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*Lincolnshire Past & Present Editors: Hilary Healey, Ros Beecers*

*Reviews Editor: Ray Carroll – Production Editor: Ros Beecers*

The deadline for contributions to the next Bulletin and the Autumn issue of *Lincolnshire Past & Present is 15 September, 2000*. Material should be sent to the Joint Editors at Jew's Court, Lincoln LN2 1LS. It will help the Editors if articles are sent typed, double spaced, and with a good margin. WE ARE ABLE TO ACCEPT ARTICLES ON DISK if they are Word for Windows/compatible files.

Cover picture: Piece of 14th century glass found at South Kyme. Fleur-de-lys design in ‘sgraffito’ on amber coloured glass. (Printed in reverse).
Editorial

Lincoln City Council’s magazine, Civic News, states that the ‘Millennium year has been an astonishing one for the City of Lincoln and one of immense civic pride, ceremony and modern achievement.’ The city’s bid for Lord Mayor status is still being considered by the Queen, who distributed the Maundy Money at the Cathedral in April. Lincoln is building a reputation for excellent business prospects and quality of living and learning. Regeneration projects are too numerous to mention them all, but forty-two areas have been earmarked for improvements, one of the most impressive being the Brayford Pool development, which has won a Millennium Marque environmental award. Perhaps the most significant for many of us is the new City and County Museum. Architects have been invited to submit plans for a museum on Flaxergate and there is little doubt now that the scheme will go ahead. Of course every new building has its detractors – some dislike the university and it is probably safe to predict that the museum will not be admired by everyone – but let’s wait and see how they look when established in their surroundings. More depressingly, Lincoln residents may think the buildings could be hidden in the long grass by then anyway!

June is a busy month in the county, with the Lincolnshire Show and Waddington International Air Show happening in the same week. By contrast, Forestry Commission scientists are finding out what our woodlands were like in medieval times as they change their priority from growing conifers for timber to creating habitats for woodland species and attractive places for people to visit. Their aim is gradually to restore the woodlands to what they looked like centuries ago with mostly broad-leaved trees – very much a long-term project. Fourteen Lincolnshire woods are involved including Ropseby Rise and Boothby Great Wood near Grantham. Of the Lincolnshire beaches Sutton-on-Sea is probably our family’s favourite so I was pleased to learn that it met the highest of standards for a beach resort to achieve the Tidy Britain Group’s European Blue Flag 2000 award.

In this issue of Lincolnshire Past & Present is a story of a protest that worked – to save Caistor Grammar School in 1960. Rosalind Boyce, who was one of the sixth-formers who took part, found that ordinary (but resourceful) people can ‘make the difference’. As promised in the last issue, we have Hilary Healey’s article about stained and painted glass found at the South Kyme Priory site, with a full page of her excellent professional drawings. Hilary is an ‘unsung hero’ whom I would like to thank for her work for this magazine and for local history generally. Also thanks to Ray Carroll for editing our popular ‘Bookshelf’ section. Some of you have complained about the number of book reviews though and this time the section is a little shorter. (The problem is that people keep on writing local history books!) J. N. Clarke on the Baptist movement in the Horncastle area and Brian Williams on the evaluation of clergy livings give us some useful information about church history. Articles about Tennyson are always welcome, but for a change we have one that features another poet with Lincolnshire connections – Sir John Betjeman. If your recently submitted article has not been included this time it will probably be in the next edition. Don’t forget that we can accept disks again – it means easier (and faster) production!

Ros Beevers, Joint Editor

In The Times of 26 May readers might have seen an article about the preparations in Australia to celebrate the 200th anniversary in 2001 of the first circumnavigation of that country by Matthew Flinders of Donington. The writer records that while Captain Cook’s name is hallowed in this country Flinders is largely ignored but in Australia Flinders ‘is revered’. In his biographical note he goes on to say that Flinders was ‘a native of that notable nurse of resolute men, Lincolnshire’. Didn’t true yellow bellies always know it? Paul Bruntont of the Mitchell Library in Sydney is in England looking for Flinders memorabilia, particularly letters, to be included in a national exhibition next year.

Ray Carroll
Making a difference
The Caistor Walk of February 1960  Rosalind Boyce

On 19 February 2000 Prince Andrew celebrated his fortieth birthday. That
day forty years ago is forever etched on my memory, not because of the
birth of a prince, but because the famous ‘Caistor Walk’ to Lincoln, a
distance of 26 miles, took place on the night of 18th–19th February 1960,
and I am proud to have been one of the 53 senior pupils of Caistor
Grammar School who took part in it.

Somewhere along the road

At the beginning of
1960 Lindsey County
Council Education
Sub Committee rec-
ommended that the County Council
should close Caistor Grammar
School (CGS) and that its pupils
should be sent to De Aston, Market
Rasen and Brig Grammar. Quite
fortuitously the County Council’s
meeting to consider this recommen-
dation was to be held on Friday,
19 February, the first day of
CGS’s half-term holiday. The idea
of a petition and protest walk
originated in Grove House [girls’
boarding house]... A committee
consisting of head boy John Steel
[and three others] was formed and
arrangements were made for pub-
lic relations with the press and
TV, the reception in Lincoln,
transport of food and possible
casualties, and soup kitchens on
the way. The walkers were rec-
ommended to wear two pairs of wool-
len socks in comfortable shoes or
boots... An Air Ministry weather
expert at RAF Manby forecast ‘A
freezing, frosty night with possible
snow showers,’ adding ‘Rather
then me.’

After a fish-and-chip supper in the
boarding house dining room, dressed in plenty of jumpers and scarves, the recommended thick socks, comfortable shoes, warm trousers (my mother had bought me a pair of tartan 'trews' specially from Marks and Spencer – strange to note now that I did not then possess any trousers), rain capes you name it – and pockets full of glucose tablets, we set off at about 10.15pm, snow falling, spirits high, cheered by a crowd of Caistor residents in the Market Place.

'They were off with their homemade banner carried before them, 28 boys and 25 girls – with eight stalwart fourth form boys as red lamp carriers. The wind howled and the snow blinded them, then ice packed the road and there was the hazard of skidding vehicles ... We had a soup kitchen at Gibbet Hill on the A46 outside Middle Rasen and another at a County Council depot between Faldingworth and Dunholme. Footsore and weary, banners abandoned because of the strong head wind, but still in high spirits after an eight-hour trek through a night of driving snow and sleet [they] marched into Lincoln at 6am and the county police escort, which had provided relays of cars, was exchanged for one by the city police force. They had to walk right through Lincoln because their very welcome cooked breakfast and their school uniform awaited them at the Youth Hostel on South Park. There they rested and feet were dressed ... [At about 10am] heads held high they walked up through Lincoln. They were magnificent and thoroughly deserved the cheers of the County Council Office employees, as they marched into the forecourt. John Steel delivered to a most impressed Sir Weston Cawcroft-Amcotts, the Chairman of Lindsey County Council, the petition protesting against the proposed closure of Caistor Grammar School.'

On that day as a direct result of the pupils' action, Alderman T. F. Raby, Chairman of the Education Committee, agreed to have second thoughts about the closure and proposed a motion to refer the matter back to the Committee for reconsideration, and this motion was carried. When I staggered home on that Friday, my sister commented, 'Oh, you look awful', to which I replied, 'I feel awful.
but wonderful inside.' I can still recall that delicious feeling of falling into a deep sleep. I was awoken hours later to watch the BBC news - Robert Dougal, I remember. The main item on that bulletin was the birth of Prince Andrew and if he had not been born that day, CGS might have been the lead story. We had been upstaged by a prince.

After forty years, I look back at that amazing, heady time with a sense of unreality. These days such a project would never be allowed. It was surprising that it was allowed in 1960, and says something about our headmaster Ken Michel and his staff that they were willing to trust, support and actively encourage us.

But what a weight of responsibility they carried - despite the careful planning and preparation, there was so much that could have gone wrong and the repercussions would have been horrendous. For many years since I have driven daily along the A46, and sometimes wonder if I really did walk it. The answer is 'yes'; Caistor Grammar School was reprieved, and whatever opinions one has about the pros and cons of grammar schools, it is a great source of pride that in 2000 it continues to thrive as a highly rated and respected school. In April the Museum of Lincolnshire Life was honoured by a visit from HRH Prince Andrew, now Duke of York [see page 12]. He will be aware of the tremendous events at Caistor at the time of his birth and that he and the Walk have been irrevocably linked in my mind for forty years.

