

## An Autumnal Brew

This newsletter does not have a theme, nor is there any connection between the articles. It is more of an autumn 'buffet', in which I hope everyone will find something of interest.

Village brass band, GUDC, a find from the record office, and something from Sue and Brian Smith following on from the article about Glemsford Fair.

Finally a return to natural history, by Robin Ford, as well as the regular items.

Hoping you have had a good summer and enjoy an autumnal evening reading your newsletter.

**Jenny Wears**, Editor  
e: [glhsnewsl@hotmail.com](mailto:glhsnewsl@hotmail.com)





## **Remember those men listed on one or both of our War Memorials, who died between September and December 1916**

September 16th: Ernest Albright, Sergeant 9th Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Killed in action and commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial. Albert Hartley, Lance Corporal 9th Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Killed in action, aged 23. A factory hand he lived with his parents at 3 New Cut. Listed on the Thiepval Memorial. Arthur Rutter, Private 9th Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Killed in action and remembered on the Thiepval Memorial.

October 8th: Wallace Playle, Corporal London Regiment 1st Surrey Rifles. Killed in action aged 33. A school teacher and son of William and Sarah Playle, he lived on Fair Green. Commemorated on Thiepval Memorial, Somme.

November 7th: Ambrose Suttle, Private 14th Battalion Hampshire Regiment (formerly with Suffolk Regiment). Killed in action aged 22 and remembered on Thiepval Memorial, Somme.

November 16th: Eaton Cross, Private. "W" Company 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Killed in action aged 20. The son of Harry and Lizzie Cross, he lived with his widowed mother on Brook Street. He is buried at Bertruncourt Military Cemetery, Somme and listed on the Menin Gate, Ypres.

All six men died during the Battle of the Somme, but the first three were at Fleurs – Courcette, when tanks were used for the first time.

Thanks as usual to Steve Clarke and Martin Edwards for the Roll of Honour detail.



# A few notes on Glemsford Urban District Council (GUDC) 1896-1935

**Glemsford Urban District Council was formed in 1896 and was the smallest in the country**

The minutes for 28th September detail the elected candidates as follows:

Clarke – Oscar Wm.	Downs – Sam. Wallace	Underwood – Edward
Clarke – Robert Joseph	Hall – Herbert	Sore – Cornelius
Goodchild – William Sam.	Goodchild – Charles	Smith – Charles
Copsey – George	Cook – Henry	Middleditch – Arthur

The first meeting of the Council was held at the Board School on Thursday evening 1st October 1896. Mr S.W. Downs was appointed Chairman with Mr Oscar Clarke as Vice-Chairman. At the meeting of 22nd October it was decided to form three committees – Highways & Sanitary, General Purpose, and Financial.

Here are a few entries from Council minutes:

1896 Nov. 17th. Highways. 'The present tools used by the man on the roads being almost worn up. The committee recommends that the following be purchased.

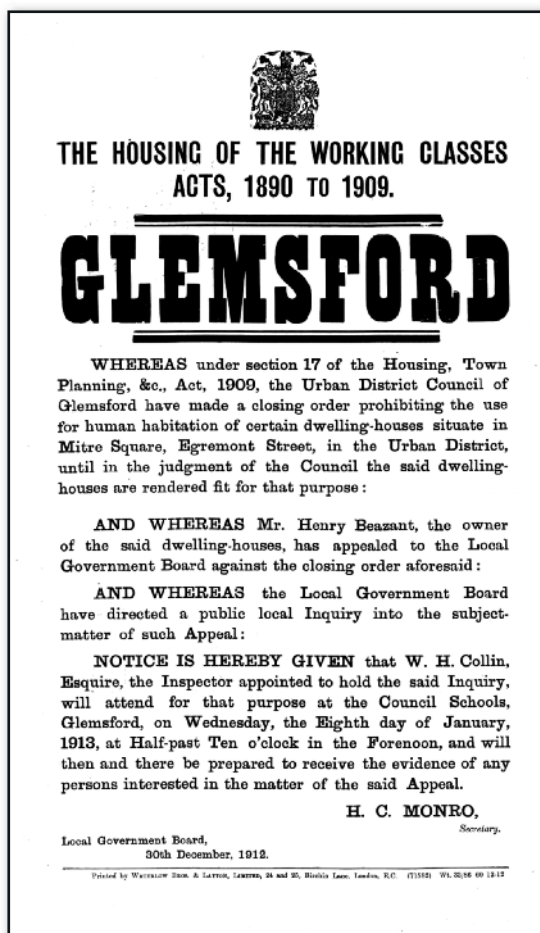
'Viz: 2 wheelbarrows; 2 Road hoes; 3 shovels; 2 Brooms; 2 Road hammers; 1 pick-axe. 1 spoon for cesspits. 2 Rakes and 1 Brand marked GUDC.'


