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Topic:	Hargrave Windmill and Millers
Date of Record:	November 2022
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Notes:	The story of the Hargrave Windmill and the families who ran it.

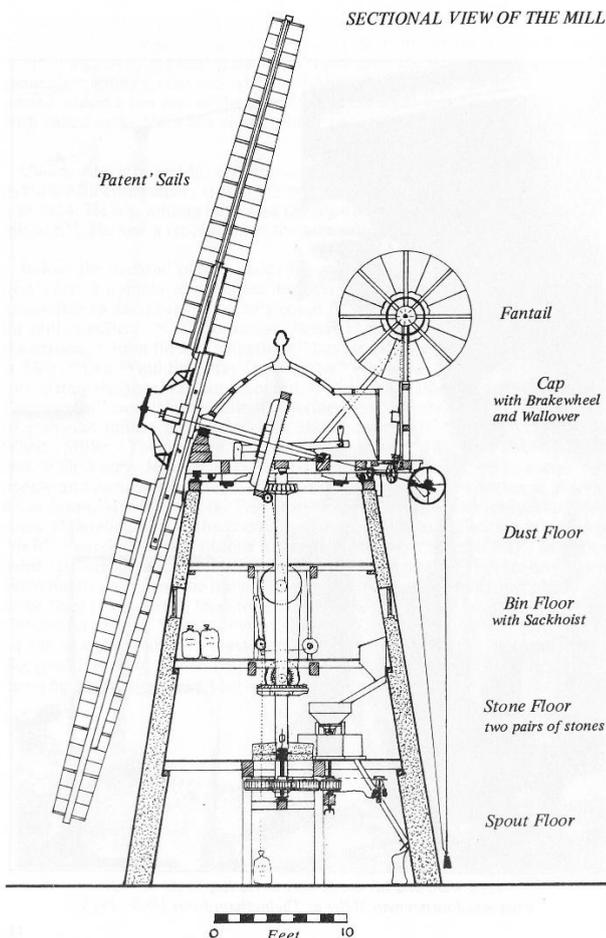
Hargrave Windmill and Millers

Ruse and Buxton Families – Hargrave Millers

It is thought that one or more windmills could have existed in Hargrave as early as the 12th century. There are certainly records of the existence of a windmill accessed via Church Lane and The Wash on Hodskinson's Map of Suffolk produced in 1783, which then served today's Mill House.

A sale advertisement from 1790 lists it as a 'new windmill'. Then nearly half a century later, local press reports of a great storm in December 1836, highlights extensive damage to the windmill, which would have required a substantial rebuild.

However there are conflicting reports as to the exact design, with the term 'smock tower windmill' used in a further sale advertisement in 1878. It appears to have survived until it was finally demolished around 1914, with the owner in 1919 John Buxton offering 'the old material of the tower windmill' for sale as part of a sale advertisement for the premises, and further requiring the purchaser to promptly cart the whole away.

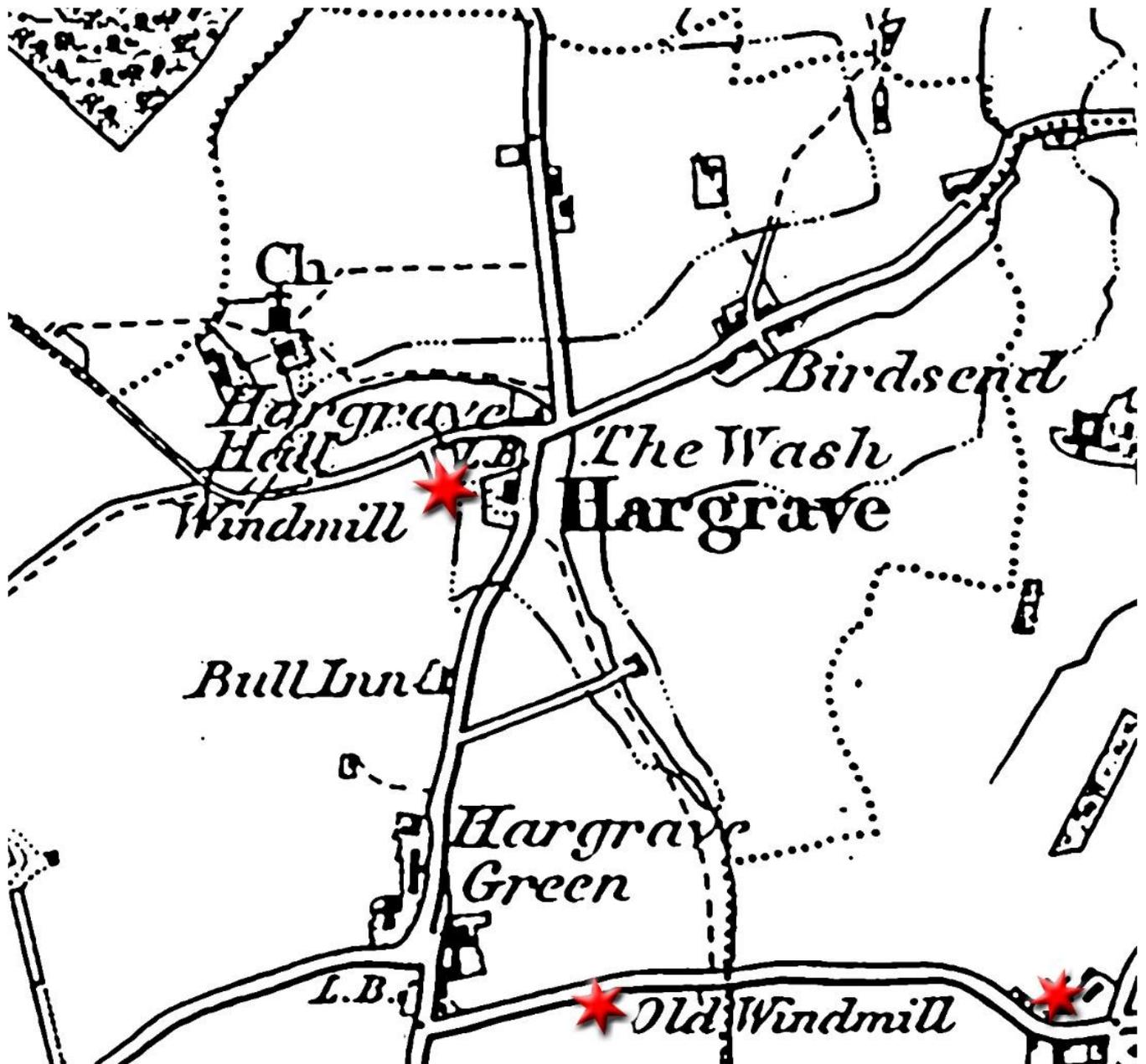


Section View through Thelnetham Tower Windmill, probably similar to that at Hargrave, although the outside structure could have been wood or brick or a combination of both.

Unfortunately an image of the Hargrave windmill has so far not been located. Further information on the design of windmills can be found under the article 'The Windmills of Hargrave and Suffolk' in the History section of this website.;

Evidence from the late 18th century would seem to suggest that the windmill, millhouse adjoining fields and The Bull Public House were all in one ownership. However in the later Tithe records from 1838, just the former is owner-occupied by miller Stephen Ruse. The Bull Public House is then listed separately as a farm including Bull Field, with the ownership in the hands of a Joseph Boreham and the tenant and pub landlord James Payke.

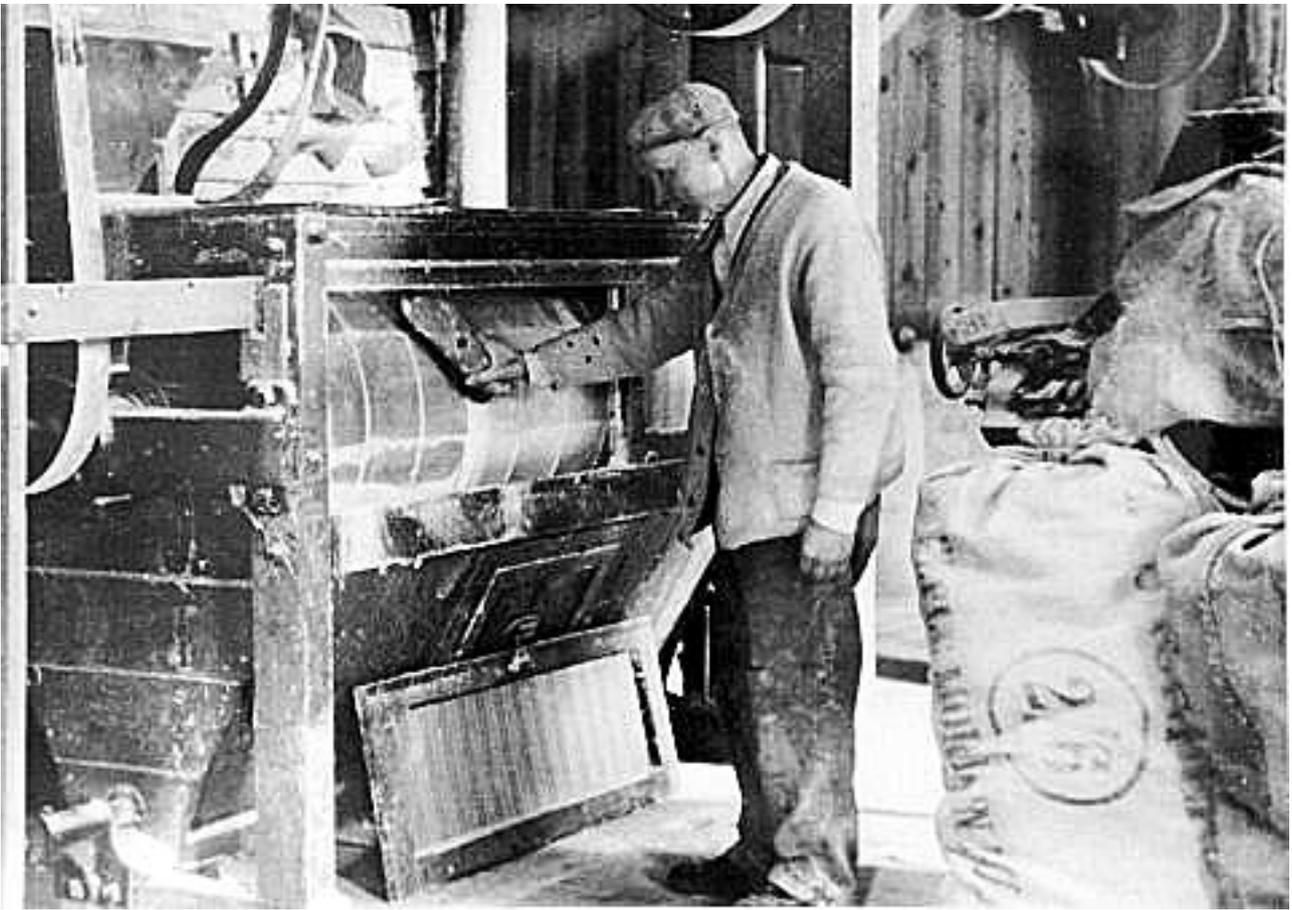
Map of 1885 Hargrave showing a windmill at The Wash, a former windmill on Chevington Road and Chevington post windmill near to The Greyhound Public House.



Hargrave Millers and Mill Farmers 1791 – 1911 – Farmers 1914 onwards

Date	Name	Source
1791	Joseph Lungley	Sale particulars advert – Bury and Norwich Post
1794	William Underwood Kemp	Sale particulars advert – Bury and Norwich Post
1836	William Gooch	Press reports of The Storm – Bury and Norwich Post
1838	William Gooch	Sale particulars advert – Bury and Norwich Post
1838	Stephen Ruse	Tithe Records
1841	Stephen Ruse	Census
1851	Stephen Ruse	Census
1861	Stephen Ruse	Census
1871	Stephen Ruse	Census
1876	Stephen Ruse	Sale particulars advert – Bury Free Press
1878	Robert Parkington	Sale particulars advert – East Anglian Daily Times
1879	Stephen Seeley	Report of Purchase – Bury and Norwich Post
1881	Samuel and John Buxton	Census
1891	Samuel and John Buxton	Census
1901	Samuel and John Buxton	Census
1911	John Buxton	Census
1919	John Buxton	Sale particulars advert – Bury Free Press
1921	Charles Pattle	Census
1939	Frederick Wallace	Register

During the time for which there are records two main millers or miller families ran the Hargrave mill and windmill, Stephen Ruse and the Buxton family. This article follows these two miller families with an appendix at the end covering all the press reported advertisements for sale of the premises.



