

Sleaford Historian

JULY 2018

[Issue 67]

Tonight: 30th Hosford Memorial Lecture – The Railways and Tramways of the Claxby and Nettleton mines – Speaker Stewart Squires
August: No meeting
September 20th: “Mr Waterston’s Affliction” – the curious case of the Vanishing Vicar
Speaker – Simon Pawley

30th Hosford Memorial Lecture

William H Hosford, born 1893, was appointed organiser of adult education for Lincolnshire – Kesteven in 1930.

Through adult education, William Hosford, BSc. (Econ.), encouraged the study of the history and archaeology of local communities. He was an extensive user of the services of the County Library for his work and to keep himself up-to-date.

Will Hosford died in 1978 and evidence of his life’s work is to be found in Lincolnshire Archives Office. The twenty four speakers who have delivered the Hosford lectures have reflected the qualities of W H Hosford – their enthusiasm, dedication to research and a willingness to share their interest.

JBG

Leland’s Itinerary (a follow-up to the article by Douglas Hoare in the April issue)

There is in fact a little more, in the fifth volume of Toulmin Smith’s edition:

“Sleforde toun nor market is of no price. The ornamentes of it is the Bisshop of Lincon’s castel, and the late Lord Hussey’s house.”

It has to be realised that Leland himself did not finish processing his researches, which resulted from a series of summer tours from ?1538 to 1545. Two tours are thought lost and only one, of the West Country in 1542, is dated by Leland. Further papers have become muddled and occur in various places.

A recent edition of Leland by John Chandler**, coordinates the material by county. It also translates it into modern English. Most importantly, he has arrived at a chronology for the tours, using for example events reported by Leland which have known dates. He has also mapped the tours, including Saxton 16thC maps. **Lincolnshire, including Sleaford, was visited in 1544.**

The reported facts remain the same in Chandler and Toulmin Smith. They do, however, pose some interesting questions:

- the town largely built of stone: seems unlikely looking at the old parts now, mostly 18thC brick or later stone?
- the fair house to the east of the church would seem to be located at modern No1 Eastgate. It is not likely to be the later site, now No 15. Does Leland mean the former vicarage north of the church, which probably existed in 1544? The Carre House became the Almshouses in 1636 [Chandler adds “east end of the church, belongs to the living which is a prebend worth £16 in Lincoln Cathedral”] [from Leland]
- note the castle is “very well maintained”: a decade later it was not
- Leland specifies “an highe toure”: how high? He does not usually comment so presumably Sleaford was out of the ordinary. Contemporary Rochester castle of c1130 is about 125’ high ... no comment by Leland.
- Lorde Husey’s house is modern Old Place, it is thought; which probably still contains the core of the 16thC residence. “Almost new bildid” suggests improvement of an existing house: “lately” has to be before Hussey’s execution in 1537. The use of “stone and timber” is strange: one would expect a man of Hussey’s eminence to be using stone alone?

- "the chief spring" is of course Boiling Wells.

** "John Leland's Itinerary: Travels in Tudor England" J Chandler Stroud 1993

Michael Turland

April 2018

[NB the Toulmin Smith original consistently uses Leland's original spelling, with no modern updates – Historian April 2018 has a mixture] [And omits her reference to the Lincoln prebend]

The Victorian Idea of Tudor Building Design

Part 4

Charles Kirk II (1825-1902) was in partnership with Thomas Parry; but after 1870 he pursued a separate career as an architect, later with his sons Charles III (1851-1913) and Herbert (1853-1905); specialising in church work.

About 1850, Kirk arranged the stable area at the Manor House, Northgate (the name is a late 19th C one), mainly with items from ruins in Lincoln. (The idea that parts of Sleaford Castle were involved is unlikely; only the corner now present existed by the early C19. Any reuse of stone in the town would have had to have been recycled at least twice, castle destruction commencing in the 1550's). There is probably further work by Herbert Kirk in the 1890's. Whether the date stones reflect building dates is dubious; although the List dates the building from 16thC. There is panelling "with Tudor Renaissance motifs" (List); but this is alleged to have been obtained by M P Moore, the then owner, from St Denys' Church during the restoration of 1853 – he was churchwarden at the time..! Also linked to Moore's ownership are the various Carre family arms on buildings on the west side of Northgate (he was the expert on Carre family history, publishing a book in 1863) including No's 51/53 built in 1867 – Charles Kirk is likely to have had a hand in all of this. And in the reconstructed gateway, now in the grounds of The Folly, Eastgate, but originally the entrance to the Manor House grounds where the garage now stands.

