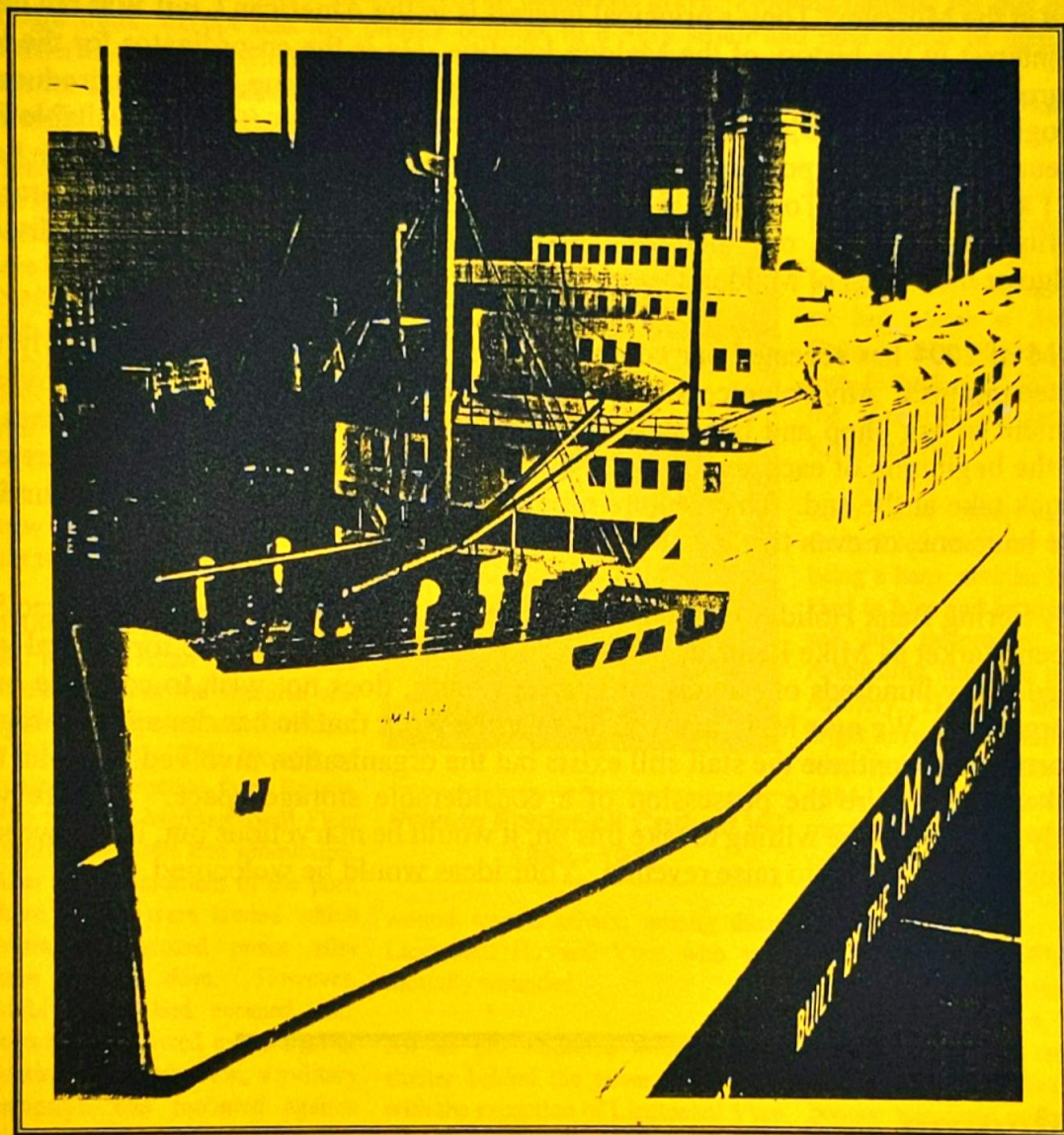


THE PENNY FARTHING

The Newsletter of Maldon District Museum Association



R.M.S. HIMALAYA

You may recall that in an earlier magazine we asked for details and/or the whereabouts of the fantastic model constructed by the apprentices at E. H. Bentall & Co to be paraded at selected displays from time to time.

The result was a complete blank except for the picture herewith reproduced.

So we ask once again whether anyone has any information about this magnificent model that it may be recorded for all time and filed in the depths of the Museum accessions, c/o Liz Willshire?



Success! In this issue we welcome our new editor, Tony Mandara, who has been helping as a steward at the Museum. Tony's principal interest is in the American Civil War but he has a lively interest in the history of the Maldon locality. He is the co-ordinator for the local history group of Maldon U3A and has, with the help of that group, recently produced A Chronological History of Maldon that is a most interesting work. (Copies available from the Museum at £3.80 plus postage). I am sure that the Penny Farthing is in very safe hands but also I am certain that Tony would echo the plea of Len Barrell, our retiring editor, for contributions from all of our members, each of whom must have special individual knowledge or memories of Maldon that could be shared with us all.

The AGM of 2004 has revealed our continuing need for secretarial help particularly with Committee minutes. Any volunteers? There is also a vacancy for someone to take over the management of our shop and bookstall. The duties are light, involving the purchase of stock at the beginning of each season, some topping up during the weeks that we are open and a stock take at the end. This venture produces a healthy contribution to our funds so could we have one, or even two, persons to take this on.

The early Spring Bank Holiday could have seen the last appearance of our bric-a-brac Stall at the open market as Mike Bennett, who has co-ordinated this enterprise for several years and raised many hundreds of pounds for museum funds, does not wish to continue in his role as organiser. We owe Mike many thanks for the work that he has done in this regard; the opportunity to continue the stall still exists but the organisation involved is not an easy task and would require the possession of a considerable storage space. If there were somebody, who would be willing to take this on, it would be marvellous but, if not, we shall be looking for other ways to raise revenue. Your ideas would be welcomed.

Paddy Lacey

Welcome ...

... to this edition of *Penny Farthing*. Regular readers may notice a few changes to the appearance of the magazine which we hope you will approve. These changes are the result of Len, at long last, getting an assistant, Tony Mandara. Tony will be responsible for the visual appearance of the magazine and preparing it ready for printing. It is intended that he will eventually take over all of Len's magazine duties. So, from now on, will contributors please send items for inclusion to:

Tony Mandara, 41 Abbotsmead, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex CM9 4PT. Tel (01621) 840056.

All articles, items, photos, comments and letters are welcome.

Please note that the copy deadline for the September 2004 issue is 15 August

LOCAL HERO RECOGNISED AT LAST

On 25th September 1912 a pauper died in the infirmary of Maldon Workhouse and was buried five days later at London Road Cemetery in an unmarked grave. Nothing unusual for that period you might think, except that this pauper belongs to a very small and elite group of men - he was Frederick Corbett, winner of Britain's highest award for valour, the Victoria Cross. Now, after almost 100 years, a memorial has finally been erected over Corbett's grave, thanks to the efforts of Geoff Cotterell, a member of Maldon & District University of the Third Age.

Corbett, whose birth name was David Embleton, the son of baker William Embleton, is reputed to have been born in Maldon on 17th October 1853, although one source claims that he was born in Camberwell, London, in 1851. In 1880, having previously served with the Essex Rifle Volunteers, he enlisted in the 3rd Battalion, The King's Royal Rifle Corps (now the Royal Green Jackets). Just two years later he won his VC.

