Local and Essex History Quiz January 2024

Miscellaneous

- 1 Name the only Essex village beginning with the letter Q.
- 2 Where is the largest and deepest Cold War bunker which is open to the public in South East England,
- 3 What was the Whispering or Lawless Court and where in Essex was it held?
- 4 Which famous author was brought up in Thundersley by the strictly religious Wiggins family?
- 5 The old "Sun Inn" in Saffron Waldon(now no longer a pub) carries a pargetting design showing two men in combat. Who are they? What is Pargetting?
- 6 On 1st July 1975, the formal turf-cutting ceremony for "A New Riverside Country Town) took place. Which one?
- 7 Why was the "The Crown pub" in South Benfleet renamed the "Half Crown" in the 1960's?
- 8 Where is the 19th century local history author Philip Benton buried?
- 9 The name of which Essex village means "heron's stream"?
- 10 Why did Thomas Cammock and Frances Rich swim their horse across the River Crouch at Fambridge?

Miscellaneous

1. Name the only Essex village beginning with the letter Q.

Quendon (between Saffron Waldon and Bishops Stortford).

2. Where is the largest and deepest Cold War bunker which is open to the public in South East England,

Kelvedon Hatch

3. What was the Whispering or Lawless Court and where in Essex was it held?

Rochford, although The Lawless or Whispering Court was established at Kingley Wood in Rayleigh possibly as early as the 13th century but is certainly recorded by the early 1600s.

The court began when the usually absent Lord of the Manor was woken up at midnight by a cockerel crowing and overheard some of his tenants plotting to kill him. As a punishment he instituted the practice of getting his tenant farmers to register to pay their rents at midnight, known as the 'lawless' hour, where they also had to swear their allegiance to their Lord in humble whispers. Latecomers and absentees were fined.

The court was moved to King's Hill in Rochford in the 17th century. A building called 'King's Hill' and the 'Whispering Post' still exist in East Street, Rochford. The tenant farmers marked the post with the sooty embers of their burning torches to 'sign in'. The practice ceased in 1892 as it had evolved into an event instead of a court, with tenant farmers enjoying a hearty meal and plenty of ale before walking by torchlight to the Whispering Post.

4. Which famous author was brought up in Thundersley by the strictly religious Wiggins family?

Bernard Cornwell. He was born in London in 1944. His father was Canadian airman William Oughtred and his mother was Englishwoman Dorothy Cornwell, a member of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. He was adopted and brought up in Thundersley by the Wiggins family who were members of the Peculiar People, a strict sect of pacifists who banned frivolity of all kinds, and even medicine up to 1930. Reacting to being raised by Christian Fundamentalists, he grew up rejecting all religions and became an atheist.

5. The old "Sun Inn" in Saffron Waldon(now no longer a pub) carries a pargetting design showing two men in combat. Who are they? What is Pargetting?

One of the panels, that with the man with a sword and the other with a long club, respectively represent Thomas Hickathrift and the Wisbech giant. Thomas Hickathrift was a mythical East Anglian giant-killerwhose exploits included slaying the Wisbech Giant.

Pargetting is believed to have been introduced to England in the sixteenth century by Henry VIII who imported Italian plasterers to decorate Nonsuch Palace. The craft was referred to as 'stucco' in Italy, but became known as 'pargetting' in England. Either patterns were stamped or scratched into the surface of wet plaster, and the most skilled pargetters created their own designs which they then modelled directly onto the wall using their fingers and a spatula to create designs in high or low relief.





6. On 1st July 1975, the formal turf-cutting ceremony for "A New Riverside Country Town" took place. Which one?

South Woodham Ferrers.

7. Why was the "The Crown pub" in South Benfleet renamed the "Half Crown" in the 1960's

The Half Crown was originally a Customs House to control smuggling – a significant part of the eighteenth century local economy. In 1868 it became the Crown and in 1969, when struck by a lorry, was renamed the Half-Crown.

8. Where is the 19th century local history author Philip Benton buried?

Benton's passion was local history, and he roamed the countryside collecting information about the villages, farms, and people. By 1876, the first instalment of The History of the Rochford Hundred was published. He died in 1898, aged 83, and is buried in Shopland. The church at Shopland suffered bomb damage and was demolished in the 1950s. The graveyard is now very overgrown.

9. The name of which Essex village means "heron's stream"?



10. Why did Thomas Cammock and Frances Rich swim their horse across the River Crouch at Fambridge?

To get to the other side sorry!

