



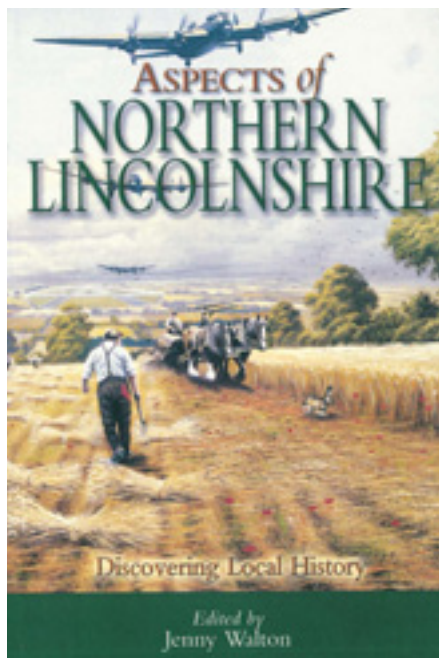
Bookshelf

LIFE'S BOOK OF THE MONTH

ASPECTS OF NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE edited by Jenny Walton
 Wharncliffe Books, 47 Church Street, Barnsley, S70 2AS;
 ISBN 1 903425 17 4; £9.99

THIS LATEST in the 'Aspects' discovering local history series has a dozen chapters, largely by local authors, some with a refreshingly different approach. 'Letters from a Seaman' by Jenny Walton herself (a former editor of 'Lincolnshire Life') is a good example. It is about letters written to his family by Royal Navy seaman George Neal between 1716 and 1843. They were found in a rotting oilskin package in the false roof of a house in Ulceby. Set in their historical context, they make interesting reading. Jenny's other chapter, 'A Brief Look at Grimsby Fishing Heritage', is a useful summary of already recorded information.

The first chapter, an overview of pre-Iron Age archaeology in the unitary authority of North-East Lincolnshire, rather contrasts with 'Walking the Clay Bank' – the south bank of the Humber from Humberston to the Trent Falls. This is, in fact, just an account of a long-distance walk and tends to omit interesting history snippets – for example, the other two clay pits next to Dawson City – Alaska and Klondyke.



Similarly, 'The Founding Legend of Grimsby', about Grim and Havelok, fails to reveal the real origin of the glacial erratic bluestones (from the Whin Sill in Northumberland).

The chapters on Cleethorpes – seaside resort and the promenades – go well together and are usefully illustrated, and that on coastal airfields is a helpful collation of information. Original material is contained in Neil Wilkyn's study of a farming family in Barrow on Humber, revealed from an eighteenth-century exercise book in Lincolnshire Archives, in which Samuel and Laurence Wilkin recorded aspects of their activities in the pre-enclosure open fields of the village. Other chapters cover Humber Keels, the results of research into the first drainage scheme for the Ancholme valley

in the seventeenth century, and an interesting review by Nick Lyons of some North Lincolnshire historians, including diarist Abraham de la Pryme, George Oliver (author of the curious 'Bird of Gryme') and Poulson, Hesleden and Ball of Barton. (DNR) □

Lincolnshire's Top 10 Bestsellers

- 1 **Ottakar's Local History Series – Lincolnshire**
Julianne Coggan, £3.99
- 2 **There and Back Again – A Navigator's Story**
Flying Officer James Douglas Hudson, £12.00
- 3 **Lincolnshire Steam in Camera**
Harold Bonnett, £4.95
- 4 **Roman Lincoln – Conquest, Colony and Capital**
Michael J Jones, £16.99
- 5 **Plogsland Round Lincoln**
Brett Collier, £5.50
- 6 **The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight**
Martin Brown, £9.99
- 7 **Crime and Criminals**
Adrian Gray, £5.95
- 8 **Family Walks in the Lincolnshire Wolds and Marshes**
Camilla Harrison, £5.95
- 9 **A Lincolnshire Calendar**
Maureen Sutton, £14.95
- 10 **The Railways of North Lincolnshire**
C T Goode, £7.80

Compiled by Ottakar's Lincoln and Ottakar's Grimsby

LINCOLNSHIRE BOOKS IN BRIEF

SATURDAY NIGHT SOLDIERS by John Benson; Richard Kay, 80 Sleaford Road, Boston, PE21 8EU; ISBN 1 902882 51 2; £11.95

Story of 4th Lincolns, Territorial Army battalion recruited in Boston, Alford, Horncastle and Spilsby, with an incredible record in the Second World War. Traces their deployment to Norway, then in Iceland, and after D-Day fighting through France, Belgium and Holland into Germany. Well

written and illustrated, and a fitting tribute.

LET US SLEEP NOW.. by Douglas Boyce; Market Rasen Local History Group, ISBN 0 952 8898 1 1; £3.50

About Market Rasen men who died in the Great War and their memorials. Brief biographies, in chronological order, of those whose names are on the town memorial. Result of careful research and another fitting record.

TALES OF A BOMBER COMMAND WAAF by Silvia Pickering; available from author, 8 Musgroves Orchard, Welton, Lincoln, LN2 3NP; ISBN 1 903953 24 3; £9.95

Gives first-hand insight of service life, mainly in Lincolnshire, in the early 1940s, based on rediscovered letters author wrote to her mother in Saxilby, letters she received and diary notes. Letters reproduced as written, with linking text and personal photographs (including her beloved horse Bridget).