broster

All enquiries regarding Society membership should be addressed to the
Honorary Secretary at Rendham Barnes, Rendham, Saxmundham, IP17 2AB
telephone 01728 663467

For back issues of the journal, correspondence for publication, and proposals for
articles, contact the Editor, 43 College Road, Framlingham, IP13 9ER
telephone 01728 724324
mobile 07930 494888

*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)

CONTENTS

John Norman	<i>Planning Applications: what is involved and how to object</i>	4
Terry Gilder	<i>The Danforth Puritans of Framlingham and New England</i>	6
Derek Palgrave	<i>Surnames of long standing in and around Framlingham</i>	14
John Haygarth and David Bonney	<i>Herbert Philip Bonney: Lance Sergeant 9765, 2nd Battalion Essex Regiment, 12th Brigade, 4th Division</i>	17
Geoff Taylor	<i>No gongs, no sirens</i>	21
	<i>Correspondence</i>	22

The picture on our journal's front cover is from the late John Western's Suffolk Calendar 1988© and is reproduced by kind permission of Mr. Gilbert Sills.

**THIS JOURNAL HAS BEEN PRODUCED
WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM
BRITISH ENERGY GENERATION PLC**

Corrigendum

The first page of the Appendix to Nancy Wilkins' paper , "The Real beginnings of radar ..." in *Fram* 5th series no. 5 (December 2006) p. 18 refers to "G. Dewhurst." The correct form of name is in fact "H. Dewhurst" (as correctly recorded on p. 19). The Editor apologizes for this error.

Unless stated to the contrary at the end of the article concerned, copyright in the contents of this journal rests with the authors of the several articles, jointly with the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society. Copies thereof may be reproduced for private study purposes, but not for commercial sale. Where quotations from articles in this journal are made in other publications, the source should be quoted, specifying the article itself and the issue of this journal in which it originally appeared.

FRAM

5th Series Number 6

April 2007

Registered Charity no. 274201

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

In my Editorial for *Fram* 5th series number 4 (August 2006) I referred to the role of our Society as an historical, rather than an amenity, society. Nevertheless, as I have recalled on several earlier occasions in this journal, there have often been assumptions on the part of both members and non-members of our Society that this Society has that "amenity" function, in the (perceived) absence of any other "non-official" body in the town of Framlingham to take on such a role. Indeed, the Society's own Constitution of November 1973 states (paragraph 3):-

Every endeavour shall be made by the Society ... to maintain the existing amenities of Framlingham and its district and to prevent any threatened vandalism wherever it may be encountered.

To take this function forward (although not explicitly mentioned in that Constitution) the Society has for many years provided itself with a Planning Sub-Committee, normally convened by the Society's Honorary Secretary. Members of that Sub-Committee tend to be recruited on an informal basis by co-option from the Society's general membership. Formal meetings of the Sub-Committee rarely occur, though it has had two "training meetings" over the past ten years. Rather, the Sub-Committee normally operates through the circulation by its Convenor to Sub-Committee members, for written comments, of Planning Applications of whatever kind (e.g. Listed Building, Conservation Area, Outline and Detailed Planning Consents) pertaining to the historic core of Framlingham, together with Outline Planning Applications relating to major development proposals within the town's envelope, but outside the town's central Conservation Area. These comments are then collated and passed on to our local planning authority, Suffolk Coastal District Council.

On one or two occasions, the Society's Planning Sub-Committee has been at the forefront in significant local controversy, for example in relation to the proposed new community centre in the area to the north of St. Michael's church. In instances such as these, the Society as a whole has necessarily had to have an involvement.

Since the Society is perceived locally as having this "amenity" role, representations are often made by concerned members of the public to the Society's officers and Committee members, in regard to development proposals in the town. Most recently perhaps, this occurred with the proposal to link the "old" and the "new" Castle Brooks, on the southern outskirts of Framlingham. Here the Society, through its Planning Sub-Committee, commented on the number of residential units proposed and on the design of some of these, having heard informally observations from local residents affected.

In more general terms, many members of our Society and readers of this journal will, over the years, have felt it appropriate to comment personally and on their own behalf, on Planning Applications, whether in relation to the impact of particular Applications on their own property and its surroundings, or upon the effect of more large-scale proposals upon the town's character, amenities and infrastructures. I am therefore pleased to have had permission from Neil Salmon, Honorary Editor to the Ipswich Society, to reprint in this issue of *Fram* the article published in *Ipswich Society Newsletter*, issue 163 (April 2006) "Planning Applications: what is involved and how to object", by the Ipswich Society's Vice-Chairman, John Norman. The advice contained in the article is of course given "Without prejudice", but could profitably, perhaps, be thoroughly digested by all with an interest, locally or more generally, in Framlingham's changing scene.

It is to guide and support, in a small but hopefully useful way, the development and stewardship of Framlingham, that our Society continues to have a Planning Sub-Committee. That Sub-Committee's numbers are currently depleted - down to four people! The Honorary Secretary of the Society would be delighted to speak with potential new members of the Sub-Committee, who have the time and commitment to protect and sustain the townscape of Framlingham.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS WHAT IS INVOLVED AND HOW TO OBJECT

By John Norman

Planning applications by neighbours can be stressful. Householders who have enjoyed the ambience of a community that has not changed for some years will find that we are increasingly building on in-fill plots, back gardens and what have come to be regarded as small greenfield sites. There is constant change across the town with what was previously industrial land being rebuilt as high density housing.

Ipswich is under pressure with the Regional Assembly setting targets that demand an increase in housing units from about 50,000 to 65,000 by 2021. Population growth on this scale has not been seen since the start of the Industrial Revolution. Thus it is unlikely there will be much resistance from the planning department when the application is for residential accommodation.

A Guide to the Planning System (in England)

Anybody who wants to develop land will need to seek planning permission from their local council. This involves submitting a Planning Application against which the council decides whether or not the development should go ahead. Whenever the council receives an application it is bound by law to publicise it and to consult affected organisations. The council should also write to adjoining landowners to let them know of the application.

It is likely the developer will consult with the planners before the formal application is made and at this preliminary stage the council are not under obligation to inform. In fact they are unlikely to do so until the application is registered, particularly for larger applications where the proposals are shaped by negotiation between developer and planners in an attempt to produce a design that is acceptable to all.

There are two main types of application: Outline and Full. The former is usual when the application is outside the Local Plan guidelines and is usually made before detailed proposals are drawn up. Other types of application include application for work on Listed Buildings, demolition of buildings in Conservation Areas and the pruning or removal of trees with Tree Preservation Orders.

It is important that if you are concerned about the possibility of a site being developed you should be involved in the consultation process from an early stage, when you are more likely to influence changes. When a notice is published in respect of a Planning Application you have 21 days in which to write to the council outlining your support or objection. Remember that local authorities have a duty to explain the development to you if you don't understand what is being proposed. What you must do is to put your objections in writing, being as courteous and as factual as possible. Try not to speculate as to what might be the outcome of a particular development: rather suggest that your quiet enjoyment of life should continue as previously.

You can make representation after the 21-day deadline but your concerns are unlikely to be considered as comprehensively as they might have been if the planning officer had had more time. He will either make a decision using his delegated powers (particularly for small extensions to domestic property for which there are no objections) or write a report for the Planning Committee for their consideration at the planning meeting. Your letter (along with all others) will be circulated to the Planning Committee together with the planning officer's report, usually seven days before the meeting. You are entitled to a copy from the planning office. Ask for one.

At the meeting the applicant, or his agent (architect), can speak outlining the finer points of the proposal, and objectors can put their case (these presentations are normally time limited). An important note here is that your ward councillor can speak on your behalf in objection to the proposal, which may save you having to come face to face with your development-seeking neighbour. Selected

members of the council (the Planning Committee) will discuss and consider the application and then, if necessary, vote on it. The committee must consider all relevant information, anything that relates to the use and development of the land, and the impact the development will have on the neighbourhood. The most important consideration is the guidance from the Local Development Plan and Planning Guidelines or Briefs that may have been written for the area, or the type of development under consideration.

