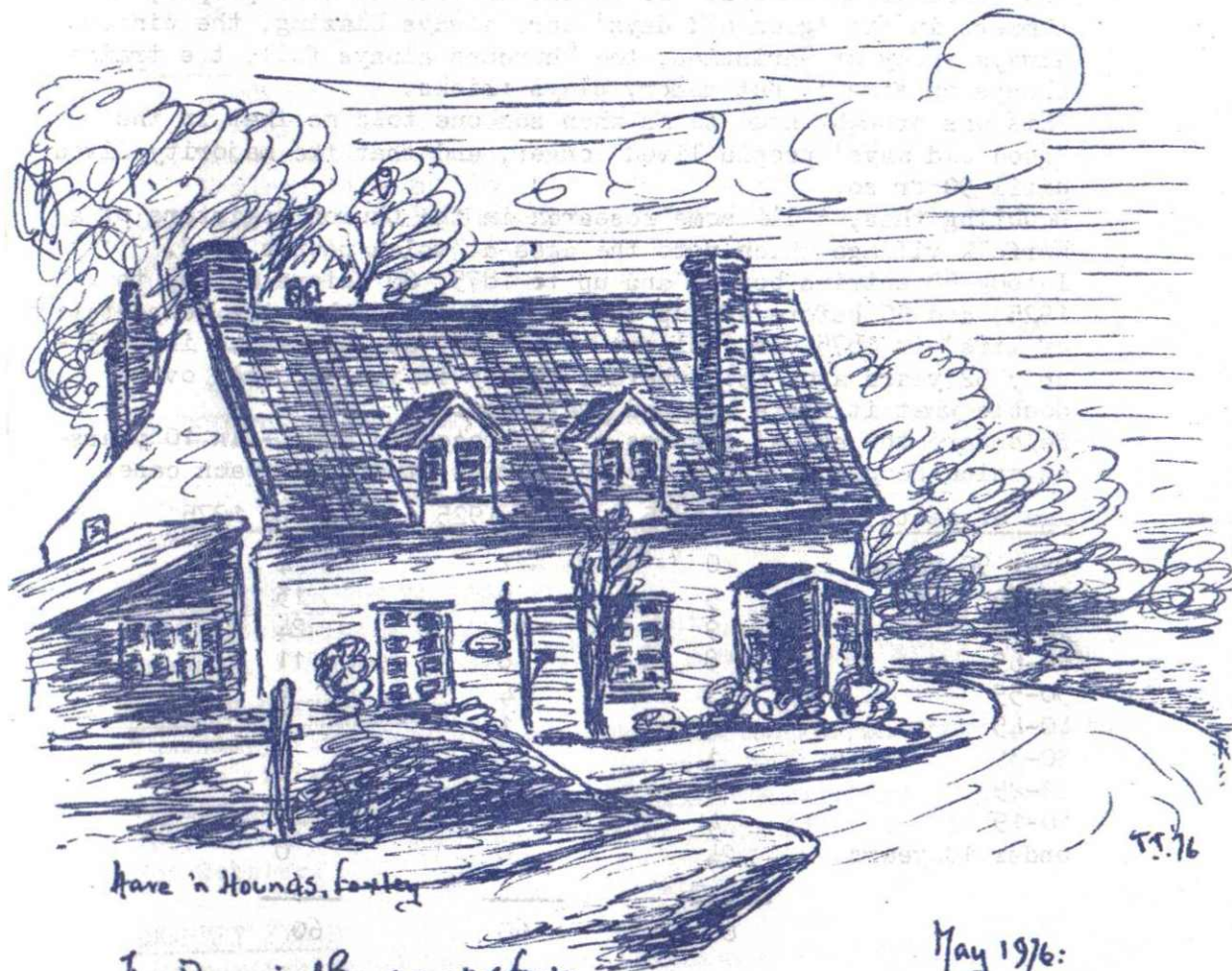


THE REEVE'S TALE



1976

Home in Hounds, Foxley

The Magazine of Bawdreswell & Foxley

May 1976:

Vol. 1, No. 4.

