# FRAM

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

Number 5

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6th Series

April 2014

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# The Journal of the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society

# 6th Series Number 5 April 2014

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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)

Sue Pike	The inhabitants of the Mansion House/Guildhall	4
Tony Moore	My grandfather and the Czar	17

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# FRAM

# 6<sup>TH</sup> Series Number 5 April 2014

**Registered Charity no. 274201** 

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For the past sixteen years, since its rebirth in 1997, this journal has been produced with generous support from Nuclear Electric PLC and its successor EDF. The Society is sincerely grateful for this help, and in particular to Committee member Mike Churchill for taking this forward for sixteen years. Now, however, due to changes at Sizewell, this will no longer be possible, and the Society may have to meet some or all of the cost of producing *Fram*. As a result, our President John Bridges has sought quotations from three presses for this work, and we shall be taking this forward on the basis of the lowest quote received.

To facilitate cheap and speedy production of *Fram*, it is highly desirable for copy to be provided to us in electronic form. Also, potential contributors could helpfully bear in mind this journal's house-style as listed below:-

Direct quotations from published works of more than a dozen words are inset, in smaller type, *without* quotation marks.

Actual titles of books and magazine titles to be in italic.

Source references to be given at the end of the article with publication dates for books, articles in journals, etc.

Dates etc. to be given as (e.g.) seventeenth not  $17^{\text{th}}$ .

Typeface: Times New Roman, 12 point.

Obviously these are only guidelines, and not entirely essential; just very helpful to your Editor and our printers. We as a Society want to ensure a continuing flow of new material, such as we have all valued and enjoyed for the past sixteen years. Articles need not necessarily be very long: just a page or two of text can provide valuable material for future historians of our ancient town. Complete files of *Fram* since 1997 are held at the Lanman Museum, Framlingham Castle, and at two libraries in the City of London which specialise in local history.

# The Inhabitants of the Mansion House or Guildhall Market Hill, Framlingham

By Sue Pike

Records show there was a Guild to St. Mary here in 1363. It could have been formed by any of the following; "during the reign of Edward the 3<sup>rd</sup> the manor was assigned to Sir Robert de Ufford. He was succeeded by his son William who built Parham church. He died in 1382, when the manner passed to Princess Margret Plantagenet (the daughter of Thomas de Brotherton) who was created Duchess of Norfolk"<sup>1</sup>

There seems to be a gap when a Jois Goddard in a will dated 20<sup>th</sup> of February 1493 "bequeathed THE GILD OF OUR LADY IN FRAMLINGHAM"<sup>1</sup>. In 1497 a will of Xtiane Durrant states "itm lego Gildea Beatea Mariae".

It appears the buildings were still standing in 1553 when Queen Mary and Phillip came to install the young heir to the Dukedom of Norfolk in his Manor. R. Green<sup>3</sup> states that "by letters patent she granted the tenement called le Gylde House to Sir George Howard Knight". The Guild was abolished by Henry the Eighth following the general dissolution of the Monasteries.<sup>4</sup>

There is now some uncertainty. All references say that Simon Pulham pulled down the old building and built the present house in 1564; however Dr John Ridgard discovered other documents, and translated Francis (Simon's father's) will, Simon's will and Dorothy's (Simon's Wife) Charter. There is an extract from the will of a Robert Smith in 1532.<sup>5</sup> "To the fynyshyng of the Gild House of our Lady 6s 8d".

There is an extract from Frauncis (Francis) Pulham's will<sup>6</sup> of 1583 "To Simon Pulham my house in Borough by me newlie builded". As we know Simon was here in 1564, I shall commence with him. At the end of his will Francis requests to be buried in the "cemetery near my Father". Further research is needed here.

#### 1564

Simon Pulham is in residence with his wife Dorothy (née Harrison)and children Frauncis, Harrison, Symon, William and daughter Dorothy. Simon senior was a woollen draper. His will<sup>7</sup> of 1604 bequeathed the house to his wife during her lifetime. He died on the 8<sup>th</sup> of Jan 1605. Dorothy and the children continued to live in the house but in 1618 she had a Charter<sup>8</sup> drawn up in favour of Thomas Alexander and we think she sold it to him for 10 pounds but either continued to live in it until her death on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1632, or she may have remarried in 1618.<sup>9</sup>

Dorothy Pulham's Charter<sup>10</sup> of 21<sup>st</sup> April 1618 states:

I thee afore said Dorothy Pulham in pure widowhood and fully empowered, for the sum of 10 pounds legal English money paid to me by a certain Thomas Alexander of Framlingham aforesaid gentleman and

by Lawrence Habergham from the same town and county has remitted released..<sup>10.</sup>

#### 1618 or 1632

Thomas Alexander was first steward of the manors of Framlingham and Saxstead to Sir Robert Hitcham Knight, and the Master, Fellows and Scholars of Pembroke Hall<sup>11</sup>. The Alexander family were lawyers who had connections by marriage to the Waldegraves of Badingham, Haberghams and Hasboroughs. They appear to have lived in Framlingham for three generations and many of their names are on plaques in the church, one of which reads:

Nere unto this place lyeth interred ye body of Thomas Alexander of Greye's Inne, Esq. eldest son of Thomas and Eliza Alexander of this parish who married Eliza, second daughter of John Waldegrave late of Badingham. Hee departed this life Aprille 18<sup>th</sup> 1658 in the 41<sup>st</sup> yeare of his age and left issue only one son Waldegrave Alexander borne Aprill 17<sup>th</sup> 1650 (this is the Alexander who sells on the house to Francis Kilderbee).