A monument in Maldon's All Saints Church recalls the long-forgotten story of a pair of runaway lovers, a frightened horse and a lost river crossing. High up on the wall of the north chapel is the monument to Thomas Cammock (1540-1602) and his family. Cammock's main achievement was securing the piping in of Maldon's first reliable water supply but it is his elopement with the daughter of a powerful Tudor that tells the story. Cammock had already fathered nine children by his first wife Ursula but sadly she died.

He began a relationship with Frances, the daughter of his employer Robert Rich. Rich was a member of a powerful dynasty. His father Richard Rich is infamous for his role in securing the executions of Thomas More and Bishop Fisher during the reign of Henry VIII. He also personally conducted the torture in the Tower of London of Anne Askew, accused of heresy. Lord Rich strongly disapproved of Cammock's proposed marriage to his daughter.

Thomas's decision to elope on horseback with Frances was a risky one but they set off from one of Rich's properties in Rochford with the intention of marrying in Maldon. Lord Rich instructed his son to pursue the couple, with a band of soldiers. The couple reached South Fambridge, which was connected with North Fambridge by a ferry. Unfortunately the ferry was on the wrong side of the river. Thomas was going to swim across to fetch it, but Frances begged him not to leave her, but to ford the river on their horse. Spooked by the strong current, the horse gave up part-way across, and turned back. It seems that the couple were initially apprehended by Frances's brother and his men, but somehow escaped and married.

Lord Rich took pity on the couple, forgave them and sanctioned their union. They lived in Maldon many years and had thirteen children to add to Thomas's nine. Cammock died in 1602.

The monument shows Thomas, his two wives, and all twenty-two of his children! The inscription records that he had four sons and five daughters by his first wife, and two sons and eleven daughters by his second.



Mavis Regan

Acknowledgements:

Rochford History
Saffron Waldon Town information
Heritage Craft
South Woodham Ferrers Local History Society
Rochford District Community Archive
Maldon News
Rochford Town Team

Miscellaneous

QUENDON is the name of the essex village beginning with Q.

The largest and deepest Cold War Bunker open to the public in South East England is at Kelvedon Hatch.

The Kelvedon Hatch bunker was built in 1952–53 as part of ROTOR. ROTOR was a programme to improve and harden Britain's air defence network. It was constructed by Peter Lind & Company of London who still trades today. The bunker was a hardened (three level 'R4') Sector Operations Centre (SOC) for RAF Fighter Command. It was to provide command and control of the London Sector of Fighter Command.

From the 1960s into the early 1990s, the UK government (Home Office) maintained the bunker as an emergency regional government defence site. Eventually in the early 1990s when nuclear threat was seen as diminished, the bunker was sold back to the farming family who had owned the land in the 1950s. It is now a Cold War museum and retains many of its original ROTOR and RSG/RGHQ features.

Info. Wikipedia.

The Lawless Court, formally the King's Court of the Manor of King's Hill, was an English court that began meeting in Kings Hill, Rochford, so called because of the "lawless" time at which it met (midnight).[1] According to tradition, the court was first created some time before 1661, after the Lord of the Manor of King's Hill was woken by a cock crowing, to discover a group of his vassals planning to murder him. Interrupting them, he convicted them of treason, for which their lands would be forfeit. As an act of clemency, he declared that they would be allowed to keep their lands in a state of "shameful service". Each year, the day the plot was discovered (the Wednesday after Old Michaelmas Day), the tenants were to assemble at midnight where the plot was discovered, where the Lord's Steward would whisper out their names as quietly as possible. Those tenants who did not answer to their name would be fined double rent for every hour they failed to do so. The tenants were then obliged to wait there until a cock crowed three times, at which point they were dismissed.[2]