NOTE: I am indebted to Charlotte Linzell for permission to quote from her notes on 'The Walk' in Old Caistorians magazine, 1999. In 1960 she taught English at CGS and later became Deputy Head. Her husband, 'Pop' Linzell was chemistry master. They organised support services on the night and Charlotte walked some of the route.

Does another reader have a story like this to tell? Do you know of anyone who was able to "make the difference"? If so we would like to hear from you, especially if you have some good pictures like these to illustrate your story. Ed.

OBITUARY

John Reynolds Anthony

I was shocked to hear of the death of John Anthony at only 72. In my days as a town planner, I seemed to have known him for ever - certainly he was already a star of the planning firmament when I started work in 1970! Our paths crossed infrequently, but each time our conversation resumed where it had left off months, or sometimes years, before. I met him last at the public meeting concerning the proposed Sleaford power station, when he, I and another friend (an explosives expert!) sat on the back row and marvelled at the shenanigans.

John of course was both a town planner and a landscape architect, and a Fellow of both the Royal Town Planning Institute (to which he was elected in 1953) and of the Institute of Landscape Architects. He was very proud that he had started in planning just before the 1947 Act made it a national system; John began in the mid 1940s, in the days of a man, a boy and a dog (I think he was the boy!).

Many readers will know John's Shire books - Discovering Period Gardens, The Renaissance Garden in Britain (currently out of print); and Joseph Paxton. He was fairly dismissive of these (but I think secretly quite proud of them - he should have been because they pack an impressive amount of information into a very small space!). John was an academic in the true sense of the word - many generations of planners and landscape architects passed through his hands at Nottingham Polytechnic (now Trent University), until the courses were closed down.

Many organisations have cause to be grateful for John's unobtrusive ability to get things done. For example, for many years he was involved with the running of the Royal Town Planning Institute at national and regional levels, and was President and Secretary of the East Midlands branch. In Sleaford he chaired the Conservation Area Advisory Committee. He was involved with the Garden History Society and has been President. When he retired I asked John what he would do now. 'Well,' he said, 'there's the CPRE (Council for the Protection of Rural England) - which actually meant working to represent their interests in the revision of the Lincolnshire Structure Plan - and I have to tour the country to revise my Shire books' (I do hope he had completed that project!). And he moved to Pinchbeck from North Hykeham. I shall miss John with his quiet humour and sharp intellect. There are not that many genuinely 'nice blokes' that we can afford to lose one.

Michael Turland

PS I hope Paradise has got its landscaping and planning sorted out. If not, it shortly will be, quietly and firmly! (But kindly done).
Horncastle Baptists

Local tradition has it that during the 19th century in Horncastle there was always a chapel or church building just being finished or one being started. An old inhabitant told the writer that his father said when the churches and chapels disgorged their congregations on Sunday evenings the town was like an anthill, black with people dressed in their 'Sunday best' making their various ways home.

The Census of Religious Worship taken on a national basis in 1851 shows that the number of people attending nonconformist places of worship in Horncastle on Sunday 31 March 1851 exceeded those attending the two Anglican churches by fifty per cent, taking into account both morning and evening services, and including Sunday schools, registering 426 children. From a town population of 4921 more than half were attending one or other of the six churches and chapels.

The earliest established nonconformist community in Horncastle were the Baptists who built their first chapel in 1767, and must have been active before then. Although never large in numbers compared with the later established Congregationalists and Methodists, the Baptists continued as a part of religious activity and influence in the town until 1920. The oldest and still held theory in some quarters of their origins is that they have been in continuous existence as a religious group since the ministry of John the Baptist along the River Jordan. The more recent position has been that the origins of the Baptist Church should be dated from 1641, when baptism of believers by total immersion of the body was renewed in England, although small Baptist communities existed as early as 1611. Like other religious communities the Baptists split up into different branches over the years, and so far as Horncastle is concerned, evidence points to Calvinistic, Particular, General and Anabaptist branches being present in the town at various times. A full discussion of the different branches is included in the work already referenced, but it can briefly be stated that the main difference between the General Baptists and Anabaptists was that the latter were pacifists, refused to participate in local or central government, refused to baptize infants, and held that an apostolic succession was necessary in the administration of baptism.

In his return for the Census of Religious Worship 1851 the Rev T. R. Matthews Pastor of the New Connexion General Baptist Chapel, Boston, added the following note as a postscript:

'The General Baptists differ from the Baptists by believing in a general redemption for all mankind; the other Baptists are often distinguished as Particular in believing that Christ only died for a particular portion of mankind. There is, however, among the General Baptists themselves a division into the Old Connexion who are generally Arians or Unitarians, and the New Connexion who believe in the divinity of Christ.'

Horncastle seems to have attracted most of the divisions. From 1822 to 1842 the Horncastle Baptist Chapel is listed in various directories as Calvinistic Baptist, but in 1842 White's Lincolnshire refers to Calvinistic Baptists or Presbyterians. It correctly lists the Rev David Jones as Baptist Minister, but also includes the Rev G. Roberts as Presbyterian Minister living in Far Street (West Street). The same directory states there were only four chapels in the town, belonging to the Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists, the Independents, and the Calvinistic Baptists or Presbyterians. Thus it would seem there was a Presbyterian Society in the town at that time and the Baptists allowed them to use their chapel for services. No records relating to Horncastle Presbyterians have been discovered.

When the Religious Census 1851 was taken the Rev David Jones, Baptist Minister at Horncastle, described the chapel as a Particular Baptist Chapel. In 1872 it was described as a Calvinistic Baptist Chapel. The exact date of the formation of the Baptist community in Horncastle is not known. There is a strong local tradition that in or about 1655 John Bunyan sent a Mr Brown to Horncastle to advise a few persons seeking help to guide them in forming a society, but there is no documentary evidence to back up that tradition.

A Baptist community was certainly active in nearby Coningsby as early as 1657 with John Lupton as Leader. He was later appointed Messenger to the Baptist Churches in Lincolnshire. Thus there would have been contact between the two communities if the Horncastle one had existed then, because in his duties as Messenger John Lupton had to visit all the Baptist meeting places in Lincolnshire.

A later pastor at Coningsby from 1738 to 1800 was the Rev Gilbert Boyce who was also appointed Messenger for Lincolnshire Baptist Churches in 1753. Boyce was widely known and respected throughout the county. John Wesley refers to him in his Journal, recounting how when they met during Wesley's visit to Coningsby in 1748 they discussed the subject of baptism at great length, but in the end agreed to differ. Gilbert Boyce had a family of eighteen children.
A few years later when visiting Horncastle John Wesley wrote in his Journal with some bitterness, ‘twenty-six more have been dipped’. He was referring to a mass defection of Methodists to the Baptists in the town. Baptisms took place in the River Bain down Watermill Road near the watermill, the Baptist Pastor being the Rev J. Hill.

Early meetings would take place in private houses or outbuildings such as barns or workshops. The Conventicle Act was passed by Parliament in 1664, which forbade all assemblies for worship other than those of the established Church, and in 1665 the Five Mile Act forbade all ministers unless they subscribed to the Act of Uniformity, to preach or live within five miles of any corporate town. However, towards the end of the 17th century the Toleration Act was passed giving freedom of worship to nonconformists. Dissenters Certificates in the Lincolnshire Archives Office give us firm dates relating to the establishment of the first Baptist Chapel in Horncastle, and of other Baptist assemblies in private houses. An application for a certificate was made to the Bishop of Lincoln on 17 April 1667 to certify ‘a newly erected building set apart and appropriated for the use of Protestant Dissenters commonly called Baptists near to the dwelling house of John Hill in Horncastle’. The actual site was in Cagthorpe and the building still stands (1998). Later applications for dissenters certificates were made, confirming various differing communities of the Baptists existed in the town:

1) In March 1788 ‘for the house of Hugh Sanderson situate in the town of Horncastle’
2) 26 October 1807 ‘A certain room the property of Mrs Trolley and occupied as a schoolroom situated in St Lawrence Lane formerly called Pudding Lane’. It referred to General Baptists.
3) 1815, ‘A dwelling house belonging to Mr Willey set apart and appropriated for the use of protestant dissenters commonly called Ana-baptists’.

The second application was signed by Wm. Crowder, Thos. Rose, Thos. Johnson, Joseph Curtis and Felix Simpson. The third application was signed by Thos. Pannell, John Thompson, Francis Pettin and Thomas Jarvis.