Another plaque by Benjamin Alexander dated 1665 states:

In testimony of his most sincere duty towards his dearest parents and his affection for his much loved brothers Benjamin Alexander citizen of London, the only surviving son erected this monument in the year of our Lord 1665.

#### 1674

Francis Kilderbee (1630-1696). There is an Indent of Sale on the 6<sup>th</sup> October by Waldegrave Alexander (grandson and heir of Thomas, Gray's Inn):

All that Guildhall where in Francis Kilderbee now dwelleth, and one other messuage or tenement and one other adjoining, now in the possession of Thomas Pilkington and one called the Candle house or School house next adjoining the churchyard now in possession of Thomas Edmund<sup>12</sup>.

Francis set up as a woollen draper having been apprenticed in London in 1653 and was accepted into the Company of Drapers in 1662<sup>13</sup>.

#### 1698

There was a proclamation of the 20<sup>th</sup> December from Mark Antony, rector that:

Francis Kilderbee of Framlingham aforesaid Draper, hath at my request consented to and do pulldown and demolish his house now in possession of Joseph Johnson /Tomson<sup>14</sup>

Note variable spelling. This was the Candle or School house which presumably was left derelict after the guild was suppressed. He was also granted:

authority to erect and build a wall of brick or other materials in a direct line from Mrs Browns brick wall and return at the end to the South West churchyard gate

#### 1726

Attested copy of 1<sup>st</sup> July for a lease of one year Frances Kilderbee to Robert Sparrow and Samuel Kilderbee settling "The Mansion House (called the Mansion House and Guildhall) and the shop next door". Robert Sparrow of Kettleburgh was father of Alethea, Samuel Kilderbee's wife to be and he paid £800 marriage portion. It gives Francis and his wife Elizabeth a life interest and would

then to pass to Samuel and his wife Alethea for life and their children ( the eldest of these was another Samuel)<sup>15</sup>.

# 1731.

Agreement of 5<sup>th</sup> April between Thomas Turner of Framlingham, apothecary, and Grace his wife with Samuel Kilderbee to lay a lead pipe from the well in Turner's yard to the pump which was in Kilderbee's yard with liberty of access<sup>16</sup>.

# 1755

Indentures of 16/17<sup>th</sup> June regarding the marriage of Samuel II with Mary Wayth of Gt Glemham and making the Guildhall property and the house next door the marriage settlement<sup>17</sup>. Two years later in the will of Samuel Kilderbee of 11th June 1777, leaving the property to his son Samuel II, proved by the Archdeaconry Court of Suffolk 17<sup>th</sup> September 1777<sup>18</sup>.

# 1788

An indenture of 10<sup>th</sup> March<sup>19</sup> states "Samuel Kilderbee was seized of a mansion house called the Guildhall, then in his own occupation", and that John Kilderbee (died 1794 and his house was sold to Rev William Wyatt for the use of his sisters and later his widow) who inherited the Framlingham business was to have "the house next door, which had previously been left as the whole to be considered one building". These two surviving sons detested one another so much that having divided the house, they now removed the fence which divided the gardens and built a wall from east to west (and although the fence had belonged to John, the wall now belonged to Samuel). There was to be a gutter or drain (not exceeding 10 inches square) through the garden of John Kilderbee to convey water from the Mansion House through the garden into Church Lane.

# Note

In 2012 I had part of the drive relaid, and while Peter Morris was digging down to lay a new drainage pipe, he found there was one there already. Presumably who ever laid the drive blocked the original drain!

# 1804

Indenture of 1<sup>st</sup> May reciting that out of the love of their son, Samuel (elder) and his wife Mary left him all their property, including land in Gt. Glemham, Cransford, Sweffling as well as the Mansion, and the family pew in the church. This Samuel (III) was always referred to as the Reverend Dr Kilderbee and was born about 1758<sup>20</sup>.

To quote C. Seely<sup>21</sup>:

He took orders as a young man and was rector of Campsea-ash 1784-1817, Easton 1817-1847, and of Trimley 1787. He married Caroline, widow of George Waddington an army officer, and daughter of Samuel Horsey of Bury St. Edmunds. He had one son who was christened Spencer Horsey Kilderbee.

# 1813

Jasper Peirson bought the Mansion House from Samuel Horsey Kilderbee<sup>22</sup>. In 1825 he bought the post mill (located in Victoria Mill Road, called Mill Lane then) from Thomas Wright for £500<sup>23</sup>. This was occupied and run by Edmund Kindred and later his son John. Jasper died on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1838 aged 72 and left the house to his wife and then to his son John. There is a marble

stone in St. Michael's church which reads: "under this stone is a passage (lying eastward) into a vault belonging to Edmund Goodwyn MD and Mr Peirson 21. 12. 1838". Therefore, Jasper is buried here with his half brother. Edmund Goodwyn MD (1756-1829), a medical writer who, although being born in Framlingham, practiced in London. He retired to Framlingham some years before his death.

John Peirson became something of a celebrity in Framlingham, and was influential in extending the railway from Campsea Ash to Framlingham, which opened in 1859. He also erected the town's first purpose built steam mill for Edmund Kindred (the building still exists as the United Free Church near the Post Office)<sup>24</sup>. Edmund Kindred junior ran the mill, grinding corn for flour and animal feeds. John Peirson did not want the Mansion House and seems to have rented it out. It also seems to have been rented or partly rented at other times.

John Peirson (born 8<sup>th</sup> October 1817, died 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1861) is buried in the cemetery with his wife Emma Lorina (born 1816, died 29<sup>th</sup> January1880). There is a stone next to them, for their two daughters who sadly died young; Margaret born 15<sup>th</sup> May 1847, died 27<sup>th</sup> November 1850, and Fanny Caroline born 18<sup>th</sup> December 1849, died 20<sup>th</sup> November 1857<sup>25</sup>.

