

Letters to the editor

▶ *Making the right move*

With regard to Mr Berrington's letter which appeared in the December edition of 'Lincolnshire Life', I too moved north ten years ago. My family had left home and I could no longer afford to stay in the south. My son had moved to Lincolnshire some years earlier and advised me to do the same; and what a revelation it turned out to be.

The greatest wonder of life here for me is the air, always clear and clean, no sign of pollution. People could call it 'bracing', and so it is, it's wonderful, along with the open skies and quite incredible cloud formations which I've never seen anywhere else.

Secondly, there's the innate kindness of people. When I first moved here I had not been on a train for fifty years, always having had my own car. We had only two buses a week then, so train travel was a must.

It took me two years to pluck up the courage to climb on board a train to investigate Lincolnshire and without the kindness of railway staff, particularly in Doncaster and York, I would have got nowhere. But always help was at hand and I have since been able to visit the breath-taking beauties of the county, such as Lincoln, Gainsborough's Old Hall and many of our market towns. I love Brigg, Grimsby and Cleethorpes and try to go out once a month.

We now have a beautiful daily bus service. I walk with my dog two hours a day. Sometimes I never see a soul, we have beautiful footpaths and all the peace and tranquillity of the open fields are a real pleasure.

No I've never regretted moving 'north'. I should have done it sooner!

Marion D Peachey, Barnetby-le-Wold.

▶ *Talking to the animals*

Mother had the capacity to get along with animals – not lions or tigers but the less ferocious kind. It could be that all of us have the faculty but do not develop it.

I was training young waterhens to march in single file from an early age. How useful this was in later years when I was assisting with horses and cattle – to be able to talk to and settle a frightened horse, or to get a newly calved cow to drop her milk and relax. This is not

sleight of hand or magic – just simple farming lore. Animals are more able to read us than we are to read them.

Currently I have two robins that feed from my hand – that is when they are not sorting each other out. One of them took a lift down my garden sitting on my shoulder and on another occasion, sitting on my cap. Imagine my joy when this same robin, sitting on the arm of my grandson beside me, turned his back on me and kept singing.

How wonderful in retirement to have time to listen.

J N Potterton, Pinchbeck.

▶ *We need a book on Grimsby*

I was pleased to see that you gave a good review in the January edition of 'Lincolnshire Life' of Alan Dowling's new book about Cleethorpes, 'Cleethorpes: The creation of a seaside resort', for it covers the town's complete history, including the developments that have taken place after North East Lincolnshire came into being a decade or so ago.

However, the title is further proof that Grimsby needs a more academic history volume, as Edward Gillett's book was written back in the early 1970s, and hardly touches on the twentieth century. There have been works by Peter Chapman, David Peasgood and myself since then, but the scope of each was somewhat limited. In my own case and that of David Peasgood, we had to write text to accompany the Francis Frith photographic archive. Gary Crossland and a colleague at Associated British Ports did bring out a thorough book on the commercial docks, yet they form just a part of Grimsby's story.

So I await a new comprehensive history volume with interest.

Tim Mickleburgh, Grimsby.

▶ *More on the Brunyees*

I write regarding the letters about the Brunyees in the both the June and September issues of 'Lincolnshire life' from Miss Stella Hopkins and Mr David Burton. Stella Hopkins' letter was particularly interesting as, when studying the history of our farm and farmhouse we discovered that it was originally farmed by a Squire Brunyee and we have a photo-

graph which shows Squire Brunyee with a steam threshing machine in the farmyard here at Sand Hall. Sadly the photograph has no date, all we can ascertain is that it is 'very old'.

I also had a maths teacher at Matteredsey school called Jeff Brunyee who lived and farmed at Langold near Work-sop. This resulted in many hours of school time being spent discussing the Isle of Axholme, the Brunyees and their influence on the drainage of the Isle.

Robin Barker, Crowle

▶ *Storr not Starr*

I have just received 'Lincolnshire Life' in which you printed my letter about North Kelsey Choral Society on the Letters page. However, the person referred to as Mr Starr is actually Mr Storr. Should anyone wish to contact me about this letter I will do my best to answer any queries.

Janet Watson, Poynton, Cheshire.

▶ *Satisfactory result*

Thank you for printing my letter in the November edition of 'Lincolnshire Life'. Within days of its release I received letters from two friends just outside Boston one of whom married into my paternal grandfather's family and therefore is some sort of cousin I think. A further letter has been received from someone who knows another branch of the Holmes family – not known to me (yet).

The cousin and her friend have sent to me quite a lot of photographs and written information making my research much more complete.

Thanks to the readership for this assistance (and editorial staff for including my request!)

Peter G Holmes, 12a Westgate Court,
Leeming, Western Australia 6149

pgh@multiline.com.au

08 9332 8198

04 0222 6444

If you would like to contribute to this page please address your letters to: The Editor, Lincolnshire Life, PO Box 81, Lincoln, LN1 1HD or email us on editorial@lincolnshirelife.co.uk For more information about 'Lincolnshire Life' visit our website on www.lincolnshirelife.co.uk