RUSE FAMILY – HARGRAVE MILLERS 1840 - 1876

Stephen Ruse (1809-1885) was born in Kedington, Suffolk, and the eldest of nine children born to Stephen Ruse Snr. (1785-1868), a miller formerly at Saffron Walden, Essex, but originally from Horseheath, Cambridgeshire and Rebecca Cooke (1782-1869) from Hundon, Suffolk. Stephen Ruse Jnr., married Eliza Baker (1810-1898) at Litlington, Cambridgeshire in 1835, which was her home village. They had 11 children; George (1837-1900), Selina (1835-1845), Jane (1840-1903), Eliza (1842-1917), Prescilla (1843-1880), Arthur Herbert (1844-1923), Harry (1845-1846), Edwin (1848-1875), William Henry (1850 -1867), Alice Susannah (1831-1936), and Harry (1853-1934). All the children from Jane onwards in 1840 were born in Hargrave, so we can assume the family moved to the village around that time.

Although an active miller, there were also crops to grow and animals to raise on the farm as can be seen from the following press cutting.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 3rd January 1844.

SWEDE TURNIPS, TO BE SOLD 800 BUSHELS OF SWEDE TURNIPS, at FIVE PENCE PER BUSHEL

Apply to Mr. Ruse, Hargrave.



The 1851 census return indicates that the business must have been profitable as the couple were able to employ a servant Sarah Suttle, 20 years old and coming from Borough Green, Suffolk. Stephen was also taking up responsibilities in the community becoming a parish constable although that led him in to trouble earlier that year.

The following report was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post, and Suffolk Herald on the 1st January 1851.

COUNTY COURT Dec 23

Before F. K. Eagle, Esq.

Simkin v. Ruse and others. —This was an action the plaintiff against two parish constables named Stephen Ruse and Richard Newbery, for false imprisonment.

Mr. Wayman appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Brooke for the defendant Ruse; and Mr. Salmon for the defendant Newbery.

Thomas Simkin, the plaintiff, being called, deposed: I live at Hargrave, and farm with my brother. On Saturday, the 2nd of November, between 7 and 8 o'clock, I returned from Bury to Hargrave; went into the Bull; had a pint of two penny beer; had only a pint of beer before, and that at Bury; had been at the Bull about half-an-hour before Ruse came in. When he came in he abused Nunn. After that he began with me about my brother-in-law's debts. After a good deal of abuse I got up and his hat fell off; and he

gave me in charge of two men, and went away. He returned in half-an-hour with Mr. Newberry, who said "Don't you think you are a d----d nice fellow."

They then handcuffed me, and we went up to bed. I sat all night; the two others went into bed. Between 8 and 9 o'clock on Sunday morning the handcuffs were taken off by Ruse and Newberry; we then had our breakfast. When Barney came he said the; others might go. I was then charged with Mr. Swann, the landlord, went to Mr. Lloyd's the next morning. I met Mr. Ruse there. I was then discharged. I refused to consider myself out of custody unless discharged in the regular way. I never paid for anything I had.

Cross-examined by Mr. Brooke: Mr. Ruse was talking very much. He chaffed about my brother-in-law's debts. He asked me if I didn't know something about my brother-in-law's debts. I said I did not want to know anything about them. He talked wonderful to me. I can't repeat every word he said to me. Ruse was very freshy, and forced heap of talk. He used a heap of bad language about me. I did not rend any ale in his face, nor on his person. I solemnly swear I did not throw any beer unto Mr. Ruse's person. The hat fell off from his getting up. I had nothing to do with the hat falling off. Mr. Ruse did not tell me he was a constable, but I knew he was. I was on the seat when the hat fell off. I did not hear anyone say to Ruse "I'll knock your d----d head off." I did not say so. He gave me in charge because his hat fell off his head. He said so.

Cross-examined by Mr. Salmon: Mr. Lloyd said Ruse might have got a warrant against me. I had my supper before I went lied on Sunday. Had a chicken and shoulder of mutton for tea. Don't complain of the feeding. Had mutton chops next morning. Did not pay for anything. Did not throw away any beer; was within a yard when the hat fell off I had nothing to do with his hat falling off Newberry and Ruse left me in Barney's custody. Barney told me I might go on the Sunday night. Mr. Lloyd told me to put it into some attorney's hands, and that was the reason I did so. Newberry put handcuffs on as soon he came in. Newberry said the handcuffs were not large enough, but Ruse said they should go on. Ruse told Newberry that he was in danger of his life Ruse did not tell me that he gave me in custody because his hat fell off. No charge was made about the hat. He never said I knocked it off, never said I kicked him; he said I had threatened his life. Before the handcuffs were on he said he was in danger of his life.

George Race: I was at Hargrave on Saturday evening. After I had been there some time Ruse mentioned Simkin's name, and abused him about his debts. Ruse said he had got rid of most of them, and would now get rid of the rest. Simkin knocked off Ruse's hat. I saw it fall off. Ruse charged me and Phillips to keep Simkin in hold till he went and fetched the constable. Newberry and Ruse came back. Ruse told Newberry to handcuff Simkin, he was in danger of his life; and told him he would look very pretty here all day to-morrow. We went to bed. Ruse said would pay me. Saw the handcuffs taken off between and 9 o'clock.

Cross-examined by Mr. Brooke: Ruse spoke to Simkin first; he was joking Nunn about the servant girl. Ruse said he did not know why Simkin wouldn't do well as Mr. Nunn. Simkin said he did not want to have anything to do with him. Mr. Ruse told Simkin it was his brother-in-law he had been talking about; he said he had sent to George Plummer's wife for some grist, and she did not send it. I saw Simkin go up to Ruse, and he asked him what he meant by a set; did not see him strike. Did not see Simkin throw any beer at Mr. Ruse.

Cross-examined by Mr. Salmon: Was sitting down when the hat fell off; no doubt Simkin beat the hat off. Ruse was sitting down. I did not see Simkin hit Ruse. Ruse said to Simkin, "You will look very pretty here all day to-morrow."

Win. Rowling: Newberry charged me with Simkin; heard of no charge except about the hat.

Barney: Newberry came to me, and told me had Simpkin in charge, handcuffed. I told him he had better take them off.

This closed the plaintiff's case.

Stephen Ruse: I went to the Bull, at Hargrave. I was in conversation with Phillips about half an hour. I was telling Phillips I had sent for some grist the sister of the plaintiff, and she would not let me have any. I took my account to her, and asked her to pay by Wednesday, or I should leave the bill at Bury. I told Phillips I had done grinding for the set. After this, the plaintiff got up and asked me what meant by the set; told him I had done grinding for him, his brother, and the whole of his family—that was what I meant. I drank with James Nunn. He said, "Simkin called you a half-starved devil, and I will ask you to drink." Simpkin said, "So will I," and he threw some beer on me, part of which went on the landlady. I told him thought that was an assault, and I should have pocket it. He called me a "d----d rogue," and said, "You rob everybody you have to do with—you are always carrying your bills in."

Plaintiff called me a "d----d old Royston crow." Then he said, "I'll knock your d—d head off." He struck me violently on the head, and my hat flew across the room; he struck me again, after the hat was on; he attempted to kick me, between the striking. I said, "I cannot stand this; remember I am danger of my life." I said to two or three, "I charge you to take this man into custody, until I can fetch my brother-constable." Mr. Newberry, who was upstairs, came with me; found the plaintiff there; I told Mr. Newberry I insisted upon his taking that man into custody, for the reason he struck me on the head twice, and I considered I was in danger of my life. We put on the handcuffs. We remained about twenty minutes or half an hour after.

On Monday, we went before Mr. Lloyd; he recommended me get a warrant against the Simkin, and recommended Simkin to enter an action, and he recommended Simkin to shake hands. I did not shake hands. I had not spoken to Simkin before the beer was thrown at me. I was not out of temper when the beer was thrown at me.

By Mr. Salmon: Newberry acted entirely under my direction.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wayman: The hat flew towards the door leading into the street, at the top of the room.

James Nunn: I was at Hargrave Bull. I heard some conversation about some grist; Ruse said he had sent his cart for some grist, and would not let him have it, and that he had sent his bill. I saw some beer fly in Mr. Ruse's face; I don't know who threw it. Simkin called Ruse poor half-starved devil and I asked him to drink, and Simkin said "So will I," and he threw the beer in his face. I saw the hat struck off. Before this took place, I cannot recollect any bad language had been used by Ruse. He said he supposed he had relief from the relieving-officer, and he would one day see whether he had or not. I did not pick up the hat. I did not see anybody do so.

Mrs. Swan, landlady of Hargrave Bull; saw Thomas Simkin throw some beer upon Ruse's person: part of it came on to me. He said would ask him to drink; he said this when he was throwing the beer. I never heard anything else except joking. I saw Thomas Simkin hit Ruse's hat off; he kicked his legs. Ruse said "Mind what you are about, Tom." Newberry behaved like gentleman; Ruse insisted his handcuffing Simkin.

Mr. Swan, landlord of the Bull: I was present about hour and half. Ruse said he had sent for some grist at Plummer's, of Hargrave; and talked of the set. Simkin said he would knock his d----d head off, or would kill him. I was upstairs then; I could plainly hear the conversation. Thomas Simkin said this; I knew his voice. I heard Newberry come; Mr. Ruse insisted his handcuffing Simkin.

The Judge having very ably summed up.

The Jury, after consulting about five minutes, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with £5 damages against the defendant Ruse, and £2. 10s. against Newberry. The Judge told them could not receive that verdict, as it was joint action, and they must return their verdict for joint damages.

The success of the business also attracted the wrong sort of visitor as can be seen in the following press cutting.

The following report was printed in The Ipswich Journal on the 5th May 1855.

ROBBERY AT HARGRAVE – On Saturday night, some person or persons entered the mill of Mr. Stephen Ruse, of Hargrave, and stole there from about 17 stone of flour. They were determined in their work, as they broke three doors with strong locks and irons on them. No clue is at present found to the guilty persons.

By the 1861 census son George is helping his father in the business, and by 1871, George had moved on and only the three youngest children remain living with their parents. Stephen is moving in to retirement and his son Arthur will have taken over most of the responsibility for the mill. In 1876 the business is sold and the family move to Hill House, Denham.

This was not before Stephen then well in to his 70's, had managed to find himself in serious trouble having been committed for trial on a count of 'Assault with a knife' on December 31st 1873 for an incident that occurred on the 20th of that month. He was eventually found guilty in April 1874 and required to serve three days in prison.

Press accounts of his appearances before magistrates' court in December 1873 and then before judge and jury in April 1874 are provided (for those interested) in full detail below.

The following item was published in the Bury & Suffolk Standard on the 6th January 1874.

LOCAL PETTY SESSIONS

BURY DIVISION, DECEMBER 31

Magistrates present: B. B. H. Rodwell, Esq. (chairman), W. R. Bevan and J. S. Phillips, Esqrs., Revds. T. J. Steele and G. F. Turner.

SERIOUS ASSAULT AT HARGRAVE.

Stephen Ruse, miller, Hargrave, was summoned for assaulting Robert Dearsley, of Ousden, on the 20th December.

Mr. Walpole for the complainant; Mr. Brooke for the defendant.