In 1881 the Egyptian army, under its leader Arabi Pasha, had revolted against the Khedive and attacked Europeans and Christians at Alexandria. This brought an immediate response from Britain, who sent the Mediterranean Fleet to force the rebels into submission. After a bombardment of the port, shore parties were landed which eventually restored peace after three or four days. However, Arabi Pasha had escaped and, because he showed every sign of continuing his rebellion, a military campaign was mounted against him.

In August Sir Garnet Wolseley landed at Alexandria with an army of 60,000 troops and promptly took control of the Suez Canal. On 5th August 1882, during a reconnaissance at Kafr Dowar (15 miles south east of Alexandria) the Mounted Infantry, with whom Private Corbett was serving, came under heavy fire. From a distance of only 250 yards the enemy managed to kill one man and



Private Frederick Corbett VC
1853 - 1912

wound several others; among them Lieutenant Howard Vyse who was mortally wounded.

All of the wounded were able to shelter behind the cover of a bank, with the exception of Lieutenant Vyse who fell in the open and was subject to intense fire from the Egyptians. Private Corbett asked, and obtained permission to remain with him, and although under constant attack, he attempted to staunch the officer's wounds. When orders to retreat were received Corbett helped to carry the wounded man off the field. Although sadly the officer died, Private Corbett was awarded the VC for his outstanding courage in being prepared to sacrifice his life to try to save another.

Corbett was gazetted for his actions on 16th February 1883 and received his medal from Field Marshall Lord Napier of Magdala on 2nd March at Abin Square, Cairo. His other decorations include the Egypt 1882 medal with the Tel-el-Kebir clasp, and the Khedives Star.

Soon after receiving the VC Corbett left the army but, despite being a hero, civilian life was not kind to him and he was forced to sell his decoration; afterwards re-enlisting, this time in the Royal Artillery. However any hopes he might have had of a military career were quickly curtailed when, in 1884, he was convicted by court martial of embezzlement from an officer, fraud and being AWOL. As a consequence Corbett was ordered to forfeit his decoration, one of only eight recipients ever having to do so (although, as he had already sold it, he never actually handed the medal back). The decision to deprive him of his honour was later overruled when King George V decreed that, once awarded, the VC could never be taken away, no matter what the recipient's crimes, and that they were entitled to wear it even to the gallows.

Corbett ended his days in Maldon Workhouse where he died aged 58. Because he was a bachelor there were no immediate family to mourn him or to erect a memorial to mark his resting place (row 4, grave 27). (cont page 3)

So he has lain unnoticed until last year when Geoff Cotterell discovered the story and managed to locate the grave with the assistance of Maldon's Cemetery Officer. He then decided that this forgotten hero should receive his due recognition and approached the Royal Green Jackets in an endeavour to persuade them to erect a suitable headstone. As the last resting place of all but about 17 VC winners is known the Regiment was eager to assist and on 16th April 2004, a memorial was erected over the grave of Private Frederick Corbett VC. Some 50 military and civic dignitaries came to pay their respects and attend the moving ceremony in which prayers were said and three buglers from the Royal Green Jackets played the Last Post.

The bronze used in making the VC comes from a cannon captured during the Crimea War and the metal used has a value of only about £1.50. In 1924 Corbett's medal was purchased for £50 and now resides in the Royal Green Jackets' Museum at Winchester. Today a VC is so rare (only 1,351 have ever been awarded), that an example is currently worth between £150,000 to £200,000 depending on the winner and his citation.

Tony Mandara

If you can add any further information to this item or are able to confirm that Corbett / Embleton was born in Maldon please let us know.



SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE ...

54, BRESSEY GROVE,
SOUTH WOODFORD, E. 18.
PHONE: WANSTEAD 0855

The Town Clerk
Borough of Maldon

18/8/45

Dear Sir,

I have parked my car on dozens of Parking Grounds throughout England, Scotland & Wales but "Maldon" is the only place at which I've had to pay 1/- to leave the car on Rough Grass land, misnamed a "Car park".

It wouldn't be quite such an "Imposition" if there had been an attendant in the "Immediate Vicinity" to prevent children and/or others taking an inquisitive interest in the car, Para 4 on the ticket by the way has no Legal Strength whatever.

I return the Ticket with my Protest & suggest that a charge of 6d for say 3 hours is ample

Yours Faithfully

(Signature indecipherable)

Copy of a letter sent to
Maldon Borough Council
in 1945

The offending Para 4 in
the letter reads:

Neither the Council nor their representatives shall be liable for any loss, injury or damage occurring to any person or vehicle, or its fittings or to any property therein or in consequence of any vehicle, or property being taken to or left at or removed from the Parking Place.

No. 1632

CAR

BOROUGH OF MALDON
Recreation Ground Car Park.

Available for **DAY OF ISSUE**

All cars must be removed from Car Park before closing time on date of issue of Ticket

DATE

VEHICLE No.

AVAILABLE UNTIL

Issued subject to the following Regulations

1. A person is liable for any damage or injury to the property of the Council or any person or vehicle, or its fittings, or to any property therein or in consequence of any vehicle, or property being taken to or left at or removed from the Parking Place.
2. A person is liable for any damage or injury to the property of the Council or any person or vehicle, or its fittings, or to any property therein or in consequence of any vehicle, or property being taken to or left at or removed from the Parking Place.
3. A person is liable for any damage or injury to the property of the Council or any person or vehicle, or its fittings, or to any property therein or in consequence of any vehicle, or property being taken to or left at or removed from the Parking Place.
4. A person is liable for any damage or injury to the property of the Council or any person or vehicle, or its fittings, or to any property therein or in consequence of any vehicle, or property being taken to or left at or removed from the Parking Place.

This Ticket must be exhibited on the Vehicle during the time it is in the Car Park.

... SOME THINGS CERTAINLY DO!

BLUE BOAR HOTEL

MALDON

Tel.: Maldon 28

ALL RATION BOOKS (including Soap) must be produced by visitors staying for 5 nights or longer.

TARIFF

A charge of 10/- is made for Service.

	£	s.	d.
Single Room and Breakfast, per night	9	6	
Double Room and Breakfast, per night	10	0	
Twin-Bedded Room and Breakfast, per night	19	0	
Luncheon — — —	3	6	
Afternoon Tea — — —	1	6	
Dinner — — —	4	6	
En Pension Terms* for stay of four days or over, per day	17	6	
Weekly — — —	5	5	0
Extras: Coffee after meals			6
Garage overnight —	1	6	

*En Pension Terms must be claimed when the room is booked.

These terms are subject to revision without notice.

Trust Houses Ltd.

1947.

ST CEDD'S CHAT-LINE

By Liz Willsher

Some more news of the Accession team at St Cedds and a request for a new officer.

First the business in hand - In 2005 an exhibition is being planned in conjunction with the Museum of Power to celebrate the bi-centenary of the founding of Bentalls, a very important local company of their time.

The Museum are lucky to have a number of documents and books including plans and working manuals of early machinery to apprentice reports for a one-time employee (now resident in the USA by the name of Terry Ruggles) and small engines and items of machinery.

More Bentall items will be gratefully received for loan or donation. If any members can help please contact Mike Bennett at the Museum.

Interesting recent acquisitions include a nice portrait of William Raven, loaned by Mrs M Lanham. William Raven worked at Sadlers (later Taylors) as a sailmaker for many years and is portrayed at his work.

