



Our Heritage Matters

Cogenhoe and Whiston Heritage Society

When you cease to enquire, stupidity has you in its grasp.

Volume 11, Issue 8

October 2020

Highlights of this Month's Magazine

Pub of the Month - The British Banner

Charles Dickens, Made in Northampton?



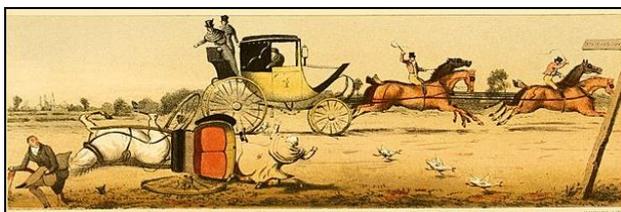
Carlsberg and The Rivers of Northampton

Northampton's First Traffic Light



Deodands in the Drapery September 1810

Phew ! The Russians are not coming to Cogenhoe



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Notes from the Editor

If anyone has anything, they think would be of interest to our members either that they can create or would be interested in, then do let the chairman know as below. We would also really like a few extra helpers – you don't have to be on the Committee – to especially help with research to help produce this newsletter! Contact Peter Alexander (the Society Chairman) at chairman@cogenhoeheritage.org.uk or enquiries@cogenhoeheritage.org.uk

Jon Bailey

Executive Editor: Peter Alexander
Editor: Jon Bailey
Chief Researcher: Robert Vaughan

Society Meetings

Open to all: non-members just £4 including refreshments and members £3. The full programme can be found on our website www.cogenhoeheritage.org.uk Planned meetings are listed on page 19. **The talks are cancelled until further notice. We hope to see you all again as soon as circumstances permit.**

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Pub of the Month - The British Banner, 15 Market Square, 1854 - 1913



Probably one of the younger pubs in the town centre, since so many others commenced over a hundred years beforehand as rebuilds after the great fire of 1675. Also, of every 100 photographs you can find of the market square, possibly only one will show this property as it's not down the photogenic corner – although maybe it has gone up the ratings since construction of the Grosvenor Centre!



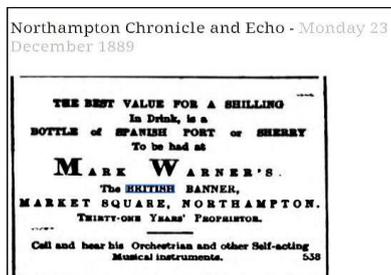
This is one of the rare photographs and shows the licensee as M. Warner.

In the 1830's, George Neall was a shopkeeper in the Market Square near Newland, a street running from the north-eastern corner of the Market Square. As time went on, he became a brewer as well as being an agent for the Britannia Life Assurance Company. Business boomed, he moved his brewery to larger premises further up Newland and changed its name to the Newland Brewery. After a while though, he found that some of his out-of-town customers were too busy on market days to travel up to his new address so trade began to suffer. His solution was to open an outlet on the Market Square once again, which he did in 1854, calling it the Britannia, and acquired a beer licence.

At the end of 1858, ownership changed hands and Mark Warner moved to the Britannia from the General Tom Thumb (near the bottom of Bridge St hill). He changed the name to the British Banner in the early 1860's, but continued to run part of it as the Britannia until 1870, effectively having two pubs under the same roof (not the only premises in Northampton to operate as two pubs! Thirsty lot us Northamptonians). Interestingly, it appears from the 1913 newspaper report that Mark Warner was still the licensee (since 1858), but apparently there were two Mark Warner's in the family and one took over when the other died. The notable newspaper report of 1898 (see below) indicates that Alfred Manning was the actual owner, and when it was closed, the owner at that time was Mr A. Cockerill because Mark had done a deal for the sale. Certainly confusing.

Nothing is known as to why it first had the name of Britannia. The owner was indeed an agent for the Britannia Assurance but there were also other pubs in Northampton with that name. Considering that this was the height of the Victorian age – Rule Britannia and all that - then maybe George Neall was punning and playing it both ways.

(Rule Britannia was originally a poem by James Thompson and set to music many years later in 1741 by Thomas Arne. It was written with just one 'never', but seemingly 'never, never, never shall be slaves' was easier to sing. There is some thought that Brits not being slaves was an allusion to slavery under the Romans. But who really knows)



Having searched some 20 years of local newspapers it is disappointing to not be able to report any salacious gossip here, as all the other Britannia's have tales of drunkenness, misbehaviour, arson and various misdemeanours. However, once it changed to The British Banner there was certainly some form of musical entertainment in what was actually quite a small pub. A self-acting instrument could be something like a piano or organ that played music by a rotating metal drum with pins. And all for a shilling.

There was a sad incident in 1898 when Walter Warner (28), son of the owner, took to bed as a consequence of a supposed cold. On a Friday afternoon, the father, Alfred Warner, went to the bedroom and his son asked for a drink of water. When the father returned, he found his son comatose on the floor and he died a few hours afterwards. The inquest decided, on evidence of a surgeon who undertook the post mortem examination, that the deceased had fallen out of bed under an epileptic fit and fractured his skull. His brother, Mark Louis Warner, formally identified the deceased.

Having speculated on the reason for the name *Britannia*, there is nothing concrete about why then *The*



British Banner. It seems likely to have been a reference to the Banner of the Ancient Order of Foresters. Their origins lay in the Royal Foresters of the 18th century but it was in 1834 when this newer mutual society to help the poor and destitute was formally created. The meetings of the Foresters are called *Courts* and they always proudly displayed their banner, called the British Banner. So, *The Court of The British Banner* is how meetings came to be described. Maybe Alfred Warner or one in his family was a member or an official, or just hoping to attract their trade, but certainly every mention in the local press about meetings doesn't mention this pub and indeed,

once they allowed lady members, it was the rule that Courts had to be at premises without alcohol. However, he must have been doing something right to have survived for half a century.

In 1909 the property was advertised for sale by Merry & Co with 'good trade and excellent central position'. It appears there were no takers.

In 1911 the property was again advertised for sale by Merry & Co, this time by auction. But it failed to elicit a *single bid*. There was the same absence of bids for another pub, *The Post Horn* also in the Market Square.

But (to mix metaphors) the writing was on the wall, and they were in the sights of the big guns. In 1906, new legislation encouraged and allowed Licensing Boards to reduce the number of pubs – but with some compensation. Many pubs across Northampton were lost in this way – it has to be said that most were quite squalid and deserving by the recorded descriptions. But what of The British Banner? The guns were focussed during the licensing hearing of March 1912, as reported in the Mercury:

Speaking of The British Banner, Mr Gibbins said there is no open space on the ground floor and the smell from the sanitary arrangements is bad. The house is not at all fitted for a licensed property. There is no accommodation for the tenant and little for the public except the bar.

Mr P. Phipps stated that his firm was the largest contributor to the compensation fund and he desired to address the court. the committee pointed out that they were not sitting as the compensation authority but as a licence renewal authority (surely an unusual occurrence of Mr Phipps being cut down in public!).

The Chief Constable said that the property is altogether unsuitable for a licensed house. It is dirty, not properly ventilated and the lavatory accommodation is exceedingly bad. The tenant paid an average £60 rent and the takings were £611 in 1911.

The "British Banner," a well-known Northampton licensed house on the Market-square, closed on Saturday. The licence was voluntarily surrendered by Mr. Mark Warner. Mr. A. Cockerill, C.A., has purchased the premises.

The owner and tenant are reported as both agreeing to consider non-renewal with compensation. The decision was referred to the compensation board for consideration. Outcome assured!

It seems an anomaly that *The Rifle Drum*, within spitting distance, had no lavatories at all but survived. Men had to scuttle up to the public toilets in Wood Hill. Ladies of any sort of quality did not, of course, frequent such public houses. In 1938, conveniences for both were incorporated and it still survives - some 500 years old and half the size of The British Banner.



This is another rare photograph, possibly taken from a bedroom in the long-lost Peacock Inn in the 1940s. It was then modernised with a shutter once Elf-n-Safety banned those canopies which kept rain off the neck.



And finally, it became a Barclays, with a posh new frontage.

At the side of The British Banner runs Osborne's Jetty. Much better than the 14th century name of Fleshmongers Lane on account of the prostitutes that gathered there.

Robert Vaughan (based on an original article by Dave Knibb)

PS. having said there was nothing salacious in the press reports about this property, there is one thing for another day. A witness had a drink in here in the case of *The Three Screams, a splash in the river, a fleeting glance of a running figure and poor Eliza found dead in the rushes*. This will be an article in a future publication.

PPS. Judging by this photograph of a Fire Evacuation Drill, it was a very popular bar. Early 1900s and looks to be before the property on the other corner of Osborn's Jetty was rebuilt.



SPICY PEAR PIE, A PERFECT RECIPE FOR HALLOWEEN

(Aberdeen Press and Journal 26th October 1971)

8oz Short crust pastry. Lemon juice. 6 pieces of stem ginger. 2oz brown sugar. 1 teaspoon ground ginger 2lb of peeled pears, cored and sliced. Small egg beaten to glaze.