The names of those tenants who answered were entered by the Steward with a piece of charcoal, ink being forbidden; in addition, no candles were allowed, with only natural light being permitted.[3] For its strange procedure, the Court gained a variety of names; most commonly the "Lawless Court", but also "The Whispering Court" and "The Court of Cockcrowing". The Court continued without fail until the 19th century, although it became a tradition only; no prosecutions or litigation ever took place in it, and it is sometimes formally known as the "Curia Sine Lege", or "court without a leet-day".[4] In later years there were many shortcuts in the court's procedure; most tenants simply paid their double rent at the Steward's office in the morning, preferring this to standing around in the damp, and a local man was employed to make the noise of a cock crowing after the court's business had been concluded.[5]

info. Wikipedia

Bernard Cornwell

Cornwell was born in London in 1944. His father was Canadian airman William Oughtred[1] and his mother was Englishwoman Dorothy Cornwell, a member of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. He was adopted and brought up in Thundersley, Essex, by the Wiggins family; they were members of the Peculiar People, a strict sect of pacifists who banned frivolity of all kinds, and even medicine up to 1930. Reacting to being raised by Christian Fundamentalists, he grew up rejecting all religions and became an atheist.[2]

After his adoptive father died, he changed his last name by deed poll from Wiggins to Cornwell, his birth mother's maiden name. Prior to that, he had used Bernard Cornwell as a pen name.[3] He met his father for the first time when he was 58, after telling a journalist on a book tour, "what I wanted to see in Vancouver was my real father."[1] There he met his half-siblings, with whom he shares many traits, and learned his genealogy.[3]

On the basis of his father's surname being Oughtred, he believes he is a descendant of Uhtred the Bold, upon whom he based the Saxon Stories book series.[4]

Cornwell was sent to Monkton Combe School in Somerset. He read history at University College London[5] between 1963 and 1966[6] and worked as a teacher after graduating. He attempted to enlist in the British armed services at least three times but was rejected on the grounds of myopia.

Following his work as a teacher, Cornwell joined the BBC's Nationwide and was later promoted to head of current affairs at BBC Northern Ireland. He then joined Thames Television as editor of *Thames News*.[7]

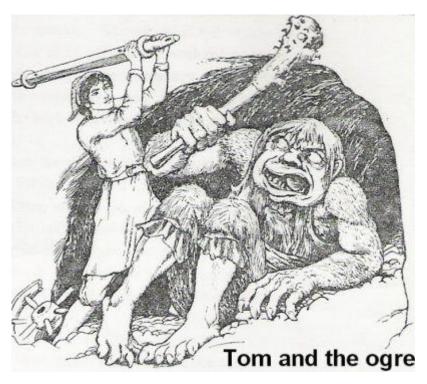
His first marriage ended in divorce in the 1970s.[3] He met his second wife, Judy, in 1978 in Edinburgh while he was working for BBC Northern Ireland; she was a travel agent from the US and the mother of three children from a previous marriage. He relocated to the United States in 1979 after marrying her. He was unable to get a United States Permanent Resident Card (green card), so he started writing novels, as this did not require a work permit.[1] He later became an American citizen.

Info: Wikipedia

Pargetting is a form of ornate Plasterwork on buildings.

So the legends say, was born Tom Hickathrift, "in the reign before William the Conqueror", the son of a poor labourer also called Thomas Hickathrift. His father died not long after Tom was born, and his poor old mother was forced to work day and night to support him, since he was very lazy, and ate a huge amount:

"for he was in height", says one story, "when he was but ten years of age, about eight feet, and in thickness five feet, and his hand was like unto a shoulder of mutton; and in all parts from top to toe, he was like unto a monster, and yet his great strength was not known". Tom used to drive his brewer's cart between Lynn and Wisbech, but because of a fierce giant or ogre that dwelt in the Marshland, had to make a long detour around. One day Tom became fed up with this, and on his next journey resolved to test the ogre's might. From his cave, the giant saw Tom coming and leapt out to meet the trespasser, saying "Do you not see how many heads hang upon yonder tree that have offended my law! But thy head shall hang higher than all the rest for an example". To which Tom then gave the classic riposte "A turd in your teeth for your news, for you shall not find me like one of them".



The giant, enraged, dashed back into his cave for his gigantic club, while Tom up-ended his cart and took the axle and wheel for a sword and shield. With these weapons, and after a mighty battle, Tom beat the twelve-foot high ogre into the ground and sliced off his head. After this deed Tom became the hero of the Marshland, and was henceforth known to all as '*Master*' Hickathrift (a formerly distinct title that lost its significance in the 17th century)

info: norfolktalesmyths.wordpress.com

South Woodham Ferrers

The Half Crown — Originally a Customs House to control smuggling — a significant part of the eighteenth century local economy. In 1868 it became the Crown and in 1969, when struck by a lorry, was renamed the Half-Crown.

