

FRAM



**THE JOURNAL OF THE
FRAMLINGHAM AND DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

3rd Series Number 10

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ENTRANCE LINES

As to Sunday museuming being an antidote to the pot-house - no. For the people knew the frequenting of the pot-house to be a vice; it was a temptation of Satan that often in overcoming them was the cause of their flying back to grace: whereas museums and picture galleries were insidious attractions cloaked by the name of virtue.

From George Meredith, *Beauchamp's Career*.
Revised edit. London, Constable, 1897

SOCIETY NOTES

The Annual Day Out to the parish of Butley, Suffolk, took place on Wednesday 21st June. Forty-five members and friends were present. The programme began with coffee at Butley Barns. At first the weather was not kind. However, the rain soon cleared, and from about 10.30 a.m. the party enjoyed a dry day.

The first visit was to the Forestry Commission woods lying in Butley, where the Forester, Richard Davis, gave a guided tour. The extraordinary assemblage of beech trees (*Fagus sylvatica*) forming an avenue and planted in quincunx form, proved of great interest. A visit was paid to the edge of Staverton Thicks. Mr. Davis' compendious knowledge of forestry and ecology made for a very well informed visit.

The second visit was to the church of St. John the Baptist. The Hon. Secretary of the Society gave a guided tour of a church which stands out in its dignified simplicity. The church is of Norman origin and is thatched.

After lunch the party assembled for a guided tour of Butley Priory, conducted by Mrs. Frances Cavendish and Mrs. S. M. Harrison, the highlight of the day's programme. Amongst the priory's many attractions was the sight of the finest flush-work in England. The priory was formerly the home, until the dissolution of 1538, of Augustinian Black Canons. Everyone was delighted with a visit which showed that Butley Priory is one of the jewels of Suffolk.

The last visit was to Burrow Hill in south Butley, when John Newman of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Unit opened the party's eyes to the fact that a large Anglo-Saxon cemetery was found there, housing at least 200 graves. The site of the cemetery also gives a splendid view of the Butley River and coast.

The day ended with tea at Butley Barns. The treasures of so small a parish as Butley suggests that the Society should in future consider exploring locations in Suffolk in order to unearth treasures which, even now, appear to be still hidden from all except very expert knowledge. The day's visit to Butley was pronounced a most satisfactory occasion for the Millennium Year.



The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place at the Free Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 18th October 2000. After the formal business has been concluded, the officers and Committee look forward to sharing thoughts with members as to the future activities of the Society. Helen Pitcher will then speak on the subject of "Edwin Edwards, Artist of Framlingham".

All enquiries concerning membership of the Society should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Andrew A. Lovejoy, telephone 01728 723214.



Finally, a brief appeal.

J. C. Simpson will be speaking to the Society on 13th December next on the associations of his family with the branch railway from Campsea Ashe to Framlingham. An article by Mr. Simpson on the line should appear in our Spring 2001 issue. He has written to me to say that he would particularly like to contact anybody who lived in Framlingham during the Second World War, or who remembers travelling on the Framlingham branch. I should be delighted to forward to him any of your letters, or perhaps you could make yourself known to him when he comes to speak to us in December.

FRAM

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

A very sincere thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire circulated by the Society with the December 1999 issue of this journal. More than a quarter of our members (but no non-members!) have so far sent in completed forms, which is, I gather, a good response for a survey of this kind. I have delayed analyzing the returns and reporting the results in the *Fram* until this issue, to enable a few late-comers' views to be represented in my summary.

Starting on a positive note, six respondents thought they might be happy to provide a lecture to the Society on some future occasion, and nine hoped, in due course, to write an article for this journal. Most respondents had had some experience of voluntary work with societies and other community groups and charities, and ten were willing to put this experience to good use for our Society - the services of one or two of these are already now being utilized!

Special subject interests were many and varied from all who replied - transport, genealogy and the built environment were (predictably) high on the list, but we also had "medical", "engineering", "military", and much, much more. Most of those responding had carried out some kind of research around their favoured subject area in the past.

On current historical allegiances, the great majority had an interest in national as well as in local history. This wider remit was perhaps also a factor in defining respondents' perception of what was "local". Half defined it as going out to a fifteen mile radius from Framlingham, which would, incidentally, take into its catchment Aldeburgh, Woodbridge, and even the northern outskirts of Ipswich.

Turning to the services provided by the Society itself, a significant number of people wanted "a broader lecture base" (this, even although our lecture programme and, indeed, the content of *Fram* actively try to avoid a narrowly parochial focus). Most people would stay - at least sometimes - for refreshments after lectures, and almost all favoured closer ties with other historical and amenity societies in the area, if these could be arranged.

Taking members' responses as a whole, they hardly represent a mandate for major change, but at the same time do suggest several new areas for the enhancement of the Society's services to members, as well as identifying a few more potential helpers to deliver those services. The new opportunities and directions that these represent will certainly not be ignored by the officers and Committee of the Society. As Framlingham's built area and population continue to grow, these could be quite demanding times, both for the town and for this Society, as we respond to, and exploit, the challenges ahead.



Framlingham, in common with many other towns in England, has long had a Town Clerk, and in the past had a Town Crier (still resurrected once a year in mid-December). However, there can surely be few places that can boast a Town Cat. A sleek and well-fed feline, this white and grey tabby greets and intrigues visitors with its amiable condescension, and seems able to transfer itself from one end of the central built area to the other far more speedily than the average motor vehicle, particularly during the recent town improvement roadworks.

Regrettably the questionnaire circulated with *Fram* number eight on which we report above omitted the question "Are you a cat-lover?" We might then have offered a much reduced annual subscription to those who answered "Yes".

FRAMLINGHAM: ITS DEVELOPMENT FROM 1945 TO 2000

By Andrew A. Lovejoy

This article is dedicated to Mrs. Betty Kitchen, the longest serving member of the Framlingham Historical Society, who celebrated her 90th Birthday on 20th May 2000.

Framlingham, for anyone living here since 1945, has seen great changes, and yet the town for the most part has retained its historical character: the Conservation Area (designated 1970) remains at its heart. Developments at the periphery of that area have simply intensified the contrast between the old and the new. It is not for nothing that Framlingham is attractive to resident and visitor alike.

Round about 1950, Framlingham enjoyed an ambience quite different from today. Rationing was still with us; the railway station was still open to passenger traffic (closed in 1952). Those were the days of relative austerity; the consumer boom was not yet with us. The population of the town was down to 1,943 persons in 1951 (from 2,526 in 1901). Yet national policies were about to change everything. Much of the thought behind the momentous changes of the late forties and fifties was heralded in think-tanks before the War. Beveridge laid the foundations of the Welfare State in the 1930s.

In the treatment of environmental issues, nothing can surpass the ramifications of the Town and Country Planning Act 1947. It affected all development of land in this country, though the Conservatives' coming into power in 1951 whittled down the overall nature of State intervention in matters concerning the planning of land-use development and building. Nevertheless, what was left was an over-riding interest of local government in all a citizen might plan for the future of his or her property. Framlingham came in the compass of all that, plus the planning for the town's development as a whole. The first survey of the town by its local authority was published in 1959. That survey highlighted the character of Framlingham, noting the town's comparative isolation and self-sufficiency, its distance from any major urban area (Ipswich 19 miles away), and concluding that Framlingham would never become a major location for development. It would continue as a market town for the local area (weekly sphere of influence 6,650 persons) and as such would boast a more than average range of retail business concerns. It had a higher than average percentage for Suffolk employed in agriculture and education, whilst the number of retired people was below the average for the county. Altogether the survey painted a picture that the status quo was to be maintained. No large-scale residential developments were envisaged; Framlingham would continue as a relatively sleepy backwater.

By 1972, the date of the next Planning Review, the lot of the average citizen in Framlingham had changed. We were in the days of "You've never had it so good" in the words of Harold Macmillan. A consumer boom was with us, and cars were owned by many. Commuting between Framlingham and the nearby urban centres was becoming much more usual. The trend towards fewer retail outlets in the town and their centralisation in Ipswich was going on apace. Decimal coinage came in, in 1971. Refrigerators and television were widespread and the European Communities Act was signed in 1972. If the individual lives of the people of Framlingham had taken on a new hue, so had planning and development prospects for the town. The 1972 Planning Review noted that the town had four functions (which were also listed in the Local Plan of 1991: obviously not everything changes):

- (a) a local shopping, education and service centre with a sphere of influence extending beyond its immediate locality;
- (b) a minor employment centre based largely on old established agricultural and service industries;
- (c) a dormitory for people working in the surrounding rural area, as well as an increasing number working in larger towns such as Woodbridge and Ipswich;
- (d) a tourist centre reflecting the special character and attraction of its historic core and Castle.

In 1959 there were 73 retail outlets in the town, which was considered above average for its size, and demonstrated the town's significance as a local centre. Since then, things have changed, yet the basic infrastructure with a variety of shops has been maintained. Some retail outlets are geared to the tourist trade - there are over 12 places to buy prepared and cooked food. We have in Framlingham a first-class book shop and a second-hand book shop. The town's identity as a local centre was crowned by the opening of the Solar superstore, which made good a deficiency in the town. On a weekday, the town is a bustling place, recalling Framlingham in its heyday in Queen Victoria's reign, when its self-sufficiency really was the key to the town's identity. Framlingham's place as a local shopping centre remains assured.

The town remains a minor employment centre for interests related to agriculture. Bibby's in Station Road, Framlingham Tractors, and the complex of small industrial concerns on the Woodbridge Road lend variety to the picture of Framlingham as a local centre. Not much in that sphere has altered since 1951; some businesses have failed, but others have taken their place. The various Local Authority Planning Reviews see little change, some land earmarked for industrial use has not yet been taken up. One exception to that is the building of Potters' premises on Station Road. That major development has had little overall impact as the business simply moved there from the centre of Framlingham. Framlingham then continues to employ people in significant numbers in the industrial sector, despite its isolated position away from major urban areas, which might have made it unattractive for industrial growth.

Framlingham is also a dormitory for people working in the surrounding area. The car is now ubiquitous. Journey times by bus (36 minutes to Woodbridge and 62 minutes to Ipswich) meant that it was not until the car came into common ownership that commuting became feasible for the average person on any regular basis. Every morning there is now a mass exodus. Framlingham is thereby characterised as a residential centre for the employed as well as a haven for the retired. It is with that background that the town has become a desirable place to live in, accessible not only for the tourist, but also for those in employment at some distance.

The town's reputation as a tourist centre is well established. The number of people visiting the Castle over the years speaks for itself:

1962	23,300
1970	50,400
1999	65,000

The Castle is one of English Heritage's main attractions in the eastern counties. Visits can also be made to the 15th century church of St. Michael and All Angels, which pound for pound has more on view of interest than the Castle! The Conservation Area gives the town its intrinsic value. There are three Grade I Listed Buildings in Framlingham, including the Hitcham's Almshouses (built 1654); and 71 Grade II Listed Buildings. At one time there were also 53 Grade III Listed Buildings before that category was abandoned. It all adds up to a place of substance. For comparison Lavenham has 200 Grade II Listed Buildings.

Most of the restaurants and food outlets in the town are geared to tourism. The shops gain in part their livelihood in that way as well. Tourism is likely to increase in significance. It is therefore essential that Framlingham retains its distinctive character in the future.