The Mansion House came up for auction (no date on poster) with a reserve of £750, but the bid only reached £660. The poster makes fascinating reading<sup>26</sup>. In the deeds there are two articles of agreement for letting part of the Guildhall dated  $28^{th}$  February 1874 and October  $11^{th}$  1877.

### **Reverend George Attwood**

The 1841 census shows him as living in the Guildhall, perhaps work was being done on the rectory. His mother came to live in Framlingham after her husband's death in 1838. His sister Caroline was also here. Perhaps he bought the Mansion House for them? According to JA Venn "Alumni Cantabrigienses".

Attwood George adm to St. Johns 6<sup>th</sup> May 1814. Pembroke Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 1816 BA. 1818 MA. Ordained Deacon 1823 and priest 1829. Vicar of Saxthorpe Norfolk 1834-37. Rector of Framlingham with Saxstead 1837-84. Died July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1884 aged 89.

Known as "the musical rector", he was the son of Thomas (1765-1838) a composer and organist at St. Paul's Cathedral, who taught music to members of the royal family. Thomas had been a student of Mozart in Vienna and a friend of Mendelssohn. It is believed that Mendelssohn visited Framlingham and gave Caroline lessons on the Thamar organ.

At the age of forty eight he married Sophia who was eighteen years his junior and they had a son Carew Reynell. I think they must also have had a daughter as there is a tomb in the cemetery for George Attwood, and at the foot is engraved "Emma Jane Attwood b 1860 d 1875"<sup>27</sup>.

George appears to have been a character as "Framlingham Weekly News"<sup>28</sup> states:

the Rev G. Attwood was nearly mobbed in the rectory because he locked the church and refused to allow

the bells to be rung, in protest at the news of Albert Memorial College to be built in Framlingham.

Helen Pitcher has researched the Attwoods and wrote a fascinating article for this Journal<sup>29</sup>. When George died, "Carew and friends decided to seek their fortunes in the New World, and settled in Texas". He too married late in life (at the age of forty eight, the same as his father), his bride was his sixteen year old Spanish maid. They were to have six children.

## **Reverend Edward Constable Alston.**

The Rev. Edward Constable Alston was living at the Guildhall in 1848 when one of his daughters was born here. Edward Alston was born on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1816, the son of Edward Daniel a brewer of Diss, Norfolk<sup>30</sup>. He went to Shrewsbury School and Caius College in October 1835 gaining a BA in 1839 and an MA in 1842. He was ordained (Norwich) on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1839. He was a curate in Cransford in 1846. He first married Henrietta (Harriet) daughter of William Rackham, alderman and mayor of Norwich in September 1839 (she died in Oct 1852). He then married Anna-Maria, daughter of Thomas Simpson of Ufford on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1855.

The children from his first marriage were Emma Louise Katherine, born 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1848, died 8<sup>th</sup> January 1850 in the Guildhall, and Katherine born 10<sup>th</sup> May 1852 and died 19<sup>th</sup> March 1853<sup>31</sup>. Edward Constable Alston died on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1871 in Dennington, Suffolk<sup>32</sup>.

### 1885

Stephen Starling, a draper bought the Mansion House on 3<sup>rd</sup> June<sup>33</sup>. He turned the ground floor of the house into his shop, replacing the front windows with the large bay windows seen today. He renamed it "London House". He also erected a glass and cast iron canopy across the front windows. This covered space was used for outside sales, especially after the harvest when farmers and labourers had more cash.

### 1903

Stephen Starling leased his business to Aubrey T Wicks for twenty one years<sup>34</sup> and at some later date sold it to him outright. It continued as "London House" until at least 1937. He was a draper and outfitter, and also on the Parish Council. He died in 1931. According to Marion Drury<sup>35</sup> (Aubrey was her grandfather) there were many shop assistants, some of whom lived in the attics. Her grandmother had a large kitchen at the back of the house. She cooked and looked after everyone with helpers.

#### 1931

Marion's father returned from Canada to take over after his father's death<sup>36</sup>. Robert Aubrey Wicks, like so many young men of his age, left England after World War 1, and set off for America, Canada and South Africa for adventure and to make their fortunes.

The large flat roof area at the rear of the building was added for storage. The business flourished with dressmaking, tailors, a millinery department and later uniforms for Mills Grammar School.

In the walled garden the holly tree was there near the door in the wall, as now. Fruit trees grew on the walls, a peach from a stone planted by Marion's grandmother and a prolific apricot, remembered by Charles Corner forty years later.

At the top of the steps there was a kerria and peonies. Paths edged with bricks laid diagonally intersected the flower beds. There is an old Framlingham rumour of a tunnel from the castle to the church, and then on into the cellar of the house.

The shop was now trading as A T Wicks (Robert kept his father's initials) and busier than ever. Helping Robert in the office was Dollie Morris<sup>37</sup> (Doy Doy as Marion affectionately called her). In June 2010 a batch of about five hundred letters Dollie received between the 1930s and 40s came to the attention of an antiquarian book seller Ed Maggs. These were from all over the world, mainly from her membership of the Universal Correspondence Club. It seems Dollie was probably illegitimate and brought up by an aunt and two cousins<sup>38</sup>. Her home life was not particularly happy, but Marion says:

She always made the best of things. She was very artistic and a wonderful needlewoman, making many of the FADS (Framlingham Amateur Dramatic Society) costumes. She was always close to me throughout my life in Framlingham. I have a photo of her when I was young. She used to make the most amazing costumes for me for church fêtes. She was so clever, I used to win quite a few prizes!

