



The Bergh Apton Newsletter

August - September 2018

Issue No. 158

Editorial Comment

In this editorial I would firstly like to thank all those people, and there have been many of you, who have congratulated both Keeley and myself for running this Newsletter. We have both enjoyed doing it and wish for it to continue, so your support is much appreciated. It is a wonderful feeling that when you put your heart and soul into something it succeeds and benefits all.

Keeley has enjoyed producing the newsletter for the last 5 years, but she has been given increased responsibility in her career which will take up even more of her time, therefore she now offers the challenge of the very essential graphic work to someone else. I feel I would be unable to take on this responsibility myself and really don't want to lose Keeley, but I would like to keep a good show going. This will be the final edition that Keeley will produce, so the next volunteer will need to be ready to start at the beginning of September. If anyone feels they would like to take on this essential role we would be very grateful, Keeley is happy to speak to, or meet with you to discuss the role further. Please contact me ASAP if you are interested, thank you.

Milton and Keeley
(Editor & Graphics)

Thank You

Lynn Jermy would like to thank all who attended her husband's funeral but especially Bob Debbage, Colin Keeler and Kevin Parfitt for their memories of him and also Rev Chris Ellis. Together they all made it a lovely service for Tommy. She would also like to thank John Ling for his very enlightening obituary of him.

BERGH APTON SING, SING, SING.

"THOSE WERE THE DAYS"
Saturday 9 June 2018



The grand total of £678.40 was raised for The Nook Appeal from this event. Thanks to Karen and her brave band of singers who led the proceedings with such panache and to Lynton for organising the buffet. Judging from the enthusiasm with which the audience joined in, a great time was had by all.



Anyone, regardless of age and singing ability, is welcome to join the group which meets on Tuesdays at Bergh Apton village hall at 7.30pm. We have a go at the old pop classics and anything else that takes a fancy. It is an opportunity for a feel-good exercise of the vocal chords in a non-judgemental atmosphere. Come and join us and give it a try!

Stephanie Crome



Bergh Apton – Thanks to your generosity and the efforts of Heather, Milton and Pat, who helped with the distribution and collection of envelopes, we have been able to bank £629.47 for Christian Aid. Reclaimed tax on the gift-aided donations will add more than £93 to that total.

That's a brilliant result. Thank you.

While many overseas charities focus on applying vital sticking plasters to the injuries of the world, Christian Aid also addresses the injustices which then call on Western intervention to help people in deprived overseas communities.

One of these is non-payment of local taxation by multi-national companies. The \$160 billion (that's about **£125 billion** in real money!) that this denies developing countries could be used for local education, medicine, infrastructure and economic development.

As a result of pressure from Christian Aid and its supporters the UK government, in May this year, announced that the British Overseas Territories will, for the first time, be required to reveal for public scrutiny the names of people who own companies registered there.

The campaign is also keeping pressure on world leaders to introduce transparency in the tax affairs of global companies. Vodafone has vowed to publish a 'country-by-country' annual report. It's hoped that their action will lead the way with other multinational companies and result in greatly reduced tax dodging across the board. The funds you have donated are supporting this pressure as well as providing grass-roots help to communities battered by natural disasters.

Haiti was still reeling from the devastating 2010 earthquake when the island was struck by Hurricane Matthew 6 years later. Many of the houses erected after the earthquake were razed to the ground but the homes established to specialist designs by the Christian Aid efforts withstood the storms.

For your contribution to supporting the rescue and repair work as well as the greater fairness campaigns... **THANK YOU!**

Shirley Rimmer



ANNUAL SPONSORED BIKE RIDE Cycle, Walk or Drive Saturday 8th September 2018

It's time to get the tyres pumped up on the bicycles and set off again for the annual Sponsored Bike Ride. As usual it will be held on the second Saturday in September (this year it's the 8th September) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is organised by The Norfolk Churches Trust who retain half the money raised to enable them to continue to make grants towards the repair and restoration of Norfolk's churches and chapels. The other half is sent to the church nominated by the cyclist.

Most churches in Norfolk participate in this event (I have a list of those that will be open) and so if you prefer to visit churches in a different part of the county, you may transport your cycles by car and then bike or walk to the churches in that area - and now you are allowed to drive too.

I shall need people to spend an hour or two in our Church to "sign in" visiting cyclists and offer them refreshments - this can be sponsored too. Please let me know if you can help.

If you would like more information or a sponsor form, please give me a ring.

Patricia Waters
Tel: 01508 480373

July Update for Chet Valley Vineyard

We are delighted to announce that Chet Valley Vineyard's Horatio 2014 Pink sparkling wine has been awarded a Gold in the recent East Anglian Wine awards and named the best sparkling wine in East Anglia for 2018. Also, the Horatio 2015 sparkling Blanc de Blancs has been awarded a bronze medal in the international Decanter wine awards.



John Hemmant receiving the Gold award for the best sparkling wine from East Anglia from Dale Symons - past president of the East Anglian Vineyards Association.



John has also made some still wines this year – Solaris and two Rosés, Regent and Schoenberger. These wines are available close to home and are stocked at Green Pastures food shop and restaurant in Bergh Apton, also by Keith Turner in the Seething Post Office. We also offer cellar door sales at Chet Valley Vineyard in Bergh Apton.