Toss the pears in brown sugar with lemon juice, chopped ginger and ground ginger. Turn into a pie dish. Roll out the pastry 1 inch bigger than the dish and cover the pie. Cut the strip off the outside, dampen with water and lay as a decoration over the pie cover. Decorate the edge of the pie with a knife (or crimp with granny's teeth). Glaze with a little of the egg and bake for 30 minutes at 400f.

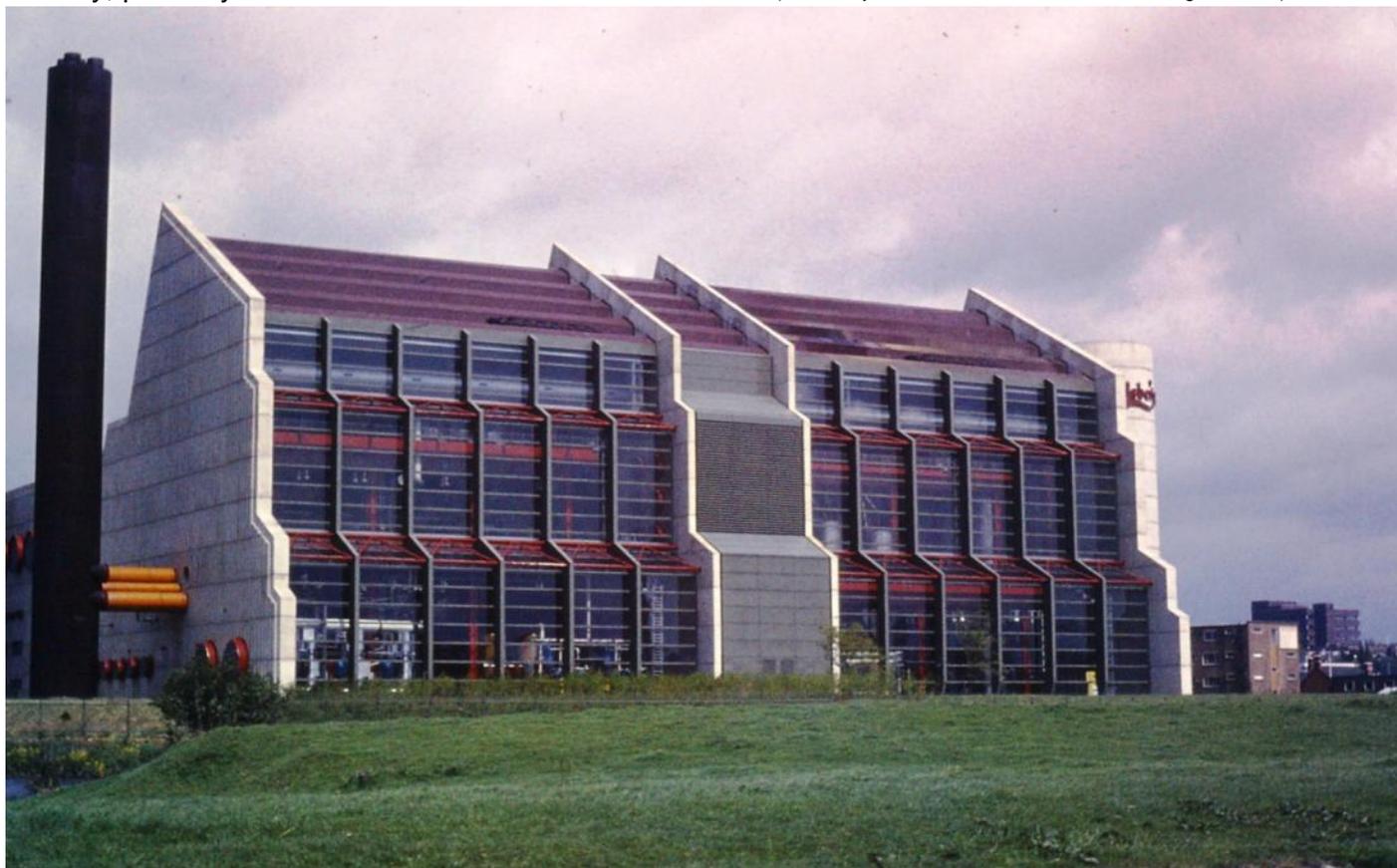
Pictures please to the Editor, and a prize will be given for the best looking pie.

PS. Sorry, but you have to work it out yourself if you need metric measurements as this recipe was before Scotland entered the EU. And of course it assumes that every Scottish housewife just *knows* how to make pastry – but you can buy it at Tesco..(And I made up the bit about teeth)

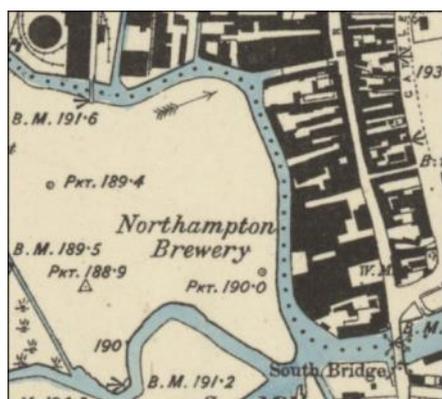
Carlsberg and The Rivers of Northampton

This article was inspired from our archive collection of Cyril Penn slides, one of the best views ever of the brewery, probably.

(those tiny shrubs are now tall trees blocking the view)



The brewery sits by the River Nene, and something I wasn't aware of until after my late teens is that Northampton has two rivers named Nene. In fact there are three source 'rivers' in total that all become the river flowing through South Bridge and down through Cogenhoe.



This is how the river structure looked by South Bridge before Carlsberg, with two Nene rivers coming together (1885).

And then they diverted the northern arm to make the site bigger and build Carlsberg and B&Q.



Carlsberg brewery was started in 1969 as a joint venture with Watney Mann who owned the site, previously the Phipps Northampton Brewery Company. It was their first venture outside of Denmark and was right at the forefront of draught continental lager-style beers in the UK, almost destroying the business of British traditional beers.

If you attended the presentation a while ago on Watney Mann (with apologies, again, for those who turned up still expecting the advertised talk on Glen Miller!) you will remember the famous Watneys Red Barrel which actually was two beers, because public taste shifted and the original Watneys Red Barrel was reformulated in 1971 as Watneys Red – New taste, New logo. Well, in 2019, Carlsberg did the same. New taste, almost new logo.





There is a similarity between the brewery and the Express Tower.

The tall cylindrical structures were both constructed using a slip-forming technique (they both would also benefit from a jolly good scrub-down). If you build a structure from concrete and build it up in layers, waiting for the lower one to dry, then it introduces boundaries which are like cracks, weak points, not desirable for high strength or waterproofing in silos.

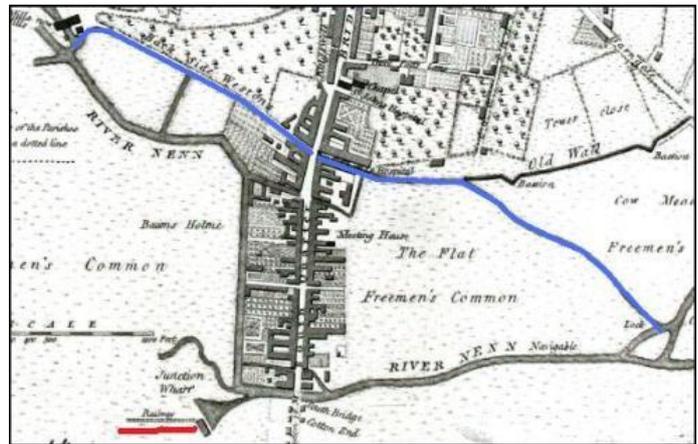


With slip-forming, the concrete is continuously poured and formed in a mould which is gradually slipped up the structure as the concrete firms but doesn't completely set. It works with square structures as well as cylindrical. But don't slip too fast or it all slumps to the ground and you have to start all over again. These are oil storage silos being formed by slipping.



The rerouting by Carlsberg wasn't the first intervention in Northampton's river.

There was a mill, (see below), down the far end of what is now St James Retail Park and that had a mill race which ran in a different direction to the main river, past what is now the Plough Hotel and across Cow Meadow to rejoin the main stream. There is little written about this stream but it does appear on the famous 1610 map by John Speed in a slightly more southerly position than shown on this 1807 map. Because the town walls existed at that time, as did the St John's hospital, it seems there was a stream between the two although it might have been culverted just outside the town's south gate. It shows as late as an 1865 map.



The river was made navigable all the way from The Wash in stages and completed to Northampton in 1761. And then the Grand Union canal branch was connected in 1815 (for a while before, it had been a rail track down the very steep hill from Gayton junction, for carts on rails – as highlighted in red on the above map). So this part of town was the main way to import and export heavy goods and many of the businesses also developed arms and wharfs off the river. The 1610 Speede map shows even more branches.



Put together, this is a map of all the noted parts of the river that can be readily seen on old maps. It might have deserved its old description as *the slowest river in England*, but it was certainly very busy here.

Robert Vaughan

PS. The Mill 1877



Charles Dickens, Made in Northampton?



In the year marking the 150th anniversary of Charles Dickens' death, it is interesting to note his associations with Northamptonshire. He came here often, we know, and he loved our county. Or did he? In an article for the journal *Household Words* in 1851, he was recounting the exploits of a traveller called 'Mr Lost' who had ended up in "...one dreadful spot with the savage name of Aynho". It is doubted that he had actually seen Northamptonshire's glorious Apricot Village for himself!

