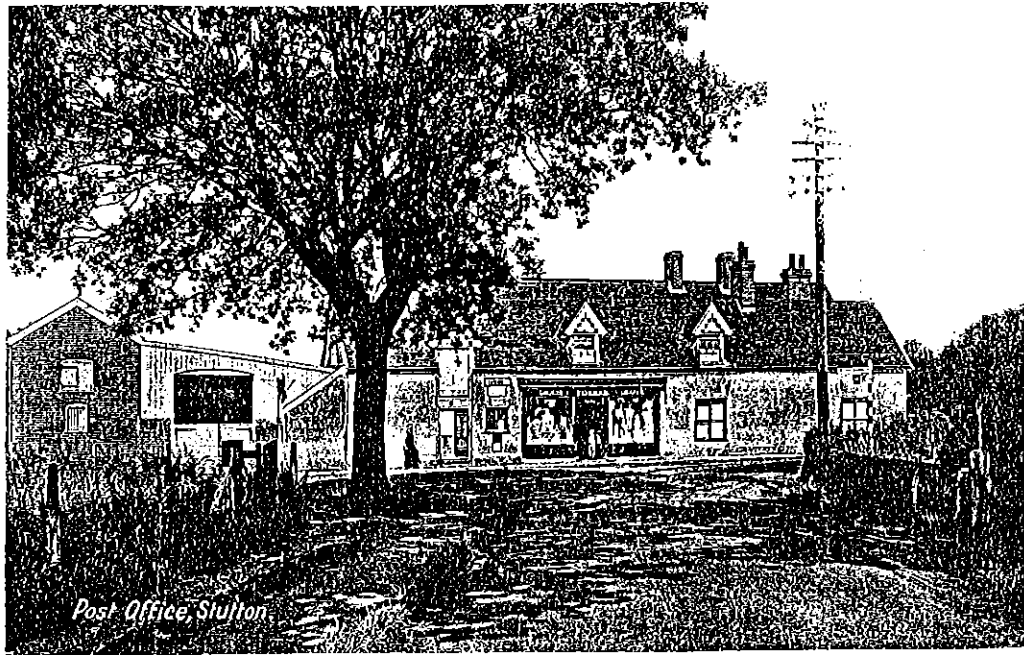


STUTTON  
LOCAL HISTORY  
GROUP



JOURNAL No.28  
2010

Chairman's Report for the Annual General Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

As you will already be aware, our membership has dropped from 52 last year to 39 this year. The main reason for the missing members is either ill health or leaving the village, and although the increase in the annual subscription may have lost us one or two members, this increase has kept our income approximately the same as last year.

During the past year we have had a variety of speakers, and I hope there has been something of interest for everyone. The speakers for the rest of this year are already organised.

The Christmas Party last December was a success, with the Rev. Robinson playing Victorian Christmas songs on his piano accordion, and as usual the food supplied by members was excellent and the evening finished with the grand raffle.

I would like to thank the committee and all those members who helped at the Christmas Party and during the past year, their support is greatly appreciated.

Margaret Scott Chairman.

CONTENTS.	Page.
Goodbye or au revoir?.....	1.
The mills of Stutton.....	2.
Stutton New Mill.....	5.
Local News from the Past.....	6.
Richard Gladwell's Carriage Licence.....	8.
Stutton Parish Council.....	9.
Changes in Stutton.....	10.
The Reade's Box Pew.....	11.
Stutton 1844.....	12.
Excursions thro' Suffolk 1823 - 1844.....	13.
Strange Poles & Mounds in Holbrook Creek.....	15.
John Harvey of Stutton 1582.....	18.
The Church Vestry Cupboard.....	19.
The Great Storm of 1987.....	22.
Stutton School Book in the 1900's.....	24.
Suffolk County Handbook for 1924.....	26.
Council Bungalows in Lewis Lane.....	28.
A Call to our Nation.....	29.

Editor - Vic Scott. Tel.328753.

Printed by Stutton P.C.C.

\*\*\*\*\*XXX\*\*\*\*\*

Goodbye or *au revoir*?

Like many in the Stutton Local History Society, I would be saddened to see it cease operating and give my heartfelt appreciation for the work of its officers and committee members over the many years of its existence. It has stimulated much interest in the local history of Stutton and the surrounding villages and dipped into all sorts of waters as evidenced by its multifarious articles in the Journal of which this is the 27<sup>th</sup> edition. The Journal was a concrete manifestation of the work that many had done- researching archives, reading new books that might have allusions to the village or its people and recoding those treasures of oral history, both face-to-face interviews and transcribing diaries. I value my complete collection of the journal and would find it even more interesting if it had a full index.

But there are two points that bear presenting at this time. The first is that the Society has become more a society for those interested in history, a history appreciation group in Stutton, as reflected in its regular lecture programme and although this is clearly valued by those who attend, the organisation of the talks must be extremely time consuming and can be somewhat nerve-wracking if a speaker is delayed or forgets to come!

The second point is that there is a feeling amongst some that "we know all about Stutton now" as if there was a finite body of knowledge about a place that could be fully trawled and exposed to interested observers and then the case shut and kept for those who came after. But even in the intervening period, history is still being made as witnessed by the long-standing arrangements of the Suffolk Local History Council when it set up its Village Recorder Scheme.

Part of what I have tried to write about in the journal over the years has been the laying bare of odd snippets and buried texts that allows others as well as myself to look into different areas and draw apparently disparate facts [and theories!] into the wider arena, to explore more about how we came to be what we are and how those buildings and institutions have arrived at the point we now find them.

Perhaps we have lost our *active* enquiry and become *passive* readers and listeners. Certainly in some villages blessed with a notable local history lecturer much good investigative work has been undertaken, for example in Walsham le Willows or Wortham. Indeed David Penrose lived in Stutton when we started all those years ago.

We are much blessed in Suffolk by our three wonderful record offices and we are lucky to live but 7 miles from the largest in Ipswich. The staff are willing to advise and support enquirers and actively encourage volunteers to engage with the indexing, conserving what is there and keeping a look-out for new material that might be useful. There is an active Friends of the Suffolk Record Office, who get priority information about courses held at the record offices and contribute to purchases and conservation of damaged material. Might some residual funds go to them or members join them?

Perhaps we might hope that the *Stutton Local History Journal* does itself keep going whilst we all take stock of our commitment to our past and future interest in *local* history and that, perchance, a small group might go back to the roots and tackle new areas of interest in the village and its surrounding countryside. And now to that index...

Paul Simmons

There was a time when the great majority of Suffolk villages had at least one mill grinding wheat into flour either for local consumption or for 'export' to London or some other east coast town. Either a watermill taking its power from a stream or river or a windmill harnessing the wind, or possibly a small mill worked by horse or donkey, would be employed to grind the grain grown on local farms, sometimes for flour to make the villagers' bread and sometimes for animal feed.

In Stutton's case it was a watermill on the stream that flows down from Bentley and Dodnash, known to local people as the Samp. There might well have been a mill on that stream for a thousand years or so: the Domesday Book records in 1086 that Stutton had 'always 1 mill; 2 salt-houses'. The two salt-houses were presumably saltpans where salt was produced from the seawater that poured into the Stour estuary each flood tide; the mill was probably little more than a wooden shed with a simple vertical wheel or perhaps a horizontal rotor driving a single pair of millstones.

It is likely that this mill, and its successors, stood at the point where the road from Stutton to Brantham crosses the stream at Stutton Bridge. Buildings such as this would be modified, extended, updated and rebuilt many times over the years as improvements in milling technology were introduced. Investigation at the site has revealed that there is an earth platform on the upstream side of the road and on the Brantham side of the bridge, while an area of marshy ground above this point probably indicates what was once the millpond, in which water was penned to operate the wheel.

It has not been possible to discover when this mill went out of use, but the fact that it is not marked on Joseph Hodskinson's map of 1783 suggests that it had ceased to operate, and probably ceased to exist, by the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Certainly by the time of Hodskinson's map there was a Stutton New Mill at the mouth of the stream, and it had probably replaced the old mill a good few years before that.

The New Mill down by the shore had the advantage that it was not entirely dependent on the limited flow of the stream, for it made use of tidal water as well, providing increased power at the expense of a shorter working period, for a tidemill can work only on the ebb, and perhaps an hour or two after the tide turns, until the water level in the pond and in the creek are the same. On the flood sluices admit water to the millpond; at high water the sluices are shut, and then as the tide falls the penned-up water is allowed to flow through the wheelpit, turning the wheel and operating the mill machinery.

This arrangement was by no means unusual in coastal areas where it was possible to make use of tidal water in such a way. The Woodbridge tidemill is well known, and there were once similar mills at Ipswich (Stoke Mills), Thorrington, Fingringhoe and St. Osyth in Essex and elsewhere.

Whereas the output of the old mill was probably sufficient only to supply local needs the New Mill was able to produce sufficient flour to send at least part of its production to London by sea. An advertisement in the *Norfolk Chronicle* in 1820 for a 'Capital Corn Tide Mill. . . on the banks of the River Stour, opposite the Port of Mistley' makes specific reference to 'a Wharf contiguous to the mill, with water sufficient for vessels of 100 tons burthen'. The advertisement does not name the mill, but it is clearly Stutton New Mill, which was at the time at the heart of a thriving industrial complex.

'This Estate is most advantageously situate for mercantile business, in a good corn country, and within a short distance of several excellent corn markets, and consists of a Corn Tide Mill, with three pair of stones, and suitable machinery, with granaries, malting, lime kiln, coal yards and every requisite building, all in good and substantial repair,' we are told. Besides a good mill house for the miller there were said to be convenient cottages for workmen. The proprietor, William Tills, of Mistley, was seeking either to sell the mill or to let it, but perhaps he was unsuccessful at that time because a further advertisement, naming the New Mill, appeared in the *Ipswich Journal* just five years later. Again there was mention of 'a spacious malting 50 coombs steep, lime kiln, coal yards, wharfs' and of the fact that vessels of 100 tons burthen could load at the mill.

It is interesting that the brick base of what appears to be a lime kiln is still to be seen beside the creek.