Our wine tasting, and tour season has started so please do book ahead and John will give you a tour of the vineyard and winery where you will learn about the process of winemaking. Following this you will be given a guided wine tasting with a variety of Chet Valley Wines. Local cheese and charcuterie will be served with the wines. The tour costs £12 per adult and lasts about 2 hours. It can be a great trip to do as a group – e.g. a wine club, book club, work outing etc and you will learn a great deal. It is both fun and educational.

In July our French student Elodie arrived from Lyons to spend 10 weeks working on the vineyard and in the winery. Those interested in improving their conversational French language please get in touch.

Later this Autumn there will be an opportunity to join in the grape harvest at the end of September, Early October depending on the weather and the ripening of the grapes. A harvest supper will be served at the end of the day for all those volunteers who wish to stay on a little.

Plans for St Martins day are underway – we will celebrate on the 10th November which is the day before the actual feast day of St Martin of Tours the patron saint of winemakers and viticulturalists (Vine growers). On Saturday the 10th November it is planned to meet at 3 pm and process from where St Martins church used to stand in Bergh Apton, Led by the Reverend Chris Ellis, across the fields and down “Wrong lane” across the vineyard to the winery at Chet Valley Vineyard. Here there will be a celebration of St Martin with wine, food and fireworks. Tickets for the evening event will be on sale at £10 each with proceeds going towards the Church Heating and lighting fund. Please contact us at chetandwaveney.vineyard@gmail.com for tickets or ring 01508 333002. We are looking for volunteers to leave their cars at the winery ready to ferry people back to the start to collect cars at home time.

www.chetvineyard.co.uk for further information

Bridget Hemmant

It's been an interesting and busy summer so far for the Bergh Apton Conservation Trust (BACT). Working days take place every 3rd Saturday of the month (meeting at 10am, usually in the Church Field, we're grateful for however many hours folk are able to devote but are also happy to welcome visitors), often with another workday on the following Thursday. We've enjoyed a number of events this summer.

Pond Dipping

Following the workday in the morning of 19th May, our annual pond-dipping event was even more successful than last year. Earlier in the day we witnessed the birth of several dragonflies. The female dragonfly lays her eggs in the water, these develop into dragonfly nymphs spending their first year or two of life in the water as fearsome-looking beasts which can grow to over 2 inches long. When they're ready and conditions are right (a calm and sunny morning) the nymph will crawl up onto a reed, its exoskeleton splits and the new dragonfly emerges. Over an hour or two, the newly emerged dragonfly pumps fluid into its brand-new wings, its body hardens off and the insect takes to the air, leaving the exoskeleton(exuvia) on the reed.



We were blessed with good weather for our workday, as well as the afternoon, and from 2 o'clock we welcomed our pond dippers. As it was the same day as A Certain Wedding, a succession of flags guided visitors down the hill to their goal – Valley Marsh. Our 40-or so adults and children (both members and non-members) unfortunately missed the earlier dragonfly emergence spectacle but could see many dragonflies swooping across the marsh. They were able to

view some of the specimens we'd already collected, as well as trying their hands at dipping for themselves. There was great excitement as tadpoles, small fish, huge diving beetles, water boatmen, nymphs of different species of dragonfly and damselfly cadis fly larvae, leeches and many other curiosities were caught and added to the holding tanks, where they could be identified and discussed.

All catches were carefully returned to their original habitats at the end of the day.

Brooke Scouts

For some years we've been developing a relationship with the various elements of the Brooke Scout Group. It works well for both them and us; we're delighted that they can use our site to experience the natural environment, allowing us to explain some of the conservation work we do, and they can tie in some of their 'Challenges' with helping those efforts.

On several evenings in June, blessed with fine weather, a succession of age groups visited us. The Beavers (5-7 year olds) conducted a nature walk through both Valley Marsh and the Church Plantation, and experienced the thrill of finding grass snakes, both adult and juveniles, and slow worms. The Cubs (8-11year olds) undertook the repair of one set of forest steps and the Explorer Scouts (14-18 year olds) reinstated another. The Scouts (12-14 year olds) raked debris from paths on Valley Marsh and cleared some felled sycamores in the Church Plantation.

We're very grateful for their efforts and hope that their visits to our site will help to engender a lasting appreciation of nature and the environment.



Moth morning

Sustained by a breakfast at Flint Cottage of bacon rolls and croissants supplied by Linda Davy, those members of the Trust who were able to fit the event into their busy schedules were treated to an amazing array of moths. In the ideal conditions of a fine but moonless night, our expert, John Geeson, set his trap which the following morning revealed an astounding, 60 different species.

Species glorying in names like Setaceous Hebrew Character, Uncertain (!), Bright Line Brown Eye, Grey Pug and Beautiful Golden Y were observed, noted and released. The largest and, possibly, most striking species are the hawk moths and June's haul included the Eyed, Elephant and Poplar Hawkmoths but, when such a rare opportunity arises to observe the smaller species such as Green Silver Lines, White Ermine or Green Carpet at close quarters, it's impossible not to marvel at their intricate beauty too. Huge thanks are due to John Geeson for his expertise and time, and to Linda and Tony Davy for their hospitality.



Hedge Survey

Over the years, in June and July BACT has surveyed many of the hedges within and around the parish of Bergh Apton. With the permission of landowners, these sessions have taken the team into areas not normally accessible and provide a valuable insight into the habitats provided by our

hedgerows. This year we're grateful to Crown Point Estates for allowing us to survey on their land.