Complainant said: I live with Mr. Farrow, home dealer, Ashfield Green, Wickhambrook. I went Higham station to meet two horses on Saturday week. I got there at four o'clock. As I came back I called at the Bull at Hargrave, where I found a young man named Joseph Pettitt. A man called Sam Nunn was in the tap-room, and the defendant, John Hagree, and Mr. A. Gardner's horsekeeper. I was laughing and talking with Nunn, and defendant got up and said "What are you doing?" I told him I was saying nothing to him, and it had nothing to do with him; at the same time laying my hand on his thigh. He said, "If you lay your hand on me I'll cut your — hand off."

The Chairman here asked if the Bench could deal summarily with a case of cutting and wounding as with a common assault?

Mr. Sparke (Magistrates' clerk): Not unless the wound is given in self-defence, and you dismiss it.

Mr. Brooke said that the wound would be proved to have been given only after repeated warning, and it was not of so serious a character as the Magistrates seemed to think.

Mr. Sparks.: I will take the depositions as if they were to go to the Assizes at any rate.

Examination continued: I laid my hand on John Hagreeen's knee and said "He won't cut my hand off." I laid my hand on Mr. Ruse's knee again. I felt the cut of a knife across my hand; it seemed to grate it. Pettitt said, "Look, he's been and cut your hand very nigh off." I did not see him cut it. I said, "Mr. Ruse, you have cut my hand," and heard him acknowledge doing it. He then went into the front room. It did not bleed for half a minute. The fingers hung down, and there was a gaping wound across the back of my hand. I saw the knife in defendant's hand, all over blood. He wiped it on his trousers and put it in his pocket. I had my hand done up by Mrs. Seeley, the landlady, and galloped off home, about a mile and a half from the Bull. Mrs. Farrow undid the covering and dressed it again. The next morning I went to Mr. Stutter's, the surgeon, and he has attended it up to the present time. I have now a little use of the two front fingers, but one finger I cannot raise properly.

—Cross-examined by Mr. Brooke: I then put my hand on Nunn's shoulder, and he put his hand up and knocked my hat off. It was not in play. I put my hand no other part of Nunn. I did not see anyone's whiskers burnt. I did not set fire to them. The first thing I did to Ruse was to lay my hand just over his knee. I did not touch his cap. I did not pull him up by the collar of his coat. He told me that if I did not take my hand off he would cut me, and when put it there again, say "You don't mean cutting me," he said "Yes I will," and he did cut me.

I have known him as long as I can recollect. I never had an angry word with him. It was not above three or four minutes after I put my hand on his knee that I put it on again. I did not lay my hand on any one's knee except Ruse's, Hagreeen's and Nunn's. I hit Ruse a smack on the side of the face directly after he cut me; he then knocked me down with his fist, and went and hid himself up in the other room. I left the place five minutes after I was knocked down.

— By the Bench: I was quite sober. I feel pain in the hand still.

— Re-examined: I only put my hand on these person's knees for fun. I did not do it rudely.

Joseph Pettit, Ousden, shoemaker, corroborated complainant's evidence, and said: When Dearsley came in he had a glass of ale, and asked me if I was ready. He began to talk to Nunn. They were playing with one another, as they always do. Defendant sat on the same seat and began to mob this young man because he was laughing and talking with young Nunn. Ruse said, "D----- you, why don't you mannick with some one else sitting across the room." There was a young woman on the other side of the room, and I suppose he meant her. He seemed very angry with Dearsley. Complainant turned round and asked him why he did not mind his own business, and leave others alone. As he said so he laid his hand on Ruse's knee. Ruse said "If you do not take your hand off my knee I'll cut your b----- hand off." He took his hand off his knee and put it on the knee of the named Hagreeen, who sat next to Ruse, saying to the defendant "If you'll cut my hand off Mr Hagreeen won't."

As he began talking to Ruse again Dearsley put his hand on his knee again. Ruse had a small knife in his hand and he drew it across Dearsley's hand. I saw him take it out of his right hand trouser pocket and open it. After his hand was cut Dearsley struck Ruse as he was rising up I saw Ruse shut his knife and put it in his pocket. Ruse knocked Dearsley over on to the seat on the other side of the room. As Dearsley was getting up Ruse laid hold of him by the hand that was not cut and held him there. A young man called Plummer, who was holding the horses then called me outside, and I went out.

-Cross-examined, Dearsley had a whip in his hand. I held the horses while Plummer went in. In about a minute I went in again I held Dearsley's hand while the landlady put some tobacco and brandy on it and did it up. Ruse was not holding Dearsley's hand when I went in again. Dearsley did nothing to Nunn except laughing and talking. He did not lay his hands on him or touch him I did not see Dearsley touch Tanner; if he had done so I must have seen it. I did see anybody's whiskers burnt. Dearsley did not knock Ruse's hat off nor got hold of him by the collar. Ruse took his knife out as soon as Dearsley laid his hand on his knee the first time and threatened to cut his hand. I could see the blade of the knife in Ruse's hand the whole time till Dearsley put his hand on his knee again.

- By the Bench: I did not see Dearsley guilty of any rude or insulting conduct to any one in the room

This was all the evidence for the complainant; but Mr. Walpole said that on a future occasion, if the case went for trial, he would have the statement of a medical man.

Mr. Brooke then addressed the Bench for the defence, observing that the complainant and defendant had been on the best of terms, and there was no pretence of anything that could point to a malicious intention. The whole thing lasted five or ten minutes, and the Bench were asked to believe that all that occurred was that Dearsley put his hand on Mr. Ruse's knee, and that forthwith Mr. Ruse, who was a respectable man, verging on 70 years of age, deliberately took out his knife, and threatened to cut off his ---- hand, for a piece of the most venial playfulness that could have happened. He never heard of a more wanton and atrocious piece of cruelty than these witnesses alleged to have occurred. But the defendants story (which would be corroborated by evidence) was that Dearsley began some nonsense with Nunn and Turner, and ultimately Turner requested him to leave his legs alone and not interfere with them again; that Dearsley seized a candle and set fire to Nunn's beard; and then turned to Ruse and knocked his hat off and caught hold of him by the collar and commenced pulling his legs about in a most indecent way.

The Chairman: Supposing that to be so, would that justify this act?

Mr. Brooke: The witnesses will tell you that Dearsley repeated the conduct several times, and then Ruse threatened to cut his fingers.

The Chairman: But if this is proved does it amount to justification?

Mr. Brooke thought it would.

The Chairman: Supposing I intimate to you that my impression is that that would not justify us in dismissing this case, would it not be better for you and for your client that all the facts should go before a jury, and that a judge should be able to give his opinion as to the legal effect of them, rather than call your witnesses now and have their evidence on the depositions.

Mr Brooke: I shall call them and ask you to let them go to the Assize under the new Act, which provides for the payment of expenses?

The Chairman: If we do anything in this case we will certainly convict.

Mr Brooke added that if his client had been a young age man he would probably have knocked Dearsley down, and he would have richly deserved it; instead of that, in defending himself from insult, he took out his knife and cut Dearsley's fingers. If he had taken liberties with a woman and she had done so, he would, according to the Chairman's law, have been equally guilty with Ruse.

The Chairman: I should not think a woman justified in doing so in a room where ten or twelve persons are present.

Mr. Brooke argued that although the defendant might not be completely justified, he was to a great extent.

The Chairman: The man took the law in to his own hands, which is not at all justifiable. All Mr. Brooke's arguments might have some effect on punishment awarded, but the taking out of a knife and cutting a man's fingers could not be justified. There might be provocation, but the legal character of the case would not be altered by that.

Mr. Brooke said the case ought to have taken the form of an action for damages, when the defendant himself could have been called. As it was he could not corroborate by his evidence of Turner and Nunn. He contended that a man who did not do this act in a passion, but merely because of an act that was ten times worse, was not more guilty than if he had struck a blow with a stick. To remove it out of the groove of common assault and send it to the Assize seemed to show an animus which he could not understand.

The Bench repeated their opinion that the case could not be treated as a common assault. The man was perhaps insulted, but it must be remembered that if the injury had proved mortal the defendant would no doubt have been committed for murder.

Mr. Brooke then called Samuel Nunn, clock maker, Hargrave, who deposed: I went to Hargrave Bull on the evening in question between five and six o'clock. The people were all quiet when I went in. Dearsley came in a little after six, and began joking with the people. He asked me to shake hands and I said "No." He began to tap me on the knee and that, as I was sitting. He made an indecent request of me, which I treated as a joke. He then got a candle off the table and singed my whiskers. He next went to Mr. Ruse and knocked his cap off got hold of him by the coat collar and asked he get up. Defendant had complained of his ill treating me. Dearsley began pulling Ruse's legs about, and defendant several times told him to be quiet. He kept on with the game, and Ruse said "If you do so again I'll cut your fingers." He told him that three or four times before he did cut them. I did not see the act done, but I saw Ruse with the knife in his hand. After he found he was cut Dearsley hit Ruse on his head with his fist. He had a whip stick in his hand, and Ruse got hold of it, and held it two or three minutes; he held it with both hands, trying to keep it.

– Cross-examined by Mr. Walpole: All that Dearsley did was done as a joke, and not indecently

Mr. Brooke produced the knife with which the wound was inflicted – a pocket knife with several blades, and defendant said he used the smallest.

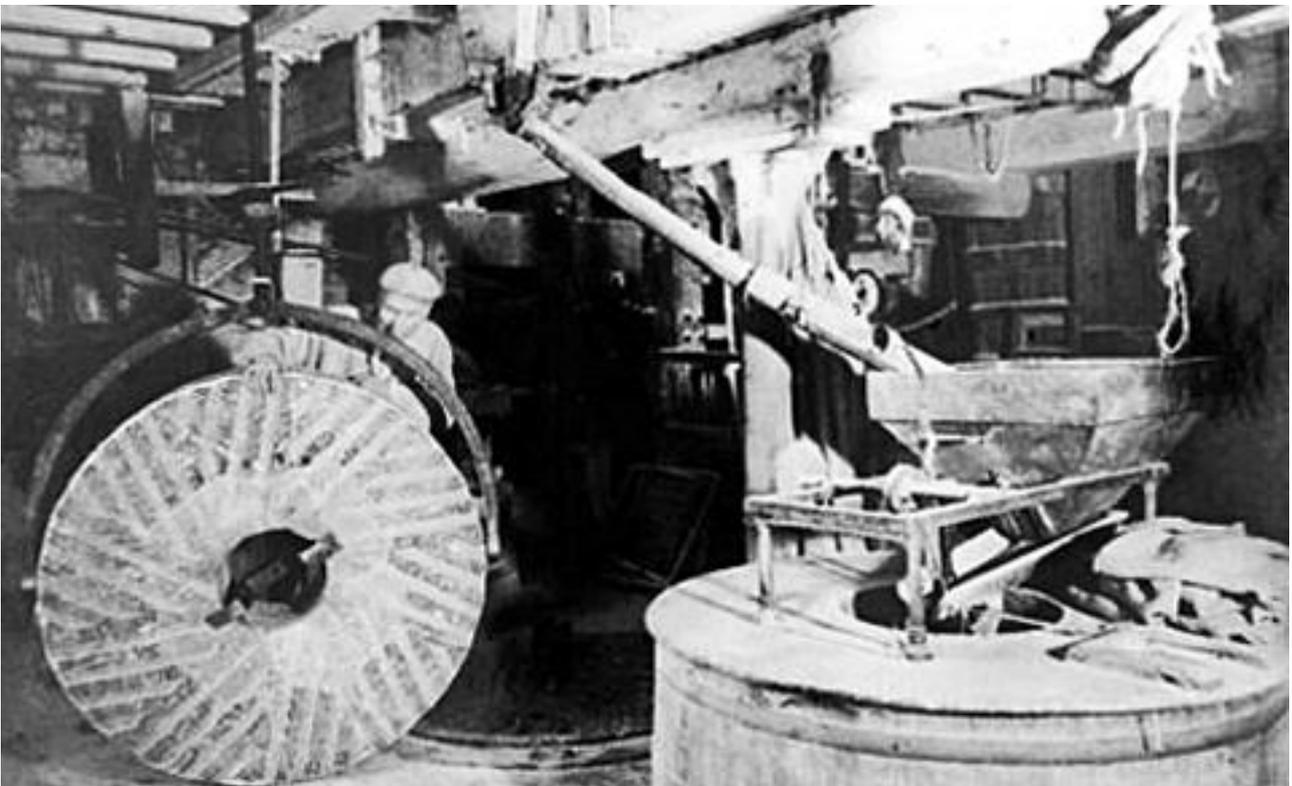
Henry Turner, labourer, Hargrave, deposed: I was at Hargrave Bull on this night. Dearsley came in and had one glass of beer. I had a round smock on, and he just came up to me and lifted it up; he just gave it a little "pop" and did not lift it as high as my knees. He then wanted to shake hands with Nunn, and began pulling his legs about. He put his hands on his thighs. He took a candle and just touched Nunn's whiskers. It made a stink in the room – (laughter) – but it was soon put out. He next went to Mr. Ruse and shoved his cap off, and took hold of him by his collar to lift him up. Mr. Ruse told him to leave him alone, but he would not, and defendant told him three or four times if he did not leave off he would cut him. I saw the knife in Mr Ruse's hands. After he was cut he hit Mr. Ruse, and Mr. Ruse hit him. I did not hear Ruse say anything about cutting his b----- hand off. When he had cut him defendant said, "You have got it now."

