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The Framlingham & District  
Local History & Preservation Society

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April 2008

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

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

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

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### *Corrigendum*

On page 23 of *Fram*, 5<sup>th</sup> series, number 8 (December 2007) the colour-wash images captioned "Corbals of hammerbeam roof", at Saxtead church, were incorrectly attributed to Estelle Roberts. They were, in fact, by Lorette Roberts, as specified in the text of the article (page 22).

We apologize to Miss Kilvert and to our readers for this error.

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# FRAM

5<sup>th</sup> Series Number 9

April 2008

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

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That distinguished palaeographer and archivist, the late Sir Hilary Jenkinson, could claim to be a founding father of archives administration as a professional discipline.<sup>1</sup> In his *Manual of archive administration*, he intones magisterially that *destruction* by the original creators of records was "an action which future ages ... cannot possibly criticize as illegitimate".<sup>2</sup> In short, for Jenkinson (and perhaps his immediate contemporaries), the impartiality of the creator of primary sources could not later be questioned. This assumption, Valerie Johnson, in a recent issue of *Archives*, described "now as unbelievably naive".<sup>3</sup>

Records have always been produced for their [creators'] own ends, with numerous reasons for creating and suppressing information.<sup>4</sup>

The last statement has a resonance with my "Editorial" in *Fram* in 2004:

If we are exploring the evolution of a community over time, what were its driving forces ... we become immersed in a process of assimilating, combining and second-guessing from so many disparate sources – a process of conjecture.<sup>5</sup>

In the archival examples that I cited in support of this assessment, I referred to "official" records, for example, UK Census Statistical Tables and City Livery Company Minutes, which had been "doctored" by their creators, but these are but a small sector of a vast body of material to be explored, to develop our understanding of the past, locally and nationally. And it is not only the "facts", or what were claimed by the creator of the archive to be "facts", that illuminate our perceptions. There are also those attitudes on the part of the archive creator, demonstrated by his or her recital of past events. What were the agendas, often conflicting agendas, that resulted in and influenced the creator of those particular renditions of events?

The above points are not made as an abstract exercise in historiography: they have particular local interest with records relating to the proposed community hall in Framlingham. Certainly, even before the dust has settled, it can be said unequivocally that the succession of proposals to take forward this initiative have divided the town. Much has been written and printed by persons and organizations immediately involved, and there is also the whole arena of individual local attitudes in support of, and opposition to, the successive proposals that have come forward for consideration over many years.<sup>6</sup>

For the future historian, the preservation of source material to further understanding of this event is, I would maintain, of key importance, and this informs the remainder of this Editorial.

The first source that I would myself tend to use to explore this issue would be the printed word, contemporary newspapers. While these are themselves inevitably influenced by the attitudes and opinions of editors and (where appropriate) the policies of an editorial board, they can at least be relied upon to quote personal statements by individual protagonists, and subsequent comments, by opponents and others, on those statements. Here we can reasonably expect to be well served by public provision: back-files of *The East Anglian Daily Times*, *Diss Express*, *Evening Star*, and other local organs, are held by Suffolk Library Service, with the national papers where appropriate readily available at British Library, Colindale. Then there are the free-sheets, such as *Community News* and *Coastal Advertiser*. While duplicating, to some degree, the contents of papers serving a wider public, these can nevertheless be invaluable, reflecting varied editorial interventions in the factual reporting.<sup>7</sup> Here, I acknowledge, I have expressed concerns in this journal in the past, as to the maintenance of complete (as opposed to "sample") files of such fugitive material.<sup>8</sup>

In a category of its own is Framlingham's own award-winning *Framfare*, reproducing, as it does, more-or-less undiluted pieces from contributors (subject, of course, to space and legal constraints): providentially a complete file of this newsletter is held at the Lanman Museum, Framlingham Castle, though it would be an added consolation to know that there is a back-up file maintained elsewhere.

Passing to the "official" sources, we are on safe ground so far as planning documents – the actual Applications to the planning authority – are concerned.<sup>9</sup> It would, however, be comforting to be assured that the contextual materials to those were being preserved, and could be made available on request. It is precisely these that step behind the officially required jargon, to enlighten the researcher as to the inner workings of the planning processes involved in the evolution of the formal record.

In a very different, though none-the-less "official", category, we have the St. Michael's Parochial Church Council's papers, including draft lease and land-transfer documents. While these remain as working documents in the administration of the PCC, self-evidently they have to remain in the parish, but ultimately they would be back-filed by the Diocesan Registry, with other relevant Diocesan records. In both instances, I am assured, public access is available.<sup>10</sup>

I understand that St. Michael's Rooms was set up as a Registered Charity on the death of Canon Pilkington in 1916, and as such would have its core documents filed with the Charity Commission, as would be, of course, those of the much more recent Community Centre Trust itself. There is, of course, a statutory right of public access to such material.

But all of the above are but the tip of the iceberg as potential resources for the future historian. Bodies such as our own Society and other social and special interest groups would have records of opinions and interventions on this complex issue. There will be a huge corpus of minutes, e-mails, correspondence and memoranda generated by and between the many stakeholders involved. It can be precisely such materials that mediate between the "official" record and the public pronouncements in the press and elsewhere, and the actuality of changing local actions, attitudes and priorities. I greatly hope that these items will be preserved. Inevitably issues of confidentiality can arise, but these can be addressed (as in any archive repository) by time and other limitations on public access.

Going back then, to the quotations at the beginning of these notes, the creators of many of these documents will have had their own, entirely *bona fide*, agendas, reflected in the individual texts concerned. In years to come, an investigation of all these factors and the preservation of and ready access to all these core documents (locally or elsewhere), could provide for researchers a case study of significant value, enabling scholars to explore the social dynamics of a rural community in Suffolk, in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

*Notes:*

1. H. Jenkinson, *The English archivist: a new profession* (1948) *passim*.
2. H. Jenkinson, *A Manual of archive administration*. Revised edit. (1969) p. 149.
3. V. Johnson, "Creating history? Confronting the myth of objectivity in the archive" in *Archives: the journal of the British Records Association*, vol. XXXII, no. 117 (2007) p. 130.
4. *Ibid*.
5. M. V. Roberts, [Editorial] in *Fram: the journal of the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society*, 4<sup>th</sup> series, no. 11 (Dec. 2004) pp. 3-4; reprinted as "... history is about conjectures" in *British Association for Local History, Local History News*, no. 76 (Summer 2005).
6. See, as only one example, "Cancellation of Community Centre Project – Board of Trustees' summary ..." [circular] (2007).
7. *cf. The Coastal Advertiser* (9 Nov. 2007) pp. 1, 5; *ibid.* (12 Oct. 2007) p. 7.
8. *Fram, op. cit.*, 3<sup>rd</sup> series, no. 9 (April 2000) p. 3.
9. These are, of course, held at Suffolk Coastal District Council offices in Woodbridge, but copies for our local area are available at the office of Framlingham Town Council.
10. Information from Mr. K. Musgrave.