The foundation deed of the 1767 Chapel on the Wong, originally a one-storey building, was signed by the following:


The signatures on the various documents show that in its early years the Horncastle Baptist Church was supported by members drawn from a wide range of tradesmen and craftsmen, with one or two members of the professions:

William Dawson
John Bromhead
Joseph Tipper
Felix Simpson
William Parker
P. Thomas
Wm. Crowder
Thomas Johnson
Thos. Pannell
Charles Bonner
George Gunnis
James Coates
John Blow
Joseph Curtis
T. Hollingshead

Chairmaker
Blacksmith
Heelmaker
Glazier
Solicitor
Schoolmaster
Nurseryman
Butcher
Printer
Butcher
Draper, Mercer & Grocer
Clock & watch maker
Plumber
Bricklayer
Peruke (wig) maker

The Cagthorpe chapel was a simple building, with a doorway in the centre of the north wall. Substantial structural alterations that may still be traced by the different bricks used in the chapel walls were made in 1839. The walls were raised and an upper tier of windows inserted. A gallery was erected at the east end, the north door bricked up, and the present entrance under the gallery opened out. The pulpit was moved to the west end, and the seating increased to 250 places. Until the end of the 19th century immersions were still taking place in the river near the water mill. A baptistry within the chapel was probably constructed when restorations took place in 1883. A report in the Horncastle News of 10 August 1889 states a special service was held on 7 August 1889 when the Lay Pastor, Mr W. P. Milns (cabinet maker) performed the ceremony of baptism by immersion in the chapel.

On the north side of the chapel was a tiny graveyard, traces of which may still be seen. The last burial took place there in April 1855, the graveyard being officially closed on 31 July 1856. Three early burials were of Mary Markwell who died in March 1776 aged 29, Thomas Lamb who died 7 June 1811 aged 82, and Eliza Parker who died 1 April 1835 aged 20. The last burial in 1855 was that of Martha Briggs, mother-in-law of the Rev David Jones the Baptist Minister whose pastorate extended over 50 years. James Coates, one of the founders, was also buried there.

In 1876 the Horncastle Baptist Church joined the Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Baptist Union. It was not until 1892 that the chapel was registered for marriages, the first being that of Mr Henry Burrell of Horncastle and Miss Bussell of Scamblaby. It was in the following year that the final restoration took place at a cost of £80. The interior was decorated, the old high pews removed and replaced by new ones. The old square box-shaped pulpit was also removed and replaced by a rostrum and platform. A new organ was fitted, together with new seats for the choir.

Some of the earlier pastors did not stay in Horncastle for very long, but a few gave many years of service there. The first was the Rev J. Hill (1766-1799) followed...
To the reverend""...""...

There are to certify that a New Erected Building...""...

John Hill...""...

W Bromley...""...

Jan Rades...""...

LAC Diss/1/1757/1

Photostat copy of Application for Dissenters Certificate by Horncastle Baptists for their church, built on Cagborpe in 1757. Still standing.
by the Rev Coates, with Mr Levi Pannell, who was a cooper, as Lay Pastor. After the chapel was closed from 1823 to 1829 the Rev David Jones became Pastor and remained in office until 1879. He died in the town in 1884 and was buried in Holy Trinity Churchyard off Splitts Road. During the latter years of his pastorate he was assisted by the Rev John Wright and the Rev J. W. Nichol. Then there were the Rev S. Samuels (1880-1885), Mr W. P. Mills, Lay Pastor (1887-1893), the Rev J. K. Chappelle, a retired minister living at Roughton, (1893-1897), and the Rev W. E. Pearson (1905-1907). The Rev W. B. Mickleham was appointed in 1907 under the auspices of the Baptist Pioneer Mission and served until 1914. The Rev H. J. Starling, Pastor at Coningsby Church served the Horncastle Baptists from 1914 to 1917 and the Rev P. H. Chase was made joint Pastor of Coningsby and Horncastle Baptist Chapels 1918-1919. He preached once a month at Horncastle and shortly after he left, the chapel at Horncastle closed.

There can be little doubt that the dedicated ministry of David Jones did much to keep alive the nonconformist spirit in the Horncastle area through a large part of the 19th century. He assisted at services in Horncastle Congregational Chapel on two alternate Sundays each month, sharing duties with the Congregational Minister from Horncastle, the Rev Samuel Gladstone. In addition, for the whole of his pastorate, he conducted services at Mareham-le-Fen on other Sundays, walking back to Horncastle in time to take the evening service. He also helped the Congregationalist Church at Horncastle during vacancies and illness of their ministers. Though there was a close association between the Horncastle and Coningsby Baptists, the movement at Coningsby was always stronger, for instance the Census of Religious Worship 1851 shows Coningsby Baptist Chapel with an average attendance at services of 130 plus 60 Sunday School scholars, and Horncastle with 90 plus 10 Sunday School scholars.

After the 1914-18 War membership of the Horncastle Baptist Church fell off rapidly as is shown by entries in the Coningsby Baptist Chapel Minute Books.

At a joint meeting at Coningsby on 24 September 1917, representatives from Coningsby and Horncastle Baptist chapels considered the appointment of a Pastor to serve both, because Horncastle membership was falling. It was resolved that: 1) the Coningsby Pastor be engaged on the 3 years time limit; 2) that he takes charge of the Coningsby Baptist Church and all its Societies; 3) that he takes the oversight of the Horncastle Baptist Church, taking services there himself one Sunday per month, and arrange supplies for both churches himself as necessary; 4) that his stipend be made up as follows: £ Coningsby Church incl. Endowment 65 Homecastle Church 25 Sustentation fund grant 30 Rental value of house 10 £ 110

5) that he resides in Coningsby Baptist Manse; 6) that Horncastle Church pays the expenses incurred, if any, by the Pastor in his oversight of their church.

But the Minute Books show that on 2 November 1919 the future of Horncastle Baptist Church was uncertain, and that the appointment of a joint pastor was to be delayed. Then on 19 February 1920 the meeting was told that the closing down of the Horncastle Baptist church was imminent, and thus a joint pastorate could not be arranged. On 17 May it was reported that the organ had been taken out of Horncastle Baptist Church (now closed) and being installed in Coningsby Baptist Church. The Communion chairs were also transferred. The East Midlands Baptist Association first leased, then a few years later, on 31 October 1929, sold the Horncastle chapel to the Salvation Army.

Although Horncastle and Coningsby were two of the larger centres of the early Baptist connection in East Lindsey, small such communities existed in many parishes. A few gravestones standing forlorn and lonely, partly concealed by the long grass in a field in Asby are a reminder that the Baptist movement centred on Horncastle and Coningsby spread out into the surrounding countryside. A Baptist meeting house in Asby was recorded in 1802 when application for its registration was made to the Bishop of Lincoln. A significant sentence in the application – the Meeting House is set apart and appropriated as a place of religious worship – is proof that meetings were not held in part of a house, but whether the chapel was purpose-built in the first place it is not possible to state. Brian Williams has shown that a Baptist community existed in Asby much earlier, probably in the mid 17th century. He shows that by 1701 the Asby connection had 106 members who came from 16 parishes to attend services, of whom 25 were from Asby and Goulceby, and 30 from Dorrington on Bain. It is astonishing that some came from Tattershall when there was a strong Baptist connection in the adjacent village of Coningsby. Some worshippers were from surrounding villages such as Barkwith, Wragby, Market Stainton, Bennworth, Hemingby, West Ashby and Binbrook, and although farmers may have travelled by horseback or pony and trap, the majority would walk. But the open fields in the various parishes had not been enclosed; footpaths took the most direct routes.

As further seriously researched parish histories are forthcoming in the future we may learn more of the Baptist movement in our county. It is a great shame that the Asby Baptist Chapel was allowed to disintegrate without any attempt by the local authorities to preserve it or at least place a plaque on the site. Perhaps English Heritage may be interested in such a project, or SLHA? The cost would be small.
40.1 THREE QUEENS. The article by Neil Wright ('A Railway Tease', LP&P No 38) on the mock announcement by the 'promoters' of the Bridge End, Burton Pedwardine, Scredington, Three Queens and Midland Junction Railway in the *Stamford Mercury* of 7 November 1845 posed the question—where is or are the Three Queens? It was an inn at the point where the Salters Way, now the minor road from Croxton Kerrial to Hungerton, crosses Sewestern Lane — a remote and rather desolate spot on the high limestone plateau south-west of Granham. Sewestern Lane, which forms the boundary between Lincolnshire and Leicestershire and can thus be assumed to have been an ancient track way, was, in its day, one of England's principal drove roads. From the River Trent at Newark it followed a line roughly parallel with the Great North Road and along it huge herds of sheep and cattle, some from as far afield as Scotland and Ireland, plodded their way down to London and the Home Counties. The inn was therefore a well known drovers' call, as important in its way as any of the coaching inns on the Great North Road, though its clientele would have been somewhat different. In 1845, when the B&BPSTQ & MJ Railway was 'promoted', Sewestern Lane would have been as busy as at any time in its history. Yet within a decade it would lose virtually all its traffic to the railways and would, almost literally, be wiped off the map. The Three Queens itself, just a few yards on the Lincolnshire side of the county boundary, survived until the 1960s when it was finally demolished. The large, rambling old farmhouse with its cavernous cellars had never actually been a licensed premises but up to the First World War it sold biscuits, giving a free pint of beer with each one bought. The site of the old inn and its extensive cattle park, now a small, scrubby plantation at the isolated crossroads, can still be seen.

