

# Lexden History Group



Summer BBQ 2021 – In The Rain

- War Time Memories from the Farm - Part 2
  - Bottle End
- Lords of the Manor of Lexden

**Newsletter No 62 – September 2021**  
**Website [www.lexdenhistory.org.uk](http://www.lexdenhistory.org.uk)**

Thank you to the people who contacted me after my stories of war time in Elmstead were published in the last newsletter. Two questions I must answer: the farm was Grove Farm at Elmstead, situated along the road connecting Elmstead Market to the Brightlingsea Road and passing Pelgate Wood: my family name was Halls and we also farmed Blue Barns at Frating where my Aunty lived.

My brother attended Holmwood House, Lexden, which was evacuated to Malvern and my sister and I also went to boarding school there. I then attended Endsleigh and when I was 15 I was sent on work experience at an office in Trinity Street. I did not want to go and recall that I was very rude, saying I wanted to work on the farm. I was told that farm work did not require an education, you did not need training and they used a word to describe farm workers which I found offensive. The school was not pleased with me and some weeks later I left home, going to live in and work on a dairy farm at Great Horkesley. Once my keep was deducted I received £2.12.6d pay per week for a day that started at 6 am in the cow shed and I was lucky to finish in time for the Archers 6.45pm. I was paid no overtime.

The farm was owned by a father and daughter who were so laid back that work came last, and once I got the hang of things I ended up doing most of the work, but I loved it; the frost on the mental hinges of the cow shed on a winter morning, the smell of the cows, the early bird song, the silence. The farmer looked after the dairy, cleaning the cooling and bottling plant, keeping the solid fuel boiler going and the head of steam for the steriliser. Sometimes we worked together in the afternoon mainly with the horse, ploughing a furrow for the potatoes and the fodder beet and, when ready, we would dig them up by hand. I would harrow the meadows in spring time with Molly, the Welsh cob (*above*).



The cows were Red Polls (*left*), all brown with no horns and I could tell them all by name, front or rear end. They are part of the Suffolk Trinity, ie, Suffolk punch horses, Suffolk sheep (*right*) and Red Poll cows. After morning milking, I would fill the cooler and bottle up the milk ready



for the milk round, then take the cows along the road to a meadow. By this time, it was about 9am and time for breakfast, which was mostly two eggs scrambled (for three people!) on a large slice of toast, followed by porridge. I would put on a clean jumper and trousers, ready for the milk round and get Molly out of the stable, put on her harness, place her in the cart and load up the milk crates. We had ½ pints, pint and quart bottles for the customers and ⅓ pints for the school. Milk at the time was 7d (3p) a pint. The round would take about two hours and the daughter would sometimes help - she taught me to drive a horse and cart.

After the round I would give the horse a drink, loosen the girth and stable her with a nose bag of hay. I put the collected milk bottles in the washing tub and went in for

lunch which on Monday. Tuesday and Wednesday was sliced cold meat, potatoes and vegetables; followed by stewed fruit or cheese. I have never seen meat cut so wafer thin! Friday lunch was always fish, steamed, of course, but if you have been



running about since 6 am you would eat most things. I think these Friday lunches are the reason I only like fish and chip shop cod. (Local news: at that time passengers going into town on Norfolk's morning bus (*left: Photo © John Kaye*) would have their wet fish orders and money ready in an envelope which the driver would pass on to the fish shop in Mile End who would have them ready for collection when the bus returned at lunch time.) At the end of the

day at about 7 pm tea was three slices of bread, one with butter which was eaten plain and two with marmalade and jam, followed by one slice of cake or a bun. I think food was still on ration - I can tell you it was on that farm!