However, he was very fond of two celebrated locations in the county, Rockingham and Rushton. He and his wife often stayed at Rockingham Castle as guests of Richard and Lavinia Watson. They met on holiday in Switzerland, and Rockingham became a place that greatly influenced him, and he clearly loved it.

In a 'thank you' note in 1851 to Lavinia Watson following a Christmas visit, he wrote: "*I always think of Rockingham, after coming away, as if I belonged to it and had left a bit of my heart behind.*"



He wrote short plays that were put on in the castle's Panel Room where he had constructed "a very elegant little theatre". A playbill shows that he and his wife were in the cast for these.

Dickens made clear that the castle was the inspiration for Chesney Wold, the home of Sir Lester and Lady Deadlock in *Bleak House*. He gave it a ghostly atmosphere as he confessed to Mrs Watson when he wrote: "*In some of the descriptions of Chesney Wold I have taken many bits, chiefly about trees and shadows, from observations made at Rockingham.*" He also wrote parts of *David Copperfield* there and he dedicated that book to Richard and Lavinia Watson.

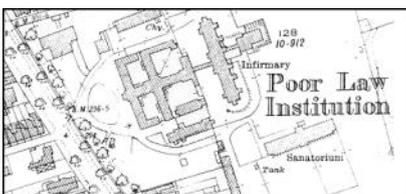
As well as the Watsons, Dickens also became very friendly with Clara Thornhill, of Rushton Hall, where he stayed on several occasions. It is probably the inspiration for Satis House, the home of Miss Havisham, in *Great Expectations*. And, by strange local coincidence, when the BBC filmed the novel, they chose Holdenby House in the county to be their Satis House!



Dickens based many of his characters on real people, so I wonder if the housekeeper at Rockingham ever recognised herself when she read about the "*fine old lady, handsome, stately, wonderfully neat*" who kept house at Chesney Wold.

We must never forget his friend, Northampton's great heroine, Caroline Chisholm. She was the model for Mrs Jellyby in *Bleak House*. Both were philanthropists, both had brass plates at the front door with stairs leading up and both had lots of children. The parallels are amazing. Dickens greatly supported Caroline's work over her Australian migrants and, in *Copperfield*, Dickens even had Micawber and his family emigrate to Australia with Daniel Peggotty and Little Em'ly.

And finally, can it be that Dickens thought of the workhouse in Kettering, which he knew to be the epitome of ill treatment, when he created *Oliver Twist*? (first wireless set in 1920s)



The *Twist* workhouse was set in Mudfog which, like Kettering, was 75 miles north of London. Coincidence? Well there is a counter-claim for the Strand Workhouse in Camden.

Robert Vaughan Based on an article in the Northamptonshire Telegraph

The Holes at Whiston St Mary's Church

These three indentations are in the right-hand pillar of the eastern style on the public footpath out of the churchyard.



There are no similar holes on the other pillar, but there again, it might have been rebuilt. I feel they are remnants from some support such as a lichgate. But, on a Heritage website, it was questioned whether they might have been related to plagues e.g. pots of vinegar to sterilise money changing hands.

Any suggestions?

Just the thing now the cold weather has arrived

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Fowl Play in Cogenhoe – Part II

This is a follow-up to the article in the June edition in which the lives of Cogenhoe residents, George Thompson and Charles Hollowell, briefly intertwined in 1910 – together with a Labrador and some fowls. If you missed it, then seek it out as it's well worth reading.

These are all reports based on articles in the Mercury and Herald. This is an extraordinary number when considering that 99% of the population never gets mentioned.

1884. 9th February. The Case of the Garden Depredator.

In Court was Mr G. Coles of The Moat Tavern, charged with stealing six roses, value 4s, from the garden of J. Wright, and five roses, value 5s, from the garden of George Thompson. Both gardens were near Houghton Road. Mr Wright, fruiterer of Gold Street, said Coles had previously been in his employ and he frequently found trees missing from his garden. Richard Frost, market gardener, said he met Coles on the Houghton Road and afterwards saw him pull something up in Mr Wright's garden. James Langley of Althorp Street said Coles offered to sell him a number of rose trees within the past month. Thompson specifically identified five of the trees traced to Coles as his.

Verdict: Coles sentenced to six months imprisonment, with hard labour.

1894. The Father's Progress.

In March, nominations were presented for the *first* School Board in Cogenhoe and the nominees standing were: Charles Batisson, Shoemaker; William Jackman Clarke, Auctioneer, Manor House Cogenhoe; William Clayson, gentleman; Alfred Crowder, Royal Oak; Thomas Claridge Mann, shoe manufacturer; William Charles Mann, shoe manufacturer, **William George Thompson**, accountant The Elms, Cogenhoe. (In April, Clayson withdrew to try and avoid the expense of an election but no other followed his example so the contest took place). The Voting Result: Clarke 109 votes; TC Mann 98; WC Mann 96; Batisson 74; Crowder 57; **William George Thompson** 46 – and hence he was unsuccessful in this election.

In December, the result of the poll for Cogenhoe Parish Councillors was announced: WJ Clarke 51

votes; J Law 48; WTA Geyton 45; C Batisson 41; G Lines 40; JH Robinson 40; J Croxen 36; S Brawn 36; W Clayson 36; A Crowder 35; R Archibald 33; WC Fairey 33; **William George Thomson** 28; R Lewin 27, J Mann 26. With just 5 seats available and three candidates on 36 votes, the presiding officer, John Smith junior, cast his vote to give Croxen the fifth place.

1900. 3rd July. Just 8 spectators for Thompson.

Northamptonshire v Herefordshire at Watford. It rained on the opening day's play – a state of things hardly bargained for when the opening pair of batsmen went to the wicket at 11.45 am. Then the sun shone pleasantly whilst several larks, high up in the air, were carolling joyously.

The people of Watford no doubt have their days of leisure, but they certainly do not devote much of it to cricket. In this respect they are, perhaps, no greater sinners than the residents of St Albans, for when the cricket week closed there on Saturday, notwithstanding the attractive programme with London County and MCC, the best gate of six days was £2 17s. Even on this record day the company composed chiefly of ladies, who were generously provided with tea at the club's expense.

There were just eight spectators present when the Northamptonshire captain, who was successful in guessing the turn up of the coin, was accompanied to the wicket at 11.45 am by George Thompson. What cheering followed a good stroke was not of a very boisterous or ear-splitting description.

Slow cricket characterised the opening stages of the game. At the outset the bowlers were dead on the wicket, which played pranks one was hardly prepared for, whilst the fielders were as energetic as early birds in quest of wandering worms. Thirty-five minutes cricket produced 23 runs, when a change of attack was tried. Still the batsmen exercised great patience, and as run-getting was quiet, Mr B. Smith, who had missed the train and arrived by landau at 12.30 pm, received more attention from his colleagues than would have been the case had he been hitting out his hardest at the wicket.

With the total at 49, the visiting captain broke down before Marsh. His 20 occupied 67 minutes,

and was a very creditable display, considering how the ball got up every now and then. In addition to being treacherous, the wicket was also very slow.

Mr W H Kingston who succeeded, made no stay, and Mr Driffield, who after knocking the ball into some shrubbery and having a rest whilst a search was made for it, was bowled by Coleman. He had then scored a dozen, and had looked like going on. East then faced Thompson, who had exercised a great deal of patience, and only punished balls deserving attention. With the total at 97 however, White dismissed Thompson, who had put in a lot of good cricket for his runs at near two hours at the wicket without making a mistake.

Disaster did not end here for White, who evidently felt better for the excellent lunch supplied to him, continued in good form, and when he sent back Warren, his three wickets after the interval had cost but seven runs – a very good performance.

Faster cricket ensued and it was a great pity that rain, which fell during the luncheon interval, should again come on and prevent them making a good stand. At 3.10 pm the men sought shelter of the pavilion and although at 3.40 pm they faced each other at the wickets, they only remained sufficiently long to score a single to make 131 for six wickets.

During the weary wait, some of the younger bloods of the company amused themselves with single wicket and other games, whilst a friendly donkey in one corner of the ground gave them a few minutes recreation, especially when he dislodged a would-be jockey, who ungracefully went over its head.

It was 5.15 pm when the umpires finally decided to abandon play for the day. As the game stood, something extraordinary will have to happen today if the match is played to a definite issue.

1904. 30th December. Hollowell says 'It's the cigar wot did it.'

Charles Hollowell, 45, Market Gardener of Cogenhoe was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Wellingborough Road on Saturday (hands up if you dare claim to have never done that!)

Defendant admitted the offence and said he had a *drop of beer*, BUT he smoked a cigar and that's what did it.

Verdict: Guilty, with fine of 10s or seven days hard labour (outturn not known).

1909. October. W G Thomson passes away.

Mr W G Thompson, father of cricketer George Thompson, died at his residence 31 Hill Street, Wellingborough. After an early career as a clerk in shoe manufacturers, he entered the licensed trade as landlord of the Old Kings Arms Inn, Wellingborough for several years. He then went to live at The Elms, Cogenhoe where it is expected his son, George Thompson, will live after his South Africa tour with the English team. Mr W G Thompson lived at the Elms for about ten years until he returned to Wellingborough. He had been unwell for some time but managed a trip with friends to watch a match at Northampton County Ground as his last venture out but then took to his bed. Gradually becoming worse, he died on Monday morning at age 56. He had four daughters and the one son, George J Thompson.

