

	History:	
	Topic:	Hunting With Hounds in Hargrave
	Date of Record:	March 2022
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	Notes:	Fox and stag hunting in Hargrave.

## Hunting with Hounds in Hargrave

For the younger amongst us, it may seem surprising that hunting live quarry with hounds was only outlawed in this country with the passing of The Hunting Act 2004. This countryside pursuit now in the form of drag hunting using an artificial lure, remains popular in many areas for both those on horseback and the hunt followers. In Hargrave traditional hunting recorded a peak of popularity around the late 19th and early 20th century, which coincided with the occupation of Grove Farm by Lonsdale Boldero who was a keen supporter and allowed several hunts a year to commence on land he farmed.

This article does not seek to take a positive or negative view on this practice but provides a few press clippings from local newspapers and allows the reader to draw their own conclusions.

Warning some may find the following content upsetting!

**The following article was printed in The Bury and Norwich Post, and Suffolk Herald on 6th April 1869.**

*HARGRAVE.*

*Extraordinary Run with Mr. Greene's Harriers.*

*—On Thursday last the lovers of the chase had an unusual treat in this neighbourhood. The meet took place at the residence of Mr. R. Tricker, of Hargrave. A stag was turned off in a meadow near Mr. Tricker's house, and allowed a few minutes' start. In due time the hounds were put on the scent, and were soon off at a clipping pace straight ahead to South-wood Park, thence to Denham, Desning Hall (Gazeley), then bearing to the left, to Dalham, Ashley, Cheveley, again to the left to Silverly, then on to Lidgate, Wickhambrook, Denston, then to the right to Stradishall. At this juncture the stag began to slacken in pace, giving some of his followers an opportunity to recover lost ground; nevertheless, not fully exhausted, he made a final spurt to Hundon, where he was eventually captured, after a run of two hours and three-quarters.*

The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post and Suffolk Standard on the 26th March 1889.

*THE SUFFOLK FOXHOUNDS.*

*On Saturday a lovely morning augured well for a good day's sport with the Suffolk Hunt, so once more I resolved to cast in my lot with other followers of the Hunt, knowing that I shall not have many more chances this season. For once the worthy Master (Mr. J. Maulkin King) was a "leettle" behind time, the clock on Horringer church having struck eleven before his arrival. Quite an array of "talent" had assembled, and as friendly greetings were being exchanged, the Master, accompanied by his two whips and the beauties, appeared in sight.*

*The word was passed round that more than one fox had lately been viewed in Ickworth Park, so, with exhilarated spirits, we soon trotted off to discover his whereabouts. He was found on the Saxham side of the park, across which "tally-ho" resounded quickly, to the joy of all hearts. Having got a good start, he had a pretty open run through Lound wood and across the park as if making for Ickworth.*

*Building. Having, however, got nearly up to the Marquis's mansion, the fox discovered his mistake, for he turned to the right, running towards Horringer Gate, and then making off in the direction of Westley, where he managed to make himself scarce somewhere in the locality of the rifle butts, after having afforded about half an hour's run.*

*On we trotted to Saxham, where all the coverts were drawn blank. Next we tried Denham and Wickhambrook Easty, where we had no better luck. I noticed that the faces of several followers looked as if they had taken something which did not agree with them, but countenance brightened up at Plumpton as we drew nigh to the residence of that respected fox preserver, Mr. W. R. Bevan, for one of the right sort was discovered in Rush Bottom covert. He went away at a rattling pace towards Whepstead village, then through Haigh wood and on to Chevington, but turning to the right he made for Doveden Hall Wood, and having crossed the road, sought shelter in Ickworth Park, where, scent having failed, he was lost, after having afforded a very enjoyable spin of about an hour.*