By Mr. Walpole: Dearsley "fared" jolly, or it would not have happened.

This was the case for the defence.

The Chairman said the Bench had no alternative but to commit the defendant for trial, but they thought they ought not to put him to the expense and trouble of getting bail. They would, therefore, only call upon him for his own recognizances in £40, to appear at the Assize. He thought this was exactly a case for a judge and jury to deal with, and he should rather it went there than to the Session. Indeed he thought it was imperative it must go to the Assize. The words of the Act appeared doubtful at first sight, but he believed that the real distinction was that it was intended that all cases, when it was proved that a weapon or instrument was used, shall be sent to the Assizes; and the meaning of the 20th section was that supposing a person was indicted for inflicting a wound without a weapon, and it turned out in the course of a trial that it was committed with a weapon, it would be competent for the jury to find the prisoner guilty; whereas if those words had not been inserted, he would have been entitled to an acquittal, on the ground that he was charged under the wrong section. He thought the defendant would have the best opportunity of meeting the case before a judge and jury; and for many reasons it was a case that had better be tried there than before the Bench. He thought the prosecution ought to have medical evidence in the case, and furnish a copy of it to the defendant's solicitor.

Mr. Walpole said he would take care that was done.



BUXTON FAMILY – HARGRAVE MILLERS – 1881-1919

The next major family of Hargrave millers were the Buxtons. Samuel Buxton Snr. (1831-1879) from Wickhambrook, was miller at Ousden until his early death at just 48 years. He was married to Sarah Stalley (1831-1906) from Barking in Essex and they had seven children. They were Samuel Arthur (1861-1930), John (1864-1929), Sarah Elizabeth (1866-1945), Emma Jane (1868-1929), Clara (1870-1919), Alice May (1873-1947), and Anna (1875-1939).

The two eldest were born in Hammersmith, Middlesex, whilst the others were all born in Ousden. Sarah, Emma, Clara and Ann all died as spinsters. Alice married Frederick Harry Orriss (1878-1950) from Troston, Suffolk, and he was a publican in Kersey near Ipswich, and they had a daughter Alice May.

Brothers Samuel and John jointly ran the milling operation for around 25 years, until Samuel moved his family to Coventry, Warwickshire and then he is recorded in the 1911 census at Hinderclay near Diss, Norfolk. He had married Catherine Mary Wilcox (1879-1935) in 1899 and they had four children Kathleen A (1902-1965), Florence Elsie (1904-1983), both born in Hargrave, and Arthur John (1908-1996) and Marjorie Alice (1908-19**) born in Coventry. The first two girls became teachers in Hinderclay.

Thus the longest serving Hargrave miller in the family was John Buxton. He married Mary McGuire (1868-1941) originally from India, in 1893. They had three children, Edith May (1897-19**), Alice Mabel (1899-1941), and Frederick John (1903-1965). John worked the mill until it was sold on in 1919, and he passed away ten years later whilst living in Colchester. Daughter Alice went on to become a school teacher, and his wife Mary was staying with her at the School House in Castlethorpe, Buckinghamshire when she died in 1941.

Apart from the day to day activities surrounding the business and Samuel and John carrying out duties with the parish council and The Ancient Order of Foresters a society providing its members with savings policies, there is also the interesting World War I correspondence from Albert McGuire the brother of John's wife Mary.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post and Suffolk Herald on the 18th August 1885.

HARGRAVE

ACCIDENT – On Wednesday last Samuel Arthur Buxton of Hargrave was admitted into Suffolk General Hospital, suffering from serious injury to his right hand, especially the thumb, which was accidentally crushed while Buxton was at work at Hargrave mill.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post and Suffolk Standard on the 14th March 1899.

HARGRAVE. Parish Council. — Mr. Lonsdale J. Boldero presided. The following were re-elected members of the Parish Council: — Rev. Peter Wilson (rector), Messrs. David Decks, Ernest Albert Pettit, Alfred George Seeley, and Hewson Wray. Messrs., Samuel Arthur Buxton and Alfred Pettit were also chosen members.

The following item was printed in the Evening Star and Herald on the 17th April 1907

MARRIAGES

ORBISS—BUXTON.-On April 11th, at the Parish Church, Hargrave, Fred., third son John Orbiss, Hintlesham, to Alice Mary, fourth daughter the late Samuel and Sarah Buxton, of Hargrave, Suffolk.

The following item was printed in the East Anglian Daily Times on the 26th August 1907.

LACY SCOTT' AND SONS.

WEDNESDAY NEXT, August 28th, 1907, SCOTT'S AUCTION

14 LONDON CART and VAN HORSES, all good workers; Shetland Mare and Foal, and Shetland Yearling Filly; Roan Yearling Colt, from Messrs. Horne Bros.; Bay Cart Mare. 2 Tumbrils, Van and 2 sets of harness, from Mr. A. Stanard giving up his coal business; also 30 Steers, 16 months old, and 6 Leighton Buzzard Calves.

Under an Execution from the Sheriff of Suffolk, re Samuel Arthur Buxton.

HARGRAVE MILL, SUFFOLK. Messrs. LACY SCOTT and SONS

WILL SELL by AUCTION, on FRIDAY NEXT, August 30th, 1907, at 11.30 o'clock.

THE GROWING CROPS, comprising about;-

4 ½ Acres of Barley, ¾ Acre of Peas, 1 Acre of Beans, ½ Acre of Lucern

(The straw, chaff, and colder, to be left on the premises) And miscellaneous effects.

Conditions as usual. Auctioneer's Offices, Bury St Edmunds.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 5th August 1911

HARGRAVE.

ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday afternoon, an accident of a somewhat serious nature, occurred to Mr. H. Wray, grocer, and provision dealer. Whilst discussing business at the Mill with Mr. J. Buxton, the horse attached to his cart, was, it is supposed, stung by an insect, which caused the animal to become frightened, and gallop across the meadow, throwing Mr. Wray heavily to the ground. Slipping its halter, it got clear of the cart and bolted. Mr. Wray, who suffering considerably from shock, and bleeding profusely, was found have sustained injury to head and face. P.-c. Cole, Barrow, who happened lie passing at the time, rendered first aid, and conveyed the injured man home, in one of Mr. Buxton's carts. Though considerably stunned, it was found, on the arrival of Dr. Bennett, of Barrow, that beyond severe laceration of the face and head, nothing of a more serious nature had been sustained beyond severe shock the system.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 4th May 1912.

HARGRAVE

PARISH COUNCIL – A meeting of the Parish Council was held Friday, when the following officers were ceded; Mr. A. Seeley, Mr. B. Motley, vice-chairman; Mr, John Buxton, clerk.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, Mr. R. N. Lea. native of Warwickshire, and a Canadian Farm Delegate Manitou. Manitoba, who has been farming in Canada for many years, visited Hargrave on Friday evening, and attended the Bull Inn to answer inquiries and give information, concerning work, wages, and conditions of life in Canada, and advise as to settlement in that country. There was a good attendance.

The following four press cuttings report on wartime correspondence received in 1916 and 1917 regarding Albert McGuire the brother of Mary Seeley. See later notice of his death in 1933.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 22nd January 1916.

HARGRAVE MEN AT THE FRONT

STORY OF BRITISH VICTORY

ENEMY BARRICADE KNOCKED DOWN AND GERMANS CAPTURED

MEETING WITH HIGHAM, LIDGATE AND OUSDEN MEN

Mrs J. Buxton, of Hargrave, has received a letter from her brother, Section Signaller Albert McGuire, 5th Canadian Battalion, 2nd Infantry Brigade, B.E.F., serving in France. He also forwards her a copy of "A Christina' Garland from the Front," an illustrated publication produced by the Canadian Division in France and Belgium, descriptive of the part played by the Canadians in and around the second battle of Ypres. The publication is cleverly and admirably got up, being quite literary work of art in its way. In addition to the details (excellently printed good paper), there are several photographs of officers—singly and in groups—and scenes and incidents, whilst a feature of the publication are the clever and delightful sketches and cartoons interspersed amongst the letterpress. These display much originality thought, skilful design, and talent in depiction and caricaturisation. The verses, personal notes, and other are highly entertaining, and show that the writers to the "war magazine" include many who are gifted in the use the pen. The design of the cover and from page are typical and noteworthy.

In the course of his letter to Mrs. Buxton, Section-Signaller McGuire says: -

"What kind of weather are you having? We are getting it very wet, and the mud is something fierce; but still it is as bad for 'Fritz' as for ourselves. We pulled off a little stunt he last time which has got the battalion some praise. While we were out the Germans erected a barricade which gave cover for snipers to fire at our men in the rear of the trenches, so we got a little scheme to work, with the result that we knocked the barricade down flat and captured the men holding it. Another unit tried this, but were unsuccessful, but our boys made a great job of it.

There has been bombardment going on this last two days on our left. The Germans have been using gas, as we have noticed fumes away back here in reserve. I think we have won a big fight alright.

I saw Bert Whitmore today. He has been very ill, and is expected to go home to England. He asked me for your address, which I gave him, as he lives at Higham, so if he gets over he will go to see you. King. Of Ousden, is well, and I ran across Matthews, who came from Lidgate. He remembers his brother going to the mill to catch rats, so perhaps you might remember him."

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 17th June 1916.

HARGRAVE.

DIED OF WOUNDS. —It was with much sorrow that information was received by Mrs. John Buxton from the Chaplain of the Military Hospital in France of the death her brother, Prvt. Thomas McGuire, of the 60th Canadians, of wounds received during the recent severe bombardment of the Canadians last week, and died last Tuesday. Prvt. T. McGuire, who had been through the Boer war, had re-joined the forces during the last few months, while in Canada being hired, as an old soldier, with the determination

to do his share in helping to win the war. Prvt. McGuire has also a brother, Prvt. Albert McGuire, serving with the 5th Canadian Signal Section. Much sympathy is felt for the family in their bereavement.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 5th August 1916.

HARGRAVE MAN IN THE GREAT ADVANCE. SIGNALLER McGUIRE WOUNDED

Much sympathy is felt for Signaller A. McGuire, 5th battalion Canadians, brother of Mrs. John Buxton, The Mill House who has been wounded in the face during the great advance. Signaller McGuire has been conveyed the Base Hospital, Boulogne.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 1st September 1917.

CASUALTIES TO HARGRAVE SOLDIERS

A letter has been received from Canadian headquarters by Mrs. John Buxton, the Mill House, Hargrave, informing her that her brother, Prvt. Albert McGuire, Signal Section, Canadian Battalion, has been admitted into hospital suffering from the effects of gas shells. Much sympathy is felt for him, and his friends are united in wishing him a speedy recovery.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 1 February 1919.