# THE WARCRY AND THE DOUBLE STREET CONNECTION<sup>1</sup>

By Tony Moore

---

In Victorian England, poverty, hunger, unemployment and the demon drink helped fuel brutality. Added to these were high taxes, bad harvests and the introduction of the time-honoured Corn Laws<sup>2</sup>, protecting the wealthy landowners at the expense of the poor. They kept bread prices high and bellies of the peasantry empty. Misery and suffering were now commonplace throughout the land, from city to the countryside, and there was no-one to turn to, to help ease this misery. But wait! "Yes there was", because in 1865, waiting in the wings to take up the mantle, was a young man, a pawnbroker's apprentice, one William Booth (1829-1912).

He was about to shake the country out of its indifference, and along the way upset the establishment by taking on a crusade for the poor and needy. William Booth was to become the founder of the Salvation Army, a non-sectarian and non-political Christian Organisation. Booth's aim was dedicated to minister and provide succour to a multitude of paupers throughout the land.

In the nineteenth century, Framlingham did not escape poverty, and had more than its share of poor and needy souls crying out to be clothed and fed. It was not long before the vanguard of the Army arrived in our small town in 1892. There is no record of William Booth or of his son Bramwell paying an early visit, but probably one of his more able young lieutenants came to search out fertile ground. The fire-and-brimstone preachers of the street corner and the many chapels would now have competition from the new boys (and girls) in the fight to save the souls of the lost and wayward.

Property of any sort to set up a barracks for the Army was hard to find, and a knock on countless doors remained unanswered. Until one door was eventually answered, by Mr W. Rodwell, the owner of premises in Double Street (the site is now in the ownership of Goodbrey's Antiques).<sup>3</sup> Mr Rodwell was an up-and-coming entrepreneur and the owner of a thriving business, "Eastern Counties Wholesale Supply Stores".<sup>4</sup> He agreed to let part of a rather run-down and dilapidated warehouse on a temporary basis only. A hard working and dedicated group of soldiers then set to work to make this wreck habitable.

The great and memorable day had arrived, and with much ceremony, and to the strains of music from the newly-formed Salvation Army Band, the newly refurbished barracks was duly opened on March 26<sup>th</sup> 1892. The pomp and splendour of the occasion would have attracted new soldiers (recruits), both men and women, to the ranks of the newly-established corps. Such an event would have been the highlight of the year in the calendar of our small town of Framlingham. Reports would have appeared in the local press.<sup>5</sup> Alas, photographers would have been thin on the ground to capture this event on film; most certainly it would have been the topic of conversation round the town for many days afterwards.

During my research I received information from the Salvation Army archivist Captain Heather Coles, in London. She sent me extracts taken from the Army's newspaper, with some interesting names of those involved over the years. The following appeared in the Salvation Army newspaper *The Warcry* issue dated March 26<sup>th</sup> 1892.

Framlingham (Ipswich Division). Triumphant opening by Adjutant Widdowson, Capt. Stanton and Ward; great crowds; magnificent open air. Barracks far too small; packed to utmost capacity. Street full of people. Good order inside and out; plenty of sympathy and good wishes; every prospect of grand work being done; several soldiers from other corps did good service. Capt. Clarke in command has already won the hearts of people. Special feature was the young men forming themselves into a bodyguard behind the march, and so helping to sweep everything before us.

The Salvation Army archivist has provided for me a list of all serving officers up until 1916, but she cannot say how many of them were local people, or indeed if any were Suffolk born and bred. Lieutenant Clarke, who was in attendance at the grand opening, was duly promoted to captain to become the first senior officer in charge of the barracks in Double Street from March 26<sup>th</sup> 1892. In 1894, two new faces appear, that of Captain Cox, assisted by the first female officer, Lieutenant Duguid. During the years that follow, other appointments such as Haigh (female), Webb, Garland Felton, Light, Welsh (female), Hebblethwaite, Hayler, Whitesides, Downing (female), Brown, Gibb and Hart. World War I begins in 1914, and here the change continues from male appointments to females. Captain Edith Stamp is duly appointed on Christmas day, December 25<sup>th</sup> 1915. The last two appointments recorded are on July 8<sup>th</sup> 1916, Captain Chrissie Blundell and Lieutenant Kate White. The year 1916 saw the introduction of the Armed Forces Conscription Act<sup>6</sup>, which required all able-bodied men to serve with the armed forces forthwith. Women were also recruited to serve, by working on the land in agriculture or in factories producing goods for the war effort. It is not hard to see the implications of this: most organizations in Framlingham as indeed the whole county would see declining membership of both men and women; they were all being claimed by the war machine.

The short life of the Salvation Army in Framlingham would cease, as their soldiers went off to fight in another more deadly war. As the strains of Onward Christian Soldiers was played by a small and dedicated band, the building became silent and the doors of the Double Street Barracks were shut during the fading months of 1916. After the ending of this period of local history in our town, another door opened, when a few years later the Baptists arrived on this site;<sup>7</sup> the little yard was also occupied by two small shops, but this is another story, hopefully to be told another day.

#### *Editor's Notes*

1. Extracts from this article appeared in *Framfare*, no. 50 (September 2007) and due acknowledgement is here made to its Editor, Ms. Stephanie Bennell.
2. 55 Geo 3 c26; 9 Geo 4 c 60.
3. 29 Double Street.
4. W. Rodwell is listed as a "Wholesale Warehouseman" and later as "General Merchants and Warehousemen" in *Lambert's Family Almanack* from 1883 to 1899.
5. "The Salvation Army have hired premises of Mr. W. Rodwell in Double Street, and will shortly open barracks there" (*Lambert's op. cit.* 1892). "1892 March ... 19-- Opening of Salvation Army barracks at Framlingham" (*Lambert's op. cit.* 1893).
6. 6 & 7 Geo 5 c 15.
7. "Opposite [to Winston House] stands a house, now an antique shop, the lower floor of which was for many years the meeting place of a community of Strict Baptists". (O. R. Sitwell, *Framlingham: a short history and guide.* Revised edit. (1982) p. 30).



**The Framlingham Salvation Army Band**  
**Outside their barracks in Double Street circa 1892**  
Two pairs of brothers served in the band, named Teager and Last.



# THE MILLS OF FRAMLINGHAM

## PART 1

By John F. Bridges

---

Corn mills were found in most towns and villages up to the early part of the twentieth century, when large scale production methods in the larger towns effectively put them out of business. Framlingham has a rich history of milling that dates back a long time, but the information is sometimes unclear and conflicting. Various sources have been assembled to build a picture of the numerous mills that existed in the town.

The basic method for grinding the corn to make flour changed little over the centuries. A stationary circular bedstone and the upper running stone were the main components along with many associated mechanisms to control the process. The motive power to drive the mill changed with time. Initially, water, wind and horse power were used, followed by steam, oil, and electricity.

The aim of these articles is to record details of the sites, the types of mill and the people who operated them. Technical details of mills and how they worked can be found in a number of reference books<sup>1</sup>.

