

Lexden History Group



St John's Abbey Gateway (see Page 10)

William Henry Bartlett 1809-54

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TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD – The Bevan Family

Recorded in the 1990s Inscriptions Book as leaning against the east end of Lexden church is a white marble tablet with the inscription *“This monument is erected to perpetuate the memory of the best of parents Henry Bevan Gent and Thomazine his wife and an affectionate brother Henry Bevan Esq Eldest son of the afores’d Hen & Thomazine who were all of this parish and who lye buried in a vault beneath the stone Henry Bevan died 28th April 1728 in the 53rd year of his age Thomazine his wife the 26th Feby 1761 in the 81st year of her age Henry Bevan their son the 13th Dec 1766 in the 61st year of his age”*. This grave would originally have been at the east end of the old church but with rebuilding in 1820, the extension in 1893 and the neglect of the churchyard this has now disappeared.

It is not clear who erected “this monument” but it was probably Sarah Ennew (née Bevan) as



there is another inscription on a nearby altar tomb (left) to the north of the church which reads *“Under this tomb lies Sarah Ennew, wife of Samuel Ennew, of Colchester, Esq, and daughter of Mr Henry Bevan who died (ie, Sarah) much lamented June 18, 1776, aged 63 years”*. There is evidence that this once magnificent tomb had railings around it, but it has been in a sorry state of decay for many decades. Samuel, a Colchester attorney and son of a Baymaker, married Sarah Bevan in

1739, and during his life took several apprentices, including in 1760 a certain Francis Smythies. Samuel was married again in London in 1784 to Ann Parker, and it appears from his will that he wanted to be buried in Lexden as close to Sarah as possible but with no additional inscription, only a death date. He was recorded in the parish records as being buried in Lexden Churchyard on Christmas Eve 1795 but his request of a death inscription appears not to have been carried out.

The first Henry Bevan was born in Stanway in 1675 and in about 1700 married Thomazine, who was born in 1680. They had three children, Henry in 1706, who was baptised at St Albright’s Church in Stanway, Sarah who was baptised in St Leonard’s Church, Lexden in 1712 and Isaac, possibly also in 1712, but other birth dates are recorded. Birth and baptism dates are difficult as there were several Henry Bevans who had children of the same names. Henry senior became a well respected local Master Carpenter and free burgess of Colchester. Over some years he trained four apprentices including John Alefounder in 1715 who became a builder and timber merchant in Colchester. It was accepted practice that if an apprentice had been taken on by a free burgess of the town, he would also be granted his freedom as John Alefounder was in 1725 and by right of birth his descendants would also be admitted as free burgesses.

In January 1708 Henry Bevan bought the Two-necked Swan Inn at Stanway, not thought to be the present Swan pub, and in 1723 it is recorded in the Borough Oath Book that he was appointed Inspector Terrarium - a borough surveyor.

Henry Bevan died in 1728 and in his will he left his many estates in Stanway, Copford and Colchester to Thomasin (another spelling of her name) for the duration of her life and on her death Henry, their son, would inherit estates in Stanway and Copford together with “all the rough timber in my yards and my working Tools”. Isaac inherited estates in Lexden and also

several tenements in Downfall Alley, Colchester, with a mortgage. There was a Downfall Yard outside North Gate, in St Peter's parish, so possibly the Alley led to the Yard. Isaac would also receive £50 on reaching the age of 21. Sarah would have £200 when she was 21 or when she married, with a further £100 when Thomasin died or "sooner if her mother thinks fit". It is interesting to note that £10 in 1728 would now be worth nearly £1,500.

Henry Bevan, born in 1706, followed in his father's footsteps. He became a master carpenter, working on William Round's improvements for the Birch estate. In 1733 he leased, from the Round family, Brockett's Farm at Tendring for 99 years at £30 per annum. His other estates, which he built up over the years, included a farm in London Road, Stanway and the Langham Valley estate. This had previously been owned by the uncle of Elizabeth Potter Everard whom Henry married in Wormingford in 1751. Henry died on 13th December 1766 and his death was listed in the Gentleman's magazine in December of that year. After his death and that of Elizabeth in 1790, the Langham Valley estate was bought in 1791 by Thomas Sadler of Great Horkesley and is now owned by Essex and Suffolk Water!

