

FRAM

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

4th
Series

Number 1

August 2001

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Framlingham and District
Local History and Preservation Society**

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 12th September: Repeat visit to Gus Kitson at Sibton with his Suffolk Punch. Meet at Elms Car Park - 6 p.m.

Saturday 15th September - Sunday 16th September. Exhibition in St. Michael's Church to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the Framlingham Town Pageant, jointly with the Lanman Museum, Framlingham.

Wednesday 31st October: Annual General Meeting followed by talk on local government in Framlingham by Mrs. Beryl Whitehead. Framlingham Free Church Hall. 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday 21st November: Mr. J. A. Howson. Traditional Suffolk music and song. Framlingham Free Church Hall. 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 22nd November: Annual Dinner, Framlingham Conservative Club (details under separate cover)

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

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

I begin to be bored with Bigods.

Perhaps presuming on a long association with the town of Framlingham, the family seems still to exert seigneurial rights here, acting as if they owned the place. Having departed from the local scene hundreds of years ago, they and their descendants linger on uneasily, as disabling shadows from the past.

Four years ago, when this journal was reborn after some twenty-five years, I stated in the first editorial of the new series that Framlingham was a town dripping with history. Articles published here since then have re-inforced that point, exploring, from time to time, the leading role played in the national arena by this town in earlier periods. Nevertheless, I hear myself saying, enough is enough.

When I am stewarding at the Lanman Museum at the Castle, I see lots of visitors, from near and far, individuals and families, going into ecstasies over the sheep-boots and flat-irons tastefully displayed there, as well as speculating earnestly as to why calves had to wear spiky collars, and savouring the World War Two ration books and identity cards, before they pore over the trivia on the front page of *Framlingham Weekly News* a hundred years ago. Sadly (perhaps) the fact that here in Framlingham, centuries ago, figures of national significance waxed and waned, exerted and displayed their power, and were sometimes called to high office from Framlingham, might excite many of them as much, or as little, as it does me.

I acknowledge that I am biased on this. Having names and dates of kings and queens and other notables forcibly impressed upon one's memory in childhood and adolescence is a very effective way to ensure long-term aversion to national political and constitutional history, and what I hear when I am stewarding at the Museum suggests it may have had similar effects upon others of my generation, and their successors.

Many years ago, when I was at school and moved into the sixth form, I was graciously permitted to select as part of my A-level history syllabus, eighteenth and early nineteenth century English social history. I experienced, then, a sense of both release and excitement: here at last was a topic to study that was not just an exercise about the great and the good and the bad, but something of relevance to me personally, about people and activities and attitudes that still leave an imprint on, and seemed to have something to tell us, about the way in which society and local communities operate and have their being.

Readers of this journal with children and grandchildren at primary and secondary school will know that kings and queens, battles and treaties have a lower profile now in the history

curriculum, and in studying the subject pupils are expected - indeed required - to think, explore and experience some of the elements that make up their own local community, economic, social, cultural, and then sometimes to take that forward into a wider national context.

More than forty years ago, the historian, Sir Lewis Namier, demonstrated that an appreciation of a whole variety of social, economic and political factors at a local level could lead on to an understanding of the way in which society operates and develops in a much wider context, regional and even national. It took several additional factors to enable that perception to change, over quite a short period, the way in which our children are taught to understand the subject of history, by exploring the development of their own community, and local communities elsewhere. One of those factors, in the latter part of the last century, was the History Workshop movement.

A founding father and leading exponent of that movement was the late Raphael Samuel, whose extensive working papers were left to a library I am associated with, in the City of London. Sorting these materials to prepare them for public access, is an exciting, and also a humbling experience, as one apprehends the thought processes and *modus operandi* of someone whose ideas and writings have profoundly affected the way that we and our children understand the history of our society, and approach the local source materials from which that understanding is derived.

I hope that this journal will continue to provide a means of exploring and disseminating such materials for the area of Framlingham, to inform our awareness of this town's past and, in so doing, provide significant components to enhance understanding of our history in a wider context.

Perhaps I could learn to live with those Bigods, but having said what I've just said, they'd do well to develop the common touch.

Fram 1974

Rights of Way. When one looks back to one's boyhood in our little town of Framlingham, what a lot of nice walks it was possible to take; short cuts in those days from Cherry Tree Farm across to Red House Farm, Earl Soham Lane from Lincoln's Barn to Earl Soham, Holgate Hill to Parham and, most interesting of all, College Road (known in olden days as Yarn [?Horn] Hill - does anyone know why?) to Dennington, which led *right through the College front door*. This Right of Way was kept open by Mr. Harry Coleman every Christmas Day by requiring the College to open up for him. This he did till he died. It is believed that this Right of Way has now lapsed because no-one carried on after he died. There is a very nice Right of Way from the Castle, alongside the Meres, across Lord's Meadow and then branching two ways - one up to the Dennington Road and to Saxtead, and the other up to Top Lodge (Great Lodge) and through to Ivy House right on the boundary of the parish of Framlingham. The late Leslie Dorling did much to keep most of these Rights of Way open, but now many of them have been ploughed up and the stiles no longer exist.

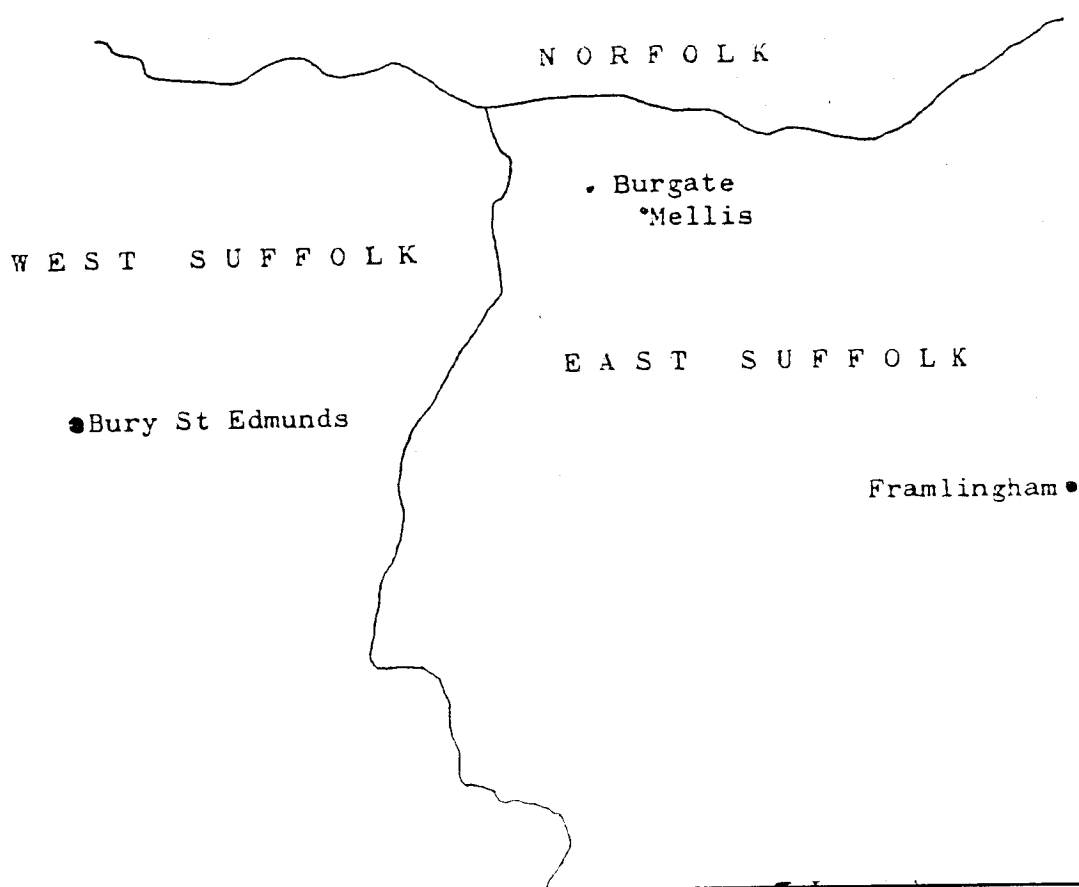
GOODWYN OF FRAMLINGHAM

By Peter Goodwyn

[Why the "y"? In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the letters "i" and "y" were freely interchangeable, according to the whim of the scribe. Up to 1700, the common spellings of the family surname were GOODING and GOODWIN. From 1700 onwards, most of the family adopted the spelling GOODWYN. In this paper, the spelling on tombstones, wills and parish registers has been followed in that order of priority. Arabic numerals in brackets denote the generation of the person: for example Thomas (1) is Thomas of the first generation, who died in 1551.]