There is considerable information that has survived from the nineteenth century, and there are also references to mills in Framlingham dating back to the thirteenth century.<sup>2</sup> For the intervening period, a mill or miller reference may be found, but location is often not possible. There is always more research to be done. A surprising number of mills have existed in the town, with the main sites identified so far being:

- Mount Pleasant - smock/tower and post mills
- Victoria Mill Road - post, tower and steam mills
- Albert Place - steam mill
- Bridge Street - steam-powered stone and roller mills
- Saxmundham Road - post mill
- Station Road - steam mill
- Station Road - smock mill (The Round House)
- Station Road and Haynings - Clarke's mills
- Apsey Green - post mill
- Double Street - post mill
- Saxtead Lodge Farm - smock mill
- Coles Hill - mill site?
- Bridge Street - water mill
- Station Road - water mill
- Castle - horse-powered mill

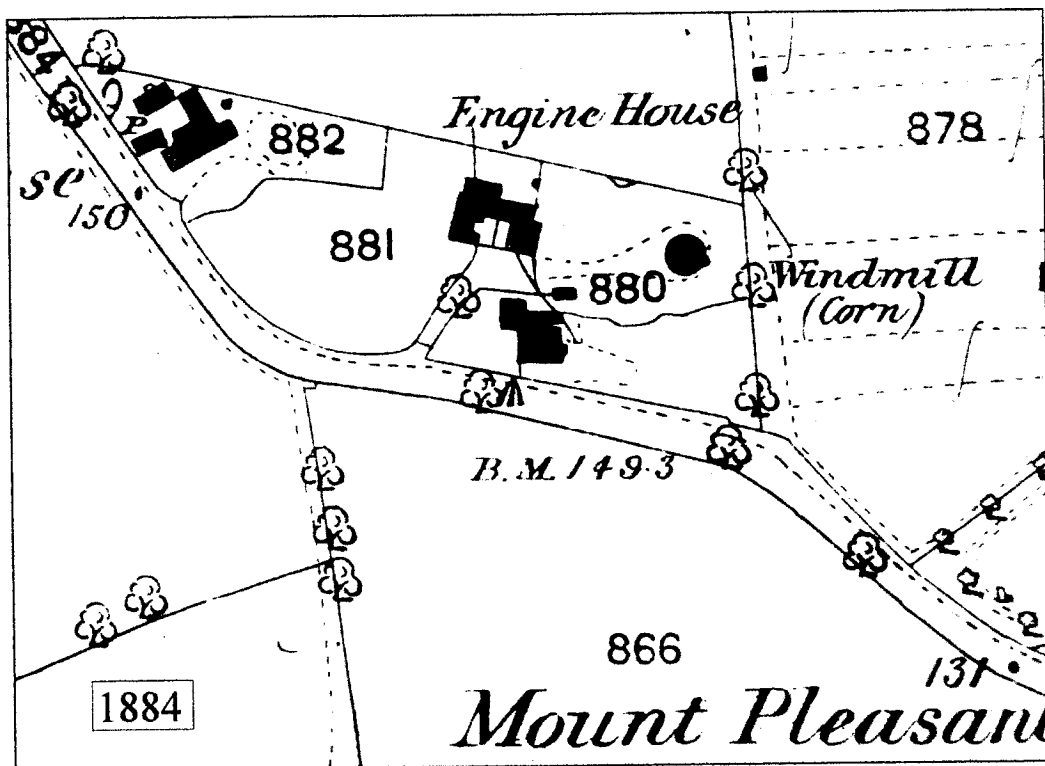
For some of these mills, very little information is known. Double Street is a surprising location, but with only one reference<sup>3</sup> so far. It is hoped that these records can be updated as further information becomes available. The approximate location of each mill is provided by a six figure reference, which can be located on the current Ordnance Survey map. Earlier maps can

provide a guide to a mill's existence, but should be used with caution. The scale of most county maps precludes precise location, and later editions may not truly reflect changes that have occurred.

## MOUNT PLEASANT MILLS

All mills needed to be built where they would be well exposed to the wind. Mount Pleasant was a good position, with one reference<sup>4</sup> describing the mill as being "remarkably well winded."

The general arrangement of the Mount Pleasant site is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1884 map, with a single windmill and separate engine house noted. It is useful to consider the site in two parts, i.e. east and west, with the above mill being on the east site. Kirby's 1736 map shows a single mill, and this is considered to have been on the west site. Hodkinson's map of 1783 also shows a single mill.



Robert Hawes<sup>5</sup> lists the Freeholders of The Manor of Framlingham, noting that

Joseph Bird, holdeth freely the New Wind-Mill, and three pieces of land about the same, called Pinfolds: which were Richard Waller's 1689, John Stevens' 1659 and Catherine Chambers.

Although Robert Loder printed the book in 1798, Robert Hawes was responsible for most of the information. He was Steward of the manors of Framlingham and Saxtead in 1712, and the reference is contemporary with that period.

The Framlingham Tith map<sup>6</sup> and Apportionment book<sup>7</sup> show that in 1842, there was still a parcel of land immediately to the north of the mill that was called "Upper Pinfold". Early legal documents<sup>8</sup> for the mill site also refer to Joseph Bird in 1714.

The above details link Joseph Bird and Pinfolds to the Mount Pleasant site. It is not yet clear if the new mill replaced an older one, and whether those earlier owners of Pinfolds also had a mill. It is reasonable to suggest that there was a mill on the site by around 1700.

Early documents<sup>9</sup> refer to Thomas Butcher as the miller, and his name is recorded as a Framlingham miller in *The Universal British Directory* of 1790-1798. From 1801 there are a number of documents<sup>10</sup> which relate to financial contracts involving Philip and John Aldrich with local business men. John died in 1818, when Philip took over the mill.

There was also a nearby post mill at Apsey Green (approximately 272633), which is shown on the 1736 map referred to above. The 1842 Tithe map referred to above shows a large parcel of land at this location which was called Mill Hill. It is assumed that the mill was located at the highest point of this land, shortly before the right turn to D'Urban's Farm. This mill was then moved to Mount Pleasant<sup>11</sup> and positioned on the east site (approximately 279637). There is contradictory evidence<sup>12</sup> that it went to the west site, but this does not accord with subsequent events. The date of the move is between 1810<sup>13</sup> and 1820<sup>14</sup>. At the new position, it was erected on a new brick roundhouse and had a fantail, which it did not have at Apsey Green.

Returning to the west site (approximately 278637), there is uncertainty over the type of mill, but we do know that it was destroyed by fire. *Framlingham Weekly News*<sup>15</sup> provides a vivid description:

The brick tower mill was burned down in the winter of 1837. It was a bitter and severe frosty night, and when water was thrown on the burning mass, great icicles formed on several portions of the walls. Mr. Wm. Manning, chemist, who assisted at the fire in handing buckets of water that night caught a chill which ended in his death.

