

INHABITANTS OF WALBERSWICK ACCORDING TO MAGGS' DIARY.

Inhabitants of Walberswick according to Maggs' Diary.

BANKS	John. Landlord of the "Blue Anchor" drowned in well at Benall	21.10.1824
"	Sarah, Ann of Ww. a daughter (14th. child) died	14. 4.1851
BARBER	Amos married Ann Banks (James Maggs' niece) at Ww.	6. 9.1830
BAILEY	Thomas. Cottage in Ww.	27. 7.1854
BLOOMFIELD	His cottage (near the church) burnt down.	April 1870
BORRET	William decs. Sale of his farm (died prob. early 1857)	18. 6.1857
CADY	James of Ww.d.1850. His son William Cady lost at sea Jan.-March 1849	24. 1.1850
CADY	Lewis. Seaman of Ww. lost at sea betw. Yarmouth and Genoa	21.12.1845
CHAPMAN	William. Farmer, owner of land where windmill built. Land sold £680.	28. 1.1839
CLARKE	Two brothers drowned off Dunwich. Interred at Ww.	20. 5.1840
COBB	William of Ww. Raiding oyster beds belonging to Francis Everard.	1726
CRISP	John. Master mariner died at ww.	22. 9.1834
CRISP	Jo. Drowned in the "Dunwich"	4. 4.1815
"	" His widow married Balentine Brown Easter Tuesday	1820
"	" " Mary, now Mrs. Brown died	5. 9.1853
CURDY	James of Ww. died	12. 9.1830
CURDY	Lewis. Auction of his cottage and stables: £ 135 at Ww.	8.10.1841
CURDY	Rachel (Rebecca) , widow of James died	16.10.1838
CURDY	William. Sale of house and property: £ 62 at Ww.	29.12.1842
Easey	Anne. Daughter of Wm. Easey drowned herself in rainwater tub	26. 3.1837
EASEY	William, her father was landlord of the "Anchor"	"
EASEY	James, of Ww. died	28. 7.1846
EASEY	John, of Ww. His effects sold	7.12.1843
EASEY	Susan. Sale of her cottage in Ww.	7. 1.1843
ELMY	G. Sale of his effects in Ww.	18.10.1862
ELSE	Geopge. Sale of his effects in Ww.	10. 5.1856
ENGLISH	James, 15, drowned	1. 7.1845
"	William, 17, drowned	" " "
"	Robert, their father, fisherman b. 1801	1801
"	" , his fishing smack "John & Elizabeth" wrecked at Ww.	8. 8.1842
FISK	John. Officer of Inl. Rev. m. Eleanor Markham, daughter of Obadiah Palmer	5. 5.1853
GALER	John. Fisherman from Ww. drowned	23. 7.1821
GARRARD	Ann, widow of Edward Garrard, died at Ww.	3.12.1818
GAUNTLETT	James, alias Strawberry died at Ww. aged 77	5. 3.1823
GAYFER	George, died at Ww.	21. 9.1857
GAYFER	Samuel, moved from Ww. to Reydon Cottage. He died prob. 1855	2. 6.1852
"	Mrs. Sale of her furniture. She left Ww.	8. 7.1861
GORRARD	Simon died at Ww. 80 y.old. Was serv. to Mr. Whiting in Southwold	17. 7.1848
HARRISON	Thomas died at Ww. aged 67	25. 9.1857
HARRISON	Thomas Rev. officiated marriage at Ww. betw. John Fisk & Eleanor Palmer	5.5. 53
Kerridge	Richard. Fisherman of Ww. drowned at this bay (Southwold)	16.12.1831
LAWRENCE	William. Landlord if the "Bell Inn" at Ww. died	12. 1.1837
Leverett	John. Living in Ww. in 1850	1850
MAGGS	James. (The diarist) Born in Ww. at the "Blue Anchor"	9. 2.1797
"	" married Elizabeth Roberts at Ww. Church	16.11.1818
MARSH	James. Labourer and invalid found dead at the "Anchor " 70 y. old inq.	7.12.1872
MIZZELBROOK	Samuel of Ww. hangs himself aged 20	11. 5.1820

Inhabitants of Walberswick according to Maggs' Diary contd.