The Goodwyns of Framlingham are descended from Thomas Goodding, yeoman of Burgate, who died in 1551. In his will, dated 1551, he mentions his father and mother as then living in a house on his tenement in Burgate, but sadly does not name them. He obviously did not think his father would survive long because he wills "that my father have a cow and the keeping thereof the next winter and the next". A Nicholas Goodwine is buried at Wortham (registers begin 1538), one mile north of Burgate, in 1552. A Helen Goodwine, widow, is buried at Burgate (registers begin 1560) in 1565. Nicholas and Helen are probably the parents of Thomas (1), but documentary proof does not exist.

A graduated tax called a subsidy was granted by Parliament to Henry VIII in 1523. Almost every householder in Suffolk paid the subsidy in 1524. The only Goodwyn payee in the Burgate area was Nycholas Goodyng at Market Weston, six miles west of Burgate; and there were no other Nicholas Goodwyn payees in Suffolk. Nycholas Goodyng paid four pence in respect of his annual wages of £1.



It is clear from Thomas(1)'s will that he had just purchased the Burgate tenement, which he also refers to as a farm, from his father for £3. He leaves the farm to his wife Margery, asking her to pay six shillings and eight pence a year to his father or his father's assigns until the purchase price is satisfied. On Margery's death in 1559, the farm passed to the elder son William (2), who died intestate nine months later. Administration of William(2)'s estate was obtained in 1564, presumably when the younger son Thomas (2) became entitled to the farm on his twenty-first birthday.

An undated document headed Tomas Goodwyn in the Burgate Manorial Records in the University of Chicago Library described as a "Survey of the Lands of Thomas Goodwyn", has been dated 1560-1570 by scholars. The survey was probably made in connection with the administration of William(2)'s estate in 1564. The total shown on the document is 275 acres 34 poles. Among the pieces of land listed are "8 acres in the Church Close and 20 acres 1 rood in the Lord's Close lying next the Church." So it would appear that the farm was near the church. The wills of Thomas (1) and Thomas (2) indicate a mixed farm, with one or two horses and several cattle.

Another subsidy was granted by Parliament to Elizabeth I in 1566. The second year's payment made in 1568 was assessed on the basis of either ten pence in the pound on movable goods or sixteen pence in the pound on lands. Thomas Goodinge paid one shilling and four pence in the 1568 subsidy in respect of his lands.

Thomas (2) married firstly at Palgrave in 1565 Margaret Randall, by whom he had six children; and secondly at Yaxley in 1577 Elizabeth Underley, by whom he had eight children. A year or so after his second marriage, he moved one mile south east from Burgate to Mellis. He died at Mellis in 1598. The Burgate farm passed to his eldest son Thomas (3) and thence out of the Goodwyn family in 1633.

Jasper (3), the youngest surviving son of Thomas (2), was baptised at Mellis in 1585. He obviously thought the future held little for him in Burgate/Mellis, and moved fifteen miles to Framlingham, perhaps shortly after his twenty-first birthday in 1606. He married Judith Sheringe in 1611 at St. Mary's, Bury St. Edmunds - a beautiful and popular church in which to get married in those days, when one could be married in the parish of one's choice. They had fourteen children, of whom nine died young.

Jasper (3) was well established in Framlingham when the Reverend Richard Golty started keeping his Tithe Account Book in 1628. The name Jasper Goodinge appears several times between 1629 and 1642 under the heading "Towards Parham" as owing tithe moneys. Charles I issued several ship money writs in the late 1630s, when he was trying to govern without Parliament. The last writ was issued in 1639, requiring Suffolk to produce "1 ship of 640 tons and 256 men". The cost of this levy was £8,000. The Ship Money Return for 1639/40 shows that Jasper Gooding paid £1-1-0 of the total £55 collected from the town of Framlingham.

When Sir Robert Hitcham bequeathed Framlingham Castle to the Master and Fellows of Pembroke Hall Cambridge in 1653, Jasper Gooding was appointed a trustee for the poor of the town of Framlingham. He was one of the Surveyors of Highways for the town in 1654. Jasper (3) died at Framlingham in 1656 aged 71, leaving his "capital messuage" to his wife Judith for life and then to his eldest son John (4).

John (4), the eldest surviving son of Jasper (3), was baptised at Framlingham in 1613. He married Bridget Downing at Framlingham in 1640. They had ten children, of whom two died young. Parish registers suffered in the 1640s and 1650s during and after the Civil War. Registration in the 1650s was taken out of the hands of the clergy and given to civil clerks. The baptisms of John (4)'s first five children have not been found: the sixth in 1648 was recorded at Cratfield, eight miles north of Framlingham: the seventh and eighth in 1652 and 1654 at Bruisyard, and the last two in 1657 and 1661 at Framlingham.

John (4) returned to Framlingham after the death of his father in 1656. Richard Golty's Tithe Account Book shows that in 1663 John Goodinge was an outdweller owing three shillings and six pence for twelve acres and one shilling and six pence for two horses. In 1662, Parliament had granted Charles II an annual tax of two shillings a year on every hearth in England and Wales. The Hearth Tax Return for Framlingham for 1674 shows John Gooding living in a house with seven hearths - the size of house appropriate to a yeoman. He died at Framlingham in 1687 aged 73, leaving most of his "lands in Framlingham and Parham" to his eldest son Jasper (5), some land to his second son John (5), and no land at all to his youngest son James (5).

Jasper (5), eldest son of John (4), was born *circa* 1646. He never married. In 1703 Jasper Gooding, gentleman, of Framlingham, was the first-named of the trustees of the charitable bequest set up by Thomas Mills, who specified that the trustees should be chosen from the "Chief Inhabitants of the Town of Framlingham". Jasper (5)'s younger brother John (5), born at Cratfield in 1648, also never married and died intestate in 1695. Fortunately the youngest brother James (5), born at Bruisyard in 1652, married Sarah Baldry of Framlingham in 1681, and had seven children, of whom all survived. Very sensibly as it turned out, James (5) named his first two sons John and Jasper. So when Jasper (5) died in 1706, he left his "capital messuages in Framlingham and Parham" to his nephew Jasper (6) and his brother John (5)'s land to his nephew John (6).

James (5) died intestate in 1692 aged 39. He was the only male descendant of Thomas (1) in the fifth generation to marry and have children. The Goodwins of Framlingham (there are many of them) are descended from his eldest son John (6): the Goodwyns of Framlingham from his second son Jasper (6): Dr. Edmund (8)¹ from his third son Edmund (6); and what happened to his youngest son James (6) is a mystery. From hereon, this paper follows the descendants of Jasper (6) until they leave Framlingham in the mid-nineteenth century.

Jasper (6), second son of James (5), was baptised at Framlingham in 1686. On his twenty-first birthday in 1707, he became entitled to his uncle Jasper (5)'s capital message. He married Margaret Stott at Ipswich in 1709. They had three children, all of whom survived. Valuations in the Framlingham parish records indicate that Jasper (6) owned some ten to fifteen acres of land. In 1729 Jasper Goodwyn was cited as one of the "chief inhabitants and proprietors of real estates in Framlingham" in a Feoffment of the Town Lands. He died intestate at Framlingham in 1730 aged 43. The inventory of goods and chattels, submitted with the administration of Jasper (6)'s estate reveals a small mixed farm. The property comprised a five-bedroom farmhouse with dairy and butteries, together with a barn, stable, pastures and yards. There were 19 milch cows, 5 heifers and a bud bull in the pastures; 6 hogs and unnumbered fowls in the yards; and corn in the straw, and hay in the barn. There were no horses and no sheep. The location of the farm is not known, but on or near the parish boundary with Parham seems probable.