Dollie had an inquiring mind and loved reading<sup>39</sup>. Even in her 70s she was studying for "O" or "A" levels. There is a poignant note she wrote (quoted in the EALIFE Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2010):

Framlingham lies at the back of beyond and though I have plenty of girl friends I haven't a male pal in the world. Those in Framlingham do not appeal to me, and as I have no relations beyond an aunt and two cousins, with whom I live, I have had no chance of meeting those outside its environs. Indeed if it were not for my love of reading, and the fact that I am a girl guide and member of the amateur dramatic society, I should feel like dying of boredom.

### 1959

The Guildhall part of the house was sold to Henry Turner<sup>40</sup> (now Turner and Ellerby, accountants).

#### 1966

Robert Wicks died and in the same year Marion left Suffolk for Portsmouth. She married in St. Michael's church and became a naval wife. Her mother remained at the Mansion House until 1967 when she sold it.

#### 1967

The Mansion House was bought by Anthony Theodore and Freda Anastasia Chapman-Purchas on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. They ran an antiques shop with a good proportion of silver and jewellery, for which they installed a strong room. By all accounts Mrs Chapman-Purchas was a character. It is alleged that she would ring Canon Bulstrode (Rector) at 3am complaining of the striking clock. Other stories remain such as a visit one day from Princess Margaret (dressed in coat and head scarf, she often stayed with the Penns in Sternfield.). Annoyed with her visitor picking everything up to look for silver or china marks, Mrs Chapman Purchas asked if she could help and was there anything she was looking for. The unrecognised Princess walked straight out of the shop. Another rumour was that she knew well and perhaps dealt with Keating the great art master faker. A small sentence in the Parish magazine in 1968 states that "A Persian carpet to be placed at the high altar was sent across from the Mansion House", and also "a Madonna and child to fit into the niche in the Children's corner", empty since the Reformation probably, and a set of black vestments for a Requiem. The glass canopy at the front of the building was in disrepair and taken down in 1968.

# 1972

Mr and Mrs Charles Corner and their four children took over and converted the shop into tea rooms, along with pictures and furniture for sale. There is a well four feet in diameter and sixty feet deep fed with spring water (it is still here, but covered at present). About half way down was a pump which was malfunctioning. As an electrician, he mended this. He also rewired the premises. His office was at the back of the building overlooking the stone steps. He told me he had seen the ghost of a woman in black walking down the steps and through the fire escape door of Turner and Ellerby. His wife remarked "perhaps after a whiskey".

# 1978

Brian Bird of Laxfield took over. He closed the shop and used the upper floors as offices. This was another occupation where there are no facts, but plenty of rumour. Mainly that Mr Bird was an arms dealer, perhaps even using the tunnel in the cellar to trade in the middle of the night, taking the "goods" through the churchyard. If this was true he was blessed with the inherited strong room. He went bankrupt in 1982, disappearing over night. There is another story that he was a double agent. If only walls could talk! I think the house was then unoccupied for about two years. There were understood to be problems over ownership, deeds etc., and nothing could be done.

# 1984 or 85

It was bought by John Peter Maxwell-Stewart and his wife Pauline. He was an architect and she an estate agent working under the name of Pauline Gove Estates.

### 1985

They applied for a change of use to six shopping units together with a flat at the first floor and studio on the second floor. Permission was granted in November with the provisos that "areas adjacent to the front windows of units 1, 2 and 6 shall not be used for storage of cartons, boxes or other containers or wrappings and such areas shall be kept in a tidy condition at all times".

The studio on the second floor was not to be used for commercial purposes. This still applies today, as there is no fire escape and in a listed 2\* building, permission to build one would not be given.

### 1988

The Maxwell-Stewarts sold the house on the 8<sup>th</sup> April to Hugh Raynor Co Ltd in London. There was to be a lease of 125 years and a peppercorn rent.

### 2000

In June, Mrs Hughes moved in. This was a short occupation of about a year. All I have found out is that she was an elderly lady of about ninety years, who lived on the first floor.

### 2001

John and Imogen Sheeran acquired the house on the 7<sup>th</sup> July, and a change of use was again made from residential to business premises. He had been curator at the Dulwich Picture Gallery. They

moved to Framlingham and ran their art business from the house.

# 2006

The use of the house once again changed from business to residential, and I moved into my new home, the Mansion House on the 17<sup>th</sup> July.



The Mansion House in the time of Stephen Starling, c.1886.

# Acknowledgements

On moving into the Mansion House, I was enveloped in history and romance and felt compelled to find out who had lived here previously. I have had a great deal of help and encouragement from so many people:

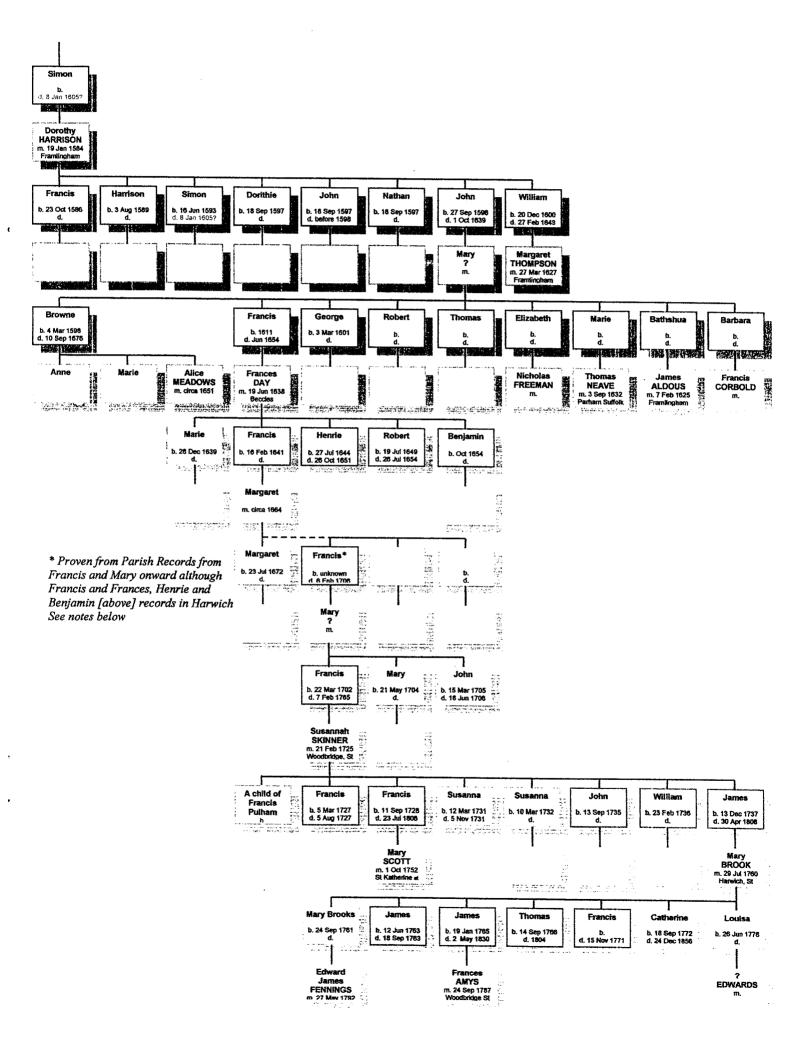
Mr MV Roberts who showed me the books and manuscripts held at the Lanman Museum in the castle. Mrs Diana Howard with other books and photographs. Charles Seely who has written extensively about the Kilderbees who lived here from 1674-1813. All the helpful people at the Suffolk Record Office in Ipswich who pointed me in the right direction. Dr John Ridgard who patiently translated Francis and Simon Pulham's wills and Dorothy's charter from old English and Latin, and whose book "Great Framlingham in Suffolk and the Howard Dukes of Norfolk" was invaluable. David and Helen Pitcher, Charles Corner and his wife, and Marion Drury Research is always ongoing, but this is a start.

#### Notes

- 1 M.L Kilvert, A History of Framlingham (1995) pp. 9-10
- 2 Margaret, Duchess of Norfolk; Kilvert, op.cit. p.10
- 3 R.Green, The History, topography, and antiquities of Framlingham and Saxsted...(1834); Kilvert, op. cit. p.91
- 4 "A Survey of Suffolk Parish History", Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich (SROI)
- 5 Extract from will of Robert Smith, 1532 (SROI J421/7) (JMR Black Book 3)
- 6 Extract from will of Francis Pulham, 1583 (SROI JMR Black Book 4)
- 7 Will of Simon Pulham, 1604 (SROI 1C/AA1/40/50)
- 8 Charter of Dorothy Pulham (SROI)
- 9 "Dorothy his widow likely remarried on 9<sup>th</sup> January 1615 to John Tracye at Beccles"
  (Research by Chris Pulham at SROI, in Framlingham parish records and International Genealogical Index)
- 10 Charter of Dorothy Pulham (SROI)
- 11 SROI, Framlingham parish records; C.W.Seely "The Last of the Kilderbees" in Fram: Journal of the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society, (4th Series, No 11, December 2004)
- 12 R.Green, op. cit.
- 13 Seely, art. cit.
- 14 Guildhall title deeds held (1971) by Mr and Mrs Chapman Purchas, copy held by author
- 15 Ibid.
- 16 Ibid.
- 17 Ibid.
- 18 Seely, art. cit.
- 19 As 14
- 20 As 14; Seely, art. cit.
- 21 *Ibid.*
- 22 Ibid.
- 23 Kilvert, op. cit., p.131
- 24 This aspect has been extensively covered: O.R.Sitwell, Framlingham: a short history and guide (1982) p.13;999 Kilvert, op. cit., p. 23
- 25 "Records of monumental inscriptions in Framlingham Cemetery"; compiled by members and Friends of Framlingham Women's Institute (Unpublished, n.d.). Copy held at Lanman Museum
- 26 SROI HE401/5/4/222 Auction posters
- 27 Kilvert, op. cit., passim
- 28 Framlingham Weekly News (1863) passim
- 29 Fram 3<sup>rd</sup> Series, No 9 (April 2000) pp. 18-19
- 30 SROI G134714
- 31 Kelly's Post Office Directory 1853
- 32 SROI GB437/4 Alston family records
- 33 Indenture of sale 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1885, Trustees of John Peirson to Stephen M. Starling; Mortgage by Stephen Starling (as note 14)
- 34 Lease for twenty one years by S.M.Starling to A.T.Wicks 9th May 1910 (as note 14)
- 35 Interview with Marion Drury
- 36 Ibid
- 37 Ibid
- 38 Ibid
- 39 Ibid
- 40 Deeds in custody of author; interviews with Marion Drury, and Mr and Mrs Charles Corner