On the west side of Northgate, the almshouses and Savings Bank of 1857 are by Kirk and Parry. Ditto the now demolished (1964 and 1969) Corn Exchange on Market Place 1857 in Perpendicular Gothic. (The Bristol Arms Hotel next door was castellated to match at the same time). The Vicarage (see below) was extended in 1861, by Kirk in brick with interpreted Tudor detail (interestingly, he used the same formulation in designing Cammack Cottage in 1881 and Boscastle in 1883, both on Southgate). Kirk built himself a Gothic drawing office in Jermyn Street in 1871, now part of the High School. No 21 Northgate is referred to below, Westholme. Market Place fountain by Kirk 1874

(The major Kirk and Parry project in Sleaford was Lafford Terrace; commenced by 1851 and finished 1880. But not Tudor – Palladian) (Design by ? Kirk II)

The railway station may be attributed to Kirk & Parry on the basis that Parry was vice-chairman (later chairman) of the Railway Company and Kirk its auditor. Built 1857; and undoubtedly influenced (?copied) by Livock's designs for the line from Blisworth to Peterborough of 1845; with which travellers from Sleaford to London would have been familiar before the Loop Line opened via Boston in 1848.

M Turland

(M Turland 2015 Copyright)

Query

We have received the enquiry below. If anyone has relevant information or suggestions please let me know and I will forward them to Mr Ross

DFB

"I am looking at a possible Celtic-era survey line that crosses through the south of Lincolnshire. I'm not optimistic about finding traces of relevant paths; but might, ideally, find some relevant archaeological evidence.

I could provide much more detail, if and when wanted. What I'm asking at this point is if you or others might be interested in this, and might provide any suggestions or advice.

Thank you." Alec Ross

Sleaford Historian

SEPTEMBER 2018

[Issue 68]

- Tonight: "Mr Waterston's Affliction" – the curious case of the Vanishing Vicar
Speaker – Simon Pawley
- October 18th: Do you know your local churches? – Church Buildings of Lafford Deanery
- an introduction and thoughts of possible project(s) for us or others
Speaker – David Boutle
- November 15th: Group AGM

A Reminder of Summers Past

We can still travel by train to the seaside, but there aren't the excursions that were needed in days gone by, and some places can no longer be reached by rail. The poster below (which dates from 1964) reminds us of this – no trains now to Sutton on Sea and Mablethorpe.

DFB

British Railways O D 2533 (H.D.)

Excursion to
SUTTON-ON-SEA
and
MABLETHORPE
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
AUGUST 3rd

OUTWARD		Return fares second class	
		Sutton-on-Sea	Mablethorpe
Grantham	... dep. 11 15	s.d. 7/3	s.d. 7/3
Sleaford	 11 44	7/-	7/6
Hackington	 11 52	6/6	6/9
Swineshead	 11 59	5/9	6/-
Boston	 12 15	5/-	5/6
Sutton-on-Sea	 arr. 13 03		
Mablethorpe	 13 08		

RETURN	
Mablethorpe	 dep. 20 25
Sutton-on-Sea	 20 30
Boston	 arr. 21 17
Swineshead	 21 35
Hackington	 21 44
Sleaford	 21 54
Grantham	 22 24

CHILDREN under three years of age, free; three years and under fourteen, half-fares; fractions of 1d. reckoned as 1d.