The origin of the fire at that time was a perfect mystery; but in later years it was cleared up. It appears that Mr Aldrich that night had a party of friends at his house. Being a determined hater of smoking, his sons and their cousins slipped quietly into the mill to indulge in a 'bit of weed' on the quiet. Whilst in this smoking bout they heard their father coming, and expecting a rumpus, they hid their pipes in the mill desk. Having received a due and proper chiding for their folly, the father ordered these young transgressors indoors, and locked up the mill. Some hours after, however, the mill was discovered to be in flames, and the town was alarmed at what was an awfully grand sight, the mill sails whirling in the air, all ablaze and seen for many miles around. The sons at the time were afraid to confess what they suspected was the cause of the fire, but did so in later life. The tower mill was not rebuilt.

These notes were recorded in 1894 in relation to an event some fifty-seven years earlier. There are concerns over the stated date of the fire and the type of mill. William Manning (druggist), died on September 4<sup>th</sup> 1836, which is over a year before "the winter of 1837". Also, a map<sup>16</sup> associated with the sale of the eastern mill in 1837 shows no other mill. The blacksmith records of John Fruer Bridges show that in 1836, he received 4cwt. 12qtrs. and 12 lb. of old iron and a smaller quantity of cast iron from Philip Aldrich. Was this from the remains of the mill? Green's history<sup>17</sup> of 1834 shows a distant view of the town, from which two mills are evident. This information would suggest a slightly earlier date for the fire of perhaps early 1836.

The article also refers to a "brick tower mill".<sup>18</sup> A smock mill might also have been referred to as a tower mill, with the base being of brickwork. A full brick tower mill from the early eighteenth century is likely to have been better recorded as they were not common in that period. Jesse Wightman, a respected millwright, thought it to be a smock mill. To date, no other reference to the mill fire has been found, and no further mill construction took place on the west site.

Philip Aldrich got into financial difficulty, and the mill was put up for auction in June 1837<sup>19</sup>, when it was stated that Jeptah Wightman, merchant of Framlingham, with Harsant and John Sutton of Tannington were trustees of the sale. The auction document provides the following details of the mill:

Erected upon a brick built Round House, 24ft. in diameter, with double floors and solid brick piers, and is a most substantial mill, 19ft. by 11ft., driving 2 pair of French stones, 4ft. 10in. and 4ft. in diameter, with 3 floors and spring sails.

The mill was bought by Samuel Woods for £890. During his occupancy, he "purchased a small mill at Woodbridge, and had it conveyed home intact on a trolley, and set up on piers by the side of the present mill, so that again, there were two mills on the premises".

A survey of Woods' property<sup>20</sup> in 1851 refers to:

Spacious post windmill on brick round house, driving 3 pairs of stones, with patent sails, stocks, shaft, winding tackle and all machinery complete.

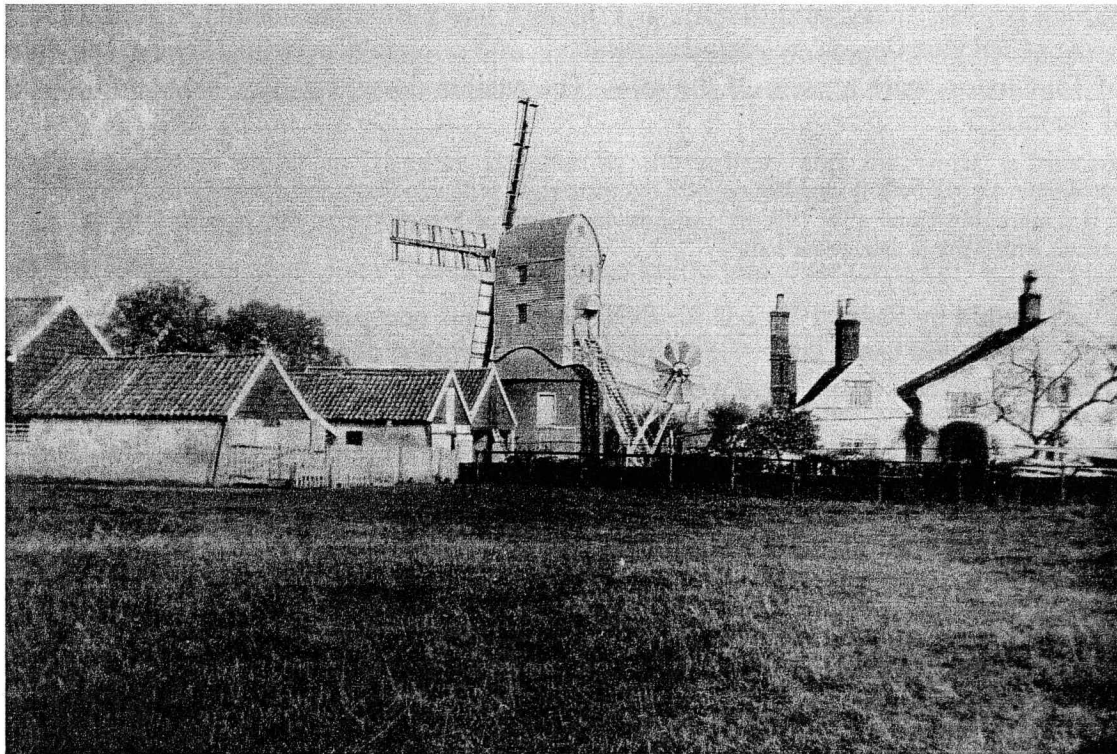
A smaller windmill standing on brick piles, with 2 pairs of stones and all going gear ... in working condition

In February 1852 the smaller mill is advertised for auction<sup>21</sup>:

A nearly new post windmill with iron shaft, patent sails, driving 2 pairs of French stones, 3ft. 8in. high, in the occupation of Mr Samuel Woods Trustees.  
To be removed off the premises at the purchasers expense...

The mill was sold to Mr Sutton of Tannington, whose name is noted earlier. It was common for small mills to be moved in one piece, but not always without problems. "Several old men (now dead) could recollect Tannington post mill being moved from Mount Pleasant to Tannington, and the drag breaking down on Saxtead Green through the ruts in the road and the weight of the mill body<sup>22</sup>". *Framlingham Weekly News*<sup>23</sup> also noted

... but when it was trollied as far as New Street, it had to be taken down and carried in portions to Tannington



The main mill was also advertised for auction in 1852,<sup>24</sup> and again referred to three pairs of stones, so a further pair must have been added in Woods' time, along with patent sails. Reuben Whitehead bought the mill for £500. He is noted as the miller in 1855<sup>25</sup>, but in 1857 it was again advertised for auction<sup>26</sup> with reference to "S Woods, tenant at will". Samuel Woods eventually moved to Tannington, but was to meet with a sad fate.