	Births Mothers Name If	Informatio		Marria Place of	ges	Dea	aths av		Tree Place and Index to
lame	stated	Place of birth	Date	marriage	Date	Place of death	ag e	Date	page
oane Pulham						Framlingham SFK	wi d	13 Feb 1595	
eorge Pulham						Framlingham SFK		30 Apr 1611	
Villiam Smyth servan	t of Francis					Framlingham		26 May	
Pulham Robert Pulham						SFK		1567	
Agnes ?		<u></u>		Framlingham SFK	w of Robert	Framlingham		9 Apr 1604	
Pulham Joane ?						Framlingham SFK	wi d	13 Feb 1596	
Mary Pulham		Framlingham SFK		x	d of Robert	Framlingham		9 Feb 1572	
Simon Pulham		Framlingham	<u>.</u>			Framlingham		8 Jan 1605	
Dorithie HARRISONE		SFK		Framlingham SFK	19 Jan 1584	SFK Framlingham SFK		1 Mar 1631	
Francis Pulham	Father Francis Pulham	Framlingham SFK	20 Oct 1560		1004	Framlingham SFK		1 Jul 1582	
Elizabeth Pulham	Pulham	Framlingham SFK	2 Sep 1565	Framlingham	4 Oct 1592				
Joseph REYNOLDS		Emplore	( <b>A</b> /	SFK	4 OUL 1092				
Marie Pulham Simon BANCROF1	Kathering?	Framlingham SFK	4 Nov 1572	Framlingham SFK	28 May 1588				
Christian Pulham	Robert & Kathering?	Framlingham SFK	21 Sep	<u> </u>	1000				
Anthony GIRLINGE	-	SFK	1575	Framlingham SFK	25 Jan 1593				
Robert Pulham		Framlingham SFK		1		<b></b>			
Margaret BUSH	1	or n		Framlingham SFK	7 Oct 1604				
Frauncis Pulham	Simond & Dorothie	Framlingham SFK	23 Oct 1586						
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George Pulham	John & Marie	Framlingham SFK	26 Feb 1614					
Alice ?	d of Nicholas	Framlingham SFK	11 Jul 1619					
John Pulham?	s of John Pulham	Framlingham SFK	1622					
Mary Pulham	d of Browne & Anne	Framlingham SFK	22 Sep 1623					
Frauncis Pulham	Browne	Framlingham SFK	13 Dec 1627					
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Marie Pulham	Francis & Frances	Framlingham SFK	28 Dec 1639					
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Samuel Pulham	Browne & Marie	Framlingham SFK	23 Mar 1642					
Henrie Pulham	Francis & Frances	Framlingham SFK	27 Jul 1644					
Thomas Pulham						Framlingham SFK	20 Feb 1646	
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AT Wicks invoice of 1927, via James Breese Collection

### MY GRANDFATHER AND THE CZAR

#### By Tony Moore

William (Sonny) Moore was born on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1889 at 43 College Road, Framlingham. His father William Withington Moore (1864-1943) was a builder, wheelwright and undertaker (Moore Bros.). I know very little of grandfather's adolescent years; however in 1910 we find him established in a small shop at number three Crown and Anchor Lane where he owned a gentleman's hairdressing establishment. These premises had a most interesting past, being part of a malting, The White Hart Tavern, a butchers shop and a barbers. Grandfather took over and continued the barbers in 1910; his future was not to be in the building trade it seems.

He was a member of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Suffolk Regt, E Coy Framlingham Detachment. He also had a musical bent, because we find him playing in the brass band in the town in 1910. I have been reliably informed he was no mean player of the French horn, and also quite a passable pianist. He played football for Framlingham Wednesday (half day closing for the shops in the town) a team whose players were mostly made up of local shopkeepers and businessmen who would not have been able to play on Saturdays, opening hours 8 until 5pm. He also loved his allotment cultivating vegetables and flowers, he would always be seen sporting a fresh buttonhole of either a rose or carnation.

But the real story starts in 1962 when clearing his effects after his death in January 1961 where I discovered an old rolled up landscape photograph in the back of a drawer. Imagine my surprise when unrolling it, I saw my grandfather staring out at me. He was sitting in the front row of the photograph with about 150 others all posing in smart naval uniforms and their peaked hats with white hatbands of the RNAS (Royal Naval Air Service). A printed wood plaque in the centre of the image read Royal Naval Armoured Cars. My curiosity was roused and I just had to find out more about this long forgotten photograph. My father never spoke about WW1 and of his father, my grandfather.

Many journeys to London and much time were spent at the then Public Records Office at Kew and at the RNAS museum, research section at Yeovilton in Somerset. But most helpful was The Ministry of Defence, Admiralty Reference Library. It was from these three establishments that I gradually tracked down and built up a picture of grandfather's service in WW1 (1914-1918) although he didn't leave the service until the early months of 1919.

It was here that I also found his enlistment papers dated 27<sup>th</sup> September 1916. He was called up in the second wave of personnel for that year. As this meant that grandfather would now be absent from the hairdressers/barbers shop in Crown and Anchor Lane, grandmother took the helm and continued with the help of a young assistant (filling in as a lather boy) right up until grandfather's return in 1919. I can't quite imagine her standing behind a customer wielding a cutthroat razor, but from all reports she proved to be quite proficient and able. Haircutting also came within her scope. This year also saw the introduction of conscription. Volunteers and regulars of all three services

from 1914 were suffering horrendous loses and the 'Great War Machine' wanted more. Documents, besides giving all his details, have another box on one form reading, 'rating for which entered aircraftman II, service No. F21246 of the RNAS'. During my research I found that many of the RNAS personnel were recruited from Suffolk and Norfolk; this might have been an echo from the past in the days of sail when the Navy looked to the Eastern Counties for its sailors. Much detail and information about the RNAS armoured cars was only made available to the general public by the War Office in 1968. Even so, many of the released papers were far from complete and had either been lost or destroyed from the result of German air raids during WWII.