The 1972 Palling Review heralded some of the residential sites which are now with us. The subsequent 1980 Review defined all the modern residential developments such as the building of houses at Castle Brooks and Mount Pleasant (Fulchers Field) and even New Road (Coucy Close). The Mowbrays was defined as a future possibility in the Planning Review.

1979 saw the advent of a Conservative government at a time when the country's economic situation was of some concern (inflation had recently been at a rate of over 25% per annum). The number of persons living in each household was on average down to 2.44 persons per household. Planners reacted accordingly. Framlingham's new residential area catered for the whole spectrum of social groups. The town with national developments took on a revitalised existence. By 2000 the population has passed the 3,000 mark, with a whole range of large to medium estates being built since 1980. (See Appendix). It all adds up to a picture of an increased national as well as local prosperity: the Gross National Product

increases on average by 2% a year. Compared with the days of austerity in the 1940s, Framlingham is now a place of general material well-being.

Framlingham has seen great changes in the last 30 years. The infrastructure is adequate to sustain them. The sewage works can cope with a town population of 4,600 and the telephone exchange with a population of 15,000. Nearly everyone is far more prosperous than even in the consumer days of the 1960s. That is mirrored in the standard to which the various recent housing estates in the town have been built. We are now witnessing an acceleration in the pace of change. For that to be healthy, there must be discipline. The 1959 Planning Review saw Framlingham as a relatively sleepy backwater. By 1973, when we joined the EEC, Framlingham was earmarked for change. The fruits of the decisions leading to the changes forecast by the County and District authorities and the Town Council are now there for all to see.

The final word must be given to those resident in Framlingham. It is the future quality of life in the town which has most concerned planners over the years. Framlingham boasts a full range of services, and people at work (50% of the resident population) demand these. At the same time, people wish to live in a distinctive place of interest and character. That is precisely what residents enjoy, by living in this exciting town. The extraordinary range of voluntary organisations existing in Framlingham proves that the people of Framlingham know what's good for them. Their leisure hours are spent profitably, with a varied menu of concerts in St. Michael's Church, numerous clubs and societies, and six public houses offering a more generally accessible nexus for social intercourse. The Castle, Church and Conservation Area give the town's residents a focus. Once you have lived in Framlingham for a short while, there is no desire to leave. The Framlingham experience is not to be missed.

Even as this article is being written, Market Hill is the object of a major enhancement programme. That is not to everyone's liking. It might seem that all in all the changes will be cosmetic. Will those changes detract from Framlingham's intrinsic character? Only time will tell, and that time will be very short indeed.

APPENDIX

The Dates of Completion of major housing developments in Framlingham since the last war.

Berkeley Close	March 1987	Brook Lane (first phase)	January 1990
Castle Brooks	March 1987	Coucy Close	October 1999
Danforth Drive & Close	pre-1972	De Vere Close	January 1990
Fairfield Crescent	pre-1972	Fulchers Field	October 1999
Haynings Mill	January 1998	Hermitage Court	pre-1972
King's Avenue	pre-1972	The Knoll	pre-1972
The Mowbrays	March 1986	Norfolk Crescent	pre-1972
Pageant Place	pre-1972		

(All details provided by the Planning and Leisure Department of Suffolk Coastal District Council).

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PLAGUE IN EAST SUFFOLK 1906 - 1918

An information sheet in a church in the Shotley peninsula drew our attention to an outbreak of plague in the area in 1910. This episode is not mentioned in the standard texts on the subject. The information in this paper has been obtained from a Report to the Local Government Board in 1911¹, an article in the *Journal of Hygiene* in 1914², and an article by David van Zwanenberg, "The Last Epidemic of Plague in England?, Suffolk 1906-1918", published in 1970³.

The history of plague

There have been a number of pandemics (a pandemic is a prolonged outbreak usually involving a wide area). The earliest recorded pandemic was the Justinian Plague of AD 542-750. The Black Death started in the middle of the fourteenth century and continued until the middle of the seventeenth century. The Great Plague of London (1665-1666) killed 60,000 people out of a population of 450,000. The plague was not confined to London: between July and October 1666, 111 people died from the disease in Framlingham (in 1674 the population was eight hundred and sixty).⁴ After the Great Plague, Britain remained free of plague until a small epidemic occurred in Glasgow in 1900, with 36 cases and 16 deaths.

The last pandemic started in China in 1894 and lasted until the 1930s, killing over a million people in India. India continues to be a centre for endemic plague (an endemic is a continuing state of sporadic cases or minor outbreaks lasting for many years). One of us (JB) saw two cases in India in 1944.

The two types of plague

Plague in man occurs in two forms, bubonic and pneumonic. In bubonic plague, infection occurs from the bite of a flea which has sucked blood from an infected animal, usually the rat. When the flea bites a human or another animal, blood is regurgitated from the flea's stomach into the bloodstream of the new host. The infection is carried to the regional lymph glands which enlarge, often to the size of a hen's egg; this is the bubo, which may develop in the groin, axilla or neck, depending on the site of the bite. Bubonic plague has a mortality of 70% if untreated, and 50% if treated promptly with an appropriate antibiotic.

In pneumonic plague the infection spreads to the lungs, causing pneumonia. The sputum of the patient is highly infectious, and case to case transmission occurs. Pneumonic plague has a mortality of almost 100%; death occurs within a few hours up to two to three days - too quickly for antibiotics to have any effect.

In Europe, the brown, or sewer, rat is the reservoir of infection, which may continue for many years in the rat population without spreading to man. From time to time an epizootic (the equivalent in animals of an epidemic) occurs, and the disease may spread to domestic animals, hares, rabbits and ferrets. When an infected animal dies, its fleas leave the body and are ready to bite an alternative host. (Fleas can jump 18cm vertically and 35cm horizontally⁵). The human flea can carry infection from person to person.

The outbreak in East Suffolk in September 1910

Five miles from Ipswich, between the villages of Freston and Holbrook, are two attached cottages, Latimer Cottages. At the time of the outbreak, Mr. C lived in one of the cottages with his wife and her four children from a previous marriage. On September 13th, AG, a girl aged nine years, became ill with a severe cough, pneumonia, and diarrhoea and vomiting. She died three days later. Six days after her daughter's death, Mrs. C became ill and died after two days' illness. Three days after his wife's death, Mr. C and Mrs. P, a neighbour who had nursed Mrs. C, became ill and died three days later. All the victims had similar symptoms. Dr. Carey, their general practitioner, attended all the patients and called in Dr. Brown, a physician from Ipswich, to see Mrs. C, but she had died before he arrived. When Mr. C and Mrs. P became ill, the possibility of pneumonic plague was considered, and blood was taken from Mr. C and some bloodstained fluid was removed from Mrs. P's lung. The specimens were examined by

Dr. Llewellyn Heath, the bacteriologist at Ipswich, who grew the plague bacillus from both specimens. Dr. Heath took his material to Professor Sims Woodhead in Cambridge, who confirmed the diagnosis of plague.

The last two patients were buried on September 30th, the vicar taking the whole service in the open air; all those attending had their clothes disinfected. There were no post-mortems or inquests. On October 1st, the contacts were removed to isolation accommodation in Tattingstone Workhouse, which had been opened for this purpose. On the same day, Dr. Sleigh, the Medical Officer of Health for the district, notified the Local Government Board of the diagnosis. All four deaths were thought to be due to pneumonic plague, because of the short incubation period, the high mortality, and the probability of case to case infection. There was no indication how the first victim, AG, had become infected.

Action taken after the Freston outbreak

On October 3rd, the Local Government Board Inspector, Dr. Timbrell Bulstrode, telegraphed Dr. Sleigh that he would visit the area on the following day. He arranged for the specimens from Professor Woodhead's laboratory to be sent to Dr. Klein, the Board's Adviser in Bacteriology, at the Lister Institute in London. Dr. Klein was unable to confirm Professor Woodhead's results, and there was a feeling that the episode was at an end.

Dr. Bulstrode, however, wrote on October 9th that he was returning to the district, and a few days later acknowledged receipt of a rat caught near Freston. The rat died and was sent to Dr. Klein. On October 12th the rat and a hare shot near Freston were both found by Dr. Klein to be infected with plague. There were also reports that other infected rats had been found in the district; an infected ferret was found in Woodbridge and a cat died of plague in Stutton.

The Samford Rural District Council (covering an area bounded by the River Orwell to the north, the River Stour to the south, the North Sea coast to the east, and the Ipswich to Manningtree railway line to the west (see figure)), distributed handbills advising the public not to touch dead rats, and farmers were encouraged to kill rats, provided that the Council did not pay for the poison. By the middle of October a number of letters on extermination of rats appeared in the local press. The Rev. Marmaduke Washington, Rector of Holbrook, wrote:

It is said that the Rural District Council of Samford shrink from touching the pockets of ratepayers [he was presumably referring to the refusal of Samford R.D.C. to supply free rat poison], but in a grave emergency of this character I feel assured that the ratepayers of this district would support them in an immediate and effective effort to stamp out a serious plague spot in our midst by removing one potent factor of contagion. I hope that this letter may elicit the opinion of others more competent than myself to deal with this "question". I write, Sir, as the head of a household and one who has deeply at heart the health of this parish and the neighbourhood.

In the same issue, Godolphin Milbank, of Stutton Edge, suggested the formation of "rat clubs" on the lines of "sparrow clubs".

Dr. Bulstrode arranged with the Local Authority for rat-catchers to be appointed and for free rat poison to be distributed. Four nurses were immunised against plague and were available to work anywhere in the area. On November 10th, the Local Government Board issued an order making it compulsory for Local Authorities to report cases of rat plague and to destroy rats.

As a result of the findings above, a survey was conducted from November 8th-22nd and from December 27th to January 2nd 1911 by Dr. C. J. Martin and Dr. Sydney Rowland, both of whom were involved with the Commission for the Investigation of Plague in India. The laboratory equipment was "conveyed to the site in a small motor car". The area surveyed was bounded by the coast from the mouth of the Orwell to Orfordness, from Orfordness to Woodbridge, from Woodbridge to Boulge and thence to Claydon, Ipswich and Copdock. The investigations examined 568 captured rats; all were brown rats, and seventeen were found to be infected. The rats were killed and placed in a jar of chloroform; fleas are very sensitive to chloroform and remain anaesthetised for a long time, making species identification easier. Drs. Martin and Rowland paid particular attention to the flea population and obtained 584 fleas, about half of which were of the species *Nosopsyllus fasciatus*, which they demonstrated will readily bite man in the absence

of its normal host. The stomachs of three fleas from rats infected with plague were examined; two contained a considerable number of the plague bacillus. It was remarked that there was a high proportion of infected rats from two farms, in Culpho, west of Woodbridge, and Nacton, and from the Labour Colony of the Woodbridge Union. Forty rabbits were also examined, two of which carried the flea described above; two rabbits were found to be infected, one either recovering or suffering from chronic plague, and one suffering from acute plague.

On January 14th a second more extensive survey was begun by the Local Government Board Inspectorate; this involved 22 urban districts, 15 rural districts and 301 parishes. No infected rats were found.

Though the second survey was negative, the Local Government Board conducted a third survey between July and October 1911⁶; these months were chosen because rat plague tends to expand into an epizootic in the early autumn. This survey included Debenham in the north, Aldeburgh and Felixstowe in the east, Colchester and Manningtree to the south, and Nayland and Lavenham to the west. As soon as an infected rat was found, it was assumed that that parish was involved and no further rats were examined in that area. The investigation was then extended to surrounding parishes until the limit of the infection was defined. Of 15,332 rats examined by dissection, 35 were found to be infected; diagnosis was mainly on the basis of the post-mortem appearance and was confirmed by bacteriological culture in some cases.