1897 April 26th. Highways and Sanitary. 'Considerable discussion took place on the subject of water supply for Hunt's Hill, Fair Green and Churchgate. The clerk was requested to write to Mr. L. Galaker, Weston-super-Mare, for his terms and conditions. To pay a visit and indicate where water may be found and its probable depth, at Hunt's Hill, Fair Gn and Churchgate.'

On May 13th. 'A reply was received. Fee of £19.10s. far exceeded that which the committee contemplated spending. The matter was referred to the council for instruction.'

1903 May 28th. 'The Surveyor was reported to propose a plan of the site selected for the pumping station.'

1912 30th December. Proposed closure of dwelling-houses in Mitre Sq. Egremont St. Owner Mr Henry Beazant.



  
**THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES  
ACTS, 1890 TO 1909.**

**GLEMSFORD**

WHEREAS under section 17 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, the Urban District Council of Glemsford have made a closing order prohibiting the use for human habitation of certain dwelling-houses situate in Mitre Square, Egremont Street, in the Urban District, until in the judgment of the Council the said dwelling-houses are rendered fit for that purpose:

AND WHEREAS Mr. Henry Beazant, the owner of the said dwelling-houses, has appealed to the Local Government Board against the closing order aforesaid:

AND WHEREAS the Local Government Board have directed a public local Inquiry into the subject-matter of such Appeal:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that W. H. Collin, Esquire, the Inspector appointed to hold the said Inquiry, will attend for that purpose at the Council Schools, Glemsford, on Wednesday, the Eighth day of January, 1913, at Half-past Ten o'clock in the Forenoon, and will then and there be prepared to receive the evidence of any persons interested in the matter of the said Appeal.

**H. C. MONRO,**  
*Secretary.*

Local Government Board,  
30th December, 1912.

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*To my knowledge, there are only two pieces of 'metal ware' from the GUDC period in the village:*

*One is over a water hydrant on a foot-path joining the top end of Cavendish Lane. The other is a wall plaque denoting a fire hydrant. This is on the Skates Hill side of Three Turns House.*

*Glemsford became part of Long Melford District Council in 1935. This was formally noted in the minutes for March 30th of that year and signed by the Chairman, T. H. Gould.*



# Glemsford Brass Band



In the Bury Free Press of August 4th 1894, Correspondence Column, a letter was published regarding the Glemsford Brass Band. It commented on why a band from Haverhill was engaged to play at the Glemsford Horticultural Show. "The £5 paid would have been better paid to the Village's own band, the money would have been spent in Glemsford which would have been for the good of local trade. Glemsford Band had played on previous occasions. The Band is comprised of hardworking men who have trained hard to make the members efficient.

We sometimes have the opportunity of hearing on a Saturday afternoon, how far they have succeeded."

Later the same year, a report of November 24th, Bury Free Press (see overleaf), tells us that a Mr Middleditch was Bandmaster, and gives many local names. (The photograph, used in Richard Deek's book *Glorious Glemsford* was taken the previous year).

