

EDITORIAL

I have often written a note on this page as Chairman, but this time I do so as Editor as well. The first thing I must do is to apologise for the late arrival of this edition as it missed several deadlines, but the AGM provided the final one which could not be missed.

It will soon be a full year since Judith Stephenson, Searchroom Services Manager in Bury, left the committee to devote more time to the increasing demands of the work of the Record Office. Starting as Secretary, she then added membership enquiries and newsletter editor to her portfolio, before helping with the accounts. No wonder she left a hole in our organisation! It has taken several of us a time to learn the new tasks as it isn't just paperwork that can be passed over, but a long memory of tradition and experience that cannot be learned overnight.

I am always impressed by the professionalism and willingness of all those who work at the Record Office branches, particularly obvious when we laid on the George Ewart Evans study days. But there are also very many volunteers who help with so many things in the branches too. Many are also Friends but all must be friends to give up their time to help others get the best out of our wonderful resource of historical material here in Suffolk. Thank you. And also to professional designer Linda Holmes who volunteered her skills to design this newsletter.

Paul Simmons

LEGACY HELPS BUY NEW SCANNER

The Committee agreed to the suggestion by Judith Stephenson that the generous £10,000 legacy from Una (Bay) Wickett should be directed towards the cost of a book scanner for the Bury office. Suffolk Record Office agreed to contribute by purchasing the computer needed for its function and the Committee added its own funds of an extra £5,000 to include an extension book cradle. Like many pieces of expensive equipment, eg MRI scanners in hospitals, this needs full use to capitalise on its outlay. Plans are underway to teach some computer-literate volunteers to use it but the severe staff shortages in the Bury Office have delayed the introduction of teaching.



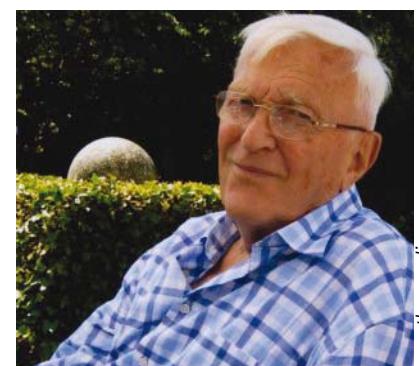
Phyl Pope with the new book scanner

Frank Walker

The Committee cannot over-state the importance of leaving a legacy to the Friends of the Record Office for use in supporting its vital work. We have a legacy leaflet (which is downloadable on our website) as well as hard copies in all the Record Office branches. Do please consider this final generous gift after making provision for your family. We promise to spend anything received wisely for the benefit of other Record Office users. Ed.

NORMAN SCARFE MBE, MA, HON LITT D, FSA

Many of you will have read elsewhere of the death in March of Norman Scarfe, who was widely regarded as the doyen of Suffolk historians and was very influential in shaping ideas and perceptions of Suffolk's history, landscape and architecture through his *The Suffolk Landscape* (first published 1972), his *Suffolk A Shell Guide* (first published 1960) and a wealth of articles in the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* (of which he was President and Excursion Secretary for many years).



www.theguardian.com

He was also key in setting up the Suffolk Records Society and the Friends of the Suffolk Record Office. We elected him Vice President in honour of his work for the Record Office.

The Chairman wrote to Paul Fincham to give his condolences and had in response a delightful reply. Subsequently, the trustees of the Scarfe Charitable Trust sent a cheque for £500 to us along with other similar organisations to cement that link with their founder in the year of his death. He will be missed by so many in Suffolk and in local history generally.

MANORIAL DOCUMENTS REGISTER (MDR)

PROJECT UPDATE: recent manorial accessions received by SRO

The revision of the Suffolk portion of the Manorial Documents Register is due for completion later this year and continues to amass a significant quantity of records previously unrecorded or unlocated on the original paper register. Two new accessions of manorial records taken in by Suffolk Record Office during the last few months fall into the 'unlocated' category: the collections were known to be in existence but their whereabouts were unknown.

The first of these, now at Ipswich Record Office, consists of a number of records for the manors of Yaxley Bulls Hall with Blogates Hall and Woodcroft Hall in Monk Soham (HD3069). These were deposited in November 2013 and include six bundles of stewards' papers for the former and a court book for the latter. The records were marked as being 'unlocated' on the register after enquiries made by the Historical Manuscripts Commission in the 1960s had failed to reveal their location.

