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FOND members

Spring
2005
No 17



The Merry Mawkin

Newsletter of Friends of Norfolk Dialect

Chairman Reports: “We’re on our way — and all set for FOND’s Educational Initiative”

As members will know, it has long been a main objective to get an understanding and appreciation of our dialect into Norfolk’s schools. Not to persuade children to include dialect in their everyday speech, but to gain an insight into how our language has developed and adapted over the years and the part that dialect has played in the process.

Now, after many months of consultations, research, establishing a programme and submitting an extremely detailed application, the way forward looks good — thanks to a £24,600 grant from the Local Heritage Initiative fund.

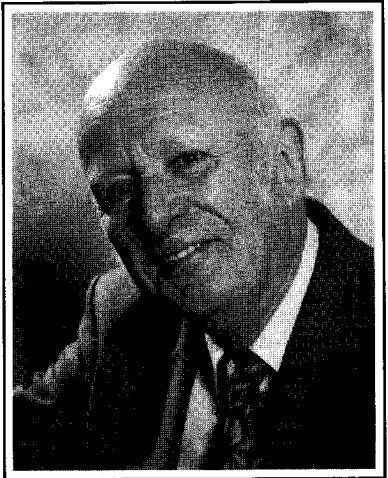
The three year project will involve a close working partnership with the Norfolk County Council Education Advisory Service and, through them, with ten schools and their communities across the county of Norfolk.

It promises to be an interesting and challenging initiative which we look forward to with determination and enthusiasm, and I hope you will agree that the project title of **FONDLY NORFOLK** is an appropriate one!

A Promise, Punk rock and Buckingham Palace

Norfolk dialect has been in the news since our last newsletter. From a promise by the BBC, to a punk rock band and the elegance of Buckingham Palace.

In January the BBC launched its *Voices* project, a nationwide survey involving interviews with people across the UK with the aim of creating an online interactive dialect map of the British Isles. Five members of FOND were invited to a recording session at Radio Norfolk’s Norwich studio to record, and talk about, our native dialect.



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The audio material collected will be used to enhance Leeds University's Survey of English Dialect which was compiled in the early 1960s. Dr. Clive Upton is on record as saying "We want to unearth real language and how it affects real people. For example, who is to say that non-standard English phrases like '*I'm not going nowhere*' is substandard English. This goes back to Shakespeare and beyond."

As with all things BBC we will have to wait to see if this interesting survey results in the abolition of that awful 'mummerset' accent and dialect which passes for the way we speak in Norfolk. It is certainly not a good omen that in referring to Norfolk the Corporation's Press Office uses the words "Norwich accent".

Punk rock band *Crone* has been in the news because a record company, not named, allegedly offered them a contract and then withdrew it because the band's Norfolk voices would be unacceptable to the general public. This at a time when regional voices are to be found across a wide range of recordings by nationally known artists.

I have to admit their brand of music is not for me, but I admire the Group's lead vocalist, Jason Wick's, comment, "We are pleased to be born and living in Norfolk and believe it shouldn't be a dirty word or something to be embarrassed about." This must strike a chord (no pun intended!) with all of us who love our county and are determined to keep its character alive. "Good on you, Lads" and we wish you every success in the future.

A Royal Response

Now to a lady who deserves a similar compliment. So here's wishing a "Good ow Gal" every happiness, good health and longevity — Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. And the reason why? Because in an interview with a German newspaper Princess Michael of Kent let slip that the Queen is a dab hand at using Norfolk dialect in a family mardle. No doubt she has heard many Norfolk dialect expressions from workers on her Sandringham estate, and it is good to know she retains a connection with her roots and has an affection for her country home. So good that I was moved to write to her, telling her about FOND, its origin and activities and enclosing a copy of Keith Skipper's book '*Larn Yarself Norfolk*'.

In a reply, signed by one of her Ladies in Waiting, Her Majesty says she was "interested to learn of the activities of the Friends of Norfolk Dialect and the circumstances which led to its formation." The letter continues, "The Queen was pleased to receive the book and looks forward to reading it with much enjoyment." The letter ends with a "thank you" for the gift and the kind sentiments expressed in my letter.

Peter Brooks

NEW MAWKIN EDITOR NEEDED

Interested in some enjoyable and satisfying work?