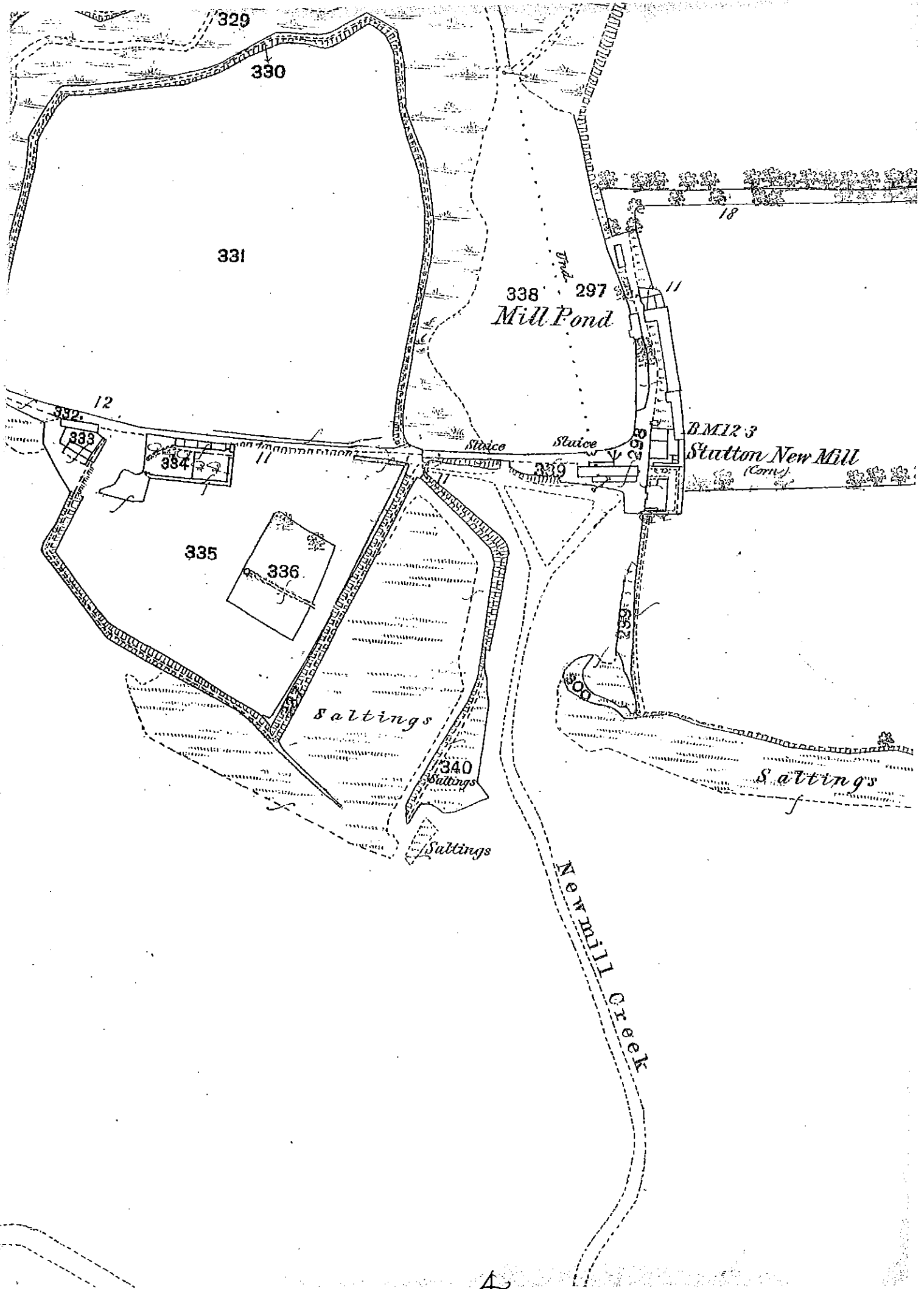
In 1844 Stannard and Death were corn millers at the New Mill, but by 1855 their place had been taken by Christopher Spanton Sadler, who was a maltster as well as miller. Sadler was still there in 1879, but by 1883 his place had been taken by Richard Blake, who according to the directory was using a steam engine as well as water power.

It would appear from the directory evidence that the New Mill was out of use by 1900, and this is confirmed by the second edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map which bears the legend 'Stutton New Mill (Disused)'.

Of course there was also a second mill in Stutton, Alton Mill that was situated on the same stream as Holbrook Mill. For some reason Alton Mill does not seem to have been mentioned in earlier directories than that for 1892 which shows Herbert Southgate, miller and corn merchant, as being at Stutton Mill, which is almost certainly Alton Mill. Directories of 1904-1937 place him correctly at Alton Mill, which had the advantage of a steam engine to augment the water power. And memory tells me that the Southgate family remained at Alton Mill until the construction of the reservoir and the removal of the mill and the mill house to the Museum of East Anglian Life at Stowmarket.



Stutton New Mill.



STUTTON NEW MILL

11<sup>th</sup> March 1908. On Monday the last remnant of Sadler's Mill which was such a conspicuous landmark on the left bank of the River Stour close by Stutton Point disappeared from view. The spacious buildings which occupied this spot till recently did a large trade in malt and corn grinding, but Mr. Sadler was obliged to give up the mill about 25 years ago in consequence of the keen competition he had to encounter. However Mr. Elijah Jarrold who worked at the mill for a period of over 20 years continued to carry on operations till a few years ago. Subsequently the premises fell into the hands of Mr. Arthur Daniels, who contemplated turning the concern into a cement works. Not seeing his way clear to make the venture a success, the property was placed on the market and purchased by Mr. A.K. Norman of Brantham Court. This gentleman determined to clear the whole building away, and in the presence of himself, Mr. Keeble of Brantham Hall Farm, and others, the tall shaft which was such a prominent object of interest to residents of both sides of the Stour was razed to the ground.

Editor

STUTTON MILL  
Near Ipswich, *May 30* 1896.

Mr. *A. Gladwell*  
**Bot. of HERBERT SOUTHGATE,**  
**MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT.**

TERMS—CASH.

All kinds of Meal and Offal supplied.

SAOKS	STONES				
		BEST WHITES FLOUR... @			
		SECONDS <i>ditto</i> ... @			
		WHEAT MEAL ... .. @			
OWTS.		SHARPS ... ..			
		BRAN ... ..			
		MEAL .....			
		<i>10</i>	<i>en</i>	<i>leak</i>	<i>7 6</i>
		<i>Peace</i>	<i>London</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>
		<i>W. G. ...</i>			

Invoice from Alton Mill dated 1896.

## LOCAL NEWS FROM THE PAST.

27<sup>th</sup> February 1886.

Mr. Baker complains to the local press that the army of blood and fire (The Salvation Army) having made Stutton their rendezvous, the respectability of the village had very much degenerated. Property had suffered severely when these soldiers had been marching about the parish in a state of religious intoxication... let them confine their shouting and bawling to their barracks and then they will have little to fear either from the annoyance of the villagers or hobbled hoys, who glory in tantalising them, or from peaceable people who expect quietness in their own homes.

Note: At this time there was a Salvation Army Barracks in Stutton, see the article in Journal 27 page 7. - (Editor).

August 1888.

About 2.30 on Wednesday a fire broke out in the stack on the off-hand farm known as the buildings in the occupation of Mr. Wrinch of Erwarton. It appears that Mrs. Lait, wife of the farm bailiff living at the house sent a boy named Edward Munson about 10 years of age on an errand, and this boy on his return set fire to some straw in the yard which quickly spread to the stack close by. Mr. George Chapman a carter in the employ of Mr. W.I. Graham was the first to discover the fire. He was returning to Stutton with a load of timber when he saw the fire running round the stack and immediately gave an alarm. Willing hands were soon at work, but little could be done on account of the scarcity of water. A telegram was at once sent off to the Fire Brigade at Ipswich and the deputy superintendent and his men were quickly on the spot. There being only a pump on the premises, most of the water had to be obtained from Mr. Beckwith's mill pond at Holbrook, quite half a mile off. The attention of the brigade was chiefly confined to saving the buildings and the adjoining stacks and in this they admirably succeeded, although at one time it was feared they must go. A large quantity of people from the neighbouring village visited the place during the evening, some staying all night. The fire was still burning yesterday morning, notwithstanding the efforts of the firemen to smother it. Over 30 tons of stover was destroyed, but we are glad to hear the damage will be covered by insurance.

11<sup>th</sup> January 1908.

The story of a man's fortunate escape from being tumbled to the bottom of a well is reported from Stutton, Near the ash tree in front of the King's Head is an old well (disused) which receives the surplus water from the premises, and on Thursday it was noticed that the earth had somewhat subsided. Mr. Tom White who happened to be near approached the spot with the object of testing it's safety, when the whole crown of the well fell in and had it not been for the caution with which he approached he would have been precipitated to the bottom. The landlord, Mr. Gladwell, at once took the necessary measures to secure the safety of the public.



19<sup>th</sup> February 1908.

Considerable excitement was caused in Brantham and Stutton by the sudden appearance of flames which could be seen from a great distance. It appears that the shepherd employed by Mr. Hunt on Queech Farm had placed a coat to dry in his shepherd's cot while he went to make a purchase in the village and on unlocking the door on his return the place immediately burst into flames, being constructed of tarred boards. The hut was soon burnt out. A dog which had been left in the cot had a very narrow escape.

Note. A cot is a small erection for shelter-Ed.

26<sup>th</sup> August 1908.

Mr. Hunt of Queech Farm had a very narrow escape of losing a valuable cow on Monday. In the stable yard is a cistern about 5ft square which receives the waste water from the yard and the cow by some means or other got into it. Luckily it had not been in many minutes before it was discovered, and all the labourers on the farm were engaged for nearly an hour before it was extricated from its dangerous position. The cow was worth £20 and gave more milk than any other in the herd of between forty and fifty.

5<sup>th</sup> October 1909.

As Fred Southgate was conveying the mail bags from Tattingstone to Ipswich via Stutton and Holbrook the horse took fright at a small quantity of straw which had fallen from a waggon near Holly Lane, and bolted. The reins broke and the driver was thrown over the hedge into Mr. Robert Cowles' field. The lane from this spot to Stutton Street is very narrow and the result of the horse's mad career might have been disastrous. Luckily for Mr. P. Haste who was driving a light cart to Bentley station, he had just passed the runaway horse, which travelled at a terrific pace till it reached the vicinity of Stutton Post Office. Here George Garnham with the assistance of Albert Munson pluckily seized the frightened animal and brought it to a standstill. It was then found that the horse was bleeding profusely and that the hindquarters and legs were in a terribly mangled condition. The villagers immediately went in search of the driver and found him approaching the village unhurt. The authorities were at once informed of the accident and Mr. Wiseman promptly secured all the mailbags and drove into Ipswich with as little delay as possible.