OSBORNE	Mrs. at Ww. died in April 1865	April 1865
PALMER	Obadiah living in Ww. His Daughter Eleanor M. married John Fisk	5. 5.1853
PEARSON	Mrs. Her semi-det. cottage near the church burnt down	April 1870
ROBERTS	Elizabeth married James Maggs at Ww. church	16.11.1818
ROBINSON	widow of Francis R. 80, drowned herself at the "Anchor" in a rainwater butt, like her granddaughter Ann Easey	20. 9.1842 26. 3.1837
SEWELL	William, living in a cottage at Ww.	27. 7.1854
SCARLETT	William, serv. to Mr. John leverett killed in road accident	29.12.1852
SIMPSON	Mary, lived in Ww. prior to 30.5.1848, when she m. Benj., Harward Carter	30.5.48
SMITH	James. Parish clerk of Ww. was accd. klld. by a waggon 47	20. 8.1827
SMITH	John snr. died at Ww.	3. 4.1825
SMITH	Thomas. Fisherman from Ww. drowned	23. 7.1821
SPALDING	FINED £ 5 for brawl in Ww. church	30. 7.1862
THREADGATE	Mr. Sale of effects at Ww.	15. 1.1847
TUTHILL	Thomas. Teacher, late of Wenhaston, died at Ww. (J.Maggs' teacher)	17. 6.1835
"	Margaret, his wife died	23. 1.1825
WALES	Culver, merchant died at Ww.	26.12.1776
WALES	Isaac died at Ww.	17. 7.1831
"	Robert, son of the late Isaac Wales drowned himself on his 50. bthd.	23. 4.1835
WIGG	Edward. farmer of Ww. died	13. 5.1862
WILLIAMS	William. Shipbuilder in Ww. (built the "Suffolk") in	1804
WOODS	Charles. Weak in intellect, drowned in Ww. Was over 70	1876
WRIGHT	John of Ww. died there 77 y. old	23. 4.1844
WRIGHT	Nat(haniel) of Ww. died there	29.12.1848

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Population of Walberswick May 30/31 1831:	Inhabited Houses	66
	Families	66
	Uninhabited Houses	5
	Employed in Agriculture	30 families
	" " Trade	18
	Mariners, Fishermen, widows	18

Extracts from James Maggs Diary relating to Walberswick 1726-1876.

- 1726 The lease for oysterbeds at Woodsend Creek downwards to Bars belonging to Francis Everard was extended for a further period and the Corporation went to law to defend them from raids by William Cobb of Walberswick.
- 26.12.1776 Calver Wales, merchant died at Walberswick.
- 1787 Thomas Maggs and his wife Elizabeth took over the "BLUE ANCHOR" inn at Walberswick.
- 9.2.1797 James Maggs, the Diarist born at the "BLUE ANCHOR", Walberswick.
- 1804 The ship "Suffolk" built in Walberswick.
- March 1808 The people of Southwold, Walberswick and Dunwich were woken up at 2 am by heavy gunfire from sea and thought that the French had landed. They could distinguish a large vessel from which the shots had come, which was then making sail from the shore and escaping towards the north as near to the beach as possible. Several shots, one a 32 pounder were later found.
- 1813 A new sluice was laid down and a bridge built at Walberswick. Cost £1.100. The stone let in front thereof has B.B.1813 upon it and is now in my possession. (B.B. signifies Barne Barne)
- 1814 This bridge fell in and another built but at a trifling expence to the other. 19.6.1828 Barne Barne of Dunwich died.
- 1817 The school at Walberswick opened by James Maggs.
- 16.11.1818 James Maggs and Elizabeth Roberts married at Walberswick Church.
- 3.12.1818 Edward Garrard, a fish merchant died at Walberswick. His widow Ann died on 14. 7.1851 aged 85 at Walberswick.
- 9.12.1818 Maggs' aunt Snell died at Walberswick.
- 11.5.1820 Samuel Mizzlebrook of Walberswick hangs himself aged 20.
- 23.7.1821 John Galer and Thomas Smith, fishermen from Walberswick were engaged in trawling in this bay when a sudden squall of wind upset the boat and both were drowned. Smith was taken up at Easton and interred in the cliffs.
- 27  
7.7.1821 Fire. A row of cottages, 4 in number accidentally burnt down in Walberswick. They were the property of Sir C. Blois situated near the "BLUE ANCHOR" Public House and were called the "Corner Houses" the land on which they stood is now a garden belonging to Mr. Johnson, ship builder.
- 5.3.1823 James Gauntlett, alias Strawberry died at Walberswick aged 77.
- 20.5.1824 Several Tumuli (unmeanly called "Fairy Hills") were here and at Walberswick opened by some people from London and 3 urns were found containing, as supposed the remains of the illustrated dead.
- 21.10.1824 John Banks, the landlord of the "BLUE ANCHOR" drowned in a well at Benhall on his way home one night from Wickham Market.
- 4.7.1825 The Schooner "Hornet" launched at Walberswick.
- 3.4.1825 John Smith senr. died at Walberswick.
- 24.2.1827 Owing to a tremendous gale the previous day the harbour of Southwold was blocked up and coals had to be carried to Walberswick. The same incident happened on 6.2.1830.