THE RECTOR WRITES

Human Nature is a funny thing, especially when it concerns human memory, which has a remarkable gift for forgetting some things and remembering others. If we are to believe some people, the summers in the 'good old days' were always blazing, the winters always snowy at Christmas, the Churches always full, the trains always on time ! But memory plays tricks.

This was brought home to me when someone told me that in the 'good old days' people lived longer, and that the majority lived until 90 or so.

Doubting this, I did some research in the Church Registers of a Norfolk village which note the ages at which people died. I took 60 entries before and up to 1875, 60 before and up to 1925, and 60 before and up to 1975. I found that the 'expectation of life' in 1875 was, believe it or not, as low as 34, in 1925 - only 52 years ago - 51, whereas to-day it is $73\frac{1}{2}$, well over double what it was a hundred years ago.

Below are the actual figures of the recorded ages - in 10 years- at which people died for the 60 entries studied in each case.

| <u>Age of death</u> | <u>up to 1875</u> | <u>up to 1925</u> | <u>up to 1975</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Over 90 years | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| 80-89 | 5 | 9 | 15 |
| 70-79 | 9 | 13 | 24 |
| 60-69 | 8 | 8 | 11 |
| 50-59 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 40-49 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 30-39 | 1 | 7 | 1 |
| 20-29 | 4 | 6 | 0 |
| 10-19 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| under 10years | 24 | 8 | 0 |
| | 60 | 60 | 60 |

So there's quite a lot to be thankful for, not least better medicine and doctors, and better conditions: and maybe its not such a bad world after all !

CHURCH SERVICES - May.

Methodist

- 2nd. Foxley 6.30 p.m.
- 9th. Bawdeswell 2.30 p.m. Foxley See Parish Church
- 16th. Foxley 6.30 p.m.
- 23rd. Bawdeswell 2.30 p.m. Foxley 11.0 a.m.
- 30th. Foxley 6.30 p.m.

Anglican

- 2nd. Bawdeswell 8.30 am. Holy Communion (1662) 11 am. Mattins
Foxley 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3)
- 9th. Bawdeswell 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3)
Foxley 11 a.m. Mattins
- 16th. Bawdeswell 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (1662) 11 am. Mattins
Foxley 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3)
- 23rd. Bawdeswell 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3)
Foxley 11 a.m. See Methodist Services
- 30th. Bawdeswell 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (1662) 11 a.m. Mattins
Foxley 9.45 a.m. Family Service (Series 3).

ASCENSION DAY Thursday, 27th. Bawdeswell Holy Communion 10 a.m.

Folland Court

- Monday, May 17th. 10 a.m. Holy Communion
- Monday, May 31st. 10 a.m. Hymns & Readings

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ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION

(For Incumbents & Churchwardens, but all are welcome)
Tuesday, 11th. May: 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Cromer Parish Church.

DEANERY CONFIRMATION

Thursday, 13th. May: 7.30 p.m. Wood Norton Parish Church, by the Bishop of Lynn.

Please pray for our Candidates: Jackie Baker; Lorna Downes;
Joey Durham; Rosemary Shackmaster; Fiona Steward; Kay Syer;
Joy Webster.

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DEANERY SYNOD

The newly-elected Deanery Synod will meet on Tuesday, 25th. May,
at 7.30 p.m., at Reepham Church.

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WANTED - for Bawdeswell Church.

In the autumn of this year Martin Adams will be going to the University, leaving a very large gap behind him in our Church life: Among other things he has been Organist & Choirmaster; Server and Cleaner.

Now is the time to begin to make plans for when he goes, so we need:-

- a). AN ORGANIST (and ideally a choirmaster)

The salary for this will be by negotiation, and if travelling is involved, this will be paid at standard rate.