Midsummer BBQ

This enjoyable event, held on the Saturday evening closest to the Midsummer Solstice, has frequently been accompanied by showers which, rather than dampening spirits, tends to enhance the general humour of the occasion. Not this year; a warm and dry evening blessed the event.

The venue has often been, by kind permission of Christopher Meynell, in his plantation, or in the Church Field. This year the lovely display of flowering hypericum in Christopher's plantation merited a change of location so Tony and Linda Davy opened their garden for the evening. Their hospitality is much appreciated.

By the time this goes to print, BACT's annual summer outing will have taken place, joining forces with the Bergh Apton Local History Group (BALHG), we'll have visited How Hill near Ludham and there may be a report in the next issue of the village magazine.



Our BACT membership now numbers over 80; most are 'social' members so, even if you don't feel up to felling the odd tree or raking debris from our marsh, if you'd like to share our interest in the natural environment in Bergh Apton, we'd love to hear from you.

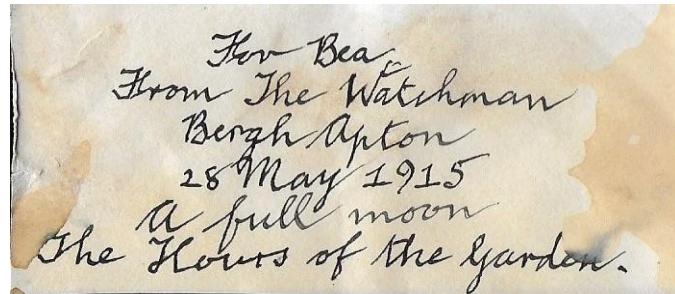
Our membership secretary is Bob Kerry, who can be contacted on 01508 480661 in June and July

Shirley Rimmer

COUNTRY DIARY

A story for you! This was written during Writing Workshops taken by Hugh Lupton. A writing, discussion and reading session only lasts for two hours but homework is set so only for the committed! :

The Rue des Pecheurs is one of the narrow roads which fan out from the Old Port in Marseille and it was there in a small gallery window that I first saw it. I walked past and then turned back to look again. It was a painting done in oils about three hand spans in width and rather less in height. There was nothing defined just really outlines, just blocks of colour, charcoal, cinder, clay and ash. Indistinct and yet I knew it was a garden and a garden seen at night. There was a book close to it, it had a shabby much worn green cover. I was intrigued enough to enter the little gallery, it was dimly lit, the sunlight blocked by tall houses on the other side of the narrow road. I opened the door and stepped in, closed the door and the busy sunlit world outside was hushed. It was a small room and I looked round with interest. A clock chimed the hour and on the counter were small scales of polished brass, a map half unrolled and instruments to measure and record the known world, a floor of wood the grain of which reflected the contours of the map. A small elderly man came from the shadowed interior and I explained how my interest was caught, I did not know how or why, by the painting and the book. He nodded gravely and pulled aside the curtain with an air of ceremony as though a play was about to begin and lifted the painting and book out and put them on the counter. He turned the painting over and there was a label on the back, now foxed and the corners curled as an autumn leaf. I had to bend to read the faint handwriting.



He opened the book for me, it was a sketch book, the cover loose and the corners fingered and rubbed. On the first page in the same hand, the title, 'The Hours of the Garden'. Each page showed sketches sometimes just brush marks as though trying out a colour, scribbled notes, a plan of a border and the plants grown there, delicate drawings of seeding grasses and, on a facing page description of the garden. As I turned the pages slowly I realised who ever had painted and written had shown and described the garden through the Hours of the Divine Office.

Vigils midnight

The garden withholds itself, it is invisibly defended, untravelled by people. The trees are watchful, and, in a stir of air, they sigh like a distant sea. Paths of pale stone seem to float in the dark. Moonlight nets the garden. An owl's call chills the stars.

Lauds 0300

It is beginning to grow light enough to see the trees and know them as oak, ash with its upturned branches as though beckoning, apple and a pink rose is using a hazel as scaffolding to climb to the top. A hawthorn's branches are thick with white

blossom which falls like snow, it is so cold that I touch the flowers to make sure that is what they are and not snow. An elder tree holds its white flowers high just like a plate juggler.

Prime 0600

In the distance the church clock strikes the hour. Those that hear it or might have heard it take shape in my imagination. Thin high cloud creeps in to mask the sun, a veiled silver disc.

Terce 0900

The sun has reclaimed its light from the moon and the garden is full of light and shade, song and wing. There is a stream at the end of this garden, rushes green as sour gooseberries stand to attention sharp as swords. There are still clumps yellowed from last autumn they reflect in the water and as the sun catches them the reflection gleams and the flow of the water stirs it to an unknown golden text.

Sext 1200

Dog roses make a rambling sharp thorned defence for a Sleeping Beauty. Each rose a rain washed white or pink, they intertwine with honeysuckle and they sugar the air and before one can say, 'Jack Robinson,' they have faded and gone. See if you can answer this riddle:

We are five brothers at one time born,
Two of us have beards, by two no beards are worn.
While one, lest he should give his brothers pain,
Has one side bearded and the other plain.

To see the colour of these roses properly hold each one against the light.

None 1500

There are patches of grass left unmown and buttercups shine among these tall grasses and a small copper butterfly settles onto one flower, gold and copper, a richness! Another butterfly, a speckled wood opens and closes its wings signalling coded messages. Eyebright, ground ivy, vetch and heart's ease thread their way through the grasses. It is hot.

