

PULVERTAFT PAPERS

A Newsletter on the Pulvertofts & Pulvertafts

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EDITORIAL

I hope that this issue of *Pulvertaft Papers* reaches you before Christmas but Mary Rose and I only returned from a six week visit to Australia and New Zealand on 15 December, leaving little time before the Christmas post closes.

I had prepared the two main articles before we set off but, travelling so soon after the 11 September terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon, I felt that there were too many uncertainties for me to go to print in October and distribute in December. I am pleased to report that, having been in touch with the Pulvertafts and their descendants in the United States, there do not appear to have been any family casualties but, of course, all our lives have been touched by the attacks in one way or another.

As will be seen overleaf, the main focus of this issue is the life of Dr Charles Norman Pulvertaft. I am indebted to his daughter, Diane Stephenson, and his widow, Mary Ann Pulvertaft for providing the photographs and much of the information contained in the article.

CHARLES NORMAN PULVERTAFT

Norman Pulvertaft was born in Cork on 24 June 1911, the youngest son of Willie and Clara Pulvertaft and brother of Godfrey and Guy (Vide *Pulvertaft Papers* Vols 4.5, 2.6 and 2.8 respectively). He was baptised on 31 July 1911 at St Paul's Church, Cork.

After attending school in Cork, he followed his brother, Guy, to Weymouth College and then to Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge (BA 1933) and St Thomas's Hospital, London (MRCS, LRCP 1935, MB, BChir 1937).

His training at St Thomas's allowed him to play rugby for both the London Irish and the Surrey County Rugby Football Union. A contemporary report included:

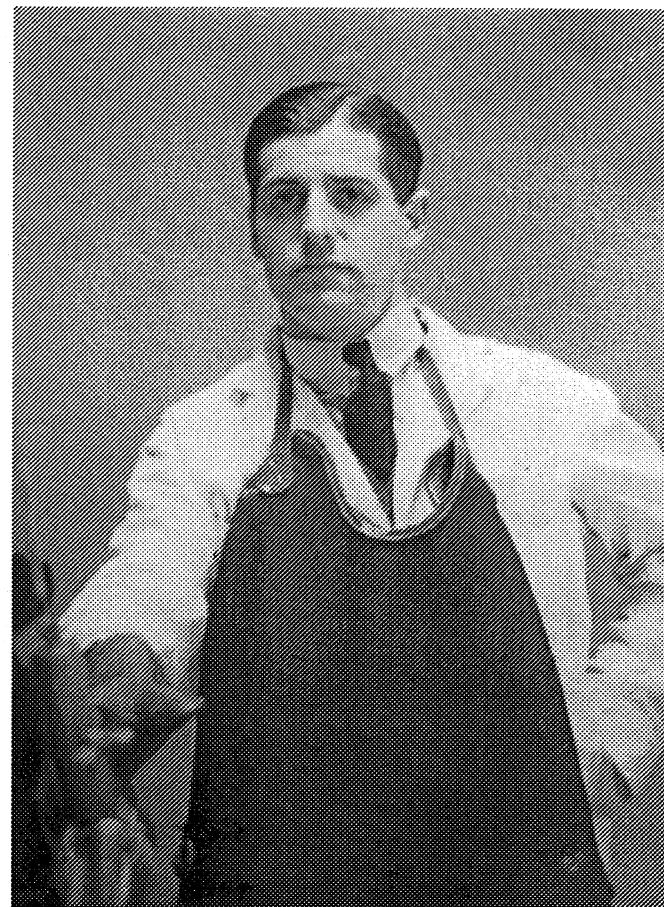
London Irish 8pts., Bective Rangers 3.

It was a hard, close keen game that Bective Rangers were beaten at Sunbury in the third and last match of their annual tour. There were no frills about the Rugby shown by the two sides, no fancy work, but plenty of strenuous honest tackling, straight running, pace and enthusiasm.

I.N.Ryan, of St Mary's Hospital, and J.W.McCarthy were quick to open movements in the centre, and N.Daunt, a schoolboy of 19, and C.N.Pulvertoft were speedy wingers. Pulvertoft, especially, showed pace.

Apart from shedding light on one of Norman's extramural activities, the report is interesting in that the reporter got his surname wrong and, by chance, used the extinct Lincolnshire family name!

It was during his time at St Thomas's that Norman married Nora Paterson (Norrie), the daughter of a merchant from Ballintemple, Cork. The service took place in St Michael's, Blackrock, Cork on 1 September 1937.



"PLUG" PULVERTAFT - RADIOLOGIST

Known as "Plug" Pulvertaft throughout his medical career, his initial intention had been to become a surgeon and after qualifying at St Thomas's, he was a house surgeon there for six months. Ill health forced him to reconsider his position and he decided to follow the less physically exacting speciality of radiology, first in London and then in Grimsby. It was there that their only child, Diane Margaret, was born in 1940.