Contact the Chairman or any Committee member.

Norfolk Dialect Evening

The Cromer and North Norfolk Festival of Music, Drama and Dance annual Norfolk Dialect section will take place on 26th April 7.30 pm. at the Parish Hall, Cromer. Entries close on March 31st, 2005, but late entries would be considered.

Everyone is welcome, either to take part, or join the audience (Admission only £1.50) for one of the area's best nights of the year. We are particularly looking to increase the numbers taking part in the junior section (16 years and under). Certificates of merit will be handed out during the evening. This is not a competition, but a Celebration of our precious Norfolk Dialect.

Further details from Dialect Organiser Derek Paul, 3 Church Close, Overstrand, Norfolk NR27 0NY. Tel: 01263 579688.

Thass alluss a bloomin good dew!

Sounding out our dialect

The first batch of 13 master tape recordings made across the county have been deposited with the Norfolk Sound Archive at the Archive Centre in Norwich.

Our thanks are due to recorders Jean Eaglen, Janet Woodhouse and Mike Coley for the time and hard work they have put into this continuing project.

The FOND Committee, bearing in mind the cost incurred in producing these CDs, all of which have been painstakingly indexed by our Archivist Ann Doggett, is now embarking on a major exercise to market them — initially to members of our society.

In due course all the recording will be edited to produce themed subjects, such as farming, fishing, home life and childhood memories. It is thought these will sell for around £10 each.

In the meantime all 13 unedited CDs will also be put on sale at £5.00 each, or £6.00 if an accompanying index is also ordered.

If you would like more information on this initiative please complete the form below and return it to our Chairman whose address is on the back cover.

FOND Recording Programme

Yes, I would like to have more information on this programme.

Please send me details.

Name:

Address:

..... Post Code:

Telephone:

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The Boy Colin's Page

A good day ter git th'ow walking bewts on

I say ter the missus this morning arter breakfast "Blarst" I say "thass a bit thick out thare as'mornin, ent it?" "That that is" she say, as she wuz a'wipin' up the dishes wot I'd just slearved over, "shorn't go far terday I spuz". Toime I'd had a swill and screaped th'ow rearzer crorst ma clock, "Betsy" wuz a'troyin ter breark thru. (Har muther allus called the sun "Betsy" an thass stuck with us ever since). I'd red th'ow EDP, sin wot they hatta say about us Press Gang lot up the Playhouse Theatre on Sat'day. They reckon we give a fair account of ourselves so thass orlright. Missus got the laundry on the go. Monda allus wuz wash day worn't it? Thow I reckon we din't chearnge our clobber so much in the old days cors thet seem as thow Munda, Wednesda and Frida seem ter be par fer the course nowadays. "If yew're gorn ter dew the dhobi" I say, "I'm gorn orf fer a walk". Knowing orl the rearn we're had I thowt I'd put on moi walking bewts an a pair o' long socks and orf I set.

I struck orf along Westfield Rud, acrorst Rash's Green and over the rearlway line ter Dumplin' Green. Toime I got down ter near George Sorrow's old house thet wuz wholly claggy underfoot. Yew ken tell the seasons are orl over the plearce by the number of snowdrops, crocuses and daffs wos already cumin out. I cut acrorst ter the learne longside a Hoss shoe Farm an back on ter Yaxham Rud. Yew hatta watch yar step along thare, th'ow traffic is suffin fierce but I med it acrorst the rud under th'ow rearlway bridge an acrorst Anema's filds ter Westfield. I wuz in tew moinds ter go further but I felt a cuppa cawfee a'cummin on so I struck orf back down Westfield Rud an home again.

Thass mornins like this hare wot mearke yer feel glad ter be aloive, ent it? I still reckon yew ken see more of our county on yar feet than yew ken in an ow motor. Thare's nuthin betta than a nice walk along thru the marshes from Burnham Deepdale ter Brancaster on a nice summers day, specially when thares the thowt of a pint at the Ship tother end. Yew wotta try it.bor.

Thass orl fer now, fare yew well tergether.

Tha Boy Colin.