Vespers 1800

Beyond the trees and the paths that wind through the tall grasses are more formal borders with clipped box hedges. Foxglove and fennel, deep red and brown irises with orange beards and the most glamorous of flowers, peonies. There is one peony with a faded label giving its name, 'Renkaku' and in brackets beside it a note to say, 'The name means 'flight of cranes' and this is why I bought it.'

Compline 2100

It is cool and shadows stalk the garden.

'Procul recedant somnia et noctium phantasmata,' this is from a hymn at the coming of night, a rough translation 'Defend us from all evil dreams and nightly fears and ghosts.'

As I slowly turned the pages it suddenly occurred to me that today was 28 May and the book and painting I looked at were dated that too, just over a century ago so what else could I do but buy them and bring them back to the village where they started life. Questions filled my mind. How did the book and painting end up in a busy French city? Who was Bea? Who was The Watchman? Was he Bea's husband, brother, lover? Why was he known by such a name? Had he painted the garden for each of the Hours and if so, where are they?

Pat Mlejnecky

THE 1911 CENSUS – A FARMER’S TALE

This is the tale, not of one who tills the soil but of Peter Farmer and his wife Anne who knocked on the door of Apton Manor one afternoon in late May on the chance that someone within might be able to help them.

They were looking for Hall Farm in Bergh Apton where Peter's grandparents lived at the time of the 1911 Census. Annie Whiteman who answered the door didn't know the name, but she knew someone who might know - and that was me.

In this way two routes to better knowledge of the past began. This one concerns Peter Farmer's family and the other, that you'll find somewhere else in this Newsletter, is about Bergh Apton's 1911 Census.

Peter Farmer, because of medical problems that give him a very poor life expectancy, came here that day on what he expects to be his last visit with Anne to his Norfolk roots before travel becomes too difficult. He and Anne knew quite a lot about Peter's grandparents Mark and Olive Harrison including Mark's early life in Hargham near Attleborough and Olive Sayer's in Bylaugh near East Dereham. That was where they married in 1909. In 1918 the family lived in Elmswell in Suffolk and, later, settled in Kerdiston (near Reepham) near to where Olive's parents in Sparham and where her brother Robert Sayer ran Lenwade Mill on the river Wensum.

What brought Peter and Anne to Annie Whiteman's door and that gave them a clue as to the Harrison's life between 1909 and 1918 was finding Mark and Olive on the 1911 Census, showing Mark's occupation as "Farmer" and their address as "Hall Farm, Bergh Apton".

No one else must be included. (For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)			Ages of Males.	Ages of Females.	and upwards.	If less than one year write "under one."	Total Children Born Alive.	Children still Living.	Children who have Died.	be clearly indicated. (See Instructions 1 to 8 and Examples of Schedule.)
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	
1	Pr. & Ann. Harrison	Head	28		Married	1	none			Farmer
2	Olive Marion Harrison	Wife	27	27	Married					
3										
4										

A BIT OF DIFU

During the three or four days of heavy snowfall in what was dubbed "The Beast from the East", the road name board at Bungay Lane's junction with Loddon Road disappeared into a snowdrift.

It's not surprising, then, that it was badly damaged during the herculean effort to keep as many of these roads as possible open to traffic – a task that was undertaken by Tony Kerry of Bussey Bridge Farm.

When the drifts finally melted and revealed the twisted and mangled road sign Graham Harber, who lives on that corner, in the lodge cottage to Bergh Apton House, rescued it and took it in to do some major TLC.

In the warmer days of May, having done a terrific job of restoring the road sign in the style now adopted by South Norfolk Council, here is Graham relocating the sign at its original location on Bungay Lane.

When they were planning their visit to Bergh Apton, modern maps couldn't help because the name "Hall Farm" hasn't been used for many a year but, when Annie Whiteman phoned to ask me if I could help, I was able to tell her that Hall Farm and Bergh Apton Hall are one and the same.

That led the Farmers on a trip down Gravel Pit Lane to meet Christopher Meynell who told them what he knew of the house and told them of another visitor some years ago who had an ancestor who lived there in 1910 . . . leading to the possibility that they may have been Peter's relations of whom he knew nothing.

The house has undergone many changes in the years since Mark Harrison farmed here but this was the place from where Peter's mother, born in the October following the Census, was carried to our parish church on 22nd December 1911 to be baptised Betty Mifanwy Sayer Harrison (the entry for which we found in our digital copy of the Baptism Register, of which the original is held in the Norfolk Records Office)

Having found what they came looking for, this must have been a day that gave much satisfaction to Peter and Anne. But it was a good one for us, too, because they have given us a digital image of the front and back pages of the October 1911 edition of the newsletter of that time, the "Bergh-Apton-with-Yelverton Parish Magazine", that includes the announcement of the arrival in this world of baby Betty Harrison.

John Ling



Thanks, Graham, for this bit of public-spirited DIFU (Do-It-For-Us)!

John Ling

THE 1911 CENSUS – WHAT IT TELLS US ABOUT BERGH APTON

Talking to Peter Farmer - whose discovery of his mother's birth in Bergh Apton in 1911 is reported elsewhere in the Newsletter – caused me to wonder what more it might tell us about our village over 100 years ago. Having spent time looking at it I realised that it tells us a lot, so I decided, over the next few editions of the Newsletter, to follow the man who delivered the Census questionnaire to every household in Bergh Apton and record some of the things I found out.