Evidence of the surveys had shown that rats on both sides of the Orwell were infected. The public were encouraged, by a payment of 2d per rat, to bring in dead rats (presumably with suitable precautions). During 1912 a quarter of a million rats were killed, but no cases of plague were discovered. In 1913 two parishes in the Shotley peninsula and one in the Woodbridge district were found to have infected rats, and seven infected ferrets were found in the Woodbridge district. In 1914 no infected rats were found and no further action was taken because of the War.

In summary, therefore, rat infection was widespread, and extended, in some years at least, into the Ipswich and Woodbridge districts to the north, Hollesley Bay to the east and Bentley and East Bergholt to the west; however the largest concentration of infected rats was in the strip of land to the south of the Orwell, which included Freston, Chelmondiston and Shotley; there was another concentration in the Trimley area, north of the Orwell. An important finding was the infection in other animals - hares, rabbits, ferrets and in one cat.

Outbreaks before and after the deaths in Freston

On a third visit Dr. Bulstrode made enquiries into the possibility of previous outbreaks of plague in the area. He was able to identify two probable episodes; one in 1906-1907 in Shotley, and the other in Trimley between December 1909 and January 1910. Dr. Bulstrode was informed by a gamekeeper at Woolverstone Park that in 1906 - 1907 rats were observed to be dying in large numbers on the estate. The gamekeeper at Freston House reported a similar high mortality among rats in the autumn of 1910; in both instances the dead rats were well nourished, in contrast to rats dying from the Danysz and Liverpool "viruses" which were in use at that time.

The Shotley outbreak (1906-1907)

This outbreak involved two families living in Charity Farm Cottages and Brickhill Terrace Cottages between Shotley and Chelmondiston.

The first victim was Mrs. C, living at Charity Farm Cottages, who became ill with pneumonia on December 9th and died three days later. She was nursed by her daughter, Mrs. R, who lived in a detached cottage near the farm; she became ill on December 17th and died on December 19th. Another daughter, EC, also nursed her mother and became ill on December 20th, but recovered. EC was nursed by a neighbour, Mrs. G, who lived at Brickhill Terrace Cottages about half a mile away; she was taken ill on December 24th and died on December 26th. Mr. G nursed his wife and became ill on December 28th and died five days later. Two sons of Mr. and Mrs. G became infected on December 27th and 30th; one died on or around January 2nd and the other recovered. Finally, Mrs. W (Mrs. G's mother) came from Saxmundham on December 29th to nurse her daughter and to look after the family. She was taken ill on

January 3rd and died on January 6th; she was buried at Saxmundham.⁷

As in the Freston outbreak, all the patients were seen by Dr. Carey; the deaths were certified as due to pneumonia; there were no post-mortems or inquests. Though influenza was prevalent at the time of the outbreak, Dr. Bulstrode considered that it was due to pneumonic plague, in view of the high mortality and the probable case to case transmission. Dr. Bulstrode noted that the cottages were overcrowded and that there was evidence of a high mortality among rats and hares when the outbreak occurred.

The Trimley outbreak (1909-1910)

This outbreak occurred in the village of Trimley St. Martin to the north of the Orwell. The family attacked consisted of two adults, Mr. and Mrs. R, and their five children aged from 6 to 18 years. Their home circumstances were very poor and the house was reported to be infested with fleas, presumably the human flea. All seven members of the family were affected, of whom three recovered.

The first person to become ill was Mrs. R, who developed headache and diarrhoea and vomiting on December 19th. Initially she did not appear to be very ill until two to three hours before her death three days later, on December 22nd. She was reported to have had small red spots (petechiae) on her face, arms and legs, and on the last day of her illness she developed an enlarged gland, the size of a hen's egg, at the angle of her jaw on the left side. An inquest returned a verdict of "Death due to exhaustion, the result of a weak heart". The other six members of the family became ill at intervals of between three and six days between each case; all had similar symptoms to Mrs. R. Mr. R and a daughter, HR, aged 18 years, recovered. The daughter made a statement to the Coroner at the inquest on Mrs. R in which she described the course of the illness in her family: all but one had a "knot" (an enlarged gland) in the neck, axilla or groin. Bubonic plague was not suspected at the time, but Dr. Bulstrode concluded that the family had indeed suffered from bubonic plague and that there was evidence of case to case infection, probably by the human flea. He quoted evidence in his report that human fleas had been shown to carry the plague bacillus, and that bed-linen soiled by the faeces of infected fleas could also act as a source of infection, in addition to the usual mode of infection by a bite.

Two later episodes

In van Zwanenberg's article, he described two further episodes, one in 1911 and the other in 1918.

On October 10th 1911, a sailor, Mr. B, based at the Royal Naval Barracks (HMS Ganges) in Shotley, complained of headache and pains in his legs; he had a temperature of 104 degrees Fahrenheit. He had a small cut on the index finger of his left hand and a painful lump in his left axilla. He had cut himself while cleaning a rabbit which he had caught on the Ipswich Road, about a mile from Latimer Cottages in Freston. He developed severe pneumonia and an examination of his sputum supported the diagnosis of plague. He remained ill for twelve weeks, during which he developed iritis (an inflammation of the iris of the eye). He recovered, but remained almost completely blind and died at the age of seventy-six.

There were no more cases for the next seven years; then two more cases occurred. A Mrs. B, who lived in Warren Lane Cottages in Erwarnon, a mile from Shotley, became ill on June 8th 1918; she developed pneumonia and died the next day. Mrs. B had been visited by Mrs. G who lived in the same row of cottages; she became ill on June 16th; her breathing became rapid and she began to spit blood. She was seen by Dr. Carey, who had seen the cases in the Shotley and Freston outbreaks. Dr. Carey suspected pneumonic plague and asked Captain Cade, R.A.M.C., the bacteriologist to Eastern Command, to visit and to examine Mrs. G's sputum. Captain Cade confirmed the diagnosis of plague; the patient died on June 19th. The contacts were removed to Tatingstone Workhouse and all their clothing and bedding were burnt.

There were thus four distinct episodes of plague in the area, three south of the Orwell and one (Trimley) north of the river. Three of the outbreaks were due to pneumonic plague and one due to bubonic plague. In the case of the sailor with pneumonic plague, infection was, unusually, through a cut while cleaning an infected rabbit.

How did the plague reach Suffolk?

There is no evidence that plague was in existence in Suffolk before 1906, nor were there any reports, apart from isolated cases in ports, of plague in other parts of the British Isles, between 1906 and 1918. However, since the outbreaks in 1906 and 1909 were not recognised as being due to plague, it is possible that there may have been previous outbreaks which were also not recognised; it is also possible that plague in rats may have been present before the outbreak in 1906.

Dr. Bulstrode, in his report to the Local Government Board, considered various ways in which the disease could have been introduced into the area. The most obvious route was by shipping on the rivers Orwell and Stour. Two types of cargo were carried; horse and cattle manure and grain. Manure was brought from London for use on the fields, but there were no reports of plague in the Port of London at that time. Grain was brought up the Orwell from the Black Sea ports and from ports in North and South America; all these ports had cases of plague from time to time. Grain barges also went up the Stour as far as Bures. In the Orwell, some of the larger grain ships off-loaded some of their cargo into barges at Butterman's Bay on the north bank of the Orwell, in order to lighten their draught sufficiently to enable them to dock in Ipswich. Some of the ships discharged all their cargo at Butterman's Bay. It would have been easy for infected rats to swim ashore or for them to be brought on shore in sacks of grain.

A more remote possibility was that the infection was brought ashore by fleas in sacking or grain; it has been shown that a flea can survive without a host, under cool and moderately humid conditions, for six months or more, but whether infected fleas can survive this long is uncertain.

What caused the outbreaks of plague?

At the time of the outbreak in Freston in 1910, a large number of dead rats had been observed in the area, suggesting an epizootic; such an increase in mortality is known to precede outbreaks in humans. What was unusual about the Suffolk outbreaks was that they were confined to a few families, suggesting that infection in man was a rare occurrence. The surveys showed that between 1910 and 1914 there was a widespread rat plague which varied from year to year. An unusual feature of three of the outbreaks, in 1906, 1910 and 1918, was that the victims suffered from pneumonic plague, transmitted from person to person.

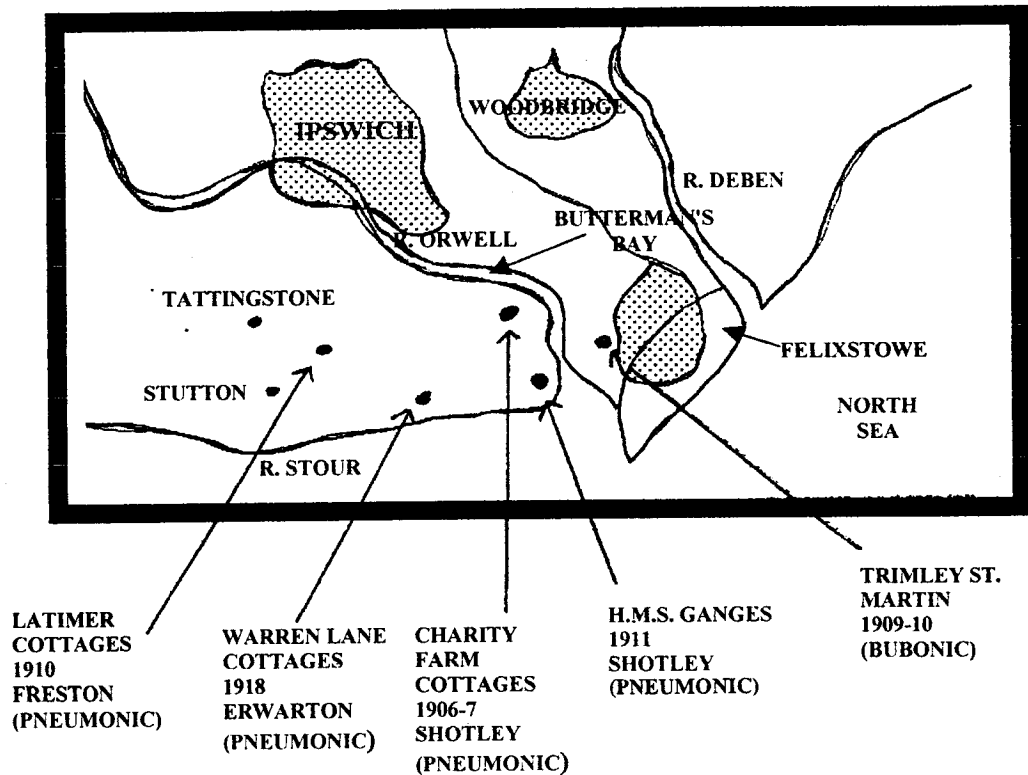
In the Trimley outbreak of 1909-1910, all the victims suffered from bubonic plague and, unusually for bubonic plague, the infection seems to have been from case to case. The cottage was overcrowded and was reported to be infested with fleas, presumably the human flea. The initial case (Mrs. R) was probably infected by a rat flea, and the other victims were infected by the human flea, probably from attending to members of the family.