The second accession, at Bury Record Office, is a significant collection relating to the manors of Cockfield Hall and Earls Hall in Cockfield (HD3283). Deposited in January, the whereabouts of the records had been unknown for twenty years since they last changed hands. They were purchased by a Cockfield resident who had recognised the value of these records for the history of the village, and that their integrity would best be preserved by keeping the collection intact. The documents have been deposited on loan at Suffolk Record Office and they come to us as an exceptional collection of manorial documents dating from 1331 to 1921. Although there is an almost unbroken run of seventeenth and eighteenth century court rolls and books for both manors, the significance of this collection arguably derives from its early records: a run of court rolls from 1331 to 1365, encompassing a period of intense flux

in English social history, pre- and post-dating the Black Death; a number of early fifteenth century account rolls and a 1581 survey of the manor of Cockfield.

These new accessions indicate that untraced documents do continue to surface unexpectedly. The digitisation of the MDR will make it easier to maintain and update information on the location of manorial documents, and having access to the register as an online resource should raise the profile of this important class of records and encourage private owners to lodge their details with The National Archives, thus ensuring that these records can be more easily located in the future.

Gemma Field
Manorial Documents Register Project Officer (Suffolk)



Gemma Field

The Cockfield accession: an exceptional collection of manorial documents dating from 1331 to 1921

NEWS FROM THE RECORD OFFICES

Sheila Reed, Public Service Manager at the Bury St Edmunds Branch of the Suffolk Record Office, retired at the end of December last year after over 17 years in that role. Suffolk Record Office will not however be losing all her knowledge, skills and expertise as she still has a casual contract so she can assist with various data inputting, digitisation and other projects. Interviews for her replacement were held on 6 December and Frank Walker, an Ipswich Searchroom Assistant, was appointed as her replacement and started his new job in late January.

Sue Lodwick, a long-standing Ipswich Searchroom Assistant, left in November as her husband was offered a new job in the Midlands. Her sense of fun will be missed by colleagues and customers. She was the Ipswich Record Office expert in digital photography and the book scan-

ner. Caroline Wright, Ipswich Searchroom Assistant, volunteered to take over from Sue and has recently received book scanner training with Phyl Pope, Bury Searchroom Assistant, who was interested in developing her skills in this area following the purchase of a book scanner for Bury by the Friends.

The Friends would like to congratulate Dominic Wall, Conservator, and his wife Lisa who were married on 12 April 2014.

Kate Chantry

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Friends of Suffolk Record Office is being held in a new venue this year at The Ipswich and Suffolk Club, Archdeacon House, Northgate Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 3BX, on Friday 19 September 2014 at 6 pm. We look forward to welcoming you to the meeting and to the talk afterwards by Hilary Ritchie. Please see the enclosed flyer and reply as soon as possible. The Mayor of Ipswich Councillor Bill Quinton has accepted our invitation to attend with the Mayoress, Mrs Quinton.

We are away from the Gatacre Road branch this time as the newly installed shelving in the research room has limited the numbers of people who can sit comfortably.

UNIQUE LONG MELFORD DOCUMENT

In March 2014 an auction house in Exeter published details of an original document they were offering for sale, dated 1711, concerning fundraising for rebuilding the church steeple at Long Melford. Their description of the document was as follows:

*LONG MELFORD: Manuscript list of subscribers to the fund for rebuilding the church steeple 'decayed and fallen down,' and repairing 'several large Bells broken by wares', November 20, 1711, folded and damaged with some loss. * includes the names of nearly 100 subscribers, who pledged over £378.*

Just to provide some background to this event; on 30 June 1701 the tower at Long Melford church was struck by lightning and fell down causing significant damage. Local inhabitants brought a petition before the Court of Quarter Sessions in April 1702 (Ref: SRO/B J505/2) and heard the report of three JPs who had examined the building and estimated that the cost of rebuilding would be in excess of £1650. The court licensed a collection across the country and 11,400 copies of the brief were printed. In May 1712 St Mary's in Bury contributed 18s 6d for Melford Church.