These tickets which are only available by the services shown on this handbill can be obtained IN ADVANCE at stations or the following travel agencies
W. Bradley & Co., Market Place, Boston
Grantham Travel Agency, 63 Westgate, Grantham

Further information will be supplied on application to stations and travel agencies appointed by British Railways or to
Divisional Manager, Gresley House, Doncaster (Tel: Doncaster 4031)
Divisional Manager, Great Northern House, 79/81 Euston Road, London, N.W.1.
(Tel: Terminus 3677, Ext. 2645)
District Commercial Officer, Peterborough (Tel: Peterborough 4221, Ext. 42)
London, July 1964

Published by British Railways (Eastern Region) Printed in Great Britain LC 703/7/64

The Victorian idea of Tudor Buildings Design

Part 5

French Gothic

Thomas Parry's house, Westholme, dates from between 1846 and 1851. It is of French Château design, roughly contemporary with English Tudor. The designer is unknown but clearly someone who knew his French Medieval architecture; unlikely to be Kirk II or Parry? (A long-shot might be George Gilbert Scott, for whom Kirk I carried out several projects??). Parry added the 'follies' lining the drive from Northgate, probably in the 1860's (drive acquired 1862); they are Perpendicular church fragments. The lodge on the drive was added in 1872 as part of the Parry's Court development (? designer Kirk II). No 21 Northgate, in French Gothic, followed c.1875 (undoubtedly Kirk II – see No's 7/9 Moor Lane, Leasingham with similar use of coloured stone: and with 'plaques' "1880" and "CK"). In 1878, three lodges were built near the house, 'Tudor Gothic' says Pevsner; again the coloured stones link these to Kirk II.

Part 6

"Gothick"

A number of buildings exhibit features later to be called 'Tudor', but before the main revival. For example on Westgate, No 20B (the 18th Century workhouse); No's 40/42 (early Wesleyan Chapel, replaced 1848); In Jermyn Street several houses (probably by Kirk I, 1830's). Most mysterious, 'Old Place', Boston Road, which was 'almost wholly taken down' in 1822 (Yerburgh 1825) – clearly the west wall was retained and new windows installed of a Gothick type. The architect is unknown; and it is unclear exactly how much demolition occurred. (There were further changes later in the 19thC; again architect unknown). And who designed the shop window in Market Street?

Churches

Churches and chapels have not been included in this brief survey. Consistently, and throughout the denominations, pointed 'Gothic' windows are employed. As late as 1907, the demolished Primitive Methodist Chapel (Westgate) had these; and the Tudorisation of the Wesleyan Chapel, Northgate, in 1909 included Tudor porches (also demolished).

Authentic Tudor

The town has very little Tudor remains. The Manor House is discussed above. Not apparent is that No 38 Westgate incorporates late 16thC timbers, which may well be original. (Other cases probably exist, yet to be researched, as in this case. For example No 30/32 (the former Royal Oak) incorporates a much older building) Westgate driveway of course.

The Vicarage (now the Old Vicarage) is probably 15thC as the List says. There are dates of 1503 and 1568 associated with the building. Interestingly, the method of construction, infill between sections of a wooden frame, was used in the Cemetery Lodge of 1856. Painting the wood black seems to be a Victorian affectation; the wealthy could afford stone and in the Medieval period attention would not have been drawn to a second-class structure in this way – indeed the whole lot might well have been plastered over. Amusingly, the last throw of the Tudor revival in Sleaford may be seen on the west side of the Market Place, where local designer Marsden, in 1929, is clearly copying the Vicarage!

Footnote:

It should not be thought that Sleaford architects of the mid 19thC only designed in 'Tudor'! For example, the Classical style appears in 40-44 Boston Road (C Kirk I 1841-2); and in C Kirk II's No 12 Market Place (1853), No's 1-3 Northgate (1871), and Savings Bank Market Place (1879). (And possibly, as already mentioned, Lafford Terrace: but this would have been a remarkably grandiose project for someone just starting his career...)