Isaac Bevan married Mary Carter and had two children, Henry Ennew Bevan, born in Manningtree in 1754, and Sally in 1748 who married William Turner in Lexden in 1775. The Bevan family rented Lexden Park from John Richardson, an apothecary, for £55 per annum, and after Richardson's death in 1768, Isaac, now an attorney, bought the estate from Richardson's trustees. This was the earlier house on the site which was later rebuilt as the Italianate mansion that is familiar today.

It was in this earlier house that Isaac's son, Henry Ennew Bevan lived and an anecdote by Bland reports that one of the apprentices of Henry's uncle, Samuel Ennew, almost succeeded in fraudulently becoming the beneficiary of young Henry's very considerable will. Francis Smythies (*right*), although young had already become an influential figure in the town, and was apparently writing a will for the very unwell Henry. Mr



Hamilton, a local unsavoury character, was driving his stage coach to London and noticed Smythies very quickly closing the curtains of Bevan's bed chamber. Knowing Smythies' already dubious reputation as the 'honest lawyer' he raced to London in record time and reported the situation to William Turner, Sally's husband, who arrived in time to find that Smythies had written himself in as the principal legatee. It seems that another will had also been made in his wife's favour and through this Smythies would have inherited the very valuable Bevan estate. Such anecdotes are always interesting but it was written long after the event and the accuracy is questionable. Young Francis Smythies was apparently entrusted to write this important will but perhaps because Henry Ennew Bevan was still young the task was given to him. Smythies was also not married until five years after the event. However, it makes an interesting story!

Isaac Bevan died in 1771 and in his very long and complicated will he requested that he be buried in the same vault at Lexden as his mother and brother but again this is not recorded. He left considerable property and legacies to, amongst others, his wife, Mary, children Henry and Sally, brother-in-law Samuel Ennew, and even his father-in-law, Samuel Carter, with Lexden Park passing to his son. Henry Ennew Bevan, died unmarried aged only 23 in March 1777 and his will written on 4th March that year left much to his "dear sister, Sally Turner".

Memories of Phillip Cardy - Part 6

Phillip Cardy was born in 1906 and lived in Lexden all his life. He recorded his memories but gave strict instructions that they should only be published after his death (1996) which is understandable as he talked frankly about the people he had known from an early age! Some of Phillip Cardy's memories are slightly historically inaccurate so I have added amendments and extra details. It is not always clear the years he is describing and many events may have been recalled from his parents. It is also difficult to locate the actual houses where people lived as numbers have changed and others have been demolished. I think most of these memories are from the 1920s. (Editor's additions in italics/brackets)

Every Tuesday morning between 10 and 10.30 Mr Brooks, the Fishman would appear on his trade bike with a large basket front and back. He would stop outside Back Lane (*opposite Halstead Road*) and start his cry which was: "Herrings, fresh herrings. We've got boats on the water to catch him with; and they're out today. Herrings, fresh herrings." The end of that cry would bring nearly all the cats in Lexden to the front gate. They loved him, he loved them and they always got a bit. *(Mr Brooks was probably Frederick, born in 1883, living with his wife and small daughter at 174 Magdalen Street, Colchester, now Aldi site. Also living there was his mother, father, Jack and a younger brother, George, also fish hawkers, another brother and two sisters.)*

Next would appear old Billy Woods sitting on his trolley, smoking his clay pipe, his engine driver's hat on his head and the old bay mare strolling along at her own pace. She did not



need much driving. She knew the round and she did not worry neither did he. Then there was the man who took the yeast to the various bakers' shops. He never spoke to anyone, unlike old Billy who used to load on coal to warm the babies. *(Billy was probably William Woods, a coal carter, born in Colchester in 1864. He lived with his wife, married daughter, her husband and baby daughter, at 4 Shrubland Road, Colchester, not far from the Brooks.)*



We are now going up the London Road. On the corner of Straight Road once stood the butcher's shop (*left*) kept by a man named Ambrose; later it was bought by Mr and Mrs Saberton (*left*). Across the other side of Straight Road was Mr Beaumont's builder's yard. Next to that, facing London Road, was a large house, I do not know who lived there. Then there was Nelson Road – a cul-de-sac. On the other side of Nelson Road was the Parish Room, since pulled down. There were no more houses that side of the road till you got to the borough boundary. Trafalgar

Road and Collingwood Road were laid out but nothing was built on them. Four of five times Marconi (*right*) brought his tents and pitched them on the land and broadcast from there. But nothing was done with the land till between the two wars. The last piece of land consisted of worked-out gravel pit.