1910. George Thompson declines West Indies tour.

George Thompson is unable to accept the invitation to tour the West Indies. Followers of Northamptonshire's cricket will not regret that Thompson has decided to stay at home. He was a member of the MCC team in South Africa a year ago, so that he has had three seasons continuous cricket. He should benefit from a complete winter's rest.

1910. October. Hollowell's Raspberries.

Mr Charles Hollowell, market gardener of Cogenhoe, brought to our office on Wednesday a portion of raspberry cane with some fine fruit on it. Moreover, the canes promise so well that Mr Hollowell confidently speaks of gathering raspberries in his garden in November next as he had a fine picking as late as November a few years ago.

1910. November 6th. George Thomson goes on South Africa tour.

George Thompson left Northampton on the 9.15 am train for London, having caught the inbound train from Billing as he has lived in Cogenhoe for some time. Had the time of his departure been generally known there would undoubtedly have been a large assembly to bid him farewell. Two of

his sisters and Ned Mann were on the platform to bid farewell and he had the Cobblers as travelling companions as far as Euston. The MCC team sailed from Southampton on the Union Liner, Saxon, and are due in Cape Town on November 23rd.

1911. July. George Thompson accepts New Zealand tour. Better than Australia.

George Thompson, Northamptonshire's great all-round player is going to New Zealand at the close of this season to spend the winter coaching members of the Auckland club, one of the leading clubs in the colony. The omission of Thompson from the MCC tour of Australia was criticised but, as hinted by some, there was never any likelihood of his going to the land of the Golden Fleece as his engagement in New Zealand was made some time ago through Lord Hawke. Thompson is no stranger to New Zealand for he was a member of the team sent by Lord Hawke a few years ago and he had a very successful time with both bat and ball. His work in New Zealand will not be as arduous as will the work of the men who represent the MCC in Australia. He is expected home in time for the first match next season.

1913. August. George Thompson saves drowning man.

George Thompson, Northamptonshire cricketer, was concerned in an exciting adventure on Sunday morning and he saved a companion from drowning. Thompson lives at Cogenhoe and makes a practice of a Sunday morning swim in the river. There is a rather wide bend in the river just below his house and the depth of water makes the spot a delightful one for a strong swimmer. It is some 250 yds beyond the Billing Bridge and is known as the 'hole'. Between ten and half-past on Sunday morning, Thompson and several friends were enjoying the luxury of open-air swimming but it soon became apparent that a young man named Jack Geyton was far from proficient. Having got half way across the stream, he tried to turn but failed and sank. Thompson got to him as he went under for the second time and dived under, seized him by the hair, and although Geyton struggled, succeeded in getting him to the top of the water and with assistance got him to the riverside. When interviewed at Castle Station on Tuesday, Thompson refused to talk about the

matter and was anxious it did not get into the papers. It is understood there was a general agreement for 'the affair to be kept quiet'. It is, however, understood that Geyton, earlier in the summer, took an involuntary bath owing to the capsizing of a canoe.

1913. November. Hollowell's Boar.

Charles Hollowell, registered boar owner, Cogenhoe, was summoned for failing to keep a register as required by the Swine Fever Order 1911. PC Martin said that the last entry in the register was August 30, although witness knew the boar had been used since at a later date. Defendant admitted the offence. He said he was sorry, but he had been busy and had left the register to his son, and would see it did not occur again.

Verdict: Guilty, with 15s costs.

1915. October. Thompson's brother-in-law missing in action.

It is reported that Pte. E V Mann, 7th Northamptonshire Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs W C Mann of Cogenhoe, is missing as at 26th September and it is feared he has been taken prisoner. He is brother-in-law to George Thompson, the county cricketer. (It was reported in the Mercury, 27th December 1918, that Pte Mann was safely returned to England having been a prisoner in Germany for 3 years)

1921. April 9th. George Thompson detained for house-breaking at Leamington Spa, but is saved by his moustache.

George Thompson spent an hour in the company of a police constable on the look-out for a man who had broken into a house at Leamington the previous night. Here is the story as told by Thompson.

"I had walked up the Parade and just turned off to my place of business when, to my surprise, a police constable, who was on point duty, came up to me and said 'I want to know who you are, what your business is, and what you are doing here'. I thought that he must be someone who knew me and that he was pulling my leg, so I smiled and put my hand out to shake hands. The officer took no notice of my hand. And when, in rather sharp tones, he repeated his question, I realised something was wrong. I asked him 'What business is it of yours?' and he replied 'A house

in Radford Road was broken into last night and the lady of the house has just pointed you out to me as the man she saw in the house'. 'How nice of her' was my comment and then the constable said 'You will have to go with me to the Police Station' I said is it that bad? and he replied 'Yes, you will have to come and give me the particulars I want'.

I started to walk along the Parade in the direction of the Police Station. When I lived in Leamington I was very friendly with Mr Webster, the Manager at Barclay's Bank. I had already given the constable my name and address and, as we had to pass the bank, I asked the officer whether he would feel convinced if Mr Webster confirmed the information. He said he did not know Mr Webster, but that we could go and see him if I cared to. It was a long way to the Police Station and I thought a call on Mr Webster would save further trouble and so I said we would go.

The bank clerks, all of whom know me, looked very surprised when I walked in with a constable at my heels. Mr Webster was engaged for a moment and we had to wait. When he came out we shook hands and he said 'how are you?' I said, 'you know me then?' and he said 'know you, yes. Why?' I said the constable will tell you.

A few customers were in the bank and at the constable's suggestion we went to the manager's room where the constable explained to Mr Webster why he had stopped me. For a minute, Mr Webster roared with laughter. 'Know him man,' he said, 'I should think I do, he's one of the whitest men I know, and if he has done that I will give you every penny I possess. Is that good enough?'

The constable responded 'It sounds all right sir, but you see the lady has pointed him out to me as the man'

Mr Webster commented 'It's very awkward George, you must have a double'. I replied 'it sounds very much like it'.

We left the bank and when we got outside the constable said he could see the lady, and that might save a journey to the Police Station if we went to her. I said 'certainly, we'll go'. When we got to her, the constable asked if she recognised me. She looked at me and said at once 'That is not the man who was in my house. The man had a heavier moustache than this gentleman, but he was of the same height and build, and hat and overcoat just like those this gentleman is wearing; the moustache is all that is different'. The lady apologised profusely for the position I had been put in, and the constable said he was satisfied that I was not the man and expressed regret for the incident.

I walked up the Parade with the officer, he returned to his point, and I went on to do my business, but owing to the delay I could not get through all I wanted to"

Robert Vaughan.

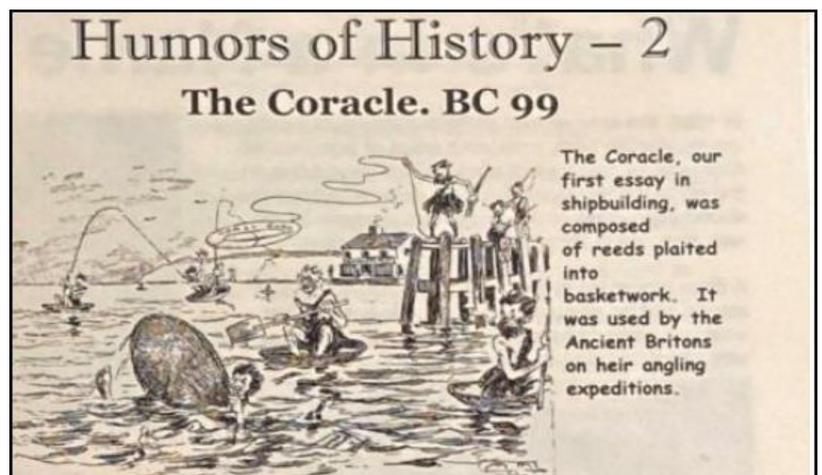
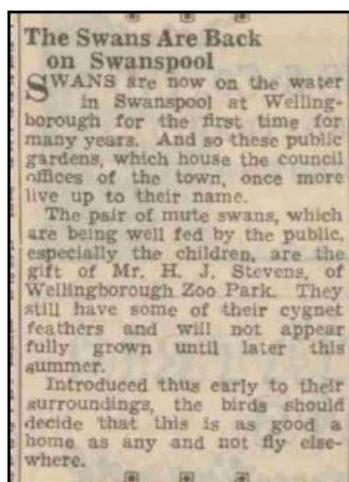


PS: A heavier moustache than this?

PPS: Another one that isn't him.
1888. Saturday 23rd June.

At Thursday's Special Petty Sessions, before Mr N P Sharman, George Thompson, tramp, was sent to gaol for 14 days for begging at Wilby.

No swans when I worked there!



Rough Stuff in Cogenhoe

This article caught the eye whilst researching archives for information about historic life in Cogenhoe.

At face value nothing extraordinary. 26th November, 1906, Daily Recorder: Samuel Clayson aged 65, dropped down whilst talking with Mr Richard Mann. With a thud and some gurgling in his throat and a bit of blood in the mouth, he expired. Coroner's Jury agreed with medical opinion of heart failure.