It's quite a long road, so I'll take it a bit at a time. I hope the results will be of interest to those of you who like to look back as well as forward. But I need to add a health warning that it may make dull fare for those who don't! So here goes.

The 1911 Census was taken on the night of Sunday 2nd April and recorded who was in every house at midnight including babes-in-arms (or, given the hour, babes-in-cots perhaps). It recorded every dwelling - occupied or otherwise, and buildings that were not used as dwellings (churches, chapels, village halls etc). One Census form covered private houses inns and boarding houses and there was another for institutions (hospitals, asylums, prisons, etc). There was even a form for the crews of British ships merchant navy lying in a UK port that night. The Census covered six geo-political zones: England (including the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands), Scotland, Wales, Ireland¹, the Royal Navy & Overseas Military Establishments and British-flag merchant ships at sea.

There has been a census every ten years in England since 1841, with an increasing depth of questions whose answers told Government departments and statistical bodies something about us. Before 1911 these personal details were recorded by an Enumerator – almost always a man in those days) - a reliable local person appointed to the task by the Census Commission. But there was a change in 1911 whereby the Enumerator was responsible only for delivering and collecting the Census Forms. It was the responsibility of the head of every household or institution to complete the form².

The information sought from every person included forename and surname, relationship to head of the household, age (with separate columns for male and female), marital state, number of years married, children born to the present marriage still living, and those who have died, occupation, industry/service with which work is connected, employment status, birthplace, nationality and, finally, any infirmity. All they seem to have missed out was "inside leg measurement".

Bergh Apton's Enumerator was Edmund Leeder who farmed at Valley Farm on Welbeck Road and was Churchwarden. His task was twofold; first to distribute and collect the Census forms and then to complete a booklet called "The Enumerator's Summary Book" which, in his own hand, recorded every building and the name of the occupant, along the route he trod through the village to do his duty.

OK so far? I think that will suffice as an introduction into the Census itself. Now let's look at what the Census can tell us about Bergh Apton itself. The Summary tells us that there were 112 dwellings of which 108 were occupied. It lists two non-dwelling buildings - the Church and the Reading Room (there was no Village Hall in those days). A total of 424 persons of all ages lived here of which 207 were males and 217 were females³.

In this first part of the story we'll go with Edmund Leeder from his home at Valley Farm right to the border with Chedgrave and then from Bussey Bridge to Sunnyside. When he set out from home he turned right towards the church (passing where we now go to the Household Waster Re-cycling Centre, aka "The Tip") and turned right at the triangle where Welbeck Road meets Church Road.

His first call was at the Schoolhouse (the western part of the old school buildings) immediately opposite the church gates⁴. Here he handed over his first census form to Anna Beatrice Horrex, the Headmistress who lived there with her sister Ethel and her widowed mother Anna Maria. Though Anna Beatrice was the legal occupier of this "tied cottage" that went with her job, it was her mother who claimed on the census form to be "Head of the Household"⁵

Edmund departed the schoolhouse, perhaps after a chat with Miss Horrex on matters of the day, and walked downhill to where, after a couple of hundred yards, he turned down the narrow lane to what in his Summary he called "Gravel Pits". Here he called first on 28-year-old Mark Harrison and his pregnant young wife Olive⁶ at Hall Farm before moving on to Gravel Pit Farm at the eastern end of the lane before calling at three farm labourer's cottages on the site occupied now by the single dwelling, Flint Cottage⁷.

Returning to the top of Gravel Pit Lane he turned right and headed east on Langley Road (now School Road) and past the junction with Thurton Road (now White Heath Road). He next called at the farmworker's cottage just west of Seago's Farm (later White House Farm) and then at the farmhouse itself (now called The Harriers) where he might have exchanged a few words with fellow-farmer Samuel Curtis about the growth of the spring-sown crop.

His route then took him to Hollyodge Farm where Aaron and Ellen Rope lived with their large family⁸. Why it is called Hollyodge Farm is something of a mystery as there was, at this time anyway, no connection between the farm (that was part of the Brooke House estate) and Holly Lodge, the large dwelling on Sunnyside. Aaron Rope's grandson Peter is quite categoric that it is, as always known in his family - Holly Farm.

Next on Leeder's route was the elegant residence called Bergh Apton Cottage (now Bergh Apton House) occupied by John Knight-Bruce, a man of independent means who must have rattled around its 17 rooms⁹ with only his young wife Mary¹⁰ and three servants as resident company¹¹.

In 1911 the driveway to this imposing thatched house was to the west of Bungay Lane. The absence of any reference in Leeder's Summary to a dwelling, occupied or unoccupied, where the present lodge cottage stands tells us that it had not yet been built and today's driveway probably did not exist at that time.

Edmund Leeder made a trek of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile (there and back) to Rose Farm, passing the Red Lion pub¹² (I wonder if he was tempted by the idea of a quick pint on the way!) to call on Hardley-born John Rudrum and his wife Maria (both aged 60) at their market garden on the border with Chedgrave that is now called Rose Farm Cottage.

Rudrum, in listing his whole family on his Census form, broke the Census rule that only those who were in the house on that night were to be recorded. But he gave us, albeit unintentionally, knowledge of his family that we wouldn't have if he had followed the rule¹³. That's how we know that that they had two married sons and one unmarried son (two of whom worked as railway plate-layers) together with two married daughters, both with a son.