NORMAN AND NORRIE PULVERTAFT

The family moved to York in 1941 and in 1942 he was one of the co-founders of the internationally known York Gastric Follow-up Clinic. This was to remain his main interest for the rest of his life, allowing him close contact with his surgical colleagues and resulting in over 40 technical papers on gastroenterological radiology. He lectured widely on his subject both at home and abroad.

In 1952 the British Medical Association awarded him the Nathaniel Bishop Harman Prize for his essay on *The Physiological Complications of Partial Gastrectomy*, written from data derived from work at the York Clinic.

He became senior consultant radiologist at the York City General Hospital and the York County Hospital and was a Fellow of the Faculty of Radiologists. He was a member of the York Medical Society and became their President. The photograph opposite shows him in this role.

He left York in 1970 and returned to Ireland; living in Donegal but working in Northern Ireland in a post that was split between the Tyrone County Hospital, Omagh and the Erne Hospital, Enniskillen. Crossing the border over a mountain road every day could have had its difficulties during "the troubles" but the locals in their remote cottages were generally more interested in hitching a lift and sometimes seeking medical advice from "the doctor with the funny name"! He developed a love of gardening and the landscaping of his Donegal house "Rathforker" gave him great pleasure, as did fishing on nearby Lough Eske. Over the years he gradually reduced his commitment to the Northern Ireland Hospitals Authority and finally retired in 1977.

Norrie died in Hethe, Oxon on 19 September 1977 and Plug then married Margaret Ann Pybus (Mary Ann) who had worked with him for many years in York.

In 1986 they moved across the border to a smaller house called "Goblusk" near Enniskillen that provided another opportunity for landscaping – even though it was on a reduced scale. He remained there, surrounded by the chrysanthemums that he grew so well, until three days before his death on 11 November 1990. He was buried at Killadeas Priory Church. Mary Ann continues to live at Goblusk.

WILLS BENEFICIARY INDEX

The Lincolnshire Family History Society has for the last ten years or so invited its members to extract from the wills that they have acquired for their own research, details of *Linclonshire* people whose surnames are included in the wills but are **different** from that of the testator.

The names have been published in five collections (with a sixth one being assembled) and are available to members of the society as the *Wills Beneficiary Index*. The cut-off date for the scheme is 1900 so that all the entries are all for the 19th century or earlier. Despite the title of the indexes, the names listed are not exclusively those of the beneficiaries as executors, witnesses, parish clerks, etc are also included. Later indexes also quote the relationship between the testator and the beneficiary and thus provide useful clues to maiden names or other relationships between families.

With a large number of early Pulvertoft wills held in our family history archives, it was hoped that some useful new lines of research might emerge from the *Wills Beneficiary Index*. A search of the six collections, however, has revealed only a rather disappointing eight Pulvertoft entries. They are listed opposite with the kind permission of the Lincolnshire Family History Society.

Time has not yet allowed the "Lincoln Consistory Court" references to be followed up, but certainly one of the wills - that of Leonard Ellys of Swineshead - is already known to us; vide Vol 1 No 6 of these papers.

Not the breakthrough that had been hoped for but the index will be monitored as more collections are published and any new "finds" will be reported in these pages.

WILLS BENEFICIARY INDEX - EXTRACT OF PULVERTOFT REFERENCES

<u>SURNAME</u>	<u>FORENAME</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>TESTATOR</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>REFERENCE</u>
Pulvertoft	Thomas	Friend	Matthew Ives	Spalding Gent	LCC1810/145
Pulvertoft	William	N.K.	Robert Parker	Leake	LCC1617/ii/207
Pulvertofte	Elizabeth	Dau of Henry	Leonard Ellys	Swineshead	LCC1587/59
Pulvertofte	George	Brother	Alice Parker	Swineshead	LCC 31.1.1587/2512
Pulvertofte	Henry		Thomas Ellis	Swineshead	LCC1585/I/223v
Pulvertofte	Henry	Son-in-law	Leonard Ellys	Swineshead	LCC1587/59
Pulvertofte	Jane	Dau of Henry	Leonard Ellys	Swineshead	LCC1587/59
Pulvertofte	Jane	Dau of Henry	Thomas Ellis	Swineshead	LCC1585/I/223v

NOTES & QUERIES

The grave of Amos William Pulvertaft

The article in last year's edition on Amos William Pulvertaft generated quite a bit of interest as his surviving descendents and their spouses amount to over fifty souls.

He was buried at Bovey Tracey, the cemetery being only a short walk from the church. The grave bears no headstone but is framed in granite with four square corner posts and bevelled sides. One side is inlaid with:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF AMOS WILLIAM PULVERTAFT
DIED SEPT. 11TH 1958

while the other reads:

IN LIFE IN DEATH O LORD ABIDE WITH ME

Birth

Congratulations to Craig Richardson and Sarah Pulvertaft on the birth of their son, Samuel Richardson, on 20 June 2001 in London.

E-mail address

Some recipients of these papers correspond with me by e-mail. For others who may wish to do so, my address is:

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Happy Christmas.

D.M.P.