I am aware that all this leaves fundamental questions still unanswered—why was this inn so named? Who were the eponymous three queens? Was perhaps the name an ironic reference to the Three Kings at Threekingham, way back down the Salters Way? Neil's casual speculation could be more accurate than he realised!

*B. Barron*

40.2 TECHNICAL EDUCATION (LP&P No38 p14). I have been able to look up Mr Ralph Bates in the first admissions register for the Lincoln Science Day School (1897-1907), from 1902 the Municipal Technical School. He is no 218 in the register, aged 13, father's occupation — grocer, address — The Stores, Basingham, and the date was 8 October 1902. Did he cycle in to Lincoln every day or lodge in the city? He was part of the regular autumn intake of boys whose ages ranged from 11 to 16, nearly all of whom were admitted to the first year of the elementary course. This description approximated to the early years of secondary schooling, with a scientific and technical bias. All these boys had completed compulsory elementary schooling and many of them went on after 2-4 years at the 'Tech' to take apprenticeships in the foundries and elsewhere. Ralph Bates is one of numerous boys whose names were marked R, followed by the mysterious date of 26 January 1914, by which time Bates was in his forties! Does it mean that he replied to a circular letter, sent out on that date, possibly recruiting for the City School Old Boys' Association? (See also my article 'The founding fathers of the City School, Lincoln', *Lincolnshire Past & Present*, No 21, Autumn 1995 pp 7-8).

*Dennis Mills*


Mr M'Kenzie-Hall feels sure there's more material out there and hope SLHA members can help him. Have any SLHA publications covered this moated manor house? Please reply to Mr M'Kenzie-Hall at Halstead Hall, Stixwould, Lincoln LN10 5HJ.
My friend John Betjeman once wrote a poem about Huttoft Church. Jack Yates told me of his wonderful enthusiasm during the time I was Vicar of St Michael's Louth. I learnt from Jack of the day, soon after the end of the Second World War, when the girls were still 'regretting Americans' who had returned home to the United States, when his old friend from his Oxford days, the future Poet Laureate, came to stay with him and his widowed mother, Emily Charlotte Yates, at their home in Westgate, Louth. Jack's late father had moved there with his family from St Michael's Vicarage in Church Street in 1916. Jack and poet friend went for a drive out over the 'green enormous marsh' to Huttoft, just south of Sutton on Sea. It was this visit, Jack told me, that inspired Betjeman to write his poem 'A Lincolnshire Church. After his stay in Louth was over he sent this poem, along with his thank-you-for-having-me letter to Mrs Yates. Later it appeared in the bestselling Collected Poems of 1958. Jack (co-author of the Shell Guide to Lincolnshire (Faber and Faber, 1965) made no secret that the poem was about St Mary's Church, Huttoft.

Greyly tremendous the thunder
Hung over the width of the wold
But here the green marsh was sliegh
In a huge cloud cavern of gold ...

The poem opens, like many good Lincolnshire conversations, with a reference to the weather. The sight of a dark thunder cloud over Louth would bring back grim memories for Jack. He would no doubt recall to his friend, as they drove out, the terrible experience of May, 1920, soon after his family had moved from St Michael's Vicarage to the lower-lying Westgate. This was the day of the disastrous Louth flood, when a freak thunder storm devastated homes in Louth near the River Lud and many lives were lost. No one in Louth at that time would ever forget this and so people would be very wary of a dark thunder cloud. Jack and his poet friend reached Huttoft —

And there on a gentle eminence
Topping over some ash trees, a tower
Silver and brown in the sunlight,
Worn by sea wind and shower ...

What sort of church, I wonder?
The path is a grassy mat
The path is drowned in the headstones
Sloping this way and that.
Cathedral glass in the windows
A roof of unsuitable slate ...
Restored with a vengeance, for certain.
About eighteen-eighty-eight ...

Lincolnshire Past & Present No.40 Summer 2000
Sir John Betjeman's description of St Mary's Church, Huttoft, still holds good today. For ash trees we now tend to see yew trees but the churchyard is certainly well kept now, with grass no longer 'drowning the headstones', which still attractively slope 'this way and that' (let no one ever dare to straighten them!). The windows are still so glazed and the slate roof, in spite of the poet's doubts, has withstood many a easterly wind and much salt air since the day of his visit in the late 1940s. A great Victorian restoration was in fact carried out - not, surprisingly enough for these parts, by James Fowler of Louth, but by the seemingly unknown James Murgatroyd in the 1880s.

The great door shuts, and lessons
The roar of the churchyard trees
And the presence of God incarnate
Has brought me to my knees.
I acknowledge my transgressions
With the thunder sown over
From the heavily clouded world
And my sin is ever before me'.

It may well be that the poet and his friend went to Evensong. He quotes words from Psalm 51. And they see the Vicar appear in the chancel. Clergy of the Church of England always fascinated John Betjeman.

There in the lighted East
He stood in that lowering sunlight
An Indian Christian Priest.

The poet would immediately be taken by this devout Indian vicar. He was the Reverend Theophilus Caleb, born in North India about 1878. His father had financed the printing of the first Bible in Hindi. So Theophilus and his brothers clearly came from a Christian family. He took his degree in Persian at the University of Allahabad and then came to London to Inns Court and was called to the Bar.

When his father died he used his legacy to do what he dearly wanted to do and paid for his training for the Ministry of the Church of England at Chichester Theological College. There he gained a Bachelor in Divinity degree and also met his beloved wife, Annie Elizabeth. This is the answer to Betjeman's query:

And why was he here in Lincolnshire
I neither asked nor knew...

After his ordination as deacon in 1907 and then as priest the following year, Father Caleb served curacies in the Barking area before moving to Moir in the Midlands. Later he became Vicar of Lumb in Ressendale in Lancashire from where he came to Marchinion-the-Hill and Toynton in 1934. Nine years later he moved to Huttoft, where he died in 1959, having completed half a century of faithful ministry. He was a well known Anglo Catholic priest. His spirituality and pastoral care were much valued and appreciated. Times were not easy for him; to have a black man as Vicar in the marshland parish was even more unlikely then, when John Betjeman and Jack Yates met him, than it would be today. He felt deeply the agony of racial hatred on occasions. It hurt him. Yet there is one great enduring memorial to Father Caleb's teaching and practice in the Catholic tradition of the Church he served. This is his firm faith in the presence of Christ in the consecrated bread and wine in Holy Communion. John Betjeman shared this faith. I heard him say to a crowded Albert Hall in 1958 that the one thing he never doubted was that Christ is present in Holy Communion. This is what enabled Sir John to write these memorable lines in this poem:

And there on the South aisle altar
Is the Presence the angels hail
Is God who created the heavens
And the wide green marsh as well
Who sings in the sky with the skylark
Who calls in the evening bell, Is God who prepared his coming
With fruit of the earth for his food
With stones for building his Churches
And trees for making his road
And there where the white light flickers, Our Creator is with us yet...

NOTE

Quotations are from Collected Poems of John Betjeman (1958) John Murray.

I am indebted to Mrs M. Reading for information about her late father, the Rev Theophilus Caleb.

Duke of York at the top of the hill with Yellow-Bellies

The Lincolnshire Regiment Museum in the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Road, Lincoln, was officially opened by HRH Prince Andrew in April. In this display the Regiment's history can be followed through from the 18th century to its amalgamation into the Anglian Regiment in the late 1950s. Centrepiece is an impressively realistic reconstruction of a World War I trench scene, featuring Corporal Charles Sharp V.C. Life-size figures, weapons, videos and recorded interviews with old soldiers are all part of the display.
The evaluation of clergy livings

Brian Williams

Foundations

The extraordinary anomalies and variations in the value of church livings during the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth century are an enigma to some. How, for example, could it have been that the stipend of the vicar of the parish church of Louth should have been £355, while his neighbour at Witham, with 117 parishioners, received £510, and another at Burwell, with 153 parishioners, received £517? The underlying reason is that most churches were in origin founded by lay landowners as part of their estate and their subsequent maintenance and provision for a priest developed increasingly on the parish with which each had become associated. From about 900 AD the main source of revenue was the tithe, a levy of one tenth of the produce and earnings of the community. Initially this was allocated between the maintenance of the church, the stipend of the priest, support of the poor and a contribution to the diocese. The priest, entitled Rector of the church, received about one third.