Another Skull-scratcher from The Boy Colin

1. Where can you find Cucumber Lane?
2. Which three Burnhams make up Burnham Market?
3. Who built Caister Castle in the 1300s?
4. Castleacre was given as a present by the Duke of Normandy. To whom?
5. Of which Norfolk village was William Cowper's uncle rector?
6. There are Buttlands at Aylsham and Wells. What were they?
7. Which well known screen actor began his career with an acrobatic group called "The Nippy Nines" at Norwich Hippodrome?
8. Which Norfolk village was founded by Oslac?
9. The Domesday Book records the villages of Wella and Bitcham. By what name do we call them today?
10. Which Norfolk airfield was built for the Royal Flying Corps in 1916?

(Answers on page 15)

Some useful Family History Websites

Getting started

- **Family History Netway**

<http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/leisure/heritage/familyhistory/default.htm>

- **Local History Netway**

<http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/leisure/localhistory/localhistorynetway/default.htm>

Finding out about resources

- **Genuki**

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/>

- **Norfolk Record Office - Information Leaflet**

<http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/leisure/archives/leaflets/nroil008.htm>

- **Family Records (Government site)**

<http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk/>

- **General Register Office**

<http://www.gro.gov.uk>

Finding actual data about individuals and families

- **Familysearch**

<http://www.familysearch.org> *Free*

- **Free Births, Marriages & Deaths**

<http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>

Scroll down and click on Search for free searching - ignore the Search facility at the top of the web page

- **1837 Online**

<http://www.1837online.com/Trace2web/> *Fee based*

- **1901 Census**

<http://www.census.pro.gov.uk>

Basic searching free - charges to view complete families

- **1891 (All) & 1871 (Part) Census**

<http://www.ancestry.co.uk/>

Some free trial searching - otherwise chargeable

Pantomime Report



Some people may think that many FOND Dews are a bit of a pantomime, but each January we hold one at North Elmham which really IS.

Peter Pan was this year's victim for the Norfolkkisation treatment in our scratch panto, and so many people turned up we nearly had to put the "House Full" signs out at Elmham Village Hall.

The event followed the now customary formula of a selection of first half contributions from various 'FONDITES' culminating in the usual fierce competition for roles in a Norfolk Peter Pan.

Following an interval for refreshments, the kitting out of the cast by the wardrobe department and the urgent study of scripts, the panto got underway.

Of course we had to adapt J.M.Barrie's famous story to Norfolk requirements and to whatever costumes we had available. Which is why Never Never Land became Glad and Sorry Land just south of Diss, and the children's nanny, Nana the St. Bernard dog, became a commendably energetic Tigger the Tiger. For good measure we also had a green and yellow crocodile. This year too, instead of the usual slapstick with a bit of dough, we introduced the drama of a rather nasty surgical operation on Captain Hook.

FOND members have really got into the panto habit and as writer and producer (in other words, perpetrator of the crime) I am extremely grateful not just to all those people who join in the fun by donning the costumes and appearing oh stage but also to the increasing number who are coming up with contributions to the panto 'wardrobe'.

The FOND Committee decided to devote all income from the event to the EDP/UNICEF Tsunami Disaster Appeal, and the village Hall Committee generously offered to waive their hall fee which FOND added to the total — resulting in the magnificent amount of £453 being donated to the appeal.

Tony Clarke

Editor's postscript:- Just 9 months to go to the next extravaganza, an appropriate gestation period to allow our writer, producer and director to come up with another Squitotime! Thank you Tony for all your hard work and to Pat for organising the costumes.

RARE NORFOLK WORDS

by national megostar SID KIPPER

Word 3 - MOTORWAY

Being a national megostar I know all about motorways due to touring about. A motorway is a road where you can have three motors all going along the same way, side by side. Now, you're probably wondering why anyone would want to do that, and the answer is they don't. They all want to be the one in front. So it's more like the speedway than three team ploughing, really.