- 1.3.1827 Sale by auction of Mary Bank's (James Maggs' sister) effects at the "BLUE ANCHOR" Public House, Walberswick.
- 1.3.1827 William Easey became landlord to the "BLUE ANCHOR" until the 11.10.1844 when Isaak Crisp took over the "BLUE ANCHOR". Thomas Maggs and his wife Ann took the "BLUE ANCHOR" in 1787. At his death on the 31.8.1799 his wife took over. On the 1.3.1812 she handed it over to her son-in-law John Banks and his wife Mary took over at his death on the 21.10.1824 until the 1.3.1827 when William Easey took over.
- 20.8.1827 James Smith, Parish Clerk of Walberswick was accidentally killed by jumping off the shafts of a waggon he was driving.
- 11.4.1828 John Bokenham married Patience Spooore at Walberswick. Mr. Bokenham died on the 11.10.1837 47 years old.
- April 1828 A dwelling house and Lime Kiln built at Walberswick on left hand side of the causeway leading to Dunwich by Mr. Cullingford.
- 30.5.1828 Mr. Efferson of Bungay erected a windmill at Walberswick upon a piece of land purchased off Mr. William Chapman. Sept. 8. completed, first tenant Mr. Woods from Lowestoft - 23.4.1829 when Mr. Samuel Gayfer (died 7.4.1855) hired it. Afterwards purchased by his son George E. 25.5.1861. Sold by auction to Mr. Smith of Halesworth on 8.6.1861.
- 24.11.1829 Heavy gale from the East. 3 Vessels and crew lost off here. 1 Vessel went ashore at Walberswick, 1 man perished, 2 Vessels on shore to the southward of Dunwich - total wrecks - crews saved - was a heavy snowfall.
- 6.2.1830 Owing to a tremendous gale the harbour of Southwold was blocked up and coals had to be carried to Walberswick. (like on 24.2.1827)
- 6.9.1830 Amos Barber married (James Maggs' niece) Mary Ann Banks at Walberswick.
- 12.9.1830 James Curdy died at Walberswick. His wife Rachel died 16.10.1838.
- 1831 James Maggs has been chosen Census (first) Enumerator and was to act on that and subsequent occasions.
- 31.5.1831 Population of the Parish of Walberswick: (first census)
- |                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Inhabited houses =            | 66          |
| Families =                    | 66          |
| Uninhabited houses =          | 5           |
| Employed in Agriculture =     | 30 Families |
| " " Trade =                   | 18 "        |
| Mariners, Fishermen, Widows = | 18          |
- 17.7.1831 Isaak Wales died at Walberswick.
- 16.12.1831 Richard Kerridge of Walberswick, fisherman was drowned in this Bay.
- 9.7.1832 Two brothers named Wyatt of Kirkley and a young man named Colby drowned off Easton while trawling. One of the Wyatt was trawled up by James Cady of Walberswick and buried there a few days later.
- 24.9.1834 John Crisp, Master Mariner died at Walberswick. His wife Mary on 5.9.1853.