Some very large applications will be referred to the Secretary of State ... for example shopping developments of over 20,000 sq. m. Even if the Planning Committee reject the application there is a right of appeal against the decision. There is no similar right for objectors if the application is approved.

Advice on creating a firm case for objection

1. Consult with the planning department as soon as you are aware of the likelihood of an application, and insist that the applicant consults local residents and interested groups.
2. Check the local press, the council's website and the site itself for an application notice, but gather evidence to prepare your response in advance of the application. In particular ask the planning officer if the site has been the subject of previous applications and if they were granted or refused. (Approvals last for five years but a previous approval is a good indicator of the likely outcome for this application).
3. Open debate with local councillors and establish their views on the likely development, and if they are willing to represent you and your views at the Planning Committee.
4. Talk to your neighbours and establish the views of others. Is there a general feeling of concern or a groundswell of opinion against? Is there sufficient weight of objection to employ specialists?

Prepare your case

Make sure you have a simple clear message, for the media, your neighbours, and the Planning Committee. Establish the most likely reason for a possible refusal and build a case, staying focused on the key areas of objection. Rather than saying something about everything, work out your key areas of objection and make them into comprehensive arguments.

If the application is for housing you are unlikely to win by using car parking, traffic impact or congestion as the basis for your objection. Previous requirements that all new housing had to have 1.5 or 2 parking spaces have been replaced with no requirement for parking or garages (even with the knowledge that each home will have at least one car and will therefore need a space in which to park it). Equally, you have no right to the view across a vacant piece of land, even if you have enjoyed it for years.

Key areas of objection are size, visual impact, style (which should be in keeping with the neighbourhood), access (where on-site vehicles are expected) and proposed use (particularly non-residential use in a residential area). Where size is concerned the proposed building should be proportional with adjacent buildings, in terms of height, plot ratio, mass and scale.

Frequently it is the weight of objections that can sway the Planning Committee, particularly if they come in the form of numerous letters from individuals rather than relatively anonymous signatures on a petition.

The Ipswich Society position

Planning monitors acting on behalf of The Ipswich Society inspect the list of planning applications every week and comment on those of significance to the town. There are a set of guidelines which monitors use to help them construct letters commenting on proposals. We do not normally comment on small extensions to domestic property and usually do not object to in-fill plots that become available for housing within the Borough boundary (where there is a shortage of land for housing).

THE DANFORTH PURITANS OF FRAMLINGHAM AND NEW ENGLAND

By Terry Gilder

The story of Nicholas Danforth's family and their departure to New England in 1634 gave Framlingham its strong link to the United States of America, but it was something else, as well. It was another instance of where life in Framlingham became involved in a national movement which was having a profound effect on the Church, and people's lives generally.

There is ample evidence to suggest that Nicholas Danforth was a Puritan. This is the best explanation for his decision to go to America, but it also gives us an additional illustration of how Framlingham reacted to this powerful religious fashion of the seventeenth century. There are several indications that Nicholas must have had strong tendencies towards Puritan belief. Some of these are revealed in the story of the Danforths in New England, but others became apparent before they left these shores. The history of the family, both in America but also in England, has indeed been best chronicled on the other side of the Atlantic, mainly by historians of the eighteenth and the twentieth centuries.

These historians were Cotton Mather (1663-1728) and John Merriam (1862-1959).

Cotton Mather was a determined Calvinist Puritan. Son of a Congregational minister, he graduated from Harvard College at the age of fifteen. Aged twenty-five, he became minister of the North or Second Church of Boston, Massachusetts, remaining in that post for the rest of his life. The church had the largest congregation in New England. But he was more. He was a prolific writer. In an age when contact with England was still considerable, he acquired in 1710 the degree of D.D. from Glasgow University, and in 1713 was made a Fellow of the Royal Society. Mather's views were strict, and he resisted the liberal trends that developed in American Church life. He was very disappointed to be passed over for the Presidency of Harvard as it became more liberal, and his later life was clouded with rejections and disappointments.

However, in his writings he charted clearly the development of religious life in America. Obviously he stood personally in the mainstream of the Puritan belief which was the story of how New England began. In his book *Magnalia Christi Americana: or the Ecclesiastical History of New England, from its first planting in the year 1620 unto the year of Our Lord, 1698*, first published in England in 1702, he tells the story of how Nicholas Danforth made the decision to join the movement. In 1620 the Pilgrim Fathers had settled in Plymouth, fifty miles down the coast from Boston, where in 1630 John Winthrop arrived to become the first Governor of Massachusetts. Although only one Suffolk person was a member of the Pilgrim Fathers group, it was with Winthrop that an exodus of persons from this county began. Winthrop left from the village of Groton near Sudbury where today, in the Church, and nearby, are monuments to his family and their connection with New England.

Mather would have had authoritative sources for his account of the Danforth emigration. Nicholas himself had died, but his children were still alive. One can therefore assume that Mather spoke to Thomas, the son on whose land Framingham came to be built, and also to Samuel, the second-oldest son. Thomas was the public-figure son, who bought the land upon which Framingham came to develop. He did not live in Framingham, but in Newtown, or Cambridge as it became. This is where Harvard College (of which Thomas was the first Treasurer) developed into Harvard University. Samuel, the son "dedicated unto the prophets"

by his mother, before the family left for America, went to Harvard as a student, and became the pastor of Roxbury, New England, 1650-1674. Mather may well have met and spoken with the other Danforth children too. To appreciate Mather's interpretation of the part that Nicholas played, and its interesting reflection upon life here in England and, in particular, Framlingham, at this time, it is best to turn to the writings of John Merriam in the twentieth century.

John Merriam was one of the most prominent Framingham citizens of the twentieth century. By career he was a lawyer, but he was involved in many good causes in the life of the community of Framingham. He took a particular interest in the history of the link between two communities. Not only did he come to our own Framlingham on the occasion of the 1931 Pageant, where he was welcomed and feted with great honour, but he wrote several pieces on the connection¹. It was in his introductory piece to the booklet written by our own John Booth *Nicholas Danforth and his Neighbours*, that he refers to Mather on the Danforths, explaining the background to Nicholas's decision to emigrate². This article can do no better than quote verbatim what Merriam (and Mather) wrote.³

It is thought he [*i.e.* Nicholas Danforth] came on the *Griffin*, which arrived in Boston September 18, 1634. This was a boat of some 300 tons and the record is that she brought "about 100 passengers and cattle for the plantations". Think of the discomfort and perils of such a trip. A recent writer, Charles Edward Banks, in his "The Planters of the Commonwealth", which contains a list of the boats sailing across the Atlantic in the decade of the Puritan emigration, 1630-1640, with partial lists of passengers, describes the herding together of passengers and cargo as follows:

"As far as known no one has left a contemporary description of the conditions of Atlantic travel at that time, and the best that can be done to reconstruct them is by utilizing fragmentary references of emigrants to produce a synthetic picture of an average voyage. The officers' quarters on the poop deck and the sailors' bunks in the forecastle were always limited in space, and the only possible place for passengers was the space between the towering stern structure and the forecastle or between decks. Below this was the hold, which was used for the cargo, the ordnance, and the stowing of the long boats. In this part of the ship, as we learn from Winthrop's story of the *Arabella*, cabins had been constructed, probably rough compartments of boards for women and children, while hammocks for the men were swung from every available point of vantage". He adds:

"It may be left to speculation how the sanitary needs of the passengers were provided for in ordinary weather with smooth seas. The imagination is beggared to know how the requirements of nature were met in prolonged storm in these small boats when men, women and children were kept under the hatches for safety. This may be mentioned as an inevitable accompaniment of emigration in its beginning".

Under the best of circumstances such a voyage was not an inviting prospect to any father with a motherless brood of children.