(These memories are probably from the mid 1920s as the development at Nelson Road, Trafalgar Road and Collingwood Road was started as Lexden Garden Village from the beginning of 1929. Lexden Parish Room was



demolished in the late 1960s. Robert Beaumont was born in 1849 and his son Eveyln Theodore helped in the business but died as a result of WW1. The family lived at 22 London Road. Another son, known as Stanley, trained as a Vet and lived in Nelson Road. Harry Saberton was born in 1908 and still ran the butcher's shop in 1939. He and his wife, Rita, lived at 59 Dugard Avenue. The Marconi Company was making regular entertainment broadcasts from as early as 1920 and it is certainly possible that they came to Colchester but no reports can be found!)

Now we move back down the road again and come up the other side. The first plot of land



held the house of Mr Heasman, the Jeweller, then came Penny's, the Chemist. Mr Major, my employer owned the next and next to him was the Co-op grocery shop (left – London Road shops c1935). After then it was a row of small houses and I did not know the names of most of them. However, there was Bill Everett, the Pig Killer. He got his living by taking

his tubs and killing the pig in the back garden. Then he left it hung up and came and cut it up the next afternoon – ten shillings. Then there were the Currells. He worked for the council and was Foreman of the tar gang. Then a man called one-eyed Munson – he had only one eye. A little further up was Rules the Vehicle Repairer, then Johnson's Paper shop (right) which was founded by a Mr and Mrs Jarrett. He was killed in the First World War and Mrs Johnson died at much the same time. Mr Johnson married Mrs Jarrett who died having their first baby and, after a time, he married Rene Barber.



(Horatio Nelson Major was a corn merchant born in 1874; William Everett, a butcher born in Lexden in 1851, lived with his family at 13 London Road. The Currells were a large local family of market gardeners but Frank Currell, a cousin, born in 1883 worked as a general labourer for the Borough Council. George Rule and his son, Merton, were car body builders of 53 London Road. Arthur and Florence Jarrett were newsagents at 57 London Road, but he was killed in Baku (Azerbaijan) in August 1918. She married widowed William Johnson the following year, but died in November 1923. In 1926 he married Irene Barber.



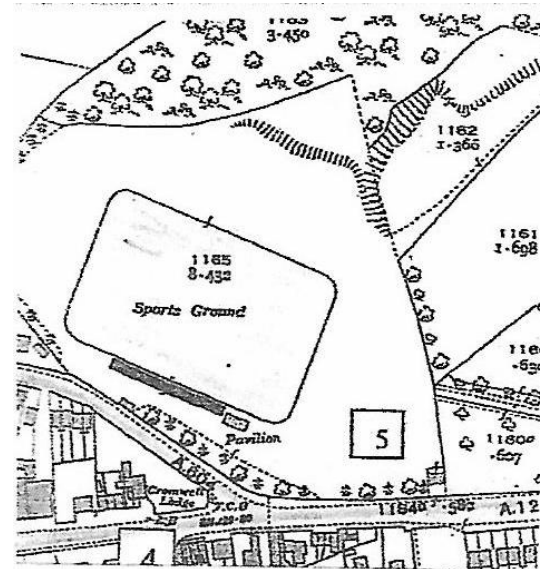
Turning down King Coel Road (left) the first entrant is Billy White's small holding. There were no houses on the left. In one of the houses on the right lived Fred Everett. He was found under a gooseberry bush. The people who lived in the house came home one night and heard a strange noise and, hunting around, found a new born boy under the bush. Times were different then to what they are now and if you found anything like that you kept it at your

own cost or sent it to the workhouse. The old couple kept him and brought him up and he

worked with Mr Harris the Scotch Gardener all the time I knew him. I don't suppose it made much difference to him except he reached the then retiring age of seventy when the new pension of five shilling a week was paid. But as he had no birth certificate he had to wait till he was eighty before they would give him a pension.