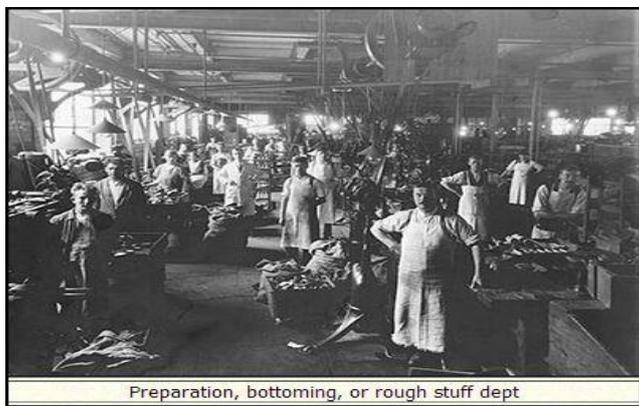
Harry Clayson, bootmaker of Great Houghton identified the body as that of his father.

George Draper, witness, said that on Friday about twelve he saw the deceased in the factory waiting for work, heard a thud, and saw him on the floor. He and Mr. Mann turned him over and rubbed his hands but, with a few deep sighs, he expired.

The intriguing part is that Richard Mann was described as a "Rough Trade Foreman" which was not an expression I had heard before. Investigation took me to this definition:

rough stuff man
performs all operations in rough stuff room or press room, in small factory where work is not sub-divided, including cutting, fitting-up, channelling, etc.; cf. rough stuff cutter (413).

And then the Rushden History site had a photograph of A Rough Stuff department at the Co-op boot factory.



So, this pieces together a little more of both the history of life in Cogenhoe and the Mann shoe factory. It was also one of numerous references to Coroner's Courts being conducted at The Royal Oak.

Is there a Clayson family at Great Houghton who would be interested in this piece of history?

Robert Vaughan



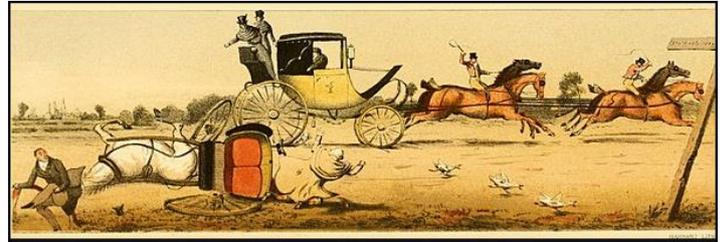
Deodands in the Drapery September 1810

Whilst trawling through the Northampton Mercury of 1810, as you do in Lockdown, I came across this report of a tragic incident.

An Inquisition was taken on Monday last, before Joshua Cooch, Gent. one of his Majesty's Coroners for this town, upon view of the body of Ann Robins, an infant about four years of age, who was killed on Saturday last, in the Drapery, through the negligence of a post-chaise driver, who carelessly drove over the child, whereby it was so much hurt, that it survived only a few hours.—Verdict, *Accidental Death*. The Jury found the horses and chaise deodands, value £.15.

I knew that a post-chaise would be a type of carriage.

Post chaise: a four-wheeled, closed carriage, containing one seat for two or three passengers, that was popular in 18th-century England. The body was of the coupé type, appearing as if the front had been cut away. Because the driver rode one of the horses,



it was possible to have windows in front as well as at the sides. At the post chaise's front end, in place of the coach box, was a luggage platform. The carriage was built for long-distance travel, and so horses were changed at intervals at posts (stations). In England, public post chaises were painted yellow and could be hired, along with the driver and two horses, for about a shilling a mile. The post chaise is descended from the 17th-century two-wheeled French chaise.

But, what about the jury finding the horse and chaise at *Deodands* £15?

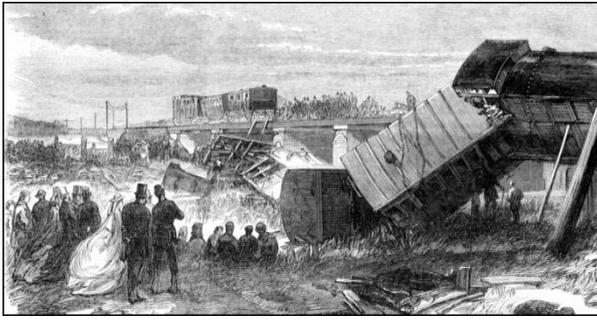
The law of Deodands (dee uh dands) can be traced back to at least the 11th century, so presumably it was imported alongside the Normans. It is believed to have been founded partly upon the Mosaic, and partly upon the Athenian law, by which *any instrument causing death was considered accursed*. This was *common law* and not brought about by decree or Act of Parliament. Under this ancient law, applied throughout England, a chattel (be it animal or inanimate object) was liable to be forfeited if it caused death to a human being. These Deodands were automatically forfeit to the Crown.

The term *deodand* derives from the Latin *deo dandum*, which means *to be given to God*. In theory the Crown, as representative of God, was supposed to sell them and send the profits to the King's almoner who would apply them to some pious use. In practice, the Deodands were rarely taken away from the owner but he paid a fine equal to the appraised value – that does make practical sense if you are, for instance, dealing with a vicious swine. If the owner couldn't pay then usually the township would be responsible.

As can predictably be expected, not all such profits went to pious causes and the money could end up *'in the royal coffers, intermingled with other sources of revenue'*. Indeed, as time went on, the crown started selling off the rights to Deodands from a jurisdiction to Lords, Townships and Corporations.

A 12th century statute established the office of the coroner with general authority for the confiscation of Deodands. This is an early example: In 1336, a drunken sailor climbed the mast of his ship at anchor in the Thames by means of a rope, presumably part of the rigging. When he tried to descend the same way, he fell and died. A coroner's jury decided that the rope was the cause of death and that it should be forfeited to the Crown.

Under the common law of England and Wales, the death of a person causes purely emotional and economic loss to their relatives. In general, damages cannot be recovered for either type of damage, only for physical damage to the claimant or their property, and families of fatal accident victims had no claim whatsoever for what might have been the loss of the main breadwinner. This was the rule endorsed and declared inviolable by the court in the fiercely fought case of *Baker v. Bolton* (1808).



The law of Deodand bubbled away and survived into the nineteenth century and ran straight into the industrial revolution. Expensive pieces of machinery involved in accidental deaths were judged as Deodands with consequent substantial fines. The rise of the railways meant that coroner's juries in the 1830s and 1840s awarded large Deodands against companies whose trains were involved in fatal accidents. The railway accident at Sonning Cutting (1841) was a particularly notorious

example, in which Deodands of £1,100 (equivalent to £92,000 in 2016) in total were made on the engine (Hecla), and the trucks.

This alerted legislators, in particular Lord Campbell, who introduced a bill in 1845:

Lord Campbell said that, "in pursuance of the notice he had given last week, he should, with their Lordships' permission, lay on the Table a Bill for the Abolition of Deodands, and he did not anticipate there would be any opposition offered to its passing through, much less in its introduction to that House—the wonder to him was that a law so extremely absurd and inconvenient should have remained in force down to the middle of the nineteenth century; especially as that did not arise from the law having become obsolete or slipped their recollection from never having been put in force; for the law of Deodands was called into action almost weekly, as the newspapers constantly informed them. He would, however, venture to say that the law was both extremely absurd and inconvenient"

Lord Campbell gave example of the absurdity:

"The severity of the law, if it were strictly enforced, was very great, because everything that in the remotest degree contributed to the death was included in the forfeiture. Not only an ox that gored a man was forfeited, but if a person fell from a horse, the horse was forfeited: and if a man fell from a horse into the water and was carried down a mill-race and killed by the wheel of the mill, the horse and the mill-wheel were both forfeited. To be sure, if a person fell from that which was not in motion, that motionless thing was not forfeited; it was only what he touched immediately before the moment of death which was the subject of a deodand; for instance, if a man were climbing up a waggon, which was stationary, and fell from a wheel, the wheel by which he was climbing up was alone forfeited; but, then, if the waggon was in motion, the waggon, and the horses, and the load in the waggon, were all forfeited, as tending ad mortem. This was in accordance with the maxim, "omnia quæ movent ad mortem sunt Deo danda." Again, if a person fell from the top of a stage-coach, even intoxicated or asleep, and the wheel of the coach passed over him and killed him, the horses and the coach, and everything in the coach, including the luggage of the passengers, would all be forfeited. Certain absurd distinctions were made: for instance, if a man fell from a ship in salt water, there was no deodand on the ship; but if he fell from the ship in fresh water, then the ship and the furniture of the ship, and the cargo of the ship, were all Deodands. Neither did it signify, whether the chattel fell on the man, or the man on the chattel. But, it was said, that if the thing was fixed to a freehold, then it should not be a deodand; and, therefore, if the door of a house fell upon and killed a man, it being part of a freehold, was not forfeited. Again, if a bell dropped from a steeple, and produced the death of a person, it was not a deodand, because it had been consecrated."

If you are still having trouble sleeping then you can look up the whole 1845 debate in Hansard:

<https://api.parliament.uk/historic-hansard/lords/1845/feb/24/abolition-of-deodands>

Who would have thought that driving without due care and attention in The Drapery could be so fascinating?