Sleaford Historian

OCTOBER 2018

[Issue 69]

- Tonight: Do you know your local churches? – Church Buildings of Lafford Deanery
- an introduction and thoughts of possible project(s) for us or others
Speaker – David Boutle
- November 15th: Group AGM (A talk will follow if time allows)
- December 20th: Variety Evening (Items, displays, short talks etc. by members and friends)
-

A closer look at Bardi/Barthi and his Fate

Sir Frank Stenton, in *Anglo-Saxon England*, writes: "It is a curious, and probably a significant, fact that in most cases the village which was the administrative centre of a soke bore, not a Danish, but an English name. In 1066 Grantham, Bolingbroke, Sleaford, Newark, Mansfield, Rothley, and Melton Mowbray, to name a few famous examples from the territory of the Five Boroughs, were all, in effect, minor local capitals, to which free peasants scattered over a wide area came to hold their pleas and to pay their customary dues to their lord. Each of these names is of English origin, and each place had probably been the centre of an important estate before the Danish conquest."

"In (New) SLEAFORD Barthi had 11 carucates of land taxable. Land for 11 ploughs. The Bishop has in lordship 3 ploughs; 29 villagers, 6 Freemen and 11 smallholders who have 14 ploughs. A priest and a church; 8 mills at 10 Pounds; meadow, 320 acres; underwood, 1 acre; marsh, 330 acres. Value before 1066 20 Pounds; now 25 Pounds." Thus says Domesday Book.

Bardi is one of those figures whose name we recognise but do not know all that much about. Before the Conquest, he was the lord not only of Sleaford but also of the following manors/estates, given below with the wapentakes in which they lay: Hollowell, Guilsborough, Northamptonshire, Caldecott, Witchley, Northamptonshire / Rutland; Essendine, Witchley, Northamptonshire / Rutland; Lyddington, Witchley, Northamptonshire/Rutland; Snelston, Witchley, Northamptonshire / Rutland; Dry Stoke Witchley, Northamptonshire / Rutland; Holyoaks, Gartree, Leicestershire; Ewerby, Aswardhurn, Lincolnshire; Heckington, Aswardhurn, Lincolnshire; Howell, Aswardhurn, Lincolnshire; Laythorpe, Aswardhurn, Lincolnshire; New and Old Sleaford, Aswardhurn, Lincolnshire; Quarrington, Aswardhurn, Lincolnshire; Bitchfield, Beltisloe, Lincolnshire; Corby Glen, Beltisloe, Lincolnshire; Swayfield, Beltisloe, Lincolnshire; Swinstead, Beltisloe, Lincolnshire; Evedon, Flaxwell, Lincolnshire; Carlby, Ness, Lincolnshire; and Overlord in 1066: Canwick, Langoe, Lincolnshire.

Alas, that is all we know about Bardi as yet. What became of him one can only guess. A possible answer is as follows: Cynthia L. Puryear, *The Effects of the Norman Conquest on Anglo-Saxon Aristocracy*, writes: "In 1066, William the Conqueror successfully invaded England. He established himself as king and began to implement his policies for complete control over the subjugated territory. The Norman invasion did not involve a large influx of people: but, rather a conquest by a man who acquired the country for himself and distributed the land to his followers. The old English aristocracy, mainly composed of the king's thegns, virtually disappeared with the conquest and was replaced by a new aristocracy The old English aristocrats were relegated to a 'kind of appendix.' They took a place with the Norman servants of the king, or "among people of depressed condition".

Perhaps we shall never know!