Conclusion

This is an extraordinary story. We will never know for certain how or why the rats in the Shotley peninsula and to the north of the Orwell became infected with plague in the early 1900s, when nowhere else in the British Isles was affected. This series of outbreaks appears, to the best of our knowledge, to have been unique in Western Europe.

It was remarkable that Dr. Carey and Dr. Brown had the imagination and clinical acumen to make the diagnosis of pneumonic plague in Latimer Cottages when, apart from the Glasgow epidemic of 1900, there had been no outbreaks of plague in Britain for nearly 250 years. And finally, we do not know why there were no more cases after 1918. Perhaps there are still plague-infected rats in the Shotley peninsula; we do not know.

Map of East Suffolk showing the sites where cases of plague occurred



Notes:

- ¹ H. T. Bulstrode, *Report on suspected pneumonic and bubonic plague in East Suffolk and Essex*. (London, HMSO, 1911). Reports to the Local Government Board on public health and medical subjects. New series no. 52.
- ² A. Eastwood and F. Griffith, "Report to the Local Government Board on an enquiry into rat plague in East Anglia during the period July to October 1911". *Journal of Hygiene* (1914) 14 pp. 285-315.
- ³ D. van Zwanenberg, "The Last epidemic of plague in England? Suffolk 1906 - 1918" *Medical History*, (1970) 14 pp. 63-74.
- ⁴ M. L. Kilvert, *A History of Framlingham*. (Ipswich, Bolton and Price, 1995) p. 18.

- ⁵ M. W. Service, *A Guide to medical entomology*. (London, Macmillan Press, 1980).
- ⁶ Eastwood and Griffith *art. cit.*
- ⁷ Much of the information on this outbreak was contained in a report in the *East Anglian Daily Times* 6.10.1910, quoted by van Zwanenberg.

Acknowledgements

The letters quoted are reproduced by kind permission of the Editor, *East Anglian Daily Times*.

A version of this paper appeared in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*.

THE PLAGUE IN FRAMLINGHAM 1910/11

By M. V. Roberts

Although there are no records of plague cases in Framlingham and its surrounding area at the time of the outbreak described above, we can be sure that the disease would have had a presence in the mind of any person living in the town who read its local newspaper and witnessed, or actioned, the measures that were taken to eradicate potential carriers of the pestilence. The extracts that follow, from the *Framlingham Weekly News*, may to some degree evoke the effect upon our own community of a usually fatal condition.

RAT SCARE IN SUFFOLK

Precautionary Measures

The mysterious death of four persons in the parish of Freston, near Ipswich, some few weeks ago, supposed to have been due to plague, and the discovery of dead rats which examination proved to have died from the same disease, has aroused a great deal of anxiety ... And as a result a war of extermination has been started in the [Samford] Union, including the Borough of Ipswich and the Felixstowe Urban District. Raids are being made by landowners, farmers and others with traps, dogs and ferrets, while poison is being widely employed, and as a result thousands of rats are daily being killed. Last week a cat which had been ill at Stutton was shot, and on examination was found to have been suffering from the plague, whilst rabbits which have died in the district have been similarly affected. Indeed expert medical opinion gives the advice that it is unsafe to eat either rabbits or hares that have come from the Samford district or the neighbourhood around.

The Public Health Committee of the East Suffolk County Council held a private meeting on Saturday to consider what steps they should take ... and decided that with the approval of the Local Government Board a County Medical Officer should be temporarily employed to watch over the interests of the County as a whole ...

An ex-gamekeeper has been appointed as the professional rat-catcher for Woodbridge, and also two assistants. They commenced operations on Wednesday, when a number of premises in the town were visited and baits laid down ... The tale of slaughter continues throughout all South-East Suffolk ...

FWN 5 November 1910

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

THE COUNCIL AND "RATS"

At the [Rural] District Council, the Public Health Committee reported that the Medical Officer of Health had sent two rats, taken in the Council's district, for examination; but there did not seem to be any sign of plague. The Medical Officer of Health was given a free hand, so that, should the plague appear in any person, he might be in a position to promptly provide a home and nurse. A pamphlet was received from the East Suffolk County Council headed "Plague in Rats, Rabbits, Hares, and Ferrets", urging the Council to take action at once, and giving information as to destruction. Considerable discussion took place; some members suggested that two rat-catchers be appointed to work under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health and the Inspector of Nuisances. Mr. J. Goddard spoke of the extent of the district and the difficulty of catching the rats ... Mr. Fulcher said he was an enemy of rats, and he was in accord with what Mr. Goddard had stated. Mr. Wm. Rodwell considered they should aid all private individuals in the efforts they are making for destroying rats. Ultimately, on the motion of the Rev. J. G. Darling, seconded by the Rev. E. Bates, the Council resolved that a special meeting be held next Monday to further consider the question, and that in the meantime the Clerk be requested to obtain from two virus companies the approximate cost of dealing with the Council's district ...

FWN 12 November 1910

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

SYSTEMATIC ATTACK ON RATS

... The Clerk reported that Dr. Bulstrode had attended at the Council's offices on Saturday ... and had suggested that the public should be called upon to abate the pest; if they fail the Council could order abatement - The Public Health Committee recommended that Dr. Bulstrode's advice should be carried out, and that Mr. Kenneth Clarke be written to, asking, in the event of the plague breaking out, that his private asylum at Sudbourne should be granted for the use of patients, and that the Feoffees of the pest house at Framlingham be asked to grant that place for the same purpose; a further recommendation was that notices be issued calling upon the inhabitants of the district to do their best to destroy the rats ... A representative of the Liverpool Virus Company appeared before the Council, and gave information as to the effects of the virus, and as to the probable cost. It was proposed by Mr. J. Self, and seconded by Mr. Wm. Rodwell, that an estimate of the cost be sought from the Company for treating the whole of the district and superintending the work, the Council supplying the labour required.

FWN 19 November 1910

The "pest house" referred to in this extract still exists as a building, although its function has long since changed. Located a few hundred yards south-east of the upper part of Fore Street and approached by a winding and leafy track, it now presents a pastoral idyll, very different, perhaps, to its previous role as a hospital for infectious diseases long before the days of antibiotics. Fortunately, in the event, it did not have to accommodate plague-victims: one might think that the Council and the Feoffees were being rather optimistic in their assumption that the hospital would be of practical medical use to sufferers from what was (as noted in the preceding article) a rapidly terminal disease.

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

DETERMINED RAT DESTRUCTION

The Public Health Committee again considered the rat question, and reported to the Council that Mr. Kenneth Clarke, of Sudbourne Hall, had written that he would be willing to grant the use of his cottage hospital, in case of plague occurring in the district; he asked that due notice be given if it was required. The offer was accepted with the best thanks of the Council. The Feoffees of Framlingham Sick House also offered the use of the building for any case that might occur in the parish of Framlingham. The Committee also recommended that a suitable conveyance for removal might be provided, and that the Medical Officer of Health be asked to procure the same. This was carried. The Medical Officer of Health reported having sent rats and hares to the Local Government Board for inspection, but no cases of plague had been notified.

METHOD OF POISONING

The Public Health Committee recommended that the offer of the Liverpool Virus Company, to treat the district with virus, be accepted, and that the whole area be mapped out, and that men be employed for assisting in the work, which would be under the supervision of a representative of the Virus Company, the Medical Officer of Health, and the Sanitary Inspector. This was carried

...

FWN 26 November 1910

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

VIRUS FOR RATS

At the District Council it was notified that Mr. Edward Conner had been appointed as officer of the Council to superintend the distribution of Liverpool Virus for the destruction of rats throughout the Rural District of Plomesgate.

FWN 3 December 1910

The Annual Meeting of Framlingham Farmers Club is reported in the same issue of the paper: discussions there centred on chemical fertilizers, rather than plague and rats.

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

RATS AND OTHER MATTERS

... The laying of virus for rat destruction had been proceeded with in the district under the superintendence of the Liverpool Virus Company. - A circular from the East Suffolk County Council invited representatives to a Conference at the County Hall, Ipswich, on December 20th, to discuss the rat-trouble, and it was resolved that Mr. Wm. Gray, Mr. R. Hall, and the Medical Officer of Health represent this Council ...

FWN 17 December 1910

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

200,000 RATS KILLED

It was reported that men were employed in laying virus for the destruction of rats in the district; in some cases it seemed to have taken effect; many rats had also been killed by dogs and ferrets. It was calculated that during the past two months nearly two hundred thousand had been destroyed in the district.

FWN 24 December 1910

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

CONTAGION AND RATS

At the Rural District Council Meeting, the Clerk read a communication from the Local Government Board, directing the Medical Officer of Health to notify weekly any contagious disease in the district. The resolutions passed at the conference held at the County Hall ... were read, urging the importance of making every effort to destroy rats, and suggesting that the cost of destruction be borne by the Imperial Exchequer. - The Public Health Committee reported that the laying of virus had been proceeded with in the district, and that a full report of results will be submitted.

FWN 7 January 1911

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

THE WAR ON RATS

The Rural District Council had before them a communication from the East Suffolk County Council relative to rat disease, and making suggestions for the future. The suggestion was put forward that a circular should be sent to Parish Councils, asking the Councils to convene parish meetings and form committees to adopt the best means for the destruction of rats. - The Council discussed the effect of the laying of virus in the district; in some places it had been successful, while in other places very little had been observed as to results.

FWN 21 January 1911

ATTACK ON FRAMLINGHAM RATS

EVERYONE ASKED TO HELP

A public meeting was held at the Hitcham's Boys School on Friday evening, the Rector presiding, to consider a suggestion by the Rural District Council for the destruction of rats in the parish.

Messrs. J. Self, J. Fuller and T. T. Buckmaster (the three Framlingham representatives on the District Council) spoke at some length as to what the District Council had done, and stated that the County Council were pressing them to ask for parish meetings to be held to invite local assistance to exterminate rats and to ascertain what was being done by the inhabitants to that end, and the following were appointed a Committee to act with the three R.D.C.s [Rural District Councillors] for the parish, viz. Messrs. E. G. Warren, S. Baxter, T. Smith, G. Dorling, Jas. Harvey, J. Tattersfield and H. C. Howlett.

It was recommended that the R.D.C. should empower the Committee to offer a payment for each rat killed, but at the District Council meeting on Monday last, it was decided not to do that. Mr. Chilcott, clerk to the Parish Council, was asked to convene the first meeting of the Committee, which will be held this Friday evening.

It is hoped that the inhabitants will do all in their power to give information to the Committee when they make their enquiries, so that a record can be made as to what is being done to exterminate rats, and farmers are asked when threshing to have stakes surrounded by fine wire-netting to prevent the rats getting away.

FWN 4 February 1911

PLOMESGATE GUARDIANS AND COUNCIL

MATTERS OF HEALTH

... The Sanitary Inspector reported that 250 rats had been sent for inspection to Ipswich; no complaint had been received. The effect of the virus as laid in the district was discussed, and it was generally considered that there had not been a large destruction of rats ... - It was resolved ... that the Local Government Board be informed that statutory power is required to compel occupiers of land and other premises to destroy rats on their premises.

FWN 18 February 1911

The Rat Plague in East Suffolk

HOPEFUL REPORT

The Local Government Board's report on suspected plague in East Suffolk, which was issued on Thursday, discloses the fact that rat plague has been present for several years in the county, and that three outbreaks of "probable human plague" have occurred.