When the Age of Faith developed in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries about half the nation's churches were alienated by their owners to the great religious houses then being founded. The community became the Rector, receiving all the revenues and holding responsibility for their proper apportionment. Initially one of its members may have undertaken the duties of the parish priest, but gradually secular priests were employed and entitled 'Vicars' from the Latin implying 'in place of'. Diocesan bishops established a measure of control, instituting a vicar to his living on presentation by the community concerned, and establishing his security of tenure, known as the 'freehold'. The community, as rector, received the greater tithes of wheat, barley and oats, while the vicar received the lesser tithes defined by local custom and including such items as small or newly born animals, fruit, eggs and honey. The value of the lesser tithes was of the order of one third of the greater.

When King Henry VIII abolished the monasteries he distributed the assets, including church revenues, partly by gift to those whom we would now describe as cronies, partly by sale. An alienated church then acquired a new rector, usually a layman, with the same rights of property in and over it as his other possessions. There were also, from earlier times, ecclesiastical owners of churches. They were termed appropriators while the laymen were appropriators, both having the advowson, or right of presentation to the living. Henry further profited from the dissolution by taking over to the Crown the 'first fruits', the initial year's stipend of an incumbent, which had been due to the Pope.

Henry also levied a tithe on each subsequent year's income, called the 'tenth'. The Valor Ecclesiasticus, popularly known as the King's Book, was a necessary record for administering those levies. When Queen Anne grew concerned about the inadequacy of many clergy livings she forewent the first fruits, deploying them to her Bounty from which the less valuable could be augmented. She also discharged livings valued below £50 of the 'tenth'.

Parliamentary Enclosure

Meanwhile tithes, which had long been unpopular both with donors and recipients, were becoming increasingly contentious. An earlier cause of this was that a growing minority of the population were not even nominal members of the Church of England. A later cause was that tithes, along with open field cultivation, were seen as impediments to agricultural progress. By 1750 there had been both privately arranged enclosures and negotiated tithe commutations into cash or corn rents. From about 1750 until the early 1830s Parliamentary Enclosures combined, in any village, an elimination of its open field system with an apportionment of land in lieu of tithes. Where there were both rector and vicar the allotted division was in separate areas; in the case of the parson, whether rector or vicar, the tithe commuted acreage was added to that of the original glebe and ring-fenced at the expense of the other land-holders of the parish to become the glebe farm. Contrary to a natural expectation that the newly allotted glebe would be about one tenth of the village area, it was almost universally more. In Lindsey, as evidenced in the works of Rex Russell, the average was nearer one fifth.

There were two reasons for this. Firstly, those paying tithes were anxious to be rid of them. Secondly, the group receiving tithes did not only consist of country parsons. Half the nation's rectors lived in stately homes, or at least country houses; in bishop's palaces; in deaneries; in the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. They had the influence to ensure that their interests were favoured and also to effect a broad agreement on the level of commutation, despite this being ostensibly arrived at by Enclosure Commissioners in consultation with the parties concerned village by village. A well used formula to calculate the commutation area was one fifth of the arable and tillage, one eighth
of the pasture and common and a ninth of the ancient enclosed area. At Hibaldstow this resulted in 15% over all, practically one seventh, this being another recognised apportionment. The addition of any pre-existing glebe area further increased the fraction of the total village area. Where there were both rector and vicar the glebe allotment was divided respectively in the order of about three to one. Parliamentary Enclosure enhanced the gap both between rector and vicar and also between the poorer and the better livings, but for all incumbents there were meaningful gains. The combined values of the thirty parishes of the Gartree deanery rose from £970 to £6380 between 1750 and 1850.

The value of land in Lincolnshire when the allotment of glebe in lieu of tithes was coming to an end, was between £1 and £1.50 an acre; hence the value of a parish expressed in pounds was much the same numerically as its area in acres. This provided a rule of thumb to calculate the theoretical value in the 1840s of a Parliamentary enclosed parish. The anticipated value of a rectory should be of the order of 20% of the acreage of the parish, whereas that of a vicarage would be 67%. The table opposite illustrates the validity of that claim. The parishes are firstly distinguished as rectories or vicarages; in the third and fourth columns are the parish acreages and those of the incumbents’ glebes. In the fifth column, by which the table is ranked, are the values of the livings. Populations are not recorded, as largely irrelevant then, and even more so today. The data are taken from White’s Directory of 1842.

Of the twenty-seven parishes East Keal, Binbrook, Rothwell, Great Sturton, Wainche and Ingham fall reasonably to conform and a local historian would need to seek an explanation in such instances. One can be suggested for Great Sturton. An article by the late Canon Peter Binns informs that the rector at the time of enclosure was bankrupt and unable to take the extended glebe in hand, and his successor, who found the greater part of his glebe ‘in a state of nature being covered with faze and void of the least appearance of cultivation’, may well have not been able fully to develop it himself. There are more general reasons for nonconformity; it may lie in the date of enclosure—those after 1815 were noticeably less generous than the earlier; it may lie in parish politics and personalities; it may lie in the relative richness or poverty of the parish soil, or in some unusual source of wealth; it may lie in earlier commutations, in grants from Queen Anne’s Bounty, or other benefactions.

**Tithe Commutation Act**

Enclosure awards of glebe in lieu of tithes became less generous after 1815 partly because of a farming depression and partly because of growing opposition to the establishment of Church and State. In the 1830s and 1840s the latter was to lead to legislation in the reformed Parliament aimed to redress abuses of which the Church was charged. The Tithe Commutation Act was among those passed. It required that all remaining tithes paid in kind should be commuted into rent charges indexed to a seven-year average of the price of wheat, barley and oats. Implementation of the Act incorporated experience gained from the enclosure movement and, among the Assistant Commissioners who did the fieldwork, were those who had been Enclosure Commissioners. They dealt, as earlier, parish by parish with the parties involved, although with a somewhat greater flexibility to meet local situations than had been the case in enclosure. A natural expectation would be that the Tithe Awards were pitched at a less generous level to the recipients than had been the Enclosure Awards. The Church was in a mood to make concessions, the better to retain its threatened establishment, and the farming lobby, not yet out of a depression, unlikely to be generous. On the other hand it has been claimed that the Assistant Commissioners were inclined to promote the interests of the working parochial clergy, and it is reasonable to presume that, while the method of commutation had changed and the socio-political balance had shifted, nevertheless the basic and familiar criteria would remain.

Generalisations by local historians are far less easy to make in the case of the Tithe Act than in respect of Parliamentary Enclosure. Tithe Award records are to be found in national rather than in local archives and there is less relevant published material. In the context of the article an attempt needs to be made to compare the effect of Tithe Act awards on clergy livings with those of Parliamentary Enclosure awards. Once again one is indebted to Rex Russell. In an appendix to *Making New Landscapes in Lincolnshire* is a table of the area of lands allotted in lieu of tithe following enclosure. In the case of twenty Lindsey villages the areas of such lands, expressed as a percentage of the whole village area, ranged in round figures between 9 and 33 with a mean of 20. In an article written for *Lincolnshire Past & Present*, Russell provides a table of tithe rent charges in twenty-six Lindsey villages. Parliamentary enclosures related tithe to land whereas the Tithe Act related it to value. For this reason its incidence has to be measured, not against the area of a village, but against the value, which, unlike the area, can vary with time. The awards reported by Russell date between 1837 and 1849 and have been assessed against village values provided by White’s *Directory* of 1842. The percentages the rent charges bore to the values of these twenty-six villages range from 4 to 33 with an average of 17. This suggests that the results of the Tithe Act in respect of clergy livings may not have been much less favourable than those at enclosure.
**Conclusion**

There were three stages in the commutation of tithe payments in kind. The first was of private settlements in cash or corn rentals of which there may be information in terriers or other parish records, where may also be found reference to awards from Queen Anne's Bounty or the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The other two stages have been outlined above. In the case of the latter, a village historian, investigating the value of its living, having allowed for whether the person was a rector or a vicar and having consulted the appropriate award, may then turn to the value of the parish at the time of the award. Whatever way it was arrived at, the value of a living founded before or during the medieval period was based on the payment of tithes in kind, an **ad valorem** tax on productivity. Village values of the 1840s are particularly useful to consult because then, acreage, on which Parliamentary Enclosure awards were based, and value, on which Tithe Act awards were based, were numerically comparable. Use can then be made of the suggestion that the value of a rectory would be about one fifth of the acreage/value and that of a vicarage the order of one fifteenth. If a Tithe Act award were to have been noticeably later than the 1840s then an adjustment may be found necessary to allow for a change in the value of land. It is important always to bear in mind that insofar as a clergyman's stipend depended on a tithe commutation it fluctuated with the fortunes of the nation's farmers. In the case of a Parliamentary enclosure, the clergyman himself, in respect of the glebe, was a farmer. In the case of a Tithe Act award his rental was indexed to the price of corn. That situation remained for the latter until 1936 when rent charges ended, but continued until after 1945 for the former.