It took time to handle the cows, milk them and watch for signs of any changes. The milking machine was Atkins Fulford and each cow had to have the udder washed before the clusters of the machine were attached. The cows had personalities and I got to know how to handle them. The farmer in one case would not or could not milk a particular cow unless it had its legs tied together, something in the early days I did not do. However I came unstuck. I was told never to take a stick into the shed but one night I was late and I threw the stick at a cow called Heather. She slipped and fell in the gutter and the next morning when I went to close her stanchion (head rest), she kicked out. Fortunately she missed me but from that time on I would climb in the manger, crawl along to her place and close the stanchion. I would then climb out, walk along her side and put a rope round her legs. All was well but she was waiting her time. I walked out of the shed in the dark, round a tight corner and she caught me with both her back legs, knocking me into the mud. I jumped up at once - she could have killed me. Next morning, I made a fuss of her but still approached from the front to tie her legs! (*right: Sonia and cow!*)



Every morning after milking I would take the cows up the road to the 16 Acre Field or down the road to Jockey Field, bringing them home at afternoon milking time. This was on average 20 cows on the road at peak travel time and this is how I got to recognise their rear view! They had been well trained over the years to get over to one side and did so when called and I am very proud to say I never had a stampede as motorists would know at 8.45 am and 4 pm the cows would be out and, without exception, the cows received respect. The Milk Marketing board chap called once a month to weigh milk yield and check butter content. The first milk from the cow after calving was called "Beastings" - it looked like custard and some of the older ladies of the village would buy this as they had recipes for puddings, etc. It was disgusting, so maybe this is why I do not drink milk!

All the calves were conceived by AI - Artificial Insemination - and in four years on the farm, I was only pulling on a rope once with a difficult calving and in that case the cow was safe. The bull calves were taken by a neighbouring farmer who had a Bullock Yard and the heifers were kept for the herd. The most terrible sound was when the mother cow and her young calf were separated. If the calf was a heifer it was separated but kept on site, and they would call to each other from either side of the farm. You could hear the mother crying and the calf would bleat back. It was heart breaking. Calves when weaned were fed by bucket and I had to put my hand in the bucket, turn my fingers up and let the calf suck. They would punch my hand as they would have punched their mother's teat, pushing my hand against the side of the galvanized bucket, and at times I did not have a knuckle without a cut or bruise and in winter they were painful.

The social life was good. Sonia Lowe also lived at the farm. She was well known in Colchester as a member of the Operatic Society and we had fun going to the cinema. Tickets cost 1/9d or 2/3d with the best seats 2/9d. This was followed by coffee in the milk bar and a bus home. One night it had snowed and the snow was laying on the road so walking was difficult. When we got to Jockey Hill at Horkesley (*on the boundary with Mile End*) some local residents were sliding down the hill on coats, etc, and we joined in and raced down more than once, climbing back up again. It was such fun! Can you imagine sliding down the main road into Horkesley at midnight? We went square dancing once a week at the club which is now the Snooker Club in George Street. It has been given so many names over the years I do not recall what it was at that time. I had a boy friend who belonged to the Castle Motor Cycle Club, that met on Friday nights in the Albert and we used to go dancing most Saturday nights in different village halls. There were different dance bands to choose from: "The Robin Hood" or Billy Humphries but the posh one was "The Walker Brothers" who played at the George. The village dances were 2/6d, the George was 5/- and at the George ladies had to wear dance shoes. We would queue in George Street and go in by



the then side door, walk upstairs, pay our money, change our shoes and dance the night away. One Christmas the Walker Brothers played Christmas carols to a dance tempo - it was magic. In summer time the treat was The Blue Lagoon at Clacton (*above*) which had notices "NO JITTER BUG OR JIVE"



My mother made a lot of my clothes but I had some cotton dresses at 29/11d from a shop in the High Street. I want to say Richards but was it around in 1952? Special dresses were from Mayfair in the High Street and Bakers or Vogue in Head Street. I recall paying 48/11d for a Horrocks frock (*left*). My best dance outfit was a reversible circular skirt which all the girls had in different fabrics.