We have also received a box of Maldon Crystal Salt which must date back to 1900 or before. The packet bears a recommendation from the Lancet dated January 5th 1884. Also, according to the packet, a testimonial and analysis are enclosed inside ... as yet unseen as the packet has never been opened!

On a personal note, I shall be standing down from the position of Accessions Officer as from the AGM on May 25th. Although there is a very able and experienced team at St Cedds a designated officer is needed for the committee. The work is very interesting and absorbing, and can be fun. If any reader wishes to become involved I can guarantee excellent support from Judy, Betty and Julia to whom I am sad to say a temporary (I hope) goodbye.

More news from St Cedds in the next next edition.

What a Small, Small World We Live In

During a recent telephone conversation with Terry Ruggles, an old Maldonian and Bentall employee, who now resides near Boston, Massachusetts, he related the following tale.

At a print shop near his home, he handed over a photograph of the famous Bentall car. The print shop assistant, being a great car buff, was most interested in the picture as he had never come across the car before and wanted to know all about it. Meanwhile a large, and probably irritable, queue was forming. Terry explained that the car had been manufactured in a town called Maldon in Essex, England.

From the rear of the queue a voice called out "Did I hear you say Maldon, Essex? I have relatives there called Frost, who live in Tolleshunt Major!". What an extraordinary coincidence

The Butcher, the Baker and the Candlestick Maker

In this issue of *Penny Farthing* we introduce a new series about Victorian tradesmen of Maldon adapted from ten leaflets produced by, and available from, J A Vesey, 9 Littlefield Way, Fairlands, Guilford, Surrey GU3 3JE.



No 1 THE BUTCHER

In contrast with today, Maldon boasted numerous butcher's establishments throughout much of the Victorian era. White's Directory of 1848 listed twelve such shops and although this number was to drop to nine by 1882 it returned to twelve by 1892.

Among the Town's Victorian butchers were;

John George Finch (usually known as George) was born in 1849, the third son of Samuel & Eliza (nee Handley) and attended Maldon National School. He became a master plumber and glazier but also had a pork butcher shop at 133 High Street. In 1872, at the Wesleyan Chapel, George married Matilda Freeman, one of the thirteen children of Joseph Freeman a grocer with a shop in

Wantz Road. George and Matilda set up home in Wantz Road where they had ten children. George died in 1927 but one of his sons, George Frederick, carried on the family trade by becoming a pork butcher.

Another local boy was Charles Murrell Handley who was born in Maldon in 1843, the son of David and Ann (nee Freeman). Beside being a butcher he became a Christadelphian preacher and served as a Borough Councillor for many years. He married Faith Anne Burrells with whom he had eight children but sadly only two survived him. His second wife was Marianne Cattermole. At the time of his death in 1927 he was living in Southsea, Hampshire.

Charles' son, George William Round Handley, born in 1865, followed in his father's footsteps to become a butcher with premises at the top of the High Street. He emigrated to America in 1891 with his wife, Mary Bray, and their children and died three years later in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Robert Blaxall was born in 1833 in Tolleshunt D'arcy and had a butchers shop in Market Hill. He married Hannah Jane Gepp and their three sons also became butchers.

The Ketley brothers, George and Herbert, followed in their father's footsteps to become butchers. Both were born in Langford, George in 1856 and Herbert in 1861, and they had their premises in Silver Street and Market Hill respectively.

The exotically named Quintin Dick Greatrex was born in Maldon on 8 November 1845, the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (nee Pretty). Quintin married Martha Elizabeth Strutt at All Saints Church in 1870 and traded as a butcher first in London Road and then the High Street. He eventually moved to Chipping Hill where he died in 1924.

Vesey's leaflet lists a further 47 Maldon butchers but without any details as to when or where they traded.



**MALDON DISTRICT MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held in Room 19, St Cedd's on Tuesday, 25 May 2004**

Present:

Dr PJ Lacey (Chairman)
Mr DM Fitch (President)
Mr LF Barrell (Vice President)
Mrs P Lacey
Mr M Bennett
Mrs J Betteridge
Mrs B Chittenden
Mr H Craig
Mr A Mandara
Mrs D Mandara
Mrs M Middleton
Mr AF Tullett
Mrs E Wilshire

**1 Chairman's Welcome and
Opening Remarks**

Dr Lacey, having ensured a quorum was present, opened the Meeting and welcomed everybody, particularly Derek Fitch (President) and Len Barrell (Vice-President). He thanked all attending for coming to the Meeting and showing an interest in the Museum.

2 Apologies

Before listing apologies Tony Tullett reported on the recent death on 21 May of Anne Day, a Friend of the Museum.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr C Barrell, Mrs L Barrell, Mr R Brewster, Mary Taylor and Mrs J Tullett.

**3 Minutes of the last Annual
General meeting - 20 May
2003**

It was proposed by Mike Bennett and seconded by Pam Lacey that the Minutes be

accepted as a true record and be signed as such by the Chairman.

4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising which would not be commented on later in the Meeting

(a) Chairman

The Chairman reported that 2003/2004 had been a busy year with all Primary Schools in Maldon have visited. Other schools out of the immediate area had also arranged visits. Thanks were recorded to Molly Middleton and Ray Brewster for making contact with Schools.

i) Lottery Heritage Fund.

The Chairman advised that he had attended several meetings and entered into much correspondence but the application for a substantial grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund was proving too complex and difficult. He suggested that as it was very time-consuming he would not be pursuing this source of funds but would be in contact with Awards for All.

ii) A Resident's Open Day

Had been organised by Maldon District Council and we had provided free admission on that day. 40-50 people attended.

iii) We would continue our policy of closing Carnival Saturday.

iv) Liaison Meetings

Our association with Maldon District Council had been minded by Jonathan Dixon and Averil Spencer. Jonathan Dixon had now moved on and Averil Spencer was engaged elsewhere within MDC.

(b) Secretary

Tony Tullett advised that since the last AGM ten Committee Meetings had been held and that Mike Bennett alone had been present at all and attendance among others was regular.

(c) Treasurer

Tony Tullett regretted that the accounts to 31 March 2004 had shown a substantial deficit as compared with the surplus of over £1,000 in the previous year. Mention was made of specific items of income and expenditure with particular reference to the Table Top sales held in the Prom Market which Mike Bennett did not wish to continue in the future. Alternative sources of funds would require to be sought. The Hon Treasurer proposed and Liz Wilshire seconded that the accounts be accepted subject to audit.

(d) Membership Secretary

Colin Barrell provided a report to the Chairman and wished to record his thanks to all members who have

supported the museum in the past year and particularly to those who once again already paid their Membership fees for 2004/2005. The current Membership is approximately 120, similar to last year.

e) Displays Officer

i) Mike Bennett commented that we had invited the Margery Allingham Society again, particularly as 2004 is the centenary of her birth.

ii) The kitchen facilities had been relocated downstairs and that part of the premises used for storage.

iii) There will be a substantial Bentalls Exhibition in Room 4 in 2005 to commemorate the bi-centenary.

iv) The Chairman congratulated the Display Team on their efforts with particular reference to the gifts from the late Muriel Binder.

Liz Willsher advised that there had been a steady flow of donations and that the computerised records were well up to date. She would, however, not be seeking re-election as Accessions Officer due to other commitments.

(g) Stewarding Secretary

i) In the absence of the Stewarding Secretary the Chairman read Lynda Barrell's report. Mrs Barrell wished to thank all stewards who were giving up their time in helping the Museum and reported that after a few

hiccups and some changes to the original rota everything seems to be going fairly smoothly.

ii) It is hoped that everyone who has received their badges is happy with them.