John Joseph May in his Danforth genealogy refers very pleasantly to Elizabeth, the wife of Nicholas, who died in Framlingham, stating that there was a tradition in the family that she was the daughter of William Symmes, a minister of Canterbury. If so, she was the sister of Rev. Zachariah Symmes, the long time minister of Charlestown. It is interesting in connection with this to learn from Banks that this minister and his wife and six children were passengers in the *Griffin*, and this fact may naturally have been a potent reason why Danforth came on this particular boat. Other passengers were the Rev. John Lothrop and family, later the minister of Scituate, and William and Anne Hutchinson, and family. As we read of this religious leader, Anne Hutchinson, who soon proved so disturbing in the New England theocracy that she suffered banishment, we wonder if the weather proved sufficiently tranquil to permit discussion between her and her fellow clerical passengers and if so whether or not the layman Danforth joined them. It is also interesting to note that in these four families there seem to have been twenty-four children, six Lothrops, seven Hutchinsons, five Symmeses and six Danforths.

In the face of all these deterrents, what was there to induce Nicholas Danforth in 1634 to say in effect: Nevertheless, God helping me, I propose to cast my lot and the lot of these, my children, and their children to remote generations, with the sturdy folk who under the stress of these times are seeking to establish a new order!

The answer to this question is indicated in a beautiful and impressive introductory paragraph found in Cotton Mather's *Magnalia Christi Americana*, a most interesting record of the great events of the Colonial period as Mather saw them. In the second volume of this great work, bearing the title "Sal Gentium" we have a biographical sketch of the Rev. Samuel Danforth, the second son of Nicholas, who became famous as minister, scholar, poet, astronomer, - one of the earliest graduates and one of the first fellows of Harvard College, and the progenitor of illustrious descendants. In this paragraph Cotton Mather says, referring to Nicholas Danforth, that he was "A gentleman of such estate and repute in the world, that it cost him a considerable sum to escape the knighthood which K. Charles I imposed on all of so much per annum; and of such figure and esteem in the church, that he procured that famous lecture at Framlingham in Suffolk, where he had a fine mannour; which lecture was kept by Mr. Burroughs, and many other noted ministers in their turns; to whom, and especially to Mr. Shepard, he prov'd a Gaius, and then especially when the Laudian fury scorched them. This person had three sons, whereof the second was our Samuel, born in September in the year 1626, and by the desire of his mother, who died three years after his birth, earnestly dedicated unto the schools of the prophets. His father brought him to New England in the year 1634 and at his death, about four years after his arrival here, he committed this hopeful son of many cares and prayers, unto the paternal oversight of Mr. Shepard, who proved a kind patron unto him".

"Famous Lecture", "Mr. Shepard", "Gaius", "Laudian fury". What colours do these words give to the picture we would visualize of Mr. Danforth. In Green's "History of England", and also in Samuel E. Morison's "The Builders of the Bay Colony" we have references to the "lectures" in the Puritan era. William Laud as Bishop of London and later as Archbishop of Canterbury suppressed these "lectures" in so far as he could. They plainly were, to quote a modern word, "propaganda", provided for out of private sources in the interest of the Puritan thought. The man who procured such a "lecture" must have been an outstanding Puritan leader of his town or possibly of a number of near-by towns and villages. May also refers to this term "lecture", stating that it was given sometimes in the parish church in case of a sympathetic rector, otherwise elsewhere.

I have not yet learned the identity of this Mr. Burroughs referred to in this passage. Possibly he was one of the Puritan emigrants, but I have not found his name in this connection, and think probably he was a Puritan leader who remained in England. But there can be no doubt as to Mr. Shepard. He was the Rev. Thomas Shepard, the pastor described by Morison as possibly not the most learned of the New England clergymen, but "the most loved". In 1634 he was living in retirement in Ipswich, only 15 miles distant from Framlingham. He was shipwrecked in his first attempt to leave East Anglia, but a year later in 1635 he came over with a number of personal followers in the *Defense*. He was at once welcomed in New Towne and organized a church, succeeding the Rev. Thomas Hooker, as he was leaving over the Connecticut Path to found the more distant settlement of Hartford. And this Mr. Shepard became, therefore, the pastor of Danforth in his new settlement.

And what was this "Laudian fury" referred to so vividly by Cotton Mather in this passage? Let me tell you in the words of Thomas Shepard himself as we find them in his autobiography published from the original manuscript about one hundred years ago. I quote his words:

"Dec. 16, 1630, I was inhibited from preaching in the Diocese of London by Dr. Laud, Bishop of that Diocese. As soon as I came in the morning about 8 of the clock, falling into a fit of rage he asked me what degree I had taken in the University. I answered, I was Master of Arts. He asked me of what Colledge? I answered of Emanuel. He asked me how long I had lived in his Diocese? I answered 3 years and upwards. He asked who maintained me all this while, charging me to deal plainly with him, adding withal that he had been more cheated and equivocated with by some of my malignant faction than ever man was by Jesuit. At the speaking of which words he looked as though blood would have gushed out of his face, and did shake as if he had been haunted with an ague fit, - to my apprehension, by reason of his extreme malice and secret venome. I desired him to excuse me. He fell then to threaten me and withal to bitter railing, calling me all to nought, saying - 'You prating coxcomb, do you think all the learning is in your brain?' He pronounced his sentence thus. I charge you that you neither preach, read, marry, bury, or exercise any ministerial functions in any part of my Diocese; for if you do, and I hear of it, I'll be upon your back and follow you

wherever you go, in any part of this kingdom, and so everlastingly disenable you. I besought him not to deal so in behalf of a poore town, - here he stopt me in what I was going to say, - 'a poor town! You have made a company of seditious factious bedlams. And what do you prate to me of a poor town?' I prayed him to suffer me to catechise on the Sabath days, in the afternoon. He replied, 'spare your breath, I'll have no such fellows prate in my Diocese. Get you gone! And make your complaints to whom you will'. So away I went - and blessed be God that I may go to HIM".

I think we can agree that this was a scorching blast.

And now what does Mather mean by saying that Danforth proved a "Gaius" to these lectures and especially to Mr. Shepard? The reference in the use of this name "Gaius" which had occurred to me as a lawyer was to the famous writer of the Romans, who left his Institutes as one of the sources of Roman law. If so, then I thought Mather would have us believe that Danforth, although a layman, in some unusual way was a counsellor to these "silenced" Puritan clergymen. This seemed appropriate, especially in the case of Mr. Shepard when we realize that in 1634-5, as he was in hiding in Ipswich and on his way hither, he was only 29 or 30 years old, while Danforth was almost a score of years his senior. From this point of view we would see Danforth as the counsellor and guide of Shepard and as such a strong support in the Puritan settlement of New Towne.

But a message has been received from Canon H. C. O. Lanchester, Rector of Framlingham, who, as a clergyman, has promptly recognized the connection in which this name is used. This message which has come from him is to "see Romans 16 verse 23".⁴ This begins with these significant words, "Gaius mine host". Mather clearly had in mind the man "Gaius" thus immortalized in Paul's Epistle, as a gracious host who had befriended him and wished to be joined in the salutation "to all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints".

What a happy solution of this mystifying reference! And what a beautiful tribute to this older Danforth, as we recall the days of the trials of the Puritan clergy in old England.

Danforth at once became a leading citizen as proved by our own Colonial records. He was a selectman during the years 1635-6-7 and a Deputy of the General Court for 1636-7. He was appointed one of three commissioners to set the bounds of the New Plantation on the Charles River and also to determine the bounds between nearby places, particularly Dorchester and Dedham. He was selected as one of eleven men who were given the sole power of selling at retail "strong water", an effort thus early to place the troublesome question of the sale of intoxicating liquors in the hands of the leading citizens. And what is particularly interesting, he was one of the committee headed by Governor Winthrop "to take order for" the new college, and this before the name Harvard was associated with it. After only four years in his new home he died in April, 1638. While his name has been obscured by the greater public records made by his sons, Thomas, Samuel and Jonathan, still in these four years there is enough, it seems to me, to entitle him to remembrance as a strong man, an influential leader, and undoubtedly a determined Puritan.