Leeder now re-traced his route¹⁴ past the Red Lion to the lane (now called Bungay Lane) that led to Bussey Bridge¹⁵. There he called on at Bussey Bridge Farm and four semi-detached cottages nearby, one of which was occupied by George and Mary Gillingwater whose 13 year old son Victor would join the Royal Marines with his friend Hubert Rope (son of Aaron Rope of Holly Farm) to die five years later on the Somme.

He then stopped at The Red Cottage, now our home "Watermeadows". Its resident, a tenant of Lord Canterbury's Brooke House Estate, was Herbert King who was a commercial traveller in heating oil¹⁶. His surprisingly modern and rather flamboyant handwriting reveals that he lived here with his wife Florence and children William (4) and Florence (2). Both children were born in Bergh Apton so the family may have lived here for some time.

Now I come to a tricky part because Edmund Leeder's listing of the houses on Sunnyside - his next stop on his route - is not in an order from which we can tell who lived where. For example, we know that Albert Lawn lived at what is now 8, Sunnyside and that Robert Beaumont lived at Pennyhill. But these houses, recorded on the Census as being next to each other, are at opposite ends of Sunnyside. One possibility is that Albert Lawn was then living in a different house but that's unlikely, and there are other examples of the problem so it's all a bit of a puzzle.

I'd like to think that Leeder began a second day's work at a different point than where he finished the first day and, rather than make corrections that might make life complicated, he simply completed the list out of order.

Leeder logged fourteen occupied dwellings and one unoccupied on Sunnyside (then called Barnes Hill¹⁷) including those of William Loyd [sic] our Parish Clerk for many years who lived at Green Shutters. Another resident was 29-year-old John Henry Lester who recorded that he was a "Teamman on Farm" (Horseman) but went on in later life to become the estate manager for the Canterbury's Brooke House Estate until it was sold

following the death of the last Lord Canterbury in February 1941.

Leeder's final call was to Holly Lodge, home to Charles Edward Norgate who, in the Great War that was to begin just over three years later, would become Captain Norgate, Bergh Apton's recruiting officer.

When Leeder reached Seago's Farm at the top of the road he had completed a full circle and that's where we'll leave him for now.

Next time we'll follow him down modern White Heath Road to the interesting little pocket of Bergh Apton that sits around Thurton church, and then, westward, to Washingford House and Bergh Apton Manor.

¹ The whole of Ireland, in this pre-1921 independence time, was part of Great Britain.

² One unintended but interesting element of this innovation was that it now gives many family historians the first sight of an ancestor's handwriting (or, in many cases, "his mark").

³ Compare and contrast these numbers with the current 218 dwellings and 395 people over the age of 18.

⁴ The wooden gates we use now are part of an extension to the churchyard created in 1919. At the time of this census the way into the church was through the old iron gates.

⁵ This may be a clue that the 69-year-old widow was perhaps a formidable woman who, rather than giving her place of birth simply as "London" provided the rather grand particular "Dorset Square, London".

⁶ Olive gave birth to her daughter Betty Mefanwy Sayer Harrison in October that year.

⁷ Harriet Sturman, the cleaner at Bergh Apton school, lived in the most westerly of these cottages. It was the same cottage in which two ancient alabaster statuettes of St Peter and St Paul were found hidden in the chimney-breast when it was demolished in the 1960s.

⁸ In the First World War that began just three years later, three of Aaron's four sons - Clement, Leonard and Hubert - went off to fight and only Clement returned. The names of Leonard and Hubert (who was known also as Alfred) are on Bergh Apton's war memorial.

⁹ Excluding, as the Census instructed, any scullery, landings, lobby, closet or bathrooms.

¹⁰ Mary Knight-Bruce, at 36 years old, was nearly 30 years younger than her husband John.

¹¹ One of these servants was Edith Ada Beaumont whose family lived at Pennyhill on Sunnyside and whose brother Robert was killed in the Ypres Salient in the Great War.

¹² The Red Lion", though within the boundary of Thurton, was clearly regarded as a Bergh Apton pub, being widely known as "The Br' Apton Lion". This affiliation is strengthened by the fact that the Landlord's son William Chapman, when he enlisted for the Great War (from which he returned home safe), gave his address as "The Red Lion, Bergh Apton".

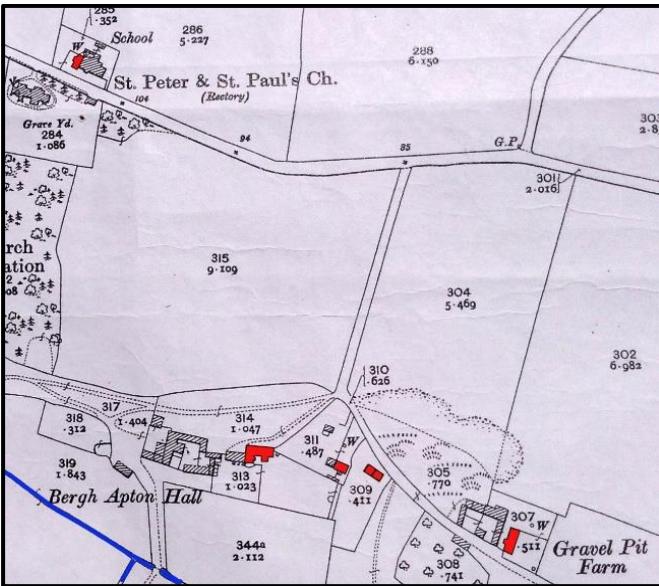
¹³ When he realised that only residents were to be recorded he deleted all except himself, his wife and the two children.