Douglas Hoare

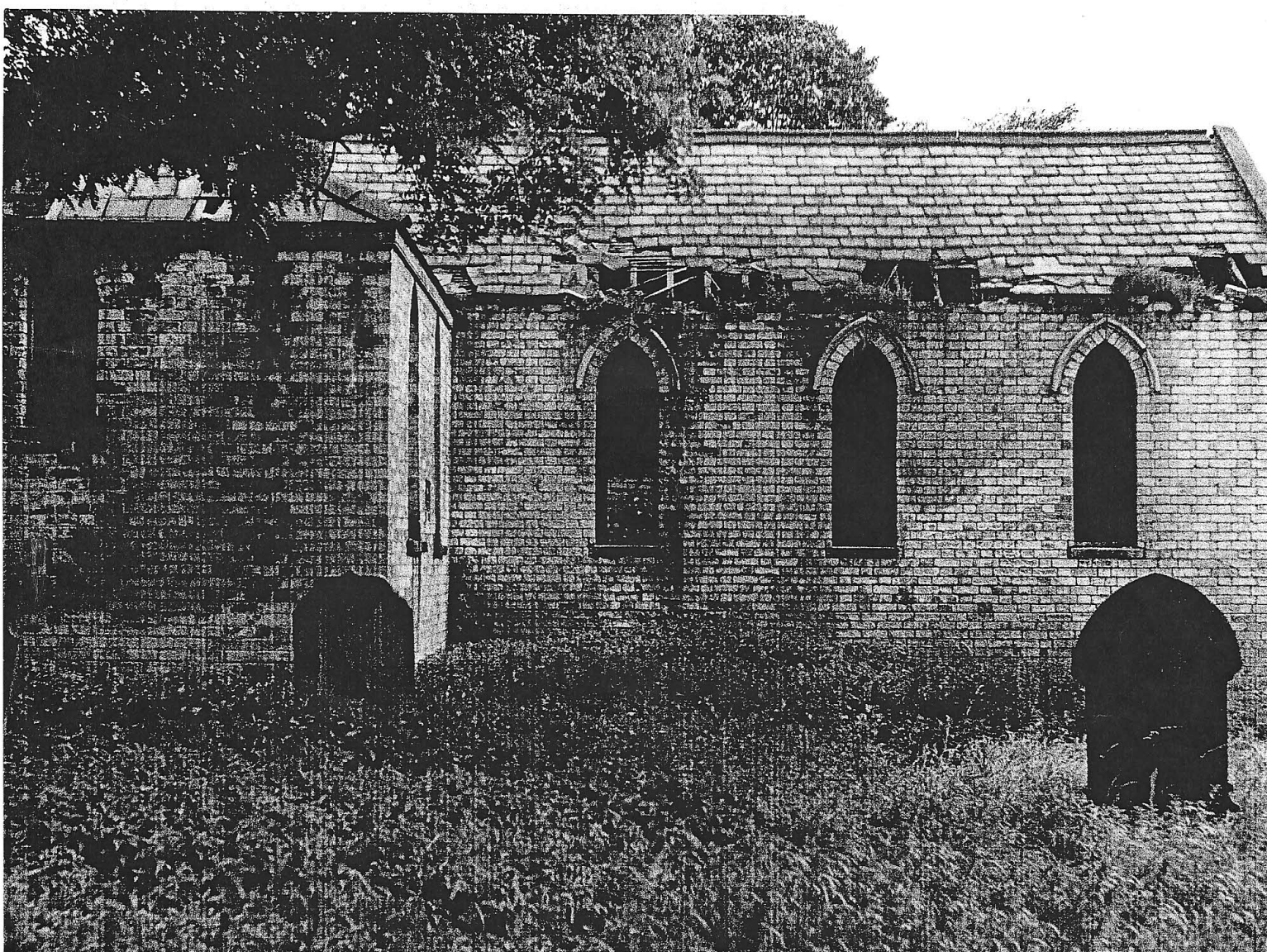
A Vital AGM again

The November meeting is our AGM, and although we have managed to hold meetings throughout 2018, the future of the group is still very insecure. I am very grateful to Alan for taking on the role of Treasurer, and to David and Douglas, but we need two or three additional committee members and, if at all possible, someone who will take on the role of Secretary. It is not good for the group that one person has to do most of two of the key jobs. If the group is to continue, members must be prepared to assist in its organisation. We need a wider range of interests represented on the committee, so that the group appeals to a wider range of people. Please make every effort to come in November, to ensure the group's future.

David Boutle, Chairman

Does anyone recognise this church building?

The photograph below was among papers left behind in a Lincs vicarage. It appears to be a 19th Century (?) church in a state of decay. It may, or may not, be in the county. It may well no longer exist. Does anyone recognise it? If you do, please let the chairman know.