"A determined Puritan" indeed! The interesting ideas which issue from this story concern not just the history of New England, but our history locally in Framlingham. What might have persuaded Nicholas *not* to emigrate? Booth informs us that he was a churchwarden in 1622.⁵ Was he content that the reformed way of being a Church was comfortable and in line with his own way of thinking? We need to remember that this was a peculiar period for the Church of England in Framlingham. The living was held at this time by Thomas Dove, who was appointed rector at the age of 28/29 in 1584. Dove was called to higher things, being made Bishop of Peterborough in 1601. He held Framlingham in plurality, leaving his curates to run it almost entirely. After one called Moore, Richard Goltý became curate in 1624, and then when Dove died in 1630, he began his first spell as Rector.

Copies of the Churchwardens' Accounts in the Suffolk Records Office indicate that, as late as 1631, Nicholas and Goltý worked together as parish officials. But was Goltý's churchmanship something that Nicholas was not really comfortable with? Or was it the national trend, with high church Laudism coming back into vogue, that was the issue for

Nicholas? His associates, the Revds. Symmeses, his father-in-law, and brother-in-law, the Revd. Thomas Shepard and the mysterious Mr. Burroughs were clearly also of a "determined Puritan" persuasion.⁶

Was the appointment of Golty a kind of last straw which enabled Nicholas to make his mind up? How much pressure did the other clergy exert upon him? Allied to all this would be the fact that Archbishop Laud, who had hounded them so much, was translated from Bishop of London to be Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633. Therein perhaps lie answers to the question posed by John Merriam, "What was there in 1634 to induce Nicholas Danforth ... ?" ⁷

Nicholas, who knew just four (very active) years in New England, dying in 1638, did not, of course, live to hear of a Puritan clergyman being appointed to St. Michael's as happened in 1650. During the period of the Commonwealth, Dr. Henry Sampson (a Pembroke College man, fitting the requirements of Sir Robert Hitcham's will) assumed the living. His tenure, however, was no more than that of the Commonwealth. With the Restoration, Golty came back for sixteen and a half more years, a "vicar of Bray" experience.⁸ Sampson then became one of the first non-conformist ministers in Framlingham's religious history. The story of this has well been told by the Revd. Clifford Reed in earlier issues of this journal.⁹

America will say that by this time the focus of both Puritan and Danforth influence had clearly moved to be with them. In the career of Thomas Shepard, a plaque to whom may be seen on the railings outside the precincts of Harvard University, is one sequel to this story. But more relevantly to us, the Danforths established a dynasty (and a location) of which New England is proud, and to which this town of Framlingham can feel it made a considerable contribution. What we have considered suggests that Nicholas did clearly move predominantly for religious reasons. If, however, some thought did go through his mind that there were pioneering opportunities for his children, he was also very right. The contribution of the Danforths, born and partly raised on Framlingham soil, has been, both to the religious and to the secular life of America, a considerable one.

Addendum

There is another link between seventeenth-century Framlingham and New England. In February of this year we stayed with the Revd. Richard Willcock and Vivienne in the delightful cottage which they have in Cumbria. Many will remember Richard as the Rector of Framlingham 1992-2003, and a former president of the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society.

Richard has been researching the story of Elijah Corlett. Records in Pembroke College (where Richard did a spell as Acting Chaplain) indicate that Corlett was a schoolmaster in Framlingham before he became another of the Puritan emigrants to New England. J. and J. Venn's *Alumni Cantabrigienses* record him as follows:¹⁰

Corlett Elijah B. A. 1634 (Incorp from Oxford). S. of Henry of London. Wax chandler. Exhibitioner from Christ's Hospital, M.A. from PEMBROKE, 1638. Ord. deacon (Norwich) Sept. 1633. **For a time schoolmaster in Framlingham, Suffolk** Afterwards Master of Halstead Grammar School, Essex, 1636. Emigrated to New England. Master of the school at Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1641-87. Died Feb. 25, 1686-7.

Cotton Mather, the notable historian of New England Puritan history, refers to the key part that Corlett played in preparing students for Harvard College. Although he was ordained, he clearly preferred the role of teacher. Mather notes that he had a determined policy that native

61-2-6

Rich: Galt Jack Woodcock
George P. B. H. Francis B. H.

This autograph is the only one known for Nicholas Danforth in the UK (there may be others in the USA).

Accepted by our Clerk Russell
18th Feb 1. month before
Daniel Gifford

Elijah Campbell

11

Americans (particularly the sons of chiefs) should also have the opportunity to learn and enter Harvard.

One consequence of this seems to be that he came into possession of two hundred acres of new land in the region of present-day Framingham. Copies exist of the deed of conveyance of this land to Thomas Danforth, so that it joined the considerable other pieces of land that he had acquired to become the Danforth farms or the Framingham Plantation.¹² Thus Framlingham has another direct link with its New England near namesake. We can well imagine that they would have exchanged reminiscences of Framlingham when they met in Massachusetts.

Cotton Mather makes special mention of Corlett's contribution to his personal development. Mather had a stammer which he thought would prevent him from being a minister of religion. His studies were tending towards a career "in physic". Corlett taught him to speak slowly, citing that no-one stammered when singing. A cure was effected and so Mather pursued a career in the Church.

As regards the story of Framlingham, this information throws light on two areas of interest. Firstly it helps to reinforce our knowledge of schooling in Framlingham prior to Sir Robert Hitcham's will. Richard Green mentions the school in the Guildhall in the Market Place *circa* 1564-1632.¹³ Surely this must have been the school of which Corlett was the schoolmaster?

What brought him to Framlingham? Did he meet Richard Golty, the Rector at Pembroke where they had both been students, albeit not at the same time? Did Golty persuade him to come briefly to Framlingham?

In his research Richard Willcock has consulted with Jane Ringrose, the archivist at Pembroke College. She presents the proposition that the whole Hitcham/Pembroke/Framlingham link may have grown out of the relationship which these students had with their old college. Hitcham, as is prominently known, was a proud Pembroke alumnus from the days of Elizabeth 1, and he not only made the college the premier trustees of his will, but became a significant benefactor. Hitcham's decision to purchase the castle may have had much to do with the fact that he was living back in Suffolk, and saw the opportunity to buy the castle as a good use of his considerable wealth. But the nature of the provisions of his will, with direction to create a new school, could well have been to do with prompting from Golty, the incumbent. In the event, as is well known, the controversy over the will postponed the school's opening until 1654. By then Corlett was well settled in New England and the trustees of the will looked to Zaccheus Leverland (another of Framlingham's keen historians) a clerk in the Herald's Office in London, to come as the first master of the new school.¹⁴

Notes:

[Editor's interpolations enclosed in square brackets].

1. J. Merriam, *The Contribution of Framlingham Suffolk, England to the Colony of Massachusetts Bay* (1930); (and) *Framingham to Framlingham: a greeting across the sea in memory of Nicholas Danforth and his descendants* (1931).
2. John Booth (1886-1965) was one of the most notable Framlingham historians of the twentieth century. His publications include *Nicholas Danforth and his neighbours* (1935); (and) *The Home of Nicholas Danforth in Framlingham, Suffolk, in 1635* (1954). (Booth met Merriam when the latter came to the Framlingham Pageant of 1931. They clearly worked together on the stories. As noted above (page 7) Merriam contributed an introduction to *Nicholas Danforth and his neighbours*, and also to Booth's *The Home of Nicholas Danforth* ...). [The latter was reprinted in this journal 5th series no. 3 April 2006 pp. 4-12].
3. [Booth, *Nicholas Danforth* ... *op. cit.* pp. 6-10].
4. See also Acts 20:4, 1 Cor 1:14, 3 John 1: 1-11. [Margin note by T. Gilder].
5. [Booth, *The Home* ... *op. cit.*].
6. [Booth, *Nicholas Danforth* ... *op. cit.* p. 10].
7. [Referred to *ibid.* p. 7].
8. [For a detailed account of Richard Golt's chequered career, see A. Goulty, "Richard Golt, Rector of Framlingham 1630 to 1650, and 1660 to 1678" in *Fram: the journal of the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society*, 3rd series, no. 10 (August 2000) pp. 20-28].
9. [C. Reed, "Dissent into Unitarianism: origins, history and personalities of the Framlingham Meeting House and its congregation" in *Fram, op. cit.*, 4th series, no. 5 (December 2002) pp. 5-14; 4th series, no. 6 (April 2003) pp. 23-33].
10. [J. and J. Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigiensis* ... (1992) vol. 1 part 1].
11. [C. Mather, *Magnalia Christi Americana* ... (1702) see pp. 6-9 above].
12. [The photocopy currently (2007) on display at Lanman Museum is reproduced on page 11 of this issue].
13. [R. Green, *The History, topography, and antiquities of Framlingham and Saxsted* ... (1834) p. 187].
14. [*Ibid.* p. 14].