The idea of motorways is so you can get where you want to go quicker, but that's foetally flawed, because it only work if you want to go to London, or Birmingham, or somewhere like that. Well, of course no-one want to go to them, so what people do is rush to be the first to get to the traffic jam. They have these on motorways all the time, where people all go along and park up on the road, just to be together. That's how friendly people are. Sometimes they sit there for hours. They don't actually get out of their cars, because that would be too familiar, but they must like being together like that or they wouldn't keep doing it. Of course, we had them in Norfolk first. They used to have them regular at Lynn on a Saturday, but that went out of fashion due to people not being able to get home from Swaffham market. When you've had enough of the jam you can go to a motorway service station. Now, I don't know why they call them that, because there's no service, and there's no trains. I reckon they come about for a bet. I reckon someone said "I bet you I can get people to pay double for rotten food". So they opened a motorway service station, and they won the bet straight off. So the other person said "Alright - double or quits, I bet I can get them to pay treble". Well, to cut a tall story short, the whole thing got carried away, and now people are paying about five or six times the proper amount, and there's no sign of it stopping. So I just park up and use the toilets. I would buy a paper, because that's the only thing they can't overcharge you for, only by the time I get there the *North Norfolk News* and *Agitator* have always sold out, so I don't bother.



My favourite motorway is the M25. Of course, people in London think the M25 is there for them, but actually it's there for the rest of us. Because it mean that wherever you're going in the country you can always avoid going to London, which is fine by me. It mean I don't never have to pay the contagion charge.

So should we have a motorway in Norfolk? Well, now, whatever would we want one for? We're already where we want to be, aren't we?

Sid Kipper will shortly be appearing at the following prestigious venues:

Apr 3rd - The Queen's Hall, Watton (01953-881248 day - 01362-820245 eve) [Country Cod Pieces]

Apr 7th - The Maddermarket Theatre, Norwich [recording 'Should the Team Think?' for Radio Norfolk]

Apr 8th - St Georges Theatre, Yarmouth (01493-858387) [Kipper Fillets]

Apr 9th - Village Hall, Trunch (01263-721931) [Cod & Ships]

Apr 10th - The Granary Theatre, Wells-next-the-Sea (01328-710193) [Cod & Ships]



"And if any of you lapse into 'Mummerset', our Accent Trouble

This highly appropriate cartoon by Tony Hall appears
FOND has purchased the original, and it will be on



and in the Eastern Daily Press on Tuesday, 18th January.
a display at future FOND-DEWS and other events.

The Norfolk Dialect: Guides to Reading and Research by Ron Fiske

No. 10. The Rev. Charles Swainson. Provincial Names and Folk Lore of British Birds (The late Mr. F. C. Chambers' annotated copy)

The late Frederick Charles Chambers (1902-1984), of Pulham Market, had a fine collection of books mostly relating to the County of Norfolk. They were sold by auction in 1984 when the book now under review was part of a number of books forming lot no.134. In many ways it is typical of Mr. Chambers' work. With his considerable local knowledge he delighted in bringing together disbursed information either by annotating books or binding up little pamphlets to form unique copies on particular local subjects. For the names of Norfolk birds he took the Reverend Swainson standard work for the whole country, published by The English Dialect Society in 1885, and annotated it with local examples from the following works: -

Lubbock's *Fauna of Norfolk*. 1879.

Suffling's *Land of the Broads*.

Fitzgerald's *Glossaries*. In *East Anglian Notes and Queries*, 1st. series.

Gerish's *Folk Lore*. In *Norfolk and Norwich Notes and Queries*.

E.L.Turner's *Broadland Birds*.

Nail's *Provincialisms*.

Forby's *Vocabulary of East Anglia*.

Rye's *Glossary*.

Broad Norfolk in The *E.D.P.* 1893.

Broad Norfolk in The *E.D.P.* 1949.

Patterson's *Catalogue of Birds of Great Yarmouth*.

Dutt's *Wild Life in East Anglia*.

P.H.Emerson's *Wild Life on a Tidal Water*.

W.G. Clarke's *Birds in the Neighbourhood of Thetford*. In *The Transactions of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists Society*. Vol.VI. pp.300.

Patterson's *Nature in East Norfolk*.

Andrew's *Bygone Norfolk*.

Mrs Lubbock's *Sayings*. In *Norfolk Archaeology*, Vol.II.

Stevenson's *Birds of Norfolk*.

In passing it is worth noting that this list is indicative of the extent and quality of Chambers' library. He was particularly knowledgeable on the Norfolk Broads and present day collectors keenly seek after copies of these books.