Mr Woods, who afterwards worked for Mr Sutton at Tannington, fell through a trap door of this very mill, once his property, and died from the injuries received.<sup>27</sup>

(Before the age of "Health and Safety", most industrial premises presented significant risk to life. Jeremiah Marjoram had his skull fractured by Whitehead's mill in 1878<sup>28</sup>, while at Saxtead mill in 1905, Alfred Aldred the owner received severe head injuries in the same way.)<sup>29</sup>

The mill remained in the ownership of Reuben Whitehead until 1887. Apart from his mill work, he took a great interest in the weather, and his "Weather Indications" are recorded in *Lambert's Family Almanac*<sup>30</sup> from 1872 until 1898. He died in 1901, aged 80 years.<sup>31</sup>

The 1887 auction details<sup>32</sup> now refer to the mill only having two pairs of four foot French Burr stones, and it may be that there was rarely sufficient power to drive three pairs. Reuben did not rely solely on the wind, and had a purpose built steam mill house constructed on two floors, with a five horse-power engine to drive a pair of 3ft. 6in. French Burr stones. It was noted that Mr F. Button was the tenant of the mill at this time, with his agreement not expiring until 6<sup>th</sup> April 1888. There are some interesting details from the final sale account:

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Half year rent from F. Button     | £17.10. 0 |
| Deductions for repair costs from: |           |
| H. Mallows, bricklayer            | £ 0. 3.11 |
| Fisk and Hunt, plumbing           | £ 0. 8.00 |
| Bridges, blacksmith               | £ 1. 9.00 |
| Moore, carpenter                  | £ 1. 6. 4 |
| Barker, ironmonger                | £ 0. 1. 8 |

The mill was bought in July 1887 by Augustus Roe for £560. Frederick Button would soon have to leave the mill, but he would be back! Roe was involved in various activities apart from milling, and was well known for his inventions. These included "The Gravy and Juice Preserver" which found royal patronage, along with the "Rosebud" pie vent and the "Rosebud Chimney Pot". Roe's manure factory had opened at Broadwater in 1872<sup>33</sup>, but after initial success, then laid empty for some years. It reopened in 1898 with much publicity as Roe's Hygienic Company Ltd, being a bacon factory<sup>34</sup>. It closed the next year when Roe became bankrupt<sup>35</sup>. There are hints that relate to the progress of the mill in his time, based on adverts in *The Miller*, as follows:

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1888. For sale, cheap, nearly new 10h.p. Robey engine, two pair iron hoists, wire flour machine, stone crane, New Albion Iron Works grist mill.

June 1<sup>st</sup> 1891. Wanted, two 4ft. right hand runners (Peak and French Burr) for wheat, good and cheap.

August 5<sup>th</sup> 1895. For sale, business premises with steam and windmills in good repair and in full work. Particulars and reasons for dispersal. A. Roe, Mount Pleasant Mills, Framlingham, Suffolk.

In the bankruptcy sale of 1900, the mill was bought at auction by Charles Goodwin on behalf of Frederick Button for £550. It was concluded at the time that "the property changed hands at an awful sacrifice".<sup>36</sup> James Maulden's roller mill in Bridge Street was now in full production, so buying a post mill at this time may not have been the greatest business opportunity. However, Button was no stranger to the mill and moved his activities from Station Road back to Mount Pleasant.

He continued to operate the mill through to 1921 as there are various trade invoices<sup>37</sup> that cover this period. The mill was then dismantled<sup>38</sup> in August 1921. One pair of sails was then used on his nephew John's mill in Diss. The brick round house remained until about 1926, with foundations still visible in the 1930s.

| MOUNT PLEASANT MILLS,                            |   |    |        |    |
|--|---|----|--------|----|
| Framlingham, Oct. 1906                           |   |    |        |    |
| M. J. J. J. J.                                   |   |    |        |    |
| Bot. of FREDERICK BUTTON,                        |   |    |        |    |
| MILLER & MERCHANT.                               |   |    |        |    |
| * MALT, HOPS, BRAN, POLLARD, MEAL, ETC. *        |   |    |        |    |
| July 11  | 5 | Sp | Sevens | 4  |
| Aug 3  | 5 | "  | "      | 4  |
| Aug 21   | 5 | "  | "      | 4  |
| Sept 11  | 5 | "  | "      | 6  |
|  |   |    |        | 14 |
|  |   |    |        | 9  |
|  |   |    |        | 6  |
|  |   |    |        | 8  |
| <i>Frederick Button</i><br><i>Oct 13 to 1909</i> |   |    |        |    |

The only remaining link to the milling days at Mount Pleasant is the naming of the new housing on the site as "Button's Corner". A brief chronology of the site is as follows:

- New mill on site around 1700
- One mill shown on 1736 map, west site
- Apsy Green post mill moved to east site c. 1810-1820. Two mills now present
- Smock/tower mill on west site burns down c. 1836
- Small mill added to east site, two mills present again
- Small mill moved to Tannington in 1852
- Steam mill and engine house built c. 1880
- Milling ceases 1921
- Post mill dismantled 1921

*(Any further information to update any aspects of the article would be most welcome. Perhaps someone with personal knowledge could provide a record of Clarke's twentieth century milling activities, as all evidence will probably soon disappear.)*

*I would like to thank Mark Barnard of The Suffolk Mills Group for his assistance in relation to additional references and the work of Peter Dolman. Also, thanks to Peter Green who is researching many Suffolk mill sites, and for sharing his knowledge on those in Framlingham.)*

Notes

[Editor's interpolations enclosed in square brackets].

1. R. Wailes, *The English Windmill* (1954); B. Flint, *Suffolk Windmills* (1979); S. Yorke, *Watermills and Windmills explained* (2006).
2. J. Ridgard, *Medieval Framlingham: select documents 1270-1524* (1985) Appendix B.
3. O. Sitwell, *Framlingham: a short history and guide* (1970) p. 12.
4. Suffolk Record Office Ipswich (SROI) HB26:412/1382 (auction document 1837).
5. R. Hawes, *The History of Framlingham ... with ... additions and notes by Robert Loder* (1798) p. 379.
6. SROI FDA 104/A1/1-3.
7. SROI FDA 104/B1/1a.
8. SROI HB26:412/1381.
9. SROI HB26:412/1383.
10. *Ibid.*
11. *Framlingham Weekly News (FWN)*, 13 January 1894.
12. Lecture by George Cooper to Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society, 26 March 1969, [summarized in *Fram*, 1<sup>st</sup> Series, no. 3 (June 1969) p. 1].
13. *Ibid.*
14. Science Museum Library, Simmons notes.
15. *FWN*, 13 January 1894.
16. SROI HB26: 412/1382 (auction document 1837).
17. R. Green, *The History, Topography and Antiquities of Framlingham and Saxsted ...* (1834).
18. *FWN*, 13 January 1894.
19. SROI HB26: 412/1382 (auction document 1837).
20. SROI HB26: 412/1381.
21. *Suffolk Chronicle*, 14 February 1852.
22. R. Wailes, *Suffolk Windmills* (1942-43) Part 2. X
23. *FWN*, 13 January 1894.
24. *Suffolk Chronicle*, 19 June 1852.
25. *White's Directory of Suffolk 1855*.
26. *Suffolk Chronicle*, 13 June 1857.
27. *FWN*, 13 January 1894.
28. [J. McEwan, *Lambert's Framlingham (1871-1916)* (2000) p. 233].
29. [*Ibid.* p. 266].
30. *Ibid.* pp. 193-210.
31. ["... Died at Gorleston-on-sea June 8<sup>th</sup> 1901 aged 80 years ..." "Record of monumental inscriptions in Framlingham Cemetery" (1992?) (unpublished; copy held in the Lanman Museum)].
32. SROI HB26: 412/1386.
33. [McEwan, *op. cit.*, p. 159].
34. [*Ibid.*, p. 162].
35. [*Ibid.*, p. 163].
36. *Ibid.*
37. James Breese collection, via John Bridges.
38. Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History, *Proceedings*, vol. XX, pt. 2 (1930).



