Newsletter

of the

Great Yarmouth Local History & Archaeological Society









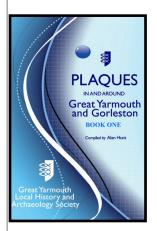
JULY 2022

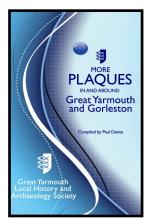
Plaque Books

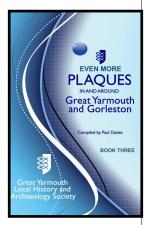
The third blue plaque book is being printed and will be available at the History Fair.

The first plaque book sold out several years ago, so a few more copies are being printed.

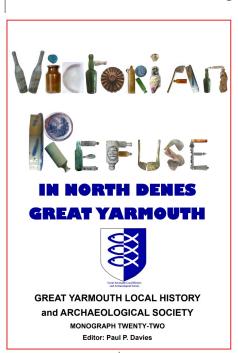
Each plaque book is priced at £15 (£10 to society members). Buy all three for £25.







New book - Monograph Twenty-two



At the Archaeology Society's meeting in November 2021, Dr. Tom Licence. Professor of Medieval History and Consumer Culture at the University of East Anglia and active researcher into refuse tips as a good source of people's information about past lives, presented a lecture on What the Victorians Threw Away. In April 2018, he had led a dig on the northern part Beaconsfield Road of the Recreation Ground in Great Yarmouth where he found refuse dating to 1896. During question-and-answer session after the lecture, the Chairman of the Society revealed that in 1981, when an extension was built onto his

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house in North Denes Road, the builders had to dig to a depth of several feet to find solid sand on which to place the foundations. During the excavations several pieces of refuse were found. At that time local knowledge said that the houses in the area had been built on refuse tips.



This fact intrigued Dr. Licence and he asked for permission to dig in the garden of the Chairman's house, which had been built in 1928. This was granted and he dug six metre-square pits going down to a depth of about five to six feet before he reached solid sand. During the excavation over 450 pieces of refuse dating to 1889-1892 were uncovered giving a snapshot of life of everyday Great Yarmouth in the Victorian period. The booklet details the finds and is available for £5.

Blue Plaque Unveilings. All welcome



Two plaques (Nos. 106 and 107) will be unveiled by the Mayor on 17th July 2022 at 11 am.



Meet at Herring House (Bauleah House), 51 St. Nicholas Road. Then proceed to Marine Lodge Hotel on Marine Parade at the east end of Euston Rd. .

Extra Meeting

29th July at 7.30pm The Power behind the Throne: Women of the First Millenium by Imogen Corrigan BA, MPhil, FRSA



Imogen served for nearly 20 years in the British Army in the Women's Royal Army Corps (WRAC) and the Adjutant General's Corps retiring in the rank of Major in December 1994 having been posted in the UK, Germany and Hong Kong. In 2004, she graduated from the University of Kent with 1st class honours in Anglo-Saxon and Medieval History and is currently studying part-time for an M.Litt at Birmingham University. Imogen's knowledge

covers a wide range of medieval and artistic history, starting with the baptism of Clovis in Rheims c.496 and going through to the Reformation of the 1530's. She has lectured extensively on Anglo-Saxon and medieval subjects in Britain and Europe and is a lecturer for the Arts Society as well as being a speaker for the Kent Federation of History and the National Trust amongst other lecturing agencies.

Imogen will be giving a talk at Wickhampton Church on 30th July at 7pm. The talk is an exploration of the fabulous monsters, mythical beasts and grotesques rampaging through church carvings and manuscripts of the Middle Ages. Tickets: £5 per

person. The church cafe will be open for refreshments. For more information and to book your pew, please contact Sara Stephenson wickhampton@gmail.com

Summer Outing July 12th.

Coach trip to Sutton Hoo, the Woodbridge Tidal Mill and Long Shed (where a replica Anglo-Saxon boat is being constructed).

Sutton Hoo entrance is £14.75 for non-National Trust members. There is an optional guided tour of the dig site by a local support group at an additional cost of £4.50.

The Tide Mill entrance is £5.00 while the Long Shed visit is free, but donations will be welcome on the day.

Pick ups: Opposite Caister Police Station 8.30am: Barnard Crescent 8.40am: Market Gates (outside Poundstretcher) 8.45am: Gorleston Tramway 9.00am. We will depart from Woodbridge at 5pm.

Please complete the form and pay by cash or cheque (payable to GYLHAS) and send to: Ann Dunning, 132 Bells Road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth NR31 6AF (phone: 01493 441878).

Name
Address
Phone No
Nos. people
Coach fare(s) @ £15 ea Sutton Hoo £14.75 (NT free)
Dig Tour £4.50
Tidal Mill £5
Total



Evening Visit to St. Benet's Abbey 10th June



The Abbey is thought to have been founded in the 9th century and was rebuilt towards the end of the 10th century. The Abbey was never formally dissolved during the English Reformation started by Henry VIII and so the Bishop of Norwich is still the Abbot of St Benet's.

The windmill, built in the second half of the 18th century and set within what was the Gatehouse was originally built to grind locally produced oil seed rape and was later converted to that of a drainage pump in the middle of the 18th century. At some point at the start of the 19th century the

upper floor of the gatehouse was removed to allow for the sails to operate more freely. The sails remained in place until about 1854, but were no longer in place by 1863. The site is leased by the Norwich Archaeological Society.

Towards the end of the visit, Marian our guide, regaled us with tales of supposed supernatural apparitions. In all, the visit was a thoroughly enjoyable event on a delightful summer's evening.