Jasper (7), the only son of Jasper (6), was baptised at Framlingham in 1710. He married Jane Wightman, a daughter of wealthy Framlingham draper Samuel Wightman and his wife Sarah, in about 1730. They had ten children, of whom four girls died young. The marriage is not recorded: one suspects this was because Jasper (7) offended his ultra-religious future parents-in-law by getting Jane pregnant before they were married. Until the Hardwicke Marriage Act of 1754, it was legal to get married in any building at any time without banns or licence: in other words a church service, though customary, was not obligatory. Significantly perhaps, neither Samuel nor Sarah Wightman mention Jane in their wills.

Presumably Jasper (7) became entitled to his father's farm on his twenty-first birthday in 1731, but he does not appear to have been a dedicated farmer: documents dated 1750 and 1751 describe him as a grocer. In the 1757 will of his prosperous son-in-law Edmund (7), surgeon, he is said to be occupying a messuage in Framlingham owned by the testator. He may well have occupied this messuage for the rest of his life, as under the will it passed to Dr. Edmund (8). In 1770 Jasper Goodwyn signed a Terrier of Glebe Lands as a "Chief Inhabitant of Framlingham". He was a churchwarden throughout the 1770s, and died at Framlingham in 1789 aged 78. In his will he instructs his executors to sell all his freehold and copyhold estates (including the family farmhouse?).

James (8), younger son of Jasper (7), was baptised at Framlingham in 1745. In 1778 he signed a bastardy order, agreeing with the Churchwardens (one of whom was his father) and Overseers of the Poor of Framlingham to indemnify the parish against all expenses connected with a bastard child. James (8) married Margaret Parker at Framlingham in 1779. They had seven children, one of whom died in infancy. He does not appear to have owned any freehold land during his life. This is confirmed in his will of 1811, as he gives the whole of his estate including "the remainder of my leases of the farms now in my occupation" to his wife for life and then to be sold. He died at Framlingham in 1815 aged 69.

Samuel (9), second son of James (8), was baptised at Framlingham in 1781. He married Susannah Chapman at Badingham in 1808, when he was 27 and she was 36. They had two children: Samuel Chapman (10) born at Cransford in 1810; and Susannah born at Cransford in 1812. From at least 1830 to about 1857, Samuel (9) owned two freehold cottages in the centre of Cransford, immediately west of where the village school (now the village hall) was built in 1854. Valuations in the Framlingham parish records indicate that he was farming in Framlingham on his own account in 1817 and 1835. Suffolk poll-books show that between 1832 and 1835 he became a freeholder in Framlingham.

Samuel (9) is recorded in the 1841 Census for Framlingham as a farmer on the Saxmundham Road. The 1841/42 tithe agreements for Framlingham and neighbouring parishes to the east show firstly that he owned and occupied 78 acres on the Saxmundham Road, including two properties now known as Hatherleigh Farm House and Moat Farm Cottage; and secondly as occupying 192 acres owned by John Moseley, Esquire, of Great Glemham Hall. He is recorded in the 1851 Census for Framlingham as a farmer of 310 acres on the Saxmundham Road, employing eight labourers. His wife Susannah died in 1850 aged 78 and is buried at Framlingham.

Samuel (9) left Framlingham in about 1857 and retired to Benacre, five miles north of Southwold, where he is reputed to have lived in a cottage on the Gooch Estate. He died at Benacre in 1859 aged 77; and is buried at Covehithe, on the coast one mile south of Benacre, where his son Samuel Chapman (10) was then farming.

Samuel Chapman (10), only son of Samuel (9), was born at Cransford in 1810. As a young man in the early 1830s, he presumably worked on his father's farm in Framlingham, and appears to have lived at Cransford in one of his father's cottages. But he was clearly not satisfied with the prospect of spending the rest of his life on a small farm near Framlingham. He was already farming in Huntingfield four miles south-west of Halesworth, when he married his fourth cousin Mary Allen at Little Glemham in 1839. The 1841 Census records him as farming at Huntingfield Hall. The 1847 Huntingfield Tithe Agreement shows that he occupied 329 acres owned by Lord Huntingfield. He moved from Huntingfield to Frostenden, six miles south-west of Lowestoft, in about 1850. The 1851 Census records him as farming 875 acres at Frostenden Hall, employing 28 labourers.

Samuel Chapman (10) moved from Frostenden to Covehithe about 1859. The 1861 Census records him as farming 2,900 acres at Covehithe, employing 63 men and 27 boys; and the 1871 Census as farming 2,150 acres at White House, Covehithe, employing 31 men and 14 boys. He is reputed to have lived at what is now known as Church Farm House, Covehithe. He had ten children, of whom three died young. He died of typhoid at Covehithe in 1873 aged 62. He and his wife and their youngest daughter, together with his father, are buried at Covehithe under a large flat tombstone.

The Goodwyns were, apart from the odd illegitimacy, law-abiding inhabitants of Framlingham. However, their exodus from the town in the 1850s may have been hastened by William (10), a second cousin of Samuel Chapman (10). He appears to have been so upset by the death from consumption of his fifteen-year-old eldest son on 1 March 1853 that two days later he cut the throat of his four-year-old youngest daughter and then his own. The inquest jury verdicts were wilful murder by William (10) and suicide while in a state of mental derangement.

Samuel Chapman (10)'s direct line from Nicholas Goodwine, the putative father of Thomas (1), is set out at Appendix A. To complete the personal story, Allen (11) was a director of Ransome, Sims and Jefferies Ltd. in Ipswich, Harold (12) was a rubber-planter in Malaya, Peter (13) is a retired civil servant in Felixstowe, Gerard (14) is a chartered accountant in Helsinki, Jasper (14) is a doctor in Ipswich, and James (15) is a little fellow in Ipswich.

The Goodwyns lived at Framlingham for 250 years - from *circa* 1606 to *circa* 1857. Green's *History of Framlingham* contains a list of all the inscriptions in Framlingham churchyard in about 1830². An extract of the Goodwyn entries is at Appendix B of this article. There are more Goodwyn entries than for any other name. This paper may be regarded as an extension of the Goodwin of Framlingham family tree in Muskett's *Suffolk Manorial Families*³.

Editor's Notes:

- ¹ P. Goodwyn, "Edmund Goodwyn, M. D., (1756-1829)" in *Fram* 3rd series no. 11 (December 2000) pp 10-14
- ² R. Green, *The History, topography, and antiquities of Framlingham and Saxstead ...* (London, 1834) pp 153-171
- ³ J. J. Muskett, *Suffolk manorial families, being the county visitations and other pedigrees ...* (Exeter, 1894-1914) vol. 1, p. 228

APPENDIX A

GOODWYN OF FRAMLINGHAM

NICHOLAS GOODWINE
yeoman of Burgate
d.1552

THOMAS GOODDING
yeoman of Burgate
d.1551

THOMAS GOODWINE
yeoman of Mellis
d.1598

JASPER GOODING
yeoman of Framlingham
1585-1656

JOHN GOODWYN
yeoman of Framlingham
1613-1687

JAMES GOODWYN
farmer of Framlingham
1652-1692

JASPER GOODWYN
yeoman of Framlingham
1686-1730

JASPER GOODWYN
yeoman of Framlingham
1710-1789

JAMES GOODWYN
farmer of Framlingham
1745-1815

SAMUEL GOODWYN
farmer of Framlingham
1781-1859

SAMUEL CHAPMAN GOODWYN
farmer of Covehithe
1810-1873

APPENDIX B

FRAMLINGHAM.