- 23.4.1835 Charles Wales, son of the late Isaak Wales (v.p.2) drowned himself near Bound Post. He was interred on 28.4.1835 in Walberswick on his 50th. birthday.
- 17.6.1835 Thomas Tuthill (James Maggs' teacher) late of Wenhaston, died at Walberswick.
- 11.10.1835 Amos Barber (James Maggs' nephew) and his family left Walberswick and took a windmill at Hoxne. He had been in employment of Samuel Gayfer of Walberswick. Barber returned into Mr. Gayfer's employ and continued in it until 21.9.1857 when he came to reside at Southwold.
- 1837 James Maggs became first Secretary of the Medical Dispensary.
- 12.1.1837 William Lawrence of the "BELL" Inn at Walberswick died.
- 26.3.1837 Ann, daughter of Mr. William Easey of the "ANCHOR" Inn at Walberswick drowned herself in a rain water tub upon the premises and very singular her grandmother, relict of Mr. Francis Robinson of Walberswick - did then and there on the 20.9.1842 drown herself in a rain water tub. 80 years of age.
- 28  
3.1.1839 William Chapman, farmer died at Walberswick.
- 20.5.1840 Two brothers named Clarke of Walberswick were trawling off Dunwich when a sudden squall of wind upset their boat and both were drowned. On the 28. inst. the eldest was trawled up and interred. On the 14.6. the youngest was found floating in this Bay, brought ashore and interred with his brother at Walberswick.
- 4.6.1840 Sale of William Chapman's estate, Walberswick to Mr. Borret £ 680.
- Nov. 1840 The brig "Request" of Newcastle Baines went ashore between Walberswick and Dunwich.
- 8.4.1841 James Maggs gave up keeping school at Walberswick since 1817. (This schoolbuilding has been converted into a private dwelling in the early 1980s)
- 23.5.1841 The body of a man in sailors attire was picked up off Easton by William Curdy, fisherman and taken to Walberswick, there interred.
- 8.10.1841 Auction sale at Walberswick. Mr. Lewis Curdy's cottage, stable £ 135.
- 8.9.1842 Fishing smack "John & Elizabeth" belonging to Robert English of Walberswick was wrecked on the beach.
- 29.12.1842 Sale at Walberswick of House, the property of William Curdy. £ 62.
- 7.1.1843 Sale at Walberswick of cottage, the property of Mrs. Susan Easey.
- 3.11.1843 The "Sally", Welham, of and for Ipswich, was driven ashore at Walberswick in a gale on it's way south from Goole laden with coals. The master was washed overboard and drowned. (Newscutting 3.11.1843)
- 7.12.1843 Sale of furniture and effects of Mr. John Easey of Walberswick. Died on 28.7.1846.
- 23.4.1844 John Wright aged 77 died at Walberswick.
- 4.10.1844 Sale of furniture of William Easey at the "BLUE ANCHOR" for rent.
- 13.1.1845 The "Princess Alice" of Newcastle, George Manderson master was on the night of the 13th inst. at about 10 o'clock run down by the "Voyager" of Southshields off Southwold. The crew was obliged

to abandon her and at about 4 o'clock in the morning of the 14th she went ashore on the beach at Walberswick, about half a mile to the south of the pier.

- 1.7.1845 Robert English and his two sons, William 17 and James 15 while trawling were caught in a squall which upset the boat. Both brothers were drowned but their father kept afloat by holding on to an oar for nearly an hour 'till Jo B. Hurr with Benjamin Herrington's boat and James May went to his assistance. William's body was picked up at Easton on 6.7. and on the 8.7. his brother James at nearly the same spot. Both interred at Walberswick at the same time.
- 21.12.1845 Seaman Lewis Cady of Walberswick lost on voyage from Yarmouth to Genoa on the "Pegasus" shipping herrings.
- 25.12.1846 Opening of the Primitive Methodist Chapel at Walberswick with a sermon preached by Mr. W. Sapcoat. (This chapel is now a private dwelling)
- 15.1.1847 Sale of Mr. Thredgate's (dec.) effects at Walberswick.
- 17.6.1847 Put to sale (unsuccessful) Freehold Messuage & Land at Walberswick. Property of Mrs. Simpson.
- 30.4.1848 Mr. Boon of Walberswick accidentally drowned in a sluice in that parish.
- 30.5.1848 Benjamin Howard Carter married to Mrs. Mary Simpson at Walbersw.
- 17.7.1848 Simon Gorrard, servant to Mr. Whiting died at Walberswick.
- 29.12.1848 Mr. Nat Wright died at Walberswick.
- 22.6.1849 John Banks and Amos Barber (nephews of James Maggs) presented Mr. T.W.Thompson with a very handsome Bible from the inhabitants of Walberswick for his great attention to them in relig. duties.
- 17.10.1849 Notice of Assignment of the goods of Arthur Baldret Gray of the Tuns Inn, Yoxford, innkeeper and farmer to Samuel Gayfer of Walberswick, merchant and brewer and John Bicker of Wangford, timber merchant.
- 5.12.1849 Heavy gale. A boat belonging to Pearl of Walberswick was observed to be in great danger and was brought safely to land with a crew of 7 by the Southwold Life Boat.
- 26.1.1850 Strong wind - the "Anna Maria" of South Shields ran on board off here by a large Bark and immediately went down. -Crew all perished, except 1 man named Hunter. William Cady, the son of Mr. James Cady of Walberswick was one who perished.
- 6.7.1850 Sold to Mr. John Leverett of Walberswick - the late Henry Oldring's real estate for £ 56.
- 20.11.1850 Southwold fire engine attends the fire at Walberswick of the cottage of a widow named Baker. Before it could get there, the cottage, it's furniture, a fat hog in an adjoining sty were totally consumed.
- 23.11.1850 Samuel Gayfer, merchant (mill owner), on his way home from Halesworth to Walberswick with two of his children, was thrown from his gig as he approached Wenhaston. His horse had taken fright at the light from a gipsy's tent pitched at the roadside.
- 18.2.1851 James Maggs to auction: (1) shipwreck on beach at Walberswick near Southwold harbour, of the "Jeanne D'Arc" of Boulogne, 135 tons. on the 13.3.1851