Sleaford Historian

NOVEMBER 2018

[Issue 70]

Tonight: AGM

December 20th: Variety Evening (Items, displays, short talks etc. by members and friends)

January 17th, 2019: To be arranged

Centenary of the Armistice

Our photo this month shows a mounted soldier of the World War I period. Back in March we showed an infantryman and a motor cyclist – a reminder of varied roles in the army. All we know of this man is that the postcard was published by a firm in Norfolk.



World War I Family History

In connection with a superb Poppy centred exhibition at Heckington and the Armistice Centenary celebrations, a booklet has been published giving details of the service and background of all those whose names are on the Heckington War Memorial as losing their lives in World War I (and other information as well). This is a valuable piece of research and it is also good that it has been published, bringing to life in the minds of readers people who would otherwise have remained, for most, simply names.

It might be good if other parishes where similar research has been done could do the same.

('Heckington War Memorial' compiled by Pat Banister, with research by Yvonne Harby,

ISBN - 978 0 9535362 2 1 is currently available. Published by Curleynegs Publishing, Heckington. Price £5)

DFB

Peaceful (?) Coexistence

Despite the tensions during the Civil War, the Commonwealth and the rest of the 17th. Century, there are scraps of evidence of a sort of "peaceful" [even if imposed] coexistence in Sleaford.

At the Grammar School, we find Thomas Gibson, the deprived Vicar of Horncastle, and George Boheme, the Commonwealth Vicar of Sleaford, jointly signing the accounts in 1655 - 1659. [There is the famous note in Thomas Gibson's hand on page 50 of The Old Minute Book: "from 1644 until May 1646 the times were so confused in respect of the wars that neither rents could be receiv'd nor accounts taken up yet the money that could be got was dispos'd of as appeared by bills on the file."] Gibson was reinstated at Horncastle, Boheme was ejected and lived out the rest of his life in and around Folkingham where he is buried.

The Revd. Theophilus Brittain has been the subject of an article in a previous The Sleaford Historian. In the south aisle is a brass plate on the south-east pillar of the tower. This reads: "Theophili Brittain, cantabridgiensis allum' fidelis evangelii præconis reliquiæ hic depositæ, sunt decimo secundo die septembris, Anno Dom. 1696. Ætatis suæ LXIII". Dr. Wendy Atkin translates it thus: "Theophilus Brittain, Cambridge graduate, faithful in praise of the gospel, his remains were deposited here, on the 12th day of September AD 1696. In his 63rd year." he probably spent his last years in Sleaford, which explains his burial in the south-west corner of St. Denys's despite his nonconformist views.

Douglas Hoare.

John Sleaford

While reading a book on Church Monuments the other day, I came across references to John Sleaford. In the book (English Church Monuments of the Middle Ages – by Nigel Saul) the writer describes him as 'A member of a Lincolnshire Clerical dynasty'. He held posts in the court of Edward III, becoming personal chaplain to Queen Philippa in the 1370's. He also held various posts in the Church: Canon of Ripon, Archdeacon of Wells and rector of Balsham in Cambridgeshire, where his memorial brass remains. He was a benefactor of that church. According to Pevsner (Cambridgeshire), he rebuilt the nave and gave some stalls.

Saul (op.cit.) suggests that he may have been brother to William Sleaford, clerk of the works at Westminster.

Does anyone have further information on this family and were they connected with Sleaford as the name seems to imply.

DFB

Sleaford Historian

DECEMBER 2018

[Issue 71]

Tonight: Variety Evening (Items, displays, short talks etc. by members and friends)
January 17th, 2019: Heritage Lincolnshire – 'Our work with Heritage, people and communities' -
Liz Bates
February 21st: The events of 1483 – Richard III at The Angel, Grantham
Dr John Manterfield

Elizabeth Davy of Chulmleigh, Devon.

How does Elizabeth Davy come to be connected with St. Denys's? You have doubtless sipped coffee within sight of this lady's memorial. She was born in 1839, and her father was John Coote Davy of Chulmleigh, some 21 miles NW of Exeter, a few miles up the road off to the left of the A377 is High Bickington.