*There was a capital field during the day, including a contingent of late arrivals. Amongst those out I noticed Colonel Josselyn and Mr. Willoughby Josselyn, of Little Whelnetham Hall ; Alderman Gough, Mr. G. A. Partridge, the Hon. Marcus Beresford, Mr. H. J. Salmon, Mr. J. Burlingham, and Mr. H. Prigg, Bury St. Edmund's ; Sir Robert Affleck, Bart., Dalham Hall ; Mr. W. Gage Blake, Nowton Hall ; Mr. Wm. Harvey, Timworth ; Mr. H. H. Almack and Mr. E. F. Fisher, Long Melford ; Mr. Anthony Thornhill and Miss Thornhill, Pakenham Lodge ; Mr. Burrell, Thetford ; Mr. Clarke. London ; Mr. H. W. Cloughton and Miss Ord, Fornham St. Martin ; Miss Maud Robertson, Hardwick ; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Huddleston, Stowlangtoft ; Mr. Charles Harvey, Wyken Hall ; Mr. Cordy S. Wolton and Mr. P. Turner, Ixworth ; Mr. G. Jillings, Saxham ; Mr. E. C. Halls, Denham ; Mr. P. M. Browne, Fornham All Saints ; Mr. Fyson, formerly of Gesyns, Wickhambrook ; Mr. D. W. Taylor, Bardwell ; Mr. G. Derm Turner, Barnham ; Mr. Martin and Mr. Bennet, Garboldisham ; Mr. L. J. Boldero, Hargrave ; and many others, besides those who put in an appearance on wheels at the "meet," where I noticed Mr. W. Orbell Palmer, Bradfield St. George ; Mrs. White, Chevington Rectory ; Mrs. Boulton, Mrs. Edward Hawkins, Miss Ibbetson, and Miss Pearson, Bury St. Edmund's ; Miss Kaye, Saxham Hall ; Mr. G. J. Paine and party, Risby ; Mr. and Mrs. R. Simpson, Horsecroft ; the Misses Burrell, Fornham St. Martin ; Miss Browne, Fornham All Saints ; and many visitors on foot. — East Anglian Daily Times.*

**The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich Post and Suffolk Standard on the 18th February 1890.**

*THE SUFFOLK FOXHOUNDS.*

*There was a fair assemblage at the meet at Horringer Green on Tuesday. A fox was started from the Park, leaving to the right of the iron gates and making for Chevington Hall, past the church, and on towards the Hargrave road, which he crossed, and was lost near Mr. Boldero's residence after a run of about 35 minutes. Wickhambrook Easty was then drawn blank, as also was Hay Wood, but at Plumpton Wood another find resulted, and a fox was quickly away, making for Rede Kiln, bearing to the right from Hay Wood and on towards Ruffins, crossing the Whepstead and Bury roads, visiting Ickworth Park, and on up the hill towards Chevington Rectory, being ultimately killed near Mr. White's meadow, after a spin of about 50 minutes.*

**The following items were reported in the Bury and Norwich post and Suffolk Standard on 14th October 1890.**

*THE FIELD THE SUFFOLK FOXHOUNDS.*

*On Saturday morning the Suffolk Foxhounds met at Whepstead White Horse for cub-hunting, which hitherto has been almost impossible in the county covered by the Suffolk Hunt, owing to the hardness of the ground. Besides the Master (Mr. J. Maulkin King), the early risers included — Colonel Josselyn, of Little Whelnetham Hall; Miss White, of Chevington rectory; Mr. H. W. Claughton and Miss Ord, of Fornham St. Martin; Mr. G. Jillings, of the Lodge Farm, Little Saxham; Mr. L. J. Boldero, of Hargrave; Mr. Hubbard, and a few others, including the whips (Jack Carpenter and Last). There were about 25 couples of hounds which looked very well; but seemed rather wild after their long rest. Three foxes were found in the Rush Bottoms, but they could not be persuaded to leave, so after the hounds had made a kill they went home, the weather being too dry to permit of going any further in quest of sport.*

*MR. BARCLAY'S BEAGLES.*

*On Saturday the opening meet of Mr. Barclay's beagles took place at Southwood Park Farm. A hare was soon found, and, after affording a capital run of about twenty minutes, was killed. Another was discovered amongst some turnips, and gave sport for something like an hour-and-a-half; but the scent was very slow at times, although at length the hare had to surrender. These beagles seem to have improved very much since Mr. Barclay first took them in hand.*

**The following item was printed in the East Anglian daily Times on the 17th November 1893.**

*MR. E. WALTER GREENE'S STAGHOUNDS.*

*Hargrave Grove was the tryst place on Tuesday, when good number turned out to welcome the popular master, Hr. Walter E. Greene. The morning opened hazy, but about ten o'clock the sky cleared. Mr. Greene arrived in good time, and the hind was uncarted at quarter-post twelve in Mr. L. Boldero's meadow. After a sniff she made to the right as if for crossing Southwood Park Farm, and then darted back to the Ousden Road, and after bearing towards the left, through Hargrave village to Saxham Woods, went to the right, crossed Bury Road, and hurried on very fast to Ickworth Park; but at Chevington Iron Gates there was check.*