(h) Other Reports

The Vice-President advised that he has passed over management of the Penny Farthing magazine to Tony Mandara and Tony suggested that the more contributions he received the better.

6 Subscriptions 2005

The Hon Treasurer suggested that subscriptions from 1 April 2005 should remain the same.

7 Election of President

The Chairman proposed that Mr Derek Maldon Fitch be re-elected - agreed unanimously.

8 Election of Vice-Chairman

The Chairman proposed that Len Barrell be re-elected - agreed unanimously.

**9 Election of Officers and
Committee**

The President, Mr Derek Fitch, proposed that Dr PJ Lacey be re-elected Chairman. Carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman/Secretary: Mr AF Tullett advised the Meeting that he would not be able to continue in either capacity. Both posts were

therefore kept open.

Hon Treasurer: Dr PJ Lacey proposed that Mr AF Tullett be re-elected as Hon Treasurer. Carried unanimously.

Committee Members: Mrs M Middleton, Mr R Brewster, Mr M Bennett and Mrs L Barrell, all having agreed to continue in office, were re-elected and Mrs B Chittenden was appointed to join the Committee.

As the Committee were two people short Dr PJ Lacey proposed that Mr Tony Mandara be co-opted and he agreed. A copy of the Minutes of Committee Meetings would be sent to him.

10 Appointment of Auditor

Tony Tullett proposed that Peter Maynard be re-appointed. This proposal was seconded by Mike Bennett and unanimously agreed.

11 Closing Remarks

The Chairman thanked those for attending the AGM and closed the Meeting at 8.38 pm for informal discussion.

do you know ?

The name of Tenterfield Road, Maldon, derives from the wool and cloth industry. It refers to an open field where "tenters" were erected. These were sharp hooks on which cloths were stretched to dry evenly in the sun. "Tenters" is also the origin of the expression for suspense "being on tenter hooks".

A Closer Look at an Exhibit ...



Enfield Three Band Rifle Musket

Within our museum there resides a piece of military hardware that was once the state of the art infantry weapon of its day. I refer to the larger of the two rifles on the wall at the top of the stairs - the Enfield rifle. Members may perhaps be interested to know a little more about this particular exhibit.

The Enfield Rifle, more correctly called the Enfield three band Rifle Musket, was adopted by the British Army in 1855 as its general infantry weapon. It was manufactured at the Government Armoury in Enfield, Middlesex, and saw service throughout much of the world.

It weighed 9 pounds, 3 ounces (including an angular, socket bayonet) and was 54 inches long with the length of the barrel being 39 inches. The diameter of the barrel was .577 inches which meant it fired a heavy lead conical bullet, just slightly smaller than the top joint of a person's thumb. When fired at 500 yards it had a mean deviation of only 2 1/4 feet and was sighted for 1,100 yards, but this distance was considered excessive since it was not accurate beyond 700 yards.

According to contemporary accounts it was "a beautiful arm and presented a natty appearance". However, a major criticism was that, as many pieces of the rifle were made by hand rather than precision-manufactured by machines, there was a lack of inter-changeability of parts between weapons thus making repairs difficult. Even the bayonet could

often only be used with the particular rifle for which it had been made.

Nevertheless, in spite of these shortcomings, the men who used these weapons in battle valued them highly and the rifles were sold in the hundreds of thousands to foreign armies.

Second only to the American Springfield Rifle, the Enfield became the most popular infantry weapon during the American Civil War (1861-1865) with both sides making extensive use of it. In the early months of the war alone, the U.S. Government purchased 428,000 while the Confederates purchased some 400,000.

It took eleven separate movements to load and fire an Enfield and a skilled infantryman could fire three rounds per minute. First he would have to place the butt of the rifle on the ground; then remove a paper cartridge from his ammunition pouch and rip the end open with his teeth before pouring the black powder, bullet (called a "Minie" ball) and paper down the barrel.

During the American Civil War almost the only medical requirement a recruit had to meet was to have his own front teeth. Medical examiners frequently passed 'as fit for duty' men with hernias, TB, or who were lame or crippled in some other way - just so long as they had teeth to tear open a paper cartridge!

Having poured the powder and bullet down the muzzle the soldier would remove the ramrod from its housing under the barrel and place it down the muzzle to tamp down the bullet, ensuring it sat snugly at the bottom. The ramrod would then be returned to its housing. Failure to do so could result in the ramrod being fired like an arrow when the gun was discharged, the rifle would then become unusable until another ramrod could be acquired. This was not an uncommon mistake in the heat of battle. Many men adopted the habit of sticking the ramrod into the ground beside them in order to speed up loading during combat. The length of the rifle meant it was only possible to load while standing upright thus exposing the user to enemy fire - another reason for haste and forgetfulness.

Once loaded, the hammer would be pulled half back (half-cocked) and a copper percussion cap, similar to those used in a child's cap pistol, placed on the nipple under the hammer. The soldier would then pull back the hammer fully, take aim and fire - then start the whole procedure again.

Frequently new recruits would forget to put a percussion cap on the nipple and, due to the noise of combat, fail to hear that the gun had not fired or to notice that there had been no "kick" from the discharged weapon. Consequently he would reload and often repeat the mistake of omitting the percussion cap. Records show that, after every battle, many hundreds of guns were recovered with unfired bullets

rammed down the muzzle. After the battle of Gettysburg an examination of 27,574 muskets picked up from the battlefield found 24,000 were still loaded. Of these, 6,000 (20 percent) were charged with from 3 to 10 loads and one contained 23 loads, each charge being put down in regular order. We can only wonder what would have happened if the soldier had suddenly remembered to use a percussion cap - presumably the barrel would have exploded in his face with devastating results.

The .577 calibre Minie bullet had a hollow indentation in the base which, when the black powder exploded, caused the bullet to expand slightly, gripping the grooves inside the barrel thus aiding accuracy and distance.

On impact the bullet would punch a small hole through soft tissue but, the moment it struck bone, it would flatten out into a disc about the size of a £2 coin capable of shattering the bone and tearing a huge exit hole. Casualties wounded in the arm or

leg would almost always suffer amputation while body wounds were usually considered fatal. Surgeons would waste little time on someone shot in the chest, unless he was an officer. Civil War surgeons worked at great speed, partly because of the huge number of casualties they had to deal with but, primarily, because the shock of the operation (frequently carried out without any form of anaesthetic) could kill the patient.

Surgeons at that time had no understanding of hygiene or basic cleanliness and would use the same unsterilised scalpels and saws on each patient. They simply washed their instruments in a bucket of cold water taken from a nearby pond or stream, and used a wet sponge dipped in the same water to wash down the patient and the wooden operating table. This practice naturally led to infected wounds but suppuration was considered to be quite normal and a part of the healing process - surgeons referred to it as "laudable" pus. On those rare occasions when a wound began

to heal without oozing pus the surgeon would deliberately introduce a foreign body to cause it to do so!

Fortunately weapons such as the Enfield were very inaccurate except at close quarters. It has been estimated that at the first battle of Bull Run in 1861 some 10,000 rounds were fired for every man hit. Even so, there were some 5,000 casualties - and this was one of the smaller battles of the Civil War! In all, half a million men lost their lives during that war and a further half a million were seriously wounded - the Enfield rifle being a major contributor to the tragedy.