Robert Vaughan

The Northamptonshire map of 1814 has no road from Cogenhoe to Little Houghton. Mistake or was there no road? Answers on a postcard please.



Cogenhoe Militia List 1777

Northamptonshire Militia Lists exist for 1758–1831. The Militia was a part-time voluntary force organised by county. These militias were created by the Militia Act of 1757 and they became the Special Reserve in 1908. Every parish in England and Wales was obliged to create lists of males aged 18 to 45, and to hold a ballot to choose those who had to serve in the Militia.

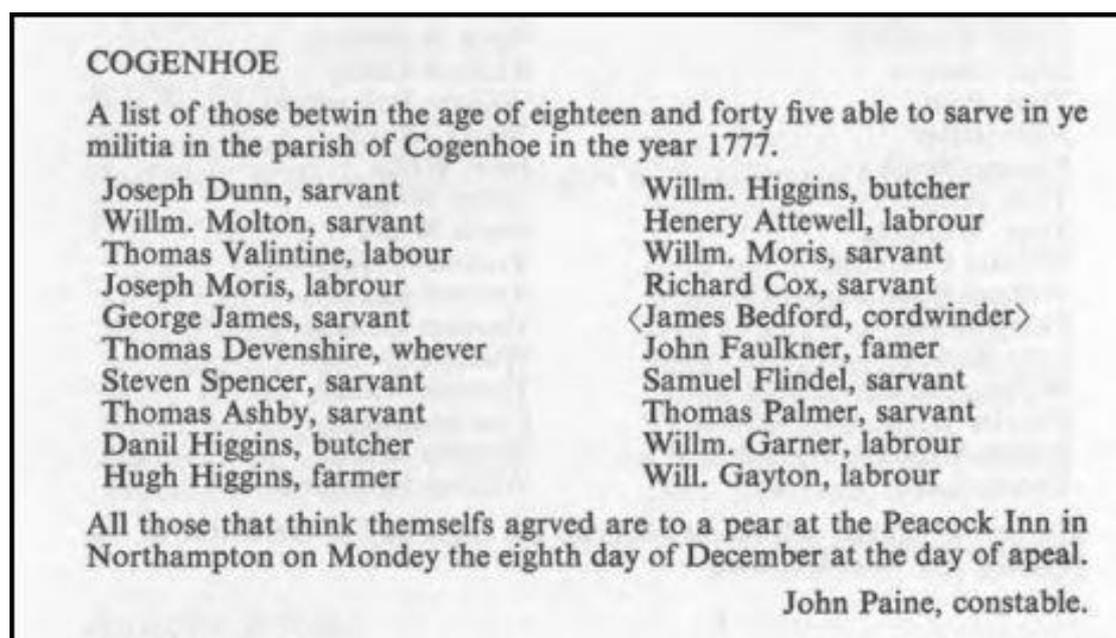
Two lists were created each year from 1758–1831:

- militia lists (of all men)
- militia enrolment lists (of men chosen to serve)

The lists should provide an annual male census for the local area, giving details about men and their family circumstances. They are held in local archives but the coverage of the country is not complete. In 1881, the army was reorganised and militia regiments were attached to units of the regular army, taking on the new regiment's name in the process.

Of the several series of militia lists that exist for Northamptonshire, those for 1777 are the only ones to cover the whole of the county except for the Nassaburgh Hundred (better known as the Soke of Peterborough so, they are rather unique).

This is the list for Cogenhoe. It shows what a small village we were. We will publish lists for other nearby villages in future publications.



Robert Vaughan

Why is it a Scotch Egg ?

So **why** is it **called** a **Scotch Egg**? A traditional **Scotch Egg** is a boiled **egg** coated in pork sausage meat, with an outer crust of breadcumbs. The deep fried snack **is called** a **Scotch Egg** because the process of mincing the meat to go around the **egg** is known as scotching.

Northampton's First Traffic Lights

Before traffic lights, 'traffic police' controlled the flow of traffic. A well-documented example is that on London Bridge in 1722. Three men were given the task of directing traffic coming in and out of either London or Southwark. One officer would help direct traffic coming out of Southwark into London and he made sure all traffic stayed on the west end of the bridge. A second officer would direct traffic on the east end of the bridge to control the flow of people leaving London and going into Southwark.

Gas traffic lights were installed outside Parliament in 1868. The first *automatic* electric traffic lights in the country were installed in Wolverhampton to operate from 5th November 1927

Now there can be 5 sets in a 200-yard stretch in places like London!



Northampton had to wait a few years and the first sets were operative in January 1929 at the Fish Street/Abington St junction and Kingsley Park Corner outside the White Elephant. You can just about see on this set at extreme left of the photo at Kingsley Park that they had words for indication: STOP, WAIT, GO

The ones at Fish Street junction were first operated with accompanying policemen to explain the system to drivers.

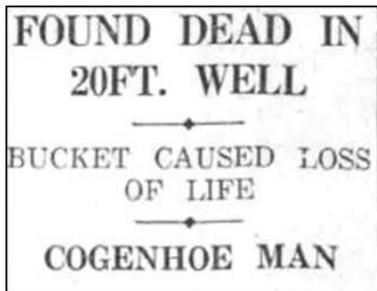


At the Northampton election rally in 1929 at the Town Hall, proceedings were reported as 'very lively and enthusiastic', and traffic lights were part of the humour. Councillor Ralph Smith presided and said "As I was coming to this meeting, the Socialist candidate with his motor car was approaching Fish Street, and immediately the traffic signal light went red and said 'stop'. You sometimes see the colour of the Conservative party. What does it say? 'Caution or Steady as you were?' No, we stand for the green of 'Go'; Go forward in the spirit of Victory."

It was met with great applause. It must have seemed funny at the time. You had to be there.

Robert Vaughan

Cogenhoe Man found Dead in Well 1937



This is a sad tale from yet another inquest held at The Royal Oak. Mr Clifford George Smith (35) was found dead at the bottom of his 20ft

well by Thomas William Burman (Station Road) after going to investigate as he had not seen Mr Smith for some days: *'I saw the milk on the doorstep and the newspaper, and the bed had not been slept in'*. On searching he saw a ladder protruding from the top of the well. 'I then looked down the well and saw a head on top of the water, but couldn't identify whose it was'. (Mercury & Herald 7th Jan 1938). Death recorded as 30th December 1937.

PC George Robert Hosier, Little Houghton, said that the ladder was suspended from a piece of wood across the top of the well. The bottom of the ladder was two to three feet short of the water. The well was tested for fumes by means of a hurricane lamp and then the body extracted by means of another ladder and rope. A light illuminating the path to the well was still burning.

On going down the well for a second time, PC Hosier said he found there was a bucket attached to a rope and a long-handled rake, and the water was about five feet deep. There was agreement by the Inquest that Smith probably fell off the ladder when attempting to extricate the bucket with the rake. Verdict Accidental Death by Drowning.

The father, George Henry Smith, of 92 Holly Road, Northampton, gave evidence at the Inquest which agreed with what had been said. The Mercury later did a follow-up piece and disclosed

that the father had been Clerk to Harpole Parish Council and nephew to both Mrs E Starmer and Mr J T Smith, both present members of the Northampton Rural District Council.

Mr Clifford Smith went to Northampton Town & County School and then spent some time with Messrs G H Kendall and Sons and Messrs G H Stimpson, but relinquished this in favour of farming. He then served a pupilage with Mr Sidney Stopps of Tiffield and Mr John Stopps of Milton Ernest and then attended at Moulton Farm Institute. During that time he twice carried off the championship in the County Milking Competition against much greater experienced men. He was also a member of the winning county stock judging teams. From Moulton he proceeded to Reading University and secured a University Diploma in agriculture and afterwards obtaining the much-prized National Diploma at Leeds.

Initially the location of where the participants lived wasn't known. OS maps showed some properties with wells but none that fitted this story. However, with thanks to information from Terry Coles, Edward Hopes and Richard Deacon, we now know this tragedy took place at 99 Station Road and that Mr Burman resided opposite in one of the Cosy cottages which were demolished to build to the current 'old people's bungalows'.

Another question which might be posed is whether the aforementioned Mr Burman is responsible for the naming of Burmans Way? Current informed opinion suggests that it is that Mr Burman who was a huge benefactor to the village. However, there is another explanation in that his son, Will Burman {Richard's cousin} , was the last occupier of land, now forming part of that estate. So, take your pick!

Robert Vaughan

So what did you make of this in the tales from the 1700s?

1735. NO DROLLS: We hear that the Drolls at Southwark Fair will also be prohibited.

Well as it takes two pages to explain, the article will appear in the December edition!

The Wonderment of the 1700s as Disclosed in the Newspapers

1798. LADY DUDLEY: The dowager Lady Dudley has declared she is not pregnant. In consequence, a writ will be granted to summon lord Dudley to his seat in the house of peers.

1735. DOCTOR BARNARD : On Saturday last, Dr. Barnard, one of the Fellows of the Royal Society, was knocked down by three fellows in Thrift Street, Soho, and robbed of his Gold Watch; The doctor stabbed one of them with his Sword in the Belly, in such a Manner as it's believed he cannot possibly recover, but the other two carried him off.