16<sup>th</sup> March 1906.

There was an exceptional high tide in the Stour at Stutton on Monday. The water covered the marshes near the Stutton mill and did considerable damage. The force of the water was so great that it burst open the door of the mill house now occupied by Mr. William Whinney and flooded all the lower rooms. Mr. E. Jarrold who lived there several years says the water rose a foot higher than he had known it to rise before. Mrs. Whinney saved the stock by wading in the water to a depth of a couple of feet. The mill is the property of Mr. Arthur Daniels and has not been working for several years, but the extraordinary rush of water started the wheel and had it not been for willing helpers the friction produced by the machinery being set to work would undoubtedly have produced a conflagration.

18<sup>th</sup> October 1909.

As Charles Porter who is in the employ of Colonel Reade of Crowe Hall was driving the luggage cart on Friday afternoon near the Vale Farm drive, his hat blew off, and while in the act of re-ascending the cart the horse suddenly started and one of the wheels mounting the bank overturned the vehical and precipitated the occupants into the road. The horse was not hurt but the cart was damaged and Mrs. Salter the head gardener's wife at Crowe Hall was very much bruised. There was a gale blowing at the time.



No. \_\_\_\_\_



INLAND REVENUE.  
LICENCE.—FOR ONE CARRIAGE AT 15s 0d  
32 & 33 Vict. 14, and 51 Vict. 8.

*Richard Gladwell*

\_\_\_\_\_ in the  
of \_\_\_\_\_

Parish of *Stutton* within the

Administrative County\* *Suffolk*

is hereby authorised to keep ONE CARRIAGE with less than four wheels, from the date hereof until the 31st day of December next following; the sum of FIFTEEN SHILLINGS having been paid for this Licence.

Granted at

this *31<sup>st</sup>* day of *January* 189*6*

by

*Haller*

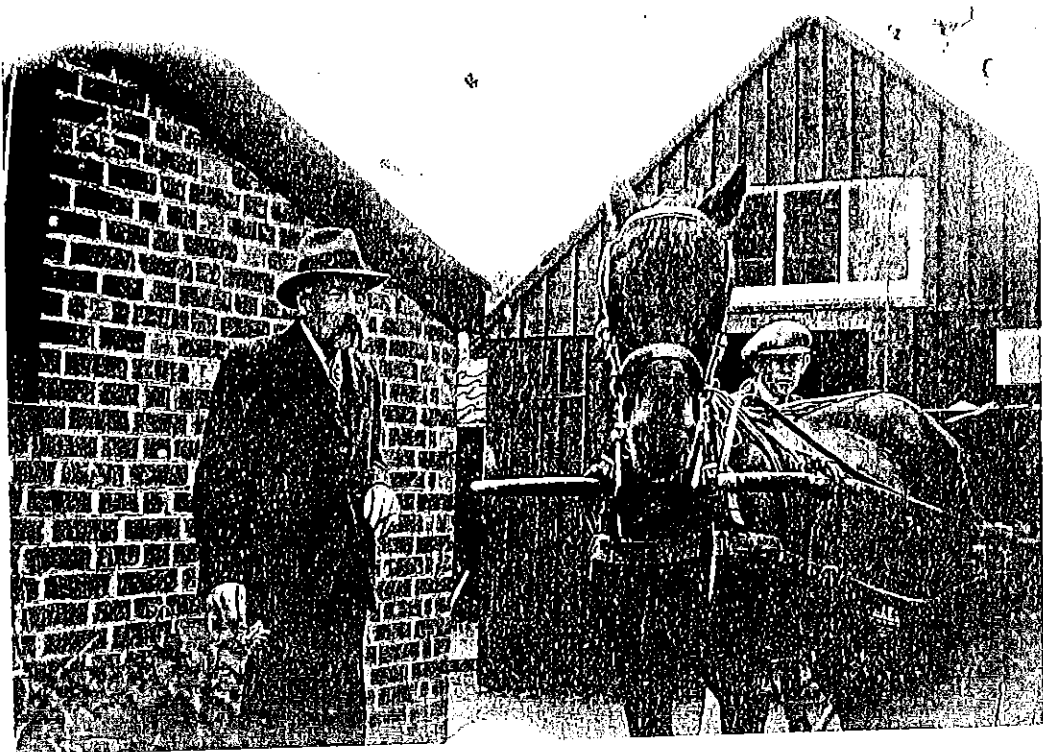


NOTICE.

1. This Licence must be renewed at the expiration of this year, if you continue to keep a Carriage.
2. Should an additional Carriage be kept in the interval, a further Licence must be obtained.
3. If by reason of any change in the character of the Carriage you become liable to further duty, a Declaration must be filled up and delivered, and the further duty paid for a new Licence within twenty-one days from the day you become liable. The duty paid for this Licence will then be repaid by the Collector of Inland Revenue, if the full year's duty has been paid for the new Licence.

\*If the residence is within an Administrative County Borough insert "Borough".

This Licence - dated 1896, allows Mr. Richard Gladwell, in the photograph with a trilby hat, to keep a carriage, possible the one shown?



## Stutton Parish Council - follow-up to "The Early Days"

As a result of my quest for knowledge of the role played by Stutton Parish Council and its effects on village life since formation in 1894. Also having spent several hours both at home and in the County Record Office, browsing through the Minute books lent to me by Chris Leach, and those deposited, it occurred to me that there could be material of interest in previous copies of the Journal. Little did I realise that in 1985 Catherine Apperly had carried out and written a comprehensive article for Journal Number 3, and this is, I may add, a far better contribution than I envisaged for myself!

One thing we seem to have jointly concluded was that during the period of the Great War- 1914-1918, there was no mention or comment on the War Effort or those who had volunteered for the Forces. It was not until 1917 when a War Savings committee and Food committee were set up, and members volunteered to help organise the sending of 60 parcels to those on active service in France, that one gets the feeling that the events taking place were not in another world and were of concern to the village. In the village flooded roads, overgrown hedges and rights of way were of utmost importance. The only proposal of condolence was to the parents and family of a death in action namely Cpt F J Fison; this was despite the death roll being 16 men, 14 soldiers and 2 naval ratings. This left me wondering why the Councillors could not bring themselves to offer sympathy to other parents and family members? Maybe it was something to do with the class distinction which was prevalent in those days?

The Victory celebrations in 1918 brought about a change of attitude and a Grand Tea Party was arranged for 60 children up to the age of 15 years.

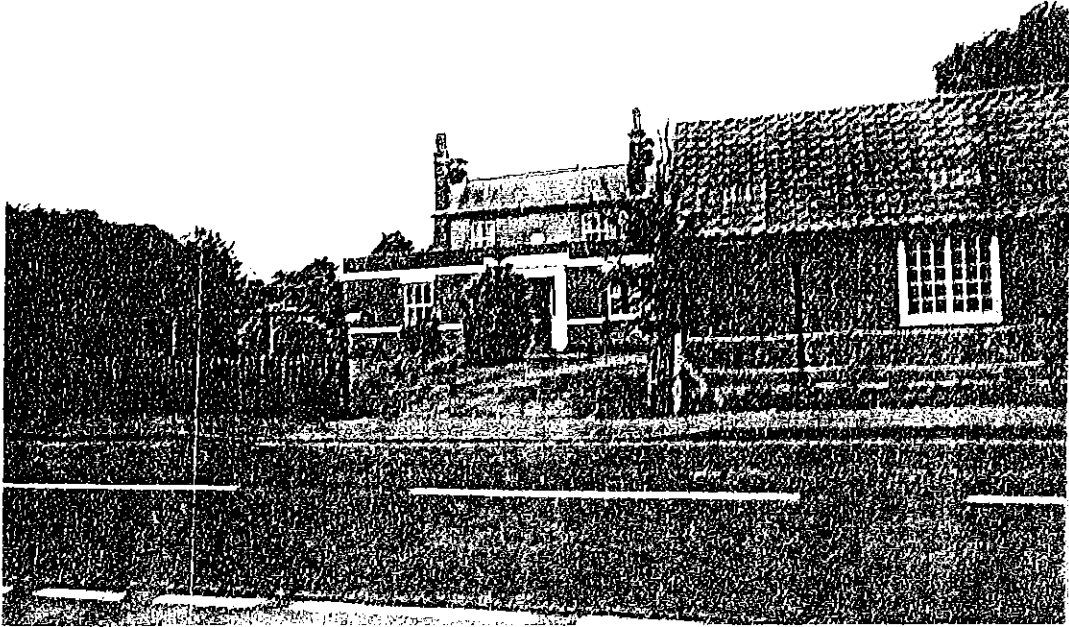
Having dwelt on the situation at the time my thoughts have turned to the size of the village and from survey maps of the time, it was apparent how few dwellings there were for the number of inhabitants - between 400-500 people. This was prior to the building of the council houses in Watery Lane and bungalows in Lewis Lane. Most of the village was arable land and it was not until the building of the Royal Hospital School that more dwellings were built in Stutton.

I can still remember where many families lived before the 1960's, when the village rapidly expanded. Today, I know very few but I still feel that I have roots here and I am pleased to note that up to the present time (despite political influences and correctness), the Parish council has time to ensure that overgrown hedges and rights of way still appear on the agenda, as in the first meeting of 1894.

I strongly recommend that readers refer to Journal 3 and read Catherine Apperly/s History of Stutton Parish Council.

Ron Cobb

Two of the more recent areas of change in Stutton.



Orchard House and the Wheelwright's Shop have been replaced by five modern houses.



The Blacksmith's Shop (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) has been replaced by The Old Smithy.

The Following Letter was taken from the East Anglian Daily Times  
September 14, 1899.

To the Editor.

Sir, - Perhaps some of your readers could give me information as to the number of faculty pews still existing in Suffolk.

I am owner of a faculty pew in Stutton Church, the facts with regard to which are as follows:- When Crowe Hall was bought by my grandfather, the beginning of this century, he purchased the faculty pew in Stutton church at the same time.