By 1865, the end of the Civil War, single shot muzzle loading rifles were being superseded by breech loading, repeating weapons. The day of the Enfield Rifle was over. But, the next time you pass that rusting relic on our Museum wall, remember that once it was the Armatite rifle of its day - and perhaps spare a thought for the human misery it caused.

Wartime Crash

The Maldon and Burnham Standard recently published a letter requesting information regarding an accident at Fullbridge during the Second World War. According to the correspondent, an army truck took its roof off as it passed under the old railway bridge and several soldiers were killed.

Since the article the newspaper has heard from Marjorie Smith who lived at Fullbridge at the time. Despite being only 13 or 14 years when the accident occurred, she recalls being told that an army lorry had tried to go under the low bridge (since removed) and a number of men had been decapitated. This information has been supported by Mr Keeling who was walking from Heybridge to Maldon with his aunt and saw the lorry lying on its side with the road covered in blood and a number of bodies covered by blankets. Several other people have confirmed similar details of this incident, including our own Len Barrell who was working nearby.

However, according to *Migration to Maldon* by Margaret Rooke Mathews, an RAF officer was killed in a three ton lorry while standing up and facing to the rear to give directions to the rest of his convoy as it passed under the bridge. This is supposed to have occurred on 31 August 1942. Could this be the same incident or were there two similar accidents at the same place?

Any clarification or additional information on this matter would be gratefully received. Replies to *Penny Farthing*, (address page 1).

Identifying PERIOD HOUSES

Adapted from an original article by Michael Rothenstein

Throughout England, in almost every town and village, can be found houses of all dates and eras, often with different periods standing side by side and frequently leaning together as if for support. For many of us it is often difficult to recognise to which period a particular property belongs so, with this issue of *Penny Farthing*, we begin a new series on how to date old buildings. Hopefully this guide will enable you, at a glance, to identify the characteristic line and shape of English domestic architecture.

We begin with a pair of lowly cottages, the simple Cotswold type and the thatched East Anglian (below). The actual date of either hardly matters, since both types persisted from the end of the 15th century to the middle of the 18th. This humble building tradition, dependent on local skills and materials - close to the earth in a very real sense - was finally interrupted by the Industrial Revolution. The builders had no theories about design, their problem was simply to provide shelter for the cottager and his few belongings by the cheapest method possible. In the timber-framed cottage the weight of roof and first floor is carried by a wood framework, the space between the members being filled by lath and plaster or brickwork.

The East Anglian yeoman's house (right) dates from the late 15th century. Simple and large in feeling, it is built on the characteristic H plan. Early builders found large roof spaces difficult to span so they designed the H plan as a way of breaking down the size to more manageable proportions. This effectively allowed them to build three small roofs linked together.

Timber framing goes "out of true" with age, creating a somewhat drunken appearance so beloved by amateur artists.



Cotswold style cottage

Thatched East Anglian cottage

The brick chimneys of Tudor farmhouses - often bulky and monumental - are a feature of the style. Chimneys only became common towards the end of the 16th century and, when seen on earlier buildings, are usually later additions. Previously, holes or vents in the roof and walls had to suffice for getting rid of smoke from open fires.



Miserly mediaeval house planning within walled cities restricted the ground floor space of buildings, driving 16th century housing upwards. Consequently the small-town Tudor house (shown right) has an overhung or "jettied" upper floor which enabled the carpenter to strengthen the structure by interlocking walls and floor. This arrangement was particularly useful in areas where the actual building plot size was restricted because it allowed larger upper-floor spaces to be created. It also permitted the upstairs occupant to shoot waste and

night soil direct into the narrow street below - the reason why a gentleman always used to walk next to the roadway, to protect his lady from being doused in slops from above!

The building illustrated is timber frame throughout with square topped windows having a single horizontal division; showing how the ordinary builder had learnt to translate stone manor house architecture into the vernacular of wood construction. The space between the timbers is filled with lath and plaster; in other parts of the country it might have a brick infill, depending upon the availability of local materials and the wealth of the builder's customer.



The architectural character is irregular, vigorous and romantic, with strongly carved ornamental details. Great use was made of contrasting surface textures.

Eventually by-laws to curb wood construction were rigorously enforced after frequent and disastrous fires destroyed many town areas.

The early 17th century style is called Jacobean, but in essentials it differs so little from the Elizabethan that many authorities call both styles Jacobethan.

The architectural character is transitional. The romantic spirit still needed skylines broken by turrets, battlements and clustered chimneys. The general Tudor pattern of windows and walls remains, but parts of the house, particularly the entrance, becomes classical in detail.

Large houses were generally built round an open courtyard with an elaborate gatehouse entry and a vestigial moat. The naively showy design of the gatehouse of Cobham Hall, Kent, (upper right) is thoroughly Elizabethan. Exuberant, incorrect and ill-assorted, yet the classical detail is oddly attractive -



but bears no relation to the straightforward architecture of the house behind.

The great houses of the period were always many-windowed: sometimes more glass than wall. Decoration is inventive and vigorously carved: strapwork, with oval and lozenge-shaped projections, ornamental columns and heraldic devices.

To be continued ...





The First 9½ ?

Our photo shows Maldon Grammar School's First Eleven football team, except that one player is absent and another has his arm in a sling. The date is for the season 1919-1920. Perhaps some readers may recognise a familiar face and can let us know who the players were, or provide any additional information.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ... ?

Maldon's first Promenade Park keeper was paid the princely sum of £46. 16. shillings in 1898 - for a whole year's work!

Over 17,000 individual bedding plants and 3,000 bulbs are used annually.

200,000 people visit the Park every year.

1,200 hours are spent cutting the grass each year - and to think I grumble about mowing my lawn.

Each year over 1,800 hours are spent picking up litter and emptying litter bins.

From a Maldon District Council Fact Sheet

VE Celebrations

This souvenir programme for the Children's V Day Celebrations party, 19th September, 1945, came into the Museum's possession in 2003 as part of the Muriel Binder bequest.

No doubt to everyone's delight, schools were closed and all the children in the Borough were invited to attend free of charge, free transport being provided for those residing in the outlying parts of the Borough. In addition each child was presented with a commemorative badge.

A note at the bottom of the programme states "A tea and first-class entertainment for the elderly people will be provided at a later date" Nothing for the "in-betweens" it seems!


The children certainly received first class entertainments, starting with a film show at the Embassy Cinema, including a performance on the famous Wurlitzer organ. The film shown was "Age of Flight" plus the news and a full supporting programme. During the day, on the Recreation Ground (presumably the Promenade?) the tiny tots took part in a fancy dress parade, and the older children competed in a Sports meeting.

Fun and games on the Promenade were listed as Swings, Roundabouts and Mat Slide, pony Cart and Pony Back Rides, Golf and Tennis, Pram Dinghies on the Marine Lake and Motor Boat, Sailing Boat and Rowing Boat Trips on the River - all FREE.

In the evening at the Parish hall in the High Street, and the Jubilee Hall, Clown Bertram and Professor Bourne entertained.

Does anyone remember this event, I wonder? I was four at the time, and don't recall it all, and does anyone still have a commemorative badge or know what sort of entertainment Professor Bourne offered?

Judy Betteridge

BOROUGH  MALDON.
OF
VICTORY CELEBRATIONS.

Children's V Day

19th September. 1945.

Souvenir
Programme

Who Are We?