(William White, a market gardener, was born in Lexden in 1862 and lived with his wife, Elizabeth, and two daughters at 21 Lexden Street - east of the garage but now demolished. Neither local birth nor death of Fred Everett can be found. He must have been born in about 1838 as the first state pension of 5s for single people was paid in 190, but in 1924 there was a J Everitt living at No 4 King Cole Road. The "Scotch Gardener" was John Harris born in Wyneswold, Lancashire, in 1865. He lived with his family in King Coel Road.

There was not many people of note in Colne Road (now Halstead Road) at that time. It was mainly occupied by retired Police Sergeants, including Mr Pettican (Albert b1876) whose wife (Alice) was a strong believer in a field mouse as a sure cure for whooping cough. I don't know whether the kids knew what they were eating or not but they had it. However, none of them died so I supposed it was all right. Where the fire engine shops are used to be the Horse Show Ground (right). It was owned by Mr Prime, the Vet from Crouch Street, and the show was on Whit Monday. That day, June 6th 1936, I took my future wife out for the first time.



The new Horse Show Ground 1926

(Edward Prime was born in 1866 in Halesworth, Suffolk. The family lived at 14 Crouch Street and his veterinary surgery was at 60 West Stockwell Street. He died in 1952.)

We now go off to the Straight Road which had houses as far as Chaucer Way. Amongst them was Coal Claydon. He was a Coal Merchant who retired the year I started work. He was also a Lay Preacher at the chapel. After he retired he used to keep a ton or two and if a woman ran out he would take her a hundredweight on his wheelbarrow. Him and his wife completed 67 years of married life before Mrs Claydon left this world. When I was a boy I often used to have to deliver corn and I met him one day in Straight Road coming home with his barrow. I said to him, "I wonder, Mr Claydon, you don't buy a donkey to pull that round." He said, "Well I did give it a lot of thought but the wife said she did not want two." *(Arthur James Clayden was born in 1847 and lived at No 7 Straight Road with his wife, Eliza, née Garwood, whom he married in the autumn of 1873. She died in September 1934 and Arthur a year later. They were actually married for 61 years).*

Over the road lived Jerry Potter. He was a Horse Dealer and used to keep his horses on the old allotment and we had quite a lot of fun with them. At that time the Bishop we had here loved a horse and kept one. I was talking to Potter one day when the Bishop came along. He pulled up and said, "Ah, Potter, just the man I am looking for. My sister would like Betty here as she is now nice and steady, but a bit too steady for me.. When you go to the Welsh sales see if you can find me something nice to look at and also something that can go." Jerry took the order and in time went to Wales. After about a fortnight he returned with a string of all sorts from ton cart horses to a Shetland pony. Amongst them was a beauty, a bay with a darker dapple. It had a nice calm brown eye, four white socks and a white blaze – altogether

a lovely thing to look at. A few days later Jerry asked me if I would go and show this horse as it was much too fast for him to keep up with. So the next day I got him out and gave him a brush down in readiness to meet the Bishop. He came at two o'clock. I got the horse out and the deal started. I took him up at a walk, then at a trot and brought him back at a canter. The Bishop thought he saw a fault in the action of the near side hock and said, "Take it up again, boy." This I did and brought him back full strength. "Do you see it now Potter?!"