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<th>PARISH</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
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**Sources used**


Peter B. G. Binnall, *Difficulties of a Georgian Parson*, Lincoln Diocesan Magazine 63/192


Dorothy M. Owen, *Church and State in Medieval Lincolnshire* (1971)


South Kyme: stained and painted glass

In the 1960s when part of South Kyme priory site was ploughed up from grass, the writer was kindly given permission to walk over the field and look for medieval pottery. This I did, both with my father, who knew the landowner, and also with Ben Whitwell of City and County Museum and a couple of colleagues. We found pottery and tile fragments but the most unexpected discovery was of a heap, as it must have been, of stained and painted glass lying just beneath the turf. One imagined it might have been left after the Dissolution by someone systematically breaking up windows to remove the lead.

The glass was collected in shallow biscuit tins and later sorted into colours and styles. At one stage I took it to Dennis King, of the well-known Norwich glassmaking firm, who thought that writing it up could make a thesis. Since I was already working on a medieval pottery thesis I felt unable to do justice to a second one! Most of the pieces I drew in pencil, noting colours and thicknesses, in a thin brown unlined Woolworths exercise book [incidentally I believe someone borrowed this book once. Slightly against my inclinations! If anyone reading this has a conscience, please get in touch!]

Most of the glass was reasonably stable, but some pieces were disintegrating and a few were totally opaque, though the painted surface still showed. But I thought it might be of interest to readers to see examples showing the variety of design. Every now and then this material does turn up on house, church or monastic sites, and people may not be very familiar with it. Several colours of glass were present, but very little green, possibly due to some reaction between the metallic salts used in the colours and something in the soil. The styles suggested dates from the 13th to the late 14th century.

Very few fragments formed a complete ‘quarry’ but a number were intact. The original edge of the glass was usually ‘grozed’ ie carefully chipped into shape, not unlike the edge of a neatly worked flint. Amongst the complete quarries were the lion and the fleur-de-lys and some little spotty borders on red glass. There are two methods of applying the paint, which is mainly iron oxide and appears a dull reddish colour close up, but black when the glass is against the light.

One method uses straightforward brushwork whilst in the other the whole quarry is painted over and the paint then scratched away as required, a ‘sgraffito’ technique. The first method can be seen in the leaf designs with oak and ivy, or the details of clothing, people and animals. The second is found in the so-called ‘seaweed’ pattern and in some spotty borders.

The lions show a mix of both techniques. A yellow paint, known as ‘silver stain’ (silver salt), introduced in the 14th century, was widely used for yellow shading, but is not easy to reproduce here.

The collection has now been passed on to the conservation lab for its own safety, apart from a few pieces still to be drawn.

Written and illustrated by
Hilary Healey

Key to illustrations

Nos 1 & 2 Grisaille. The painted foliage on plain glass with cross-hatching gives an overall grey effect. This is the earliest glass from the site, 13th century.
No 1 is a complete quarry.
Nos 3 & 4 More grisaille of painted, identifiable leaves, here oak and ivy. No 3 is a complete quarry. 14th century.
No 5 Painted floral border, 14th century.
No 6 Painted bird, 14th century.
Nos 7 & 8 Broken pieces from two identical roundels depicting a lion. 14th century.
No 9 Painted foliage. Grisaille? 14th century?
No 10 Design resembling a fleur-de-lys. Amber coloured glass, design scratched through the paint. 14th century (sgraffito).
No 11 Lion [ a complete one of these exists]. Mixed techniques of sgraffito and painted features. Amber coloured glass. 14th century.
No 12 Spotty border. Sgraffito on red glass. 14th century.
No 13 Fleur-de-lys. Sgraffito on amber coloured glass. 14th century.
No 14 ‘Seaweed’ design. Sgraffito and paint on pale blue glass. 14th century or later.

The illustrations (opposite) are slightly smaller than actual size.
The demise of Mr Fricker

Continuing A. J. Ashton's story of Helpringham School

Of three applicants for the post of Assistant Teacher, Mr Ludgate was invited to attend for interview. The School Board would offer him salary of £40 per annum, but if he declined then they were prepared to pay him 40 guineas a year. In fact he agreed to the £40 salary. As a result of a special meeting held to consider the vacancy caused by Mr Barrett as Clerk to the Board it was decided to combine this post with that of School Attendance Officer, which formalised what had already been the situation. As a consequence of making a new appointment as Clerk, the Master, Mr Fricker's, salary was to be reduced by £8.

In March, 1888 the school was closed because of an outbreak of measles, reported in the Sleaford and District Gazette as an "epidemic". It lasted some three weeks and at the end of it the Clerk was told to write to the Education Department seeking permission to reopen the school. It had been the Board's policy to let out the school for social functions such as dances, as long as the organisers intended to make little or no profit for themselves. The Master and Mr Ludgate wanted to use the schoolroom for a concert and were charged the normal fee of five shillings.

Mr Fricker's school requisites lists became somewhat longer, and the arrangement with him whereby he was paid £6 and had to arrange the purchase of coals was rescinded. Among the requisites for the school the Master asked for Answers to Midlands Arithmetic, which I guess were used by the pupil teacher and possibly the monitors. Strange to say, I can find no reference so far to any teaching beyond Standard II though I am sure with some children of 14 years of age there must have been teaching up to Standard V. Slates and pencils were ordered at this time together with poetry cards. The school consumed a large amount of ink for it was bought in lots of half and one gallon at a time. The school also required a reel of blotting paper every few months. For the older children pens were bought by the gross but it was some time before pen holders were acquired separately. And in July, 1888 we note that the Master got an easel that was made locally by John Bailey for five shillings.

There were problems with the Master as was suggested by a special meeting to be held at the end of June when the Board requested his appearance before them. From what we read later it seems the results of the examination were a cause for concern although first indications had been that they were satisfactory. Mr Fricker said that if results in the next school year did not show improvement then he would resign without being asked. The Board promised that they would help him as far as possible. It was resolved that all the staff would be retained for the following school year.

In September an alphabet sheet was bought for the infants - I expect they used a phonetic system to learn the sounds of letters - and the usual sets of readers for Standard II, pencils, pens and copy books.

Staff matters caused some concern during 1889. Miss Amy Manning came to the end of her time as a pupil teacher but was asked to stay on for another month until a replacement could be found. For the last seven weeks she was paid a special wage of ten shillings a week. Miss Louisa Swallow applied for the post and was taken on probation at £10 per annum and subject to the approval of the Education Department. However she lasted only for one term so that the Master in January, 1890 had to advertise in the Stamford Mercury for another Pupil Teacher.

Mr Fricker and Mr Ludgate asked if they could use the schoolroom for evening classes on three nights a week. I think this was in response to a growing demand among some of the adults in the village. At this time there was a determined action by the agricultural workers' trade union to promote such activities, and the government also sought similar developments through the work of the Technical Education Committee. Indeed there were fairly frequent reports of speeches and debates both in Parliament and in the county on the subject in the local newspaper.

Miss Elizabeth Everington took the job of Pupil Teacher at eight pounds a year (with additions in the succeeding years of 20 shillings) in February, 1890. There were more repairs to stoves, and the Master's house. And new regulations from the Education Department started off a bitter controversy between the Master and the Board, and eventually an acrimonious election in 1894.

The year 1890 was quite momentous for the Board and Mr Fricker. It began with a new set of instructions from the Department of Education called The New Code. This provided for changes in the way that the Government grant was to be calculated and, in turn, the ways in which masters' salaries would be worked out. Most importantly the School Fence would no longer be used to augment
them. This meant that the local school boards would have to renegotiate salaries and terms of engagement with their masters. Furthermore, it was the intention of the Education Department that as far as possible the positions of Headmaster (a new designation) and Schoolmistress would be joint appointments of man and wife if either or both were ceritificated - that is, approved by the Education Department. The overall result would, in most cases, mean a reduction in the salary bill.