By taking these books Chambers was able to greatly add to Swainson's entries for Norfolk Birds and was able to give the source of many of the names in the book. The result is both a pleasure to 'dip into' and an important repository of local lore. The following selections taken at random will give some idea of its scope.

NAMES: -

FIELDFARE - Storm Bird, Felt, Fulfit, Felfoot, Dow Fulfer, French Fulfer, Jay Fulfer, Foreign Fulfer.

WHEATEAR - Chock, Chuck, Coney Chuck, Coney Sucker, White Rump, Shepherd Bird, Fuzhacker, Burrow Bird.

GOLD CREST - Tea Pot, Loon, Herring Spink, Tot o'er Seas.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER - Cricket Bird, Razor Grinder, Scissor Grinder, Reeler.

LONG-TAILED TIT - Long Tailed Capon, Titty Long Tailed Capon, Capon Longtail, Pudding Bag, Pudding Poke, Bush Oven, Oven Bird, Bottle Tit, Tittimouse, Swing Tree.

PIED WAGTAIL - Penny Wagtail, Black Wagtail, Polly Dishwasher.

GOLDFINCH - King Harry, King Harry Redcap, Foolscoat, Thistle Finch, Draw Water.

SWIFT - Deviling, Devil Bird, Screech or Shriek Owl, Squealer.

BARN OWL - Billy Wix, Will a Wix, White Owl, Jilly Hooter, Gill Howter, Madge Howlet.

COMMON SHELDRAKE - Bay Duck, Bergander, Bar goose, St. George's Duck.

COMMON SNIPE - Full Snipe, Jack Snipe, Air Goat, Heather Bleater, Summer Lark, Summer Lamb.

BAR-TAILED GOD WIT - Half Curlew, Pick, Scammel, Red Godwit.

COMMON TERN - Darr, Common Dahr, Starn, Great Purl, Dippurl, Dipiere, Terner, Shrimp Picker, Sea Swallow.

HERRING GULL - Grey Gull, Grey Cob, Sea Crow, Sprat Mow

BLACK-HEADED GULL - Red-legged Pigeon Mew, Puit, Peewit, Scoulton Pie, Scoulton Peewit, Cob, Kitty.

FOLK LORE: -

OMENS - Its an ill omen for a raven to fly over your house, for a cuckoo to fly around it singing 'cuckoo', for a robin to enter it, for an owl to tap at your window, for a pigeon to fly up against your window, or for a white pigeon to sit on your window sill.

GOLD CRESTS - The golden-crested wren is so called, often caught by the hand while 'latching' in the rigging, or among the gear, during the North Sea Fishing. These little birds, it seems, are then crossing the seas (see above, Tot o'er seas) for the winter, and have been found, I am told, clustered almost like bees along the hedges near Caister - so tired as to be taken by hand on shore, as by the sailors at sea.

SWALLOWS - The direction of the first swallow you see determines the direction from which will come your future husband. When swallows get together in large numbers and sit in long rows on the church roof before they migrate, it is firmly believed that they are settling among themselves who in the village will die before they return. On October 19th 1848, Mrs Lubbock of Irstead said we shall have a severe winter because the swallows and martins took such pains to learn their young ones to fly.

MAGPIES - One magpie, Anger. Two magpies, Mirth. Three a wedding. Four a birth. Seeing one magpie brings ill luck and some folk will even walk or ride miles to catch sight of a second; or the evil may be averted, according to some, by merely spitting.

CROWS - If two crows fly over your house it is a sure sign of death. If one crow flies over your head, when on a journey, you must wait for a second to attend you or bad luck will follow. One crow, sorrow. Two crows, luck. Three crows, a wedding. Four a burying. One crow, mischief. Two crows, mirth. Three crows, a wedding, and four a birth.

RAVENS - An octogenarian inhabitant of a Norfolk village has recently said that, in his younger days, a flight of ravens settled and croaked on the village church which adjoins the parsonage and this was considered an omen of the death of the vicar which occurred soon after.

CUCKOOS - If anyone be about to die suddenly, or lose a relative, the cuckoo will alight on touchwood or a rotten bough and cuckoo. The cuckoo is always here three months to a day. The 1st of April is the proper time for his coming and when he comes then there is sure to be a good and early harvest. If he does not come till May, the harvest lasts till October. If he sings long after midsummer, there will be a Michaelmas harvest, one lasting up to or after Michaelmas.