**Jenny Wears**

### GLEMSFORD.

Interesting Social Gathering.—On Friday evening, November 16th, a public tea, organized by the members of the local band, took place at the Plough Inn, when about 60 responded to the invitations sent out. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, the meeting took the form of a “free and easy,” presided over by Mr. C. Smith. Amongst the company were Mr. J. Copsey, sen., Mr. W. Twinn, Mr. D. Scott, Mr. G. Crick, Mr. J. Copsey, jun., Mr. D. Ward, Mr. Leggett (Foxearth), Mr. Beeton, &c. The first item on the programme was an overture entitled “The Sleep of Diana,” which was given by the band in pleasing style. The chairman then gave the first toast of the evening, “Success to the Glemsford Band,” and in a few well-timed remarks alluded to the progress the Band had made during the last two years, which was due, he said, to the Bandmaster’s untiring energy and efforts to make it efficient, and he trusted that in future it would be better patronized than it had been in the past. Mr. Middlemarch, the Bandmaster, in responding to the toast, said he was much gratified by the remarks which the Chairman had made, and although they had passed through a trying time, he believed that a great future was before the band. The presence of so many at the gathering was an indication that they had a few in the village who appreciated their efforts. He referred to the special effort which was made to purchase additional instruments for the band, and with the generous help of Mr. Quilter, M.P., Dr. Waring, and the parishioners, they had purchased the necessary instruments, and are now getting into good working order. Mr. Lawrence gave a song, “Muddled and Mixed”; Mr. Leggett, “After the Fall”; Mr. G. Crick, “Simple Little Pimple”. Mr. D. Ward (Foxearth) after singing a song entitled “The Educated Bloke,” made a few complimentary remarks, and said that he was always willing to lend his aid to any good cause, and especially that for which they had met. The following songs were given:—Song, “Bush Range in Australia,” Mr. C. Twinn; duet, “Violin and Piano,” Messrs. Middlemarch and Crick; song, “Old Miller,” Mr. C. Sore; song, “The Flag,” Mr. D. Scott; song, “Mona,” Miss F. Twinn; song, “A Soldier and a Man,” Mr. J. Gridley; song, “The Minstrel Boy,” Mr. E. Sore; medley song; song, “Swinging to and fro,” the Chairman (encored), “Strolling on the Sands,” song, “Mother kissed me in my Dream,” Mr. E. Game; song, “The Club House,” Mr. W. Farrance; song, “E Dunno where ee are,” Mr. Eli Watkinson; song, “When Jones’s ale was new,” Mr. Raymond. The toast “Host and Hostess” cordially drunk and responded to by Mr. Raymond. Mr. E. Sore proposed “Success to the Football Club,” and Mr. A. Molton responded. “The health of the Chairman” was proposed by Mr. E. Sore, and in responding Mr. Smith said he hoped that they would make the affair an annual one. After the band had played another selection, the National Anthem was sung and all dispersed to their homes.

### The Apprenticeship Indenture of William Deeks, 1747

This Indenture made the sixteenth day of November in the twenty first yr of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the second by the Grace of God, of Gt Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of Faith, and so forth. In the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and forty seven. Witnesseth, that Robert Green and Thomas Ralling Church-wardens of the Parish of Clare in the County of Suffolk And Edward Key and Robert Brookes Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, by and with the consent of his Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the said County whose names are hereunto subscribed, have put, placed and by these present do put and place William Deeks a poor child of the said Parish, Apprenticed to William Hunt of Glemsford in the said County of Suffolk, Weaver with him to dwell and serve from The Day ... until his full age of twenty four years....

That the same William Hunt (?) the said Apprentice in the History or business of a weaver which he now useth shall back and Instruct or cause the same to be done. And shall and will, during all the Term aforesaid, find, provide and allow, unto aforesaid Apprentice, ...(?)... competent, and sufficient meat, Drink and Apparel, Lodging, Washing and all other Things necessary and fit for an apprentice. And also shall and will provide for said apprentice that he be not any way a charge to the said Parish or Parishioners of the same.... And at the end of the said Term shall and will make, provide and allow and deliver unto said Apprentice double Apparel of all sorts, good and new, a good new suit for the Holy-days, and another for the Working days.