The following is an abbreviated alphabetical list of all the inscriptions and epitaphs in the churchyard, which presents a further obituary for nearly two hundred years, of a great number of inhabitants, old and young, as well as of others who have been brought from other parts for interment, and whose place of residence is inserted to distinguish them from those who were parishioners. The situation of the grave-stones are denoted by the words—SOUTH, EAST, NORTH.

SOUTH.

Godbold, John, 16th January, 1798, 76 years.
 Godbold, Lucy, his wife, 28th January, 1809, 68 years.
 Goodwyn, Emma, daughter of John Goodwyn and Jane his wife, 11th July, 1819, 15 years.
 Goodwyn, Sophia, daughter of Ditto, 2nd, August, 1821, 11 years.
 Goodwyn, Jane, wife of John Goodwyn, 1st May, 1824, 58 years.
 Goodwyn, Sophia, his sister, 19th July, 1829, 57 years.
 Goodwyn, John, and Elizabeth his wife, he died 17th May, 1741, 30 years; she died 6th April, 1751, 40 years.
 Goodwyn, John, 25th Sep. 1768, 31 years.
 Goodwin, Edmund, 8th Sep. 1734, 46 years; and Elizabeth his daughter, 7th Oct. 1734, 10 days.
 Goodwin, Elizabeth, wife of Edmond Goodwin, 31st Jan. 1750, 50 years.
 Goodwyn, Edmund, surgeon, 25th April, 1757, 25 years.*
 Goodwyn, Jasper, 5th Nov. 1730, 43 years.
 Goodwyn, Margaret, the wife of Jasper Goodwyn, 25th July, 1734, 50 years.
 Goodwyn, Rebecca, wife of Jasper Goodwyn, 3rd May, 1769, 30 years. }
 Goodwyn, Jasper, 21st February, 1781, 45 years. }
 Goodwyn, Jasper, 11th March, 1789, 78 years. }
 Goodwyn, Jane, his wife, 25th February, 1784, 77 years. }
 Goodwyn, Elizabeth, wife of Jasper Goodwyn, 25th July, 1796, 47 years.
 Goodwyn, Elizabeth, 10th October, 1792, 16 years.
 Goodwyn, Jasper, 8th August, 1802, 28 years.
 Gissing, Stephen, 5th June, 1785, 33 years.
 Grout, Solomon, late of *Southwold*, 19th Dec. 1826, 47 years.†
 G. M. 1745.—Foot-stone only, supposed to be Mary Goodwin, buried 11th September, 1745.

EAST.

Girling, Ann, wife of Robert Girling, 9th July, 1777, 56 years.
 Girling, Robert, 22nd August, 1791, 79 years.
 Girling, John his son, 17th April, 1807, 62 years.
 Goodwyn, John, 15th May, 1728, 87 years.

NORTH.

Gibborn, Elizabeth, wife of John, 11th Dec. 1774, 35 years.
 Goodwyn, James, 28th Sep. 1815, 69 years.
 Though late yet sudden was the awful hour!
 Blameless integrity no respite gave!
 It did far more! it stole with magic power
 The sting from death! the victory from the grave!
 Goodwyn, Margaret, wife of James, 24th April, 1826, 71 years.
 Girling, Mary, daughter of Abraham and Sarah, 30th Oct. 1817, 13 years.
 Short was my life, Nur'st up with care,
 The longer my rest will be, For parents dear had I,
 Cut off in youth, Who lov'd me well,
 As you may plainly see, And grieved to see me die.

* This gentleman was the father of Dr. Goodwyn mentioned in page 146.
 † He lost his life by being thrown out of his pig at Beccles.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN THE 1920s: THE VIEW FROM THE OTHER SIDE

Extracted from the reminiscences of Don Lewis

*[My footnote to A. J. Martin's article "The Headmaster's Book. Part 3" in a recent issue of this journal¹ referred to the Assistant Master at the Robert Hitcham School, William Francis, who left Framlingham in 1884, to take charge of the National School in Rushmere St. Andrew, a village between Ipswich and Woodbridge. The extracts that follow come (with permission and due acknowledgement) from **Rushmere St. Andrew Remembered**, by the late Don Lewis²; and depict life at that School very shortly after the departure therefrom of Mr. Warren's protégé. They provide a pupil's-eye-view of a school regime perhaps not greatly different to that at the Hitcham School, and may complement the strictly magisterial perspective on school life evoked by A. J. Martin's extracts from "The Headmaster's Book".³]*

The school, a red-brick Victorian building, (still standing in Humber Doucy Lane), was well attended in the late 1920s, having a nominal roll of well over a hundred pupils. Although I spent only two years there, I can remember them as being very happy ones, despite the discipline enforced and the punishment inflicted on anyone not conforming to it. Many's the time my fingers, of one hand or the other, were red hot and tingling from a stroke or two of the cane, which would be taken from the hook at the side of the teacher's desk and wielded for the slightest provocation, such as talking in class, yawning, gazing around etc. It was no good my going home and telling my parents that I had been punished at school. If I had have done, I would in all probability, have received a hiding for my pains and told to behave myself in future. A teacher's word was law in those days and they had to be obeyed. They knew full-well that they had the backing of parents, the majority of whom were not concerned in any way about what went on inside the four walls of the classroom. You were sent to school to be taught not only the prescribed subjects, but manners and good behaviour as well, and it was left to the teachers to use whatever means they considered necessary to try and achieve this end. However, on reflection, it doesn't seem to have done me any harm; in fact, it taught me to respect other people as well as what to expect in life, although I must confess that there have been one or two occasions throughout my life when I have, temporarily, forgotten the wisdom that my teachers endeavoured to implant in my mind.

The school consisted of two large classrooms and two cloakrooms. The slightly smaller of the two rooms was used by the infants (5 - 7 years) who occupied one half of the room, and the juniors (8 - 11 years), termed Standards 1 and 2, who were allocated the other half. There were four teachers at the school, all spinsters, and it was clearly obvious that they had not had any children of their own, judging from the way they treated some of the pupils under their charge. The infants' teacher was a Miss Werts who was getting on a bit in years. She was quite docile towards the infants, but she could be rather stingy towards the older children if she caught them doing something wrong. There was an open fireplace in the corner of the room and during the winter months she was always perched on the top edge of the fire guard, roasting her backside. A Miss Stannard taught Standards 1 and 2. She was a very bad-tempered woman, becoming quite ferocious at times when she would rap someone on the knuckles or ears with a ruler, or the knob-end of an easel peg for no apparent reason. This form of treatment could be quite painful,

as I found out on more than one occasion.

The larger of the two classrooms was occupied by Standard 3, under the charge of a Miss Nunn, and Standard 4, which was taught by a Miss Salter who acted as head teacher. Miss Nunn was quite a pleasant lady, rather younger than the others and not so hot-tempered. She seemed to be able to achieve results without having to resort to physical punishment, although she was very strict and a good disciplinarian. Any punishment that she enforced was limited to being kept in after school, or the writing of a set number of lines, dependent on the nature of the misdemeanour committed. Miss Salter taught the senior children, 11 - 14 year olds. She ruled with a rod of iron and was an expert at wielding the cane for the slightest offence. Even the girls in her class were not spared the pain it inflicted, although perhaps with a little less ferocity than was experienced by the boys. All classes were mixed. At the time of which I write, teachers remained with one class all the time and taught all subjects. There was no changing classrooms or teachers as is done today.