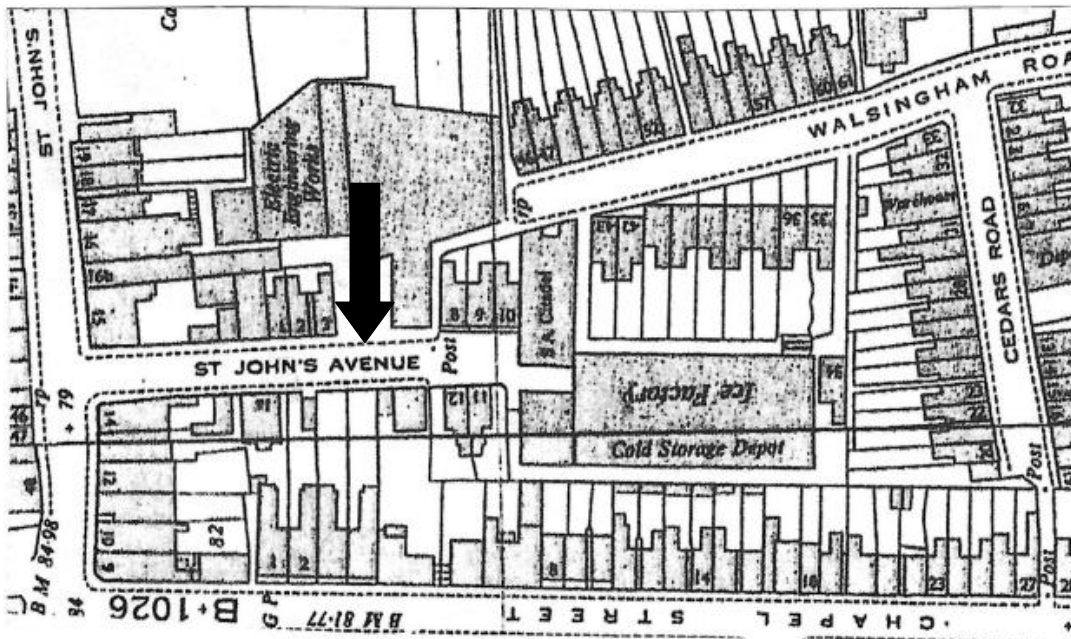


The old boy looked at the Bishop and said, "There is nothing wrong with his hocks, or his hass, nor hanything that it his." The Bishop looked at me, did a half grin and said, "Take it up to my stables, boy." I think he knew that he had met his master when it came to a deal even if Jerry could not read and write very well. I do not know what the Bishop paid for the horse but I was very satisfied with what I got.

The horse-loving cleric was probably Rev Thomas Alfred Chapman, (left) Bishop of Colchester from 1922-1933. Unfortunately there is nothing conclusive on Jerry Potter as his details are somewhat vague and the only local horse dealer found at that time was a Tom Potter of 11 Butt Road.

Where is St John's Avenue?

Bernard Polley



Five local people were asked "Do you know where St John's Avenue is?" (left: arrowed) Only one knew the answer, for not surprisingly there is very little to see of the cul-de-sac off St John's Street, opposite the more recently built St John's Wynd steps. Its length is about 200 yards

with only one building on the right side – Taxi booking office for 544444. Until the inner relief road, Southway, was built in the seventies, the cul-de-sac reached as far back as the gardens of Cedars Road.

Benjamin Cant (right), the well-known rose grower, had premises off St John's Street. His garden was laid out with many species of roses for sale and other horticultural exotic plants. Cant had an interest in roller skating and knowing there was much public interest in this growing leisure activity, he decided to build two large skating rinks on his land, one in the open air and the other a pavilion under cover, with seating for 1200 spectators. The



building was made from two kinds of brick with terracotta frieze around the outside. Set amid the pleasurable garden access to the rinks was via a new road, named Rink road, later changed to St John's Avenue.

Over the years much of Cant's land was sold off and the other buildings added to the site – twelve small houses built from the entrance off St John's Street, two commercial buildings and the old indoor skating rink retained for it was to have new occupiers.

In 1882 William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, held an open air meeting at the Cattle Market in Middleborough for anyone interested in this form of Christian service. Some 2,000 people attended and from this the Salvation Army in Colchester was born. Shortly after, the former roller skating rink pavilion was acquired as their barracks and citadel – the officer as leader was Captain Polly Perkins, who had come from Rochdale. Soldiers were some of the first converts with 110 on the first Sunday. In August that year the War Office approved soldiers joining and taking part in indoor meetings but not open air meetings or marching.

The national reaction to the Army in the early days was hostile because many did not understand the doctrine of Salvationists. Support was given to their cause by two prominent Colchester business men, Edward Marriage, flour mill owner, and John Bawtree, banker, who both entertained General Booth when he visited the town to lead worship at the citadel and open meetings. Since those early days much good work has been done by the Salvation Army to support the under-privileged and lonely folk by seeing there was always a place of refuge for them. Booth described the approach as "The Three S's – soap, soup and salvation". *(right: Salvation Army Band in St John's Avenue in 1920. Citadel back right.*



For many years the Colchester Salvation Army Band was in prominence round the town on Sunday evenings paying in High street then marching to their barracks for their meeting.

By the late 1960s it was felt an updated home was needed and plans were made to relocate to



Butt Road where a modern community centre was built at a cost of £45,000 which would cater for all 'irrespective of colour, creed, race or religion'. The new building opened in October 1973.

