

## SOCIAL HISTORY

The social structure of Harwich and Dovercourt was moulded by the role of the gentry and members of the established church and to a lesser extent the presence, at different times, of Royal Navy and Army officers. The gentry, comprising farmers, packet boat captains, merchants and other professionals, and clergymen, exercised its influence through positions held on the corporation and as justices of the peace and overseers of the poor. The remaining sections of the population comprised tradespeople and labourers, with a predominance of agricultural employment in Dovercourt.

The annual fairs were the main form of social gathering. In addition, public celebrations were held to mark national events or sometimes the launching of a ship at the Royal Naval Yard. Social activities for the gentry and professional classes included the regular assembly balls and occasional concerts and theatre performances. The Freemasonry was a significant presence in Harwich in the second half of the 18th century.

There were a number of charities established by individuals in the 18th century, while poor relief, both in the form of out-relief and in the workhouse, was administered by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor. The Corporation Free School was established in 1724 and a National School in 1812, and a number of private schools operated in Harwich at various times.

## SOCIAL STRUCTURE

The highest echelon of society in Harwich and Dovercourt comprised the gentry, clergy and naval officers. From *c.*1780 until 1815 this group also included Army officers. There was a significant professional class in Harwich in the 18th century made up of merchants, medical men and lawyers. For example, surgeon and apothecary John Gibson practised midwifery from at least 1752 to 1773,<sup>1</sup> while Benjamin Didier was an attorney and solicitor based in Harwich from 1758 to 1781.<sup>2</sup> The social character of Harwich after 1750 can be gauged by the fact that it was able to sustain a bookshop to appeal to the growing middle classes.<sup>3</sup> In rural Dovercourt there was a small gentry class made up mostly of farmers and a large

labouring population. The numerous poorer classes went largely undocumented, but became more prominently recorded by the late 18th century due to food scarcity. In both 1772 and 1800 the poor protested that traders at Harwich market were charging prices that were too high.<sup>4</sup>

The Land tax assessment of 1784 indicates that there was limited social separation between the classes within Harwich's streets. Church Street, King's Head Street and Market Street contained the higher rated premises, but also many lower rated ones. St Austin's Lane, St Helen's Street, Eastgate Street, Hanover Square and King's Quay Street were also mixed. West Street and Church Lane consisted of mostly lower rated properties, while Castlegate Street, Rose and Crown Lane, Custom House Alley, Red Cross Lane and Currants Lane all comprised properties that were assessed at the lower end of the rating scale.<sup>5</sup>

#### *Prominent families and individuals*

There were several prominent families in Harwich in the 18th century. The Cox family provided many public officers for the borough. Anthony Cox served as chamberlain in the mid 18th century, while the brothers Charles (1732–1808) and Rayner or Raynor (1738–1805) were elected mayor on six and five occasions respectively. Charles was also appointed vice-consul to the Danish king for ports in Essex and Suffolk in 1765 and agent for the packet boats in 1779. Raynor, a surgeon and naval officer, served as clerk of the cheque and storekeeper at the Royal Naval Yard from 1786. Anthony (d. 1839), son of Charles, first served as mayor in 1808, having been elected alderman as early as 1789.<sup>6</sup>

The Hearn family were conspicuous in maritime activities. William Hearn (1696–1763), owner of the *William and Sarah*, was a fisherman.<sup>7</sup> William's son Thomas Hearn (1721–66) was commander of the *Prince of Wales* packet up to his death in 1766; the packet (and its successor of the same name) was also commanded by his son, another Thomas (1745–1840), from 1780 to his retirement in 1805. The latter Thomas also served as a capital burgess.<sup>8</sup> Another William Hearn (1749–1810), the younger son of the first Captain Thomas Hearn, took on a drapery shop in Harwich in 1770 and by the early 19th century had a drapery in Holborn (Middx); he was later bankrupted.<sup>9</sup>

The Deane family provided many commanders of the Harwich packets and corporation mayors in this period. Anthony Deane (1706–44) was a packet boat captain and appears to be the same Anthony who was elected mayor in 1734 and 1741. His nephew Philip Deane the elder (1741–1801) was commander of the *Diana* packet while Philip's nephew, another Philip (1753–1806), was captain of the *King George* packet. This post was taken over by the latter Philip's son, also Philip (1775–1807), who died as a prisoner of war in France. Philip Deane the elder's brother Anthony (1742–1816) was also a packet commander up to 1803 when he resigned his commission in favour of his son Anthony Richardson Deane (1774–1808). The latter Deane died at sea. Another son, George (1777–1850), was a packet commander for almost 30 years and also served as mayor on two occasions.<sup>10</sup> Other brothers of Philip Deane the elder included John Deane the older (1702–73) and Stephen (1711–76), who both worked for HM Customs, while his son Philip William (1771–1809) served as a surgeon in the 86th Regiment. John Deane's son, also John (1727–92), was a master fisherman. Other Deanes from a different branch of the family who served as mayor were William (1722–96), a carpenter who was elected in 1788 but who died in office shortly after being elected for a second time, and his nephew Henry (1763–1830), a baker who was elected in 1814 and 1816.<sup>11</sup>