*She was soon off again, and taking the road Ruffins for half mile, went up the lane at the right to Haywood, on the Plumpton estate, and put Bede Hall nod Rede Kilns and on to the right of Chedburgh Wood, then to the left to Bede Groves, to Cristlands, and round Hawkedon Rectory to the right and them to the left, crossing the Bury Road just above Hawkedon Green, to Somerton Church, and sharp to the right to Gallowgate, crossing the road, and turning sharp to the left, she took the low meadow, and in front of Somerton Hall, where Mr. T. P. Hale mounted and joined in the run. The hind then crossed the brook by Moor Home and went to the road by Boxted Hall, and afterwards turned to the toft the direction of Glemsford, where your correspondent moved homewards, having ridden 14 miles. Time, 2 hours and 10 minutes.*

*The capital gallop was thoroughly enjoyed, having been as fast anyone could desire—in fact, too fast for heavy hunters. The stag was eventually taken at Cavendish. One casualty was reported, Mr. John having met with accident, breaking his collar-bone.*

**The following article was printed in the East Anglian Daily Times on 20th March 1894.**

*MB. B. WALTER GREENE'S STAGHOUNDS,*

*These hounds met at Hargrave Grove on Friday, the weather being delightful. A very large meet was the result, many coming from a long distance. Mr. Boldero again had open house to all, and a “nip” of something “short.”*

*Amongst those present and out, besides Mr. E. W. Greene, were— Mr. R. Greene, Hon. A. E. Parker, Madame Perrott, Mr. Reeve (Ousden Hall), Mr. J. Gardiner, M.D.H., Mr. Poyser, Mr. J. Boldero, Mr. J. White, Mr. Barnard, Mr. P. Browne, jun., Mr. W. Price, Mr. M. Burlingham, Mr. E. Goldsmith (Bardwell), Mr. W. Jillings, Mr. Robert King, Mr. R. King, Mr. G. Jillings, Mr. S. King, Mr. L. Boldero, Mr. G. Orball, Mr. Hicks, Mr. T. Gardner, jun., Mr. Woode (Ickworth Park), Mr. T. Baker, Mr. Craske Roper, Mr. Hurry, Miss Grayford, Miss Lake, Mr. R. Jillings, Mr. S. Bell, Mr. Harris, Mr. Chennell, Mr. Baldwin (Lidgate), Mr. Deacon (Stradishall Place), Mr. H. Jillings, Miss Taylor, Mr. Syd. Taylor, and a great many others.*

*Soon after twelve the splendid stag was uncartered in front of Mr. Boldero's home, and taking a general s Surrey of the to the right into a pond, out the other side, and crossed Wickhambrook Road, and to Southwood Park, bearing to the right, and then to the left the back of Ousden Fox, and by Ousden Park, made to Cropley Grove. Here there was a slight check in pond. Then on to the left road to Upead, still bearing to the left on towards Kirtling; turning sharp to the right the back of the Tower, going Ditton Brick-kilns; to the right, past Woodditton Hall, and taming to the left to Cheveley Park gates, halting for a refresher in pond—No. 3.*

*Then away sharp to the right through Cheveley village, by the church to Silverley Tower, into Mr. Fison's pond, where a fruitless try was made at taking him. Evading this he made for Upend, along the low meadows by Kirtling Mill, and to the left Branch's Park, crossing the road to the left and over the hill, bore to the right, and was taken at the Lodge Farm, Gesyns, Wickhambrook, alter a very fast 2 hours 15 minutes, with only two checks of about ten minutes each. The Master and his son, of course, were up at the take, and the Hon. A. E. Parker, Mr. J. White, Mr. J. Boldero, Mr. G. Orbell, Mr. L. Boldero, Mr. Chennell, Mr. Harris, Mr. T. Baker, Mr. M. Jillings, and a few others. Going was rather heavy, owing to the heavy rain the night before.*