- b). A SERVER, or several to train for this useful job.

We would welcome boys or girls who would like to come forward.

- c). CLEANERS

We hope to be able to make this a voluntary job, and the more who offer to help, the less there will be for each one to do.

Anyone who feels able to help in any of these ways is asked to contact the Rector, Martin Adams, or, especially in regard to the cleaning, Mrs. Ames (Senior).

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE.

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FOXLEY FLOWERS

Now that the Church is closed once in four Sundays, when we go to the Methodists, those who arrange our flowers so beautifully will sometimes find that they are down to do for a week-end when there will not be a Service, and, most understandably, may feel that their efforts will be wasted. But visitors do come to see the Church, especially in the summer months, and flowers do add to their pleasure when they come. We hope that the ladies of the Rota will feel free either to do the flowers or not, exactly as they wish, when their turn comes on one of these Sundays. But if they feel that it is rather pointless to do them, we would be most grateful if they could look in and remove dead flowers as necessary.

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ADVANCE NOTICE

Foxley Methodist Church Anniversary will take place on Whitsun Day, June 6th, 11 a.m. On that day, the Parish Church will have an 8.50 a.m. Communion, and will close for 11 a.m., so that we can share in the Methodist Service.

TREES ARE MY LIFE - contributed by Percy Jim Elsdon

In one of the most entrancing comments on planting a tree it is said; "Who can watch a tree being planted without being deeply moved?"

It is a ceremony rather than a mere job, and yet people tend to regard tree-planting more as a ceremony than as something special, something necessary and urgently needed.

In the Bible one can read; "He that planteth a tree is the servant of God: he provideth a kindness for many generations, and faces he may never see shall bless him."

For many centuries indeed trees have been planted to commemorate battles, or Royal visits, or perhaps the opening of Hospitals: all good reasons for planting a tree, but let us not forget the old saying: "To be a man, you must first plant a tree." - or should one say to-day "plant many trees"?

I think if I were asked what my last words on trees would be, I would say; "When I am dead people may say for a few weeks, 'he was a good worker' or for a few years, 'You knew him; he was the father of Kathleen or Mary Christine, or Jane or Barbara'; but long after that, long after my name has been forgotten, there will be great trees in which the birds of the air will make their nests, and under which men of the fields will find rest and shade; these trees I shall have planted.

I shall not die, I will live on in the life of my trees; I shall lift my face to the sun, and cast my shadow over the earth for a hundred years."

Editor's Note. We warmly welcome articles, and are grateful to Jim Elsdon for this one.

ELLEN GIRLING aged 90 years.

The funeral Service for Mrs. Girling was held on 24th March in Holt Church. She was taken ill some time after she lost her husband, and was moved to Beech House, Resenhall. She spent several happy years there after her recovery, and later was transferred to Glaven House, Holt. She was very happy there,

and Mr. & Mrs. George Guymer visited her regularly, and in the end carried out her wishes to be buried in Holt Cemetery.

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FOXLEY VILLAGE HALL

Since the first Dance was held last August, no less than £1158 has been raised for the improvements. The Easter Fair produced the astonishing total of £243, and we congratulate the organisers. An OPEN MEETING is being held on Monday, 7th. June, in the Hall to make arrangements for the Fete on 4th. September. Your ideas and suggestions are needed to ensure that this event will be a great success. So book this date now.

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FOXLEY (Extracts from Norwich Mercury, 1907).

Foxley is written 'Foxle' in Domesday Book. The 'Fox' may simply mean the animal, or, possibly 'Forc-land', meaning land held by the people in common. Voxley is a common place name in Denmark. At Domesday, the Manor had three ploughs, Pannage (food in the woods) for 300 hogs, one cart horse, 100 sheep and seven beehives. It had no goats, though in Edward the Confessor's days it had 60. In 1846 a fine gold torque (a collar of twisted wire) was ploughed up here; several celts (cleaving instruments of stone or bronze) and spearheads have been found in the district.