- 8.5.1851 Samuel Gayfer informs his friends and the public that he has taken over the Southwold Brewery in conjunction with his business at Walberswick and Yoxford. (Newscutting)
- 2.6.1852 Samuel Gayfer removed from Walberswick to Reydon Cottage.
- 29.12.1852 William Scarlett, servant to Mr. John Leverett of Walberswick killed. Deceased was returning home with his team when near Walberswick Church some colts were crossing the road, frightened his horses, knocked him down and caused instant death. Interred at Westleton.
- 4.2.1853 The "Alnwick" of Blyth, Jarvis master, went on shore upon Walberswick beach. 8 got off by Mr. Benjamin Herrington & crew and taken into harbour. Recd. £ 51.
- 5.5.1853 Mr. John Fisk, Officer of the Inland Revenue was married to Eleanor Markham, daughter of Obadiah Palmer by Rev. Thomas Harrison at Walberswick.
- 18.10.1853 Married at Raveningham : Mr. James Tooke to my daughter Eliza.
- 30.12.1853 James Maggs to auction the Wreck of the brig "Sheraton Grange" of Sunderland, 261 tons at Southwold and Walberswick, (Newscutt.)
- 27.7.1854 Cottages at Walberswick auctioned by James Maggs at the "Old Swan" Southwold. Occupied by William Easey, William Sewell and Thomas Bailey. Nearly all Walberswick belongs to Sir C. Blois. (Newscutt.)
- 2.11.1855 Sale of the late Samuel Gayfer's stock in trade at Southwold and on the 3rd. Nov. at Walberswick.
- 10.5.1856 Sale of Georg Else's effects at Walberswick.
- 12.5.1856 Sale of Wreck - Wm. IV - at Walberswick. Edmund Stanley, master.
- 18.6.1857 Sale of farm at Walberswick belonging to the late William Borret.
- 6.10.1857 Auction at Walberswick of property of Mr. W. Borret, dec.
- 4.2.1858 Sale of fishing boats at Walberswick.
- 1.11.1859 The "Hero" of Sunderland ashore at Walberswick - Crew saved.
- 23.5.1860 James Maggs went to London with Mr. Thomas Durrant and Mr. J.R. Gooding. They were subpoenaed to Westminster Hall as witnesses - Leverett v. Bradbeer - respecting the illegality or informality of a Bill of Sale - given by Cross of Walberswick to Mr. Leverett of a fishing boat "Rock" and part of nets.
- 8.7.1861 Sale of Mrs. Gayfer's furniture - who left Walberswick 1st. inst.
- 2.11.1861 Three cottages close to Mr. Wigg's farmstead destroyed at Walberswick after a child under six had been playing with matches in one of the cottages, occupied by a labourer called Knights. Hiding itself under a bed in an attic, it was only discovered just five minutes before the thatched roof fell in. The lives of others were also in peril due to the cheapness of lucifer matches.
- 17.3.1862 F.H. Vertue, elected surgeon - for Southwold and Walberswick in the room of Dr. Williams (dec. Jan. 1862)
- 13.5.1862 Mr. Edward Wiggs of Walberswick died. He was a farmer.
- 15.3.1862 Freeman to auction residences and land at Walberswick at the "Bell"
- 30.7.1862 The Reverend E.L. Blackman, curate of Walberswick and Blythburg, brings a case against M. Spalding for a "brawl" in Walberswick Church. Spalding fined £ 5 on two counts at Halesworth Petty Session.

- 18.10.1862 Walberswick. Sale of G.Elmy - for Mr. R.Barnes.
- 23.4.1865 Mrs. Osborne's Valuation. Walberswick.
- 30.12.1869 James Maggs to auction the wreck of the "Elsinore" of Elsinore, 600 tons, at Walberswick.
- April 1870 Double cottage close to Walberswick Church inhabited by an old woman called Pearson and a man called Bloomfield and his family, burnt down. Belonging to Sir J.R.Blois it was old and thatched and the outhouses were chiefly built of furze faggots. Another fire at St. Helena farm, occupied by Mr. Briggs, destroyed some wheat stacks and was caused by children playing with lucifer matches. (Newscutting)
- 7.12.1872 Inquest at the "ANCHOR", Walberswick upon James Marsh, labourer who had been found dead in bed after being invalid for many years. (Newscutting)
- 1876 Charles Woods, over 70 and weak in intellect, who had moved from Southwold to Dunwich, drowned while returning from Walberswick. Banks, the bootmaker, had taken him to the "BLUE ANCHOR" Public House, when he found him wandering the previous day. (Newscutting)