1735. NO DROLLS: We hear that the Drolls at Southwark Fair will also be prohibited.

1797. NIPPIN LOST WATCH AT COGENHOE: Between Cogenhoe Mill and Northampton on Saturday 18th February last. LOST: A SILVER WATCH, maker's name Chas Clay, London No 10901. Whoever has found same, and will bring it to Mr Nippin, at The Saracen's Head inn, Northampton, shall receive HALF-A-GUINEA Reward.

1735. COUNTRY GEORGE NO DEFRAUD : George Philips, alias Country George, was tried for defrauding Thomas Sackville of £4 10s, it being part of £8 which was the price of a horse that he had bought; and after the Bargain, the Jockey laughed and made Game of the Man, and swore the Horse was not worth a shilling; for he was a Roarer (a Term he gave him) and the first Time he was worked would drop down, make a hideous Noise, and bleed at the Mouth. The trial occasioned a great Deal of Laughter in Court, and the Defendant was acquitted.

1793. EVIL IN COGENHOE ORCHARD: On Thursday night, the 22nd August, some evil-disposed Person or Persons entered into Orchards and Gardens of nearly all the inhabitants of the Parish of Cogenhoe, in Northamptonshire, and stole the Fruit, destroyed the trees, and did considerable Damage. Whoever will give Information of the Persons who did the said Mischief shall receive ONE GUINEA REWARD: and if convicted, shall receive a further Reward of ONE GUINEA of us whose Names are hereunder mentioned – Mrs Higgins, Mrs Sibley, John Chapman, Blundel Kilsby, Robert Johnson, Wm Smith, B Jones, Daniel Sharman, Richard Warwick, Thomas Wright.

(Note the mention of Mrs Sibley who previously appeared in July edition article Houfe of Sibley at Cooknoe)

1792. SHOULDER OF MUTTON CALAMITOUS FIRE – BUT THE BEER WAS SAVED

About two o'clock in the morning of the 17th of February, 1792, a most calamitous fire broke out at the Shoulder-of-Mutton public house (since converted into a private dwelling house), on the Market square, which entirely consumed the same, and was attended by a melancholy loss of life—Mrs. Marriott, the landlady, together with her five children, and two lodgers, perishing in the flames, Mr. Marriott being the only person who made his escape, which he effected by getting out of the garret window, and over the roofs of two adjoining houses, into a garret window of the third. No portion of the property, except some beer in an arched cellar, was saved. Not being insured, a subscription was set on foot, and more than £.150 collected, which covered Mr. M.'s actual loss, but left him without employment.—There is a marble tablet in the portico of All Saints' church, commemorative of this shocking event.

Post Script from Dave Knibb: the premises were uninsured and a public collection raised enough money for Mr Marriot to rebuild as a public house, renamed The Phoenix. But he didn't stay there long and it closed in 1831, being then converted to a house.

Update on the September Baxters Butchers article, courtesy of Richard Deacon.

First of all, Richard spotted my mistake in saying that Timken made roller bearings whereas it was, of course, the pioneering invention and manufacture of taper bearings that made them unique. I should have remembered correctly as, someone else named Richard [who shall remain anonymous], worked there and obtained a new set of tapered wheel bearings for my Hillman Imp.

More importantly, Grace Deacon and Caroline Gatehouse were once both employed at the Baxters head office in Albion Place.



It is confirmed that it was Pitt Draffen Dance School which occupied the grand building by Abington Park which became the lodgings for trainee butchers. Allegedly, a 'Louise' from the school was in the one-hit-wonder group named the Paper Dolls in 1968.



If you are desperate to hear their *Something Here In My Heart* then please use this QR link [just skip the

advert which may be for Ear Wax or Hearing Loss or some other thing which YouTube thinks I am afflicted with!]

First day on the farm

As we travel along our country roads at this time of year we can see into the fields because the headgerows are thin and bare. There is a gradual greening, a little more every day, signs of approaching Spring, which we all long for through the cold Winter days. Sixty-five years ago the local roads and fields were much the same, but it was 1940/41, war-time, and there was a really desperate urgency for the end of Winter, Spring weather, longer days, sunshine, and the promise of fresh grass and crops in the fields.

Early in 1941 Edith Cox nee Farmer went to work for Charlie Tomkins, at Moat Farm, Whiston; she had been advised to work outdoors because she had been very ill with typhoid: she was nineteen. This is part of her account of her first day at work on the farm, taken from the Oral History Project.



Land Army:(Left-Right) Edith Farmer (later Cox); Marjorie Busby (later Hollowell), Horses- Star and Gilbert (drilling). Danny Desmond holding bridle, on Moat Farm, Whiston, WW2.
Copied by RC Deacon, May, 2002.

Tree on the Village Green; Then and Now

Poor old Tree feels that no one gives her a second glance when they pass. But Tree is a piece of History, our Heritage. Tree took root in Cogenhoe on 22nd June 1911 to commemorate the coronation of King George V.

Tree as captured by Cyril Penn, 1978

Tree in July 2020



The folk lore about Oak trees is that they *take 300 years to grow, then 300 years to live and then 300 years to die*. It's rude to ask an elderly lady her age, so shall we just say that her Aunt at Bourne has left lore in her wake. So, magnificent Tree is still a mere infant and will be enjoyed by our future generations; our children, for whom we shall have more prefix 'greats' than we can grasp.

Robert Vaughan

PS. A report following a Tree Survey in 2015 defines Tree as 'mature' which means she has entered the third quarter of her natural life cycle. How blunt. Clearly the surveyor is *totally* ignorant of folk lore. But Tree was reported to be in good health albeit needing a bit of a trim.

PPS. And she tells me her name is Quercus Robur. A rather grand lady methinks.

These reports from the 1950s do seem awfully like recent reports in 2020!

BRITISH RAILWAYS

PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICES:

Sunday, August 27.

Consequent upon essential Engineering Work being carried out on the above date, the following

Alteration to Passenger Train Services will apply:—

1.40 a.m. Northampton to Rusby, Coventry, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Stafford, Crewe and the North

WILL DEPART AT 1.30 A.M. and travel via Blisworth.

Any inconvenience which passengers may suffer as a result of this alteration is regretted.

PROTEST AT COGENHOE

AT Cogenhoe Parish Council meeting it was reported that the speed-limit in the village was not being observed by some motorists and it was agreed that Mr. Penn should deal with the matter.

Members present were: Mr. F. York, Mrs. Marshall, Mr. Penn, Mr. Rowlands, Mr. Atterwell, and Mr. Kirk.

The Coronation Committee's suggested programme is a competition for the best-decorated house in the village; Divine service; television; the service to be continuous; children's bus tour of Northampton to see decorations; bus tour for pensioners and their wives and husbands; sports on the playing field; fancy dress parade; tea for all villagers and subscribers; distribution of Coronation souvenirs to children and older people; sports, including a comic cricket match, followed by dancing, and it is hoped to provide a Coronation memorial in the village.

Phew ! The Russians are not coming to Cogenhoe

This archive map shows what an interest Russia once had in Northampton. I wonder why? How lucky are we that they never bothered to map Cogenhoe and they only went as far as Abington. Maybe they couldn't pronounce it.



But what is the cnoptom in the south of Abington Park?



It shows on google maps as the huge sports field, an open area and nice and flat. Ominous?

And it's pronounced snopen. (sno as in snot)



Online translation services deny that the word even exists. But it was once a high quality 35mm camera brand.

My feeling is that these open flat areas clearly had some sort of potential strategic significance. And maybe cnoptom indicates that aerial photography of them is available.

Solutions on a Postcard please. (the Eagle-Eyed will also have spotted that the County Ground was also a cnoptom although Russians are not noted for a keen interest in Cricket)

Robert Vaughan.

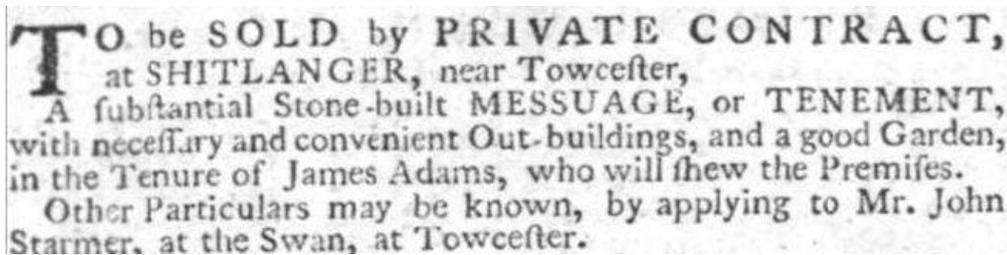
The October Quiz

QUIZ – HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW NORTHAMPTON

1. Who is the current Mayor?
2. Which King granted the town its first charter to have a Reeve (the title later changed to Mayor)?
3. Where is the formal list kept of all the 'Mayors' of Northampton?
4. Who built Northampton Castle?
5. What was the population in 1801 and 2001?
6. Bonus question: Roughly how many people in Northampton died in the 1666 outbreak of plague which swept up from London where it was killing 7000 per week at its peak?

Village Change of Name

Many places seem to vary their name over time and as you all know, our village itself has a history of variation. Since commencing research for the magazine, many hours have been spent trawling through the archives of newspapers and there seems to be a definite trend. From the earliest papers in 1739 we were 'Cooknoe'. By 1800, 'Cooknoe otherwise Cogenhoe' often appears in print. Certainly, by mid-1800 we are firmly Cogenhoe. But why this persuasion to change name? There didn't seem to be a compelling reason, unlike some other Northamptonshire villages!