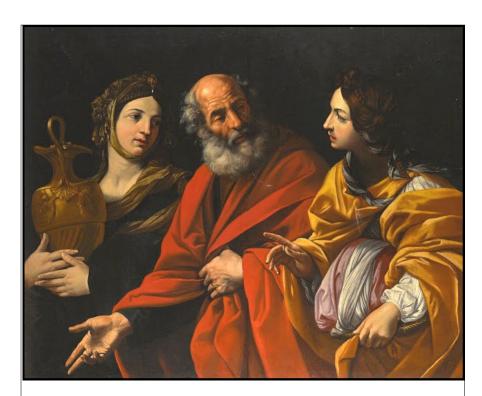
Old Master Paintings in Private Houses in Great Yarmouth in the 18th and 19th Centuries



Paul P. Davies

Great Yarmouth, many important paintings and engravings by well-known artists were hanging on the walls of private houses of some of the wealthy inhabitants. These are documented in books and auction catalogues printed many years ago. The paintings were often auctioned after the death of the owners and many of them ended up in national galleries throughout the world. In the books by Charles Palmer, J. H. Druery, John Stacy and auction advertisements and catalogues, description is made of the paintings and the artist is noted. From this information it is possible to determine the title of the paintings and where they are now. Sometimes the information given precludes this. For example, Brueghel painted several *Hermits* in a Landscape so it is difficult to identify Samuel Paget's painting by Brueghel of a Landscape with a Hermit. Likewise, Claude painted several versions of the Flight into Egypt. An added complication arises as paintings have often been re-titled or re-attributed following the advancement in science, so tracing them with certainty is difficult.

This book gives an account of some of the paintings and engravings present in private houses in Great Yarmouth in the 18th and 19th centuries and their whereabouts today. Price £10.



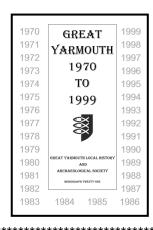
Lot and his Daughters leaving Sodom by Guido Reni (1571-1642). Now in the National Gallery, London. The painting was owned by Thomas Penrice (c1757-1816) of Penrice House, Deneside, Great Yarmouth.

History Fair 9th July



Great Yarmouth Timeline

At the end of the 1880's, William Finch-Crisp finished Chronological Retrospect of the History of Yarmouth from 46 AD to 1885. Yarmouth Notes, 1830 to 1872 by Frederick Danby Palmer was published in 1887. volume was a collation of items about Great Yarmouth published in the newspaper, Norwich A. Mercury. In 1977, Ecclestone and 27 members of the Great Yarmouth Archaeological Society continued Finch-Crisp's Chronology from 1886 to 1936 by through the trawling Great Yarmouth Council minutes and the Great Yarmouth Mercury and the Great Yarmouth Independent. This volume was published under the title: Great Yarmouth 1886-1936. John McBride produced A Diary of Great Yarmouth in 1998, which dealt mainly with buildings in the town. In 2018, The Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeological Society decided it was time to extend Ecclestone's book from 1937 to 1969 and members of the Society studied the wealth of detail in the editions of the Great Yarmouth Mercury for the relevant period (the Great Independent Yarmouth defunct) and Great Yarmouth 1937 -1969 was published in 2019. With the interest shown in this volume it was decided to produce another volume to take the story of Great Yarmouth forward from 1970 to 1999. Thus, we now have a printed chronology of Great Yarmouth from 46 AD to 1999. All these books are of great interest to the public and are a useful aid to historians. Price £10.



Advance Notice of a Day Conference Norfolk and the North Sea; the Past Million Years

The conference is to take place at the **Imperial Hotel**, North Drive, Great Yarmouth on Saturday **15th October 2022** 10am - 4.30pm.

The purpose of the conference is to advise members and guests of how the geography, climate and populations of the North Sea Basin has changed over the past million years with particular reference to Norfolk, but not to exclude the wider world.

Provisional Programme

The following intend to speak at the conference.

Dr Rachel Bynoe, Marine Archaeologist, Director of the Centre for the Archaeology of Human Origins, University of Southampton will speak on Underwater Archaeology.

Dr Rob Davis, Project Leader, Pathways to Ancient Britain, Dept. of Britain, Europe and Prehistory at the British Museum will speak on Early Man in Norfolk and the surrounding counties.

Professor Vincent Gaffney, Anniversary Chair in Landscape Archaeology, School of Archaeology and Forensic Sciences, University of Bradford will speak on sea levels in the North Sea Basin.

Professor Adrian Lister, Research Leader at the Natural History Museum, will speak on the mammal fauna and environments of the region.



Full details and cost in due course.

Great Yarmouth Heritage Action Zone

The Society is involved in helping with this project. Phase one of the project has been completed. This included replacing the rotten iron railings, like for like, on the front of St. Nicholas Priory Primary School in the Market Place, ground penetrating radar of the Minster churchyard, investigative test pits throughout the town with

the young archaeologists digging two pits in the Priory courtyards, etc.

Phase two will be starting soon and will involve a mapping project of the Market Place area. Volunteers will be needed to help with this project and details will be released in due course.





It is pleasing to note that the young archaeologists are once again meeting normally having been



allowed to use the facilities at the Time and Tide Museum post-Covid.

Membership of the Society stands at 126. It is good to note that the membership is buoyant in spite of Covid, while many other societies in the borough are struggling to recover. The committee thanks the members for their continual support in this, the Society's 134th year.

After three years in abeyance, a Trafalgar dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel on October 22nd. Details later in the autumn.



Paul Davies.