THINGOE PETTY SESSIONS

DAMAGED WHEAT AT HARGRAVE

Wednesday, at the Shirehall, Bury St Edmunds. Before Col. Hervey (chairman), Major Archer, Sor. Geo. W. Agnew, Bart., and Mr. R. H. Lucas

DAMAGED CORN STACK

John Buxton was summoned for permitting wheat in a stack to be damaged, contrary to the Wheat, Rye and Rice Restriction Order, 1917, at Hargrave, on January 16th. Defendant admitted not having the stack thatched. – Mr. H. Banks Ashton appeared to prosecute for the Thingoe Food Control Committee, and mentioned that that was the first case of its kind before that particular Court – P.-c Ward, Chevington, spoke to seeing a wheat stack the produce of four acres, unthatched. At the top on one side the stack was quite green and the contents thus were damaged. Defendant said he had no straw to put on, and had been waiting for the engine. – Mr. F. Hookham Executive Officer, said he was instructed by the committee to prosecute. – defendant said he intended thatching the stack but it was not done owing to wet weather and the pressure of other matters. He had also expected it to be threshed. He did not think much corn was damaged. – Fined £1 and costs £2 s.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 8th March 1919.

DEATHS

BUXTON —On February 28th, St. John's Street, Bury St. Edmund's Clara Buxton, late of Mill House, Hargrave, aged 48 years. Interred St. Edmund's Cemetery.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 25th October 1919.

HARGRAVE.

SCHOLASTIC SUCCESS. - Miss Mabel Buxton, the Mill House, has received many congratulations on passing the recent Certificate Examination for Teachers, held at Norwich Training College, with distinction in advanced science, and a credit pass in English literature.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 10th September 1927.

HARGRAVE

THE WEDDING was solemnised at St. Paul's Church, Colchester, on Saturday, of Miss Edith Baker, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Baker of Belle Vue Road, Colchester, and Mr. Frederick John Buxton, only son Mr. and Mrs. J. Buxton, Harwich Road, Colchester, formerly Mill House, Hargrave. The Rev. H. Hutchinson officiated. The bride (owing to the illness of her father) was given away her brother. She wore an ivory crepe de chine dress and a veil, and carried bouquet of lilies. The bridesmaids—Miss Mabel Buxton (sister of the bridegroom) and Miss Olive Baker (sister the bride) - wore silver rose crepe de chine dresses and picture hats of lace, and carried bouquets of pink roses. Little Miss Doreen White (niece of the bride) was dressed in an eau de nil frock of crepe chine and Dutch cap of cream lace, and she carried basket of pale pink sweet peas. The bridesmaids wore pearl necklaces, the gifts the bridegroom. The best man was Mr. Stanley Baker (brother of the bride). Mr. and Mrs. Buxton, who were the recipients many presents, later left for Devon, where the honeymoon is being spent.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 8th April 1933.

HARGRAVE.

DEATH IN CANADA. — News has been received Mrs. John Buxton, late The Mill, Hargrave, of the death of her brother, Mr. Albert McQuire, in Hospital in Canada, where he returned with his regiment after the conclusion of the war. Deceased, who was well known and much respected in Hargrave, was the grandson the late Mr. James Last, who resided for great number of years at Stone Hall Farm. Deceased was given a military funeral. One hundred men who returned from the war each wore poppy and after the coffin had been lowered, filed past and dropped the floral emblems into the grave. The bugler sounded the "Last Post," and the Union Jack was flown at half-mast by the graveside. Mrs. Buxton has received a number of letters, expressing sympathy, from her brother friends in Canada.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 30th September 1939.

DEATHS

BUXTON— On Sept. 23rd. at Kersey. Suffolk. ANNIE BUXTON, youngest daughter of the late Samuel and Sarah Buxton, of Mill House. Hargrave.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 23rd August 1941

HARGRAVE. THE DEATH occurred last week (13th) at Castlethorpe, Bucks, of Mary, wife of the late Mr. John Buxton, formerly of Mill House. Hargrave. She died after a brief illness. The funeral was at Greenstead, Colchester, on Monday.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 11th May 1945.

BUXTON— At Kersey, April 30th. 1945. SARAH ELIZABETH BUXTON, eldest daughter of the late Samuel and Sarah Buxton formerly of the Mill House. Hargrave.



APPENDIX A – LOCAL PRESS ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE SALE OF THE MILL AND WINDMILL

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 20th January 1790.

To be SOLD,

A Compact and valuable ESTATE, at HARGRAVE, in Suffolk, all within ring fence; consisting of all that old established and good accustomed Public-house, Called the BULL, extremely well situated for business, with new windmill, brewhouse, barn, and other convenient outhouses; yard, well planted garden, and 5 inclosures of excellent arable, meadow, and pasture land adjoining, containing together by 15 Acres (more or less), well worth the yearly rent of £40.

This premises has an unlimited right of commonage on Hargrave Commons, is a most desirable situation for a person to occupy together, or the house, mill, and land may be let off separately without any inconvenience, and the whole (except the mill) may be entered upon immediately, or at Lady-day next.

The premises may be viewed applying at the house, and further particulars may had of Mr. Fuller, attorney, at Brandon.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 19th October 1791.

To be SOLD by AUCTION

By LAVER OLIVER

At the, TALBOT INN, BURY ST EDMUNDS, on WEDNESDAY, October 26th instant, between the Hours of Five and Seven o'clock in the Evening.

A valuable COPYHOLD ESTATE, most eligibly situated in HARGRAVE, six miles from Bury, consisting of a good dwelling house, a new erected baking-office, barn, stable, and lead pump well supplied with water, a capital tower mill, all in excellent repair; also 16 acres, more or less or arable pasture land within a ring fence, subject to a quint-rent of 3s. 7d. per annum, fine arbitrary.

The premises are most desirably situated for trade, and a considerable sum of money has been expended in putting the dwelling, offices, and mill, in to a complete repair, new erected fences, &c. renders it truly valuable and worthy of particular notice.

To be viewed at any time, and printed particulars will be distributed immediately, and may be had of L. Oliver upholder and cabinet-maker of Bury.

The creditors of Mr. Joseph Lungley, miller, at Hargrave, in the county of Suffolk, are required to meet at the Talbot Inn, Bury, on Thursday, October 27, at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon, when and where the state of his affairs will be laid before them, and assent to, or dissent from the composition arising from the said estate and effects of the said Mr. Joseph Lungley. – All persons who have not sent in their accounts, are required to send the same immediately to Mr. Smith Lungley, at Boxford, or to Mr. Laver Oliver, at Bury.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 16th May 1792.

TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION

By J. MASON and SON,

Sometime in the Month of JULY, (if not sooner disposed of by Private Contract)

ALL those complete Premises now in the occupation Mr. JOSEPH LUNGLEY, Miller, at Hargrave, in the county of Suffolk, the proprietor; which are pleasantly situated, nearly in the centre of three capital corn markets, viz. within 7 miles of Bury St. Edmund's, 9 of Clare, and 9 of Newmarket. The premises consist of a neat dwelling-house, with three rooms on a floor, good cellar, pantries, and other conveniences, brewing and baking offices, with coppers, oven, &c. complete for carrying on the baking business, with yards, gardens, &c. well planted and fenced ; also a capital Tower Wind-mill, in substantial repair, with all its going gears, &c.

Together with 16 Acres (more or less) of exceeding good arable and pasture land adjoining the same, with barn, stable, and other useful outhouses. The whole within ring fence; with an unlimited right of commonage thereto belonging. The above estate is copyhold of the manor Hargrave; the premises have lately been put into thorough repair, and the purchaser may have possession on or before Michaelmas next.

For further particulars enquire J. Mason, jun. auctioneer, Bury

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 4th July 1792.

To be SOLD AUCTION, By J. MASON and SON,

THIS DAY, Wednesday the 4th of July, at the Griffin Inn, Edmund's, Suffolk, the sale to begin at Three o'clock,

ALL those complete Premises now in the occupation of Mr. JOSEPH LUNGLEY, Miller, Hargrave, in the county Suffolk, the proprietor which are pleasantly situated, nearly in the centre of three capital town markets, viz. within 7 miles Bury St. Edmund's, 9 of Clare, and 9 of Newmarket. The premises consist of a neat dwelling-house, with three rooms on a floor, good cellar, pantries, and other conveniences, brewing and baking-offices, with coppers, oven, &c. complete for carrying on the baking business, with yards, gardens, &c. well planted and fenced in; also a .capital Tower Windmill, in substantial repair, with all its going gears, &c. Together with 16 Acres (more or of less) of exceeding good arable, and pasture land adjoining same, with barn, stable, and other useful .outhouses. The whole within a ring fence; with an unlimited right of commonage thereto belonging.

The above is copyhold of the manor of Hargrave, fine the will of the lord, and pays a quit-rent of .3s. 7d. per. ann. The growing crops corn, &c., with the fixtures of the house and mill, to be taken at a fair valuation.

Particulars and conditions will produced at the time and place of sale.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 26th March 1794

To be SOLD by AUCTION

By GEORGE SYDER,

On WEDNESDAY the 8th of April next, at the TUNS INN, in BURY ST EDMUNDS

ALL that capital TOWER WINDMILL, with the mill-stones, going gears, fixtures, and appurtenances. Also all that Messuage, or Tenement, and 16 Acres (more or less) of rich arable and pasture land, with an unlimited right of commonage.

The premises are situate in the parish of Hargrave, in the centre of three capital corn markets, viz. 6 miles from Bury, 8 from Clare, and 9 from Newmarket; are copyhold of the manor Hargrave, fine arbitrary, and held under the annual quit rent of 3s. 7d. The whole in the occupation of Mr. Wm. Underwood Kemp, the proprietor, whom immediate possession may be had, if required.

Apply to the auctioneer, at Thetford; or Mr. Pate, attorney-at-law, Bury.

Note: A 'Messuage' is a dwelling house with outbuildings and land assigned to its use.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 7th December 1836.

THE STORM.

The awful troubling of the elements on Tuesday the 29th ult. was felt in this town and neighbourhood with the greatest severity. One of the

The mill belonging to Mr. Gooch, of Hargrave, was much damaged, the cap, sails and wind tackle being carried off the top of the mill and completely demolished.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post on the 1 August 1838.

A CAPITAL TOWER WINDMILL

EXCELLENT FARM, COTTAGE RESIDENCES, &c. AT HARGRAVE

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION By Messrs. BIDDELL and BLENCOWE

At the Angel Inn Bury, on Wednesday, August 8th, 1838, (instead of the 1st, as advertised last week.) at Four o'clock precisely, in Four lots, if not sooner sold by Private Contract;

Lot 1. A VERY respectable and convenient DWELLING-HOUSE, with all attached Offices, Barn, Stable, Coal and Cowhouses, Piggeries, Cartlodge and Granary, Cattle Sheds, Yard, Garden, &c. Also, a Capital Tower Windmill, with Iron Shaft, Patent Sails, and self-winding apparatus; has 4 floors, 2 pair of excellent French stones, regulators, flour-mill, jumper sack tackle Gears, &c., quite complete, together with several enclosures of exceeding good Arable and Pasture Land, containing altogether 15A. 5R. 14P.

Lot 2. Piece of excellent Arable, and also Piece of rich Meadow land, adjoining each other, and containing 5A. 2R. 22P.

Lot 3. A comfortable DWELLING-HOUSE in 3 Tenements, with Gardens, and a Piece of Meadow Land, containing together upwards of 4 acres.

Lot 4. Several enclosures of very productive Arable and Pasture Land, lying together, and containing 33A. 1R. 33P.

This valuable property is advantageously situated by the hard road at Hargrave, 6 miles from Bury. The buildings are in good repair, the lands of very productive quality; the Mill in full trade, and perfect condition, stands upon a pleasing acclivity, catching every breeze, capable of doing a great stroke of business, in which a Capital may be employed with every prospect of success.

The whole of the property is in the occupation of Mr. William Gooch, the proprietor, who will shew the Estate, of whom, and Messrs. Holmes Jackson, Sparke, and Holmes, the Auctioneers, further particulars may be had

A subsequent live and dead farming stock auction including household effects of Mr. W. M. Gooch's was held on the 16th October 1839.