Mercury & Herald.
7th November 1789.

Now the village of
Shutlanger.

Shitel was the Old English word for shuttles and the village was where these shuttles/wooden bars were made. Even earlier names were Sitelhangre and Schitelhanger.

September Quiz Answers

ANSWERS TO SEPTEMBER QUIZ ABOUT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

7. What is the population density of Northamptonshire in residents per sq kilometre?

c) 316 residents per sq kilometre

8. What is the highest point above sea level in Northamptonshire and how high is it?

Arbury Hill, near Daventry, at 225m, 738 feet. It is also a main source of the River Nene

9. How far downwards does the River Nene fall from Northampton to The Wash?

The fall is 300ft from source to Northampton but then it falls just 200ft down to The Wash

10. Which is the odd one out: Weetabix, Phipps IPA, Doc Martins Boots, Avon Cosmetics?

Whilst all the businesses have a manufacturing base in Northamptonshire, only Phipps makes all its product here as the others also have overseas manufacturing.

11. To the nearest one million acres, how much larger is Yorkshire than Northamptonshire?

b) 2 million acres. (646,810 to 2,914,130)

12. What is the mean average flow of the River Nene in cubic feet per second?

b) 328 cubic feet per second (9.3 cubic metres. The Thames is 65.8)

These trunks from the 1920s most certainly won't fit the overhead locker on EasyJet



BIRTHDAY NEWS: DAILY MIRROR OCTOBER 1950



The P.M. at play

Daily Mirror

FORWARD WITH THE PEOPLE

SEE TODAY

NO. 15,000

Published 12 months in a year

10 GAS STRIKE LEADERS TO BE SUMMONED

TEN of the leaders of London's gas strike are being summoned under the Defence Regulations.

Why Men Leave Home

SHOW me a "deserted wife," and I will show you in nine cases out of ten a thin-faced, precise woman who put the pride of an over-tidy home before the comforts of her husband, a woman who was for everlasting whining about the new furniture of the woman next door, a woman who forgot to be a sweetheart and remembered only that her husband didn't make as much money as she had reckoned.

Men of 45 or so leave home, not as wives believe, for the lure of some peroxide blonde, but in search of comfort. Look at the women for whom men have left their wives. Nearly always they are like the woman with whom a friend of mine—how I envy him!—is "living in sin"—a plump, happy woman who can cook and takes more pride in keeping her man happy than in keeping up with the Joneses.—Ready to Roam! HULL.

Never a dull corner

PARIZONE

DOES MORE THAN SEARCH

FOR THE BEST

Learn the French they speak in France

NINE German rocket specialists and the five members of the British delegation to the recent World Astronautical Congress met round an oval table in the richly paneled Aero Club of France for a confidential talk.

The fourteen men hope to interest the British and West German Governments in the possibilities of building Space Station One.

The Germans will furnish the rocket experts — including proxy talking Hermann Oberth, "father" of the V2. Main British contribution is an advanced space-station design by the British Interplanetary Society.

SAD STORY OF SAM THE CYGNET

Sammy the baby swan was getting such a dog's life from his parents in their home on the River Kent, at Kewford, Westmorland, that the townfolk decided to join in the family quarrel.

So they asked the borough engineer to fence Sammy off from his unnatural parents. That has now been done, and Sammy the cygnet has been freed from the persecution of Mum and Dad.

Revue girl would strip so far—but no further

A N actress who said she objected when she was told to appear in a revue in a brassiere and panties was awarded £200 libel damages against Ernest Lingie, the actor and theatrical producer, in the King's Bench Division yesterday.

Giving judgment with costs, Mr Justice Fyshback said the actress, Miss Sylvia Odontal, made it clear that she was prepared to appear on the stage as far as her front drawers, but beyond that she was not prepared to go.

Man who sat out 'The King'

Actor John Hales-Neil stood to attention when the National Anthem was played after a dance in a public-house, Edward Stanley Hill remained seated.

Hales-Neil hit Hill and broke his nose. It was stated at Uxbridge (Middlesex) Court yesterday when the actor was fined £5 for assault.

For the defence, it was said that Hales-Neil, 26, of Hatch End, was a "very patriotic" man who was upset to see anyone sitting during the playing of the National Anthem.

Hill, 30, of The Vale, Rushlip, had told the police he did not hear the A n t h e m being played.

"...and then he noticed the spot on my face"



Don't let petty skin spoil YOUR chances of romance

HARD-UP clergy should get free tickets for all church social functions, have their fares paid on church outings, and receive gifts of books from church-goers, says Methodist minister the Rev. John E. Barker, of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Ruggles

OUR GUEST - Rev. Norman Jones, Faversham, Sussex.

Why Men Leave Home

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MEMORIAL window to Sir Charles Parsons, inventor of the steam turbine, was dedicated in Westminster Abbey yesterday.

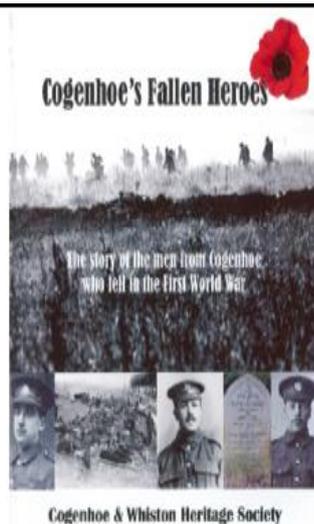
Be an art collector - 1s. 3d. for a start

Hoops!

AT LAST - A SHOE POLISH TIN THAT OPENS EASILY

Society Publications

The Society has publications for sale (the cd will be free with any book purchase). Ask a Committee member



Cogenhoe's Fallen Heroes

The story of the men from Cogenhoe who fell in the First World War
Price £15

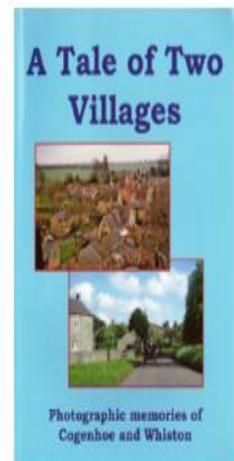
The War Memorial Project was born out of a fervent wish to remember the ultimate sacrifice made by the young men of Cogenhoe in the Great War.. This book is a tribute to those men.

An addendum detailing further research has been published and can be obtained from members of the committee.

A Tale of Two Villages

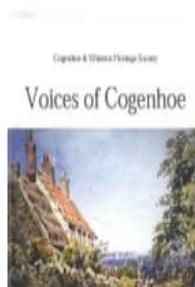
Photographic memories of Cogenhoe & Whiston
Price £10

A pictorial record of the two villages showing people and places through the past and based on the first photographic exhibition held by the society during April 2008. Since then in 2010 a second exhibition was held.



A Century of Change *Cogenhoe 1901 - 2000*

This hardback book was produced from the interviews of over 50 people from many walks of life who had their memories recorded. Some were born in the villages, others worked here and still more came to live here.



Voices of Cogenhoe

CD £3.00

This CD based on the interviews is an opportunity to listen to the memories and recollections of the many people who lived in Cogenhoe and Whiston. In all over 40 villagers contributed over 60 hours of taped interviews and this was condensed into a double CD with a running time of about 120 minutes.

or email to enquiries@cogenhoheritage.org.uk.

Planned Meetings

No meetings currently planned until December at the earliest

Wednesday 9 December 2020

To be advised.

Wednesday 13 January 2021 - 'Any Old Iron': The History of the Butlin Family and their Furnaces in Wellingborough - Jon-Paul Carr.

An illustrated and informative talk of the history of a Northamptonshire family and involvement in the 19th century and early 20th century iron ore manufacturing industry.

Wednesday 10 February 2021 - The Home Guard - Chris Bazeley

The talk considers the national and local scene with anecdotes from former members. What led to the formation of Dad's Army and what did they actually achieve?

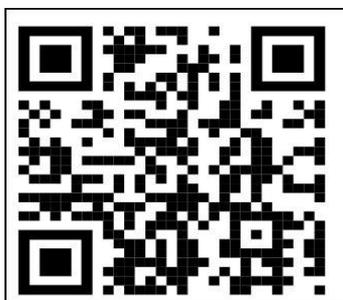
Wednesday 10 March 2021 - Annual General Meeting followed by The History of Country Houses since 1900 - Neil Lyon

This illustrated talk traces the changing fortunes of the principal houses and landed estates over the past century. It is not a story of decline and fall; on the contrary, it is the story of survival and the renaissance of our local country houses.

Society QR Codes

Just a reminder of three QR codes which your smart-phone should recognise and take you easily to various websites. Just point the phone camera at it.

Society Website



The Green Plaque Heritage Trail



Facebook Page



NORTHAMPTON PUBS

This series of articles is mostly based on work by Dave Knibb whose book on 570 Northampton pubs is still available priced £17.99 – and he does deliveries. It's a hefty A4 sized very-glossy publication full of interesting facts about local history and heritage. Dave has very kindly given permission for the Society to reproduce his findings. Contact Dave at emmaadamknibb@hotmail.com

