

From The Papers

East Winch.

The following are extracts from newspaper cuttings from the past, which refer to East Winch in one way or another.

### **September 1880**

EAST WINCH. SCHOOL TREAT. On the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. the school children and choir of this parish had a treat given them, chiefly in connection with the centenary of the organization of Sunday schools. They assembled in the school-room at 3.30pm to the number of 80, and, decorated with medals and with flags, proceeded to the church, where an address was given by the vicar. Tea was provided for them in a small field near the vicarage whence they adjourned for games to a larger one lent by Mr Childs, and being marshalled back to the school-room, after some remarks upon the management of the school, the vicar made various presents to the children as rewards for regular attendance at the Sunday school, Etc. The vicar was kindly assisted by Mrs Kent, Mrs and the Misses Childs, Eller, Brooke, Mrs Marsh, Messrs C E Childs, Smallbone, Winearls etc.

September 1880

EAST WINCH. – The men employed by the Misses Smith, of East Winch, return their sincere thanks for the recent harvest frolic, which they immensely enjoyed.

### **October 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1880          Correspondence**

East Winch Parochial Charities. To the Editor

Dear Sir, As the time for the distribution of these charities is fast approaching, perhaps you will allow me through your paper to offer a few suggestions to those parish officers whose duty it may be to attend to the matter this season. First I would refer them to the sister parish of West Winch as to the purchase of the coals, and also as to the quantities given to each family, which varies there according to the numbers and necessity of each. Can it be right that stewards, shepherds Etc., whose earnings more than equal some of the parish tradesmen, (who have to pay all parochial rates and have no coals), should receive as many as the hard working, struggling *daily* labourers, with large families, who often have to suffer from loss of time from rain and other causes? Why not give in proportion to the earnings and the family to support? which can easily be ascertained.

I would also suggest that no person should be allowed the charity who has been a resident less than two years.

I am, dear sir, your, etc.,  
AN INHABITANT.

(Note: The East Winch United Charities is a union of The John Morse charity, The Revd. Thomas Hopes and the Church and Town Lands charities. The charity still exists and each year makes payments to a number of residents. In the past the award was a quantity of coal but I understand that this was changed to a cash payment when the majority of people no longer had coal fires.

The aims of the John Morse charity were  
*to apply the income during the month of December in each year amongst the most deserving members of the Church of England resident in the parish of East Winch who attend divine service and who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress either in gifts in kind or grants of money)*

### **November 27<sup>th</sup> 1880**

EAST WINCH. SERMONS were preached and collections made at each service on Sunday last in aid of the fund for the sufferers from the Well lifeboat accident, and for foreign missions. The collections amounted to £2.13s6d.

### **January 1st 1904**

WINCH, EAST – For Christmas day the church was tastefully decorated by Misses Alvis. The Holy Communion was administered in the morning. Carols were sung in place of a sermon in the afternoon, comprising *In Nativitate Domini* (music by the Rev. G E Alvis, minor canon of Ripon cathedral), “Kings of old”, and “The angels Christmas song”, (both from Westminster Carol book), and Gounod’s song “Bethlehem”, by the Rev. E J Alvis. Collections for the hospital amounted to £2 7s 2d

Much generosity has been shown throughout the season, Mr Lancaster making gifts to his tenants and others, whilst several other donors have shown seasonable good will, for which the recipients return sincere thanks. Nearly every cottager received six hundredweight of coal from the East Winch Church and Town Lands charity, and Morse's and Hope's charities have been distributed.

Henry Marsh, for many years sub postmaster of this parish, begs to thank Misses Barnard and Woodham, of Snettisham park, and Mr C R Bentley of West Bilney hall, for their continued present of game; also the residents of the outlying villages who have their delivery of letters from this parish for their kind Christmas greetings.

## 6 December 1887

(Note that in the following piece some of the originals text is difficult to read. In cases of uncertainty the difficult words are put into parentheses in the following transcription.)

A Norfolk emigrants experience in QUEENSLAND From Robert Hunter – late of East Winch

Dear Father and Mother. I was very pleased to see a letter from you and sister Lizzie, and to see you were all as well as usual. Lizzie asked me if I liked myself best here or at home. I know there is no one like a Mother, but you must not compare this country with England. The people that have fathers and mothers out here are better off than we are (but) they have got good homes, and do not know how to keep them; they do not know what low wages are.

I am getting 30s. per week and pay 14s. per week for Board, Washing and Lodging, and have 16s. per week for myself, and a married man can live as cheap as a single one; and shop things are as cheap here as at home, Beef 3d. to 3½d per lb.. You can get a beef steak, enough for a meal, for 2d.

The women are so lazy out here they won't take lodgers. A married man can live happy and comfortably on what they can at home.

They can live like fighting cocks if they only keep from the nasty beer and spirits. When that's in the devil's in, that is the ruin of many a man in the colonies. They do not look to work more than half the week, or work one week and play two. (there may) be a few steady ones. Dear mother, you would all be better out here. I have not said it before, but I say it now I do not see why they should stay at home to be slaves. I reckon they are regular slaves myself. It would be the best job you ever done, to come out here. If we were to say we worked for 10s. per week, they would make a regular laughing stock of us. (We would) all like to see Old England, and all old faces, if we could come (over on) Saturday night and come back on Monday morning. I had a letter from George Kemp this morning, he keep at his old shop, and is getting on well.

Adam's, and all our loves to all enquiring friends. We have seen several Norfolk men from Norwich, Yarmouth and neighbourhood. I think I have sent all the news this time. Love to all brothers and Lizzie, and large share for father and mother, and you all,

Your loving and affectionate son,  
ROBERT HUNTER.

An advertisement accompanying the letter was published on the same page; It reads.....

QUEENSLAND FOR NORFOLK MEN. MANY HAVE GONE, MORE ARE GOING

A SPECIAL PARTY of Farm Men from Norfolk and adjoining counties now forming to proceed together on same steamer leaving conveniently AFTER HARVEST. Those willing to join and go with this party from their own neighbourhood should make early application with necessary forms to W.S. CASTLETON, Authorised Local Agent, HETHERSET, NORWICH.

If you wish to go any time during the next three months you should apply at once.

.....As to safety of voyage to Queensland, here is a Fact worth knowing: from December 31<sup>st</sup> 1867, 186,658 Persons have proceeded to the Colony under the arrangements of the Queensland Government Office. Four Hundred and Sixty SHIPS have been dispatched, yet no casualty involving loss of life has occurred.