Griffith Davies (d. 1778) was an important figure in political circles serving as the local agent for Henry Pelham and then John Roberts in their efforts to control the borough. In 1731 he was appointed to the post of Collector of Customs, a position he passed on to his son Henry Pelham Davies (1743–82). He was also elected mayor on 15 occasions while Henry Pelham Davies served as mayor in 1780.<sup>12</sup>

Another notable individual was Cyprian Bridge (1737 or 1738–1814), a commander at HM Customs from 1769, and appointed captain of the *Prince of Orange* packet in 1779. He also served as chamberlain for the corporation and churchwarden for Dovercourt All Saints.<sup>13</sup> His sons included Thomas Bridge (1772–1858), who took over the new *Prince of Orange* in 1797 and received two gold medals in the following year for his services in delivering the mail during wartime.<sup>14</sup>

## SOCIAL AND CULTURAL LIFE

### *Fairs and public celebrations*

The two fairs granted under the 1604 Charter were held on the Saint's Days of Sts Philip and James (1 May) and St Luke the Evangelist (18 October); they seem chiefly to have been entertainment fairs rather than for trade.<sup>15</sup>

In 1728 the sum of £3 4s. was allocated by the corporation to be spent on each public celebration day, an amount which was increased to £4 in 1739.<sup>16</sup> Occasionally these public celebrations were accompanied by fireworks, as in 1742 when the large sum of £10 6s. was paid by the corporation to the 'Man for playing the Fireworks' and again in 1745 and 1748 when £2 2s. and £4 4s. respectively were spent on displays.<sup>17</sup> Typically, bell-ringing took place, as, for example, in 1745 when the bells were rung for the duke of Cumberland, at the time commander in chief of the allied forces fighting in the War of the Austrian Succession.<sup>18</sup> The declaration of peace in 1749 following the end of the war resulted in a day of public celebration in Harwich.<sup>19</sup>

Guy Fawkes celebrations were particularly enthusiastic; it is recorded that the corporation paid for bell-ringers in 1752 and 1769.<sup>20</sup> In 1803 the occasion was celebrated by the firing of guns from a Royal Navy vessel with the men camped near Landguard Fort only narrowly avoiding being hurt by the grapeshot.<sup>21</sup> Royal occasions were widely celebrated, as in 1789 when a bonfire was lit in front of John Robinson's house and beer distributed to the poor by him on the occasion of George III recovering his health.<sup>22</sup> George III's Golden Jubilee in 1809 was celebrated in Harwich through a corporation grant of £20 and a further £107 2s. in charitable donations from the public to provide for the 'Comfort and Enjoyment of full one thousand poor Inhabitants'.<sup>23</sup>

Similarly, military and naval victories were marked, with firework displays featuring during public rejoicings such as those to celebrate Admiral Nelson's victory at the Battle of the Nile in 1798 and the successful invasion of Holland during the Helder Expedition of 1799.<sup>24</sup> There were joyous celebrations in 1805 as news of the events at Trafalgar reached Harwich. The inhabitants also established a subscription fund for the relief of widows and children of the

deceased.<sup>25</sup> The peace resulting from the Treaty of Paris (1814) was celebrated with a day of thanksgiving on 7 July 1814 when over 500 people were given a dinner at Harwich, followed by rustic sports and a firework display. The following day the town was ‘illuminated in the most brilliant manner ever before known,...[by]...transparencies and variegated lamps’. There were also celebrations at Dovercourt on 29 July when 200 poor people attended a dinner on the bowling green, with rural sports and a firework display following.<sup>26</sup>

Midsummer’s Day was celebrated annually in Dovercourt in the mid 18th century, but in 1764 the justices of the peace ordered that the parish constables suppress this ‘riotous and unlawful Assembly’. In April of the following year another order sought to ban the event for good, noting the ‘Affray and dissolute Behaviour of Servants and other Idle and disorderly persons’ in the past.<sup>27</sup>