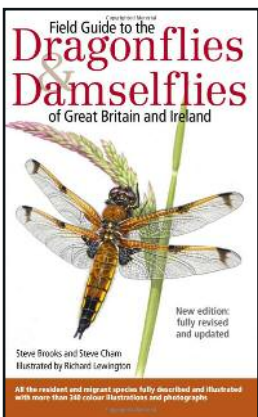
Signed in the Presence of Jn. Harrington,

The Mark of Ja. Vernon X

George Jay      William Hunt



# A species new to Glemsford



The distribution and abundance of dragonflies and damselflies has altered significantly during the past twenty five years. During that time there have been five reprints of the *Field Guide to Dragonflies and Damselflies of Great Britain and Ireland\**; each edition containing further descriptions of species new to the British Isles. Illustrations of the Willow Emerald Damselfly (*Chalcolestes viridis*) first appeared in the pages of the 2014 edition of the Field Guide and I felt it was time I purchased a copy.

Having first been recorded near Felixstowe in 2007, this damselfly quickly dispersed along the river Stour, settling in suitable habitat well inland. Checking the chapter in the Field Guide described as "Good Dragonfly and Damselfly Hot Spots", I discovered that the section of the Stour between Glemsford and Stratford St. Mary had been given a special mention. The meadows that lie on the Essex bank of

the river, between the Glemsford Railway Station and the Philips Avent factory, were once owned by the Dragonfly and Damselfly recorder for Suffolk. The land has recently been purchased by A Rocha UK\*\* (the Christians and Conservation charity). It is their first and only Nature Reserve in the British Isles. The site is open to the public and is best approached through a gate along the back road to Liston.

The Willow Emerald Damselfly (*C. viridis*) is breeding successfully on the reserve and can be easily seen, from the months of July to November, resting on willow branches near the water's edge. Twenty other species of Dragonfly and Damselfly have been recorded using this section of river. On a fine day, from late spring through to winter, it is worth walking the paths round the ponds and along the river bank, marvelling at this diversity of insect life.

**Robin Ford**

\* *The Field Guide to Dragonflies and Damselflies of Great Britain and Ireland*. British Wildlife Publishing, 2014.

\*\* Telephone 07548 209652 to find out more about A Rocha UK.

# The Glemsford Fete

## To the Editor of the Free Press

Mr. Editor, – A batch of celestials headed by Chang the great biped, will visit Glemsford on the 17th inst. The Committee have rummaged the world to find a creation worthy of the occasion, and having alighted on the Tall Man of Fychow with his Golden Lily, carried them off in triumph to grace the occasion. Having secured this illustrious party, dwarf included, for Friday, August 17th, the next thing is for the people to come and see them. There are probably 10,000 people just round here who have never seen a Chinese lady with her wee feet and finger nails, and twice ten who have never seen Chang, and if they do not come to this levee at the Rectory House, will probably never see either as long as they live.

This gigantic presence is pleasant, his proportions well chosen and put together, suggesting the idea that he certainly appears not to have built by contract; as the Lancet has it “a very finely-made man; a gentleman and a scholar”. The Times says “He strides through the midst of the people like a walking tower”. The Field says “An immense being, I should imagine he is by far the tallest man on the surface of the earth at the present time”. He is 20 years of age; King Foo, or Lady Chang, 18; Chang Mow, or the Tartar Dwarf, is 30 years old and 28 inches high, grotesque in his humour and appearance, and is a funny bumptious little friend, rather set off than obscured by the Giant’s magnificent presence.

One word if you please Mr. Editor, the visit to us of the party of seven will soon be a matter of history; an entertainment is now on offer here that has never been equalled –

a day of instruction and amusement, of health to body and mind, games and pastimes into the bargain, for a very little money, and without going far about after it. Special trains will run between all stations from Bury and Haverhill; Glemsford is 16 miles in circumference, so there is no fear but there will be plenty of room, and a strong efficient committee stands pledged to cater well for a beloved public on this important occasion.