Mr. Arthur Newsholme, medical officer to the Board, states:-

"... The evidence appears to indicate that rat plague has been present for several years in East Suffolk. Nevertheless, during that time only three very limited outbreaks of probable human plague have occurred, showing that under the conditions there existent, human infection is an exceptional and, as it were, an accidental phenomenon ... "

FWN 1 July 1911

While these extracts demonstrate a very sensible concern on the part of the elders of the town, of the district, and of the county, at what might have become a significant problem, there seems to be surprisingly little evidence of major disquiet on the part of the authorities, or panic among the local population. In recent years, reactions to "new" and life-threatening diseases may have been more immediate and pronounced; but perhaps the contrast in attitudes that this reflects would more appropriately be considered by the sociologist or the media analyst, rather than by the local historian.

CORRESPONDENCE

Castle House,
Framlingham.

Dear Editor,

6th July 2000

ANNE PLANTAGENET

As you know, I have been answering E-mails on behalf of our Historical Society for some time, and have recently dealt with one from an American in Baton Rouge, USA, asking where this Princess is buried. She was the daughter of King Edward IV and the sister in law of King Henry VII and of course the first wife of the 3rd Duke of Norfolk. She died in 1511, her four sons having all died young.

Having asked the Librarian at Arundel Castle for help, the answer came back swift and clear - St. Michael's Church, Framlingham. When you think about it, she would have been buried at that time with the other members of the family at Thetford, from whence she would have come to Framlingham with the other bodies to join her husband, and the position of her effigy on the tomb would have suited her, being a Princess and outranking her husband; one female body has been identified in the tomb. Elizabeth Stafford, his second wife and mother of the Earl of Surrey, died in 1558 and would not have wished to join her notoriously unfaithful husband (as Richard Green remarks). The pair separated in 1534 and, according to Arundel Castle, she was buried at Lambeth.

Perhaps the lady researcher in Baton Rouge has helped us clear up a little mystery!

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Kirby

YEW TREE FARM, SWEFFLING AND ITS PEOPLE

By Michael Bowers*

PART 2

In 1704 Miles Fisher sold the property to Henry Damant of Cransford, gentleman. When Damant died in 1713 he left all his lands in Cransford to his wife Audry, "except my message or farm now occupied by Edmund Hacon", which should be sold by his executor, "to use the proceeds to pay my debts and legacies", with any surplus to his wife. We can find hardly anything about Edmund Hacon in the records and he probably moved away and the Hacon lands were sold soon after 1720.

There are no court rolls for Cransford Hall after 1706 and the next owners of Yew Tree Farm we can trace were the Newsons, a wealthy landed family, who probably shared a number of farms. Thomas Newson I of Leiston (c. 1700 - 1776) had a farm in Cransford and Sweffling which must be Yew Tree Farm. He probably did not inherit it, as no land in Sweffling is mentioned in his father Henry Newson's will, nor can we find that it came from the family of his wife Frances. It seems probable that Thomas I bought it some time around 1730-60, and not directly from Henry Damant's executors. In his 1768 will¹ Thomas I left our farm and a farm in Rendham to his unmarried daughter Fanny, and in accordance with covenants in the traditional settlements made on the marriages of his other daughters, he assigned farms in Darsham, Westleton and Heveningham to them, and gave yet other farms to his daughter Mary. In 1768 came his nephew Thomas Newson II (?1732-1822) who married Mary Last, a widow, two years later in Sweffling Church. The Land Tax returns show he had bought our farm from his sister Fanny by 1799. He was a churchwarden at Sweffling for many years, "beautified" Sweffling church in 1802, and when he died, a prosperous man, in 1822, he and his wife Mary were commemorated in tablets which can still just be deciphered outside the church porch. The farm then went to his son James (1773-1843). After the Napoleonic wars, agriculture in East Anglia passed suddenly from prosperity to extreme depression, large tracts of land were untenanted, and there were riots in Halesworth.² In 1825, James Newson had a plan of our farm prepared, of the kind needed for a sale and by 1826-9 he had sold the freehold. We do not know why, but farming prospects were suddenly changing.

The purchase was but a part of the extensive land acquisitions of elderly William Shuldham (1743-1845) who already owned Sweffling Hall Farm. He had come from Beccles and was a clerk in the office of the attorney Richard Mott in Saxmundham when he witnessed Thomas Newson I's will in 1768. He then set up in practice as an attorney in Saxmundham on his own account, one of four attorneys in the town. He immediately started buying farms all round the area and bought Marlesford Hall in 1792. The Shuldhams soon had 528 acres immediately round our farm, and we understand that eventually they collected 3,200 acres - a very large estate for this part of Suffolk. William must have been a remarkable old man: he shot a pheasant on his hundredth birthday and lived to be 101½. Old William's first son William Abraham Shuldham (1787-1851) went into the land business with his father, and between 1823 and 1826 became Lord of the Manor of Sweffling Sparkes otherwise Leighes. He lived for many years at Cransford Lodge in what is now Cransford Wood, a mansion shown on an 1832 estate map with extensive lawns of which no sign can now be seen. When his father at last died in 1845 he

* What follows relies very heavily on Joanna Martin's work on the earlier records and Timothy Easton's expert examination of the house itself. I am most grateful to them both. Thanks are due to Don Mann, Tim Kindred, Derek Bolton, Hilda Hurlock, Mark Schreiber (Lord Marlesford), Brian Sedge, Joan Hambling and other local people for their help.

moved into Marlesford Hall, but he only survived his father by seven years and died unmarried, apparently intestate. Old William's second son Lemuel had been a cornet in the Scots Greys and fell at Waterloo. William's elder daughter Mary had in 1814 married Captain William Frederick Schreiber, who also fought at Waterloo. They had four daughters all of whom died unmarried. Mary died in 1832 and Captain Schreiber lived on at Marlesford Hall until 1860, to be followed by William's youngest daughter Louisa who was there until the 1880s. The freehold of their Marlesford Hall estate then went to Captain Schreiber's nephews, who took the name Shuldhams Schreiber, and their family trusts.

In March 1829 Charles Smith (1803-1854) appears in the Cransford Overseers' Accounts as the occupier and tenant of our house. There were a number of inter-related Smiths in the area and William Smith, Charles' father, had been a carpenter and "late of Marlesford" when he married in Woodbridge in 1791. It must have been this Marlesford connection which got William Smith the tenancy of Sweffling Hall Farm when first the Shuldhams bought it. William and Ann Smith lived in our house at one time, but by 1841, when the Tithe Apportionment shows they farmed 331 acres, they moved to Sweffling Hall Farm, leaving Charles farming Lime Tree Farm, as our house was then called, with 49 acres in Sweffling and 21 acres in Cransford. His household consisted of his niece Betsy Durrant, as housekeeper, and two labourers. He never married but he is recorded as the father of a daughter Sarah by Elizabeth Goodwin and perhaps another child as well. (Were they really his children or was he just being helpful?) He was a churchwarden (1841-52), a census enumerator and kept the electoral roll so that this house usually appears first or last in these records. In 1845 Charles was awarded a Suffolk Agricultural Society prize for drainage - probably the simple but very effective ditches between our house and the river. After William Smith died in 1848 aged 83 (his will shows he had nine children) Charles moved to Sweffling Hall Farm. Charles himself died in 1854, when he was only 52. His will appointed his brother James of 58-59 South Audley Street, Grosvenor Square, to be one of his executors and left Elizabeth Durrant £200 and all his personal estate and effects - "she has lived with me a great many years and I have not sufficiently remunerated her".

One unexpected thing was happening in Rendham and Sweffling at this time. In 1845 a railway was being promoted by the Ipswich and Yarmouth Railway Co. by a Bill in Parliament to run from the existing line at Blaxhall up the Alde Valley to Rendham, and on to Halesworth and Yarmouth. At Rendham there was to be a branch line on the other side of the river to Framlingham, passing within 50 yards of our house. Plans were deposited at Bury St. Edmunds in 1845, but the Bill was thrown out in 1846. What a difference it would have made!³

In 1850 Moses Crisp aged 29 moved into our house as the Shuldhams' tenant with his wife Mary, their two young daughters, an uncle and three servants. Moses and Mary had married at St. Mary's Church, Woodbridge in 1849 and Mary was no less than the daughter of our diarist Benjamin Gall⁴, the High Constable of Woodbridge. Ann Smith's (William's wife) brother was married to Benjamin Gall's sister, and Moses Crisp was a nephew of Mrs. Benjamin Gall. The Smiths were also related to the Newsons, so it is hardly surprising that the Smiths succeeded the Newsons, and Moses Crisp succeeded Charles Smith in the tenancy.

At the time the Crisps came to our house, a large sum of money (from Benjamin Gall ?) was spent building two new rooms, the staircase and a new front door at the southern end of the house, and the whole of the western side of the house facing the road was cased in smart red brick in Flemish bond. This walling was done in two stages, the first to create a symmetrical rectangle round the new front door. The rest of the roof seems to have been raised and probably completely replaced at the same time. Wooden houses had become quite unfashionable, and the new brickwork completely concealed and destroyed the western front of the old frame. The Big Barn and its wings were probably built at this time, (probably to replace older barns). It is reasonable to infer that it was Moses and Mary Crisp who put Mary's father's diary for 1846 into the dining room chimney, together with the two worn shoes - probably one a man's and the other

a woman's, dated by an expert to 1820 approximately. They probably had reason to be grateful to Benjamin Gall and a shoe deposit was not at all unusual. More than we realise in the 1990s, superstitions were continuing and the Crisps may have wanted to place memories of her father and their time together in a "safe" place.⁵ Between 1850 and 1855 two girls and three boys were born to Moses and Mary, and baptised in Sweffling Church. Then in 1857 Moses Crisp's father died in Letheringham, and Moses and Mary moved back to his old home. Moses died in Letheringham in 1874 at the age of 53, and at the 1881 census Mary was still living there with an unmarried daughter and son.

The next occupiers of our house by 1861 were John Willis, a farmer who was born in Framlingham around 1820, his wife Maria (who was Moses Crisp's younger sister), their children and several servants. John Willis somehow had 50 acres more than the Crisps, and he employed five men and a boy. Their son John was baptised at Sweffling in 1867, but by 1871 Yew Tree Farm was occupied by George Willis (born c.1825), who was probably John's brother, together with his wife Clementia, and three children. In 1871 George Willis was farming 170 acres, and employing six men and three boys.

By 1881 George Willis had moved to Worlingworth, and Yew Tree Farm was occupied by Richard Rye Cracknell, a 34 year-old farmer from Hacheston, and his wife Ann. By 1885 they were replaced by William Cracknell, who was probably Richard's brother. By 1888 the tenancy of the farm had changed hands yet again, and it was probably occupied until 1896 by George Borrett, who in the 1891 census had been an unmarried farmer aged 44, living with a housekeeper and lodger.

Notes:

¹ Suffolk Record Office. Ipswich Archdeaconry Court IC/AA1/196/53

² A. J. Peacock. *Bread or Blood: Agricultural Riots in East Anglia*. (London, Gollancz, 1965)

³ Bressingham Railway Museum holds an extensive archive (as yet not fully calendared) in relation to this project.

⁴ Further details of Benjamin Gall's life and associates will be included in part three of this contribution (*Fram Series* 3, no. 11).