In 1880 my father acceded to the request of Mr. Ponsonby, the rector of Stutton, that his pew should be altered to match the other sittings, but he preserved all his rights by stipulating that he should himself pay all the expenses of alteration.

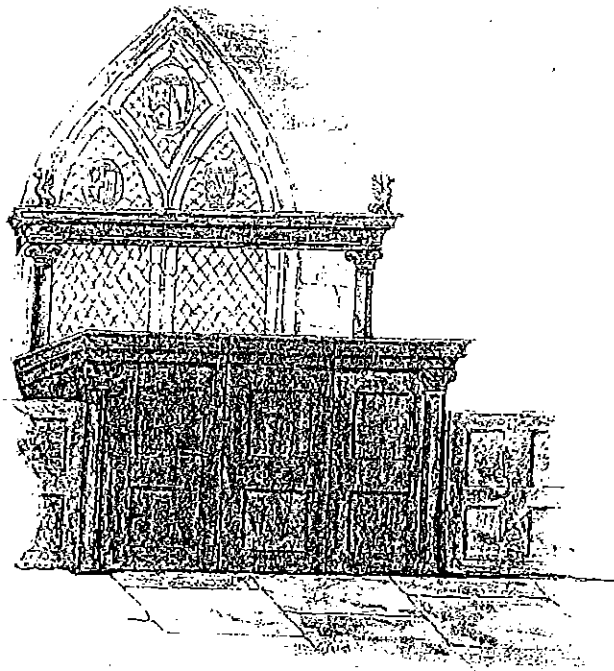
The old high pew was thus altered to three sittings similar to the others in Stutton Church, and the cost of so doing was paid by myself, as I inherited Crowe Hall in October, 1880 on my father's death.

All rights in the Crowe Hall faculty pew are, therefore, still vested in the owner of Crowe Hall and the pew continues to be freehold, over which the Rector and Churchwardens of Stutton have no control. -

I am etc.,

J. COLQUHOUN READE.,

Crowe Hall, Stutton.  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1899.



This sketch of the original high pew belonging to Crowe Hall was the work of Mrs. Mills the wife of Rev. Thomas Mills, and is taken from his journal. -Ed.

STUTTON 1844.

The Population was 492. There were 2318 acres of Freehold land belonging to the following families:

John Page Reade, Tollemache, William Deane, Thomas Sacket, Western, Broke-Hall, Mrs.O'Maley, Mrs.Mills, and the Whitbread families.

Stutton Farm House belonged to J.Tollemache.

The Farmers in the Parish were:

John Alward, John Budd, James Button, John Long (Queech Farm),

Paul Packard (Crepping Hall), he was also Chief Constable.

George Stannard (Stutton Hall), William Orman (Stutton Cottage),

Tradesmen in the Parish were:

James Alfred Shoemaker, Thomas Allsop Butcher,

James Button Butcher, John Askew Carrier,

George Baker Curate, Francis Bennett Carpenter,

Charles Chisnall Wheelwright, Gideon Clarke Shoemaker,

Richard Cowles Gardener, Nat Dale King's Head & Parish Clerk,

John Gladwell Thatcher, Joe Haste Blacksmith,

Owen Hines Shoemaker, John Hunt Carpenter,

John Mayhew Shopkeeper, Rev. Mills Rector,

J.Ranson Cornmill at Old Mill, James Rumsey Beer House,

Stannard & Death Millers at New Mill,

Stedman Grocer, Draper & Iron Monger.

William Deane in Alton Hall and Capt. James McFarlan R.N. in Stutton Lodge.

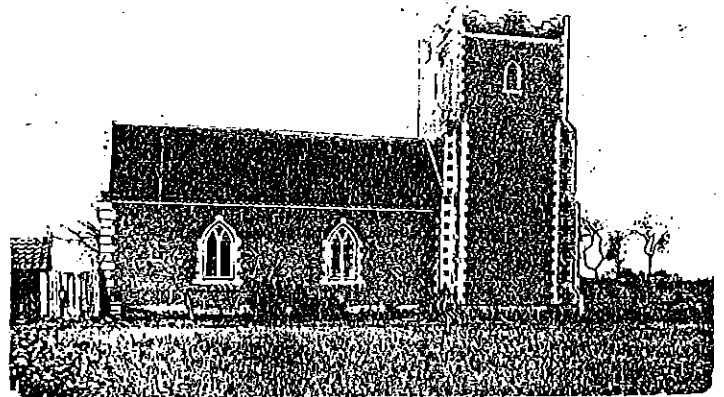
The following extracts taken from the above are of visits made to Rev. Thomas Mills at Stutton Rectory (now Stutton House - Ed).

1824

Tuesday July 6<sup>th</sup>.

Being on a visit at Mr. Mills's at Stutton, he drove me in his gig to Bently Church, where I got full notes in the church and churchyard, but had not an opportunity of examining the Register, or getting a copy of the Terrier. The Hall stands close by the churchyard, but there is nothing remarkable about it, being now a farm house.

From there we returned to Tattingstone, where I could only take the church notes, there not being sufficient time for anything more. On our return home we passed a sham church, which the late Mr. White created as an object seen from his house. It is not a bad representation of what it was intended for, tho' the taste which suggested the idea of its erection may very justly be called in question. The examination of the Register and Terrier here must be the work of some future opportunity.



Tattingstone Wonder.

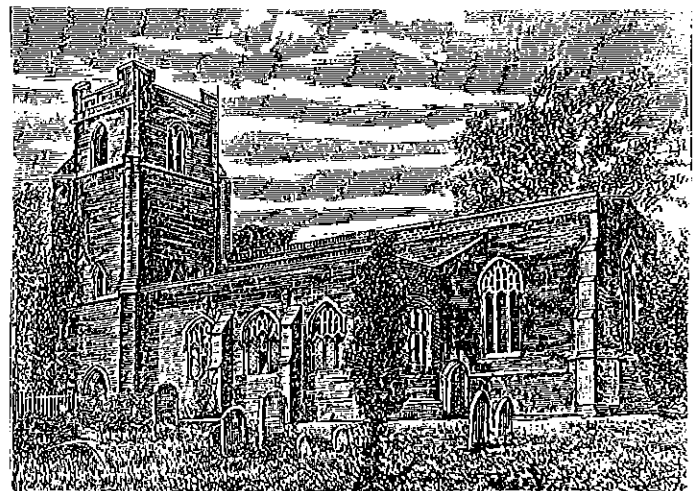
The distance we went this day must be about 8 miles. (The sham church is the Tattingstone Wonder built in 1760 - Ed).

Thursday July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Walked to Holbrook, 1 1/2 miles, found the church under repair, the whole pews being removed, and everything in confusion. I took off however the only brass remaining in the church, and some further notes from the churchyard. Saw the Registers, but I had not time to make extracts from them, and the Clerk would let me take them to Stutton.

Upon my return went into Stutton Church, where I rubbed off the brasses, and made notes of what I had omitted in my former visit, and got some further memoranda from the churchyard. I had, in the morning made extracts from the Register, and taken a copy of the Terrier, and made copies and notes from Papers relative to the Parish which Mr. Mills furnished me.

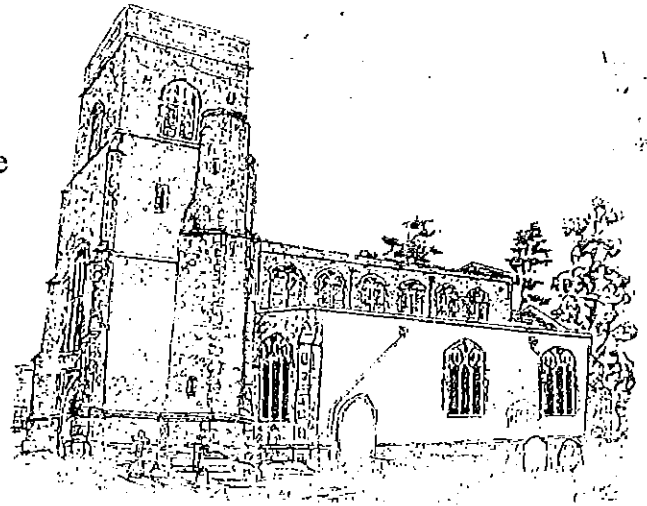
In the course of the morning we walked to Stutton Hall, and Crepping Hall, returning by the side of the River. 2 miles.



Holbrook Church.

Monday July 12<sup>th</sup>.

We this day drove again to Erwarton Church to inspect the progress of the workmen in cleaning the Monuments there. In our way, we went up to Harkstead Church, where I took full notes, and having obtained the Registers and Terriers, took them on with us to Erwarton Church, and there got such copies and extracts as I wanted. Left them there with the Clerk who was one of the workmen employed by Mrs. Mills. We found considerable progress had been made in cleaning the 3 tombs on the South side, which began to wear a very different appearance from what they did when covered with a thick coat of white wash, and I have no doubt that when finished, they will amply repay the labour bestowed upon them.

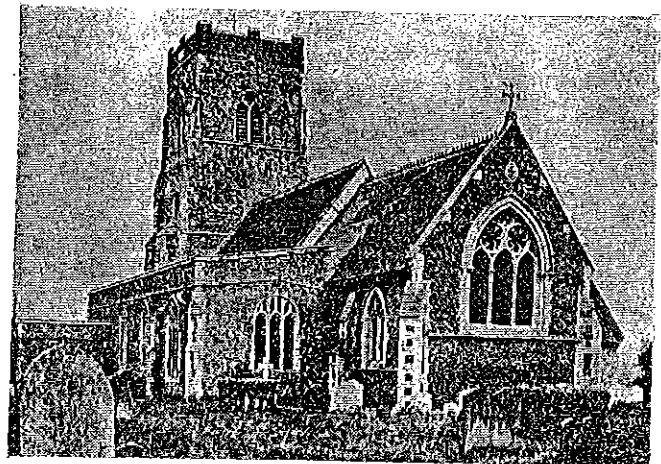


Erwarton Church.

1828.

Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Walked to Crow Hall in Stutton, which during the time of the late Mr. George Reade, underwent a thorough repair, and was by him converted into a Gothic mansion, of the Tudor era; it has been very well done, and is a very fair imitation. It is a very comfortable house, and very neatly fitted up, in an antique style. The prospects up and down the river are very pleasing.