The charming photograph above was found a few months ago in the waste-cardboard skip at Maldon's recycling depot. Unfortunately there was nothing to identify who the people were - perhaps readers may be able to assist?

The only clues are as follows:

- 1) Because it was found in Maldon it was possibly taken locally
- 2) The photograph was taken professionally by W. H. Fischer - did he have a local business?
- 3) From the style of the clothing it was probably taken in the early 1900s.
- 4) On the card surround the sitters are identified as (left to right): Granna (Grandma?), Ted, Lawrence, Granpa (Grandpa?), John & Mother. As "Mother" is obviously far too young to be the mother of the boys, it is more likely that she is their sister.
- 5) The family are obviously quite well-to-do, both from their clothing and from the fact that they could afford a professional photograph. The building behind them looks like a very substantial house.

If you are able to shed any light on this family please write to *Penny Farthing*, address inside front page.

It would be nice to identify them but, even if that is not possible, the photograph is still an evocative record of times gone by and well worth keeping. If they remain unknown, I think I shall adopt them as my own ancestors.

The Postal History of Maldon

Notes compiled for an Exhibition at the Maldon Museum, 71 High Street - 24th November 1973

By M J Southall East Anglia Postal History Study Circle. 1973.



King Henry VIII regularised the unofficial carrying of letters in 1516, offered the King's postal service to the public and appointed Sir Brian Tuke as Master of the Post.

By 1568, a semi-official postal system operated between London and Norwich, probably by way of Chelmsford and Colchester but was, undoubtedly, an unreliable affair.

Post Stages were set up at Brentwood, Chelmsford, Witham, Colchester and Harwich in 1625 and the mail was carried on horseback between each Stage once a week. Maldon, lying off the main Post Road, did not receive letters on a regular basis at this time. Private carriers to Chelmsford, Witham or London had to be relied upon to convey correspondence to and from the town. An official Bye-post, however, was established from Witham to Maldon by about 1635.

In 1660, the General Letter Office was established and Henry Bishop was appointed Postmaster General. Six main Post Roads from London were established, one being the Essex Great Road to Colchester and then through to Yarmouth.

In 1661, Bishop introduced the first postmark, bearing the day and the month, but it was only used on letters to, or passing through, London. Letters from Essex towns carried on the Essex Great Road were stamped with a postmark reading "Essex Post Goes and: Coms: Every Day:" in 1674. A similar mark was used in 1675.

The first recorded Postmaster for Maldon was a Mr. Brown in 1682. Mr. Hanson was Postmaster in 1686 and received an annual salary

of £2. Mail at this time was received from Chelmsford. The post to Maldon, listed as a Sub Post Office in 1754, was irregular and many delays occurred. Maldon was made a Post Town in 1795.

Edward Bright, the notorious fat man of Maldon, was Post Boy at the age of eleven (1732). He rode on horseback from Chelmsford and carried with him a post horn and whip which still exists today (1973). The post horn is made of natural cow horn straightened out and has a metal mouthpiece engraved "Pro bono publico". The whip is eighteen inches long and has an embossed silver handle and two silver bands interlaced with basketwork. It is a fine example of craftsmanship. Both post horn and whip are owned by the Post Office and were kindly loaned to the Maldon Museum for the Exhibition.

Complaints of letters being constantly delayed at Chelmsford were made in 1793. It was found, on enquiry, that the post boy's horse had died and the poor fellow was carrying letters from Chelmsford on foot.

The Maldon Penny post was established in 1812. This system enabled letters to be conveyed to and from outlying villages and Receiving Houses (the forerunner of our present Sub Post Offices) were set up. A Mail Cart ran from Maldon to Mundon, Latchingdon, Althorne and Burnham. Letters were carried to Southminster, Tillingham, Bradwell, Goldhanger and Tolleshunt D'Arcy by footpost.

Every Receiving House was allocated a number which was applied to the letters and a handstamp reading "Maldon penny post" (several types exist) was

added at Maldon. All penny post letters were charged a penny in addition to the general Post charge which was calculated according to the distance the letter had to travel

The Penny post system was abolished on 10th January 1840 when the Uniform penny post was introduced by Rowland Hill. The village Penny Post handstamps, incorporating the name of the village, were, however, used as office identification marks until the late 1840s or even early 1850s in some places. The nine village handstamps for the Maldon Penny Post were registered and sent to Maldon from Post Office Headquarters on 25th February 1839.

A uniform fourpenny postal system had been successfully operated throughout the country since 5th December 1839. To facilitate letter charging prior to this date, town postmarks incorporated a mileage figure from London. Maldon used several types of mileage mark with the figure 39 below "MALDON". The earliest known postmark just reads MALDEN in a straight line and an example of 1744 was on show at the Exhibition.

John Polly was Postmaster in the High Street in 1823 and he was receiving letters from Chelmsford by Mail Cart. By 1894 the Post Office was at 52 High Street where Anne Everard was Postmistress. The Office is still situated in the same timber-framed building today. There survives a very interesting Victorian pillar box at the foot of Market Hill which is in current use.

playing



the game

Shakespeare's plays were not the only entertainment which the Elizabethans resorted to in order to fill their spare time - board games, bowls, quoits, and lots more, now forgotten, were extremely popular. Many of these pastimes had been played for hundreds of years before Elizabeth's reign and continued being enjoyed right up to the early 1900s. Sadly, with the advent of cinema, television and other modern manufactured entertainments, most of these traditional games have been forgotten and some lost forever.

A number of years ago a company called Stratford Games, manufacturers & wholesalers of period games, produced a leaflet called *The Games from the Plays* detailing a number of pastimes popular in Shakespeare's day. With acknowledgements to Stratford Games, we herewith reproduce a selection of these games.

NINE MEN'S MORRIS

This fascinating game of considerable merit and such antiquity that its precise origins are still hidden in the pagan history of the pre-Christian, was widely played in Elizabethan times, particularly in Shakespeare's Warwickshire.

Originally played as an outdoor game by shepherds and rustics; the Merelle Pound, as the layout of three concentric squares is sometimes known, was easily cut in the turf and the game played by using sticks, stones or other handy objects. Later however, the game became increasingly popular as an indoor board game enjoyed not only by the peasantry but by aristocratic circles too.

The Merelle design has been found carved on benches of Cathedral cloisters, Church walls, Egyptian roofing slabs and in the great flight of steps on the hill at Mihintale in Ceylon.

The game achieved great popularity in Shakespeare's day, being alluded to in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* "The Nine Men's Morris is fill'd up with mud" (*Act 2. 1.*).

There was a Merelle Pound laid out at the Southern end of The Royal Shakespeare Theatre gardens in Stratford-upon-Avon (is it still there?), where it is believed an outdoor version of the game was last played around the turn of the 20th century.

Today, the world over, under a variety of names like Muhle (Germany), Moulins (France) and Molle (Denmark) this highly skilled game of infinite variations is still played and enjoyed.

FOX AND GEESE

Another board game of great antiquity, reference being made to it as early as the 13th century, and one which was much played in Elizabethan times both here and elsewhere.

In the earlier version 13 geese were used but around 1600 the 17 geese version so popular today became more common and numerous variations developed in some cases, 2 faxes were used.

Evidence of the antiquity of the game is to be found in the cloisters of Gloucester Cathedral and other English churches and numerous

mentions of it are made in various chronicles published here and abroad since the Middle Ages.

LOGGATS

A game which was somewhat similar to bowls but played with small logs and one of the sports forbidden by the Act of Henry VIII, 1541. It was mainly a country pastime played on an ash strewn pitch with a jack or jacks at which the loggats were aimed.