Info: Benfleet Community Archive

A local historian, Phillip Benton is remembered today for being the author of The History of Rochford 100 – a detailed description of the histories of the surrounding areas, churches, people and landmarks. It was published in 1876.

Born in 1815 and raised in North Shoebury Hall, a Georgian manor with Elizabethan origins. which today is home to a blue plaque marking Phillips time there. The property itself is listed and valued at 2.25 million. Phillip would marry in 1843 and relocate to nearby Beauchamps in Shopland, another property which still stands today.

He and his wife would have 8 children and Philip would usually be found roaming the countryside collecting information about the area and its history for his book. He would marry a second time in 1878 and they would live at Shoebury hall. By 1898, Phillip was a widower once more, nearing the end of his life. He moved to a villa on Whitegate Road, Southend, where he spent the remainder of his days. He is buried in the graveyard of St Mary Magdalene Church in Shopland. ~The church has been demolished but the graveyard still exisits.

Rawreth is the village which name means "herons stream"

Info:fortheloveofhistory home.workpress.com



Rawreth Village Sign, showing a heron and a stream

info: Wikipe

1590s The Infamous Ferry Boat Crossing Captain Thomas Cammock and Frances Riche of Leeze and Rochford courting in secret, agreed to flee her parent's disapproval by riding off towards South Fambridge to take the ferry boat to Maldon. With her father on their heels, they reached the bank of the River Crouch to find the ferry on the other side. On horseback, the lovers entered the dark and stormy water, struggling against the tide. On reaching halfway, a servant in hot pursuit arrived at the bank and his horse whinnied, on hearing it Cammock's horse tried to turn back and with great difficulty the lovers prevented it from returning. They reached the north bank and rode on to Maldon. On seeing the strength of their love Lord Riche accepted the union.

Inbfo:ferryboatinnessex.com

January 2024 Local and Essex Quiz-Miscellaneous Pauline Harrington

Quendon. Quendon is in the parish of Quendon and Rickling in the Uttlesford district and is the only Essex village beginning with the letter "Q". It is on the B1383 between Saffron Walden and Bishop's

Stortford about half a mile from Rickling Green. The B1383 was once the A11 trunk road, the trunk road status being lost when the parallel M11 motorway was opened. The name Quendon comes from the Old English cwena which means queen or woman, and denu which means a valley owned by a queen or woman. It is believed the queen was Ricula, the wife of King Sledd of Essex. Ricula gave her name to



Rickling, the adjacent parish. Quendon's history is closely linked with that of its neighbour, Rickling Village. Quendon is mentioned in the Domesday Book as having 10 households lived in by 3 villagers, 4 smallholders and 3 slaves.

<u>Cold War Bunker</u>. The deepest and largest Cold War Bunker in the South East of England is at Kelvedon Hatch, Essex. It is a secret, nuclear bunker which was originally built for air defence but turned into a regional government headquarters as the Cold War progressed. World War II gradually



transformed into the Cold War in the 1950s. As it did so, a large area of farmland was requisitioned from the Parrish family near Brentwood, Essex so that a bunker could be built. The bunker was built in 1952 by the Air Ministry and it cost £1,500,000. It was to be used as a Special Operations Centre, which is an air defence station. The bunker's walls are 10 feet of reinforced concrete surrounded by a Faraday cage. It

consists of three storeys and descends 125 feet underground. Water tanks containing 24,000 gallons of water are above the bunker but still underground.

Whispering or Lawless Court' The Whispering or Lawless Court was set up, possibly as early as the 13th century, at Kingley Wood in Rayleigh, Essex, but was certainly recorded by the early

1600s. Kingley Wood was once owned by the crown and was also known as King's Wood, King's Hill Wood and Kingsley Wood. It is said that the court began when the Lord of the Manor (he was usually absent) was woken up at midnight by a cockerel crowing. He overheard some of his tenants plotting to kill him. He punished them by making his tenant farmers register to pay their rents at midnight which was known as "the lawless hour". At the same time they also had to swear their allegiance to their Lord in humble whispers. The court was moved to King's Hill in Rochford in the 17th century. In East Street, Rochford, there is a building called King's Hill and the Whispering Post. The Whispering Post was marked by the tenant farmers with the



embers of their burning torches to sign in. In 1892 this signing became an event and the court ended, the farmers then enjoyed a hearty meal and plenty of ale, after which they walked by torchlight to the Whispering Post.