¹⁴ Nowadays he would have needed to go down Washingford Bridge Lane to The Mill House on Poplar Farm land but, at that time, this road had no houses in Bergh Apton as Washingford Farm, though north of the river Chet, is in Sisland.

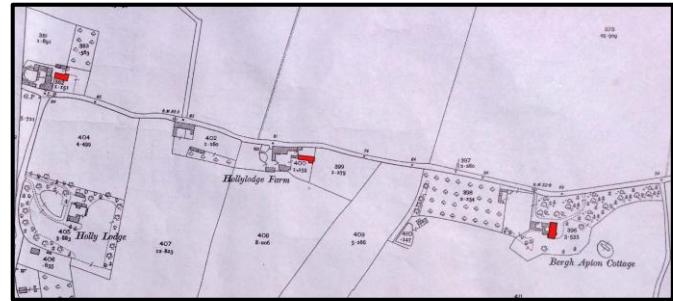
¹⁵ In his description of the village he refers to this hamlet in the possessive case - "Bussey's Bridge"

¹⁶ Now call paraffin or kerosene.

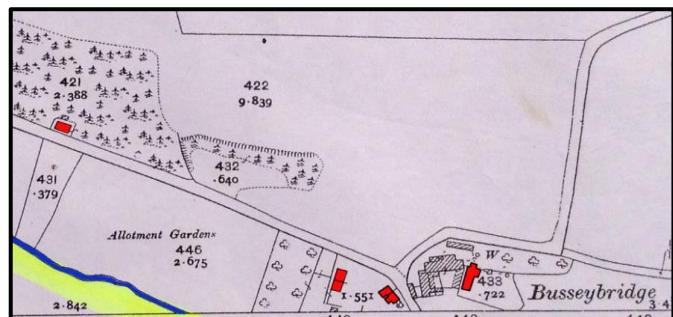
¹⁷ This road has, at various times in the past, been called Barnes Heath, Barnes Hill, Whipscrew Hill and Sunnyside. It may be that, in 1911, it was on the cusp of change because, though Edmund Leeder records it as Barnes Hill, the only two residents who gave their full addresses (the others simply wrote "Bergh Apton") gave them as No 8 and No 11 on "Sunnyside".



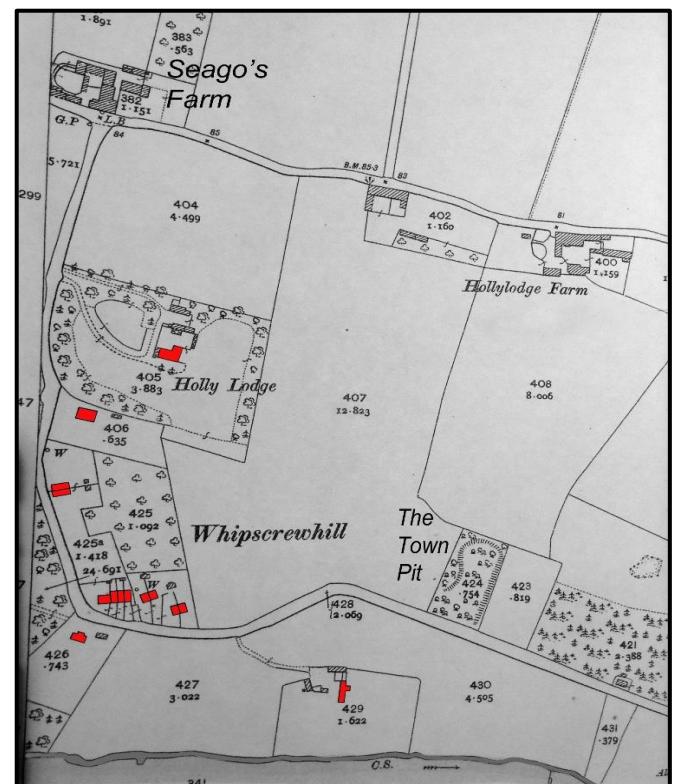
1. Edmund Leeder started off his round at the Schoolhouse (at the top left corner of this picture) before turning down the lane in the centre of the picture that led to what he called "Gravel Pits". The river Chet (in blue) at the bottom of the picture is not part of the southern boundary of Bergh Apton that, at this point, has gone off quite a long way further south.



2. What is now Loddon Road (but was called Langley Road in 1911). Seago's and Hollylodge Farms and Bergh Apton Cottage are the only houses along this part of the road between Sunnyside and Bungay Lane. Bungay Lane is a very modern name for this tiny lane and was allocated only in a local government review in the 1990s.



3. The hamlet of Bussey Bridge - and The Red Cottage just up the road - are on the river Chet (shown here in blue) that marks the southern boundary of Bergh Apton.



4. Edmund Leeder called this road "Barns Hill" but this 1907 map calls it "Whipscrew Hill" and residents in 1911 called it "Sunnyside". The name, it seems, altered many times over the years. Green Shutters and the Lodge, to the left of Holly Lodge, are not shown - they are just off this map. The river Chet, Bergh Apton's southern border, is at the bottom of the picture.