In the light of these developments the Board gave Mr Fricker notice that his employment would be terminated after 25 March the following year. The other members of staff were dealt with in the same way. Mr Ludgate packed up in November without giving notice and so forfeited one pound and eight shillings owing to him.

The Clerk advertised the Master’s position and Mr and Mrs Castle of Northam who were offered the joint positions at £100 a year. Mr Samuel Brown was also shortlisted. Mr Fricker was paid in February thirty-two pounds, fifteen shillings and sixpence up to the last day of his employment.

Mr Fricker asked the Board to reimburse him for his costs in painting and papering the school house but they refused to do so. Indeed they intended to examine the house when he vacated it to make sure that it had been kept in good condition. From a report in the local newspapers some years later it transpired that he had removed various items from the school house, which he said he had put in as decorations and which the Board wanted him to replace. They included door plates that were fashionable additions to the lock plates. Finally he prepared to sue the Board for unfair dismissal and claim £25.

Mr Clements, a solicitor from Sleaford, presented a bill for twelve pounds, sixteen shillings and seven pence but there were no details as to the service he had provided. It could have been in connection with action taken by Mr Fricker to bring a case for wrongful dismissal. He engaged a firm of London solicitors (Messrs Baker and Nairn of 3 Crossley Square, Bishopsgate) and the Board decided to engage Mr Clements as defence if Mr Fricker proceeded with his action. The Board would pay all Mr Clements' legal expenses and they later agreed he could engage a counsel at a fee not exceeding eight guineas. The Board were not yet done with Mr Fricker. He wrote to ask for a testimonial as he was seeking another appointment. The Clerk was told to respond that as the Board did not know what kind of appointment he was seeking they could not give him a testimonial until he gave them more details. Until now there seems to have been little or no dissension among the members on any major issues. The first sign of discord about Mr Fricker occurred at this August Meeting. Mr Saundby proposed, but got no second, that Mr Clements should not be paid fifteen pounds, fifteen shillings. This seems to have been the end of the formal relationship between Mr Fricker and the Board. There is no record in the minutes that he sued for unfair dismissal. He was Master of Helpingham School for 12 years, seen it established, and maintained, on the whole, a satisfactory state of affairs. Oh, and yes, a new assistant teacher was appointed in December - Mr Henry Bailey, who had been a pupil teacher before, got the job until February 1891 at a wage of three pounds, ten shillings a month.

It was not until the changes brought by The New Code, and the desirability of having a Headmaster with a wife to serve as Assistant Mistress of the Infants, that any serious question as to Mr Fricker’s suitability came into question. The pressure to maintain an efficient yet cheap system of elementary education continued until well into the next century. Mr Fricker subsequently appears in newspaper reports as being involved in social organisations in the community, and for a time he was a member of the Vestry.

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**Heads in the news**

Poor Mr Fricker! There is possibly a further instalment about the doings of the Helpingham School Board to come in a later issue. Meanwhile head teachers who have been in the local news recently include David Mills of Cherry Willingham Community School who encouraged his Year 9 students to make a documentary about the school and the local area. With the help of the University of Lincolnshire and Humberside’s learning support department, the 14-year-olds will produce a video to be used in French and Romanian schools as an English learning aid. Pupils at Lincoln Minster School had an exciting visit from a headmaster on a motorbike on 13 June. Allan Mottam, Head Teacher of Christchurch Preparatory School in Oxford is on a tour of cathedral schools raising money for the Choir Schools' Association, which funds children who wish to become choristers. Mr Mottam toured the school and shared a meal. He showed off his machine and talked about motorcycle safety. On this leg of his tour he is also visiting cathedral schools in Grimsby, York and Wakefield.

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This book records 120-150 different buses belonging to the Lincolnshire Road Car Co, a company not hitherto well served by photographers and publishers. Atkins’ excellent illustrations put that right, ranging from the 1927 Vulcan FU 7327 acquired from Skegness Motor Services to the 1982 Leyland Leopard AVL 747X. As the photos are essentially portraits of vehicles, local details are shown minimally. However, the favourite locations of Nottingham, Grantham, Skegness and Lincoln bus stations emerge clearly enough. Different weather conditions are also represented, and the distinctive colour route-light of pre-war days is visible on several vehicles.

The photos have been arranged by makers of chassis, but as a chronological sequence is used within each group of photos, the passage of time also impresses itself on the reader. There is a brief history of the company by Banks and he has written detailed captions for the photos, usually including dates as well as places.

Dennis Mills, Branston


Henry Brown decided to volunteer for the RAF immediately after finishing his professional examinations. He was a young man of above average intelligence with a sense of purpose and some leadership qualities, brought into use on his first journey from Lincoln with seven other new recruits.

He trained as a ‘pay clerk’ and his postings moved him around the country from Wales to the Orkneys, to home ground Lincolnshire, to Scotland and finally to Cheltenham. He had an interesting if not particularly dangerous or exciting war, but his story never drags. Many of his experiences will bring back happy memories for other wartime recruits – square bashing, the ‘Admiral Jellicoe’, waiting on Crewe (or indeed any other) station platform, ablutions, guard duty, kitting out and station life and loves. He does not confine himself to just his RAF experiences and makes many interesting comments on local life and the countryside around every posting he had.

He has a wry sense of humour and you suddenly find yourself smiling as you realise that you almost missed the point about (say) dogs in the Orkneys. I wondered why Henry never became an officer. He does explain later and it will probably come as no surprise to many who have served in the RAF.

At many points in the book I was reminded of that other famous Brown, Robert, from the fictional world of Just William. He and Henry seemed to share so many interests – girls, tennis, amateur dramatics, dancing, cars – one could so easily have been a model for the other. Henry enjoyed his off-duty and leave times to the full and recalls visits to Lincoln, dances at Grantham, picnics in Bloxholme Woods and pleasant days relaxing in the park at Stoke Rochford where he was billeted for a time. The journey to RAF Spitalgate was often enlivened by what would now be termed reckless driving. At Stoke Rochford he was invited by the owner of the house to join a tennis party and LAC Brown was soon partnering one of the Bishop of Grantham’s daughters and playing the local gentry. On his posting to RAF Spitalgate he met his life-long love, May.

Having enjoyed the story so much it seems harsh to criticise, but if Ashridge Press wishes to gain a good reputation it must try much harder. The book is littered with misprints and inconsistencies; computer spell checking may be helpful but it does not take away the need for careful proof reading to correct careless type-setting.

Owen Northwood, Donington

Although this collection is advertised as including material by East Midlands writers it is very much Nottinghamshire orientated. There are only two poems of Lincolnshire interest: Sandra Caldeira on Bitchfield and Cynthia Keeping on a visit to The Friends Meeting House at Brant Broughton.


We recently noticed this author’s book on Horncastle. The same quality of selection and production are provided here. With few exceptions the pictures are all normal postcard size and cover a wide range of events and buildings.

A careful choice of atmospheric illustrations has been given whole page or double-page printing and the results are very fine. By and large the pictures are pre-1914 – I noticed one car only – and a town that has changed in many ways through wartime damage and manufacturing closures is very well characterised. We are lucky to be shown the contents of the many fine collections of old postcards in the county and this is one more such – a ‘lucky dip’ into the past.


Volume 1 of this trilogy was published in 1997 and is now out of print. Altogether the series has used 450 black and white photographs, most dating from 1900-1950.

Volume 2 covers street views, multi-view postcards, farming, mills, church and chapel, public houses, the Axholme railway, sport, formal groups and characters. Volume 3 overlaps, containing chapters on Garthorpe Ferry, shops and businesses, the Axholme Joint Railway, Crowle Mail Line Railway, farming, gamekeepers, public transport, special occasions, education, sport, family groups and buildings.

The photographs are large and generally well produced with short captions. Most of them are typical of what one expects from such a book, but more unusual ones include: a street entertainer with a chained dancing bear in Belton in the 1920s (Vol 2), Garthorpe mill’s destruction by explosives in the 1920s (Vol 2), Irish cattle being unloaded at Fockerby Station before being fattened locally (Vol 3) and an interior shot of the White Hart Inn at Crowle during the 1940s (Vol 3).