**The following item was printed in the East Anglian Daily Times on the 19th March 1895.**

*MR. E. WALTER GREENE'S STAGHOUNDS.*

*At Hargrave there was very large meet on Friday morning, many of Turf fame turning up from Newmarket. About 20 past 12, an untried stag was uncarted in Mr. L. J. Boldero's meadow, and at once made for Ousden, crossing the road by Wickham Queen, and going through Spring Wood, where a fox was seen come away near Bandsfield Hall, heading for Hargrave.*

*The deer then made to Boyden End, and, bearing to the left by the cemetery, took shelter in Mr. Parker's shed, after about 20 minutes. Lady Sophie was then tried, the bounds being laid on in front Mr. John Frost's, and made to the left, crossed the road to Farley Green, taking a refresher in the moat New House Farm, then bearing to the left Cowlinge Church, crossed the road in front of the Green Man, over a stiffish brook, negotiated by few, into Branches Park lake.*

*It was a pretty sight to see the stag and hounds swimming round. A move was made to the left and over the hill past Kirtling Queen to the Tower, where attempt was made to take her, but failed, and she crossed the road near Mr. Davis's, bore to the right, and went along the meadows, being eventually taken near spot where Kirtling Mill used to stand, after a very good gallop over good jumping country, lasting about hour.*

**The following item was printed in the Bury and Norwich post and Suffolk Standard on the 24th December 1895.**

*MR E WALTER GREENE'S STAGHOUNDS*

*— These hounds met at Hargrave on Friday. The early morning was foggy, but about 11 o'clock the atmosphere cleared somewhat, and consequently there was a good meet. Being midway between Bury and Newmarket, both sides were well represented, and amongst those mounted were Mr. E. Walter Greene, Miss Greene. Mrs. Rawson. Miss Wright (Newmarket). Mrs. K. Hawkins, Capt. Graham, Messrs. Harboard, J. Burlingham, Jim Gardner, G. Orbell, Jack Gardner, P. Browne, Trigg, Featherstone, G. Barret, Bogie, Rev. Brockman, G. Baldwin, Joe Jillings, Woodburn, Tommy Loates, M. Jillings, L Boldero, W. Gough, Wade, young Will Fison. P. Eagle, Harris (Newmarket), whilst several were on wheels, including a four-in-hand from Newmarket, Mr. G. Paine and party, Mr. John Martin. Etc.*

*The stag was uncarted at 12.20, and soon went off to Wickhambrook Easty, and then to the right to Bandsfield Hall, by Spring Wood, afterwards taking line to Lidgate Rectory, along the road half a mile, and to the right through Cowlinge Park, to the right to Upend, and to the right to Kirtling Queen; then to the right to the Brickfields and sharp to the left.*

*The stag (Lady Hardwicke) was eventually taken at Mr. Gurry's, after a very fast hour's run without a single check. Miss Greene, Mrs Rawson, and Miss Wright were well to the front throughout.*

**The following item was printed in the East Anglian Daily Times on the 5th December 1908.**

*MR. BURTON'S STAGHOUNDS.*

*The meet on Thursday was at Mr. Boldero's, Hargrave, a large field turning up, amongst them being the Master, Mrs. B. Burton, Mr. and Mrs. Gaussen, Mrs. Rawson, Miss Lake, jun.. Major Prest, Mr. C. Archer, Mr. Pyke, Mr. Cattle, Mr. T. Killings, Mr. Ridley. Mr. and Mrs. Chennel, Mr. James Gardner, Mr. Pritchard, Mr. W. Jackson. Mr. H. Jilling, Mr. C. Farrow, Mr. Lovick. Mr. Boldero. Mr. Symonds, and Mr. H. Rolfe.*

*After the usual law, the stag was uncarted, and went towards Ousden, crossing the Newmarket road on to Southwood Park. Bearing to the left, she took over the Dunstall Green Road, and up to the top of Glumpsy Wood, and by Copley Grove on to Lydgate Village, where there was few minutes' check.*

*She continued to the left of the Rectory nearly to Ousden Park, and, going sharp to the left to Lydgate Hall, and over the Cowlinge Road down to the Kirtling Road, still bearing to the left, circled back to Lydgate village. Thence her course was up the lake to Wickhambrook, near Baudmondsfield Hall, on to Ousden Fox, being safely taken near the Post-office.*

*This gave capital gallop 1 hour 20 minutes over a good country.*

**Nicholas Newman  
March 2022.**