SURNAMES OF LONG STANDING IN AND AROUND FRAMLINGHAM

By Derek A. Palgrave

Recent surname distribution resources¹ have greatly facilitated the study of the way specific names have persisted in local areas. For instance, by selecting the surnames known to be present in Framlingham on the basis of entries in the 1327 Subsidy Roll for Suffolk², it has been possible to generate the maps shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, which are based on the 1881 Census Returns. The numbers indicate county totals for bearers of the surnames Gooch, Leverick and Wink. Suffolk features strongly in each of these distributions, although in the case of the surname, *Gooch*, the Norfolk total exceeded that of Suffolk by a mere seventeen. However, by comparing the two counties on the basis of the numbers per 100,000 head of population, Suffolk had 156 and Norfolk 128.

In 2002³ there were over 400 bearers of the surname, Gooch, in Suffolk, of which four were living in Framlingham itself. Spot checks in the International Genealogical Index⁴, the Suffolk Marriage Index⁵, and the 1851 Suffolk Census Index⁶, show sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth century evidence of the surname in many Suffolk parishes within a fifteen mile radius of Framlingham.

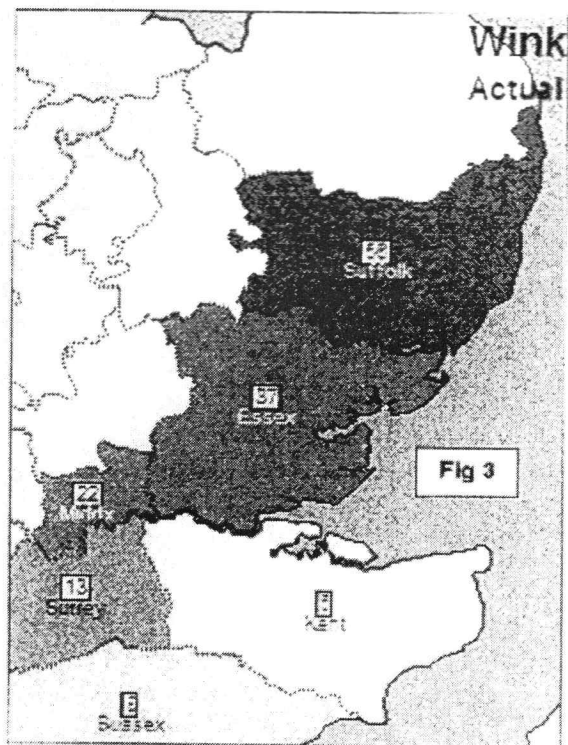
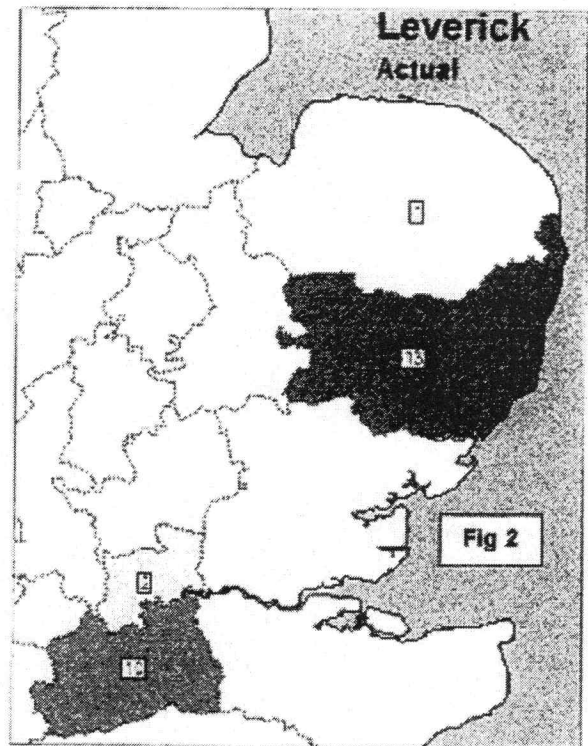
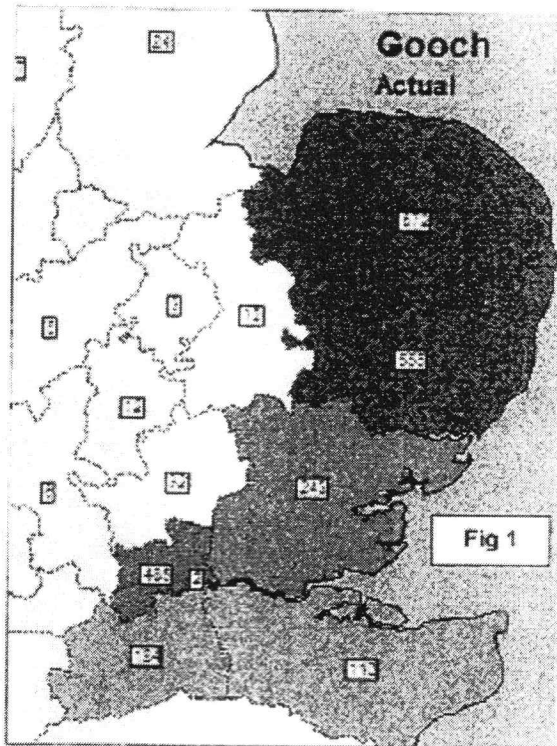
The surname *Leverick* appeared in the 1327 Subsidy Roll⁷ as *Leverich*, and more recently (in 2002)⁸ as *Leveridge*, when there were ten occurrences in Suffolk, half of which were within fifteen or so miles of Framlingham.

Although in 1881 the surname, *Wink* was strongly represented in East Anglia and especially in Suffolk and Essex, it did also occur to a somewhat lesser extent in Moray, northern Scotland. However, in 2002 there were at least sixteen Winks voting in Suffolk, including two at Reydon and two at Laxfield⁹. Spot checks confirmed that the name was present within fifteen or so miles of Framlingham during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

The continuous presence of these three surnames in the Framlingham area for almost seven hundred years suggests that they may have originated in the immediate vicinity. Hanks *et al*¹⁰ consider Gooch to be a variant of the occupational name, *Gough*, meaning smith: Leverick seems to have been derived from the given name, *Lefric*, and Wink from the Old English *wince* meaning a winch/roller or alternatively a lapwing. All of these are very plausible, but not readily confirmed.

Fortunately, there are a few researchers specialising in these three surnames and their variants. *Leverick* has been registered with the Guild of One-Name Studies¹¹, whilst the variants *Laverick* and *Loveridge* appear on the Suffolk Family History Society Members' List¹². In the same listing is the surname *Gooch*, which is being researched by three members and *Wink/Winch* by two. In due course their findings will become available and these, no doubt, will add much more to our understanding in this field.

It is worth bearing in mind that there are plenty of examples of locative surnames derived from Suffolk villages, which can be traced over many centuries as their bearers migrate within the county and beyond. A survey of such names in modern telephone directories indicates that about a third of them are still present in their county of origin.



Distribution of the local surnames, *Gooch*, *Leverick* and *Wink* based on occurrences in the 1881 Census Returns

Their ramification is consistent with that observed in the case of each of the surnames referred to above. It also lends weight to Rogers' ¹³ conclusion, that modern surname distribution data very often points to likely places of origin. A careful investigation of local history and topography can lead on to better understanding of the way they may have evolved.