The population varied considerably: in 1801 it was 187, in 1821, 250, in 1831 274, in 1841, 293, in 1851, 321 (in 60 houses), in 1871, 230, in 1881, 220, in 1891, 185, and in 1901, only 176. At the Enclosure in 1814, two acres of land in Foxley were set apart for a clay-pit for the Parishioners.

In the Abridged Return for Gilbert's Act, 1786, is the following: "John Leeds bequeathed in 1730 a House, Barn, and 12 Acres of land for the education of 12 poor boys in Bawdeswell, and 8 in Foxley, now vested in William Bayfield, and William Copeland. The clear produce £9.10s. per annum."

The land was held by many different people and families: in pre-conquest days by Godric, then by Earl Alan, then, through the Crown, by the Munchensy family, then the Earls of Pembroke, then to the Earls of Kent, one of which family wasted his inheritance in gambling, and died in the George Inn, Lombard Street, London, having sold the Manor to Sir Charles Somerset, the natural son of the late Duke of Somerset.

STORIES FROM THE SCHOOL

The Shipwreck - Tony Wright, aged 10

The Lagoon was floating calmly on the sea when suddenly a wind blew up and the little ship tossed and turned and rolled. The thunder rumbled, the lightning flashed like a big electric wire darting across the sky. The Captain shouted; "All hands on deck". The wind howled like a face in pain and the little ship was blown across the sea towards a rocky beach. Suddenly there was a crack, and the ship was slowly being crushed in pieces as if a giant hammer had hit it. The Captain shouted, "Man the life boats!" Quickly they rowed away, watching their ship being smashed in pieces before their eyes.

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At the Fair - Joanna Ames, aged 11.

After a delicious bar of sweet chocolate I put on my coat, and headed towards Green Field, where Mr. Grey's Circus was being held. At last I reached my destination. As I looked round I saw coconut shies, a Punch and Judy Show, refreshments, stalls and roundabouts. Walking between the stalls were clowns, gipsies, dwarfs, a showman and a fat lady. I walked up to an attendant, and asked if he could tell me where I could buy my ticket. He pointed to a small caravan which was brightly painted in red and yellow, in which an old gipsy was counting money with obvious enjoyment.

..*.*.*

SPORT

Corpusty School visited us on 1st. April, and honours were even. The football match was lost by one goal to three, whilst the Bawdeswell girls chalked up a netball victory of eleven goals to five. The girls also recorded another netball victory over Melton Constable Primary, whom they met on April 6th. On Wed. April 7th the boys played Foulsham and football and won 8 - 4; but lost to Brisley 0 - 4. This is our bogey team !

The girls visited Reepham Secondary School and just lost a hard fought game, 4 - 5.

In the Summer Term we look forward to Athletics.

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BAWDESWELL MAY FAIR

SATURDAY 8th MAY

VILLAGE HALL 2.30pm - 5pm

- STALLS • REFRESHMENTS • GRAND DRAW.
- ADULTS 5p - CHILDREN FREE
-

FOLLOWED SAME NIGHT BY A

SOCIAR EVENING -

BRING A BOTTLE !! - DRINKING ETC -
8pm

IN AID OF VILLAGE HALL FUNDS

FOYLEY

*

BEST PAIR DARTS CONTEST

WEDNESDAY 26th MAY 8pm. GOOD PRIZES -

ADMISSION.

PLAYERS 25p. each

NON-PLAYERS 10p. each.

ENTRIES BY 15th MAY TO D. WEBSTER (TEL. 304) OR

P. ELSDETH (TEL. 306).

DANCE - FRIDAY 21st MAY 8pm.

**

ADMISSION £1.00. TO CULPEPPER COUNTY

VOTED BRITAIN'S TOP COUNTRY & WESTERN
GROUP