



THE BRUNDALL & BRAYDESTON CHRONICLE

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Brundall Local History Group

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ARCHIVE CELEBRATION ISSUE

The above photograph was taken seventy years ago on 21st May 1949, on the occasion of Charles Horner's 70th birthday party at Brundall Memorial Hall. Remarkably, the celebration brought together five generations of the family. The oldest member was Charles's mother, Mrs Mary Ann Rose (previously Horner) aged 93 years, seated at the centre on his left. Charles's wife Ellen is on his right. On Mary Ann's right is her grand-daughter Daisy Curson, great-granddaughter Joyce Norris and great-great granddaughter Susan Norris aged 4^{1/2} months. The party would have been one of the earliest recorded events to take place at the Hall which officially opened on 11th November 1948. This image is part of the Horner Family Collection, recently donated to the Brundall Local History Group Archive by Val Radley, Charles and Ellen's granddaughter, in memory of her late mother Margaret Shingles (nee Horner, then Carter. See back row, 4th from left). More information continues inside this issue.

www.brundallvillagehistory.org.uk

STORIES FROM THE ARCHIVE

Brundall Local History Group has been collecting local material in partnership with Brundall and Braydeston residents, past and present, since 2005. When the Group was constituted in 2007, our objectives were to create a Community Archive as an on-going record of the heritage of the villages and to make its contents accessible to the public. These have been achieved, mainly via our published books, website, exhibitions and outreach events. Nevertheless, the pioneers of this project could not have imagined how forthcoming and generous local people would be with their personal memories, documents and family photographs; their enthusiasm continues today. Such success has led to our modest organisation finding itself responsible for the management and long-term preservation of thousands of digital images and files.

As a result, BLHG has signed up as a community partner with the Norfolk Record Office in its bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for its project *Community Archives: Skills, Support and Sustainability*. When the outcome is known in the autumn, if successful our group, as well as similar Norfolk heritage voluntary groups, will benefit from the support of two professional community archivists based at NRO who will provide expertise, training and equipment to enable a team of volunteer BLHG members to catalogue and administer the BLHG digital collections in line with national archive standards. Expressions of interest from members interested in potentially taking part in this project are very welcome and we hope to have some good news to announce in our October *Chronicle*. In the meantime, we will continue to celebrate our archive by including in this, and future editions, stories prompted by enquiries recently received from members of the public which have led to new lines of research.

Chloe Veale

THE HORNER FAMILY COLLECTION

Following on from our front page story, this recent donation comprises photographs, documents and other family ephemera dating back to about 1900. The Horner family connections with Brundall and the surrounding area go back many generations to at least the mid-18th century. This article is drawn from the memories of Val Radley and her first cousin Arthur Horner, as told in an interview recorded by BLHG in December 2018.

Val's mother, Margaret Beatrice Horner was born in 1924, the youngest of a family of 11 children to Charles Horner (1879-1971) and his wife Ellen (nee Balls, 1882-1959). Sadly their twins Herbert and Olive had died aged only a year old in 1909.

Margaret's older brothers and sisters were Grace (born 1902), Daisy (1904), Charles (known as Dick, 1906), Harold (1910) Frederick (1911), Amy (1914), Percy (1920) and Kathleen (known as Kay, 1922). By the time of Margaret's birth, the family were living in Dereham where her father Charles was employed as a gardener by the prosperous Jewson family. When the Jewsons moved to Brundall, they wanted to keep their gardener with them, so in 1926 the Horners

returned to their home territory as well – using a horse and a wooden hut on wheels to transport their belongings. The connection with the Jewsons was fortunate; they were offered a choice of two homes. One (The Gables) was bigger but, despite the needs of what even in the 1920s was a large family, the Horners chose No 1 Church Cottages on The Street because it offered land where the family could grow their own food and keep livestock. Raspberries were certainly grown: In those days there was no school in Brundall so the children trudged to Strumpshaw carrying their lunch of raspberry sandwiches in brown paper bags. Val recalls her mother telling her that unfortunately the filling tended to fall through along the way! Packed into their cottage the family became self sufficient and happily settled in Brundall with Charles in a good job and able to earn extra income through his many skills, including barbering and cobbling.