Notes

1. S. Archer, *British Surname Atlas*, www.archersoftware.co.uk; Lloyd, D., Webber, R. & Longley, P., *Surname Profiler*, www.spatial-literacy.org/UCLnames/Map.
2. S. H. A. Hervey, *Suffolk Green Book* 9 (1906).
3. *UK-info Disk*, CD-ROM, Version 7, 2002.
4. Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints, *International Genealogical Index*, www.familysearch.com.
5. Suffolk Family History Society, *Suffolk Marriage Index* (2005).
6. Suffolk Family History Society, *Index of Suffolk entries in 1851 Census* (1999).
7. Hervey, *op. cit.*
8. *UK-Info Disk*, *op. cit.*
9. *Ibid.*
10. P. Hanks & F. Hodges, *A Dictionary of Surnames* (1988).
11. Guild of One-Name Studies, *Register* (2005).
12. Suffolk Family History Society, *Members' Interests on CD-ROM* (2004).
13. C. Rogers, *The Surname Detective* (1995).

Note

The author is Patron of the Suffolk Family History Society and President of the Guild of One-Name Studies. Although a Chartered Chemist by profession, he has long been interested in the history of surnames with particular reference to his own. He has written and lectured widely on this and related subjects, both in this country and in the United States. He is a member of the Halsted Trust, an educational charity promoting single surname studies. Currently he is involved with others in a major project to generate a Thesaurus of British Surnames.

HERBERT PHILIP BONNEY
LANCE SERGEANT 9765 2ND BATTALION ESSEX REGIMENT
12TH BRIGADE 4TH DIVISION

By John Haygarth and David Bonney¹

Herbert, known as Bertie, was born on 8 September 1890 and baptised with two sisters and three brothers on 25 November 1894 at St. Michael's. His father, Arthur, came from Sudbury and his mother, Ellen, from Debenham. In the 1891 census the family were listed as living in Fore Street (Well Close Square), where Arthur was running a bakery business². Ultimately, there were seven boys in the family and all of them were to serve in the Great War.

Bertie joined the Essex Regiment in the summer of 1911, being awarded a 3rd Class Education Certificate on 5 October that year. In April 1912 he transferred to the 2nd Battalion, becoming a Lance Corporal, without pay [enhancement]. Then in 1913 he qualified as Assistant Instructor of Physical Training and was promoted to Corporal. Whilst stationed at Chatham from late 1913, he was noted as being a bell-ringer at the Tower of St. Mary's. The *Ringling World* of 9 September 1914 also mentions him, along with his brothers Ernest and Reg of the 4th Suffolks, as being members of the Framlingham Tower.

Bertie was aboard the *SS Corsican* sailing from Southampton on 23 August bound for Le Havre. Almost immediately Bertie and his comrades found themselves coping with the thrust of the German offensive sweeping across the borders of Belgium and France and heading for Paris. The British Army was being driven back relentlessly as the 2nd Essex were sent into the fire at Le Cateau.

The *Framlingham Weekly News* published two letters around Christmas 1914; one from Bertie and one signed by Bertie and Fred Shortland - both of the same Battalion. The order in which they are published is not necessarily the order in which they were sent. The letters are not dated but are precious examples of the way two Framlingham boys were thinking in the very first part of the War.

Dear Mother,

I am pleased to tell you I am still quite well. We have had plenty of rain and snow which makes it very bad in the trenches. We are proper mud larks now, but still we are cheerful enough. We have now got plenty of good warm clothes. What do you think of the War now? It won't last much longer. Peace could be a nice Christmas box.

I believe you have been wondering whether I was in the Battle of Mons? Well, we were not in the actual battle, as it started on 23rd August. We arrived on the Frontier on 26th, just in time to bear the brunt of the German advances. What a sight. They came over in great hordes, about 75,000 of them against about 6,000 only of ours. It was a terrible time, I can assure you, but thank God He delivered us; it was a baptism of fire and an awful time it was. At least ten times we had to fall down just in time to hear a shell burst over our heads. One burst 27 yards from me - lucky for me it burst in the ground, covering me over from head to foot. I had still full ten minutes after wondering whether I was alive or dead. That, however, was only a slight affair compared with what we experienced a month later. But thank God we are still alive and will shortly come marching home again.

Your loving son,
Bertie³

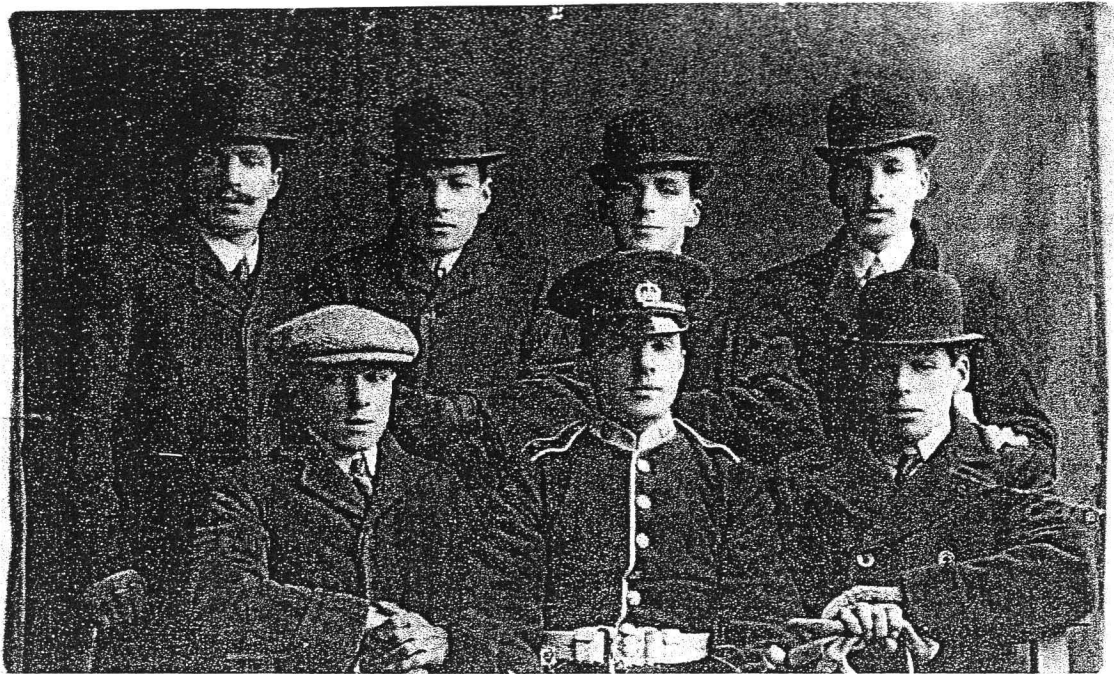
Dear Sir

When walking along a trench the other day, I came across a piece of the *F.W.N.* ... "Anybody here from Framlingham?" At first there was no reply and walking a bit further I came across our machine gun section and enquired again. The reply was "Well I'll be blown - who'd a thought of seeing you here?" And turning round the gun was Fred Shortland who added further greeting, "Hullo Bonney, bor, how are you?" I replied "Allright Fred, and how did you leave Fram?" "Everybody at their best", Fred answered, "and I came away in style with the Terrors, who are now out here somewhere ...".

Talking over things in general, we found both of us had a good share of dodging the German "Jack Johnsons" ... We are now in the trenches which I suppose will be our Christmas and winter homes ... We are up to our knees in mud and water but still we are cheerful enough ...

With Best wishes and a Happy New Year from two who have served in the Framlingham Voluntary and Territorials.

Herbert Bonney and Fred Shortland ⁴



Lance Sergeant Herbert Bonney, surrounded by his brothers
(top row) Ernie, Sid, Tom, Stanley
(bottom row) Reg, Fred

In September, the 2nd Essex were fighting in the battles of the Marne and the Aisne. They had helped stop the enemy onslaught and were turning the German Army back. This time the allied armies were on the offensive. By October the Battalion was in Ypres.

The 2nd Essex were at Le Gheer in January 1915. There were 51 casualties that month, including Fred Shortland who was killed on 3 January. In February there was more shelling and sniping causing a similar number of casualties as the previous month. Then in April the Battalion was on the move to the Front Line just north of Vieltje in the Ypres sector.