Book Review

THE ADVENTURE OF ENGLISH. The Biography of a Language. **Melvyn Bragg.**
Hodder & Stoughton. ISBN 0 340 82991 5. £20.00.

This 312 page book, excluding appendices, is a scholarly survey of our language between 500-2000 in which Bragg takes on the influence exerted by writers, poets and upper echelons of society in forming the way we speak and write.

He reminds us that dialect has a rich history, from decline in the 17th century to revival in the 18th and uses the writings of such authors as Shakespeare, Thomas Hardy and D.H. Lawrence to demonstrate how they used it to great effect.

He quotes John Awdley's "The Fraternyte of Vagabondes" (1575) for giving us such words as 'cove' for man, 'fambles' for hands, 'gan' for mouth, 'pannam' for bread and 'skypper' for barn.

Shakespeare's language ranged from courtly English to street slang and his own, local, dialect.

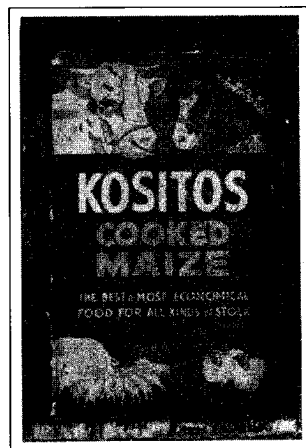
This is an easily readable book and deserves to be on the shelf of everyone who cherishes the rich variety of our language and seeks to know how it has developed and adapted over the past 1500 years.

Kositos

Following Jean Eaglen's reference to this product in the last issue of the newsletter we have received several helpful letters, plus a photograph of a metal advertising sign clearly showing the correct spelling and uses of this agricultural product.

Although the picture shows horses, sheep and pigs plus a reference to "kinds of stock" Mrs Kirk of Norwich remembers her father, a shepherd by trade, feeding Kositos to his dog, whilst a neighbour remembered it being fed to chickens.

See Jean's piece on page 14.



Remember These?

Mr. Ward of Egham, Surrey, a member with North Norfolk connections, writes to say "On an extremely cold day my father would come into the house and say, "Tha's staggerneartin out there, enough to flair yu".

From another, anonymous, source come two well remembered sayings.

In referring to a man who was known for passing generous amounts of wind people near him would say "He really let rorst/rawst".

Perhaps a more discreet saying remembered by one member was a friend who had the habit of describing many things as 'funny', as in "Thass funny good or bad" or "funny how - - -"

If you have similar memories of quaint Norfolk sayings please let us know about them.

Write to the Chairman

Useful Norfolk words and expressions

Compiled by KEITH SKIPPER

Arn't them winders dear! —

Norfolk husband trying to persuade his wife to keep tight hold on her purse — and his wallet.

Are yew gorter cum? —

a neat trick to manage both at the same time.

Best part of sum tyme —

taking a fair while.

Betterannerhebbin —

opposite to 'wassanwotterwuz'

Cum on in out onnit —

useful advice to someone standing in the rain.

Ding o' the lug —

customary punishment for a naughty boy — and a clip of the ear never did anyone any harm.

Dunt git no further than Wensday —

stupid sort

Fair ter middlin' —

stock response to inquiries about state of health

Fare y'well, tergether —

a fond goodbye. 'Tergether' refers to all present, whether singly or in a crowd. A young man was shocked when the father of his girlfriend bid them goodnight and said "Time we all went to bed, tergether!"

He' yer fa' got a dickey, bor? —

traditional question from one Norfolk person to another on meeting on strange territory. It means 'Has your father got a donkey, boy?' The correct reply from a fellow native is '**Yis, an' he want a fule ter roid'im, will yew cum?**' meaning 'Yes and he wants a fool to ride him, will you come?'

He mobbed a'rum'un — making a lot of fuss

He wuz suffin' savidge — angry as well

I shall hatter keep a'dewin — no alternative but to stick at it

1940s Childhood Memories continued

Very pleased to say I've found the correct spelling of KOSITOS. I was leading a walk around Hingham and passed by our local old mill (not working now). There on the wall was a lovely old metal advertising poster for Kositos. We were doing a walk to show newcomers where our nine pubs used to be, now only one. I promised them a pub crawl with no beer!