- 42 I 1795 Nov. 6. A tremendous heavy gale of wind and exceedingly high tide, much higher than ever remembered by any person living.
- 49 1806 June 9. Days of storm
- 46 1799 Febr. 23. Heavy snow
- 54 1816 Wet and late harvest
- 56 1821 July 23. Sudden squall of wind upset trawler and John Galer & Thomas Smith drowned.
- 61 1825 Febr. 3. An extraordinary high tide flowing - not since 1795 - flooding Reydon marshes
- 44 1827 Jan. 26. A tremendous gale of wind - 14 vessels wrecked on shore betw. Easton & Lowestoft
- 67 1827 Oct. 31. High tide, raging and destructive.
- 68 1828 March 11 High tide. Equally as high as that of Oct. 31. 1827, but not so raging.
- 72 1828 Nov. 24 Heavy gale from the East and snow. 3 vessels unknown and crew lost off them at Walberswick.
- 75 1832 May 26  $\frac{1}{2}$  one p.m. we were visited with an awful thunderstorm. A ball of electric fluid fell on Gun Hill (Southwold)
- 76 1832 July 9. Sudden squall of wind capsized trawler. Two brothers Wyatt drowned. One body was trawled up by James Curdy of Ww. and buried there.
- 78 1833 June 20. Terrific thunderstorm which killed a cow, the property of John Newson.
- 92 1835 Dec. 19. Tremendous gale from E.N.E. - 23 vessels on shore betw. Kessingland and Corton. 40 souls lost.
- 96 1836 Dec. 24. Gale from N.E. Heavy fall of snow, roads impassable.
- 97 1837 Jan. 2. Heavy fall of snow, roads impassable.
- 9, 1837 March 26. Heavy fall of snow.
- 103 1838 Jan. 30-Febr. 1. Heavy fall of snow., similar to that of Jan 2. 1837.
- 103 1838 March 6/7. Heavy fall of snow, deeper than those of Jan. 30/31 & Febr. 1. last.
- 104 1838 May 12/15. Heavy falls of snow. 5-6 inches deep.
- 107 1840 March 23.-April 5. A heavy fall of snow.
- 109 1840 Aug. 17. Gale of wind S.W.
- 45 1840 Nov. 13. Tremendous gale from the E.S.E. Between Ww. and Dunwich the brig "Request" of Newcastle Baines went ashore - coal laden - the crew got to their boats - when seeing great danger in landing, 4 of the 10 of the crew got to the wreck again, 6 perished.
- 46 1841 Nov. 14. Gale S.E.
- 46 1841 Nov. 19. Gale increased.
- 118 1843 Jan. 13. Gale.
- 127 1845 May 21. Strong wind N.E. and heavy rain.
- 128 1845 Oct. 21. An unusual high tide.
- 129 1845 Dec. 11. Thursday, an extraordinary high tide, not seen since 1795, town and marshes [flooded].
- 9 II 1848 May 28. Thunderstorm and heavy rain.
- 11 1848 Aug. 4. Thunderstorm and heavy rain. 14 lambs killed by lightning.
- 17 1848 Aug. 10. Thunderstorm and heavy rain..
- 55 1852 Aug. 6. Heavy fall of rain and hail and thunder.
- 50 1852 Nov. 16. Heavy fall of snow.
- 65 1853 Apr. 25. Gales.
- 67 1853 June 24. Heavy thunderstorm. Some lightning damage.
- 72 1854 Jan. 1. Snow and frost for 4 days.
- 74 1854 Febr. 16/17. Strong wind N.E. & snow.
- 53 1854 Febr. 18. Fall of snow for 6 days.
- 92 1857 Sept. 3. Fearful thunderstorms.
- 93 1858 March 1. Heavy fall of snow.
- 97 1858 June 5. Severe thunderstorm. House struck at Halesworth.
- 101 1859 Dec. 18. Heavy fall of snow. Also on 19th. and 20th.
- 108 1862 March 21. High tide.
- 110 1862 Dec. 21. Extraordinary high tides. Great damage at Southwold.
- 114 1864 Dec. 22. Gale from the East.
- 114 1865 Febr.
- 116 1865 May 9. Severe thunderstorm 5 am.
- 116 1865 May 30. Strong gale from the West.
- 117 1865 June 1. Heavy rain.
- 120 1868 Sept. 24. Sudden blast of wind.

Blockages of the Harbour between Southwold and Walberswick. From Maggs' Diary.