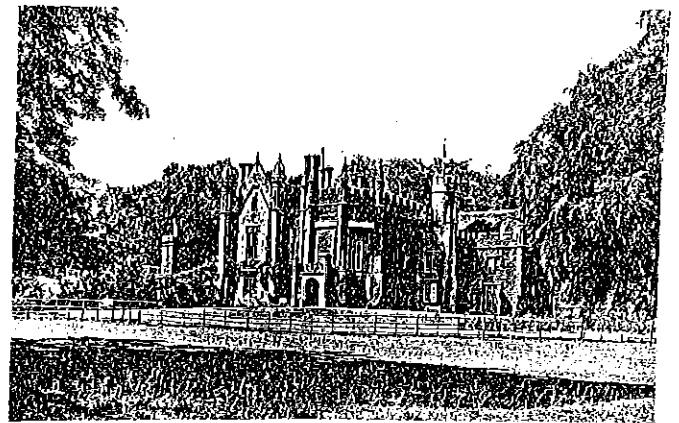


Harkstead Church.

1834.

Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup>.

On a visit to the Parsonage at Stutton, I found in the church a monument recently erected in memory of Mr. G. Badeley; it is a Cenotaph; he and his wife being buried at Bath. Though well acquainted with the fertility of the soil of the Parsonage garden, I could not but be somewhat astonished at the wonderful growth of the trees and shrubs there; everything becomes gigantic, even to the Butterburr the leaves of which growing round the pond where many of them more than 2 feet across.



Crow Hall.

Mr. Mills had in the summer a bazaar in his garden for the purpose of raising a fund for building a school house; it produced very nearly £100, which is to be forthwith laid out, as at first proposed. (Note. The family of Badeley lived at Crepping Hall - Ed.)



Strange Poles and Mounds in Holbrook Creek. Angela and Terry Stendall.

In one of the Stutton History Group Journals Phillip Willis published a sketch of some unusual poles and mounds in Holbrook Creek and then posed the question "What on earth were they and what were they used for?"

The editor also was very interested at the time and added his comments asking for possible explanations.

Finally a remarkable and amazing archaeological discovery revealed the answer.

Members who are also subscribers to the Ipswich Archaeological Trust will already be aware of the work undertaken at Holbrook Creek and also Erwarton Ness which led to the finding of Anglo-Saxon Fishing Traps. Such finds are rare but others are recorded, notably on the River Thames.

Those of us who for many years have walked the River Stour shoreline and pondered these strange structures surmising that they were probably old oyster beds or indeed remains of an old wharf . Each new tide took away more of the evidence of the remaining structures until the recent excavations revealed the true nature of these ancient workings.

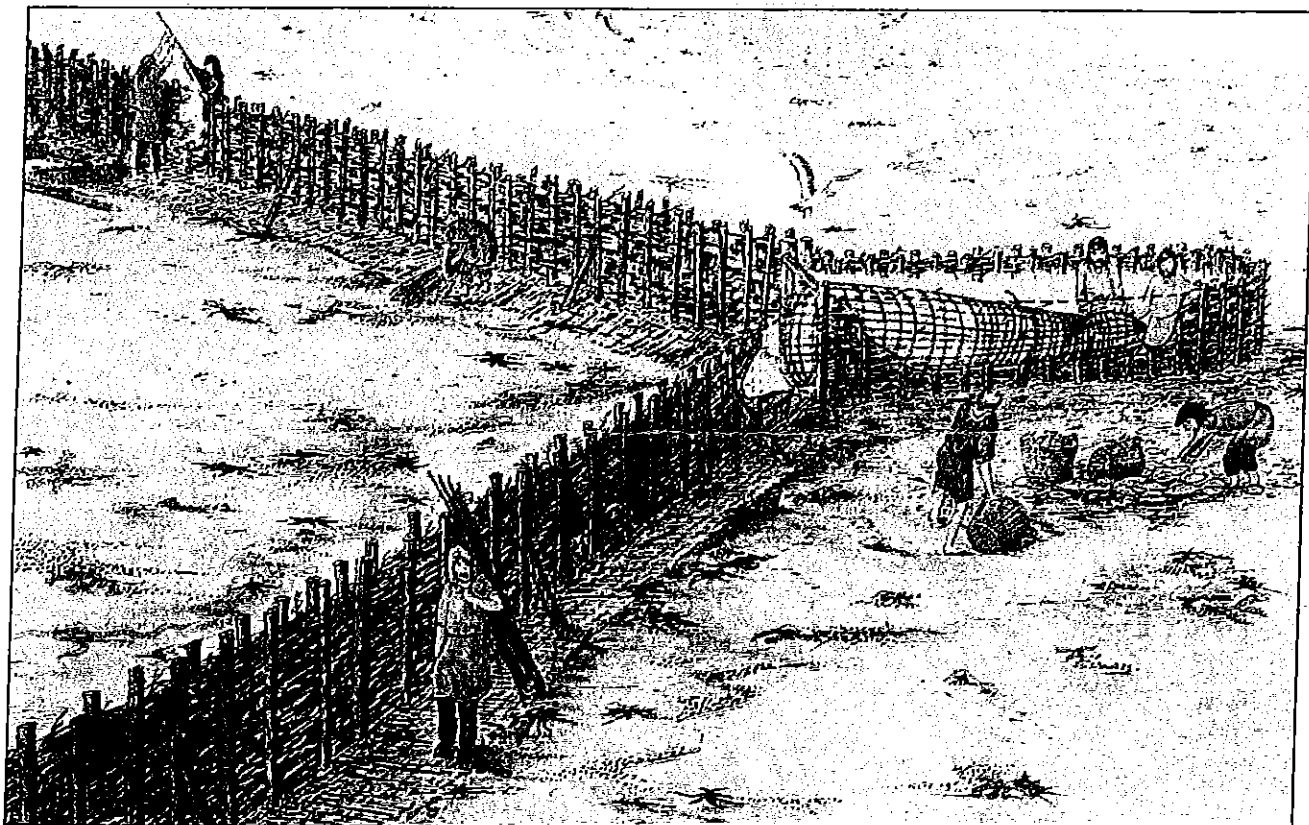
With the permission and blessing of the Ipswich Archaeological Trust we publish their findings below :-

### **New Light on the Anglo-Saxon Fishing Industry in Ipswich.**

The excavations in Ipswich from 1974 to 1990 produced a wealth of fish bones in the Anglo-Saxon rubbish pits implying that fish, both estuarine and deep sea ,were an important part of the diet and that the industry was highly organised. New evidence is showing how many of the fish were caught in the estuaries of the Stour and Orwell.



Aerial photo of the Holbrook Bay fish trap.



Fishtrap reconstruction by Nick Nethercoat

The fish bones from excavations, studied by Andrew Jones and Alison Locker, included groups from Middle Saxon and medieval rubbish deposits from all over the town.

The Middle Saxon assemblage was dominated by eel (69%), followed by herring (10%), white fish, such as cod, haddock, and whiting (9%), flatfish, including turbot, plaice flounder and dab (5%), elasmobranchs, such as roker and ray (3%), with the remaining (5%) being incidental catches. This suggests the dominance of estuarine fisheries with a minority of deep sea fish, probably caught by line fishing.

The estuarine fish were caught in traps, two of which have been found in the Stour estuary at Holbrook Bay and Erwarton Ness. They are sited between low and high water and fish are caught in them on the outgoing tide. They were V-shaped structures with walls of paired upright posts in-filled with brushwood. Baskets or nets were placed at the point of the 'V' and fish were funnelled down and caught as the tide went out. Wattle walkways along the walls allowed access at low tide to retrieve the fish and repair the walls.

Both Suffolk examples have been radiocarbon dated and shown to be Anglo Saxon in date. Dates for 6 timbers from the latest find at Erwarton range from 535-775 AD.

During the late Saxon period, eel remained the most important species (67%), with an increase in herring (16%). By the medieval period eel has declined to 15% but whitefish has risen to 28% (mainly cod) and herring 38%. This clearly shows the rise of the deep sea fishing industry, especially for herring, along the East Coast, and particularly for Great Yarmouth, probably associated with the introduction of trawl nets.

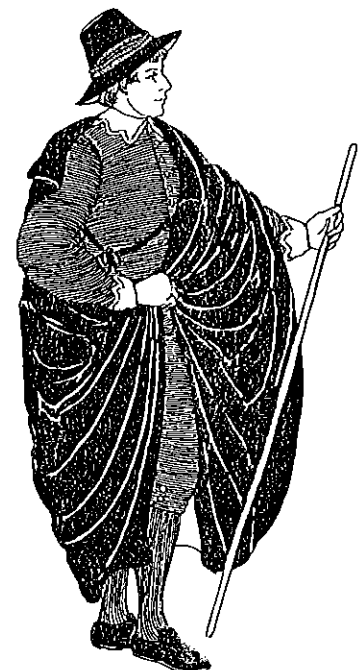
John Harvye of Stutton. 1582.

His Will. Abought a fortnyght before Christide in the yeare of our Lord God 1582 John Harvye of Stutton in co. Suffolk being in good and perfect remembrance, thanked be God therefore, did ordeyne and make this his last will and testament nuncupative. First he bequeathed his soule to Almighty God and his bodie to be buried in the churchyard of Stutton. Imprimis as concerning his moveable goods he made disposition as foloweth. Item he gave, willed and bequeathed unto Jeffrie Plumpton and Rose his wyfe all and singular his moveable goodes whatsoever, willing them therewithall to paye his debts and bring his bodie to the grounde.

These being witnesses, William Marvyn and others, ---  
Proved at Ipswich 6 Nov. 1583, and administration to Jeffrie Plumpton and Rose his wife, sole legatees.

From Suffolk Green Books No. XX.

Costume of the period.



## The Church Vestry Cupboard

For many years I have peered at and inside this wonderful cupboard whilst despairing at its total lack of useful function. It needed to be secure and rodent proof- it did lock and as the back was against the E wall of the transept, it was moderately secure but certainly no match for mice. In fact the back was a mixture of wooden panels and tin sheet. The past tense is correct as this cupboard is no more, displaced by the much more useful new fitted furniture now in the old transept [the "new" church room] where the *de facto* vestry has now been regularised. following the vestry's slow perambulation around the church from the west end behind the screen that had itself been moved from the chancel before it too moved back to the chancel again only to be shifted once more to the sanctuary steps, whilst the vestry moved into the back of the organ chamber that now finds itself the kitchen and toilet. The cupboard stored old bibles, the alms dishes, collection bags and the vestments, as well as pulpit falls and other ecclesiastical necessities.