Bernard Cornwell. Bernard Cornwell was adopted by the Wiggins family and had his name changed to Wiggins. As a young boy he was very unhappy because of their religious beliefs. They were members of the Peculiar People sect. This was a pacifist sect against frivolity of any kind and were



against medicine leading up to the 1930s. Bernard was born in London. His father, William Oughtred was a Canadian airman, and his mother Dorothy Cornwell was a member of a Women's Auxiliary Air Force. Bernard was brought up in Thundersley by the Wiggins family. When he grew up, Bernard grew out of Christian Fundamentalism religion of his adopted parents and became a non-believer. Cornwell became a US citizen and he and his wife live in Charleston, South Carolina. Bernard Cornwell is best known

for his novels about Sharpe and the Napolionic Wars. He has also written the Saxon Stories about the making of England.

The Old Sun Inn. The Old Sun Inn in Saffron Walden is a Grade 1 listed building dated from the 14th Century. It has pargetting dating from the 17th Century. Originally the inn was medieval houses, then an inn and has subsequently been in mixed commercial and domestic use. The Sun Inn is renowned

for the pargetting which is of two men fighting, namely Tom Hickathrift and the Wisbech Giant.

Pargetting is a waterproof or decorative plastering on building walls. It is common in Essex, Norfolk (where it is sometimes called pinking) and Suffolk. It comes from the Old French word "porgeter" which means to rough cast a wall. In fact pargetting is a technical and detailed craft, being the application of relief decoration to walls of



half-timbered houses and sometimes covering a whole wall. The designs are stamped, combed or modelled freehand into wet plaster.

The Half Crown Pub. The Half Crown Pub in Benfleet was once called "The Crown". In the late 1960s early 1970s, a lorry travelling down the hill past St Mary's Church, jack-knifed and demolished the front of The Crown Pub. The driver of the lorry was George James from Millwall. He was underneath his



lorry trying to release the handbrake which had jammed when he stopped at the traffic lights. The lorry rolled backwards down the hill and George managed to get clear of the wheels. He tried to get back into the cab of the lorry but was flung off. As the lorry continued to roll down the hill backwards, it jack-knifed broadside across the road and its trailer crashed into the once crowded saloon bar, only half an hour after its last customers had left. The lorry's trailer bounced off the Crown's wall and

swung across the road and smashed a window in the Hoy and Helmet. Eventually the pub was refurbished and its name was changed to The Half Crown.

 $\underline{ ext{Philip Benton.}}$ Philip Benton's family lived at North Shoebury Hall. He was born in 1815 and at the age of 22 he acquired an estate in Little Wakering. He married Eliza Squires in 1843 and they lived in Beauchamps and they had 8 children. They lived at Beauchamps for 23 years and then moved to Little

Wakering Hall. Philip was a local historian and went around the countryside collecting information about villages, farms and people. He wrote The History of Rochford Hundred and his work has been a valuable source of information for local historians. Philip's mother died in 1874 and was buried in North Shoebury churchyard. His wife also died that year and she was buried in Shopland. In 1878, Philip married Elizabeth Warren and they



moved to Shoebury Hall. Philip became very frail and ill over the next few years and moved to Victoria Villa in Southend. He died aged 83 in 1898 and is buried in Shopland. Many members of his family are buried in a family grave next to Philip and his two wives.

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m Rawreth.}\,$ Rawreth is a village in the Rochford District and is situated between Wickford and Rayleigh. The name means "herons' stream" as seen on the village sign. It is mainly an agricultural area, sparsely populated and has only a small amount of industry. Historically, most of the farmhouses were moated manor houses, some of which still exist. A stream passes under Church Road, Rawreth and joins the River Crouch near the old A130. Close to the bypassing new A130, at the south end of Church Road, is a milestone marked on the Ordnance Survey map, grid reference TQ773930. There are a number of other map symbols

in the Rawreth area, one is a blue horseshoe, which indicates horse riding or equitation, the art of horse riding.

Thomas Cammock and Frances Riche. In the 1590s Captain Thomas Cammock was courting Frances Riche in secret. They agreed to run away from the disapproval of her parents and rode off towards South Fambridge in order to take the ferry across the River Crouch to Maldon. However, being followed closely by Frances's father, they reached the bank of the Crouch to find that the ferry was already on the other side of the river. They decided to carry on and, on horseback, went into the stormy water, struggling

against the tide. When they were about halfway across, one of Frances's father's servants reached the bank of the river. His horse whinnied and Cammock's horse heard it. The horse tried to turn back but although it was very difficult, the lovers managed to stop it returning. They managed to reach the north bank and rode on to Maldon. Lord Riche realised that they truly loved each other and accepted their union.