In 1928 Eastern Automobiles Ltd, motor car business, took over from the former Raglan Garage in Head Street with a front facing showroom for displaying Standard cars and other makes for which they held an agency. Repairs were carried out in an

inadequate workshop at the rear of the building and petrol was sold from two pumps situated on the pavement. A larger workshop was needed so Derham Construction Engineers were commissioned to build a replacement workshop for £7,000 in St John's Avenue (*above*).

The spacious new service and repair facility had all the latest technical equipment to be used by the fully-trained mechanics under the direction of the manager, Mr R B Cox.

The Head Street premises in 1935 had to be vacated as the site was required for the new General Post Office, so the company concentrated efforts on the St John's Avenue depot and leased a car showroom opposite the Playhouse in St John's Street (*right: advertisement*). At this time the new Flying Standard 9hp car sold for £156 and the 20hp V-Eight de luxe at £349. Eastern Autos remained at these locations until 1969 when there was a complete removal into fresh premises on Elmstead Road.

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The only other commercial business in St John's Avenue was the Ice Factory and Cold Store (*left - 1955*). Spacious floor space of some 7,700 square feet had a wealth of machinery for turning water into ice. The main equipment included a Commodity Chamber, described technically as "fitted with centre slated floor; eight sets of direct expansion coils and 23 brine drums insulated front and side with 8 inch cork bitumen faced cement rendered, adjacent wall 4 inch slab cork and 6 inch granulated cork tightly packed". An ice-making unit had a capacity of 40 tons of ice per week. The front of the building included a reception office and staff rest room. The Colchester Ice & Cold Storage Company Ltd could see the end of its time when the inner relief road would become a reality.

In 1972 when Southway was finally ready to take traffic away from the town centre, all the St John's Avenue premises had been dismantled, leaving a short cul-de-sac with just one building – the taxi booking office (*arrowed right – today*). Next time you are in St John's Street take a look at what is left of the original St John's Avenue!



Throughout England in the 1600s there was a surge of Protestantism and many in Europe fought to break away from the control of the Roman Catholic Church. When Henry VIII faced problems trying to divorce Catherine of Aragon in order to wed the beautiful Anne Boleyn, he declared himself Supreme Head of the Church of England, starting the dissolution of the monasteries and availing himself of their vast wealth. Many dissenters suffered terrible deaths and Colchester had a number of these brave citizens.



(left: Section of the Hardman stained glass window in Belmont Abbey Church memorialising John Beche)

John Beche (born Thomas Marshall) came from a family of pewtersmiths in Colchester and in 1515 he took his Doctor of Divinity degree at Gloucester Hall, now Worcester College, in Oxford. He was appointed the twenty-sixth Abbot of St. Werburgh's in Chester and on 19th June 1530 became Abbot of St John the Baptist, Colchester.

Four years later on 30th March 1534 as a member of the House of Lords he took the Oath of Supremacy, acknowledging Henry VIII, and not the pope, to be head of the Church in England.

John Beche strongly opposed the King's actions and after the execution of three Carthusian priors in 1535, his adherence to the beliefs of

Thomas More and John Fisher was conveyed to the authorities.

(right: Judge riding out of Colchester after the trial of Thomas Beche - Execution site in distance. Extract from Survey of the lands of Colchester Abbey 1539-40)



Parliament passed the Treasons Act in 1534 which allowed the arrest of those who denied royal supremacy. By November 1538 John Beche had been charged with high treason for refusing to hand over the keys of the Abbey and rejecting the King's apparent legal right to these. His argument was that the assessed value of 300 marks for the Abbey was above the annual value given in the statute. He was sent to the Tower of London, discharged, then rearrested and returned to Colchester. He also was not afraid to maintain that the break with the Pope was the king's determination to marry Anne Boleyn. Beche's trial was held in Colchester in November 1539 and he no longer pleaded against the charges. The trial commission included a jury of 16 to enquire and 17 to try. There was no question about the verdict and he was rapidly convicted and brutally executed on 1st December that year, probably at the Abbey's gallows at Greenstead on the Abbot's demesne lands that he was entitled to keep for his own use.