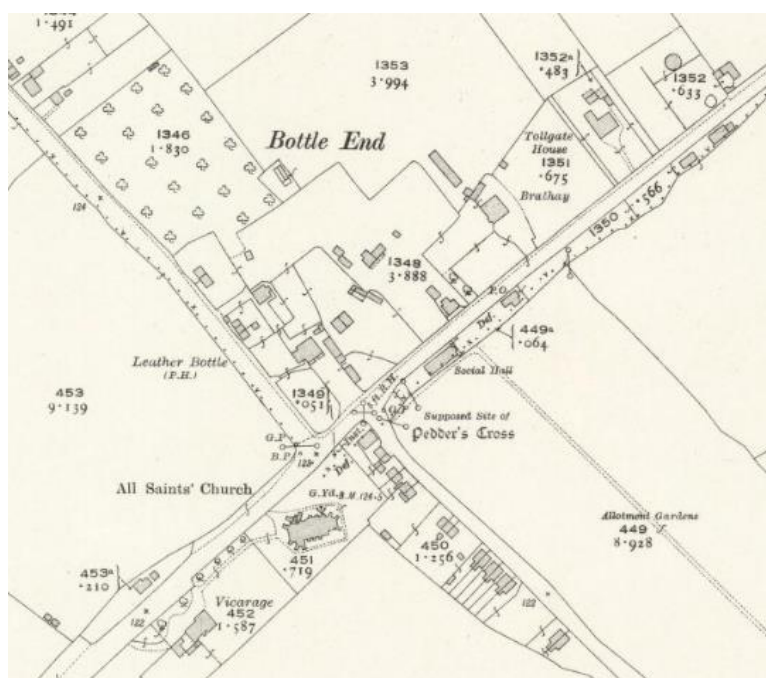
The must-have was a duffle coat - mine was navy blue.

I drove the last horse and cart milk float round Horkesley when legislation changed and when cardboard milk tops were out and foil tops in. The farmer would not go to the cost of changing all his bottles, etc, but by this time, I wanted to go home. So I did and worked on the family farm - a completely different style of farming, mainly cereals, potatoes, sugar beet and hundreds of chickens, washing and grading eggs, ugh! Give me a cow shed to clean out, any time! We had fun, we worked and played hard, the sugar beet went to the factory by permit. One very bad winter we had problems completing an order which had to be taken to Alresford Station. The final trip to the station was after dark.

The tractor had lights but the trailer did not so I was settled in a safe position sitting within a hole in the sugar beet, holding two lamps with red paper over the glass shade. There were many hoots from the cars! When I moved to Lexden the casual work with my brothers came to an end but farming and the countryside will always be close to my heart. My cooking is still in the style of my mother and Aunt, rustic and traditional and so is my wardrobe!

## Bottle End

## Bernard Polley



Looking at an Ordnance Survey map of 1923 (*left*) it is noticed that the area around the parish church and the Leather Bottle pub was known as Bottle End, whereas Shrub End was shown as the small hamlet centred on King Harold Road and Walnut Tree Farm. How did the name Bottle End come about?

Jess Jeffcott's book "Inns, Taverns and Pubs of Colchester" under the entry Leather Bottle probably gives the answer: "It is shown as the alehouse recognisances from 1811 when presumably it first became a tavern. It was known as Bottle House before that date because it was a bottle making

business rather than a seller of alcoholic drink." (*right: the Leather Bottle c1950*)

Bottle End was in the parish of Manor of Stanway. It was in the early 1840s that worshippers had no local church, the nearest being some distance away - St Leonard's Lexden, St Michael's Berechurch and St Albright's Stanway. There was a need for a parish church in Bottle End to replace the old church which now stands



derelict in Colchester Zoo. A committee of local clergy and prominent churchmen met and recorded: "The numerous and increasing population who dwell on the

southern confines of the parishes of Stanway and Lexden have long experienced much inconvenience, as well from great distance at which they are removed, as for the want of room in their Parish Churches. At their earnest request, and with the sanction of the Bishop of London, it is proposed to build, for their accommodation a District Church, containing 286 sittings, 202 of which sittings will be free."

Admiral James Tomkinson granted three-quarters of an acre of freehold land in a central position opposite the Leather Bottle as a site for the church, churchyard and school. The cost was estimated to be in the region of £2,150. Money was raised by grants and donations for the project; one of the largest gifts was made by Miss Elizabeth Papillon of Lexden Manor.