The following item was printed in the Bury and Suffolk Herald on the 16th October 1839.

HARGRAVE MILL FARM

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Messrs. BIDDELL, BLENCOWE, and PAYNE, On Monday, October 1st, 1839

ALL the valuable Live and dead Farming Stock, Agricultural Implements, Tools, Harness, neat dairy Utensils, Beer, casks, Genteel Household Furniture, and effects of Mr. W. M. GOOCH, comprising a capital chesnut cart mare and ditto gelding, 2 good suckerels, 30 head of swine, and some poultry; an acre of potatoes, harvest carriage, 3 capital tumbrils, good flour cart, patent and foot ploughs, harrows, rolls, 2 gigs, cart and plough harness, sheep and hog trough, a variety of good ban and hand tools, grindstones and wheelbarrow, 3 deal milk trays, barrel and hand churns, keelers and pans, 8 capital beer casks, of various sizes, 2 wort tubs, &c.

The furniture (which is modern and equal to New) includes four post and French bedsteads, a superior goose featherbed, wash stands, tables, dressing glasses, bed side and stair carpets, mahogany chest with drawers, ditto bureau, 8 day clock, parlour and chamber chairs, mahogany dining tables, ditto 4 feet loo table, 2 sofas, easy chair, Brussels' carpet and rug, grand piano forte, fire irons, fenders, complete; set of blue-and-white dinner service, tea china, &c. &c. as expressed in catalogues, to be had at the place of sale, Inns in the neighbourhood, and of the Auctioneers, Bradfield and Whepstead.

Sale to commence precisely at 11 o'clock.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 16th December 1876.

ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

HARGRAVE Five Miles from Bury St Edmund's

VALUABLE TRADE PROPERTY WITH LAND & DWELLING

HENRY STANLEY

Is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction at Everard's Hotel, Bury St Edmunds, on WEDNESDAY, the 20th December, at Four o'clock in one Lot.

A VERY Eligible PROPERTY, with almost 15 ACRES of very fine LAND, with comfortable HOUSE and suitable BUILDINGS, and a Patent 4-sail WINDMILL, for which is attached a Capital Trade. The incoming Valuation will be very light. The property is Copyhold, and now in the occupation of Mr. Stephen Rose.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained of Messrs. Sparke and Son, Solicitors, and Henry Stanley, both of Bury St Edmunds.

The following item was printed in the East Anglian Daily Times on the 12th July 1878 and similar on 24th December 1878 and in the Bury Free Press on the 21st December 1878.

HARGRAVE SUFFOLK

A valuable BUSINESS PROPERTY, in good and substantial repair, and where a lucrative Trade is carried on. It comprises a capital Smock Tower WINDMILL, driving two pairs of French stones; a DWELLING HOUSE with Grocer's and Draper's Shop, Premises, and about 14 ACRES of first-class Arable LAND, situate upon the high road from Bury St Edmund's to Hargrave.

HENRY STANLEY

Is favoured with instructions from Mr. Robert Parkington, the Proprietor, to SELL by AUCTION, at Everard's Hotel, Bury St Edmunds, on WEDNESDAY, 17th of July, 1878, at Five o'clock precisely, the above

VERY DESIRABLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY, in One Lot, with early possession.

Particulars may be had of T. M. GOLDING, Esq., Solicitor, Walsham-le-Willows; and HENRY STANLEY, Land Agent, Bury St Edmund's, and 64, Gresham Street, E.C

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post and Suffolk Herald on the 7th January 1879.

SALE OF PROPERTY – On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Henry Stanley sold by auction at Everard's Hotel, Bury, a dwelling-house, with shop, windmill, and other premises about 14 acres of land, situate at Hargrave. The property was knocked down to Mr S. Seeley for £900.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 20th September 1919.

MICHAELMAS 1919

HARGRAVE, SUFFOLK,

Four miles from Higham Railway Station and 6 miles from the market town of Bury St. Edmund's

LIVE & DEAD FARMING STOCK, Consisting of TWO HORSES. Four Goats, 32 Head of Poultry, Harness. and small assortment of Agricultural Implements, including Hornsby Reaper. Grass Mower, Horse Rake. Tumbrel, Spring Cart, Miller's Spring Cart. Harrows, Ploughs, Root Cutter, Oat Crusher, Wheel and Sack Barrows, Scales, Ladders. Tools and Miscellaneous Effects; also 8 h.p. Oil Engine. Pair of 3ft. 6in. French Burr Stones, and Two Pairs of 4ft. 3in French Burr Stones.

Arthur Rutter, Sons & Co.

HAVE received instructions from Mr. J. Buxton Sell Auction, on the Premises, on THURSDAY, 25th September, 1919. at 2 o'clock-

Also at the same time and place as above. THE OLD MATERIAL OF THE TOWER WINDMILL. Containing a large quantity of oak beams and other wood, quantity of brass, lead, etc.; also Two Pairs of 4it. 3in. French Burr Stones. The whole Mill with contents cleared away by 10th October, 1919.

APPENDIX B - CENSUS AND REGISTER DATA 1841 - 1939, OCCUPANTS OF MILL HOUSE, HARGRAVE, SUFFOLK.

Record	Name	Age	Occupation	Birth Place
Census				
1841				
	Stephen Ruce	32	Miller	
	Eliza Ruce	30		
	George Ruce	4		
	Salena Ruce	2		
	Jane Ruce	6m		
	Ann Raymond	17	Servant	
1851				
	Stephen Ruce	42	Miller	Keddington
	Eliza Ruce	40		Lithington, Cambridgeshire
	George Ruce	14		Hargrave
	Susie Ruce	10		Hargrave
	Eliza Ruce	9		Hargrave
	Precila Ruce	8		Hargrave
	Arthur Herbert Ruce	7		Hargrave
	Edwin Ruce	14		Hargrave
	William Henry Ruce	11		Hargrave

	Alice Susannah Ruce	10		Hargrave
	Sarah Suttle	20	Servant	Borough Green
1861				
	Stephen Ruce	52	Miller & Farmer	Keddington
	Eliza Ruce	50		Lithington, Cambridgeshire
	George Ruce	24		Hargrave
	Arthur Herbert Ruce	16		Hargrave
	Edwin Ruce	14		Hargrave
	William Henry Ruce	11		Hargrave
	Allice Susannah Ruce	10		Hargrave
	Harry Ruce	8		Hargrave
1871				
	<i>Living in Mill Cottage</i>			
	William Turner	21	Agricultural Labourer	Hargrave
	Jane Turner	22		Whelnetham
	Eliza Turner	4m		Hargrave
	John Hurst	29		Lodger + Ag Lab
	<i>Living in Mill Cottage</i>			
	Frederick Sharp	33	Agricultural Labourer	Hargrave
	Kezia Sharp	30		Denham
	Albert Sharp	3		Hargrave
	Mary Sharp	1		Hargrave
	<i>Living at Bury Road</i>			

	Stephen Ruce	62	Miller	Keddington
	Eliza Ruce	60		Lithington, Cambridgeshire
1881				
	Sarah Buxton	46		Barking, Essex
	Samuel A Buxton	20	Miller	Hammersmith, Middlesex
	John Buxton	17	Miller	Hammersmith, Middlesex
	Sarah E Buxton	15		Ousden
	Emma J Buxton	12		Ousden
	Clara Buxton	11		Ousden
	Alice M Buxton	8		Ousden
	Anna Buxton	5		Ousden
1891				
	Sarah Buxton	57		Barking, Essex
	Samuel A Buxton	30	Miller & Farmer	Hammersmith, Middlesex
	John Buxton	27	Miller & Farmer	Hammersmith, Middlesex
	Clara Buxton	21		Ousden
	Anna Buxton	15		Ousden
1901				
	Samuel A Buxton	40		Hammersmith, Middlesex
	Catherine Buxton	32		Grittinton, Wiltshire
	Sarah Buxton	67		Barking, Essex
	Clara Buxton	31		Ousden
1911				
	John Buxton	47	Corn Miller (Wind & Steam Mill)	Hammersmith, Middlesex
	Mary Buxton	42		India

	Edith Mary Buxton	14	Apprentice Dressmaker	Hargrave
	Alice Mabel Buxton	11		Hargrave
	Frederick John Buxton	8		Hargrave
1921				
	Charles Pattle	40	Farmer	Sapiston
	Lottie Pattle	40		Moreton, Dorset
	Percy Pattle	14		Tidenham, Gloucestershire
	George Pattle	12		Allington, Gloucestershire
	William Pattle	8		Allington, Gloucestershire
Register				
1939				
	Frederick Olley Wallace	41	Farmer	BSE District
	Lilian Mary Wallace	38		BSE District
	Alec B Wallace	5		BSE District
	Arthur F Wallace	7		BSE District

Note: See further information on the Hargrave Windmill in the article 'The Windmills of Hargrave and West Suffolk' in the History Section and the article 'Buxton Family' in the Families Section of this Website.

Hargrave Windmill and Millers – Footnote 1

Robert Charles Parkington

Robert Charles Parkington – Miller - 1878

Following an enquiry to the website from Russell Jones a relative of Robert Parkington, we are able to establish some background to this individual despite his brief occupation of Hargrave Mill.

Robert was born in Stanton, Suffolk in about 1833, one of six children to father Robert (1805-1889) and mother Susan (Fiske) (1807-1891). Robert senior rose from being a farm labourer to working a farm and becoming a miller at Mill House in Troston, Suffolk in 1861.

Robert junior married Harriett Harris (1839-18**) in 1858, and they had three children: Charles Robert (1859), Herbert Fiske (1869) and Bessie Florence (1872). The 1861 census records him living with his family in Springfield, Essex, with his occupation as a Miller. By 1871 he has moved to St Phillip, London and is recorded as an Engine Driver.

The 1871 census has him living back in Rattlesden, Suffolk as Miller Journeyman, living next door the local miller John Clover. Then in 1891 he is back living in Hornchurch, Essex, listed now as a Locomotive Engine Driver, before passing away in 1897 at the age of 62 years.

His tenure at Hargrave Mill was brief with his purchase from the predecessor Stephen Ruse in 1876 and then shortly after offering it for sale in 1878, when it was subsequently purchased at auction by Stephen Seeley in 1879.

One fact that can be verified is that he was miller in Hargrave on 24th November 1877 as both he and his wife Harriett were called as witnesses in the case for damages as outlined below in a local press report.

He then appears in his own case chasing a debt in 1879 raised against one of his customers when he was active as miller and shopkeeper in Hargrave. This is also provided in the press report at the end of this note.

The following report was printed in the Bury and Norfolk Post and Suffolk Herald on the 15th of January 1878

Bury County Court, Friday, January 11. (Before J. W. Worlledge, Esq., Judge.)

A COLLISION

DRAKE V. FROST

This was an action brought by Henry Drake, dealer, of Ousden, against Joseph Frost, carrier, of Hargrave, to recover £5, damages sustained from a collision at Hargrave on the 24th of November last.

Mr. C. E. Salmon appeared for the plaintiff: Mr. W. S. Walpole for the defendant.

Mr. Salmon said that on the night of the 20th of November Mr. Drake was driving a pony and cart home from Bury to Ousden. He was sober-and awake. The night was dark, and he passed through Hargrave at about seven o'clock, keeping a good look-out for any- thing on the road. Passing through Hargrave he had to go by the house of Mr. Parkington, a miller, which stood close to the roadside. In front of this house stood the cart of the defendant Frost, with a woman sitting inside. Plaintiff could not see this until it was too late to avoid the collision which immediately followed. The road was about 14 feet wide, was low, and overhung with trees and hedges. The cart of Frost, which was 5 ½ feet wide, was upon the

wrong side of the road for the plaintiff. Unexpectedly the plaintiff was thrown out upon his forehead, which was cut to a very great extent. Some of his fingers were badly cut, and he was otherwise injured. The woman who was in the cart never called out or did anything to warn the approaching vehicle. Frost was in the house of Mr. Parkington, and when he heard the approaching cart and called out, but it was too late. The cart of the plaintiff, who was going slightly upon his right side of the crown of the road, struck that of the defendant so that the right wheel of the plaintiff's cart was locked between the left wheel and the buck of defendant's cart. After detailing the damage that Mr. Drake had sustained, Mr. Salmon called

Plaintiff, who deposed to the above facts, further stating that the defendant was in Mr. Parkington's shop, which was just 21 yards from the spot where the cart stood. Both the horses' heads were turned the same way. The doctor's bill amounted to 14s. 6d., and the bill of Mr. Rosbrook, saddler, for repairs to the harness, 14s. 6d. The damage to the cart amounted to 7s., and the balance of the claim he thought he was entitled to for personal compensation. He considered that he had a bad week if he did not clear £5.