When did the cupboard appear in the church? Violet Richer remembers it there as long as she has been going to church. And it is mentioned in the notes on church chests compiled by Claude Morley when he visited on 30 May 1927. He described it as "in the north chapel, a very nice dark oak cupboard, pierced above and panelled with linen fold pattern, fitted with good ironwork at both latch and hinges" [SROB HD 1361/1 p47]. This implies that the cupboard had moved between the vestry/organ chamber and the "north chapel" [transept/Lady Chapel] at least once between 1927 and the present time. He notes there are no old chests but fixed on either side of the tower base are two dark oak closets for coal etc, each with chamfered panels and there are cocks-head hinges of about 1600.

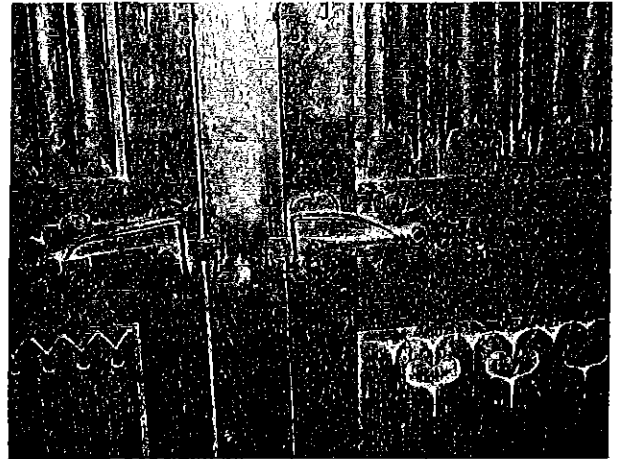
I have combed through the churchwardens' accounts and the PCC minutes in the Suffolk Record Office at Ipswich and find no mention of them at all.

The dimensions of the cupboard were height 196cm, width 137cm and depth 54cm. The top tracery panels are 39.5cm high and 47.5cm wide. The middle wood linenfold panels are 54cm high and 47.5cm wide, whilst the lower panels are 49cm high and 47.5cm wide. The two locks had been replaced at some time. The hinges are not screwed in but nailed. The two top tracery panels are of different design; only the two left hand middle and lower linenfold panels are the same design so there are three linenfold designs in all. The right hand cupboard had no shelves whilst the left hand side had two. Attempts were made to sell the cupboard when the new furniture was installed but both those interested would have dismantled the cupboard for the panelling. It was decided therefore to fix the two doors to the NE wall of the transept to give a *faux* impression of a cupboard. The effect is very pleasing as the patina of the wood is very attractive.

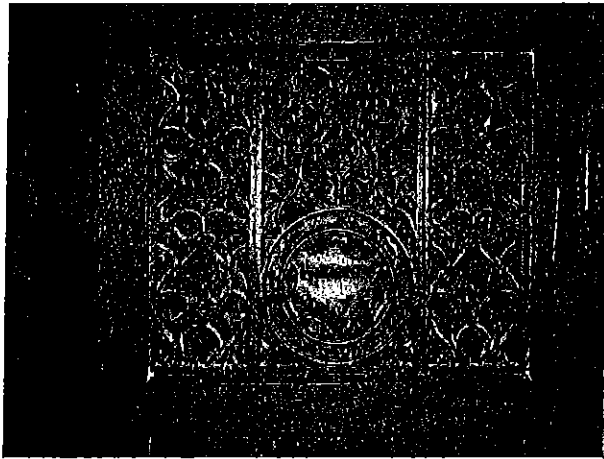
The most likely explanation of the cupboard is that it is the work of a craftsman who used pieces of redundant tracery and panelling from some other application- perhaps the remains of panelling in the church and in particular perhaps of a Georgian pew. Whether the cupboard was retrofitted with the panels or it was made around the panels is difficult to prove although the old ironwork suggests the former.



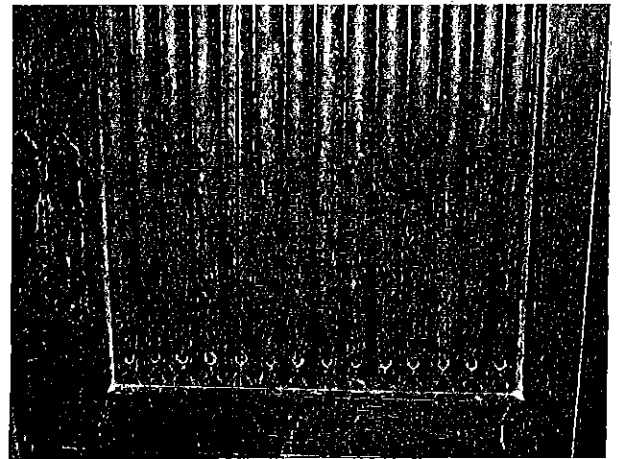
upper right hinges



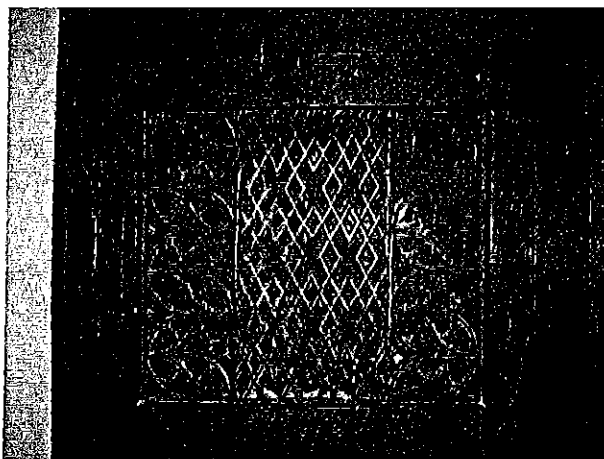
latches in middle sections



upper right tracery panel



bottom left linenfold panel



upper left tracery panel



bottom right linenfold panel

Claude Morley FES, FGS, FZS [1874-1951] was Excursions Secretary of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History [SIAH] and founder of the Suffolk Naturalists Society. He never was able to persuade anyone to publish his notes [he visited every church in the country to find 293 chests] but the work has now been revalidated by David Sherlock and published by the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History in 2008.

Morley was clearly quite a character. There are letters in the Bury Record Office which record the persistence of his quest for publication which are worth quoting in full as they cast a light on the Suffolk of World War Two.

Letter dated 11 May 1940 [SROB HD1316/2]

from The Revd H A Harris, Hon Secretary and Editor SIAH, Thorndon Rectory, Eye.

Dear Morley

I remember your paper on Suffolk chests being submitted to the literary committee for publication but cannot remember why it was not accepted- according to Rule 12, all papers are retained by the Society for future use, and for this reason I expect the paper is still among our stock of literature-

Perhaps you are not aware that in September 1939, the room at the Ancient House in which our stock of literature and Proceedings was housed was commandeered by the ARP and all our stock thrown out in the yard to be burnt if not removed at once- Harrison phoned me up as to its danger and I managed to hire a lorry and three men and having nowhere else to take it carted it to Thorndon.

There are about 3 tons of it which after being dumped in the open, flung in and out of the lorry, then piled up in my hayloft, is in hopeless confusion- much of it being torn, dirty and damaged....

Commas are again plentiful this year and Holly Blues, very scarce last year, are this year in abundance in my garden...

22 May 1940 [SROB HD1316/3]

Dear Morley

...It was not easy to find among some 3 tons of paper but I found it after several hours of "hard labour".

I am afraid "bugging" and archaeology will have to take a back seat for the present as I have been appointed as a "leader" in the National Defence Corps with orders to select, equip and provide rifles, uniform etc for my men and to act on my own initiative if we are invaded by parachutists or troop-carrying planes...

There was obviously a last ditch attempt to salvage some use from the notes as the letter from Canon C O George, St Mary Stoke Rectory, 56 Belstead Road, Ipswich of 21 May 1941 implies [SROB 1316/4]

Dear Mr Chapman

I have been carefully through Mr C Morley's MSS which is enclosed to see if in anyway it could be used for the diocesan magazine...

It is too long as it stands....

Paul Simmons

## Stutton and the Great Storm of 1987.

Many people living in Stutton still remember the night of October 15<sup>th</sup> 1987 and the damage caused that night and the next day.

In Stutton we probably came off lightly compared to other villages in the area, but it didn't feel like that at the time. The damage we woke up to the next morning was considerable. The gale was still blowing and trees were still falling. Many homes had tiles off or chimneys down.

Most of the tall trees lining the long walk to Crepping Hall were broken off and a large tree had uprooted and fallen onto Stutton Lodge (see photo).



Stutton Lodge.

The canopy over the petrol pumps at Stutton Garage (yes ! we had one then), had blown over and crashed down amongst the parked vehicles (see photo). Many T.V. aerials were broken or bent as the photo shows.

In fact Stutton was cut off that morning until the trees that had fallen across the road at both the Brantham end and at the Royal Hospital School could be cut and dragged clear. The power lines were down and we were without electricity for up to a week afterwards.