John Ling

CAN YOU HELP US?

Bergh Apton Local History Group is about to undertake a major evaluation of its collection of written material and photographs that is held in several places. We need help in finding a single space to hold all the material we have in one place, so we can set out to assess what we have.

We are looking for help with something that matches the following specification:

- Available for about six months.
- Near the Village Hall.
- Secure.
- Reasonable dry and free from damp.
- Can accommodate 4 x 3-drawer filing cabinets and an additional floor space of about 1 m x 1.5 m x 1.5 m with space around it for stackable storage boxes.
- Accessible by arrangement so material can be taken out and returned as the work progresses.

Our archive material is fascinating and is a valuable resource to study Bergh Apton, its people and its history, but that value is intrinsic rather than financial and thus **insurance is not a significant issue**.

If you have some space that sounds like this, do please call John Ling on 480439 . . . or email john.ling@btinternet.com

Cygnets Hatch!



On the 26th of May six cygnets hatched on the island, it's the first time in the thirty nine years I have lived here this has happened, the two parents are very protective, searching online it appears swans are vegetarians but will eat wheat and soft sweet corn which I am feeding daily and they have doubled in size in two weeks, bread is a definite no for swans even though they will eat it. All are welcome to visit but I must insist no dogs. As this article has missed the June issue of the Newsletter and will appear in August/September, they will nearly be full grown.



Derek Secker

Welcome to the village

The "Welcome to the village" event at the village hall on Sunday 8th July brought new and old residents of Bergh Apton (in both length of residence and age) together to meet each other and for the more recent arrivals to see what goes on in the community. The afternoon event, organised by the Parish Council, recognised that quite a few houses have changed hands in the last few years, and that Hawthorn Drive on Cooke's Road has brought eleven entirely new households into the village.

The Local History Group, Conservation Trust, Village Hall, Parish Church, Community Arts Trust and the Bergh Apton and District Society were joined as exhibitors by groups who are regular users of the village hall including the Painting Group, The Parfitts' Big Breakfasts, the Microscopy Group and Sing, Sing, Sing (a singing for fun group).

Energy spent in looking and talking was replenished with tea and cakes and the lively conversation produced noise levels in the crowded room that once again demonstrated the huge benefit of the sound-deadening panels fitted to the roof soon after the refurbished and revitalised hall was completed in late 2013.

We hope that friendships begun here, and interest shown in village activities, will foster the strengthening of Bergh Apton's community spirit.



"Old Guard" guests at the Welcome Day who turned out to greet the "New Guard". Tony and Linds Davy are in the foreground and, identifiable in the background (l-r) are Joy Munden, Richard Crome, Milton Harris, Shirley Rimmer, Liz Meynell and Peter Annis.



A chatty mix of guests here whose residence in Bergh Apton ranges from six months to over ninety years; Anne Dranfield, Francis and Anna Meynell, Peter Annis, Martin & Linela Graystone.



There was great interest in the work of the Microscopy Group demonstrated by Avis Judd and Peter Sunderland, seen here talking respectively to Francis Meynell and to Joan Hall (from Brooke). At the end of the table Hannah Garrad and her daughter Sophia are looking at the Group's fascinating collection of creepy-crawlies on display.

John Ling



October - November edition

Copy Deadline: 1st September

Please send articles to me

Milton Harris [Editor] at

town_farm@btinternet.com

Thank you

Dates for your diary 2018

AUGUST

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 15 th | 10.00 - 12.00 | Coffee n Catch Up at the Village Hall |
| 15 th | 19.30 | Village Hall Management meeting |
| 18 th | 10.00 | BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field |
| 23 rd | 10.00 | BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field |
| 24 th | 19.00 | The Hare open again at Royston House |
| 28 th | 12.30 | Tuesday Friends lunch at Church |

SEPTEMBER

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|
| 12 th | 19.30 | B.A. Society talk on Opus Alpacas by Diana Rannik at Village Hall |
| 15 th | 10.00 | BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field |
| 19 th | 10.00 - 12.00 | Coffee n Catch Up at the Village Hall |
| 19 th | 14.00 | P.C.C. at the Church |
| 19 th | 19.00 | Parish Council meet at Village Hall |
| 20 th | 10.00 | BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field |
| 25 th | 12.30 | Tuesday Friends lunch at Church |
| 26 th | 19.30 | BA Conservation Trust A.G.M. at Village Hall. Speaker Andy Brazil, County Butterfly Recorder |
| 29 th | 09.00 | 11 Saws assembly at the Village Hall |

Regular Activities

Monday	17.00	Dog Training Village Hall
Tuesday (Alternate)	10.00 - 13.00	Painting Class Village Hall
Tuesday	19.30	Sing-a-Long Village Hall
Friday	10.00 - 11.45	Yoga Village Hall

Activities Contacts

(BACAT Workshops)

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(Conservation Trust)

Stephanie Crome: 01508 480573

(BALHG Local History)

John Ling: 01508 480439

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(Singing) Karen Bonsell: 07583 968739

(Bergh Apton Society)

Lynton Johnson: 01508 480629

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Bergh Apton Conservation Trust

Bergh Apton Local History Group

Bergh Apton Village Hall

Bergh Apton Parish Council

Bergh Apton Parochial Church Council

The Bergh Apton and District Society

Chet and Waveney Valley Vineyard