(For further details please see Dymond and Paine 'Five Centuries of an English Parish Church' EAH Press 2012. Copies available at the Bury Record Office.)

The Friends of the Suffolk Record Office agreed to bid for the manuscript as it was an exciting find complementing a document already held at the Bury branch amongst the parish papers described as '*An agreement relating to the rebuilding of the steeple 17th November 1712*' (Ref: SRO/B FL509/5/22). It states that for £95 three carpenters (Francis Drew, James Jarmin and James Harrold) were required to provide and erect all necessary scaffolding and carry out other specified work during the rebuilding of the steeple. The churchwardens' accounts for this period do not survive, so it is important the Friends have managed to purchase this document (for £120 plus costs) adding to our knowledge of this event. The Chairman of the Friends made a special journey down to Exeter to collect it.

The Long Melford Historical and Archaeological Society, showed great interest in the document, were delighted the FOSRO bid was successful and have given FOSRO a generous donation of £50 towards its purchase.

Liz Wigmore



Long Melford Church – now with tower dating from 1903

WORLD WAR ONE INDEXING PROJECT

This project is working on indexing a variety of sources from August 1914 through to the end of 1919. Over 12,000 entries have been transcribed so far by NADFAS members and other volunteers. It includes the names of service men and women, and also those who were engaged in a variety of different war work.

Approximately half to two-thirds of these entries are from two newspapers – the *Suffolk Chronicle and Mercury*, and the *Lowestoft Journal* index, though not all years have yet been completed. It also includes entries from Booths and Lamberts Almanacs, Felixstowe and Leiston Local Appeals Tribunals, Suffolk County Handbooks, Letters to the Countess of Stradbroke from soldiers, relatives and staff of the Red Cross Hospital at Henham Hall, and some war memorials.

Many more entries are still waiting to be checked and

typed from card entries. They will then be added onto the master spreadsheet, before being filed in drawers in the searchroom at IRO. Not all of the entries will have a card however, as some entries have been entered directly onto computer. There is a CD available to use on the IRO searchroom laptop – though this is still incomplete and it has not yet been completely checked, so there may still be errors and omissions at the moment.

Staff at IRO, BRO and LRO can search the checked final version via staff computers. The computer versions are on an Excel spreadsheet and can be searched in a variety of different ways. The cards are in surname order.

Even though it is a work in progress, it is already proving very useful for helping to track down elusive references to individuals.

Sally Whiffing

Records Searcher, Searchroom Assistant

NEWS OF SUFFOLK FIGHTING MEN

The following entry comes from the *Suffolk Chronicle & Mercury* 10 May 1918, (page 6, columns 1-3) thanks to Sally Whiffing of the Record Office

Mr William Osborne, of Otley Green, near Ipswich, has five sons, three sons-in-law and one grandson fighting at the present time, their names and regiments being: Coy-Sergt-Major G Osborne, Bedfordshires, Norwich; (2) QMS H Osborne, RGA, Italy; (3) Pte. W Osborne, KOYLI, BEF, France; (4) Pte. A Osborne, Suffolk, lost left arm in battle of Loos; (5) Pte E Osborne, AOC, BEF, France; (6) Pte J Chapman, Essex Regiment, in Salonika; (7) Pte L Barber, Norfolk Regiment, in India; (8) Pte S Davey, Norfolk Regiment, in India; (9) Corp. W Chapman, grandson, Essex Regiment, BEF, France.

AND OF JOHN ALFRED JORDAN:

26 March 1915 *Suffolk Chronicle & Mercury* (page 5, column 5)

Mr & Mrs Jordan of 96 Surrey Road Ipswich have received news that their son, No. 2021 Prvt. J Jordan, C Company, 4th Suffolks, has been wounded in the back by shrapnel. He is going on as well as can be expected.