## THE CHRONICLE OF CASTEL FRAMLINGHAM

By Mrs. E. B. Cowell (late Miss Charlesworth)

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*(The following poem<sup>1</sup> was originally published in an anthology, compiled anonymously, The Suffolk Garland ... (1818).<sup>2</sup> Rather surprisingly, while no printed record has been traced of Mrs. Cowell, the author<sup>3</sup>, basic career details are extant of the book's compiler, James Ford (1779-1850).<sup>4</sup> Ford entered Trinity College Oxford in 1797, gained his BA in 1801, MA in 1804, and BD in 1812. It was during his period of service as Perpetual Curate of St. Lawrence Ipswich from 1808 to 1830 that he compiled this anthology. His name survives as the "founder of the Ford professorship of English history" at Oxford University.<sup>5</sup> It should be added, that part of the poem's final stanza may be found offensive).*

We saw the Deben's silver wave roll gleaming through the vale,  
We pass'd where Wickham's tapering spire looks far o'er hill and dale,  
And pale across the dusky lea gleamed sheep and snow white lamb,  
When rose against the distant sky the Towers of Framlingham.  
Dark shadowing in the dim twilight their massive outline rose,  
But oh! no banner's crimson fold stirr'd the grey walls' repose,  
No breath of distant warder's note, no far-off bugle horn  
Faint floating to the horseman's ear along the wolds was borne;  
But slow decay kept watch and ward about the Castle gate,  
And ruin held the lofty place of long departed state,  
And grass-grown were the entrances where knightly hoofs had rung,  
And the low roof of poverty within its site had sprung.

Oh Framlingham! grey Framlingham! thy lords have pass'd away,  
On them and over thee hath fallen the mantle of decay!  
Thy ruin'd walls still crown the brow where ages they have tower'd,  
But in thy holy chancel aisles lie many a noble Howard.  
There sleeps the Lady Margaret, and there Fitz Alan's child,  
And gleams the vacant niche where once an infant image smil'd;  
And where round Norfolk's sculptur'd tomb the granite columns rise,  
In marble slumber by her Lord proud Stafford's daughter lies:  
Branch of a house whose graceful stem deserv'd a better fate  
Than met the noble Buckingham from Wolsey's deadly hate;  
And high the Howard's lion crest looks down in ebon gloom  
Above the flower of Chivalry, the gallant Surrey's tomb.

Within thy walls, in other days, held Saxon princes reign,  
And round thee reav'd the pirate lords, led by the robber Dane;  
But when the Norman's iron hand ruled over hill and heath,  
Then grandeur reared thy stately roofs, and splendour dwelt beneath;  
And green the park around thee spread, where glanced the graceful deer,  
And slowly glided the white swans along the glassy mere;  
And through the shady avenues, the merry archer sprang,  
And to the joyous huntsman's horn, the woodland echoes rang;  
And tapestry hung its storied folds around the banquet-room,  
And lamps within the Chapel shrine, lit up the midnight's gloom,  
And floated many a pennon fair, those battlements across,  
Where only waves the wild briar now, and spreads the yellow moss.

When sorrow upon England fell, and hopeless fears were wept,  
When over many a noble head the restless waters swept;  
When sank the hope of England, beneath the wild wave's foam,  
And an aged King dwelt sorrowful in a deserted home;  
While o'er their head the sea gull shrieked, and the wild petrel swam,  
There slumber'd low beside his prince the Lord of Framlingham.  
When rose the sun upon a day, whose fame shall long endure,  
That saw the bold Plantagenet in the field of Agincourt.  
A single horseman fearlessly before the army rode,  
And the hosts of England shouted at the signal that he shew'd:  
The brave Sir Thomas Erpingham was earliest in the fray,  
The Lord of Ancient Framlingham began the fight that day.

When the wild wars of the Roses were ringing through the land,  
And the flowers of England faded, beneath the mower's hand,  
When ruled the house of York, over moor and upland side,  
In his Castle halls of Framlingham, the Duke of Norfolk died.  
Earl Marshal of England, Lord of Legrave and of Gower,  
*Well* knew the lost Lancastrian, his titles, and his power.  
They bare him to his resting place, in Thetford's silent aisles,  
And his young and only child they led to Westminster's proud piles,  
And her hand, and her towers, to King Edward's son they gave:  
But the given and the gifted met both an early grave;  
In the secrets of the tower, that noble boy was laid,  
And his infant bride lies sleeping in the tranquil Abbey shade.

Oh! a voice came o'er the border, of wailing and dismay,  
From Stirling and from Yarrow side, lamenting for the day;  
Oh! many a song of sorrow made Ettrick Forest ring  
For the fatal field of Flodden, when Scotland lost her king;  
When Lenox and Montrose were slain, when Huntley fled o'erpowered  
Before the Lord of Framlingham, the banner of the Howard.  
He lived, as soldiers seldom live, to grey and honour'd age,  
And bravely kept a noble house and knightly equipage;  
And, full of honour and of years, he calmly pass'd away,  
While bloom'd along his fair domains, the pleasant month of May;  
And none could breathe of injury, or rightful claim unpaid,  
By him whose grey head peacefully in Thetford's walls was laid.

He had served a reckless master, whose fiery heart and head  
Had little room for gratitude, to the living or the dead;  
But a few swift years had floated o'er the aged warrior's tomb,  
When again the House of Howard bent beneath the stroke of doom –  
Where, like another Venice, gleaming along the wave,  
Stands haughtily the tower – a palace and a grave.  
Saw ye that galley flitting towards the vaulted stair? –  
Knew ye the muffled figures silently hurried there? –  
Oh! where art thou, Earl Surrey, in thy country's hour of need?  
Oh! where wert thou, Lord Norfolk, when thy son was led to bleed?  
Oh! wo! wo! for the hour; oh! wo! wo! for the day  
When the stateliest of the herd became the angry lion's prey!

A star of song, a light of Fame, a child of Minstrelsy,  
In royal Windsor's woodland bowers, they marked his boyhood nigh;  
There, by the side of young Fitzroy, he trod the oaken glade,  
And they are laid together now, in the same chancel shade.  
In many a sunny Southern land his lyre and sword were known,  
And bright in Honour's listed fields his crest of knighthood shone;

Now in the aisles of Framlingham, no longer watched nor wept,  
Though passionate love and grief were his, for ages hath he slept;  
The noble heart that beat so high, there mouldereth in decay,  
And all that woke its pulses warm hath past to dust away;  
The late of List and Tournament, the legend and worn stone,  
Are all that rest to tell us, now, of faded things and gone.