In the larger of the two classrooms, each morning would start with prayers and the singing of a hymn, after which lessons would start. A curtain, suspended from an iron rod, would be drawn across the rooms as a means of separating the two classes. Either class could always hear what the other one was doing, making it very difficult and at times impossible to concentrate. The first lesson every morning was arithmetic, or sums as they were always referred to. The teacher would explain, with the help of the blackboard, how certain calculations should be carried out in order to arrive at the correct answer. Some of us found the explanations very difficult to comprehend. However, following this explanatory period, ten sums would be set, which we had to work out while the teacher sat at her desk, writing, or sometimes reading the day's newspaper. After about half an hour, during which time some of us had struggled or tried to copy the next person's answers, which were probably wrong anyway, the teacher would come round the class checking the answers, the correct ones receiving a red tick. Those that were wrong would have to be done again and this would carry on until everyone had got them all right, which meant that the lesson could go on for a considerable time. In an effort to combat this, once a few red ticks had been awarded, little slips of paper containing the correct answers would be discreetly passed around the class for the benefit of the not-so-bright pupils. This helped to speed up the lesson, as, once everyone had received ten red ticks, the class progressed to the next subject, possibly reading, geography, history or composition writing. Thus we progressed through the week. Behind the school was an area of ground divided into small plots, each about 12' x 8'. Each senior boy was allocated a plot on which he grew vegetables and flowers from seeds supplied by the school. A Mr. Payne would attend one afternoon each week to teach the boys the rudiments of gardening, possibly because it was assumed that all country boys automatically became horticulturalists or farm-hands when they left school and started work. While the boys were working on the gardens, the older girls were taught sewing, knitting and general housework. At that time most girls on leaving school "went into service", as it was known, becoming scullery and housemaids to the better-off. Apart from the gardening session, most of the time was spent in the classroom, although if the weather permitted, about half an hour each week was allocated to what we referred to as "drill", when we would be lined up in ranks on the playground to carry out a few "arms stretch and bends", "running on the spot" and skipping. Sport as known today in schools, such as rugby, soccer, tennis and athletics were not part of the curriculum, neither were outings or visits abroad. Every year on "Empire Day", if it was fine, we would be marched along the lane to a meadow, where we would spend the afternoon making daisy-chains, the boys being separated from the girls, as indeed we were in the playgrounds at break-time. The only time we were allowed to mix was in the classroom under the watchful eye of a teacher ...

The toilets were situated outside in the corner of the playground, boys and girls facilities being built side by side. They were bucket toilets which the caretaker had to empty by drawing the buckets out through square holes in the wall, each of which were covered by a wooden trapdoor secured by turn-buttons. Frequently, some of the boys would lay on the ground behind the girls' toilets, release the turn-buttons and partly open the trap door. Then they would wait for a shadow to appear, signifying that the toilet was in use, at which point the trapdoor would be opened wide enough for a fairly large stinging-nettle to be pushed through, causing shrieks of pain to emit from the inside. On one particular day I was engaged in this amusing pastime when, unfortunately for me, one of my victims happened to be the head-mistress. I was severely punished, and she spend the afternoon rubbing her backside up and down on the corner of the fireguard. From that day onwards a teacher was detailed to stand guard, putting the damper on what us boys used to think was an enjoyable occupation

Many other such escapades took place during my short stay at the school and a great many caning sessions were carried out. One particular boy who was a regular recipient of the cane installed a padding in the seat of his trousers to "soften the blow" as he put it. Much paper and ink was wasted on writing the thousands of lines, written as punishments, by non-compliers with the system. However, for all that, I suppose that some of us learnt something while we were there, for the school inspectors always seemed satisfied when they made their regular visits to assess our progress.

Editor's Notes:

¹ *Fram* 3rd series no. 9, p. 17

² D. Lewis, *Rushmere St. Andrew remembered: the story of a Suffolk village in the 20s and 30s* (1995) pp. 5 - 7

³ *Fram* 3rd series nos. 7 - 9

Fram 1974

Craftsmanship. In February this year a Lantern Clock in brass by Dickerson of Framlingham was sold at Clare at an auction sale for £485. It was not a very early one as it had two hands. Dickerson worked in Framlingham around 1780 to 1830 and made long-cased clocks. He made the Framlingham Act of Parliament Clock which has his name on it. This clock was the result of a useless and unpopular law introduced by the William Pitt administration in 1796/7 (it only ran for a year) taxing silver watches at 2/6 a year, gold ones at 5/- and clocks at 10/-. Public Place Clocks have square Georgian faces, all black with white lettering; the same type of clock after the Act was repealed had a white Chapter Ring up to 1850. The Round Faced Clock was for public houses or coaching inns. There are examples of all three types in this area. The Framlingham Act of Parliament Clock hung in the Cupola on the Market Hill. When this was pulled down the clock was sold to Mr. S. K. Barker, another well-known maker of watches and long-cased clocks. The clock passed to his daughter who married Mr. Thomas Wright, a much loved Church Organist for 50 years. For a long time the clock hung in the Old School (now the Masonic Hall); it was lent to the Crown Hotel where it hung in the old Corn Hall and when that was converted into more hotel accommodation, the Editor bought it from the Wright family and still has it in his home. It is worth mentioning that public spirited places such as Framlingham, Woodbridge and Ipswich bought these clocks by public subscription.

THE SIMPSON FAMILY CONNECTIONS TO FRAMLINGHAM

By J. C. Simpson

In 1862 a number of Suffolk gentry met in the Board Room of the Eastern Counties Railway at Ipswich with a view to opening a school for boys in the County. This school was duly sited on land previously owned by Pembroke College, Cambridge, at Framlingham, and the Albert Middle Class College in Suffolk, or Framlingham College as we know it today, came into existence. The Governors appointed Mr. Thomas Simpson (my Great Grandfather) as House Steward in 1865 when the College opened, and he stayed at the College for twenty and a half years. He left the College, therefore, in 1885 or 1886, and took the baker's shop in Well Close Square. From information supplied by the present John Bridges, it is quite possible that this property was purchased from an earlier John Bridges.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Simpson had thirteen children, one of whom was my Grandfather, Thomas Walter Simpson, who was born 29th April 1883. He joined the Great Eastern Railway, later to become the LNER. He started work at Saxmundham in 1897 as a junior clerk, aged 14, in the goods department. Everything was invoiced by hand in those days, and large numbers of clerks were employed by the railway companies to keep the paperwork flowing, particularly the invoices to keep the revenue rolling in.

My Great Grandparents were married in 1862 and celebrated their golden wedding in 1912 at the ages of 78 and 74. When my Great Grandfather retired, his sixth son, George Ernest Simpson, succeeded him in the business. He never married but lived with his sister, Alice Mary Simpson. In May 1928 he slipped and fell heavily on the back step of the bakery and subsequently died of septicaemia, aged only 49. As he had no children, the bakery business was taken over by Bob Simpson, son of Frederick Simpson, another of the thirteen children, who had married an Irish woman and moved to Ireland. He returned to this country when George Ernest Simpson died and took over the bakery business. In latter years he was helped by Billy Simpson, who currently lives at Wickham Market.

My Grandfather married Grace Nellie Harrall and they had one son, George William Simpson in 1909, who was my Father, and one daughter Dorothy. She married Philip Murton from Brandeston, where he was the butcher. They had two daughters, Penelope and Susan. Susan still lives at Brandeston.

My Grandfather later transferred to Framlingham and was the Goods Superintendent before being promoted to Station Master on 29th May 1933. The salary for Station Master in those days was £230 *per annum*, and this was a superannuated appointment made by the main Board of LNER Ltd. He had to pay £31.4s.0d *per annum* (12 shillings a week) for the rent of the Station House, which in reality was only a flat.

I was born in March 1938 in London, and spent part of the war evacuated with my Aunty Dorothy who lived at 4 College Road, Framlingham. She had a ladies hair-dressing business in the town. It would have been after 1943, as I was supposed to be at school by then, but actually was not - but then things were a little difficult in those days. Sometimes I was despatched down to the station to spend part of the day with my Grandfather. He would either sit me on a high stool in the booking office, c/o the booking clerk, or put me in the signal box, c/o of the signaller, or on at least one occasion I was put on the train to Wickham Market and back, c/o the guard.

I remember on one occasion being taken to either Lloyds or Barclays Bank by my Grandfather to see the Manager who, like my Grandfather, lived over the shop. Up in the loft he had the most marvellous 'O' gauge model railway layout. It has taken me nearly 60 years before I have managed to start building my own layout.