On 2 May came a gas attack, along with artillery, machine-gun and aircraft which the Essex Regimental History describes:-⁵

At 5 o'clock on that Sunday evening, a thick wall of gas, greenish yellow in colour, some 60ft or 70ft high was observed creeping along the front of the trenches held by the 12th Brigade ... the Essex were smitten on both flanks.

There were 265 casualties on this day - the vast majority suffering from chlorine gas. Further actions soon followed but by mid May the Battalion was relieved. After a summer spent in and out of the trenches, Bertie managed to get some leave.

The *Framlingham Weekly News* of 27 November 1915 reports:-

He has been at the war most of the time without suffering any hurt beyond slight gas attacks and a superficial wound. He has undergone numerous strange and thrilling experiences, but perhaps the sweetest of all was when his officer gave him permission to run home for a few days, and the pleasure on reaching Albert Place was better felt by him than mere words can express. He has enjoyed the warmest welcomes and is looking and feeling extremely well.

From reading the Essex casualty lists for May, it would appear that "slight gas attacks" was rather an understatement. Clearly Bertie was modest in recounting his exploits and experiences to those at home.

In 1916 Bertie was sent to the Somme. 1 July was the first day of the Battle of The Somme. It was a fine summer day with a clear blue sky and temperature reading 72 degrees F. His Battalion was to attack between Beaumont Hamel and Severe. Zero hour was 7.30 a.m.

The artillery bombardment had pounded the German defences for days, mines were exploded and "A" and "D" Companies left their assembly trenches at 8.36 a.m. and walked straight into heavy machine-gun fire and enemy shells. The German defences had not been knocked out by the British artillery. Despite this, some of the men had sought their way to Pendant Copse behind the enemy lines but insufficient ammunition could be brought forward and there was withering enemy fire from Severe and Beaumont Hamel. Driven back by this, the survivors endeavoured to hold the captured front German trench called The Quadrilateral, but eventually they were relieved.

At the start of the day, there were 24 officers and 606 other ranks in his Battalion. But by the end of the day at the roll call, only 2 officers and 192 other ranks could muster. Bertie perished this day, two months short of his 26th birthday.⁶

There is no record of a grave for him, and so his name is inscribed on the Thiepval Memorial, Pier and Face 10D.

(Herbert Philip Bonney [Bertie] was my Great Uncle, one of my Grandfather's many brothers. I have spent many a happy childhood time in his home town, Framlingham. I found this account of him and from him to be immensely moving, and he has been brought to life for me in these few precious words. It is exceptionally hard to grasp what life must have been like, that he was real, and that he belonged to our family in a world long gone. I should be happy to hear from Society members with memories of the Bonney family and Framlingham. The Editor would be delighted to pass on your letters.

Mary Richards)

Editor's Notes

1. David Bonney is H. P. Bonney's great-nephew.
2. "Bonn[e]y, A., baker, confectioner and flour-dealer, Albert Place", is listed thus in *Lambert's Family Almanack* from 1887 to 1917 inclusive. A similar entry appears in *Kelly's Directory of Suffolk* 1922, but in the corresponding *Directory* for 1925 (the next in this series to be published), the name changes to "Bonney, Stanley Arthur". The final *Kelly's Directory of Suffolk* checked, that for 1937, has a similar entry. Local verbal testimony suggests that the bakers at Albert Place ceased trading in the late 1960s or early 1970s.
3. *Framlingham Weekly News*, 2nd January 1915.
4. *Ibid.*, 26th December 1914.
5. J. W. Burrows, *The Essex Regiment* (1932) p. 127.
6. *Lambert's Family Almanack* for 1917 includes the following entry:-
 "Obituaries - 1916
 ... Sergt. H. P. Bonney
 France. 2nd Essex Regiment. Being killed on the first day of the great British offensive. He was in the regular forces when the war broke out, and accompanied one of the first drafts of the Expeditionary Force in France, and had seen considerable fighting, experiencing many wonderful escapes."

Sadly John Haygarth passed away while this issue of *Fram* was in production. Our sincere condolences are expressed here to his widow.

NO GONGS, NO SIRENS: THE FRAMLINGHAM FIRE BRIGADE

By Geoff Taylor

On a recent visit to Framlingham, I called at the Castle and was pleased to see there the old fire-engine which was in use in the 1920s and 1930s, now beautifully restored. This made me realise the enormous changes which have come about in fire-fighting since those days.

On being notified of a fire, which was almost always a hay or corn stack which had become overheated and self-ignited, the local police constable would go to the bell-ringer, who lived opposite the Church, who would then tie all the bell-ropes together, so that the resultant noise from the bells could be heard from a great distance. The retained firemen would leave their work and hurriedly go to the Castle where the fire-engine was housed at that time, and manhandle it over the bridge there to the road-junction, where the horses would be harnessed to it. Virtually everyone would have heard the bells, and the local coal-merchant, whose horses were generally used, would make sure they were there in as short a time as possible. Two horses were used to pull the engine, and off they would go at a gallop with two or three firemen hanging on, and the others following on bicycles to the fire. It was a stirring sight to see them galloping along as fast as they could with, quite often, a string of youngsters on bicycles behind them.

Water was sometimes a problem, as it had to be taken from any nearby pond or stream; that water was directed at the fire by two or three firemen on each side of the engine moving up and down a long wooden bar on each side of the pump. As one side went up the other side went down and a reasonable pumping action ensued.

This was heavy and tiring work, and the nearest public house was, of course, only too pleased to supply refreshments in the form of bread and cheese and beer. My father was Clerk to the Parish Council, and eventually the bill for refreshments would come in to him to be paid by the Council. It was not unusual for two or more barrels of beer to be drunk, together with several pounds of cheese, and often fifteen to twenty loaves of bread, and a few pounds of butter, as the people nearby all gave a hand at the pumps when the tired firemen had a rest, and were sustained accordingly.

The police constable who had had to deal with the incident concerned would often come to my father's office for various details, before he would write it up, and his report often came to three or four pages with incredible detail. Even a small fire would mean an extended tour of duty for him, as he could not leave the scene until the fire was finally extinguished. The fire-engine was built by Messrs Bristows of Union Street in Whitechapel, the scene of one of the Ripper murders many years before.

(Members may also care to re-read in this connection Thelma Durrant's article "The Fore Street Fire", Fram, 3rd Series, no. 6, April 1999, pp. 15-16).

CORRESPONDENCE

60 The Street
Felthorpe
Norwich

Dear Editor,

I am a native of Framlingham of the Dale family. I have not yet investigated our more exact genealogy, but the trades followed by my forebears, going back to the early 1800s were around carpenters/cabinet makers and latterly builders.

My Father, B. J. Dale (1895-1970) was the last member of that business, which ended in 1950 as a result of his illness, and my mother left the town in 1980.

I have read with interest your excellent magazine for the past few years, and it is this month's article on Market Hill [Jennifer Broster, "The Market Hill Framlingham its buildings and trades" in *Fram*, 5th Series, no. 4 (August 2006) pp. 4-14] that I am writing to you about.

I enclose a photo of their home and business premises, which are now occupied by the charity shop, and I have spoken briefly with Mr. Bill Bulstrode about it, since he has now become the owner and had work done on the residential flat upstairs. This photo, I guess, was taken in the early 1900s; it is of my grandfather - Tom Dale.