Fortunately no-one seems to have been seriously hurt, but the luckiest man was Keith Joy the Co-op milk delivery man, this is his story taken from the East Anglian Daily times:-

Branches were blowing about when he got to Stutton and the gale was at it's height, he managed to manoeuvre past large branches, and going by the Gardener's Arms he saw



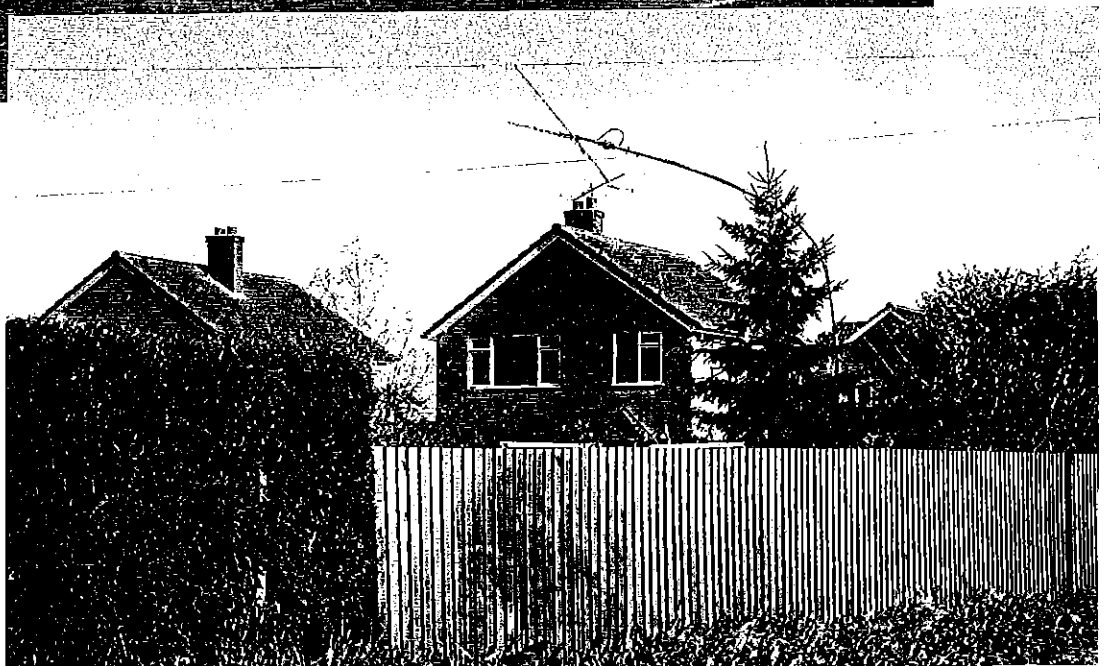
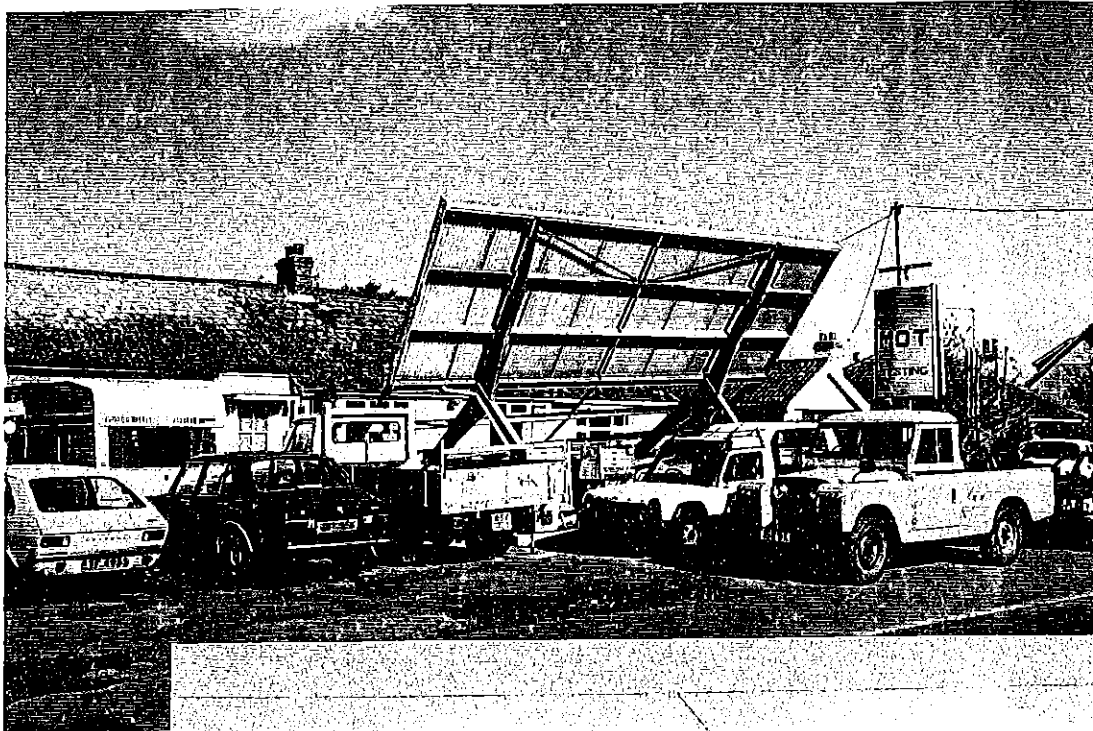
a large tree across the road blocking the way, he turned the van to go back to Holbrook and found another tree had fallen behind him with his van between the two. He sat in his van and had a cup of tea from his flask and then decided to get out and walk to Holbrook

He had only gone about ten yards when he heard a crack and a loud crash, on turning round he saw an enormous tree had crushed the cab he had been sitting in. After getting over the shock he walked to Holbrook and returned to his van with another driver where they found the local farmhands cutting up the trees with chain saws, his tree had to be cut off at both ends leaving the bulk buried in the cab before they could tow the van clear.

The van was towed and left outside Stutton Post Office where Keith continued to sell what milk had remained unbroken, later another van came out to complete the milk round.



The Van.



In the early 1900's, the Stutton Schoolmaster, Findley Baker, kept a School book in which he had each child write a letter before they left to go out to work. The following are a sample of those letters.

My name is Eva Brooke. I was born in the parish of Stutton On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 1893. I shall be 14 years of age in next December. The schoolmaster measured my height and found it to be 5ft 10 inches. I have the honour to be the tallest girl in the school. A boy of the name of Harry Brown is taller than I am. A short time ago I passed into the sixth standard. Soon I hope to leave school to help mother do the housework. I have three brothers. My brother George is on a gentleman's yacht, and Another brother is working on the land, my youngest brother is soon coming to school. I have had a very happy school life.

My name is Bertie Potter. I was born on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year 1893. I shall be fourteen years of age next September. Last month I was examined by the inspector and believe I passed the 5<sup>th</sup> standard. My father has moved about in his work a good deal, and in consequence I have been obliged to attend four schools. I attended two at Stowmarket, then at Finborough, and Stutton. My father is head horseman, at Mr.Hunts, and soon I hope to be working on the land. Besides my father and mother at home, I have four sisters, and three brothers. I have lived in Stutton on just over a year.

My name is William Robinson. I was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1895. I was not born in this parish but in Ipswich. I have been at Stutton 9 years. I like going to this school because I have got a good schoolmaster. Tomorrow which is Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May I hope to leave school and go to work. A gentleman of this parish has kindly given me employment. I have 4 more brothers and one sister. My father is groom and gardener at Mr.Grahams and my mother is a post woman at Mr.Wisemans. A short time ago I passed the 6<sup>th</sup> standard. It will be great pleasure for me to go and earn something for mother who has been very kind to me all my life. I have had a very happy school life. 29<sup>th</sup> May 1908.

My name is John Dunnett. I was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> July in the year 1895. I am 13 in about 8 days' time when I hope to leave school. I have got one sister and two brothers. My two brothers are younger than I am. I am in the 6<sup>th</sup> standard. My father is a bricklayer and is generally at work at Mr.Fison's. I shall be glad to leave school so I can earn some money. I have been to this school ever since I was about 3 or 4 years of age. I was born in Ipswich and came here when I was about 6 months old. My two brothers were born in this parish. I have had a very pleasant school life. 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1908.



Findley Baker,  
Schoolmaster.

My name is Harry Brown. I am 14 years of age today. I was not born in this parish, but came here about 5 years ago. Since then I have attended this school. Lately I have grown very tall. Yesterday Mr. Baker measured my height And found it to be 5ft 11 1/4 inches. Then I was 13, now I am 14. I am learning a great deal at Stutton. I shall be leaving school today as I must begin to earn some money. As I am so tall I should like to be a footman. A local gentleman in the parish has kindly promised to help me to get a situation in a gentleman's family. It will give me great pleasure soon to be able to earn something so that I can help my mother who has been very kind to me all my life. My school life at Stutton has been a very happy one. 8<sup>th</sup> June 1907.



Harry Brown

I am just leaving school; my name is Alfred Markham and I am nearly fourteen years of age. I have been to school for eleven years and I think it is time to leave. My father is a Gardener by trade and can do what you like in the garden. When I leave school I should like to be a motor driver. Our schoolmaster is a very nice man And he is very kind to the pupils of his school. The corn in the country here is getting ripe and fast too. The wheat is very fast in it's ripening powers and some of it is almost fit to cut. Oats are also very forward this year. July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1908.

My name is Frank Potter, I am soon going to leave this parish. I am 13 on October 21<sup>st</sup>. I have been at school a month next Friday. I came from Grundisburgh school. I went there for three years and I am soon going to another school. Mr. Baker is a nice kind master and he has taught me some nice lessons since I have been here. I think of him when I go away. I wish I could stop here longer but I cannot. Stutton is a nice Parish and it has a butcher's shop and a grocer's shop and a lot of farms, a Chapel and a Church and a nice school next to Mr. Cowles meadow. I am writing to Mr. Baker my brother Bertie did when he left school. But I am not leaving school but only going away to a new school. October 8<sup>th</sup> 1908.

I am 14 years of age in the holidays and my name is Ruby Bennett. I was born in Stutton and have been to Stutton school ever since I was 5 years old. Mr. Baker is my schoolmaster and I am sure he has done all he could for me and I am going to thank him for so doing. I have enjoyed my school life very much and I am sorry I am going to leave but it is quite time I am earning my own living. I have got six sisters and three brothers and they have all been to Stutton school and have been taught by Mr. Baker. When I leave school I am going to try my best to get on well. There are four other children leaving tonight. 1<sup>st</sup> August 1913.

SUFFOLK COUNTY HANDBOOK & OFFICIAL DIRECTORY for 1924

STUTTON.

Stutton is a picturesque village, situated on the northern side of the broad estuary of the river Stour, 7 ½ miles south of Ipswich, and 4 miles east by north of Manningtree.

Parish Council:- Elijah Jarrold - Chairman, Walter Lewis - Vice, Walter Bennett, Wilfred Bennett, Albert Dunnett, Herbert Askew, Charles B. Cowles, Frank L. Pepper, and Frederick Suckling. R.H. Gladwell - Clerk.

Overseers:- Elijah Jarrold and Walter Lewis. Assistant Overseer:- R.H. Gladwell.