Oh! parted times! – thy shadowy veil hath shrouded from our view  
The splendours of forgotten years, the scenes our fathers knew;  
Peace resteth on our changed land, and Holy Faith is there,  
And Freedom breathes in every breeze, that stirs her island air;  
And safety dwells beside our hearths, and round our calm church towers, -  
A blessing on the sainted heads that died to leave them ours!  
But oh! the pleasant festal rites, the feasts and customs old,  
The rich and joyous pageantry, the worth and honour grey,  
The reverent love of reverent things, that all have passed away –  
Oh! broken is the yew-tree bow – the wandering harper fled,  
And the lost things of parted years are with the parted dead!

And long, long, pleasant summers in silence floated on,  
With flowers that all are faded now, with green wreaths that are gone,  
While every breath that sighted over hamlet and long grange,  
Some tidings brought of wonder, of trouble, or of change; -  
The wail above the early dead, nor youth nor rank could save,  
The sorrow round the peasant's hearth, and by the martyr's grave;  
But when that royal lady our island scepter held,  
For whom the winds of Heaven fought, and the dark waters swell'd;  
When England all saw golden days, and spread the festal board,  
Again, decay'd fortress, the tower held thy Lord;  
And dark the stain of noble blood flushed on the keen axe-blade,  
And Scotland unto dool and death her rightful liege betray'd.

Oh! many a summer sun since *then* hath lit that proud church-nave,  
And shone across the statues cold that gleam on Surrey's grave.  
The lifeless things that vainly these would shadow to the eye,  
The image of the beautiful be gone for ever by!  
And in our halls the sword of war hath long forgot to gleam,  
And knighthood, with its stainless crest, hath vanished like a dream;  
And sounds of peace float tranquilly our island vales along,  
The music of the harvest-home, the early mowers' song;  
And by the side of ducal tombs, and chieftains, mail array'd,  
Have risen lowlier monuments, where *other* men have laid;  
There wreath'd, but with love's simple wreaths, which never blood defil'd,  
The pastor slumbereth with his flock, the mother with her child.

Oh Framlingham! grey Framlingham! proud record of the past,  
Written by many a horse's hoof, by many a bugle blast;  
By many a wandering summer-wind, fretting the ancient stone,  
Sighing through niche and window-slit, all lichen-overgrown –  
Chased by the silent summer shower, freshening the briar and moss,  
And, trickling down the channell'd way, worn thy broad stones across;  
Relic of what hath long since been, of what is with the dead,  
Ages lit up by splendours wild, whose meteor-gleam hath fled!  
The quiet rest of peaceful age now hangs thy worn brow o'er,  
And grey-haired men sit cheerfully, each at his cottage door,  
And children, chanting holy psalms, now seek the house of God,  
Where once the chieftain's plume flashed by, the mail'd warrior trod.

The bloody flag of Popery was rear'd upon thy walls;  
 The Protestants' lone chronicler was sheltered in thy halls;  
 Royal and noble have they been, thy dwellers in the past;  
 The poor man and the homeless now tenant thy gates at last:  
 The bridge which hath seen leaders pass, to conquer or to die,  
 Is trodden by the quiet foot of way-worn poverty.<sup>6</sup>  
 So fadeth the memorial of that which hath been high!  
 So worketh round the viewless wheel of human destiny!  
 Oh! beautiful in ruin! – most lovely in decline!  
 Be ours an age as ruffleless, as full of calm as thine!  
 And though who *shoulds't* have clos'd for me my long unfinished song,  
 Heaven watch above thy happy home, and grant it stand as long;  
 Sweet quiet, with its shadowing wings, guard over its roof, keeping,  
 As have the solemn aisles, where thine ancestors are sleeping.<sup>7</sup>

#### Notes

- 1 I am greatly indebted to Mr. A. J. Martin for providing me with the text of this poem, extracted from his copy of *The Suffolk Garland*.
2. *The Suffolk Garland ...* [Anon.] (Ipswich, John Raw, 1818).
3. Relevant anthologies, biographical dictionaries, and the *Grainger Index ...* have been checked.
4. For attribution, cf A. L. Humphreys, *Handbook to county bibliography* (1917) p. 244.
5. J. Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses ...* (Nendeln, Kraus, 1968) vol. 1, p. 476.
6. A reference to the poorhouse, built within the walls of the Castle under the terms of the will of Sir Robert Hitcham (Ministry of Works, *Framlingham Castle, Suffolk* (1946) pp. 3-4).
7. The poem, as published in *The Suffolk Garland*, has at its conclusion the following end-note:

This poem was originally dedicated to Miss Alexander, the Goldrood, Ipswich, and the "Ancestors" referred to in the last

line, are those of the Alexander family, whose monuments are in the Framlingham church.

The Alexanders were a pre-eminent Quaker banking family in Ipswich, where "Bank Street" was named after the 'Yellow' Bank which flourished under the direction of the Alexander family, descendants of that William Alexander of Needham, who in 1657 had suffered imprisonment for refusing to pay a fine for promulgating the faith which was in him". (L. J. Redstone, *Ipswich through the ages* (1948) pp. 94-5). "Yellow" refers to the Whig (later Liberal) party, and it is perhaps not insignificant that the Alexander family had had the close association with Framlingham referred to above, given that the town was later for many decades perceived as a Liberal party "honeypot" (*Fram. 3<sup>rd</sup> Series*, no. 9 (April 2000) p. 9) See also R. Malster, *Ipswich: town on the Orwell* (1978) p. 63, and M. L. Kilvert, *A History of Framlingham ...* (1995) p. 82.

## THE RAILWAY WHISTLE OR THE BLESSINGS OF HOT-WATER TRAVELLING

Of all the wonders of the age, there's nothing now so much the rage;  
Both rich and poor seem all engaged about the Eastern Railway.  
There's hissing here and whizzing there, and boiling water everywhere;  
'Midst fire and smoke you crack your joke and what may happen no one cares,  
For some blow down and some blow up, into a carriage haste and pop;  
At the sound of the whistle off you start on the Eastern Counties Railway.

There's trains full half a mile in length, drawn by a fiery monster's strength;  
Good luck to your soul, keep clear of the banks, for fear that you go over.  
But if by chance such a thing occurs and you should roll among the furze,  
How pleasant to be capsized thus, with pigs and passengers in one mess.  
And while you're down in the valley below, how pleasant to hear the engine blow,  
You mount up again and off you go on the Eastern Counties Railway.

But some poor simple souls may say 'tis a dangerous thing to travel this way;  
If the rail give way or the boilers burst, there's nothing on earth can save us.  
The money we paid from our poor pockets may send us in the air like rockets,  
Our heads as empty as water buckets, our precious eyes knocked out the sockets.  
But sure such people can have no sense, 'twill all be the same a hundred years hence,  
What odds will it make, we can die but once; might as well be smashed by the Railway.

Farewell ye coaches, vans and wagons, farewell ye keepers of roadside inns,  
You'll have plenty of time to repent your sins in charging poor travellers double.  
Farewell ye blustering coachmen and guards that never knew how to use civil words,  
You'll no more use your horns, you know, except to place upon your brows;  
Take your lumbering vehicles off the road, neither you nor they were ever much good,  
For how could you carry such fine, big loads, as do the wonderful Railways.