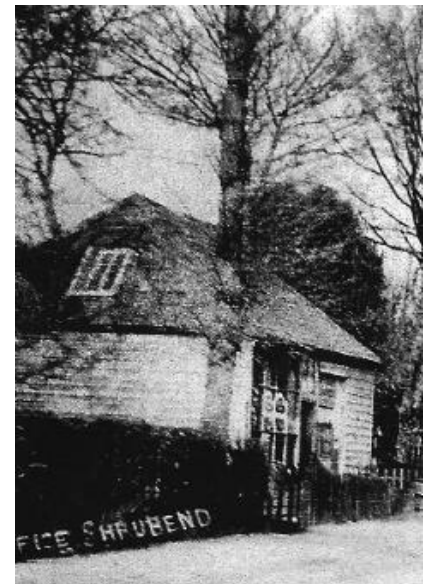
The new All Saint's Church was opened on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1845 dedicated by the Bishop of London, Charles Blomfield. The first vicar was Rev James Dolby who stayed for nine years, living at the vicarage next to the church. He is remembered by a stained glass window in the church. Until 1960 it was known as All Saint's Church, Stanway, but with an increasing population it was acknowledged as All Saint's, Shrub End.

The All Saint's National School was built in Straight Road at a cost of £350 and opened in March 1861 for 70 infant pupils, the first mistress was Miss Mary Hawkins. She was followed by Charles Grimwood who was to serve as head teacher for some 35 years. By the 1920s the school was accommodating 108 pupils, with headmaster Mr Millington living in the adjoining house. The school closed in 1970 with existing staff and pupils being transferred to Lexden School. Since closure the school has had many uses such as an adult education centre, youth club, polling station and a pre-school. It is interesting to note that the former WW2 aid raid shelter can still be seen in the playground.

In the 1920 two well known families lived in Bottle End - Tollgate House was the home of Brigadier General Francis Towsey and his wife, Florence. Obviously they were quite wealthy for they were driven around in a high-backed Bentley car by a uniformed chauffeur. Mrs Towsey was a keen animal lover and each day she had a bowl of fresh water placed outside the house on the pavement for quenching the thirst of passing dogs.

Retired army officer Hugh Stockwell was appointed Chief Constable of Colchester Borough Police. In 1913 working from the Police Station in the basement of the Town Hall, Captain Stockwell and his wife, Gertrude, took up residence at Greystones next to the Towsey home. In 1915 he was released temporarily from his civic duty to rejoin the army as Provost Marshall serving in France. On release in 1919, having been promoted Lt Colonel, he was back home as Chief Constable. During WW2 Stockwell's responsibility was to oversee all wartime restrictions imposed on civilians in the town. Stockwell retired in 1974 when Colchester Borough Police was taken over by Essex County Council.

The old village post office (*right*) survived for many years. It was a detached single storey building with weatherboard exterior and tiled roof. Apart from postal business the



owner, Mr HE Morris, sold confectionery which was greatly appreciated by local school children. The only other business in Bottle End at this time was blacksmith Samuel Tamplin's forge (*left*) in Gosbecks Road which did great business making new or renewing horseshoes for the many local farmers in the district.



By 1920 a building was needed for social gatherings. On land generously donated opposite the post office, an ex-army

wooden hut was constructed by former servicemen, this became known locally as The Hut and was financed by local residents who purchased five shilling shares. The building was available to hire for dances, whist drives, concerts, wedding receptions and much else. It was in constant use for some fifty years before being replaced by the present Shrub End Social Centre which was opened on 13<sup>th</sup> June 1970.

Wealthy banker Horace Egerton-Green lived at Kingsford. He served on Colchester Town Council and was Mayor twice in 1887 and 1897 as well as High Sheriff of Essex in 1894. In early 20<sup>th</sup> century, he acquired Church Cottage that stood on the corner of Gosbecks Road with Shrub End Road and donated it to Bottle End to be used as a reading room for local people. It was known as the Egerton-Green Institute (*right*).



Four daily newspapers and some monthly magazines were available for readers who paid a subscription charge of four shillings (20p) per year. The Institute survived for many years being used for village activities such as the Girls' Friendly Society and All Saints Sunday School. Today it is a private residence.

On the outside wall of the cottage is a plaque engraved "at this corner stood Peddars Cross". This was the site where traders could erect market stalls outside the town boundary to avoid paying tolls. If they entered Colchester they would have to pay before they set up their stalls. The Cross was also thought to be part of Pilgrims' Way to Walsingham in Norfolk, known as Peddars Way.



