

Letters to the editor

We would love to hear from you – contact us at County House

A TIME AND A PLACE

Ron Pickersgill has kindly replied to the query sent in from Wilma Buckley in last issue's letters page, responding to her question on a piece of artwork that she had in her possession:

Willam Buckley of Immingham your issue of December 2008 asked about Helmond. It is a place in the South Netherlands, east of Eindhoven.

There is a castle (1402), now a local history museum and a fine modern art centre. During World War II the whole area was well known for allied activities.

*Ron Pickersgill,
Balderton*

ALL DUTCH

With reference to the letters page in December there is a picture of a windmill. It seems a depiction of a Dutch windmill poorly understood and probably done by an amateur. The windshaft that carries the sails is set below the cap but it should be going into the cap. If one stood near the bushes facing the sails, one would see them turning clockwise. All Dutch windmills turn counter-clockwise as do English ones with the very odd exception, such as the one at

Burgh le Marsh, Lincolnshire. Helmond is a town in the south of the Netherlands, in the province of Brabant. Helmond could be a surname also, though I am not certain of this.

I do not feel that this picture is valuable except of sentimental value to the person for whom it was painted. The date – 1945, suggests it may have been painted by some serviceman – what a nice story if it were.

*Harry Bakker, Castle
Bytham, Grantham*

THE ORIGIN OF MAID OF HONOUR – STAR LETTER

Michaela Moody has kindly responded to the query we received on the name of the traditional cake from the December issue:

I can remember being taken to the Maids of Honour shop in Kew, near the Botanical Gardens when I was a small child. The Maid of Honour cake has been part of Richmond history for hundreds of years. It is thought that Henry VIII was the first to use its name when he met Anne Boleyn and other Maids of Honour at his Royal Household of Richmond Palace eating cakes from a silver dish.

The first Richmond Maids of Honour shop can be traced back to early eighteenth century and it is here Robert Newens, the present owner's great-great-grandfather served his apprenticeship. The cakes soon became a feature of taking tea in fashionable Richmond. In 1850 Robert Newens continued the tradition of selling and making Maids of Honour and in 1860 moved his shop to Kew where it can still be found to this day.

It would appear that the cakes, together with their name, have now travelled to Lincolnshire.

*Michaela Moody,
Tattershall*

LOST LOCATION - CAN A READER HELP?

I'm living in Perth, Australia and my parents, Lionel (83) and Brenda Edwards (81) moved to Australia in 1967 on the 'Fairsea.' I had a sister called Carol. My father worked in the post office before we left for Australia. The family lived on Fren Road in Holbeach but they cannot remember the exact address and believe it to have a name rather than a number. I wonder if anyone can remember where we lived and could possibly email a picture of the house. Thank you very much.

*David Edwards,
Perth*



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COMPETITION WINNERS
Congratulations to the following readers who are winners of last month's competitions:
Drill Hall Competition – Mrs R M Sneath
Gerard Bauer Painting – Mrs J L Wright
House of Fraser IJoyride – Mrs C Palmer
Royal British Legion – Mrs C D Chapman
Lincoln Town Houses – Mr D Brewster