Sir Christopher Jenney, a Lincoln's Inn attorney and one of those on the trial commission, wrote soon afterwards to Thomas Cromwell: *'The prisoner after his judgment axed the kyngs highness, yr lordshippes and my lord chauncellors forgiveness and knowlegid hymself in substauce to be giltie accordynge to the effect of the indictmente and shewyd hym self to be*

very penytent, savyng he stode somewhat in his own conceyte that the subpression of abbeyes should not stonde with the lawes of God, and therby and by other circumstances I thought hym an evill man in myn own concyens and opinion yf ther had apperyd noo more but his own confesion.'

John Beche's pectoral cross was rescued by the Mannock family of Giffords Hall, Stoke by Nayland who entrusted it to Buckfast Abbey in Devon where it remains today.

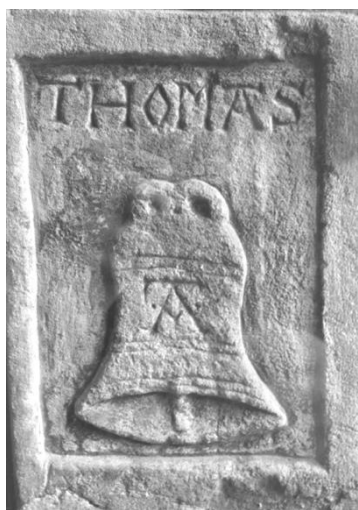
When it was dissolved in 1539 the abbey, contents and possessions were passed to the king. Some monks received annual pensions, John Fraunce £6 13s 4d and William Ryppner £5. Sir Thomas Audley tried but failed to be granted the site and on 20th August 1546 it was leased to Sir Thomas Darcy for 26 years and eventually came into the possession of John Lucas. The Abbey church was gradually demolished over the next 50 or so years and the Lucas family built a manor house on the site but kept the precinct wall and gatehouse (*picture on front*). Some of the remains of the abbey were used in 1591 to build Bourne Mill.

On 13th May 1895 Pope Leo XIII decreed the beatification of Abbot John Beche with his feast day on 1st December.

Thomas Abel is thought to have been born in West Bergholt in about 1497 to a wealthy family in the clothing trade with estates at Colchester, Wix and Aldham. His brother was a Prior at Earls Colne monastery. He was awarded a BA at Oxford University in 1514 and an MA in Theology. Four years later he entered the priesthood and in 1528 was appointed chaplain and music and language tutor to Catherine of Aragon in a court rife with theological debate regarding the divorce that King Henry wanted from Catherine.

In 1530 Thomas succeeded, despite the efforts of Cardinal Wolsey, in delivering a secret commission to Emperor Charles V in Spain about the divorce. The Queen gratefully presented him with the Rectorship at Bradwell-on-Sea in Essex. Thomas continued to strongly oppose the divorce and was banned from Court by King Henry.

After obtaining his divorce Henry published a booklet which was countered by Thomas in his booklet "*Invicta Veritas an answer to the determination of the most famous Universities that by no manner of law may it be lawful for King Henry to be divorced from the Queen's grace, his lawful and very wife.*" This gained much support and Thomas was sent to the Tower of London in 1532 but released in 1533 and continued to preach against the divorce calling Catherine "the Queen" and not the official "Princess Dowager".



The Duke of Suffolk was responsible for further unrest and Abel, with others, was arrested for treason and held for six years in the Beauchamp Tower at the Tower of London. Whilst there he engraved a rebus with a bell and his name (*left*). He wrote a letter to Thomas Cromwell, pleading for "*license to go to church and say Mass here within the Tower and for to lie in some house upon the Green*". It is signed "by your daily bedeman, Thomas Abell, priest". A bedeman prays for another or is a petitioner. As he continued to refuse to acknowledge the Act of Supremacy he was eventually found guilty of treason and with two others suffered a gruesome martyr's death at Smithfield, two days after Thomas Cromwell. He was beatified by the Pope in 1886.

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Forthcoming Meetings

Wednesday 9th October 2024

**Andy Moore
Colchester Zoo**

Wednesday 13th November 2024

**John Worland
The Story of Ursula Kemp,
accused of Witchcraft**

Wednesday 11th December 2024

Christmas Party 2.30pm – 5.00pm

**Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of
each month at 2.30pm in St Leonard's Church
Hall, Lexden.**

Annual Membership subscriptions

£25 Family, £18 Single