2 April 1915 *Suffolk Chronicle & Mercury* (page 5, column 6)

Prvt. J Jordan, 4th Suffolks, who at the time of the outbreak of war was employed at the Ipswich depot of the Anglo-American Oil Company, writes to his former employer from the Military Hospital at Manchester as follows:

"I received a nasty wound in the back during the big advance of Neuve Chapelle. It is a nasty wound; two inches deep, and the nurse can get two fingers in the space. The doctor told me it was a very narrow escape; had it been an eighth of an inch to the left it would have smashed my spine; as it is it only just touched it, but I cannot bend my back yet. I shall not forget the day the doctor took the piece of shrapnel from my back; the pain was awful every time he touched the bone. I shall bring the piece of shell home as a souvenir. How I came to get the wound in my back was not in running away, as several people have suggested. We were advancing over open ground, and the Germans put such a heavy rifle fire into us that we were ordered to lie down; the Germans could not then get at us with the rifle, so they started shelling us for about half an hour, and then I was hit by a shell bursting just in front of me. It caught several others lying near, so I am fortunate to be alive. People would not believe the sensations you get when being shelled – it is a horrible feeling; I know that nearly every man in my section sent up a prayer to Heaven; at least I know I did."

3 May 1918 *Suffolk Chronicle & Mercury* (page 8, column 5)

In loving memory of my dear son, Pte. John Alfred Jordan, Suffolk Regiment (TF), of 96 Surrey Road, Ipswich, who received wounds at Neuve Chapelle, and died in Manchester Hospital, May 1st 1915.

*Three years have passed, but still we miss him,
Some may think the wound has healed,
They little know how deep the sorrow,
That lies within our hearts concealed.
We think of him in silence,
And his name we oft' recall;
But there is nothing left to answer,
Only his photo on the wall. From his loving Father, Mother, Brothers, and Sister*

CAUTLEY AND BAREFOOT ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

The cataloguing of the Cautley and Barefoot collection is now about 40% completed. The types and range of plans so far have been varied, starting with alterations and additions to churches and church buildings from all over the county, including Cautley's designs for All Hallows and St Augustine's churches in Ipswich. Cautley carried out work for Ipswich Borough Council on the Central Library and the Ipswich and East Suffolk Hospital, the old Anglesea Road Hospital and also on Bartlett Convalescent Home in Felixstowe. He also worked for Lloyds Bank on altering or making additions to their banks, not only in Suffolk, but also in Essex, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk.

The partnership designed many buildings for Tollemache Brewery, including the Suffolk Punch on Norwich Road and the Golden Hind, Nacton Road in Ipswich. There are also drawings of many iconic buildings in Ipswich town centre such as Mann Egerton's garages, The Thoroughfare and The Walk. There were six large rolls of drawings for The Walk which include details of the existing shops as well as the alterations made by Cautley and Barefoot.

The plans are mainly typical architects' drawings on various types of paper including tracing paper, bond paper, and blueprint, and are divided into rolls of prints, negatives and specialist drawings. Some of the specialist drawings are by local contractors such as Cocksedge and there are also some very nice 'paintings' on tracing paper and bond paper of some of the buildings.

Nearly 3000 items have been listed and catalogued onto

CALM and also 50 of the drawings have been scanned to use in exhibitions and articles. The listed items have been put onto inner rolls, wrapped and reboxed and as a result the volume of the drawings has increased, but it will be easier for researchers to use the drawing in the future.

We do need help in finishing the sorting, listing and packaging of the remaining material and if anyone is interested in helping please contact the Record Office.

Hilary Ritchie (Project Archivist)



The Walk, Ipswich

ENHANCED SUFFOLK RECORD OFFICE PROVISION

Friends will know that much work has been undertaken both by the Record Office staff, Council officers and various key user groups, including of course the Friends, to improve the Record Office service. We, along with Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, The Suffolk Records Society and the Suffolk Family History Society sent an open Letter to the then Leader of the Council in January, and subsequently gave evidence at the Scrutiny Committee Review of the County Council's Heritage Programme in March.

At Suffolk County Council's Cabinet meeting on 1 July "as part of a longer term strategy for preserving, collecting and providing access to the recorded history of the County",

it was agreed that Option 3 of the four offered should be worked up for consideration by Cabinet in December 2014.

"This involves building a new small scale store on University Campus Suffolk (UCS) land (sufficient to meet identified medium term storage shortfall only) around which further developments can take place, plus the relocation of Ipswich Record Office to the UCS North buildings but retaining storage at Gatacre Road."

Subsequent suggestions reported in the *East Anglian Daily Times* of 20 August to use the old County Hall site in Ipswich have not been confirmed as we go to press. Ed.