Let's not forget railway directors, and from all harm they will protect us,  
They'll study never to neglect us, so dearly they love locomotion.  
It's for our good they take such pains, and never do they think of gains,  
And, if a few hundred should be slain, our wives and children they'll maintain.  
Then happy and thankful may we be, such blessed invention we've lived to see;  
To all other travel bid for ever goodbye, but the wonderful Eastern Railways.

---

Several anthologies of verse extolling the benefits (and dangers) of the new wonders of rail travel were published in England from the early 1830s to the mid-Victorian period.<sup>1</sup> The piece above (reproduced from a modern anthology (with all due acknowledgement), compiled by Peter Ashley<sup>2</sup>) is fairly typical of the genre, combining a laid-back assessment of the hazards of the newly-discovered rapid transport mode, with satisfaction that extortions perpetrated by the stage-coach operators and their confederates in the coaching inns would now (albeit slowly, perhaps) be ended.

While the dates of composition and authorship of "The Railway whistle ..." have not been established by the Editor, we can reliably presume from internal evidence that it would have been published between the Incorporation of The Eastern Counties Railway in 1836,<sup>3</sup> and its absorption into The Great Eastern Railway in 1862.<sup>4</sup>

The former Company was created to provide a line from London to Norwich and Yarmouth. Progress was initially tardy, by the urgent standards of the time, the section from Devonshire Street (three-quarters of a mile east of Bethnal Green) to Romford opening in 1839, Brentwood in 1840, Colchester in 1843, and Norwich not until 1849.<sup>5</sup> In 1840 the London terminus moved west to Shoreditch,<sup>6</sup> but it was not until 1874, under the aegis of the new Great Eastern Railway, that passenger services transferred to a new station at Liverpool Street,<sup>7</sup> Shoreditch becoming Bishopsgate Goods Station, closed many years ago – the overpass, which gave access to the latter, is only now (2007/2008) being slowly removed!

The Eastern Counties had a perennially penurious neighbour, The Northern and Eastern Railway, incorporated, again, in 1836,<sup>8</sup> to build a line from Stratford to Newport, with a branch to Hertford. By 1840, the line had advanced only fifteen miles, to Broxbourne, to Harlow in 1841, and Bishops Stortford in 1842, and to Newport in 1845.<sup>9</sup> By that time The Northern and Eastern had been leased for 999 years, in 1844, to the Eastern Counties.<sup>10</sup>

In 1845, the Eastern Counties came under the baleful influence of that Robert Maxwell of the Railway Boom, George Hudson, when he was appointed, with acclamation, Chairman of the Company.<sup>11</sup> However, in the longer term, Hudson's financial optimism could not be sustained, and though it nurtured many additional lines and branches for the Eastern Counties Railway and elsewhere, he was obliged to resign in 1849, from the Eastern Counties Railway's and several other railway boards.<sup>12</sup>

By 1856

... the reputation of the Eastern Counties was at its lowest ebb. The lethargy of its trains and the embarrassed state of its finances were a byword, and the half-yearly meetings of the company were pandemonium let loose.<sup>13</sup>

In his classic work, *Red for danger*, the late L. T. C. Rolt intones

For unpunctuality, discomfort and general inefficiency the Eastern Counties at that time was unrivalled even by the much maligned Chatham and Dover.<sup>14</sup>

(The Editor's grandparents grew up in south-east London, and still shared in the local folk-legend of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway as having sunk many years before, to extraordinary depths of dirt, discomfort and unreliability).

As mentioned earlier in these notes, rail travel in its early days was perforce accepted by the passenger as providing rapid progress at the expense of ever-present dangers. Perhaps surprisingly, the Eastern Counties did not kill many of its passengers, though seven people died on February 20<sup>th</sup> 1860, when an engine wheel fell off as the train was passing through Tottenham station,<sup>15</sup> and four were killed in a derailment at Brentwood, just after the line there had been opened.<sup>16</sup>

On 7<sup>th</sup> August 1862, the Eastern Counties had its final interment in the newly-created Great Eastern Railway, joining with the Norfolk, Eastern Union, East Anglian, and our own East Suffolk Railway.<sup>17</sup> Over the next sixty years, until its absorption in the London and North Eastern Railway in 1922, the Great Eastern enjoyed an honourable career as a pioneer of intensive London suburban services, and the operator of crack expresses from Liverpool Street to Ipswich, Norwich and the Norfolk coast, as well as important Continental services.<sup>18</sup> Its achievements provided, perhaps, a welcome contrast to the ways of its disreputable progenitor, The Eastern Counties Railway Company.

MVR

Notes

1. Several are held and can be consulted (by arrangement) at the University Library at Cambridge.
2. P. Ashley, *Railway rhymes*. (London, Everyman's Library, 2007) pp. 19-21. The Editor is most grateful to John Black for passing a copy of this extract to him.
3. 6 & 7 Wm. IV cap. 106.
4. 25 & 26 Vic. cap. 223.
5. H. P. White, *A Regional history of the railways of Great Britain, volume III, Greater London* (1963) pp. 170-1.
6. *Ibid.* p. 171.
7. *Ibid.* p. 172.
8. 6 & 7 Wm. IV cap. 103.
9. C. J. Allen, *The Great Eastern Railway*. 4<sup>th</sup> edit. (1967) pp. 12-13.
10. 7 & 8 Vic. cap. 20.
11. Allen, *op. cit.* p. 15.
12. *Ibid.* p. 19.
13. *Ibid.*
14. L. T. C. Rolt, *Red for danger*. New edit. (1998) p. 76.
15. *Ibid.*
16. Allen, *op. cit.* p. 7.
17. *Bradshaw's Railway manual, shareholders' guide and official directory for 1869* (1869) pp. 107-8.
18. Allen, *op. cit. passim*.

## CORRESPONDENCE

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7 October 2007

Dear Editor,

Many thanks for the new programme etc. It looks like being an interesting year.

You may wish to know that a book has just been published which presents the memoirs of "Skip", Mr. Ronald Wilkins, which enlarges on the piece published in *Fram*, December 2006.

Best wishes – I look forward very much to your talk on the City.

Yours faithfully

Jarvis Frith

[Mr. Frith has provided me with the publication details of the book to which his letter refers. They are as follows:-

A. F. Wilkins, *The Birth of British radar: the memoirs of Arnold "Skip" Wilkins*. (Caversham, Reading, Speedwell, on behalf of the Defence Electronics History Society and the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, 2006).]



## DEPARTURE POINT

Local history, I believe, is not national history broken up into small pieces and thus rendered less consequential. Rather, national history is in many senses an aggregate of local events and processes, so the local experience and the local example have a special value. Far from being less significant, they are in reality fundamental to our understanding.

Alan Crosby, "Editorial"

*From: The Local Historian*, vol. 37,  
no. 4 (November 2007)

*“History is five minutes ago”*

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

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

**RESEARCHING**

**RECORDING**

**SUSTAINING**

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

**LECTURES**

**VISITS**

**CAMPAIGNS**

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Join our Society and make history**

***BETTER***