In 1920 Stanway inhabitants who lived in All Saint's parish wanted to commemorate the men who gave their lives during the recent war. A subscription fund enabled a concrete memorial to be erected between the reading room and the church. Seventeen names are inscribed on a marble slab (*left*). Two names in particular are noticed - George and William John Woodrow. George, a shoemaker,

served with the 18<sup>th</sup> Bn King's Rifle Brigade and in October 1916 at the age of 31 he was killed in the first Battle of the Somme and is named on the Thiepval Memorial. His nephew, William James, served with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Essex Regiment and in September 1918 at the age of 19 he died of his wounds. He is commemorated at the Dury Crucifix Cemetery, Pas de Calais. There has been a large family of Woodrows in the parish over the years. One descendant of these men was Alf Woodrow who until his death in August looked after the memorial, kept it in good repair and with a regular display of flowers.

In the 1930s there were several district changes. Stanway gave up Bottle End, which was last mentioned in Benham's annual street directory in 1934. Both Shrub End and Bottle End have lost their village



identities but have become popular outlying districts of the Borough of Colchester with the whole area became known as Shrub End. (Above: Bottle End c1900)

### The Lords of the Manor of Lexden

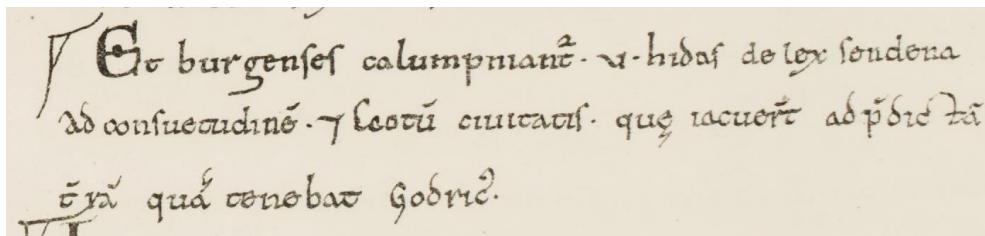
In the 1086 Domesday Book the settlement of *Lessendena* or *Lexsendena* is recorded as a berewite - a village or hamlet - in Stanway in Lexden hundred in Essex with 21 villagers, 16 freemen, 23 smallholders and 15 slaves. To farm the ploughland there were 7 lord's plough teams and 10 men's plough teams. Meadow is recorded as 18 acres and livestock as 11 cobs, 20 cattle, 59 pigs and 260 sheep as well as the woodland which supported 200 pigs. There were also 3 mills.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle reports that at King William's Christmas Court in Gloucester in 1085, the decision was taken that his men would travel *'all over England into every shire [to] find out how many hides there were in the shire, what land and cattle the king had himself in the shire, what dues he ought to have in twelve months from the shire. Also ... how much land his archbishops, bishops, abbots and earls had, and what everyone in England had.... So there was no single hide nor yard of land, nor indeed ... one ox or cow or pig left out from his record, and these records were brought to him afterwards'*. This became known as the Domesday Book, which is actually two books, the Great and Little Domesday Books, the latter covering Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk and was longer than the first!

Before William the Conqueror took the country in 1066, King Edward was Lord of the Manor, or the tenant-in-chief, of the two manors of Lexsendena and in 1086 it was King William. However, a tenant of 'suitable' status could be granted the estate in return for a 'suitable' payment of tax. Lords of the first manor included Bricteva of Stanway, Earl Harold, and Northmann and in 1086 the annual value to the Lord of the Manor was £36 and 10 pence, a £14 increase from 1066, with a taxable value of

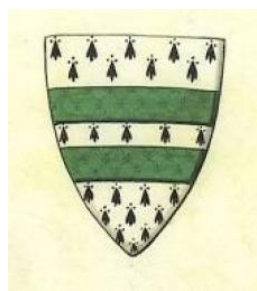


14<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> geld. The local Lord of the second manor of Lexden in 1066 was Godric and the taxable value was 5 geld, but no other details were recorded. (*right: Domesday Book extract mentioning Godric*)



The geld or heregeld was a tax introduced in 1012 by Aethelred the Unready to pay for the army and navy to stave off threatened attacks from Denmark. It was assessed on land held by tenants and often used as an inducement to stop invaders despoiling the land. Although the tax was abolished in 1051 by Edward the Confessor who sold off the navy (passing the responsibility of naval defence to the Cinque ports), it was quickly reinstated a year later.