National School:- Miss Dunning - Mistress, Miss Marriott and Miss Marie Riches - Assistants, Hon. Correspondent - Rev. Arthur Spencer.

Places of Worship:- St. Peter's Church, Rev. Arthur Spencer - Rector, Col. C.G. Carnegie and William Cutting - Churchwardens, Miss Francis Cutting - Organist. Wesleyan Chapel, with no resident minister.

Parish Clerk:- Charles Ling, Sexton:- Walter J. Whinney.

Post Office & Telegraph Office:- W.J. Wiseman - Postmaster, a full office transacting money orders and savings bank business and issuing licences etc. Letters arrive by mail cart daily at 5.30 a.m., and delivery takes place at 7 a.m. The letter box is cleared midday at 12.10 p.m. and each evening at 7.05 p.m., the box in the village at 8.15 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. and the pillar box near Church Farm at 7.30 a.m. and 7.15 p.m. There is also a second mailbag via Bentley Station despatched at 12.20 p.m., the incoming bag arriving at 1.45 p.m., a second delivery to most parts of the village commencing at 2.10 p.m. Office closed on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. Post Office hours :- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sundays 8.30 a.m. till 10 a.m.

Loyal Colquhoun Lodge of Odd fellows :- Charles Haste - N.G., G. Gosling - Treasurer, G.W. Fenton and Frank Brewer - Trustees, Thomas D. Cook:- Secretary.

Carriers to Ipswich:- Lewis on Tuesdays, Blue Coat Boy 4 p.m., Beeston's Buses four times daily, Central Motor Buses frequent service daily.

Mother's Guild:- About 90 members. Mrs Fison superintendent.

Pig Club:- Rev. Arthur Spencer - President, W. Garnham, William Pinkney, William Payne, Robert Marshall - Butcher, Committee. Albert Gilder sleeves - Hon. Secretary.

Victory Hall and Reading Room:- Management Committee - Mr. H. Okeden - Chairman, Gen. R. Reade - Vice Chairman, A.J. Gildersleeves - Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer,

Messrs. H.H.Barnes, A. Suckling, A.J.Dunnett, George Willis jun., J.Fenton, E.Howard - Trustees.:- Messrs. F.G.C.Fison, James Dunnett, and W.W.Wiseman. Club Committee:- Messrs. C.Munson, A.Allen, J.Fenton, H.Scott, V.Scott, C.Turston, W.Heffer and S.R.Wiseman, George Willis jun. :- Hon. Secretary.

Women's Institute :- Mrs.Colquhoun Reade - President, Miss F.M.Cutting - Hon. Secretary, Miss E.Wiseman - Hon. Treasurer.

There is also a ladies' Hockey Club, a Football Club, and a Lawn Tennis Club.

Agent for the "East Anglian Daily Times" - W.J.Wiseman.

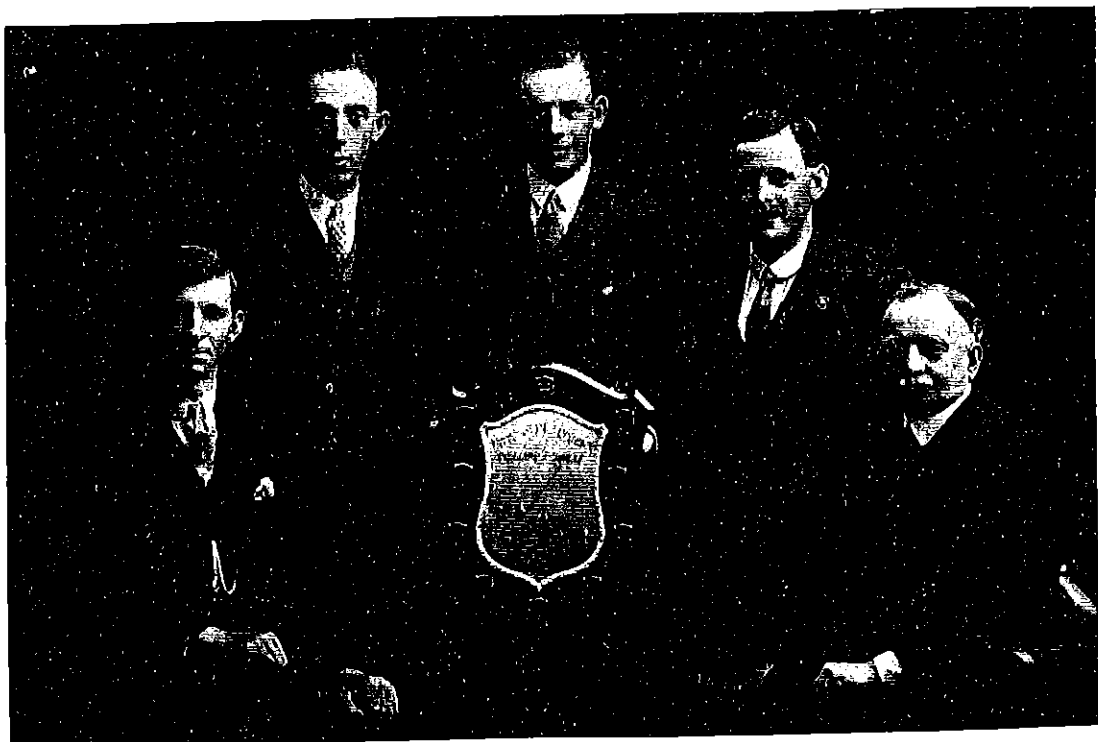
\*\*\*\*\*

In the early days of the Victory hall, a Billiard Room was included, this provided somewhere for the young men of the village to gather and those who wished could play billiards.

Tournaments were held and the photograph below shows the winners of the Tattingsstone and District billiards shield.

Mr.Albert Gildersleeves was the Hon. Secretary & Treasurer of the Victory Hall management committee - see the official directory above

Will Heffer. Eddy Thurston. George Willis.



Vic Scott (Snr.)

Albert Gildersleeves.

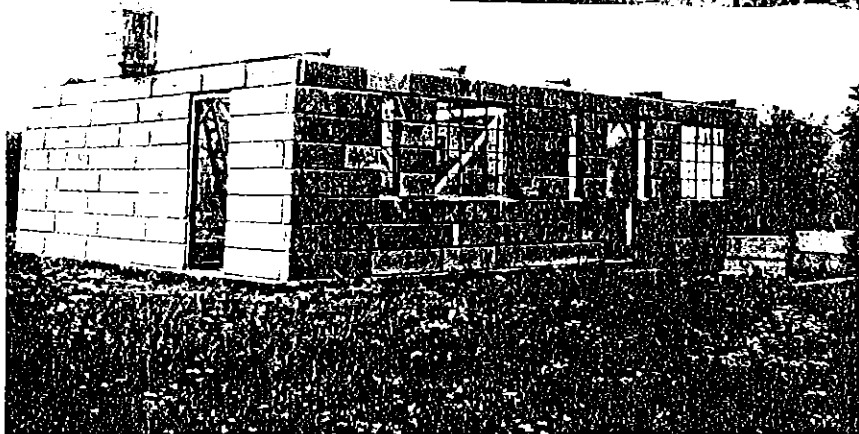
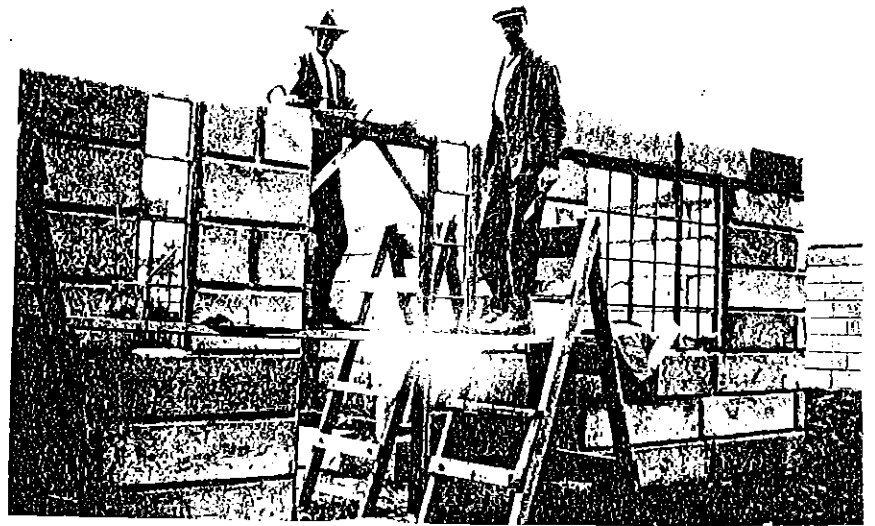
Note - The shield shown is in my possession - Ed..

Lewis Lane Stutton. Building the Council bungalows.



The men building the bungalows - from the left:-

Mr.Graver, unknown, Clem Allen and Mr.Hardy.



## A Find That is Relevant Today

Browsing through an old Family Bible I found the following amongst the pages, I have no idea how and where it originated and feel that the contents are still applicable to the situation of today.

### A CALL TO OUR NATION

- (1) Why are we progressively retreating in world influence among the nations of the world, and why is our flag being lowered on every side ?
- (2) Why are we borrowing and in debt instead of lending from prosperity ?
- (3) Why are revolutionary movements and bloodshed increasing among our Dominions and Commonwealth, where once our influence was respected and enjoyed ?
- (4) Why are crimes and lawlessness increasing like a flood among our people ?
- (5) Why are our economics in crisis and exhortations to the nation uninspired by the Christian faith and love of Country, and why are we sending orders for our great ships abroad to our former enemies, when we have all the skills here, which we have taught to the world ?
- (6) Why are racial rumblings and racial riots now being heard in our own land ?
- (7) Why are our national institutions under attack ?

The answer is this: we have turned away from Him Who made us great, and Who said, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

Now read Leviticus, Chapter 26, for the answer. In verses 14-20 you will see the cause of our mounting calamities as being permitted by God Himself, but in verses 40-42 you will see the promise of Divine Deliverance which could operate the moment we send out our appeal to the Author of our once national greatness.

Write for the "Balm for Bewilderment", from the Secretary, British Israel World Federation, 6 Buckingham Gate, London SW 1.

I have sent a copy to the Prime Minister and Leaders of the main opposition Parties in the hope they may find inspiration.

Ronald Cobb.