⁵ See also R. Merrifield, *The Archaeology of Ritual Magic* (London, Batsford, 1987) and K. Thomas, *Religion and the Decline of Magic* (London, Weidenfeld, 1997). In 1983/84 after R. G. Carter Ltd. had done major work for us, we found a newly-shaped plaster head high on the inside of the dairy wing gable, another to the right of the kitchen chimney on the ground floor, and an owl and a small cat on the hall chamber wall. When asked about them, the plasterers replied that they "always did" this. Actual cats were sometimes walled in.

RICHARD GOLTY, RECTOR OF FRAMLINGHAM 1630 to 1650 AND 1660 to 1678

By Dr. G. A. Goulty

To write about Richard Golty the Rector of Framlingham, it is worth taking a moment to record what is known of his antecedents. He was named after his grandfather Richard, who was a prosperous woolstapler in Calais engaged in buying wool from the producer, grading it, and selling it to a manufacturer in England, which formed a major part of the port's commerce. On 7th January 1558, the main English garrison at Calais was captured by the French. The onslaught that had begun on New Year's Day came as a great shock to the English residents, who thought of Calais as impregnable. According to Tanner and Davy, it was probably at that time when the French captured Calais, that Richard Goulty and his wife Alice left the town and came to Ipswich.¹

There is a record of an earlier Richard Golty in Ipswich in an Indenture of 1446 that granted a piece of land in the parish of St. Mary at Quay near the "Friarsbridge" at the northern end of the town,² and this was confirmed in his will, proved in 1448, in which he left to Joan his wife and Agnes his daughter, one tenement with one garden in the parish of St. Mary ad Caym.³ A Thomas Gowty in his will written in 1465 owned tenements called Hardeleys, Revis and Braiys, and four acres of arable land at Swilland, which he left to his wife Agnes, his two sons Richard and John, and five daughters, Margaret, Joan, Alice, Katherine and Elizabeth. The daughters had each a legacy of 13s. 4d; Joan also had a cow. The sons inherited the tenements and land.⁴ There are also records of a William Gowty husbandman of Ipswich who died in 1518,⁵ and the wills of John Gowtye of Ashbocking whose will was proved in 1523,⁶ and William Gowtye a grocer of Sudbury in 1528.⁷ From this it may be conjectured that Richard and his wife Alice, as fugitives from Calais, in coming to Ipswich, were returning to his Golty relatives.

Richard and Alice had two sons and two daughters: Edmund of whom more later; Mary who married John Tye; Miles a merchant in London; and Catherine who married Christopher Wright. In his will, proved 24th January 1584, he described himself as a clothier.⁸ A clothier was a maker of woollen cloth that adds credence to Tanner's statement that when in Calais he was a woolstapler. The evidence suggests that the Golty's had a prosperous family business importing and exporting wool and woollen products between Ipswich and Calais, that came to a sudden end in 1558.

This Richard, formerly of Calais, had a brother Miles who was a merchant in London, possibly the London end of the wool business, and his two sisters.⁹ Richard must have been an educated gentleman of some means, as his will contains a long list of household articles and furniture and items in gold and silver such as a gold signet ring and a silver salt and a cupboard of books. He bequeathed "coppye holde landes" and tenements at Ipswich to his sister Dexter in the parish of St. Helen and lands at Ashbocking, Hemingstone and Gosbache, villages north of Ipswich, to his son Edmund.¹⁰ Edmund was only nineteen at the time of his father's death, but came into his inheritance on his twenty-third birthday in 1588.

Edmund became a prosperous merchant of Ipswich, to the extent that the estate at Ashbocking was said to have been worth two thousand pounds.¹¹ Edmund and Susanna his wife, the daughter of Richard Collins of Ipswich, had three sons and two daughters. Richard, born 10th March and baptised 26th March 1596; Susanna, baptised 3rd July 1599; Edmund born 30th November 1601; then Elizabeth and Miles the youngest born 16th February 1606; all at Ashbocking.¹² It was the

eldest son Richard who became Curate and then Rector of Framlingham and Saxtead, and who forms the subject of this article.

Richard Golty's Early Years

Richard attended Ipswich School until the age of seventeen, when in 1613 he went up to Pembroke Hall, Cambridge.¹³ In Edmund's will written 13th December 1614 he describes himself as being "sicke in bodie yet of good and perfect memory, thanks to god, ..." Edmund died within five months of making this will. His eldest son Richard was only nineteen at the time of his father's death, a first year student at Cambridge. An Item in his father's will showed a paternal concern that his son should continue his theological studies.¹⁴

Item. I will and my true desyre is that out of those lands and tenements in Ipswich aforesaid after my debts bene payd that myne Executrix of this my will shall allowe to my said sonne Richard Golye Ten poundes yerely at lest untill it shall appere by the testimony of fower of the principall fellowes of the howse of Pembroke Hall in Cambridge. That he maye spare the same Tenn poundes and without the same be able to procede in his studies and callinge there. Whereunto I have offered him up unto God as a lyvinge sacrifice besechinge him to blesse him in his studies and to sanctifie his hart to atteyne to good perfeccion to the good will of God all sufficient. I will that this Tenn poundes be payd him quarterly every yere. And all other my goods and Chattalls, lands and tenemenciets not bequeathed my debts and legacies beinge fully paid I give to Susan my welbeloved wyfe whom I make my sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament toward the bringinge up of my Children and the better maynteynance of my said sonne Richard in his studies.

Richard Golty was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1616, and Master of Arts in 1619. He was ordained priest in Ely Cathedral the year of his Master's degree. His first clerical appointment in 1621 was to the Curacy of the Lancashire parish of Winwick, where he remained for three years, until his move to Framlingham.¹⁵

Dr. Dove held this living at Framlingham, "in commendam" with his Bishopric. (The phrase "in commendam" was used to describe the tenure of a benefice "commended" or given in charge to a clerk or layman to hold with the enjoyment of the revenues until an incumbent had been provided, or for life). The Reverend Mr. Moore was Curate to Bishop Thomas Dove the absentee Rector, and it was in 1624 that Richard Golty succeeded Moore and moved to Framlingham.¹⁶

Appointment as Rector of Framlingham

A Chancery Writ and Warrant was issued 18th January 1625 to appoint Richard Goltie as Rector of Framlingham, and was delivered to the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England at Westminster for execution on 20th January 1625 as follows:¹⁷

Charles, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, ... to our well beloved and faithful counsellor Thomas Coventry, Knight, the Keeper of our Great Seal of England, Greeting. We command you that under our Great Seal our letters patent shall be made in the following form:- The King etc. To the Reverend Father in Christ and Lord Samuel, by Divine Permission Bishop of Norwich ..., Greeting. Concerning the Rectory and Parish Church of Framlingham ad Castrum with the Chapel of Saxted in the County of Suffolk and of right empty and at our gift or presentation, by the resignation of the Reverend Father in Christ Thomas Bishop of Peterborough, the last incumbent there (who formerly retained the commendation of the said Rectory and Chapel) or by any other whatsoever legal means may appear, to our beloved in Christ Richard Goltie, clerk, Master of Arts, by you according to the tenor of these presents, we present, commanding and requiring that the said Richard Goltie be admitted to the Rectory and Parish Church of Framlingham ad Castrum with the Chapel of Saxted aforesaid as Rector and in the same according to custom to be instituted, at the same time to be invested with all his rights, members and appurtenances and all other and singular to be done etc., which by you should be done in this matter as incumbent of this pastoral office, with favour and effect. In which thing etc. Witness etc. given by us under Privy Seal at the Palace of Westminster the 18th day of January in the first year of our reign.

Thomas Packer

Received 20 January 1625

The writ was immediately implemented by the issue of a Letter Patent from Charles 1 dated 20th January 1625 to the Bishop of Norwich confirming the presentation of Richard Goltie, clerk, Master of Arts, as Rector of Framlingham; as follows:¹⁸

The King, to the Reverend Father in Christ and Lord Samuel, by Divine Permission Bishop of Norwich, Greeting. Concerning the Rectory and parish church of Framlingham ad Castrum with the Chapel of Saxted in the County of Suffolk in your diocese, now legally and of right vacant and in our gift or presentation through the resignation of the Reverend in Christ Father Thomas Bishop of Peterborough formerly incumbent there, who lately retained the commendation of the said Rectory and Chapel, or by any other whatsoever legal means may appear, to our beloved in Christ, Richard Goltie, clerk Master of Arts, by the tenor of these presents, we present, commanding and requiring that the said Richard Goltie be admitted to the rectory and parish Church of Framlingham ad Castrum with the Chapel of Saxted as Rector of the same and in the same according to custom to be instituted and at the same time to be invested with all the rights, members and appurtenances and all other and singular to be done, completed and fulfilled by you in this matter, as incumbent of this pastoral office, with favour and effect. In witness ye. Witness the King at Westminster 20th January. Examined by writ of Privy Seal.

Despite this Chancery Writ and Warrant followed by the issue of a Letter Patent in January 1625, Richard Goltie was not instituted as Rector of Framlingham until five years later. The Bishop died 30th August 1630, having been the titular Rector at Framlingham for more than forty-six years, and on 16th September 1630 Goltie at last became Rector.¹⁹

Richard Goltie's Family

The Rector married Deborah Ward in about 1626, the daughter of Samuel Ward, the Town Preacher at Ipswich.²⁰ They had three sons and a daughter, all born at Framlingham. Samuel was born 12th December 1627; Richard 9th March 1629; John 3rd December 1631; and Deborah 1st March 1633.²¹ Samuel and Richard went up to St. Catherine's College, Cambridge; both became Masters of Arts, and Richard a Fellow of his College. Their father lived to see Samuel Rector of Dennington, and afterwards of St. Clement's Ipswich. Nine Goltie's were at Cambridge between 1607 and 1712; all of them were ordained, and six held livings in Suffolk.²²

Ship Money

In 1634 and 1635 Charles I, requiring money for the Navy, issued writs commanding seaport towns to provide ships, and instructed them to raise money for the purpose. Suffolk had to find eight thousand pounds for the King, "for the setting forth of a ship of ware of the burthen of six hundred tuns besides tunnage with men tackle and munition and other necessaries," and at Framlingham the inhabitants made a rate amounting to fifty-five pounds as the parish contribution to this sum. Goltie was assessed at one pound "for glebes and tithes."²³ On 25th March 1640 Richard Goltie, parson of Saxted, dwelling in Framlingham, was assessed at eight shillings for his ecclesiastical estate, which was worth £30 a year.²⁴

Litigation for Tithes

For a large part of his income the Rector was dependent upon tithe, and there were also the rents of the glebe, the fees, and the Easter dues. The Easter dues have long been obsolete, and voluntary offerings on Easter Day have taken their place; but in the seventeenth century, Easter dues were obligatory and were recoverable at law. The collection of outstanding tithes and other charges from parishioners, who did not pay willingly, presented grave problems to the Rector. He had either to give up part of his income or to have recourse to law, which would arouse resentment. The earliest instance of the Rector taking legal proceedings to obtain payment of money due to him occurred on 6th October 1640 at Woodbridge Sessions, when Thomas Goodinge and Thomas Clarke, late Overseers of Framlingham, were required to give account to Mr. Richard Goltie, minister of the said town, within six days, to deliver up moneys in their hands.²⁵

In 1641 Richard Golty farmed part of the glebe, and let part, and from time to time he had an arrangement with his neighbours. At Badingham there was John Waldegrave, and Golty sold him some corn: "10 combe of oates which he had of me comes at 4s. 4d. the combe 2l.3s.4d." Waldegrave owed for the herbage of his meadows in Framlingham, "this 9 yeeres ever since he had them," and also tithes on wheat, barley and flax, and he paid three pounds and owed the rest. Golty issued a writ, and Waldegrave then paid the balance of the account. The concluding entry in the accounts about this transaction is:²⁶

"Yt (em) for a writ 6s.8d. Received this 25 of August 2l.3s. which with the 3l. above saide I acknowledge my selfe fully satisfied for the reckonings and tithes above saids. In witness whereof wee set our handes and mutually acquit each other the day and yeere above written:

"John Waldegrau

Rich: Golty."