My Grandmother died in 1943 from cancer, but I can remember being at Station House when she was alive. My Mother regarded her as a "difficult" mother-in-law. She certainly made the life of shop assistants difficult, as she always insisted on checking jugs or teapots to make sure that they poured properly. My Grandfather retired from the LNER in October 1945 at the age of 63, which foxed me when I was trying to ascertain his date of birth. He went to live at 14 Albert Road. He took a small part-time job looking after the accounts for a coal merchant until he died on 14th February 1949 from 'flu'. 14 Albert Road was subsequently sold for £1,350.

His friends always affectionately knew him by his initials "T.W." To me, he was Grandad and someone who always looked a bit severe with his smart uniform and peaked cap with its gold braid on the front. Underneath though, he was very loving and taught me to play crib, amongst other things. He was a keen bowls player, and I can remember my own Father playing bowls with him at the Castle Bowling Green, something he took up again with some success when he retired some forty years later. Whilst T.W. lived in Framlingham he was involved with many organisations. He had been Chairman and Treasurer of the Framlingham Football Club and Chairman of the Football Charity Cup since its inception. He was Secretary and Treasurer of the Framlingham Cricket Club and the Castle Bowling Club, and Chairman of the Sports Club. He was an original member of the "old" Framlingham Gala Committee, and was its Secretary for many years. A member of the Parish Council, he served on various committees, and supervised the bread and coal charities. He was at one time a Churchwarden at St. Michael's Church, a member of the Parochial Church Council and a sidesman. A keen Conservative and a member of the Eye Division Conservative and Unionist Party, he served as Treasurer of the Framlingham and District Conservative Working Men's Club. He was also a very keen member of the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows. He was Deputy Provincial Grand Master and had been elected President two weeks before he died. He presided over the centenary celebrations of the Order in Ipswich the week before he died. He was Secretary of the "Star of the East" Lodge for thirteen years, and served later as its Chairman.

My connections with Framlingham centred on my parents' visits to see my Grandparents, my Father's sister Dorothy, and my Father's two special friends from school, Fruer Bridges and Percy Kindred from Parham. I do not remember the occasion, but Canon Lanchester baptised me in St. Michael's Church on 17th July 1938.

My love of railways was undoubtedly kindled in Framlingham and my love of farming by holidays at Parham, when my Father came to help with the harvest. I finished up spending my career in agriculture and in my retirement, playing trains.

My grateful thanks to the following people and references without which much of this would have been impossible:-

Family correspondence and photographs, including Mary Simpson, now aged 93
John Bridges, Little Waldingfield
Public Record Office, Kew
General Register Office
Great Eastern Railway Society
J. M. Cooper, *The East Suffolk Railway* (1982)
L. Oppitz, *East Anglian Railways Remembered* (1989)
R. Adderson and G. Kenworthy, *Ipswich to Saxmundham* (2000)
Railtrack plc
National Railway Museum, York
Suffolk Chronicle and Mercury
East Anglian Daily Times
J. Booth, *Framlingham College: the first fifty years* (1925)

[In our last issue (**Fram** 3rd series, no. 12) we published Mr. Simpson's article "The Railway Line to Framlingham". These two items are a revised version of the lecture given by Mr. Simpson to the Society on 13th December 2000.]

CORRESPONDENCE

Castle House
Framlingham

10th March 2001

Dear Editor,

NO. 2 CASTLE STREET, FRAMLINGHAM

While I sit here patiently awaiting the call to Papworth, I thought your readers would like me to try and piece together what we know of the story of this property. It stands in its various manifestations like a witness to the great part Framlingham has played in English history, being on the corner of Church Street and Castle Street (Swan Street) where the carriageway to the Rectory goes off to the West and the entrance to the Castle crosses the Castle Ditch beside the old pond (now landscaped) where the Black Swans used to sport and play, and the little boys fished (did they ever catch anything?). Up to the 1800s there is not much concrete evidence. The theory that it was part of the original Saxon castle which may have followed roughly the bounds of Castle Street, Church Street and Double Street is tempting but difficult to establish. But we have some documents from the 1800s which take us backwards somewhat in time and forwards to the present day, and also we have the excellent drawing which follows [on the next page] of "The cottages at Framlingham" in April 1905.

Our first document reads:-

This indenture was made the 24th day of March 1828 between Mary Ann Leggatt of Framlingham in the County of Suffolk widow of the one part and William Edwards of the same place Gentleman and George Clodd of the same place Tailor of the other part witnesseth that for or in consideration of the sum of 5 shillings of lawful money of English currency to her the said Mary Ann Leggatt in hand well and truly paid by the said William Edwards and George Clodd at or immediately before the execution of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. She the said Mary Ann Leggatt hath bargained and sold ... unto the said William Edwards and George Clodd their executors administrators and assigns all that messuage tenement or dwelling house and shop formerly a coachhouse and stable situate and being in Framlingham aforesaid near the Castle ditch there as the same were formerly in the occupation of Miss Alexander late of Ann Birkers and William King and now of the said Mary Ann Leggatt and William King ... to have and to hold the said messuage or tenement or hereditaments and all and singular other the premises ... unto the said William Edwards and George Clodd their executors administrators and assigns from the day next before the day of the date of these presents for the term of one whole year thence next ensuing and fully to be complete and ended. Yielding and paying therefore unto the said Mary Ann Leggatt her heirs or assigns the rent of a peppercorn only upon the last day of the said loan if the same shall be lawfully demanded to the intent that by virtue of these presents and by force of the Statute made for transferring uses into possession they the said William Edwards and George Clodd may be in the actual possession and seizure of all and singular the said hereditaments and premises ... and be thereby enabled to accept and take a grant and release of the same hereditaments and premises and the reversion and inheritance thereof to them the same William Edwards and George Clodd and their heirs to such uses upon such trusts and to and for such ends intents and purposes as shall be thereof expressed and declared in and by a certain Indenture of Release already prepared and intended to bear date the day next after the day of the date of these presents and made or expressed to be made between the said Mary Ann Leggatt of the first part James Cooper of Framlingham the aforesaid Tailor of the second part and the said William Edwards and George Clodd of the third part being a settlement made in contemplation of an intended marriage between the said James Cooper and Mary Ann Leggatt. In witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.



On the reverse:

Signed, sealed and delivered by the within named Mary Ann Leggatt in the presence of Maria Edwards and William Jessop.