GEORGE EWART EVANS DAYS

These three days on consecutive Saturdays at the three Record Office branches in March were a great success, funded following a generous donation from the George Ewart Evans Trust. Unfortunately none of the family was able to attend, but we did have representatives from Blaxhall to maintain the link, and many superb speakers of national as well as regional renown. The event could not have taken place without the full cooperation of the

Suffolk Record Office staff, and particular thanks must go to two people, Mr Vic Gray MBE from our committee who drew together the lists of speakers and liaised with them; and Mrs Deidre Heavens who organised the administration so well, and even gave the committee a full feedback with ideas for improvement should we undertake this event again. All committee members who attended were impressed by the sheer enthusiasm of those taking part.



FRIENDS' GRANT FOR LAPTOPS FOR IPSWICH

Lynne Ward writes:

The laptops have already made a difference to our work. There are eight members of the Suffolk Local History Council Thursday morning volunteer group who needed access to a computer. Five were able to bring their own in to use but the other three were extracting information and entering it by hand. This meant that two of us would then have to enter it on to computer, thus doubling the workload unnecessarily. It is early days yet but already the work is speeding up and in a form useful to the Record Office's needs.

The group has been meeting for 10 years and has completed a number of indexing projects such as the Peter Northeast translations of Suffolk medieval wills and a number of Ipswich gaol books from the 19th century which have also been digitised. We are present working on the Poor Law books, entering data on to spreadsheets for use by the general public. Many names are being extracted which might have been forgotten or unheard.

The new laptops were prepared for our usage by the computer shop staff and are very easy to use. If anyone is in the Record Office on Thursday mornings we would be happy to show you the laptops and our volunteers at work. Thanking you for this gift.

Lynne Ward is one of the Record Office volunteers who leads the Suffolk Local History Council volunteer group.

We are grateful to Frances Gander for researching and sourcing the laptops, which remain the property of the Friends and are securely labelled.

This grant was instead of our new regular annual grant towards the cataloguing of the collections as we understood that this would be more appropriate this year.

However, we do hope to return to our cataloguing grant next year if funds allow. Unsatisfactory as many of these early/interim/slip lists are, they do at least provide some access to their collections - whereas an unlisted collection is effectively inaccessible! Ed

SRO OPENING HOURS CONSULTATION

Kate Chantry

Suffolk County Council was delighted with the quality and quantity of responses (533) received which demonstrated the interest of users, owners of archives, partners and stakeholders in the future of Suffolk Record Office. The majority of those who responded felt the proposals would bring positive improvement (65.5%). They supported closing one day a week to free resources to improve the online accessibility of catalogue information and digitised materials; welcomed the improved Saturday offer and had no overall objections. The figures indicate that only a small number (28) would experience problems with closing on a Wednesday to refocus resources on

modernising the service enabling many more people to make use of and enjoy our collections. Respondents also supported the proposal to open later, although some felt not opening until 10.00 was too late and suggested closing earlier as an alternative. We have listened to their ideas and will therefore be looking to implement opening each branch of the Suffolk Record Office for 35hrs a week from 9.30-16.30, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We anticipate changing to these opening hours by 1st October, following the normal processes, including consulting staff. This includes reintroducing a full archives production service on Saturdays

ARE YOU ON EMAIL?

Help us to keep you up to date with news and events. We promise not to pass on your email address to any other organisation. (You will continue to receive the hard copy newsletter unless you specifically request an electronic version.) Just email treasurer@fosro.org.uk with the subject title **FOSRO email**.

NEW WEBSITE WWW.FOSRO.ORG.UK

We are delighted that our small subcommittee of Betty Milburn, Gwyn Thomas and Nick Amor have worked with Trevor Ashwin to produce such a colourful and imaginative website. Our small sub page in the Record Office site will remain [www.suffolk.gov.uk/libraries-and-culture/culture-and-heritage/suffolk-record-office/friends-of-the-suffolk-record-office] but the main updated information will now be on our own website. Do add the address to your 'favourites'!

It is already been pressed into service for the paperwork ready for the AGM on 19 September (see elsewhere) and any suggestions about content or ideas for further development will be gratefully received.