A manor after the Norman Conquest became just a unit of land usually between 1,000 and 5,000 acres, including forests and uncultivated moorland. All land was owned by the King who rewarded his supporters (or tenants-in-chief) with more land in return for military service. They treated their tenants similarly but the land had to finance one knight (the knight's fee) as well as the family, servants, etc.



William de Lanvallei III, who held the manors of Lexden and Stanway was one of the 25 barons named as sureties of the Magna Carta. He was also Lord of manors in Hertfordshire, Berkshire, and Essex, including Great Bromley where he had been born in 1180. He was Governor of Colchester Castle and patron of St John's Abbey in Colchester through a family connection with Eudo Dapifer. (*left - Lanvallei coat of arms*) William married Maud, the niece of the leader

of the Magna Carta barons, Robert Fitzwalter. After the First Barons' War and the signing of the Magna Carta on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1215, William lost control of Colchester Castle but regained it in 1216. He may have lived at Lexden Manor, (now Lexden Lodge) where the manorial court was held. It was known as the richest estate in Colchester and a chapel in the inner court of manor house was recorded in 1201. William died in 1217 and may be buried at St John's Abbey as monastic burial was popular with the nobility. Another William de Lanvallei founded the Crouched or Crossed Friars in Colchester in about 1245 (in modern Crouch Street).

Land enclosed before 1237 by the lord of Lexden manor stretched from the river to Bergholt Road and from North Street in the town to Lexden Lodge. After the de Lanvallei family, Lexden manor was held for many years by the Fitzwalters who continued to inherit large swathes of land but by about 1612 there were no legitimate descendants. In the early 17th century Sir Thomas Lucas bought the manor for his illegitimate son, also called Thomas. He acquired the long-ruined tenter house in Lexden Street and built a new manor on that site (now 134/136 Lexden Road). Gardens were laid out and opposite the house Lexden Springs was landscaped to give a prospect of ornamental water with plantations. Thomas Lucas lived there until Parliament confiscated his estate. In August 1648 his younger brother, Charles, was shot with Sir George Lisle after the surrender of Colchester following the siege. Later Thomas's eldest son, Charles, inherited the manor and he became 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Lucas of Shenfield in 1671 on the death of his uncle, John.

Charles died in 1688 and the manor passed to his wife, Penelope, and their daughters, Anne and Penelope. Penelope married Isaac Selfe and in 1700 he bought out the others and a year later sold the manor to Samuel Rawstorn.

In 1683 Samuel Rawstorn of London had married Sarah Papillon, the daughter of Thomas Papillon of Acrise in Kent and in 1720 their son, Thomas, inherited the manor devising it in turn to his widow, Sophia, with the remainder to their daughter, Anne. Anne died in 1816 and Lexden Manor was left to a distant cousin, Rev John Rawstorn Papillon, vicar of Chawton (home of Jane Austen). Lexden Heath, comprising 290 acres, was enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1821 and Rev Papillon wasted no time acquiring 151 acres by allotment and buying common rights on another 18 acres. By 1838 the Papillon family owned 1,216 acres and another local landowner, John Fletcher Mills of Lexden Park, 296 acres of the 2,312 acres in the parish. It was not a popular move as this land had been used for years by the local population for grazing their animals, horse racing and also for military camps.

Rev John Rawstorn Papillon was buried in 1837 at Lexden and bequeathed his lands to his sister, Elizabeth, and ultimately to his nephew, Philip Oxenden Papillon, MP for Colchester 1859-65 and twice Mayor. His son, Pelham R Papillon, inherited the estate which was sold and broken up in 1931.