The books cover the whole of the Isle of Axholme from Garthorpe in the north to Graizelound and Gunthorpe in the south, with Sandtoft and Wroot in the west. On the eastern edge of the Isle is the River Trent with the Trentside villages of Ancotts, Keadby, West Butterwick and Owston Ferry. It is fair to say that the Isle is still relatively unknown and it is good to see a series devoted to this unique region. These books have a popular appeal, with the captions recalling past occupants of houses, farms and shops. A lot of effort has gone into naming people on group photographs, which adds value for family history researchers. However, some people might query the author’s claim in the introduction to the second volume that life was tranquil and peaceful, quiet and steady and that the pace of life was slow, measured and relaxed. Aimed at the nostalgia market, the books are fairly representative of the genre. The Isle of Axholme retains a very strong sense of its own identity; more so perhaps than most areas, and in this respect, there will be a small but eager audience for this trilogy.


Countryside Books publish popular, themed regional books and readers will probably know The Lincolnshire Village Book (compiled by WI members) as well as some of Adrian Gray’s other books including Hidden Lincolnshire. With Lincolnshire Privies we have a topic with broad appeal, although the book is expensive for its size. Beginning with a history of domestic sanitation, the following chapters draw on reminiscences and anecdotes contributed by Lincolnshire people; older readers will identify with many experiences! As well as entertainment this is social history, including terms and expressions already obsolete. A glossary (as in East Anglian Privies) would have been useful, also an index. Illustrated examples range all over from Epworth to Blankney Fen to Harlaxton Manor and they include some of Joan Russell’s lively illustrations. It is a pity that the
publishers did not choose one of her paintings instead of the same picture as used on the cover of *East Anglian Privies*; this could confuse and even lose bookshop sales!

_Hilary Headey_

**KIME, Winston.** *The Skegness Millennium Book of old pictures.* Skegness Millennium Book, PO Box 56, Skegness, PE25. 2000. 194pp. ISBN 0 9537807 0 8. £12 (£13 including p&p from the publisher. All profits shared between Skegness Lifeboat Station and Skegness Day Centre).

Winston Kime’s ‘Skeggy’ was published in 1969, followed by his ‘Bygone Skegness’ and others between 1980 and 1994. In 1972 Richard Gurnham’s ‘The Creation of a Resort Town by the 9th Earl of Scarborough’ covered the formative years. (Gurnham’s treatise was published in *Lincolnshire History & Archaeology Volume 7*). Earlier there was Dutton’s ‘Ancient and Modern Skegness and District’ in 1922. Now Winston Kime has given us a brief account of ‘Two Thousand Years of Skegness History’ followed by a fascinating hundred years of pictures. Thanks to the 9th Earl of Scarborough and the arrival of the railway in 1873, Skegness was, by 1900, recognised as a favourite place for that summer holiday in hotel or boarding house.

By 1907 the GNR’s ‘Happy as a Sand Boy’ poster advertised ‘non-stop excursions to Skegness from King’s Cross by corridor train for 5 shillings’. The ‘Jolly Fisherman’ poster followed in 1908. Reproductions of these and over 300 pictures give a wonderful, nostalgic and broad-ranging view of Skegness during the last hundred years with occasional glimpses of the developing town in the 1880s and 1890s.

Mr Kime has arranged the pictures in sections covering the promenade, pier and gardens; the seashore; entertainers; the town; and people and events. There must be thousands who will recall with pleasure many of the scenes, events and people in these photographs. The reproductions of old posters, guide books and advertisements will also bring back memories. If every picture tells a story, Winston Kime’s absorbing pictorial history of his home town will evoke many stories as readers study the pictures and Winston’s captions.

_Bernard Field, Spalding_


As an author and co-author of fourteen books on Grantham I know it is the reproduction of old postcards or photographs that sell books, and Fred has obviously realised that as well, for there are considerably over 100 pictures to study, a large number of which are new to me.

Mr Leadbetter has a vast collection of both and has compiled a very useful addition to the published old pictures of Grantham and the surrounding area and he has done it in a very logical and sensible way. The picture captions are just what is required: informative and adequate. Again it is a book to delve into regularly, enjoy and reminisce and I congratulate Fred on his first steps as an author.

_Malcolm G. Knapp, Grantham_


A delightful book, filled with photographs spanning over a century of Bourne’s history, together with detailed comments rather than the single sentences one normally finds in similar books. A short early history of the town is included in the introduction and this, together with the photographs and comments, makes the book a worthy purchase. Several copies have already found their way to France following a recent twinning weekend. Michael is to be commended for putting his interest in photography and local history to good use. Any profits from the sale of this book will go to Bourne Civic Society’s Heritage Centre in Baldock’s Mill.

_Fred Felstead, Bourne_

**PINCHBECK, John R.** *Grantham in the news 1901-1925.* Scott Willoughby Chronicles. 83 Denton Avenue, Grantham, NG31 7JE. 1999. 72pp. ISBN 1 902950 00 3. £6.95 pbk. (£7 from above address, inc p&p).


These two 72-page A4 size booklets are the first compiled by John Pinchbeck from all the back issues of the *Grantham Journal*, and the good
news is that more are promised. John has trolled through the old weekly newspapers and extracted snippets that are still interesting, shocking, surprising and at times funny. I was surprised and shocked by the 1909 report on the Mad Doctor. There are other reports that conclusively show that it isn't what you know that matters but who you know, but I'll leave the reader to find out which event I mean.

These are not books to read from start to finish in one sitting, but they are to be picked up and enjoyed from time to time, and I know that is true as I do it. Recommended for light and enjoyable reading.

Malcolm G. Knapp


This book was issued a few years ago; the well-known author has since discovered quite a lot more about the causes and effects of this disaster that made the national press of the day. A 12-page insert gives the details that have now come to light.


For much of the first half of the 20th century Swineshead was a self-sufficient village, many of whose inhabitants were born, went to school, found work, lived their lives and died, without ever feeling the need to look beyond the local community. Even today there are many in the village from families who have lived in Swineshead for generations, and of these some still have a clear recollection of village life before the advent of running water, electricity and motorised transport. Pamela Southworth interviewed about thirty of the, mainly older, members of the community to build up a picture of life in Swineshead in the early part of the century. Interviews were recorded and the author has chosen to allow the contributors to tell their own stories, published verbatim, introduced and interspersed with her own, italicised comments. Although this rather limits the author’s scope for developing themes or drawing overall conclusions, I feel the ‘oral history’ aspect of the book works remarkably well. The reader soon picks up the impression of a thriving, though very hard-working, community well provided with shops and services from tailors and tinsmiths through well-stocked provision merchants to complete home furnishers and no fewer than fourteen public houses. With the nearest town, Boston, about eight miles’ walk away, or a long and tortuous ride on the carrier’s cart, most villagers did not find it worth making the journey. Most households kept a pig and grew their own fruit and vegetables; and even during World War II there was no shortage of food. As Pamela Southworth tells us, Swineshead hardly knew there was a war on, but for the occasional stray enemy aircraft overhead and the handful of POWs billeted in the village. I particularly liked the story of one farmer who loaned his prisoners a shot-gun to supplement their diet with some of the local game! For Lincolnshire ‘yellow-bellies the book will serve as a vivid reminder of the way life used to be in the fenland villages. However, the book deserves a wider readership as an authentic account of what rural life was actually like in the early 1900s.

Dr. J. Wilson, Swineshead


This work, published in the Tempus Oral History Series, may encourage those interested in local history to purchase a copy. However, it must be made clear at the outset that there is little here for the serious historian. The compiler, Judith Spelman, is a journalist and, clearly, has approached this compilation with a journalist’s ear. The contents are thematic, ranging from early memories to wartime, each having selected quotes. It is therefore difficult to place these reminiscences of local people, some of them known to this reviewer, in any kind of chronological context; wartime quotes being an exception. The photographs in the book are more use as source material. An oral history selected by an historian would have been of much greater value; nevertheless it is quite interesting.

Peter Scriven, Stamford

We do not have room this time to print a list of publications to be reviewed later, but in the next issue we hope to review books on topics ranging from salterns to soccer, buildings to bellringing.
'Made in Lincoln' Bibliography

As a contribution to the 'Made in Lincoln' project, the County Library Service has compiled a bibliography of published items on various aspects of Lincoln's industrial heritage. The material is available through the Library Service and most of it can be consulted at the Local Studies Collection at Lincoln Central Library. Copies of the bibliography are available from Library sources and from Jews' Court. The photograph shows Eleanor Nannestad, who compiled the bibliography, presenting copies of it to Gemma Caines of 'Made in Lincoln'.

Left to right: John Herridge, Lincoln City Council; Jean McIntyre, Bishop Grosseteste College; Eleanor Nannestad, Lincolnshire Library Service; Gemma Caines, 'Made in Lincoln'; Chris Lester, SLHA.
Photo: Lincolnshire Library Service staff.