You will see also that the officers now have direct email addresses through the website so you have easy access to some of us.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We are delighted that Frances Gander our new Treasurer is getting to grips with the members' subscriptions. Many of you pay by standing order; others by cheque but until recently we were not reminding you individually. Frances has now started a series of reminders. Our subscription is £12 a year payable on 1 January – that's just £1 a month to support the work of the Friends and the Record Office. Many Friends give more and we are grateful for their generosity; I'm afraid some give less by mistake although we wouldn't wish that anyone felt that the new level excluded them from being a Friend.

For any queries about subscriptions, please contact Frances Gander on treasurer@fosro.org.uk. Ashcroft, Ashe Row, Campsea Ashe, Woodbridge, IP13 0PS.

NEW GIFT AID FORM

You will find a new gift aid form inside this newsletter. HM Revenue and Customs have tightened up the wording on the gift aid form and will no longer accept the old version for new signings following the change. We've decided to update all of them. Please return it to keep HMRC (and our Treasurer) happy!

NEW TO THE COMMITTEE

Robert Haulton-Hart is our new Secretary: he writes *I am a Chartered Surveyor and Company Director (now retired), and have lived and worked in Bury St Edmunds since 1977 dealing with commercial property, latterly until my retirement at the end of 2011, as a director and then consultant to Barker Storey Matthews.*

Married with wife Jane (also retired) we have two sons in their early thirties, one an army officer, the other a teacher of ICT.

In the past amongst other things I have been a St Edmundsbury Borough Councillor, Chairman of the Bury St Edmunds Citizens Advice Bureau, Chairman of the Bury St Edmunds Chamber of Trade and am currently a director of MENTA the Suffolk Enterprise Agency.

Robert can be contacted at secretary@fosro.org.uk

MANORIAL DOCUMENTS REGISTER ONLINE

An official launch of the online version of the Manorial Documents Register for Suffolk will take place at Otley Hall on Saturday 22 November from 2-4.30pm. Guest speakers from The National Archives, Royal Holloway and the University of Hull will explore the uses of manorial records and the ways in which the newly-revised register can be used for research.

The free launch will be preceded by an optional tour of Otley Hall with lunch provided, for which there will be an added charge.

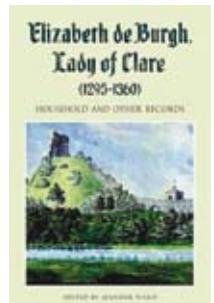
Judith Stephenson at BRO will be taking bookings for the official launch event and those interested in having an optional lunch and tour beforehand will be advised to book directly with Otley Hall. We are encouraging attendees to car share as much as possible as car parking is limited.

SRS'S LATEST VOLUME

Elizabeth de Burgh, Lady of Clare (1295-1360), edited by Jennifer Ward

To say that Elizabeth de Burgh led a remarkable life would be an understatement: daughter of one of the country's wealthiest men and granddaughter to Edward I, she was three-times widowed by 26; she remained unmarried thereafter – possibly to the relief of the nation's eligible bachelors. The life she subsequently shaped for herself demands as much attention as her early years and that we can examine it in such depth is thanks in large part to the detailed household records she left which are provided in this volume. Altogether, 102 accounts of various types survive from the years of her widowhood, and the records here have been chosen to illustrate the great range of information provided, throwing light on Clare Castle itself and its furnishings, daily life and religious practice, visitors, food and drink, livery and retainers, travel, and business. They paint a vivid picture of the life and work of a noble family in the fourteenth century.

Friends receive 25% off the book which would make it £18.75 (usually £25.00); Orders can be placed by phone on 01394 610600, by fax on 01394 610316, by email at trading@boydell.co.uk or on-line at www.boydellandbrewer.com. Postage is £3.00 in the UK. Please quote the offer code 14182 to ensure that the discount is given. The offer ends 30 September 2014.