So began his initial training in London at the shore training establishment at 'HMS President'. This must have been quite a culture shock. At this point things began to progress very quickly as he was to be trained as an armourer (munitions). He was then transferred to a newly formed Armoured Car Division. Existing squadrons of RNAS armoured cars were already serving on the Western Front in France and the Middle East. He was also expecting to be sent to 'The Western Front' in France. Along with others he is more than surprised to learn that they would be on standby to be sent to Russia with three newly formed armoured car squadrons at a moment's notice. Of interest is the story behind the birth of The Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) Armoured Car Division. Commander Oliver Locker Lampson RNVR (and who later was to become a member of parliament) was instrumental in setting up the idea of armoured car units. And this was to be endorsed by the then First Sea Lord at the Admiralty, Mr Winston Churchill. Locker Lampson (a Cromer man), at the behest of Churchill, had orders to form additional armoured car units.

At this period in time, the Russian forces were being hard pressed by the advancing German army on all fronts and were desperate for much needed assistance from their western allies. The then British government of the day received an urgent appeal from the Czar in person, and the First Sea Lord, Mr Winston Churchill, summoned Commander Oliver Locker Lampson RNVR, who was asked to form a fully trained and equipped division of three squadrons of armoured cars, and they had orders to be on standby ready to embark at a moment's notice - the time had now come.

Firstly making their way to Hornby Dock in Liverpool they were to board a steam ship the SS Umona, which had seen better days. She had a crew of 75 and was under the command of Captain H.S. Robinson. Normally the ship could accommodate 58 passengers but when the RNAS personnel came aboard over 500 were packed between the decks. As a result much discomfort would be suffered as they were about to set sail, not helped by a report that German U-Boats had been sighted in Liverpool bay. After this setback things still didn't go quite to plan. They received a message from the senior British naval officer at Archangel informing the captain that the White Sea had frozen over owing to an unusual severe winter. The SS Umona, therefore, stood no chance in getting through until the thaw had set in. But on the 5<sup>th</sup> November the weather deteriorated even further and the ship ran into gales, which reached cyclone proportions. The captain later admitted that in all his 25 years at sea it was the worst he had ever encountered. Armoured cars and other equipment were damaged in the ship's hold which were swamped by several tons of sea water. This meant that the ship had to try and berth at the nearby 'Kola Inlet' near Alexsandrovsk (later to become Murmansk). It was here, many miles from their intended landing berth, that all vehicles and supplies were unloaded along with all personnel who made up the fighting force. This included many damaged vehicles and quite a few very green looking and sick men.

What about the vehicles in the hold of the ship? Among the well-known names of the armoured cars was the Rolls Royce (Admiralty pattern), this also took the form of a hat badge and was worn on the servicemen's headgear. This vehicle entered service about 1914 and its main armament was a Vickers-Maxim machine gun established in the turret. The 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> ton Rolls was the most popular armoured car of the Great War and used extensively on the Russian front. The car had a crew of three and a top speed of 50mph, its dimensions were 16ft 7ins long, 6ft 3ins wide and 7ft 6ins in height. Other vehicles included Lanchesters who served through the whole campaign and were the most commonly used cars in spite of the preference for the Rolls Royce armoured cars. The Pierce Arrow weighed in at a hefty 9 tons and mounted a 3 pounder gun in a heavy turret. Seabrook heavy armoured cars had a seven man crew and sported a 3 pounder. The dearly loved Ford Model T was included because of its high ground clearance; it was to be much engineered and altered (by some very proficient engineers and mechanics attached to the squadrons) of course, for its future role. Even some of these Model T's were fitted with 3 pounder field guns. Its high ground clearance was an asset because where other cars became bogged down in the atrocious muddy conditions (bear in mind that hardly any hard surface roads existed) the dear old Ford T mainly overcame these obstacles. Austin manufactured armoured cars were used by the Russian army later on, these had twin gun turrets, a few of which were purloined by the RNAS and served in a minor role. All RNAS armoured car crews were enlisted as Petty Officers. The armoured division also had to be selfsufficient and all its supplies would have had to be brought with them from England. It meant that all equipment such as workshops, field kitchens, ambulances/hospitals, wireless vehicles, cranes, command and office vehicles and over 40 motorcycles would be essential. Not forgetting all vehicle spares, fuel, clothing, food and a vast amount of various ammunition to fit machine guns, heavy field guns and, of course, small arms. It could well be that grandfather's civilian expertise could have been called for and put to good use during idle moments. He may well have been kept busy at times having over 600 on the strength of the division.

From the moment they landed they would have been confronted with a culture shock and that included the extreme cold and harsh conditions. To begin with the landscape was completely alien from that of the UK and there was incessant snow which never seemed to stop. One crumb of comfort for them had been a very generous gift from Mr Gammage of the famous Gammage's department store in London. He had donated warm winter clothing and footwear for the whole force to enable them to combat the extreme cold of the severe Russian climate. Many RNAS car crews, especially the DRs (dispatch riders) were always on the lookout for Russian manufactured boots which they preferred to the English made ones. Another small reward to all personnel who served on the Russian front with the naval armoured car squadrons was their remuneration. Their rate of pay was £2 5s 6d per week, this compared with the paltry 13s 6d per week for those serving on the Western Front. All personnel, apart from commissioned officers, held the rank of Petty Officer (P.O.) or Chief Petty Officer (C.P.O.). My grandfather, William (Sonny) Moore, who survived the campaign and came through unscathed, held the rank of P.O. up until his demobilisation in 1919. Most of the fighting that took place was in the way of skirmishes and fighting patrols supporting the Russian forces. They did suffer casualties and they received treatment in the main RNAS hospital or aid stations; the more severe cases were promptly evacuated back to England.