### *Social activities*

*Assembly balls* Assembly balls were held bi-monthly at the Three Cups inn in 1749 and 1750.<sup>28</sup> Their popularity was boosted by Harwich’s growth as a bathing place as assemblies were held in 1755 and 1756 at the request of visiting gentlemen and ladies.<sup>29</sup> The assembly room in Castlegate Street, Harwich, apparently dated from c.1758, but it was recorded as empty c.1766.<sup>30</sup> The venue was host to assembly balls from 1758 to 1764 and probably 1765; sometimes these were held on the occasion of the launching of a new ship.<sup>31</sup> Assemblies resumed at the Three Cups inn on a monthly basis from 1767 and continued to be a regular feature of Harwich’s social life, apparently lapsing only when the military camps ceased after 1782.<sup>32</sup> Assemblies continued to be held to coincide with important occasions, such as ship launches.<sup>33</sup> From 1790 the assembly season was formalised, with monthly balls taking place at the Three Cups inn during the winter.<sup>34</sup> Assemblies were a regular feature throughout the French wars and card assemblies were held every Monday at the Three Cups inn in 1813.<sup>35</sup>

*Theatre and concerts* A new theatre at Harwich was opened in 1780 with the first presentation being George Farquhar’s *The Beaux’ Stratagem*, though the theatre appears not to have endured as another was opened in 1784.<sup>36</sup> An apparently temporary theatre was also established at the military camp in 1782.<sup>37</sup> Harwich gained a newly built theatre in 1793, with Joseph Hounslow’s travelling theatre group performing there that year and in the following

one.<sup>38</sup> It is not clear how long this theatre lasted, as in 1809 it was the Three Cups inn that hosted *Bannister's Second Budget*, a recitation and comic diversion. The performance was repeated in 1810.<sup>39</sup> A new theatre in West Street, Harwich, opened in 1813 though it was closed by 1826.<sup>40</sup>

In 1734 the Corporation Free School hosted a concert of 'Vocal and Instrumental Musick and a Ball' to celebrate the opening of the new organ.<sup>41</sup> Concerts were also held at Three Cups inn occasionally, as in 1768 when a solo performance was put on by a Mr Stannard prior to the hosting of a ball.<sup>42</sup> In 1773 a concert and ball was held at the 'Assembly-Room' (apparently at the Three Cups inn) for the benefit of a Mr Manini.<sup>43</sup> A concert was held at the Guildhall in 1782 when six-year-old Master Cobham performed as principal violinist.<sup>44</sup> A selection of pieces from Handel's oratorios were presented at St Nicholas' church in 1788 for the benefit of organist Nathaniel Berry, with another concert being held at the Guildhall on the same day.<sup>45</sup> By 1813 outside concerts by the Kilkenny regiment were put on twice a week for visitors to the resort during the season. The band also performed at a concert at the Three Cups inn in August 1813.<sup>46</sup>

*Other entertainment and leisure activities* A library was established in Harwich by 1711.<sup>47</sup> An unusual spectacle was put on in 1753 when 'surprizing' dancing bears performed at the King's Arms inn.<sup>48</sup> In 1762 'BIGG's New MEDLEY' of performers played at Harwich, promising 'five Hundred Figures in grand Procession, a grand Court of Wax-Work Figures, upwards of five Feet high'.<sup>49</sup> The German magician and conjuror Herman Boaz performed at the assembly room, Harwich, in 1766.<sup>50</sup> Mr Rogers, from the theatre in Haymarket, gave his 'celebrated LECTURE on HEADS' in 1767 and Mr Warltire lectured in Harwich in 1769 on mechanics, optics and vision, electricity and astronomy as part of his tour of East Anglia.<sup>51</sup>

Ship launches were prominent social occasions, as in 1780 when a 'vast concourse of people' witnessed the send-off of the third rate ship of the line HMS *Inflexible*.<sup>52</sup> A fascination with the military amounted to a leisure activity with around 2,000 people apparently having visited Landguard Fort in 1777.<sup>53</sup> Similarly, in 1793 the five wherries carrying passengers from Ipswich to view the camp at Harwich were reported to be full and the town itself was 'never so crowded [sic]'.<sup>54</sup> By the same year a circulating library had been established in Harwich by the Ipswich novelist Clara Reeve.<sup>55</sup>

Unusual entertainments in Harwich at the end of the 18th century included Mr Jonas performing his 'DECEPTIONS and EXPERIMENTS' in 1791 and Mr Walker, jnr, offering lectures on astronomy at the Corporation Free School the following year, accompanied by the display of an eidouranion (a kind of orrery).<sup>56</sup> There were firework displays laid on by William Quantrell, of Norwich, on the bowling green in 1796.<sup>57</sup> In 1810 the Black infant exhibited at the Three Cups inn was considered an acceptable form of entertainment.<sup>58</sup>