It was said to be a favourite sport at sheep-shearing festivals and in Elizabeth's day a kind of loggats was played with bones, for in *Hamlet* we get the following; "Did these bones cost no more the breeding, but to play at loggats with 'em?"

Quarrel often developed about measuring distance between the loggats and the jack, hence the well known phrase: 'To be at loggerheads with someone.'

QUOITS OR COITS

Another of the games which was forbidden under Henry VIII's Act but which nevertheless has remained a very popular game the world over. It is thought to have its

origins in the early Christian era when soldiers in camps played the game.

The passage of time has produced endless variations of the game both indoor and outdoor under a variety of names such as Ring Toss, Ring the Hob, etc. In Shakespeare's day the game was more usually played with heavy metal rings which had to encircle an equally heavy iron stake referred to as a hob. Nowadays wood, rubber or rope rings are used.

NINE-HOLES/TROLL-MY-DAMES

In Shakespeare's time, the ancient English game of Nine-Holes was widely played in and around Stratford-upon-Avon and indeed elsewhere. From its earlier country origins when it was played in open fields, the holes being cut in the ground, it has produced many variations and been played under a variety of names such as Pigeon-Holes, which may have

grown out of the bridge of nine small arches through which balls are rolled into nine holes beyond.

Some writers have suggested that the name Trunk arose from the practice of the ladies of the day rolling balls on the top of the large trunks or chests which adorned most Elizabethan households. Although simple and easy to play it has considerable merit and is still widely enjoyed both indoors and out.

Shakespeare refers to the game in *Winter's Tale* as Troll-my-Dames, possibly as a reference to the habits of certain ladies who, like the balls, tended to wander at will; "A fellow,



Sir that I have known to go about with Troll-my-dames".

SHOVE-GROAT OR SHOVEL BOARD

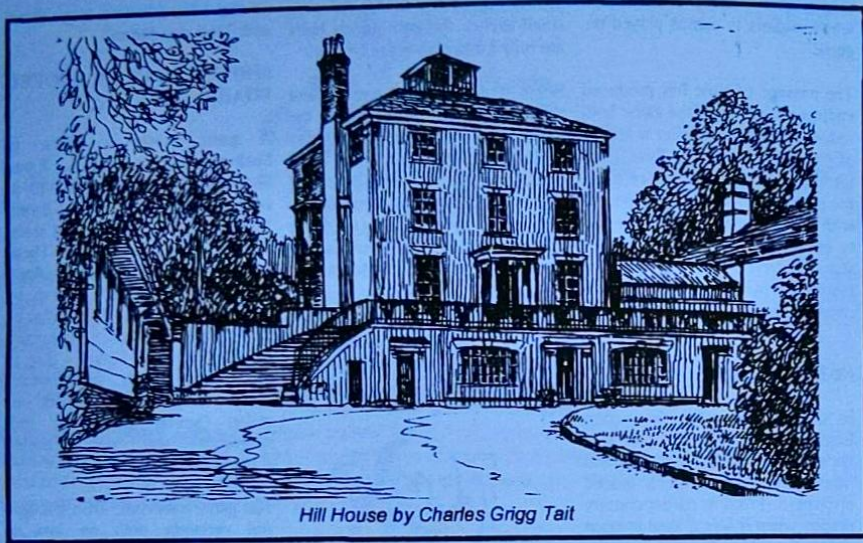
A game much in favour in Shakespeare's day was Shove-Groat or Shovel-Board, in which a groat or an Edward Shilling was flicked by hand along a polished wooden surface. These Edward shillings were particularly broad and when worn smooth by age and use were much sort after by players and were sometimes known as Edward shovel-boards - thus in the *Merry Wives of Windsor*, Slender complains of having had stolen 'seven groats in mill sixpences and two Edward shovel-boards'.

The game survived, little changed and certainly with no loss of enjoyment, to the present day as the well known and ever popular Shove-Halfpenny. Certainly the game was still being played in public houses well into the 1960's.



Above: an invoice heading used by Maldon Iron Works Company before the First World War.

Penny Farthing is always interested in seeing printed ephemera relating to Maldon's history, especially if it can be reproduced. Please send good copies or originals, which will be returned if required, to the address on page 1.



Hill House by Charles Grigg Tail

The Bequest of Alderman Granger

Hill House off Market Hill, the home of Alderman Harold Granger, was bequeathed in his will to the Corporation of Maldon in 1937. The building then served the Town Council as offices until a new block was built.

Alderman Granger had served as a member of the Maldon Town Council for twenty nine years and was first elected Councillor in November 1907 and was elected Alderman on 17th April 1934. A plaque, on the house, to commemorate his gift was unveiled by the mayor, Alderman S G Tydeman on 31st March 1939.

The house was described at the time as "This property situate off Market Hill in its own grounds commands extensive views of the river and inland. It is of brick construction up to the first floor, timber construction above". The Council utilised the various floors as follows:

- Basement: Offices of the rating Officer and Rent Collector, with lavatory accommodation.
- Ground Floor: Offices for the Town Clerk and his department.
- First Floor: Offices for the Borough Engineer and his department
- Second Floor: Offices of the Medical Officer of Health, Borough Sanitary Inspector and Store Rooms.

There was also a gazebo (Bellvedere) above roof level.

The building was equipped with central heating and had an inside well. After being taken over by the Corporation, both internal and G. P. O. Telephones were installed, and the whole building adapted as offices. Internal works were carried out by Messrs. W A Claydon & Sons of Ulting, whilst Messrs. Sewell & Richardson of Maldon were responsible for the external repair and decoration.

In the garden at the rear of the property was a large greenhouse containing grape vines. A particular feature of the building was the size of the stone slabs forming the entrance flat at the front of the building.

A History of Maldon Grammar Schools

From notes by William John Petchey B.A.

County Historians of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries accepted 1608 as the date for the foundation of Maldon Grammar School and they referred to it, after its founder, as Ralph Breeder's School. Towards the end of the 18th century the names of some 15th century schoolmasters were discovered in the borough archives which had, until then, lain neglected in the Moot Hall at Maldon, inaccessible to earlier writers. Among these records are the court rolls, in which the names of the schoolmasters can be found and from these references came the legend of the foundation of the school in about 1400 A.D.

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Clark who discovered and published these names began his account cautiously: "The Grammar School that now is at Maldon dates from 1608", but he went on: "the Court Rolls of the Borough give us a glimpse of an earlier, older than Eton, almost as old as Winchester ..."; and under the influence of this exhilarating notion he abandoned the foundation of Ralph Breeder and finished by claiming

"for the ancient seaport a

Grammar School behind few in the kingdom in length of history and in chequered fortunes."

In the Victoria County History's section on schools, (written by Miss C. Fell-Smith) not only were the men in the court rolls described as the first masters of Maldon Grammar School, but it was also suggested that the school was founded even earlier, in 1379 by the religious Guild (or Fraternity) of the Assumption of St Mary, whose chaplain was nominated the first master.

That is the origin of the legend of an early foundation; but unlike all good legends it has no basis in truth. It rests entirely on five little scraps of evidence which have, unfortunately, been misread and misinterpreted. Two quite distinct mediaeval schools have been telescoped, and grafted on to the mistaken supposition that Ralph Breeder's bequest had some connection with the previous schools in the town.