In 1645 Richard Golty considered that Robert Peirce had not paid any tithe for twenty-two years. There is a very curious entry about this man. He lived in Framlingham at Bulles Hall, and farmed in Framlingham, Saxtead and Dennington. He owed four pounds a year for Bulles Hall, and two pounds a year on the other farms, "Come and all." So Golty consulted his attorney, Harrison, and made up an account against Peirce for twenty pounds, "for which", he says, "I have outlawed him."²⁷

From some time around the sixteen-forties until his death, the Rector's sons assisted him in his business matters. It was in the sixteen-forties that we first read of "my son John", acting in this capacity; Samuel was making entries in the accounts in the sixteen-eighties. John was farming in the parish after the Restoration, and apparently his father was financing him. There is the entry in 1663: "John Golty owes for all these 2 yeeres I know not how much at least 100 L."²⁸ The living was valued in the seventeenth century as worth £43.6s.8d a year, and was the second richest in Suffolk.²⁹

There is record of a suit being commenced in the Kings Bench by Richard Golty, Rector of Framlingham, against John Waldegrave, a tenant of the Earl of Suffolk, respecting the payment of tithes. A petition was made on 17th June 1648 by Nicholas Sheene and others that the suit be stayed. The petitioners, who were tenants of the Earl, were also being prosecuted in the same court by Golty, and ask that the suits commenced against them may also be stayed. Their Lordships agreed.³⁰

Trespassers at Framlingham Castle

On 21st September 1643 Richard Golty gave evidence that since the decease of Sir Robert Hitcham, Nicholas Sheene had from time to time removed about twenty thousand tiles from the roof of the house at Framlingham Castle, which were worth about ten shillings a thousand. He had also taken down timber to the value of ten pounds and had used those materials to repair the toll house and stalls and other things in the Shambles of which he had a lease. He had also ploughed up sixty acres of pasture, and Mr. Waldegrave had ploughed up eight acres of pasture as also one Robert More who had ploughed up sixteen acres which Sir Robert had bequeathed for charitable purposes, and which had never been ploughed up before in the memory of man. These lands had been left for charitable purposes to Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, and the residue to the poor of Framlingham.³¹

Sequestration

Shortly after King Charles was beheaded, a decree was promulgated called "The Engagement". This required a declaration of fidelity to the Commonwealth in the following terms:

"I do declare and promise, That I will be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of England, as the same is now established, without a King, or House of Lords."

It was necessary for all dignitaries and officials both ecclesiastical and lay to sign The Engagement, and all persons who were in receipt of pay or emolument from public funds. The clergy were required to sign it "publickly, in the Face of the Congregation." A Parliamentary

Bill that gave statutory authority to this demand was read a third time on 2nd January 1650, and became the law of the land. Richard Golty refused to make the declaration, and he was therefore sequestered of his living and forbidden to exercise the sacred office. He left the Rectory at Framlingham and went to his estate at Ashbocking, where he remained for ten years in the place where he had been born some fifty-four years before.³² From 1650 to 1660, between the sequestration and the restoration of Richard Golty, Henry Sampson, a Fellow of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, held the Rectory, but he was not ordained.³³

Restoration

One of the earliest Acts of Parliament after the Restoration was the "Act for the Confirming and Restoring of Ministers." Golty had done none of the things which debarred clergy who had been guilty of them from recovery of their benefices before the next Christmas Day, and he was free, therefore, to benefit from the provisions in the Act. (He had not signed a petition "to bring the late King Charles of blessed memory to tryall;" he had not "by writing, preaching, printing, or any other open act procured endeavoured or justified the murder of the said late King;" and he had not "declared his judgement to be against Infant baptisme.") Accordingly in 1660 he presented a humble petition to the Right Honourable the Peers of the Realm of England assembled in Parliament:³⁴

That whereas your petitioner after above 25 years continuance in the ministry in Framlingham aforesaid where w[i]th diligence and faithfulness he laboured the discharge of his duty was in the yeare 1650 for refusing the engagement and manifesting his disaffection onely to these horrid changes of government yt were introduced by an armed violence by a pretended Com[mi]ttee of Parliam[en]t sequestered from the aforesaid Rectory.

May your honours please to consider.

First that after so long continuance thear nothing of error or scandall was charged against your petitioner the onely charge against him was disaffection to the irregular proceedings of ye army in the yeare 1648.

2 ly. That his sequestration was ordered not by a Com[mi]ttee of Lords and Com[m]ons but by a pretended Com[mi]ttee after y[ou]r fundamentall government of King Lords and Com[m]ons was violated.

3 ly. That since your petitioners removall thence the people there have been under many grievances particularly they have suffered under the want of the administration of ye sacraments both of Baptism and the Lords Supper they bring for the most part (and as your petitioner believeth at this time are) destitute of an orthodox ordained minister.

May your honours please upon these considerations to vouchsafe your speedy order for his restitution to ye afores[ai]d Rectory and your petitioner shall pray etc. Richard Golty

His petition was approved, and at the age of sixty-five, when most men today are retired, he returned to the living at some time between 10th April and 9th May 1661.³⁵ In reference no doubt to his restoration, he wrote two sentences in the Framlingham Register Book. The first occurred in the baptismal portion where he wrote: "Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis." [The times are perpetually changing and we change with the times]. The other appears on page 277 after an entry of burial in April 1661. "Viscissitudinibus subitaneis subiacent omnia, quapropter felicem dicunt eum mundani homines qui temporis nequissimis inservire novit." [All things are subject to sudden changes wherefore worldly men call him happy, who has known how to conform to the worst of times.]³⁶

Further Litigation for Tithes

The old difficulties about the Rector getting his money were renewed after his return. There was the case of Thomas Clerke, gentleman, who died on 6th August 1669 owing Golty a great deal more than he could afford to lose. Clerke seems to have paid nothing since 1640. Golty made out a bill that he no doubt hoped the executor would discharge. It started with nineteen shillings for nineteen years' Easter dues - making no charge for the ten years of Golty's sequestration - and amounted to more than thirty pounds, most of which was in respect of land (part, if not all, of it glebe) that Clerke had farmed. He was evidently one of the largest farmers in the two parishes. Besides these, there were the Park lands, and for ten years' payments for them Golty recalls,

I had him in sute and brought him to a trial but was hindred from proceeding by an order from the House of Peers Mr. Edmon Jordan of Parham being my attorney.

These payments for ten years came to thirty-two pounds, which Golty reckoned as still due to him, so that Clerke owed him more than sixty pounds, not a penny of which ever came his way.³⁷

The Will of Golty's Son John

John Golty died aged thirty-seven on 27th October 1669. He was described as a gentleman of Framlingham in his will, which was proved on 20th October 1671. There were legacies to his brothers Samuel and Richard; his brother-in-law Philip Chandler, who married his sister Deborah; and his daughter Rachell. John Golty was quite prosperous as he owned five houses. There was a malting office and his house in Framlingham in which he was living at the time of making his will on 25th October 1669, a second house at Framlingham commonly known as the White House, a house at Earl Soham; house and lands at Eyke; and a house and land at Bromeswell.³⁸

Golty's Tithe Account Book

Golty kept two account books; one of them is missing, but the other is still in existence. The surviving book appears to be in the original binding of sheepskin vellum, and it had at one time red leather straps that fastened with a brass buckle to close it. The straps are rather more than an inch wide, and are secured to the cover by narrow strips arranged in a lozenge-shaped pattern. The end of the other strap is missing, and time and usage has discoloured the vellum. The book is about four centimetres thick and contains about four hundred and thirty-eight pages measuring twenty-nine centimetres by nineteen and a half centimetres.³⁹ The book carries an endorsement that it was "Given to the Revd Wm Wyatt by the Revd Mr. Peele, Rector of Tinley, Norfolk". William Wyatt gave it to Charles Clubbe of Framlingham, an attorney at law, who gave it to John Martin his managing clerk, who gave it to his son Mr. James Mason Martin a solicitor of Framlingham.⁴⁰ Golty wrote in a very small script, each line only four millimetres apart, and he entered details of receipts and payments in the smallest possible space. He penned the occupiers' names, about five to a page, in large and accurately formed letters, and made the entries under each name in his ordinary hand.

The major significance of Golty's accounts is that they provide evidence about Framlingham and Saxtead in the seventeenth century that is not recorded elsewhere. It is a contemporaneous account of the farming life in a rural Suffolk parish around the time of the Civil War. The Tithe Account Book is a meticulous record of every year for the thirty-eight years of his rectorship. There is a poignant paragraph in which he describes some of his predicaments. It is undated, but appears to have been written about 1662:

I came to this living of Framlingham and Saxtead in the yeere 1624: but could get noe bookes of accompts what my former prediccursors received for Herbage or any other dues paid by the parishioners only an exemplification sued out by one Mrs. Page for some customes in question betweene here and Mr. Moore whoe was curate to Thomas Dove Bisshop of Peterburgh whoe held this living by commendam, whoe because he was only a curate and could have little or noe ayde and allowance from the incumbent suffered such an exemplification being loth at his owne costes as is thought to prosecute the sute."⁴¹

Golty a Man of Property

An examination of the returns for Hearth Tax give an indication of the status of Richard Golty in the community of Framlingham. The tax lasted for twenty-seven years from 1662 to 1689, and in the early years only taxable hearths were listed, but a subsequent Act lay down that all hearths were to be included in the returns, including those exempt from the tax. The tax was levied upon all dwellings "which are not worth in yearly value below Twenty Shillings and are not inhabited by Almsmen", and was two shillings per annum for each hearth or stove. The Act of 1664 required that only occupiers who had more than two chimneys were liable for the tax. The tax was payable by the occupiers and not the landlord, and was assessed on the occupier's

ability to pay, except in the case of poor tenants when the landlord became liable. The Hearth Tax return for 1674 listed "Richard Goulty clerke" as having seven hearths. Only four dwellings in Framlingham had more than seven.⁴² Golty had acquired quite a lot of property during his incumbency at Framlingham: half an acre called Wren's Croft; two pieces containing nine acres called Cave's Hill; a parcel of the tenement Cave's; a messuage and certain land of fourteen acres of the demesne of the Manor called Heynings lying at Watling-went; and four acres with a Milmount and three pieces containing fifteen acres called Hall-field. He also had rents from Griffin Close that was possibly part of his Glebe land.⁴³ He was a wealthy and influential person in Framlingham, and a will would have been expected. A search in the Indexes of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury; the Consistory Court of Norwich; and the four Archdeaconry Courts in Norfolk and Suffolk have failed to show any record of this.