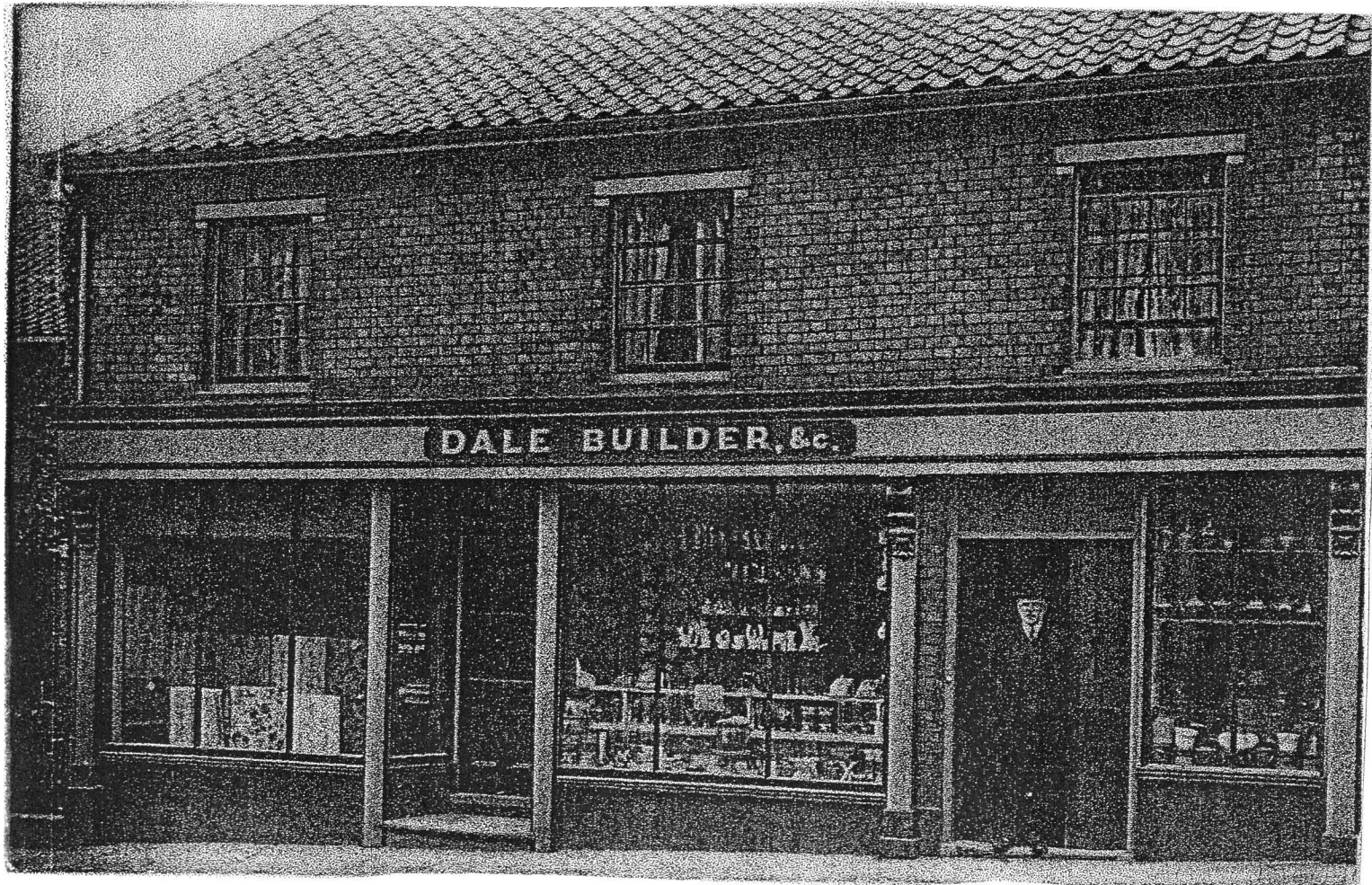
I recall my father saying that the china shop, as shown in this photo, was introduced and run by, and for, his grandmother - "Grandmama" as he called her. My father's mother died in his childbirth in 1895.

I do not know exactly when the greengrocer, Mr. Stebbings, began to rent the shop, but of course he was using it during World War II while my grandfather lived behind and upstairs until his death in about 1943.

Grandfather had been one of the early car-owners in the town; my brother (also Tom Dale, 1929-) recalls being driven out with him as a very young boy, delivering Plymouth Brethren tracts. I think he has a local map with all the villages around marked, which were covered by such trips!

That is the fascination of *Fram*: it always sets the memory back and the imagination working! ... I was born and lived in Pembroke Road from 1932, and my grandfather's "place" was always referred to us children as "down at Market Hill".

Yours sincerely,
Jean Piggott (née Dale)



34 Pembroke Road
Framlingham
Suffolk

31 January 2007

Dear Editor,

Having noticed my **uncle's name** in the Appendix to Mrs. Wilkins' **recollections** of her husband's work on the **beginnings** of radar ["The Real Beginnings of Radar ..." in *Fram* 5th series no. 5 (December 2006)], it occurred to me that there might be some **interest** in another character's involvement in the **project**.

Hubert Dewhurst (**known** to his family as Dukey), was a mathematician and physicist. During World War I he was **seconded** to the then infant Tank Corps and saw **action** at Passchendaele, in the defining massed **tank offensive** at Cambrai, and in other actions **following** the great offensive of 8 August 1918. A **copy** of the only surviving operational order slip from Cambrai, signed by him, is preserved at the Tank Museum in Bovington, Dorset.

After the war, Dukey joined the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough as a Scientific Officer, where his **task** was to investigate airborne devices to assist in the **blind landing** of aircraft in the case of fog or **whatever**. I understand from his son Richard that this involved sending a radio signal to the ground and **measuring** its reflection to give an indication of height - basically a radar-type technique. It is recorded that he started using a frequency of 22MHz for his mobile bases, higher than the 13MHz being used unsuccessfully in previous trials. His frequency was subsequently used for this project, with a crucial improvement in results.

In 1935 Dukey, then aged 42, joined Watson Watt and his team at Orfordness: he and his family moved to Felixstowe, and he used to commute to work across the Deben estuary by ferry boat. His brief at this time was to develop a transportable Radio Direction Finding system for use in mobile bases. The resulting ability for aircraft to identify German submarines at night, when they had to resurface in order to recharge their batteries, was eventually to alter the course of the war in the Atlantic. The long hours he also spent in 1936 with Watson Watt, Wilkins and others, crouching in the stables of Bawdsey Manor trying to pick up signals on their receivers from friendly aircraft and passing vessels in the North Sea, is well documented in Gordon Kinsey's *Bawdsey: Birth of the Beam*, published in 1983 by Terence Dalton (Lavenham).

There was no such thing then as a five-day week, and the family saw little of Dukey who was working tremendously long hours and, like the rest of the team, rarely taking leave.

Upon the outbreak of the war in 1939, the scientists abandoned Bawdsey for security reasons, and the team was disbanded and fragmented. The establishment had by then increased enormously: Dukey was sent to Leighton Buzzard where he led a team to organise and manage the Chain Home link of coastal radar transmission and receiver towers. His family recalls that he had to attend to a tower that had been blown down in a gale near Tenby, thus producing a rare but welcome access to petrol, which enabled a short family holiday on the Pembroke coast. In 1940 his team's work led to the formation of 60 Group, which became a huge organisation under Royal Air Force command. Dukey's unit was then absorbed into the renamed Telecommunications Research Establishment at Swanage. In 1942 he moved with TRE to Malvern: some time after the end of the war he was promoted to head their photographic department. Richard tells me that whilst there he developed a stereoscopic photographic system for taking and viewing 35mm slides and 16mm and 35mm cine films, using innovative beam-splitting and rotational principles. This system has since been further developed for today's use in modern aerial surveillance.

Dukey retired in 1952 and died in 1973.

I still remember as a very young teenager being hugely impressed by the Dewhursts' new stair carpet bought from Dukey's monetary bonus from a grateful government, and briefly deciding to become an inventor myself!

Yours faithfully
Peggy-Ann Monroe

DEPARTURE POINT

I published my first biography, of Cyril Connolly, nearly ten years ago, and by the end I had persuaded myself that only diaries and letters could be relied upon. I had interviewed Anthony Powell, who had known Connolly at Eton and Balliol. Years later, I came across an account of my visit in the last volume of his [Powell's] *Journals* - and almost all the details were wrong. None mattered; but so much for the infallibility of diaries and the like.

Jeremy Lewis, "Secrets and deadlines".
from The Guardian, May 6, 2006.

“History is five minutes ago”

**THREE THOUSAND PEOPLE IN THIS TOWN
ARE MAKING HISTORY**

**Framlingham and District
Local History and Preservation Society**

RESEARCHING

RECORDING

SUSTAINING

**history and heritage in Framlingham and mid-Suffolk
through**

LECTURES

VISITS

CAMPAIGNS

PUBLICATIONS

Join our Society and make history

BETTER