By 1939, Margaret's brother Dick (Arthur's father and the gentleman with the top hat on our front page) had moved into the cottage next door at No 2 with his wife Constance and three children. (The numbers of the houses later changed to 102 and 100.) In common with many others, the impact of the Second World War would bring big changes as well as tragedy into the daily lives members of the Horner family. We will follow some of their stories in future editions.

Celia Sutton

MORE FROM THE HORNER FAMILY ALBUM



Val and Arthur's great-grandmother Mary Ann Rose (1858-1954) looking out of her council house window in Lingwood. Mary Ann's daughter "Aunt Edith" holds their pet dog for the camera c.1910. The 1911 Census lists Edith as a "Maternity Nurse" aged 35.



Charles William Horner with his piglets at 1, Church Cottages, Brundall. c.1930s.



Sisters Margaret and Kay Horner in a group photograph of Class 3 at Strumpshaw School in 1929.



Charles William Horner (second from right) with his village friends Walter Shorten, Herbert King and Jack George outside his home at 1 Church Cottages, The Street Brundall c.1950s. (Note: Now numbered 102).

JESMOND

We occasionally get queries to the website such as one in February asking where the house *Jesmond* is or was. Answering the query often leads to us finding out more information than we knew previously, either from the person asking the question or from research prompted by the question. The enquirer, Mike Barnes, knew from our website that the house was bought by Richard Harmer, company director of Harmer's hosiery manufacturers, in 1947. I was able to tell him that *Jesmond* is and was a semi-detached house, number 3 Braydeston Avenue.



Jesmond, 3 Braydeston Avenue, Brundall

From 1977 to 2009 *Jesmond* was occupied by David Capp, first head teacher of Brundall Primary School and his family. David and Adrienne Capp wrote a house history for our book *Houses of Brundall and Braydeston, Volume Two* in 2013.

Mike's interest was in Fred Culley, one time secretary to the Norfolk Broads Yachting Company, which originated in Brundall with H A Little & Co., who at the time of the 1911 census was living at *Jesmond*, Brundall, with coincidentally William Coleman (inventor of Wincarnis) living next door in *Costabelle*. Fred Culley's wife, Maud, came from *Jesmond*, Tyne & Wear, near Newcastle so this was almost certainly the origin of the house name.

Mike has owned a racing yacht 'Maidie' for the last 34 years and she is probably one of the most historically significant 'Broads yachts'. Thirty years ago he came across George Levine's *A Concise History of Brundall and Braydeston* and learnt that 'Maidie' was designed by Frank Harding Chambers, 'Mathematical Master at Charterhouse'.

She and other very fast sailing boats were built at the yards of Henry Augustus Little and then the Norfolk Broads Yachting Co Ltd before the First World War. These yards later became what we know as Brooms.



An early 20th century view looking towards Brundall Station buildings showing H A Little's boatsheds.

To return to *Jesmond*, Fred Culley was a local accountant who 'From the outset steered the company in terms of financial control and grew in commercial stature as a consequence of his involvement with F H Chambers'. It is also interesting to note that Henry Augustus Little lived in *Enfield House*, now 56 The Street.

If you are interested in seeing photos of 'Maidie' and reading about her in detail visit

www.nationalhistoricships.org.uk/register/1934/maidie

Barbara Ayers



175 YEARS YOUNG

"Norfolk's First Railway"
Norwich-Reedham-Great Yarmouth
1844 - 2019

A talk by Trevor Garrod

Chairman, East Suffolk Travellers Association
the independent, voluntary body which provides a
voice for train and bus users in east Suffolk.
Trevor will talk about recent developments
as well as the history of the line.

**The Memorial Hall, Links Avenue, Brundall,
Thursday 25th July 2019 at 7.30pm**

**The AGM of Brundall Local History Group
will take place beforehand. ALL WELCOME**



Admission Free
Light refreshments
available

www.brundallvillagehistory.org.uk