"Golty's Ordinary"

Joan Corder was the author of *A Dictionary of Suffolk Arms* in which she recorded the arms of Goltie, Golty and Golye.⁴⁴ She went to many sources for this compilation,⁴⁵ but the most important, so far as the Golty arms were concerned, was a manuscript which was an ordinary of arms on two hundred and sixty-six pages, bound in contemporary limp vellum containing 2,376 emblazoned coats, nine to a page. The title page is missing and the manuscript commences at page three. It was compiled about 1655, with additions in other hands up to 1660, one of whom produced the index and noted that many of the coats were "in Preston Church", "in Mr. Bloys his house". The first recorded owner of the manuscript, whose name is written on the flyleaf, was "Mr. Gouter of Donnington". This was most likely to have been Samuel Golty, Rector of Dennington from 1658 until appointed Rector of St. Clement's at Ipswich in 1662, second son of Richard Golty, Rector of Framlingham. For this reason, and because the only crest given in the manuscript was that of Golty, Miss Corder named the book, "Golty's Ordinary". The arms of Golty's of Ashbocking, Dennington, Framlingham, Ipswich and Sweffling are recorded as: Or, two bars and in chief three fleurs-de-lis Sable, with "a tygers head" as a crest.⁴⁶

There is no doubt the Goltys were an armigerous family, possibly deriving from Richard Golty of Calais who adopted the fleur-de-lis in his arms to indicate his business and residence in France.

Richard Golty's Lasting Legacy

Golty the Rector was eighty-four when he died on 28th May 1678, and his widow Deborah survived him by fourteen years until April 1692. His son John and his daughter-in-law Rachell had predeceased him, and were buried in the nave of the chancel. A memorial ledger of black marble is situated centrally between the altar and high altar rail. It bears the following inscription:

Here rest ye body of Rich Golty Rr of his church ob. May 28, Ao. Dni. 1678, Et: 84

Also inscribed below:

Here ly the Bodys of John Golty and Rachell his wife, Hee Died ye 27th of Octr. 1669. She died ye 9th of Decembr, 1662.⁴⁷

Although the inscriptions are worn they are still quite legible.

Richard Golty served the parish of St. Michael at Framlingham for six years as Curate, and thirty-eight years as Rector, which shows a dedicated life-time service to the Church until a venerable age. His Tithe Account Book is his lasting memorial to the rural life of his times.

Notes:

- 1 Bodleian Library Oxford Tanner MSS include pedigree of Goltie with note "Richard Goltie came into England from Calais about the time of the loss of Calais". D. E. Davy "Suffolk Collection of Manuscripts" vol LVI, p. 136. British Museum Add. MSS 19172. Davy (1796-1851) compiled extensive manuscript collections relating to Suffolk. In 1848 he published *The Armoury of Suffolk* in which he wrote that Goltie came from Calais.
- 2 Indenture 24th April 1446 granting Richard Gowty a piece of land in Ipswich for sixty years at an annual rent of twelve pence. Historical Manuscripts Commission *Ninth Report* p. 235; also W. A. Copinger, *County of Suffolk: its history as disclosed by existing records and other documents* (1904-5) vol. 3, p. 284.
- 3 *Calendar of Wills at Ipswich 1444-1600*, compiled by F. A. Crisp. Book I. Richi Gowty of Gippswic, folio 43.
- 4 *Ibid.* Book II. Thome Gowtie of Swylled, folio 156.
- 5 *Ibid.* Book VIII. Willi Gowty de Grippo, folio 11.
- 6 *Ibid.* Johnis Gowty de Ashbocking, folio 183.
- 7 *Calendar of Pre-Reformation Wills ... Registered at the Probate Office, Bury St. Edmunds*; edited by V. B. Redstone. (Ipswich, 1907) William Gowtye of Sudburye, grocer. 25 July 1527, proved at Sudbury 7 April 1528. Brylove folio 283.
- 8 *Calendar of Wills relating to the County of Suffolk proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury between 1383 and 1604.* (1913) p. 36. Ipswich 1583 Richard Goltie, Butts folio 21. Public Record Office PROB 11/66.
- 9 *Ibid.*
- 10 *Ibid.*
- 11 R. Reyce. *Suffolk in the XVII century: the breviary of Suffolk 1618.* (1902)
- 12 The references to births and baptisms at Ashbocking are from the pedigree identified at Note 1 above.
- 13 Ipswich School. "Morley's Register".
- 14 *Index of Wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.* Vol. V (1912). 1615 Edmund Goltie, merchant, Ipswich. Rudd folio 47. PROB 11/125.
- 15 J. and J. A. Venn. *Alumni Cantabrigienses ... Part 1* (Cambridge, 1922) Vol. II p. 231.
- 16 A. Page. *A Supplement to the Suffolk Traveller ...* (1841) pp. 102-3.
- 17 Chancery. *Deputy Keeper's Annual Reports 1840-1902.* 43. App.i. p. 18. Chancery Writs and Warrants. Series II (c.82) No. 1998. Translated and transcribed by Mrs. Carne.
- 18 Chancery. Patent Roll. 1 Charles I, part 8, no. 5 (c. 66) No. 2355. Translated and transcribed by Mrs. Carne.
- 19 R. Green. *History, topography and antiquities of Framlingham and Saxstead* (1834) pp. 128-9. Richard Goltie of Framlingham cum Saxstead for the year 1630, listed in *Catalogue of Beneficed Clergy in Suffolk 1551-1631.* Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History *Proceedings* vol. 19 (1927) p. 47; vol. 22 (1936) p. 304.
- 20 Mr. Ward was born at Haverhill in 1577, and buried in St. Mary le Tower, Ipswich on 8th March 1639. He was for many years "town preacher" at Ipswich appointed by the Corporation, who paid him a salary of £180 *p.a.* For a fuller account *The Victoria History of the Counties of England. Suffolk.* vol. II (1907) p. 41, and J. Waddespoon, *Memorials of the ancient town of Ipswich* (1850) pp. 371-5.
- 21 Suffolk Record office. Framlingham Register of baptisms.
- 22 Venn *op. cit.*
- 23 J. Booth, *Nicholas Danforth and his neighbors* (Framingham, Mass., 1935) p. 35. This is a small book of 64 pages and nearly every page, excluding appendices, has some references to Richard Goltie. It is a remarkable book, summarizing his life as the Rector of Framlingham from his appointment in 1624 to his death in 1678, as well as the period of his sequestration. Drawing extensively upon his Tithes Account Book, it is the only biography of any Goltie or Goulty.
- 24 V. B. Redstone, *The Ship Money Returns for the County of Suffolk, 1639-1640* (Harleian MSS 7540-7542) (1904) p. 144.
- 25 Sessions Order Book 1639-1651: Sessions at Woodbridge, 6th October 1640. Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History *Proceedings* vol. 15 (1915) p. 164.
- 26 Booth *op. cit.* p. 29.
- 27 *Ibid.* p. 31.
- 28 *Ibid.* p. 29.
- 29 *Ibid.* p. 15, citing "Valor Beneficiorum" 1695.
- 30 House of Lords *Journal* 24 Car. I, 330, 331. Historical Manuscripts Commission, *Seventh Report.* Also cited in Copinger *op. cit.* vol. 2, p. 441.

- ³¹ The reference to this document was provided by C. A. Bernau, who had a private manuscript card index to many of the unindexed records at the Public Record Office. It is listed as Town Depositions C24 bundle 678: it is amongst the "A" suits. (Transcribed by his daughter Mrs. Carne).
- ³² Green *op. cit.*
- ³³ A. G. Matthews, *Walker Revised: being a revision of John Walker's book Sufferings of the Clergy during the Grand Rebellion 1642-1660*. (Oxford, 1948) pp. 335-6. R. F. Bullen, *Sequestrations in Suffolk*. Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History *Proceedings* vol. 19 (1927) p. 47. [For Henry Sampson see Packard, F. "Henry Sampson: non-conformist minister and physician" in *Suffolk Review*, vol. 4 (Summer 1977) pp. 56-63. *Editor*].
- ³⁴ Public Record Office. JA 1/31/1 1206.
- ³⁵ Green *op. cit.* p. 128.
- ³⁶ Reyce *op. cit.*; Green *op. cit.* p. 128; Booth *op. cit.* p. 39.
- ³⁷ Booth *op. cit.* p. 42. There was also a Chancery Suit between Richard Golty, clerk in Holy Orders, plaintiff, and John Waldegrave, gent.; Nicholas Sheene, gent, William Tracey; Roger Moore and John Butcher, defendants, concerning payment of titles in Framlingham of a buck and a doe, or £3.4s.0d. instead, *per annum* to Richard Golty the then Rector. Eleven documents forming part of the Suit are listed Public Record office. Chancery Writs and Warrants. Series II (c.82), file 81, no. 24. They comprise the writ and all the inter-rogatories and depositions of witnesses. The document giving the Court's decision has not yet been traced. [See also Copinger *op. cit.* vol. 2, p. 411.]
- ³⁸ *Index of Wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury*. Vol. IX. (1942). John Golty, gent., Framlingham. Duke, folio 121. PROB 11/37.
- ³⁹ I have not seen Golty's Tithe Account Book but the description is derived from Booth *op. cit.* and M. Kilvert. A copy is held in Suffolk Record Office (JC 1/29/1) but is indexed incorrectly as Golty's "Diary".
- ⁴⁰ The present owner of Golty's Tithe Account Book is not known to me.
- ⁴¹ Booth *op. cit.* p. 19.
- ⁴² *Suffolk Hearth Tax*. Suffolk Green Book no. XI, vol. 13, (1905) p. 112. In 1674 a Golty of Dennington had twelve hearths and a Golty of Ipswich ten hearths.
- ⁴³ R. Hawes, *History of Framlingham ... with ... additions and notes by R. Loder* (Woodbridge, 1798) pp. 345, 347, 355, 356, 380.
- ⁴⁴ J. Corder, *A Dictionary of Suffolk Arms*. Suffolk Record Society vol. VIII (1965); *ibid.*, *A Dictionary of Suffolk Crests: Heraldic Crests of Suffolk Families*. Suffolk Record Society vol. XL (1998)
- ⁴⁵ Blazons of Golty arms were recorded by: W. Blois, "The Arms of all the Ancient Families in Suffolk", N. Fairfax, "Catalogue of Arms of Many Authors", W. Sharpe, "The Ancient and Modern Nobility in Suffolk", J. Papworth, *Ordinary of British Armorial* (1874). There are also arms of a Golty of Belstead (near Ipswich) as a Burry Or of four, on a chief three fleurs-de-lis.
- ⁴⁶ "Golty's Ordinary" p. 129.
- ⁴⁷ Transcribed by the author; also in Green *op. cit.* p. 144, and V. B. Redstone, *Memorials of Old Suffolk* (London, 1908) p. 1

EXIT LINES

Given fine harvesting weather, and assuming that the recent heavy downfalls have not done damage to the extent accredited, the crops this year should prove of record weight and quality. A great deal of hay was carted early, and the break in the long spell of dry weather in May and June came just in time to save the roots, and the potatoes, and to fill out the corn. There is, of course, the difficult question of labour, but the combing out of agricultural labourers from each county is not to be carried out to the extent contemplated, and the deferred men are to remain on the land until after harvest. Since the beginning of the war a quarter of a million men have been taken from agriculture for the army, but there are over 300,000 women working on the land. One of the revelations of the war is the way in which women have taken up work formerly regarded as only possible for men, and it is wonderful what trained women and girls of the Land Army have done for agriculture. More women, however, are needed on the land, and sometime back Mr. Lloyd George made a special appeal to all capable of undertaking this hard and arduous work to come forward and help this harvest-time.

From *Framlingham Weekly News*, 27 July 1918

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