Dated 24th March 1828

Mrs. M. A. Leggatt to Mr. W. Edwards Gent - leased for a year

Accompanying this is the

SETTLEMENT ON THE MARRIAGE OF MR. JAMES COOPER AND MRS. M. A. LEGGATT
DATED 25TH MARCH 1828

This indenture made 25th day of March 1828 between James Cooper of Framlingham in the County of Suffolk Tailor of the first part and Mary Ann Leggatt widow of the same place formerly Mary Ann Birkers Spinster of the second part and William Edwards of the same place Gentleman and George Clodd of the same place Tailor of the third part whereas a marriage is shortly to be had and solemnised between the said James Cooper and Mary Ann Leggatt and whereas the same Mary Ann Leggatt is seized of the demesne as of fee of and in the messuage and hereditaments hereafter described which it hath been agreed by and between the said James Cooper and Mary Ann Leggatt shall be conveyed and assured to the said William Edwards and George Clodd and their heirs to the uses upon the trusts and to and for the intents and purposes hereinafter expressed concerning the same now therefore this indenture witnesseth that in pursuance of the said agreement and in consideration of the said intended marriage and also in consideration of ten shillings of lawful English money by the said William Edwards and George Clodd in hand paid to the said Mary Ann Leggatt before the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged she the said Mary Ann Leggatt by and with the consent and approbation of the said James Cooper testified by his being party to and executing these presents hath granted bargained sold aliened and released ... unto the said William Edwards and George Clodd in the actual possession of the said William Edwards and George Clodd now being by virtue of a bargain and sale to them thereof by the said Mary Ann Leggatt for five shillings consideration by indenture bearing date the day next before the day of the date of these presents for one whole year to commence and be computed from the day next before the day of the date of the same indenture of bargain and sale and by force of the statute made for transferring into possession and to their heirs all that messuage tenement or dwelling house and shop formerly a coach house and stable situate and being in Framlingham near the Castle Ditch there as the same were formerly in the occupation of Miss Alexander late of Ann Birkers and William King and now of the said Mary Ann Leggatt and William King ... and also all the estate ... of her the said Mary Ann Leggatt of into or out of the same hereditaments or any part thereof to have and to hold all and singular the said hereditaments and premises ... unto the said William Edwards and George Clodd their heirs and assigns forever to the uses upon the trusts and to and for the intents and purposes herein after expressed and declared of and concerning the same that is to say to the use of the said Mary Ann Leggatt and her heirs until the said intended marriage shall be had and solemnized and from and immediately after the solemnization thereof to the use of the said William Edwards and George Clodd and their heirs during the natural life of the said Mary Ann Leggatt upon trust to permit and suffer the said Mary Ann Leggatt to occupy the said hereditaments and every or any part thereof or otherwise to receive and take the rents issues and profits thereof and of every or any part thereof loans for her own sole and separate absolute use and benefit so and in such manner that the said rents issues and profits or any part thereof may not be liable to the debts engagements management control or interference of the said James Cooper or of any of her husband or husbands the said Mary Ann Leggatt may at any time or times hereafter happen to inter marry with and upon from and immediately after the death of the said Mary Ann Leggatt then to the use of the said James Cooper and his assigns for and during the term of his natural life without impeachment of or for any manner of waste other than wilful and malicious waste and upon from and immediately after death of the survivor of them the said James Cooper and Mary Ann Leggatt then to the use of all and every child and children whether male or female of the said Mary Ann Leggatt who shall be living at the death of the survivor of them the said James Cooper and Mary Ann Leggatt to be equally divided between and amongst them if more than one share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and the respective heirs of all and every such child and children and if there be but one child living at the death of such survivor to the use of such only child and his or her heirs and in case there should be no child or children of the said Mary Ann Leggatt living at the death of the survivor of them the said James Cooper and Mary Ann Leggatt then to the use of him the said James Cooper and of his heirs and assigns forever and upon to and for no other use trust intent or purpose whatsoever. In witness whereof the said parties

to these presents have here unto set their hands and seals the day first above written - Mary Ann Leggatt and James Cooper.

On the reverse:

Signed in the presence of Maria Edwards and William Jessop

I trust Mary Ann Leggatt and James Cooper do not mind our revealing the financial arrangements for their marriage, especially as they seem to have taken the form of a classic peppercorn rent arrangement, which only a lawyer could unravel. Fortunately all we are concerned about is the documentary evidence of the use to which the property had been put and was being put in 1828. By then it had ceased to be a coachhouse, presumably on the demolition of the Kings Head Inn which was replaced by a private dwelling and is now the Conservative Club. All that remains of the stable block is a section of wall. The shop mentioned in the documents appears in the drawing and of course the area of Double Street/Castle Street/Church Street was the main shopping area of Framlingham in the nineteenth century. I have added a few notes after each transcript; the people mentioned are of course all historical characters, especially William Edwards whose family seems to have dominated the Town then.

Eighty years later we find another document which takes account of mortality; Mary Ann Leggatt has passed away although she is mentioned and so has James Cooper her husband. In 1908 the building is empty and decaying, and ripe for the rebuild in brick which took place the following year, as is noted in *Lambert's Almanac* for 1909. It was then named "Castle House", which was inserted in the wall to make the point!

CONVEYANCE. The Misses Jane Elizabeth and Margaret Cooper to A. Savage Cooper Esquire of freehold cottage at Framlingham in the County of Suffolk.

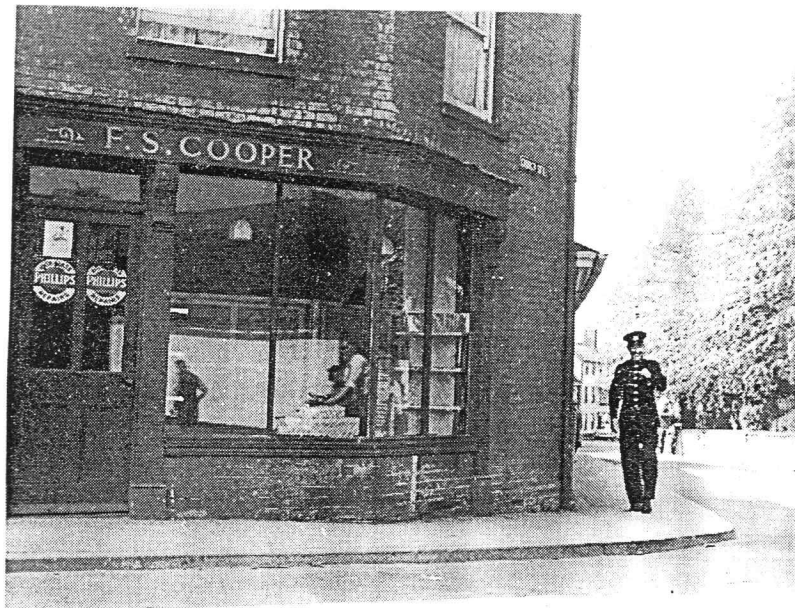
This Indenture is made the 12th day of August 1908 between Jane Elizabeth Cooper Spinster and Margaret Cooper Spinster both of No. 51 Haverstock Hill Hampstead in the County of Middlesex of the one part and Arthur Savage Cooper of No. 27 Chancery Lane in the County of London Solicitor of the other part ... Whereas James Cooper late of No. 51 Haverstock Hill aforesaid was for many years prior to and at the date of his death seised of the hereditaments hereinafter granted for an estate of inheritance in fee simple free from incumbrances save as hereinafter appears ... and whereas by an Indenture of Statutory Mortgage dated the 17th March 1904 and made between the said James Cooper (thereinafter called the Mortgagor) of the one part and Annie Emma Watkins (thereinafter called the Mortgagee) of the other part the hereditaments hereinafter granted were conveyed to the Mortgagee in fee simple for securing payment on the 8th day of August 1904 of the principal sum of £50 together with interest thereon at the rate of £5 per centum per annum ... and whereas by an indenture of Statutory Transfer of Mortgage dated the 16th day of August 1907 and made between the said Annie Emma Watkins of the one part and William Marven Everett of the other part expressed to be supplemental to the last recited indenture for the consideration therein named the said Annie Emma Watkins conveyed and transferred to William Marven Everett the benefit of the said Mortgage and whereas the said James Cooper duly made his last will dated 22nd March 1904 whereby after appointing the said Jane Elizabeth Cooper the said Margaret Cooper and Walter Savage Cooper executors thereof he devised and bequeathed all his estate and effects both real and personal unto the said Jane Elizabeth and Margaret Cooper and whereas the said James Cooper died on the 13th February 1908 and probate of his said will was granted out of the Principal Registry on 9th March 1908 to the executors therein named and whereas all the debts and testamentary expenses of the said James Cooper have been duly paid and satisfied and whereas the said Jane Elizabeth Cooper and Margaret Cooper have agreed with the said Arthur Savage Cooper for the sale to him of the same hereditaments subject to the said recited Indenture of Statutory Mortgage for the sum of £75 now this indenture witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of £25 this day paid by the said Arthur Savage Cooper to the said Jane Elizabeth Cooper and Margaret Cooper ... the said Jane Elizabeth Cooper and Margaret Cooper as Beneficial Owners hereby convey unto the said Arthur Savage Cooper all that messuage or tenement shop and premises formerly a coach-house and stable situate and being in Framlingham in the County of Suffolk and which hereditaments were formerly in the possession of Mary Ann Leggatt and William King and are now vacant

to hold unto and to the use of the said Arthur Savage Cooper his heirs and assigns in fee simple subject nevertheless to the hereinbefore recited Indenture of Statutory Mortgage and to the sum of £50 secured thereby and the said Arthur Savage Cooper doth hereby covenant with the same Jane Elizabeth Cooper and Margaret Cooper that he the said Arthur Savage Cooper his heirs executors and administrators and assigns will pay to the said William Marven Everett his executors administrators and assigns the said principal sum of £50 and all interest due and to become due for the same as and when payment thereof respectively shall be lawfully demanded by him or them ... In witness thereof the said parties to these presents have hereunder set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Signed sealed and delivered to the above named Elizabeth Cooper and Arthur Savage Cooper in the presence of Margaret Cooper.