A few lines next week on the manners and customs of these people, if you can find room for them, would perhaps interest some in the coming-men. China with its 15 provinces takes rank with Great Britain as to its superficial area; it has 4,402 walled cities. Learning is much cultivated, every letter is a word. Time is not divided into weeks as it is here, they have no Sabbath, every house has its deities; so diligent in cultivating ground that the beds of their lakes, ponds and streams, are made to produce useful crops unknown to us, and so thoroughly do they abominate change that this party will present the same characteristics as a similar party would have done 2,000 years ago. They reject all that is new; they are subject to the same laws and wearing the same costume, will ere many days, stand among us moderns or Western Devils, as they politely call us, as representatives of “Ye antiente worlde”.

Yours faithfully,

**Chin Chin**

Glemsford 30th July, 1866

*Thank you to **Sue and Brian Smith** for supplying this article.*

# GLEMSFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY News



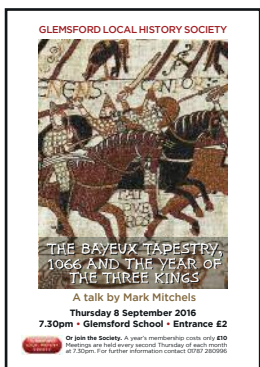
GLEMSFORD Local History Society celebrated the close of the current season with a very enjoyable buffet evening at Melton House attended by many members and guests. This was preceded by a deviously cryptic Scatter Walk Quiz devised by Patrick Hemphill – many thanks Patrick.

Our thanks must also go to hosts, Patrick and Pauline Currie, for their hospitality in

opening up their house and beautiful garden. Likewise to all the members of the committee for providing a truly delicious spread of food.

Finally let's not forget the weather, (so capricious in the past), for coming up with such a warm and pleasant evening!

**Margaret King**



GLEMSFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY made an impressive start to the new season, when they were given a talk by Mark Mitchels entitled "The Bayeux Tapestry, 1066 and the year of the three kings". We were treated to a clear and well-presented talk which took us through the background, historical events and the possible reasons for the existence of the Tapestry, which technically is an embroidery of woollen thread on linen and regarded as both an important historical item and also an amazing work of art. We heard about the characters of William and Harold and their respective claims to the throne of England and the events leading to the battle as well as the battle itself, all of which are depicted in the tapestry.

The tapestry is thought to have been designed by one man and worked by women, lay or clerical, probably Anglo-

Saxon and very possibly from the renowned Canterbury School of Embroidery, the writing having been added at a slightly later date. It is thought that the tapestry may have been commissioned by Odo, a half brother of William, who features large in the tapestry and who became Lord of Kent. It was designed to fit the high space along the nave of the new Cathedral at Bayeux, which had been built by Odo.

When Odo fell from grace the tapestry was taken down and safely rolled up and stored in wax cloth, in the crypt, where it stayed for 400 years until 1476, when it was rediscovered and recognised as an important item. Had it remained hanging in the cathedral it is highly likely that it would have been lost to us.

**Anne Edwards**



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, **Peter Thoroughgood:** The Earl, the Rector  
October 13th and the Rogue – How a Sudbury Bank Manager  
absconded with the town's money

Thursday, **Annual General Meeting**  
November 10th Followed by cheese and wine, and members' talks

Thursday, **Geoffrey Kay:** Death, Sex and Drugs – the story  
January 12th of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood

Thursday, **Nick Sign:** John Winthrop of Groton and the 1630  
February 9th Expedition to Boston, Massachusetts

Thursday, **Gerry Baxter:** Origins and Traditions of the  
March 9th Pearly Kings and Queens of London

Thursday, **East Anglian Traditional Music Trust:**  
April 20th (John and Katie Howson): Live and recorded  
(NB. the 3rd folk songs collected from the Sudbury and  
Thursday) Hadleigh area

Thursday, **Philip Crummy:**  
May 11th The Roman Circus in Colchester



## Newsletter | Autumn 2016 edition

**Annual Subscription:** £10.00 **Visitors:** £2.00 per time

We meet on every 2nd Thursday of the month in Glemsford School at 7.30pm.

We welcome your continued support and that of others. Please encourage your friends and neighbours to join us.