COLLINGS' COLLECTION 2010-2014

You may remember that FOSRO and the Southwold Museum and Historical Society bought from Bonhams in late 2010 the collection of material of Dr Dudley Willis Collings (1870-1955), first curator of the Southwold Museum and town doctor, and of his son Herbert Dennis Collings (1905-2002), anthropologist in Malaysia and the Far East, and of Dennis's wife Eleanor, née Jaques (1906-1962). Dennis and Eleanor are best known for their close – in Eleanor's case romantic – friendship with Eric Blair ('George Orwell'). In fact, many of the records associated with George Orwell were removed from the original lot, but notwithstanding there were 8 packing cartons of material that had to be sorted, catalogued and divided between the two organisations. A mammoth task! The eventual lot included papers and photographs of the Collings family of Southwold, principally of Dr D W Collings, overlapping material relating to both life in Suffolk and H Dennis Collings' researches in Africa and the Far East, the latter collected in Mozambique between 1924 and 1927 (work which, on his return to Suffolk, cemented his friendship with Orwell) and from 1934, when he and Eleanor left Suffolk for Singapore, where he had been appointed Assistant Curator at the Raffles Museum, in Java and, above all, in the Malay Peninsula, continuing with his work from 1952 as curator of the Ghanaian State Museum and the Portuguese fort of Dalmina, up until his return to Suffolk in 1961.

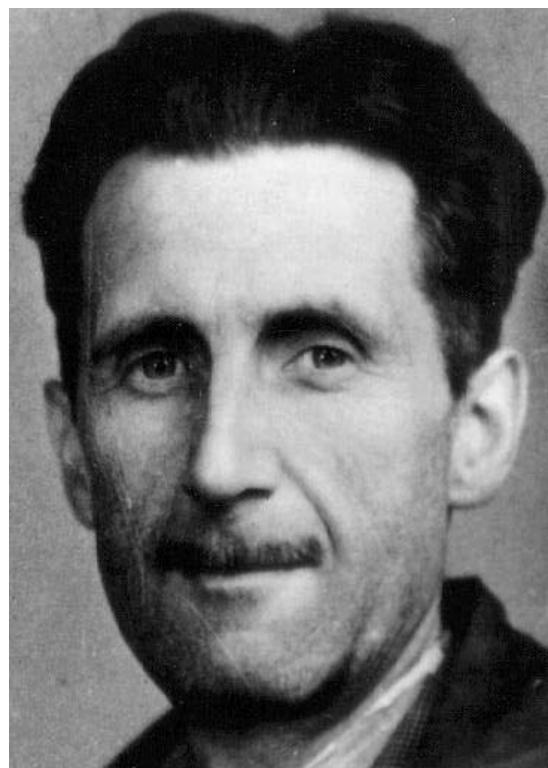
The final piece of the jigsaw was put in place recently when the signed agreements of who had what and which parts were surplus to either group was signed off by all three parties [the Record Office being the third, of course]. The surplus material has been offered to several institutions but no final decision made yet about where it will eventually reside.

The surplus material is very varied, from *The Glass Beads of Mapungubwe* 1955; *Osteodonokeratic rapping tools and pulp scoops for teething and edentulous Australopithecines* 1959; *Coins and notes on History of English Coinage* nd; *Borough of Southwold Coronation Souvenir* 1953; Reprint from the *Bulletin of the Raffles Museum*, Singapore Series B No 4 *Malay notes* by HD Collings 4 Dec 1949, to *Hipparian from the Plesistocene of Europe, especially from the Red Crag of East Anglia* 1970. You get the flavour? You can see the material catalogued on the Suffolk Heritage Direct website. <http://www.suffolkheritagedirect.org.uk>.

Right, above *Illustration accompanying the sale of the Collings Collection by Bonhams in 2010*. Below George Orwell



www.bonhams.com



Wikimedia Commons

HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Saturday 13 September

We have been invited by the Ipswich branch to have a table in the Education Room to publicise our organisation. Perhaps see you there? There will also be a book sale in the foyer, as well as displays of material that the Friends have purchased on behalf of the Record Office and tours of the strong room by record office staff.

The Editor thanks everyone who supplied photographs



COMMITTEE

Chairman Dr Paul Simmons

chairman@fosro.org.uk

Vice-Chairman Mrs Betty Milburn MBE

Treasurer Mrs Frances Gander

Secretary Mr Robert Houlton-Hart,
2 Cranesbill Drive, Bury St Edmunds IP32 7JU,
01284 764939, secretary@fosro.org.uk

Committee Members

Mr Gwyn Thomas, Mrs Claire Barker

Mrs Margaret Statham, Dr Nick Amor

Mr Vic Gray MBE