S. A. Cooper, 33 Woodside Park Rd, E. Finchley.

Signed sealed and delivered by the above named Margaret Cooper in the presence of B. R. [?] Everett, Solicitor, 27 Chancery Lane, London.



I hope all this is of interest; indeed I hope that other interested parties will write in to you and make comments and help build up the picture of this part of Framlingham which has seen so much history pass its doors and use its roads down the ages.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Kirby

FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE IN DECLINE

Extracted from the writings of V. B. Redstone

[The county of Suffolk has been well-blessed with local historians, antiquarians and archaeologists, providing for their successors (including members of this Society) a rich crop of materials relating to many individual localities. Of these, Framlingham has been even more fortunate than most, its castle, church, and the town itself providing a veritable honeypot for researchers. However, expansion and prosperity are for most of us more engaging than decay and dereliction, and it is not surprising that the nemesis of Framlingham Castle in the first half of the seventeenth century has proved less beguiling to scholars than its period of ascendancy earlier. For that reason, V. B. Redstone's account of the Castle's dismantling, though brief, is the more valuable, and provides the substance of this article. Of particular interest is the range of his primary sources, perhaps making this a definitive account.]

*Vincent Redstone was appointed an Assistant Master at the Grammar School at Woodbridge in 1880, serving in that capacity for no less than 41 years¹. The extent and variety of his historical researches and writings are amply demonstrated by his array of entries in *Steward's Suffolk Bibliography*,² monographs at once erudite and accessible, calendars, and journal articles coming from his pen for some sixty years. Among the most engaging of his works was *Memorials of Old Suffolk*: the extract that follows is transcribed verbatim from Redstone's text³, with minor amendments to, and expansion of his references.]*

In May 1635, Theophilus Howard, second Earl of Suffolk, who had succeeded to the estates on the death of his father nine years before, sold Framlingham for £14,000 to Sir Robert Hitcham of Levington and his feoffees. Sir Robert Hitcham was an eminent lawyer, who had been Attorney-General to Anne of Denmark, the Queen of James I, and afterwards (as is stated in his epitaph in Framlingham Church) the king's senior Sergeant-at-Law and often Judge of Assize, and he had at various times represented the boroughs of West Looe, King's Lynn, and Orford in Parliament. He held a manorial court in person at Framlingham on July 29th 1635⁴, but died in August of the following year, leaving a will, dated a few days before his death, in which he bequeathed his recent purchase to the Master and Fellows of Pembroke Hall, his own college at Cambridge; and provided that the "castle, royalties, rents of tenure, with the mere and other fishponds, the advowson of the church, the Hundred of Loes, and the fairs and markets therein", should be held for the good of the college; whilst the demesnes of lands of the manors, and all other lands and hereditaments forming part of the purchase, were to be devoted to certain pious, charitable, and educational uses connected with Framlingham, Debenham, Coggeshall, and Levington. In the event of Pembroke Hall declining the legacy, it was to pass to Emmanuel College. The castle, save the stone buildings, was to be pulled down, and the materials used for the construction of alms-houses and for other objects specified; and thus it came to pass that the surveyor's accounts for 1656 contain certain items referring to the partial demolition effected at that time⁵ calling to mind the more complete destruction of the earlier structure as recorded in the Pipe Rolls four hundred and eighty years previously. The provisions of the will gave rise to considerable diversity of interpretation and to prolonged Chancery suits affecting the various interests, and on March 20th 1653, an ordinance was issued by order of "His Highness the Lord Protector and his Council", bearing on its title-page the arms of the Commonwealth, consisting of two shields in a circle, the one containing St. George's cross for England and the other the

harp for Ireland, for the purpose of settling and confirming the arrangements devised by Sir Robert Hitcham, and setting at rest doubtful points⁶. Some obscure questions still remained to be adjusted at a later date. In 1662 a Bill was introduced, but dropped⁷, and apparently in lieu thereof an order for licence to the Master and Fellows of Pembroke Hall to receive Framlingham in mortmain⁸ was regarded as sufficient confirmation of Oliver Cromwell's ordinance without a special Act of Parliament. The first treasurer appointed by Pembroke Hall dates from 1665, and the Master and Fellows do not appear as lords of the manor in the court rolls until 1667⁹, and in 1685 a dispute, ultimately settled in favour of the college, arose as to certain alleged rights of the Dean and Chapter of Ely over the Hundred of Loes¹⁰. But, in spite of all this, the historic interest of the castle comes to an end with the ordinance of 1653.

Notes:

- ¹ M. Weaver, "In the beginning .." in *Saxon: the Newsletter of the Sutton Hoo Society*, no. 30, 1999
² A. V. Steward, *A Suffolk Bibliography* (1979) (Suffolk Record Society 20) p. 445 cites sixty Redstone items.
³ V. B. Redstone, *Memorials of Old Suffolk* (1908) pp. 164-6
⁴ [Redstone's footnote numbering has been amended to run consecutively with the Editor's.] Pembroke College Cambridge. Framlingham Court Rolls, 11 Car. 1; R. Hawes. *The History of Framlingham ...* (1798), p. 203; R. Green, *The History, topography and antiquities of Framlingham and Saxsted* (1834) p. 107
⁵ Green *op. cit.* p. 12 [quotes as follows:-

	£	s	d
"Paid to Richard Smythe for new hamyer for to break down the Casell Walle, in weight of 11 pound, at 4d	0	3	8
Paid to Mr. Sampson for 125 lodes of Stones	5	8	8
Paid to Thos. Stimson and two others, for bringing up of 16 lodes of Stones upon the Casell hills	0	16	0"

The "Mr. Sampson" referred to in the second item quoted above may be identified with H. Sampson author of "The History of Framlingham Castle" in J. Leland. *De rebus Britannicus Collectanea* (1774) vol. 2. Henry Sampson was Rector of Framlingham 1650 to 1660 (though never ordained) and is described by Leland as "Dr. of Pembroke Hall Cambridge". One may infer that in this instance, Sampson was acting as agent for receipt of moneys in relation to the Castle's dismantling, on behalf of Pembroke.]

- ⁶ Hawes, *op. cit.* pp. 419-30
⁷ Historical Manuscripts Commission, *Seventh Report*, 166; House of Lords, *Journal*, xi, 433, 5, 8
⁸ State Papers 1662, 385
⁹ Green, *op. cit.*, p. 105
¹⁰ Hawes, *op. cit.*, pp. 407-16; Green, *op. cit.*, pp. 82, 105

Departure Point

In 1934 the Press was agitating about the number of casualties on the roads due to car accidents. For five years the death roll had averaged 7,000, and there had also been about 100,000 more or less seriously injured. Cottages near dangerous country cross-roads became unofficial dressing-stations - without pay or endowment - for sometimes dozens of cases in a single holiday season. Saturday and Sunday evenings - when cars from London and other big cities were hurrying home in an unbroken stream, trying to overtake one another on tricky, tortuous roads - and the work-day rush-hour in Town in foggy weather were the bloodiest times. There were also so many deaths, especially in tram-served areas, among children who had to cross main roads on their way to school that in some districts the parents went on strike: they would keep their children at home until the local Council either provided a school on the nearer side of the road, organized convoys for the crossing, or built overhead pedestrian bridges. The general use of traffic lights at main street crossings had done little to cut down the casualty list.

From: Robert Graves and Alan Hodge, *The Long weekend: a social history of Great Britain 1918-1939*. (London, 1940)

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