Lexden Manor Lands included a large plot west of Colchester, known as Lord's Land (*right: OS map 1881*). The development of this began when Alderman P O Papillon released the manor land for building. In 1876 the first auction of Lord's Land Estate was held and an acre was being sold at £800 to £900 to builders and investors. Many lots soon



changed hands and "realised handsome profits". The streets were named after the Papillon family and their estate in Kent, ie, Papillon, Crowhurst, Pelham, etc, but progress was not always straightforward. In October 1879 the compulsory levelling, kerbing and metalling of Manor Road and Rawstorn Road came before the Urban Sanitary Committee. Under the 1875 Public Health Act the owners of land abutting these roads were responsible for the costs incurred to "make, pave, kerb, sewer, and light the roads". By the following April nothing had been done and it was considered a better option for the corporation to get the work done and charge the owners and occupiers. The problem was still not resolved by September 1881 and was a contentious subject nearly two years later in June 1883 when the committee was again pressed to agree to the Local Authority doing the work and charging the owners. By December 1883 £119 6s 6d was paid to Mr Charles Henry Oldridge, a well-known building contractor, for carrying out the work.

By March 1884 it was reported in the Essex Standard (*right*) that Mr Oldridge, who had also bought land in Manor Road, was in the County Court for not paying a subcontractor. Charles Lovedale was an experienced master pavior and argued that

£49 7s 1d was still outstanding on the contract. He also complained that Oldridge was a builder, not a road layer and had no experience of "paving and kerbing". A couple of weeks later it was counter-argued that Mr Lovedale had "cooked" and "made up" the claim and the jury found in favour of Mr Oldridge. Mr Oldridge, however, continued to have problems for in January 1885 he wrote to the council complaining that he appreciated that the council had made up the roads but he had lost £70 on empty houses because the roads had not been made up by his vendors!

In September 1884 the Papillon trustees put plans before the Sanitary and Main Drainage committee for further roads on the Lord's Land Estate. It did not help that the owners had still not paid about £2,000 to the council for work that had been completed. Payments were demanded in December 1884 and paid by February.

By November 1884 Colchester Co-operative Society had invested in the Lord's Land Estate and requested tenders from interested builders to erect two pairs of cottages in Rawstorn Road.

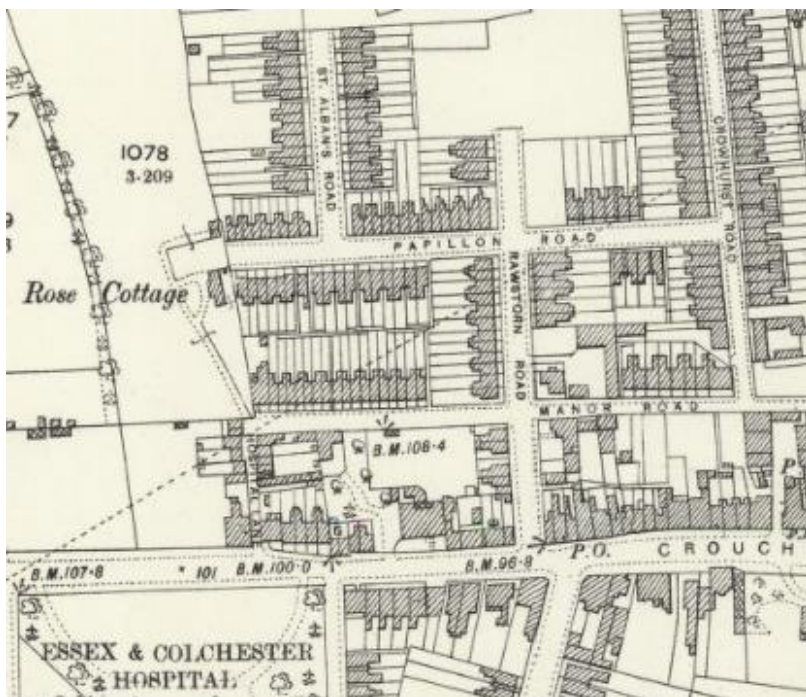
**BUILDERS' TENDERS.**--The following tenders were received for the erection of two pairs of cottages in Rawstorn Road, on Lords Land Estate, Colchester, for the Colchester Co-operative Society, Mr. J. W. Start, of Head Street, being the architect:--Mr. G. Lee, £940; Mr. C. Shepherd, £920; Mr. G. Farran, £840; Mr. E. Eade, £830; Mr. C. Oldridge, £785; Mr. A. Gladwell, £765; Mr. A. Chambers, £750; Mr. F. Dupont, £648; Mr. H. Ambrose (accepted), £620; Mr. A. Diss (withdrawn), £550.