Mr. Walpole: Do you pay income tax? (Laughter.)

Witness: I do not know that I am bound to answer that question. I was not going more than six or seven miles an hour. It was so dark that I could not see my hand before my face, and I did not see the cart until I was thrown out. I was at Bury market on the 23th. My wounds healed up very quickly.

In further cross-examination, plaintiff said that the defendant asked him on the Wednesday how he was, and he replied, "I don't believe you care a ---- how I get on, or you would have come and seen me on the Sunday morning." He saw him on the following Wednesday, November 5th, when he (plaintiff) said to Frost, "I will let you off for £2." Frost refused to pay anything as he did not think that he was in fault. He did not see whether Barnard, living at the Griffin Hotel, was present at the meeting. On Wednesday, the 12th, he saw Frost again, and threatened to put him into Court for £5, if he did not consent to pay £2 in an hour. He heard no one call out from the cart.

Mr. Walpole: Is your eyesight good. Witness: I can see you. (Laughter.) I cannot see with my right eye very well, but I can with my left.

Mr. Robert Parkington, miller and shopkeeper, said that on November 21st Frost came to his shop with a parcel for him. He heard the collision, went out, and saw a woman sitting in the cart. Before the collision took place he heard a cart coming about six or seven miles an hour. He also heard someone call out, but he did not know who it was, neither could he say whether it was long enough beforehand to prevent the collision. The sound came from the doorstep where Frost stood. Upon the opposite side of the road to the cart were three feet of grass, and road-scrapings. From his brick wall the road sloped down a little, and at the bottom of that slope stood the cart of Mr. Frost. Drake was perfectly sober.

To Mr. Walpole: There was nine feet of hard road for the plaintiff to use.

His Honour said he was satisfied that there was room for the plaintiff to pass if he had seen the cart.

Mr. Walpole said that they alleged he ought to have seen it.

Witness: I do not think I could have seen the woman in the cart by the light from my window alone; I could when I opened the door.

Harriett Parkington was also called, and said that Frost was on the night in question delivering goods at her shop. She did not hear anything until Frost said, "There's a cart," and ran out of the shop, calling, "Yee'-up." Immediately afterwards she heard a smash, and very soon after her husband brought Drake, covered with blood, into the house.

Cross-examined: She believed that Frost did all he could to avoid the accident.

Mr. Walpole, in defending, said it was an accident to which persons using the road were and always would be liable to experience; and the class of persons most careless and most liable to meet with such were reckless dealers. He thought Mr. Drake would have done better if he had gone slower past such a dark place; and as to Frost the question was whether he used all the necessary caution that the case demanded. He (Mr. Walpole) claimed that his client had done so. He had left a woman in charge, and when he heard the cart approaching he did all he could to avoid the collision.

Joseph Frost said that he left Bury on the 24th of November a little after five. Mrs. Frost, his aunt, went with him. He put his cart as near the wall as he possibly could. The light from Parkington's front door and window was sufficient for him to read the directions upon the parcels. He left the cart with some of the parcels, and, while he was standing near the counter of the shop, he heard a cart coming along the road. He ran out, called, and went down to the gate as fast as he could. He got there just as the collision took place, and saw Drake pitching on to the road. Mr. Drake seemed asleep, and did not take any notice of the cries witness gave. The light then shone from the window and from the door on to the cart. Witness corroborated the plaintiff as to the statements made at the various meetings at Bury Market.

Cross-examined by Mr. Salmon: I ran to call out because I thought whoever was coming would not know that my cart was there if I did not do so. I did it to give them a chance or a notice.

Clara Frost said that she was in the cart, which was drawn as close to the slope as was possible. The light of Mr. Parkington's front window shone across the road, and she could see the fence upon the other side of the road by that light. When Frost had gone up to the shop door she heard a cart coming, and he called twice, "Yee-up." She did not think it necessary to call out.

Mr. Barnard, keeper of the Griffin Tap, said that on a Wednesday in November he heard some talk between Drake and Frost. Drake wanted £2, and Frost refused, because he said he did not think he was to blame.

After Mr. Salmon had made a few remarks, his Honour said that if a man chose to leave anything in the public highway on a dark night it was his duty to let people coming along know it was there. He had no doubt the defendant thought there was a chance of an accident when he called out, but a call of that nature coming from the garden was no notice to the plaintiff that there was a cart in the way. The defendant's remark why he ran out of the shop, his Honour thought, put him out of Court. He therefore considered that the defendant was guilty of negligence. The question was then whether the plaintiff in any way conduced to the accident, and he (his Honour) did not think he did. He thought the claim was a fair one, and he should therefore give judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

The following report was printed in the Bury and Suffolk Standard on 17th June 1879.

BURY COUNTY COURT

Before J. WORLLEDGE, Esq, Judge.

A DISPUTED ACCOUNT

Parkington v Murkin. – Plaintiff, Mr. Robert Parkington, was formerly a miller at Hargrave, but now resides at Horringer. Defendant had a weekly account. Plaintiff said he served defendant with ten stone of flour, 16s. 10d., and his housekeeper had been supplied with shop goods.

– Defendant admitted owing 16s. 10d., but the shop goods he knew nothing at all about.

- It was stated that although plaintiff's home was now at Horringer, he was in a situation at Glemsford, and had had to come from that parish to attend court.
- In reply to his Honour plaintiff's wife stated that she used to serve the shop goods and her husband the flour. The goods were supplied to defendant's housekeeper, according to instructions.
- Defendant urged that things were obtained which he knew nothing about.
- In reply to his Honour, he admitted having assisted to consume what was provided, and judgement was given for the amount claimed, £1. 10s. 1d., to be paid by instalments of 2s. a month, except in September, when 10s. must be paid.
- Defendant: I can't pay it.

Nicholas Newman
November 2022

Hargrave Windmill and Millers – Footnote 2

William Gooch and Stephen Seeley

Following contact from Peter Reddick, also a frequent contributor to this website, and someone with a keen interest in the former windmill and former public houses of Hargrave, there was an exchange of ideas surrounding the often recounted theory that there was a strong connection between the windmill and mill ownership/occupation with the sale of beer at The Bull or elsewhere in the village.

To expand this idea further the following additional background history of two of the Hargrave millers is outlined below.

William Gooch – Miller 1838

A William Gooch is mentioned as miller at Hargrave in sales particulars in the local press in 1838. This sale covered a couple of dwelling houses, buildings and land, and the windmill with accompanying equipment. This residence was also backed up by the press reports from December 1836 covering a great storm which virtually demolished the windmill. However as yet there is no evidence to establish exactly when he began his occupation of the mill.

Later in 1848 there is a press record of the sale of a beer house on The Green, Hargrave then in the ownership of a W M Gooch. The question is, are they the same person?

William Gooch (1799-1885) was born in Hargrave and married Sophia Smith (1807) in 1826. His father was Samuel Gooch snr. (1767) from Cowlinge and Sarah Sparrow (1763-1847), and he was one of four children, the other three being Samuel jnr.(1796-1859), Robert (1797-1877) and Mary Ann (1800).

William and Sophia also had four children: William (1827-1903), Sophia (1835), James (1835) and Emma (1850-1871).

Throughout his census entries he is listed variously as a carpenter, a chair maker, a cabinet maker, and finally as a carpenter in 1881. The 1848 sale of a property particulars on Hargrave Green also mentions W M Gooch as being a 'Carpenter, Bricklayer and Beerseller'. So it would on balance seem likely that he was the same person.

One of the advertisements in 1848 also mentions that William Gooch was 'going to Australia'. However it appears he only got as far as Bury St Edmunds where he can be found living and working in Eastgate Street in 1851 then St Johns Street in the census of 1861 and 1871. Then finally by 1881 he had moved to Northgate Street where he died in 1885.

Charles Gooch

However William's nephew Charles Bonnet Gooch (1836-1916) did make it to Australia. Charles was the son of Samuel Gooch jnr. (1796-1859) a farm labourer and his wife Charlotte Bonnett (1807-1892) who lived at Mossyhill, Hargrave. Samuel Gooch jnr. being the son of Samuel Gooch snr., was therefore the brother of William Gooch.

Charles Gooch married Margaret Pearson (1842-1926) in Manchester in 1862. In adult life he had moved from Suffolk to Salford, Lancashire, then Dunmow, Essex, which was probably associated with his career as a professional soldier in the 1850's and then later as a policeman. Eventually the parents and five children sailed from London on the ship 'Tom Whiffler' on the 19th October 1873, arriving in Australia on the 26th January 1874.

This branch of the 'Gooch' family tree is explored in more detail in the 'Families' section of this website. Information is supported by the research of correspondent Peter Gooch a family descendent from Australia. He has indicated that John Gooch (1762-1856) of Cowlinge was a mill owner and the one responsible for sending his two sons Sam and William over to Hargrave to run a business there, including the mill.

Stephen Seeley - Miller 1879

In 1879 there is again a local press record of the purchase of Hargrave mill, by a Mr S Seeley. But by the 1881 census the mill is in the occupation of Sarah Buxton and her two sons Samuel and John. So it appears Mr Seeley's ownership was brief. One can speculate on the reason for this. Perhaps it was a business venture that did not succeed or could it have been a way of splitting off some of the land assets before resale.

The interesting point is that a Charles Seeley born in Dalham (from census records) and Caroline Seeley (Watson) (1828-1897) were landlords of The Bull Public House from around 1869 to 1881. They are mentioned in the local trade directories and the 1871 census. Could there be a connection with S Seeley?

Tracking back in time, we find a Timothy Seeley (1798-1882) a shoemaker and wife Mary (Pleasants) (1799 -1894) recorded as living in Dalham in the 1841 census having married in 1823. They have six children: Henry (1824), Joseph (1826-1914), Charles (1829-1875), Stephen (1834-1904) Ann (1827) and Mary Ann (1838-1913). So there are brothers Charles and Stephen Seeley.

By the 1881 census the time period we are interested in Timothy and Mary had moved and were running Frogs End Farm, Hargrave at the ages of 80 and 82 years respectively. The farm then comprised 150 acres and employed six men and two boys. Living with them is unmarried Mary Ann (see note later). Next door is their son Joseph Seeley, wife Susan and six children, Joseph having taken up his father's initial trade as shoemaker.

Son Stephen however is still living at Dunstall Green running a more modest farm of 12 acres with his wife Elizabeth (Peachey) (1841) and daughter Katherine (1863). However he is very active in the market of buying and selling property with an example of this activity provided below from 1884.

It is therefore not a giant leap of faith to assume that with parts of the established Seeley family now having moved to Hargrave and running farming operations and a Stephen Seeley operating in the property market, that he is likely to be the son of Timothy and brother of Charles

On a different note one strange anomaly that is highlighted in the 1881 is the occupation of The Bull Public House. The individuals occupying are listed as:

Bull Farm	Emily Mansfield	Daughter	Married	22	Smethwick, Staffordshire
	George W Mansfield	Grandson		3	Hargrave
	Charles Henry Seeley	Son	Unmarried	14	Smethwick, Staffordshire
	George William Seeley	Son		13	Hargrave
	Walter Joseph Seeley	Son		8	Hargrave

So where are Charles and Caroline Seeley and who is Emily Mansfield? The answer to Charles is that he passed in 1875, but Caroline who probably took over as landlord is missing. As for Emily Mansfield, she was actually the daughter of Caroline from her second marriage in 1857 to Samuel Clarke (1803-1864). They had two daughters Emily Louise (1859) and Martha A (1861). Caroline was originally from Smethwick and both her daughters were born in the West Midlands. We also know that she died there in 1897 in Aston, Warwickshire.