<u>South Woodham Ferrers.</u> On 1st July1975 a ceremonial turf-cutting took place for a new riverside country town in Essex. This new town was South Woodham Ferrers. In 1889 the Great Eastern Railway built a station between the branch lines of Southminster and Maldon about a mile away from the

village of Woodham Ferrers from which the station took its name. The station and six workers' cottages essentially established a greenfield site which later became South Woodham Ferrers, although at that time it was an agricultural area with a few farms. In the second half of the 19th Century the railway helped form the growth of the town which became known as "plotland" development. An upsurge of interest in the area was seen in the years between the two world wars. By the end of the 1930s there was a growing

village which had a school, a Smallholders' Hall, three more churches and a Women's Institute Hall. In the 1970s the village changed considerably when private housing estates started being built around the railway station. In 1972 Essex County Council decided to develop the area into a "New Riverside Country Town".

Sources: Wikipedia, Google, Google Images, Rochford Town, Hadleigh History, Benfleet Community Archive, Ferryboat inn Essex, South Woodham Ferrers Local History,

Miscellaneous

1 Name the only Essex village beginning with the letter Q.

QUENDON: in north-west Essex in the Uttlesford district and is mentioned in the Doomsday book – so quite old.

2 Where is the largest and deepest Cold War bunker which is open to the public in South East England.

Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker, Brentwood. If you want to visit just follow the signs to 'Secret Bunker'.

3 What was the Whispering or Lawless Court and where in Essex was it held? The Lawless Court was at Kings Hill in Rochford. Established about 1660, as the King's Court of the Manor of King's Hill, so called because of the "lawless" time

as it met at midnight.

Having foiled a plot to murder the Lord of the Manor, those attempting to

murder him were, amongst other things, required to assemble every year at midnight on the day of the plot and the Lord's Steward would whisper out their names as quietly as possible. Those that didn't respond to the whisper would be further punished. Hence also called the Whispering Court.

5 The old "Sun Inn" in Saffron Waldon(now no longer a pub) carries a pargetting design showing two men in combat. Who are they? What is Pargetting?

Pargeting is the plaster or rendered wall, part of a building, which has a profiled design. You can see many throughout Essex, both old and new.

The Inn was established in the 1,300s and visitors included Samuel Pepys and Oliver Cromwell. Its pargetting shows two men, Tom Hickathrift, a local hero, fighting the Wisbech Giant. Tom is fabled to have been a simple labourer at the time of the Norman Conquest and to have killed a giant in the marsh at Tilney, Norfolk armed only with an axle-tree stuck into a cartwheel.

6 On 1st July 1975, the formal turf-cutting ceremony for A New Riverside Country Town) took place. Which one?

This one was a challenge! South Woodham Ferrers New Town. South Woodham Ferrers itself is quite old but in 1972 a scheme was initiated by Essex County Council to develop the area into a 'New Riverside Country Town'.

7 Why was the "The Crown pub" in South Benfleet renamed the "Half Crown" in the 1960's?

Because a lorry ran into the pub named The Crown and demolished much of it. The smaller repaired pub was renamed the Half Crown.

8 Where is the 19th century local history author Philip Benton buriedPhilip Benton (1815-1898) wrote the "History of Rochford Hundred" in two volumes published in 1867. It appears he was buried at St Mary Magdalen Churchyard, Shopland (located somewhere between Southend and Wakering.

The church was demolished in 1957 but it appears that the churchyard remains and is the subject of the Shopland Churchyard Restoration Project.

9 The name of which Essex village means "heron's stream"?

Rawreth. Presumably based on herons maybe living on the moat water surrounding many of the manor houses.

A Heron and a Stream are depicted on the village sign.



10 Why did Thomas Cammock and Frances Rich swim their horse across the River Crouch at Fambridge?

Around 1590: Captain Thomas Cammock and Frances Riche, not gaining her parents approval for the liaison, eloped hoping to go to his home in Maldon. They arrived at South Fambridge to take the ferry to Maldon but it was on the other side. With Frances father in hot pursuit they swam across the Crouch with the horse. Lord Riche eventually accepted the union.