After so much involvement in support of the Russians the Czar requested of the British government that he would like the RNAS armoured car squadrons to be renamed 'The Czar's British Squadron'. His request was granted. With the onset of the Russian revolution, and the overthrow of the Czar, this was now to affect British forces both military, naval and air force units. The situation had now arrived where the British forces were not only fighting the Germans in one instance but were confronted by the Bolsheviks on the other. Many grim stories were told of the barbaric hostility and ill-treatment of friend and foe alike. The British government of the day made a quick decision not to become embroiled in Russian politics and infighting and would start the immediate evacuation of all British forces in Russia back to the UK. It would take many weeks to load both equipment and personnel onto waiting Royal Navy ships. The long return voyage proved to be uneventful, the sea was smooth and the waters were ice free.

Petty Officer William Moore, along with all other RNAS personnel embarked for New Haven Court, Cromer in Norfolk, the home of their C.O., Commander Oliver Locker Lampson RNVR. Most, if not all, of the armoured cars and other equipment headed to HMS President in London. A few days later all of the RNAS personnel arrived at HMS President and were demobilised early 1919. Grandfather was home and returned to Crown and Anchor Lane, Framlingham now armed with nothing more than a bowler hat, a cane and lots of memories. In later years I came across another photograph of him, this time marching in column up Church Street on the way to the dedication of the War Memorial in the churchyard, the date 1921. And yes! he was wearing his bowler hat looking very dapper but very serious for this somber occasion.

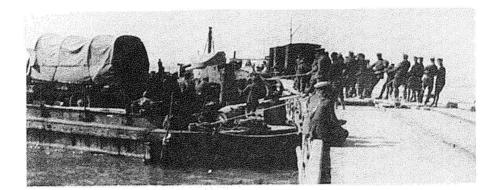
After a long wait the War Office approved an immediate release, and even sanctioned, the wearing of Russian campaign decorations (I was never able to find grandfather's ribbons or medals).

After all they had covered more ground than any other armoured car unit before or since and had served in Russia, Rumania and Turkey, and had fought with and alongside the White Russians, Frenchmen, Armenians and even Belgians. In their primitive cars they had overcome impossible terrain and horrendous conditions by their sheer skill and determination. William Moore's cap badge below shows a Rolls Royce (Admiralty pattern 1914), which was issued to the RNAS (Royal Naval Air Service). Their armament was a Vickers Maxim machine gun. The  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ton Rolls was one of the most widely used armoured cars of the Great War and used extensively on the Russian front. The car had a crew of three and a top speed of 50mph. Its dimensions were 16ft 7ins in length, 6ft 3ins wide and 7ft 6ins high. Col. T.E. Lawrence also used it in his famous campaigns in the Middle East.

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# <u>In Russia</u>

<u>Top.</u> RNAS personnel disembarking Armoured Cars from barges and from the mother ship S.S Umona. Center. A Seabrook Heavy Armoured Car. It is thought that the figure in uniform nearest the mounted 3 Pounder Gun is possibly William (Sunny) Moore. <u>Lower.</u> A group of Russian Cossacks with Personnel of the RNAS.





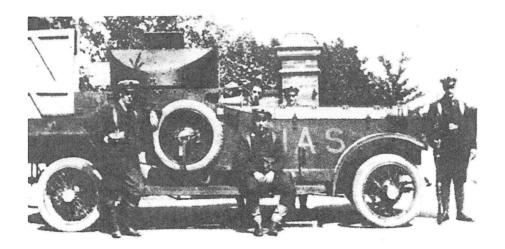


### Back in England

This photograph is thought to date from early 1919 and shows WWI veterans marching up Bridge Street to St Michael's Church. William Moore can be seen in the center column in the uniform of the RNAS wearing a peak hat with a white cover. A few weeks later he would be back in his civilian occupation in Framlingham.

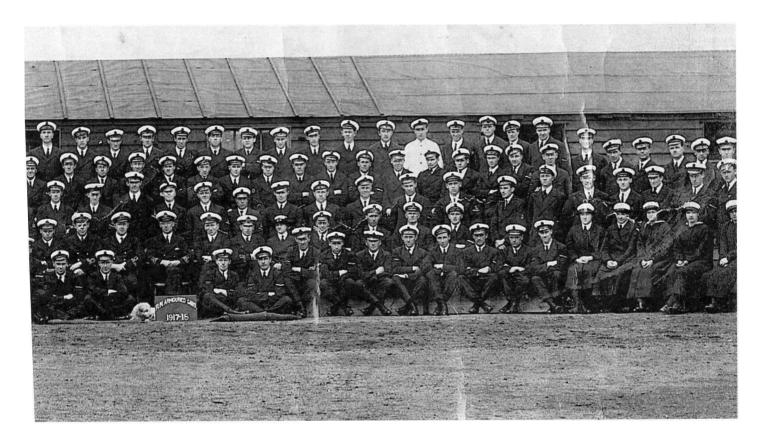
Below. A Rolls Royce Armoured Car of The RNAS back from Russia. Seen at Newhaven Court, Cromer, where most of the personnel would eventually be stood down/ demobilized, the equipment, cars etc would be scrapped or added to the strength of serving units elsewhere at home or overseas.







Framlingham men who served in the First War; top row first left Joseph Hearn (Royal Flying Corps), fourth from left Claude Etheridge (Army), end right William Moore (RNAS); centre row first left Neil Sherman (Army), second left Frank Sherman (Army), third left B. Kerridge (Army), end right Percy Stannard (Army). Further names would be welcome!



Grandfather, William (Sonny) Moore sitting in the front row ninth figure from the right.

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