Further to the north, between Barnstaple and Ilfracombe is the village of West Down where, on 3 February, 1842, was baptised a son of George, yeoman, and Mary Anne Langdon, and he was given the Christian name Alfred. He entered St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1862, gained his B.A. in 1865, was ordained deacon in Durham in 1865 and priest there a year later. From 1865 to 1870, he was assistant curate of Sedgfield, Durham, and in 1870 was installed as Rector of High Bickington. ["The rectory, in the patronage and incumbency of the Rev. Alfred Langdon, B.A., was valued at £475 per annum, with residence and 160 acres of glebe land.] A year after going to Sedgfield, he married Elizabeth Davy in 1866.

For reasons I have yet to discover, Alfred Langdon had been in contact with the Revd. Richard Yerburch II, Vicar of Sleaford 1851-1882. [The Cambridge connection seems unlikely: Mr. Yerburch had been at Christ's College from 1836 to 1840.] In 1882, Messrs. Langdon and Yerburch exchanged parishes, and Mr. Langdon was Vicar of Sleaford.

Whilst here, he was Chaplain to the Union Workhouse, East Road, Rural Dean of Lafford, 1904-1925, and was made a Canon of Lincoln in 1918. Finally, he died in the Vicarage on 16 November, 1925, aged 83, and was buried in Sleaford Cemetery four days later. The Langdons had a son, Alfred George, who was ordained in 1891, served in World War I and died on 1 May, 1928, aged 59, probably a daughter, Rowena who died in 1886, aged 2.

Our pulpit used to stand right in front of the Edward Carre memorial [to the south of the screen]. However, as a memorial to Canon Langdon, it was, as the inscription says, refurbished and moved to its present position in 1928.

A further footnote to this Vicar of Sleaford runs thus: he is credited with inventing an unusual type of barometer.

To return to Mrs. Langdon, she died in 1898, aged 58, and was buried in Sleaford Cemetery on 29 June. If you look on the sill of the three-light west window of the south aisle, you will see a small plaque which reads simply "Elizabeth Langdon, 27 June, 1898".

Thus we remember two Devonians, from West Down and Chulmleigh who ended up in our parish

Douglas Hoare.

Review of Sleaford History Group Aims and Objectives – the questionnaire – an update.

At the Sleaford History Group's Annual General Meeting on 15 November 2018 a questionnaire was launched which is to help the committee plan future activities. Copies were made available on the night. Since then public notices have been placed in the Sleaford, Ruskington and Metherringham public libraries; press notices have been sent to the *Sleaford Standard* (published) and the *Sleaford Target* (not published); and the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology website carries the questionnaire in its "news" section. The following organisations have been approached to see if they will make the existence of the questionnaire known to their members: Sleaford Museum Trust, Sleaford and District Civic Trust, Helpringham History Society, Lincolnshire Family History Society – Grantham Branch, Grantham Civic Society, Grantham Local History Society, and the Historical Association. Only the Sleaford Museum Trust has offered a positive response. To date 2 questionnaires have been returned.

Alan Jones, Treasurer
16 December 2018.

SLHA Lectures in Lincoln

(These are held in St Hugh's Hall, Monks Road, Lincoln LN2 5AQ)

Wednesday January 16th at 7.30 pm: Buildings of Walsingham – a Pilgrim Town,
presented by ^{John} Robert Hinton

Wednesday February 13th at 7.30 pm: The International Bomber Command Centre – a Story of
Discovery, Education and Remembrance, presented by AVM
P A Robinson, OBE, FRA & S, IBCC Management Board.

Admission to meetings is £1 for SLHA members and £5 for non-members

Sleaford Family – a follow up

I am grateful to Eileen Robson for further information on the Sleaford family (see last issue). This includes not only references to other clergy of this name who worked in the area in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, but illustrations of the Sleaford brass at Balsham in Cambridgeshire and of the Sleaford arms in stained glass and notes from the College of Arms.

If anyone would like to see this material, please have a word with me.

DFB

The 2019 programme should be available tonight.

DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE!

We wish you all a very happy Christmas!