Going back to the 1940s. My baby sister sadly got scarlet fever, and when the doctor called he said she must go to Dereham Isolation Hospital, and our house had to be fumigated with a horrible smelling gas-like spray. My mother had to take us to work with her as we weren't allowed to go to school.

It was winter and we collected wood from the hedgerows for fire in our spare time. The oven in the wall was heated by fire underneath, as was the copper to boil the washing in. Our only heating in the house was an open fire, with black hobs either side to cook on or boil the kettle and heat the heavy iron to press the clothes with.

As I have said before, my mother worked very hard on the farm where we lived in a small cottage. This time of year she would be knocking and topping sugar beet, and we would help by knocking them and she would cut off the leaves and throw them onto a heap. The leaves fed the cattle. The beet had to be squeezed out of the ground by a horse drawn plough. The winters used to be extremely cold with heavy frosts, and many times she cut her hands as the hook had to be very sharp.

In the afternoons or weekends she would then cycle 9 or 10 miles to Dereham to visit my baby sister (not sure if she was allowed to see her). I can also remember a doodle-bug landing in Dereham, and it worried her so much.

Jean Eaglen

FOND-DEWS

We look forward to seeing you at the following events:

- Sunday 13 March** Northwold Village Hall. A talk by John Kitson, Chief Reporter for the EDP at Thetford for over 20 years, **TALES OF A NEWSPAPER MAN**
- Wednesday 11 May** Harleston and Waveney Festival, Apollo Rooms, Harleston. A programme of archive films from the Archive Film Unit, Norwich with entertainment provided by FOND members and friends. **7.30 start.**
- Sunday 5 June** Hevingham Village Hall. A programme of archive films from the Archive Film Unit at Norwich
- Sunday 4 September** Saham Toney Community Centre. Speaker to be announced
- Sunday 27 November** FOND Annual General Meeting, Lincoln Hall, Hingham.

With the exception of the Harleston Festival evening all FOND events will start at 2pm. Light refreshments and raffles will be available. Admission £3 per person.

'Mucka ole Mawkin'

Dick Bagnall-Oakeley

Some of those ancient invaders have left isolated words behind, living in the spoken language of Norfolk until this very day. As a boy, I was brought up in Hemsby rectory, where my father on one occasion had two Norwegian guests staying for a few days. Passing through the garden one morning, we were approached by the gardener, wishing to draw our attention to the gardener's boy who was propping up the tool shed wall — a favourite occupation of his. "There he be agin," said the old man, "standin' there a-garpin' like a mucka ole mawkin."

My father and I could not understand this use of the Norfolk Dialect, but our Norwegian visitors at once knew! The gardener was talking about the resemblance of the lad to a scarecrow. 'Mawkin' is the old Norse for an effigy or guy. Here was a Scandinavian word that had been brought across the North Sea before William the Conqueror, and remains in spoken use in parts of Norfolk up to the present day.

Dick Bagnall-Oakeley

From "A tribute to a Norfolk Naturalist"

by Logie Bruce Lockhart.

Press Gang Fixtures 2005

Keith Skipper and his entertaining colleagues look set for another busy year on the local rounds.

Their 2005 programme includes appearances at Weeting (March 19th), Wreningham (April 2nd), Belton (April 9th), Tasburgh (April 16th) and Woodbastwick (April 23rd).

Keith and his ecclesiastical colleagues will also present All Preachers Great and Small in local churches. Fixtures have been arranged for Happisburgh on May 21st, South Creake (Parish Church) on July 16th and Hoveton St John on September 3rd.

Other engagements for the busy troupe will include A Mardle at the Maddermarket in Norwich on Saturday, October 8th.

Answers to Colin's Quiz (page 4)

1. Brundall. 2. Burnham Westgate, Burnham Sutton and Burnham Ulph
3. Sir John Falstaff. 4. William de Warrenne. 5. Catfield. 6. Archery ranges for longbow practice. 7. Cary Grant. 8. Aslacton. 9. Beachamwell. 10. Bircham Newton

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