- 65 I 1827 24.2. Harbour blocked up. Coals were carted to Walberswick.  
 65 I 1827 Between 1805-1827 Harbour blocked 13 times and reopened at the expense of £ 310.5.0.  
 79 I 1833 Harbour choked and had to be dredged. Aug.22. cost of dredging £ 1500.  
 65 I 1839 5.4. Harbour blocked up to the 14th. April. Dug out and blocked again next day.  
 65 I 1839 10-11.5. Harbour blocked up. Heavy gale from East Beach.  
 2 II 1839 Harbour choked up and had to be dredged. Able to walk to Walberswick  
 65 I 1843 26.3. Harbour blocked up - so as to permit persons to walk to Walberswick.  
 79 II 1855 12.2. Harbour blocked.  
 96 II 1858 7.4. Harbour blocked.

Crimes in Walberswick. From Maggs' Diary.

- 37 I 1750 A black named Toby Gill was gibbeted upon Blythburgh Walks, now called Toby's Walks, for the murder or rather "ravishing" of a woman in a field close by called Mickle Field - there was a barn upon those Walks called Toby's Barn, where this Man used to resort, which was taken down about the year 1843-4. The two Posts that formed the gibbet are now in a Cart-Lodge at "Westwood Lodge" and has upon them T.G.1750. After his body hanging in chains for some years the remains were interred upon the spot.
- \* In the "Family of Bokenham or Bokenham" by Henry Maudslay (1884) p.166, the ancestor of the Bokenhams of Southwold is said to have died as a result of a fall from his horse at the execution of Black Toby, a highwayman [sic] at Blythburgh in 1750.
- 42 I 1793 25. July. H.M. Cutter "Hunter" fell into engagement with a smuggling Luggger at this bay and from the bursting of one of the Cutters Guns, two of her men were so much injured that one Man named John D.... died at the old Swan the following day.
- 29 I 1726 William Cobb of Walberswick. Raiding oyster beds belonging to Francis Everard.  
footnote

Accidents and Suicides in Walberswick. From Maggs' Diary.

- 66 I 1827 6.8. Wm. Watson, who on being upon a Visit in this Town [Southwold] was amusing himself at the Harbour by sending his dog into the sea and fearing the dog would be drowned - attempted to save him, was unfortunately drowned himself.
- 66 I 1827 20.8. Mr. Jas. Smith of Walberswick Parish Clerk - accidentally killed himself by jumping off the shafts of a Waggon which he was driving.
- 75 I 1831 23.4. In his 49th. year Charles, son of Mr. Isaac Wales - drowned himself by running into the sea, near the Bound Post. He has been in a very low way for some time. He was interred in Ww. on the 28th., his 50th. birthday.
- 75 I 1831 16.12. Richard Kerridge of Walberswick, Fisherman, was unfortunately drowned in this Bay.
- 81 I 1833 11.9. A Man's body picked up in the River Blyth. Verdict: found drowned.
- 97 I 1837 26.3. Ann, daughter of Mr. Willm. Easey, Anchor Inn Walberswick drowned herself in a Rain Water Tub - upon the premises and very singular, her grandmother did the same on 20.9.1842. Relict of Francis Robinson
- 1842
- 120 I 1841 23.5. The body of a Man in Sailors attire picked up off Easton, by Wm. Curdy, Fisherman and taken to Walberswick, there interred. In his trouser pocket was part of a letter supposed from his sister, dated Scalloway March 1st. 1841 - Signed Catherine & something like "Wason".
- 120 I 1843 20.9. The body of a sailor washed into Harbour - I searched his pockets et nothing about him to lead who he was -

Biography of the diarist JAMES MAGGS and his family.