The following item was printed in the Newmarket Journal on the 25th October 1884

DUNSTALL GREEN, DALHAM, Suffolk.

DESIRABLE SMALL INVESTMENTS.

A DWELLING HOUSE, HOMESTEAD, 3A. 2R. OP. (more or less) of valuable Arable and Pasture LAND, and a comfortable FREEHOLD COTTAGE, with Garden, which will be Offered for Sale by Auction, by Messrs. Feist and Son, By direction of the proprietor. on FRIDAY, 31st October, 1884, at the ' Fox" Inn, Ousden, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely, in Two Lots, subject to such Conditions of Sale as will be then and there produced.

PARTICULARS. Lot 1.—A stud, plaster and tile built Freehold Cottage, containing 2 Keeping Rooms, 2 Bed Rooms, Back Kitchen, with oven and other conveniences, also a piece of Garden Ground thereto belonging, situate at Dunstan Green Dalham, in the County of Suffolk, as now occupied by James Hind, at £5 per annum. Boundaries—North, Lot 2; South and West, Mr. Stephen Seeley; East, the High Road.

Lot 2.—A stud, plaster, partly tiled and partly thatched Dwelling House, containing 2 Keeping Rooms, 3 Bed Rooms, Kitchen and Dairy; a small Homestead, comprising Barn, Stable, Cow House, Cart Lodge, and other conveniences; a small Orchard and Garden adjoining; also a highly valuable Croft of Amble Land lying in the rear, containing 2a. 2r. Op. (more or less). Boundaries — North East, by the Lane leading to Ousden ; South East, by property of Mr. Stephen Seeley and the High Road; North West, by property of James William Pryor, Esq.; South West, by property of the Rev. W. S. McDouall Also a Valuable and Productive piece of Meadow Ground, containing 3r. 13p. (more or less). Bounded

by property of Sir Robert Affleck, Bart., and situate at Dunstall Green, Dalham in the County of Suffolk, as now let to Mr. Henry Goddard, sen., at £18 per annum. Copyhold of the Manor of Dalham.

NOTE —The Purchaser of this Lot shall permit Mr. John Thomas Edwards (the Vendor), who is now in his 85th year, to occupy for his Life, Rent Free, 1 Bed Room and 1 Sitting Room, at the South East end of the said Dwelling House, together with the use of the Garden and W.C.

OUTGOINGS TITHE £1 4s. 6d.

Further Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be had on application to Mr. JAMES BUTTON, Solicitor, or to the Auctioneers, all of Newmarket.

Incidentally the research in to Charles Seeley also uncovered the following case, which does not paint him in a very favourable light!

The following item was published in the Bury and Norwich Post and Suffolk Herald on the 29th May 1866

BOROUGH PETTY SESSION, BURY, May 24.

[Before the Mayor (H. Le Grice, Esq.), G. H. Nunn, G. Portway, and W. H. Rushbrooke, Esqrs.]

VIOLENT ASSAULT BY TWO BROTHERS —James and George Simkin, of Hargrave, were charged with assaulting Charles Seeley, of the same place, on the 16th instant, at Bury St. Edmund's.

— Mr. Salmon appeared for the defendants.

—Complainant deposed: On the day in question I was in Bury, and saw the defendants in the Pig Market; I spoke first on seeing them, and said, "There are your 15s. pigs," but did not speak to them particularly. James Simkin said he had got some that would weigh down five of them; I said he was wrong, and then he said he could buy me and the whole lot; I said I was not going to buy nor yet sell, and they should never have a pig out of my yard again. I went away with the man that bought some pigs off me, and nothing more took place till the evening, when I met the defendants in Risbygate street; I asked them for "my just and my due," and we had a few more words then. I told James that if he did not pay me I should put him into the Court, and as soon as I said those words he struck me with a stick across the forehead. I defended myself as well as I could. George Simkin laid hold of me while the other struck me with the stick, and then both of them struck me. I should think twenty times. Some people took the sticks away from them and broke them, and took the defendants from me. They both had sticks, and both struck me with.

- Cross examination by Mr. Salmon: I live near the Simkins, and have agreed with them as well as they have with me. I never had any words with them till that morning; they had been degrading my pigs and me too. I don't know that they said anything to me in the market until I said, "Here are your 15s. pigs;" we had words together, and the language was not very good on either side. I don't often get into words in consequence of my violent language; my father has not turned me out; I decline to say what disturbances I have had with my father, as it has nothing to do with this case. I never used ill language to Mr. Newell, of Fornham, and he did not give me a thrashing for it. I had been to the Chequers that night. I did not know they were at the Hare and Hounds, and had not been waiting for them. They did not speak to me till I asked them for my due; they spoke before any blow was struck. James Simkin struck the first blow, I will swear; I believe I shoved him down, but did not do so before he struck me. I believe I did not kick him on the ground, but cannot say whether I did so in the scuffle. I was struck

several times on the head with sticks, and knocked down. George did not say, "What do you mean by that?" but both attacked me with all the violence they could use. I had a light whip in my hand, but did not strike James Simkin with it before he struck me ; I don't know whether I hit George Simkin with the whip in the struggle, but I did the best I could to defend myself.

— David Scotchmer, broker, of Risbygate street, deposed: Yesterday evening week I was at my door, and heard a dispute between James Simkin and Seeley as to the payment of some money; Seeley was following and asking them for the money when I first saw them. Seeley threatened to put him in the County Court, and James Simkin said, "D---yon, I'll pay you," and then struck him with the stick across the head and shoulders as fast as he could. The blows caused blood to flow. Seeley returned the compliment and went at them with his whip. People called out "Murder!" and "Police!" and I and some more interfered and parted them. While I was protecting some of my goods that stood outside the door, I got a blow from somebody (I don't know who), which I feel now. Both the defendants were beating the complainant at one time in a most savage and cowardly manner. I am quite certain Seeley did not strike Simkin first.

—By Mr. Salmon: I should think the stick was bigger than the one Simkin has got now; Seeley had a whip, and he used it too, and I don't blame him either. (Laughter.) I did not hear any coarse language from Seeley.

— Maria Brabrook stated: Yesterday week, about eight in the evening, I was sitting in my house, and, hearing a noise outside, I went to the window. Seeley was telling Simkin that he owed him two days' work; Simkin said he would pay him, and directly struck him with a stick, and made the blood flow from his head ; the other defendant also beat him with a stick very severely, and I thought the complainant must have been murdered.

— Cross-examined: I saw the first blow struck. I was attracted to the window by the talking.

— Westrop Ray stated: I am a watchmaker in Brentgovel Street, and on the evening in question I was walking along Risbygate Street, when I saw Seeley and the two defendants standing together, and apparently quarrelling, as they were using high words. I watched them from the opposite side of the street, and saw James Simkin strike Seeley on the hat with his stick; it was a larger stick than the one produced, and had a knob, and I should think defendant struck with all his might. Seeley was about returning the blow, when the other defendant struck him across the shoulder. Seeley rushed at James Simkin, and threw him in the road, the other Simkin fell on him, and all went down together; a regular "scrimmage" followed.

— Cross-examined: I did not see them meet, nor can I say what had taken place. I won't swear that the stick produced is not the one that was used. I made no effort to interfere, as I was sure I should have no chance with such fellows as those.

— The Bench examined the stick produced by the defendant, and thought it a weapon sufficiently formidable, being a ground ash about an inch in diameter.

— Susan Smith, wife of the landlord of the Chequers, deposed: I was standing at my door on the evening in question, and saw Seeley meet the defendants opposite Scotchmer's door, as they were going down the street. I remained at the door, and saw them standing and talking together, but did not see any of the fighting till they were on the ground.

— Cross-examined: Seeley had been at my house, and said he had a little business to do before he went home. He did not say the little business was to see the Simkins. I broke George Seeley's stick. I cannot swear whether the stick James Simkin has is the same one he had then.

— William Long, a clerk in the employ of Messrs. Greene, Partridge, and Greene, who was walking with Mr. Ray, also proved that James Simkin was the first to strike a blow.

— Cross-examined: I did not see them meet, and what had taken place before I saw them I cannot say.

— This I was all the evidence in support of the charge; and as cross-summonses had been issued against Seeley for assaulting the two Simkins, the Bench determined upon hearing all the cases before giving their decision.

— Mr. Salmon elected to call the defendants, and take their evidence, and reserve his observations until the conclusion of the case.

- James Simkin was first called, and said: I am a little farmer at Hargrave. Yesterday morning week I was in the Pig-market, and saw Seeley there. I was going up the market. He had some pigs in a pen, and I did not speak to him, but when I and my brother were going up the market he said, "Here come these two ---- ----, I will never sell them another pig as long as live." I told him I was ashamed to be where he was. He kept blackguarding us, and I took myself off. I do not consider that I owed him anything for his two days' work as I had more than paid him. When I met him in the evening I was going home. As soon as I met him he said "Here come these two ----- ----," and took up his whip-stick and "whopped" it right across my head and shoulders. I had not spoken to him when he did that. He kicked me on my leg and I fell down, and after I was down he kicked at my head, but kicked my elbow and knocked a piece of skin off. My brother said "What do you mean by .this Charlie? You are not going on like this." Seeley at once turned around and struck my brother across the head and broke his hat. I had then got up.

— Mr. Salmon: And then you struck him.

— Simkin: I should think I did: I hit him anywhere I could, and with the stick, and there's no mistake that I hit him hard. Some people then swarmed round and separated us. I will swear Seeley struck and kicked me before I struck him or even spoke to him.

— Seeley did not cross-examine the witness, but denied the truth of his statement.

— George Simkin, of Hargrave, thatcher, corroborated his brother's evidence, and produced his hat in proof of the violence with which Seeley struck him; could not say whether Seeley had been drinking.

— Mr. Salmon then addressed the Bench, and contended that the case against the Simkins was not made out. Seeley had been, upon his own confession, the aggressor in point of language on both occasions when the parties had met. Notwithstanding the provocation the defendants met with in the morning, they were wise and prudent enough to walk away; and when they met in the evening Seeley's language was almost enough to justify the other man in laying a stick about him. Even upon Seeley's own version he got no more than he had a right to expect. He analysed the evidence of each of the witnesses who had been called in support of Seeley's case, and argued that their statements did not amount to any proof that Seeley was not the aggressor, in as much as the probability was that when they saw the melee James Simkin had then been on the ground and got up again. There was nothing in that evidence to prove that the true version of the affair was not given by the defendants, who were respectable men and entitled to have their statement believed, especially as it was confirmed in several particulars by the other witnesses. Seeley was alone to blame, and even supposing his own statement to be true it was clear that he got no more than his own insulting and provoking language brought upon him, but it was clear also "that he was the aggressor in blows unless the defendants were perjured.

— *The Magistrates having consulted together for some time, the Mayor said the Bench had had some difficulty in arriving at a decision in this case, more particularly as they had heard the evidence of the Simkins. They had not, however, brought any witnesses to corroborate their statement, and under these circumstances the Magistrates thought they ought to convict them. Considering, however, the great provocation they had received, the Bench would only put upon them a small fine of 5s. each and the expenses, amounting in the three cases to 11. 6s. 6d. — The cases against Seeley were dismissed. — Defendants paid the money.*

(For those with further interest in the Seeley family, an article on Alfred George Seeley the son of Mary Ann Seeley and the grandson of Timothy Seeley is provided in the 'Families' section of this website)

Neither of these two family histories outlined above necessarily prove categorically the link between milling and beer sales in Hargrave, but their stories are of interest none the less. In practice looking at press notifications of Hargrave farm and business auctions throughout the 19th century it would appear that just about everyone who owned property would also own the necessary equipment to brew beer either for their own or wider consumption. With the normal source of drinking water at that time coming from local shallow wells which had the potential for contamination this is perhaps unsurprising.

Nicholas Newman
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