It is true that there were three grammar schools in Maldon in the Middle Ages, but the present school is not a continuation of any of them. If there were any proof that Ralph Breeder simply

refounded one of these earlier schools, there would still be no reason at all for supposing that the Fraternity of the Assumption of St Mary was the original founder. The evidence of the court rolls demonstrates the absurdity of this notion.

The Fraternity, which met in St. Peter's church and maintained a chaplain to say Mass there, was licensed by Richard II in 1379; but the licence does not include grammar school teaching among the duties of John Aldham, the first priest of the Guild. Moreover John Scolemaistre, the first schoolmaster mentioned in the court rolls could not possibly have been a priest of the Guild as he was married. In 1407 he was unsuccessfully prosecuted for leaving a heap of earth in the street outside his house, and in the same court his wife was fined with seventeen other women brewers for breaking the town's assize of beer.

There is no reason for assuming that John Scolemaistre was a teacher of grammar. He may have taught children in an Elementary School to read and write. It is certain that he was not in the celibate

order of the priesthood. Nor could the second master mentioned in the court rolls have been the chaplain of St. Mary's Guild, though he certainly was the master of a Grammar School. He was John Scovill, who was summoned to appear in the Debtors' Court held in the Old Moot Hall "on the Monday next after Shrove Tuesday", 1409.

"At this court John Bienlegh set forth his case, and said that about the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary [1408] John Scovill bargained with the said John Bienlegh for the mastership of the grammar schools of Maldon, giving to him annually one half of the money received from the teaching of grammar, and that the aforesaid John Scovill broke the agreement, so that the said plaintiff has lost twenty shillings".

This entry shows that John Bienlegh owned a private grammar school. He appointed its masters, and took half their fees. So it had no connection with the Fraternity of St. Mary, and cannot really be termed "Maldon Grammar School".

Thomas Trewardyne is supposed to have been the next master of this school, for in 1420 he sued Henry Bowers and Isabella, his wife "pro scolagio Johannis Scull" which has been translated as "for the school fees of John Scull". This entry has been altogether misread, and Trewardyne was

really an attorney acting on behalf of John Scull:

"Thomas Trewardyne brings against Henry Bowers and Isabella his wife a plea of debt, having given bail as a prosecutor for this, that they owe 12d. for the school fees which are John Scull's; that is 8d. from the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist [1420] to the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the same year [and 4d. from Michaelmas to St. Martin's day] and it is ordered that they shall pay 6d. costs."

"Scolagus" is a mediaeval Latin word meaning "a kind of tenant", and by the fifteenth century it was being used to mean a prebend (the lands from which a prebendary, or canon of a church drew his stipend). But "scolagio Johannis Scull" does not mean "the prebend of J. Scull", for there were no such lands in Maldon. So "scolagio" may be a variant or a scribal error for "scholagium", which did mean school-fees. They were not due to Thomas Trewardyne. He was prosecuting on behalf of John Scull, just as John Bienlegh made his suit first through a "John Sp." in this case at Scovill.

So John Scull was the schoolmaster - they were literally the school fees of John Scull - and he was not the ward of Henry Bowers as is usually said. He was in fact John Scovill differently spelt. The transliteration of Scovill into Scull is more

understandable than that there were two people of similar names, one a ward taught by a man who had commissioned himself to act as his own attorney.

Now a certain "Thomas scolemayster" can be found in the court roll for 1435. He was breaking the peace:

"Thomas scolemayster committed an assault upon Robert Burre and drew his sword upon him, breaking the peace; and so he is amerced 12d.

"And that Robert Burre attacked Thomas scolemayster with a staff and dagger upon the king's highway, breaking the peace; and so he is amerced 12d."

If he were Thomas Trewardyne, then the court rolls would surely have given him his surname, and not needed to distinguish him by his profession. Thomas Trewardyne can, in fact be frequently found in the court rolls (with his surname), and although, as Miss Fell-Smith pointed out, school teachers were often attorneys as well, it is most probable that he was not a schoolmaster, and that John Scovill or Scull continued as master at John Bienlegh's grammar school from 1408 to at least 1420. That was one of the two grammar schools which were to be found in Maldon during the fifteenth century.

The story will be continued in the next issue of *Penny Farthing*

Extracts from the Acquisitions, Accessions of Maldon Museum Minutes

Date	Item	From
4.3.22	1 Specimens of strata from Spital Road well	E H Bentall & Co Ltd George Finch, Wantz Road Cllr Sampson
	2 Bound book Maldon Election Petition 1853	
	3 Specimens of varieties of wood	
26.4.22	1 Contribution box	Cllr sampson
14.9.22	1 Letter from Admiralty re: gun found in Blackwater	B/o Wm. Hart, 25 Chetwynd Rd, NW 2/5 Mr Frost
	2 Copy of "Star" newspaper, 26 May 1910	
	3 Copy of photograph All saints Register entry of burial of George Washington's Great-Great Grandfather	
5.10.22	1 Correspondence re: Terling Flint-lock rifle	Josh Wright
	2 Correspondence re: Beeleigh Abbey tiles	
	3 Pieces of Roman Plaster from Beeleigh Abbey	
	4 Bark-bound plaster and old oak from old Hazeleigh Church	
4.1.23	1 Spring-gun found in a pond in Hainault Forest	Lent by Mr Parry C F Rush, Cromwell Hill
	2 Oval-shaped stone marked with a cross found in garden of Cromwell Cottage	
	3 Piece of handle and a piece of rim of pot (Roman-Celtic) found in the wear (sic) River Blackwater	J Barnfather, 26 Lincoln Street, Wakefield
	4 Copy of the London Gazette Extraordinary of June 22nd 1815 containing the despatch from the Duke of Wellington reporting the victory at Waterloo.	
	5 The Yorksher Awmyrnack 1923 in the Yorkshire dialect	
8.3.23	1 Newspaper cutting re: Mr Alfred Felton born in Maldon made good in Australia leaving a considerable income for charitable purposes and for works of art	Owned by C R Bland, The Old Rectory, Debden, Saffron Walden Joe Taylor, Church Street Cllr Granger Charles Steward, Beeleigh Road Josh Wright Dr. Laver Dr. Laver
	2 Mammoth tooth	
10.5.23	3 Mahogany cupboard doors	Dr. Laver Mr Ankers Cllr Clarke Cllr Clarke
	4 Fossil crab - excavations for Maldon West Station	
	5 Fossilised Oyster shell dredged from Lawling Creek	
	6 "The Birds of Essex" - Miller Christy	
	7 "The Mammals, Reptiles and Fishes of Essex" - Henry Laver MRCS, FSC FIS	
	8 "The Flora of Essex" - George Stacey Gibbon F.L.S.	
	9 An ancient Road Map of Chelmsford	
	10 "English Architecture at a Glance"	
	11 "A Guide to the Antiquities of the Stone Age"	

To be continued ... watch this space









Maldon District Museum Association

Registered Charity 301362

President - Mr Derek Maldon Fitch

Vice President - Mr L. F. Barrell

Committee - to A. G. M. 2005

<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Paddy Lacey</i>	
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	<i>to be advised</i>	
<i>Hon. Secretary</i>	<i>to be advised</i>	
<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>	<i>Tony Tullett</i>	
<i>Membership Sec.</i>	<i>Colin Barrell</i>	
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Lynda Barrell</i>	
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<i>Committee</i>	<i>Molly Middleton</i>	
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Please note that the opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributors, and not necessarily agreed by the Association.

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