- 14.5.1782 Thomas Maggs married Ann Snell (parents) at St. Edmund's Church, Southwold. They settled in Dunwich.
- 11.7.1784 Mary, their first child, was baptised at Dunwich.
- 13.3.1786 Ann, their second child, was baptised at Dunwich.
- 1787 Thomas Maggs and his wife took over the "BLUE ANCHOR" inn at Walberswick.
- Bapt.  
13.5.1787 William Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR". Died the same year at Ww.
- 17.4.1788 Sarah Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR" at Walberswick
- 24.5.1789 William Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR". Died the same year at Ww.
- 18.7.1790 Maria  
31.7.1790 William Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR". Died 1826 at sea.
- 9.9.1792 James Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR". Died 1793 at Walberswick.
- 13.10.1793 Thomas Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR". Died 1794 at Walberswick.
- 9.1.1795 Thomas Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR". Died 1795 at Walberswick.
- 31.1.1796 James Maggs born at the "BLUE ANCHOR". Died 1796 at Walberswick.
- b.9.2.1797 JAMES MAGGS (the diarist) born at the "BLUE ANCHOR" at Walberswick.
- 1804 James Maggs went to school at Wenhaston.
- 1817 James Maggs opened the school at Walberswick.
- 16.11.1818 James Maggs and Elizabeth married at Walberswick Church.
- 9.12.1818 Maggs' aunt Snell died at Walberswick
- 1821-1849 James Maggs was secretary to seven friendly societies.
- 1823 James Maggs was elected coroner and the last to hold this appointment until it was extinguished by the Municipal Reform Act in 1835. He received annually 2 Gns. and £ 5 compensation when the position was abolished.
- 1837 James Maggs was the first secretary of the new Medical Dispensary.
- 1843 James Maggs was made secretary for the distribution of Steele's and Sayer's legacies and of bread and coal to the poor.
- 1844 James Maggs was elected assistant overseer of the poor at £20 p.y.
- 1847 James Maggs was temporary vestry clerk.
- 1852 James Maggs was appointed bailiff of the Court Leet.
- 1856 James Maggs was surveyor of the highways until 1866.
- 1873 James Maggs was described as bailiff, borough surveyor and ground rent collector.
- 1865 Elizabeth Maggs, his wife died and his unmarried daughter Marie kept house for him until his death in:
- 3.3.1890 James Maggs dies at the age of 93.

SOUTHWOLD ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

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TUESDAY AUGUST 31 1993

THE TOWN HALL.

THE SOUTHWOLD WORLD OF JAMES MAGGS.

- 1797 James Maggs born at the "Blue Anchor", Walberswick, the son of Thomas, the innkeeper and Ann (Snell) from Darsham.
- 1804 Sent to Mr Tuthill's school at Wenhaston.
- 1811 Apprenticed to Tuthill as an usher.
- 1814 Taken on as "transcriber" to James Jermyn Esq., of Reydon Cottage.
- 1816 Teaching at Dedham Grammar School and then at the Grey Coat School, Westminster.
- 1817 Opens his own school at Walberswick .
- 1818 Opens his own school in Southwold and marries Elizabeth, the only daughter of Thomas Roberts, a Wangford farmer. He is now living and teaching at houses at South End.
- 1822 Maggs moves his family and his school to what is now the "King's Head".
- 1829 He starts a grocer's shop next door.
- 1833 Moves to larger premises on South Green.
- 1840 Abandons school and sets up as auctioneer. Moves into house in the High Street opposite the Manor House.
- 1851 Moves into house on South Green.
- 1854 Moves into 20 Park Lane, here he lived until his death in 1890.

Maggs acquired numerous official appointments of a minor nature during the course of his long life:-

- 1823 elected Coroner, holding the office until its abolition, for Southwold, in 1835.
- 1831 Census enumerator on this and subsequent occasions.
- 1837 Secretary of the new Medical Dispensary.
- 1843 Secretary to Steele's and Sayer's Legacies.
- 1844 Assistant Overseer of the Poor.
- 1846 Temporary Vestry Clerk.
- 1852 Bailiff of the Court Leet.
- 1856 Deputy Surveyor of Highways.
- 1866 Surveyor of Highways.
- 1821-1849 Secretary to seven friendly societies.
- 1873 (aged 76) "bailiff, borough surveyor, ground rent collector".

1842 Published "Vessels of the Port of Southwold, 1750-1838."

The Diary is only detailed between 1822 and 1856

Children of James and Elizabeth Maggs.

James and Elizabeth had 12 children:

5 sons - 3 survive and 7 daughters - 5 survive.

- 1820 William Maggs born.  
Apprentice to Joseph Arthy, Chemist.  
Died 1837 at the age of 17.
- 1821 Thomas Maggs born.  
Started as a glazier at 14, left home at 17 and worked in Scotland in the Sapper and Miner Service.  
Died on the 14.7.1849 at the age of 28.
- 1822 Edward Maggs born.  
Went to sea at 11 in 1833, deserted ship because of ill treatment.  
In 1838 worked for a grocer in Manchester Square, London and eventually became a letter carrier.  
Died in 1844 at the age of 21.
1846. William Henry born on 21.2.1846. Died suddenly aged 7 months.  
One son unnamed. Died in infancy.

DAUGHTERS.

Betsy and Sarah died young.

Eliza. Schoolmistress married 1853 James Took, coachman at Ravening Hall and took over the "GREEN DRAGON" at Harlston.

Mary Ann. Died 1852.

Sarah. Married William Hunt and lived in Chelsae in 1865

Maria. Single, had a daughter in 1864 under her mother's maiden name: Winnie, Ellen Aldrich. Kept house for her father after mother's death.

Ellen. Married Charles Durrant of Custom and Coastguard on the 4.7.1863 and lived at Harwich. Had a son.