These tenders varied considerably (left) including one from Mr Oldridge but it is no surprise that the cheapest tender was accepted! Later the Society asked for names of people wishing to be entered on the Ballot List for their "disposal" and four more houses in Pelham Road were bought in 1886. Many houses in the Estate were a good size as advertised in March 1889, ie, 6 rooms, as well as hall and scullery.

Another auction was held in August 1885 when 42 plots were up for bids (right). It was stressed that buyers "would contribute a proportionate part of the

prices. The first lot offered was a plot having a frontage of nearly 30 feet to the Manor Road by a depth of about 103 feet, which was sold to Mr. J. W. Potter, for some clients, at 35s. per foot. For six adjoining and similar plots, fronting the same road, Mr. Potter also bid 35s. per foot, and there being no advance he secured five of them at that price, but had to pay 40s. per foot for lot 7.

Another auction was held in August 1885 when 42 plots were up for bids (right). It was stressed that buyers "would contribute a proportionate part of the



expense of making and maintaining, until taken over by the Local Authority, the new roads, paths and drains .....” at the approximate cost of 8 - 10s per foot with Covenants to ensure this would be made between sale and completion. By May 1887 there were still complaints to the Council that the footpaths in the Lord's Land Estate were in a "dreadful state" and that the expensive ornamental bricks should be replaced by Staffordshire blue brick or something similar. It was considered, but only "slight" repairs were agreed! The names of the roads in Lord's Land Estate (above: map 1888-1913) have remained except for Catsfield Road and Pelham Road (named

after the home of Pelham Rawstorn Papillon b1864). In August 1890 the Essex Standard reported that the name Catsfield Road was "much disliked" by occupants, neighbours and friends and was "frequently a cause of great ridicule". It was changed to St Alban's Road after the Diocese of which Colchester was part. In 1892 Pelham Road, near Rose Cottage on the map, was merged with Papillon Road as there was already Pelham's Lane in St Runwald's parish named after a Common Councillor in 1623-43.

The Lords of the Manor of Lexden over the centuries had considerable influence over the area and the office was held by generations of the Papillon family. When David Papillon sold 134/6 Lexden Road in the 1930s and built another large house in Colvin Close, he called it Lexden Manor. There was continuing influence, if minor, in the choice of street names. Lanvalley Road and Fitzwalter Road in Lexden still commemorate the families which once held Lexden manor.

## Your Committee

### Chairman

Stan Kordys 01206 502282  
[s.kordys@ntlworld.com](mailto:s.kordys@ntlworld.com)

### Vice Chairman

Dick Barton 01206 573999  
[dickbartonlex@gmail.com](mailto:dickbartonlex@gmail.com)

### Secretary

Liz White 01206 522713  
[alangwhite187444@hotmail.com](mailto:alangwhite187444@hotmail.com)

### Magazine Joint Editors

Liz White / Jackie Bowis  
[alangwhite187444@hotmail.com](mailto:alangwhite187444@hotmail.com)

### Refreshments

Vacant

### Treasurer

Melvin White 01206 575351  
[melvin.s.white@btinternet.com](mailto:melvin.s.white@btinternet.com)

### Membership Secretary

Jackie Bowis 01206 561528  
[jebowis50@gmail.com](mailto:jebowis50@gmail.com)

### Archivist

Bernard Polley 01206 572460  
[heath86end@aol.com](mailto:heath86end@aol.com)

### General Members

Ian Bowis 01206 561528  
Sonia Lewis 01206 579950  
[sonialewis@waitrose.com](mailto:sonialewis@waitrose.com)

**Meetings resume on Wednesday  
8<sup>th</sup> September 7.45pm  
Liz White – 1885 Diary of Clarice Ord**