### *Freemasonry*

Freemasonry became established in Harwich from 1764 with the founding of what became the St Nicholas' Lodge. It was erased in 1783, but given the same name on its reinstatement the following year. It was erased for a final time in 1795.<sup>59</sup> The Gothic Lodge was founded in 1765 and moved from Westminster (Middx) to Harwich in 1806, but was erased in 1828.<sup>60</sup> The transfer of the Gothic Lodge in 1806 was celebrated with a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex, a procession to St Nicholas' church and a dinner at the Three Cups inn.<sup>61</sup> A Grand Lodge meeting was arranged to be held in Harwich in 1788.<sup>62</sup> The Lodge of Loyalty (formerly the Wilts Militia Lodge) was based briefly at Harwich in 1809–10.<sup>63</sup> The Veterans' Lodge existed from 1810 to 1833.<sup>64</sup>

### *Visitors*

*Royal visitors* George I and George II regularly visited Harwich on their way to and from the Continent.<sup>65</sup> The former landed at Harwich when he first arrived in England in 1714.<sup>66</sup> The earliest visit of George II was apparently in 1729 and he was known to have sailed to or from Harwich in 1735, 1743, 1745, 1748 and 1750.<sup>67</sup> Anne, Princess of Orange, George II's daughter, stayed at Harwich in 1734 prior to travelling to the Continent. She was entertained at the Three Cups inn and walked in the fields locally, despite being pregnant.<sup>68</sup> In 1747 Prince William, duke of Cumberland, George II's youngest son and a prominent military commander, visited Harwich to inspect Landguard Fort on his way to Holland during the War of the Austrian Succession.<sup>69</sup> He also passed through Harwich in 1745, 1746, later in 1747 and 1748.<sup>70</sup> Prior to George II's visit in 1752 HMS *Royal Caroline* sustained some damage after the *Walpole* Customs smack collided with the carved work on her stern.<sup>71</sup> George II's

final visit to Harwich appears to have been in 1755.<sup>72</sup> In 1761 the future Queen Charlotte arrived in Harwich harbour prior to travelling on to London for her marriage to George III. She was said to have ‘paid her Respects to all Ranks of People that were continually rowing round in Boats’.<sup>73</sup> Prince Frederick, duke of York and Albany and soon-to-be commander-in-chief of the British Army, passed through Harwich on his way to London in 1794. He also visited in 1803 with his brother Prince Adolphus, duke of Cambridge, to inspect the troops at Landguard Fort and the Harwich camp.<sup>74</sup> In March 1795 Princess Caroline of Brunswick, the future Princess of Wales and Queen, passed by Harwich as she was escorted by the Royal Navy on her way to London, to be married to the Prince of Wales shortly afterwards.<sup>75</sup>

*Other visitors* Several prominent individuals were visitors to Harwich because the port was the main departure point to reach Central Europe. Samuel Johnson, together with James Boswell, visited Harwich: in 1763 Johnson stopped at St Nicholas’ church prior to Boswell’s departure to the Continent.<sup>76</sup> Radical journalist and politician John Wilkes visited in 1765 and 1767 in spite of having been declared an outlaw.<sup>77</sup> Pascal Paoli, the Corsican revolutionary, arrived at Harwich in 1769 having been forced into exile.<sup>78</sup> John Wesley passed through Harwich several times on his way to the Continent, including in 1783 and 1786. On the latter occasion he gave a sermon on board the *Besborough* packet on the outward journey and returned to the country via Harwich within a month.<sup>79</sup> In 1780 four English families, two from America and two from Grenada, arrived at Harwich via Holland as a result of their taking a ‘dislike to the French government’.<sup>80</sup> Lord George Gordon visited Harwich in 1787 in order to take the packet to Holland and made the return journey the following month.<sup>81</sup>

As a result of the French Revolution many French citizens fled to England seeking refuge. Approximately 920 men, women and children arrived from Holland in November and December 1792 and January 1793, with more following in May.<sup>82</sup> Anti-republican sentiment was evidently high in the town as at around this time an effigy of Thomas Paine was hanged and burnt in the streets of Harwich.<sup>83</sup> In 1794 the abbess and a group of English nuns based in Ghent arrived at Harwich after the French army overran the city. In the same year and for the same reason the Englishmen of a school in Liege returned to Great Britain via Harwich. The progress of the Revolution also prompted a further influx of exiles from the Continent such that Harwich was reported to be ‘completely filled with French emigrants’ in 1794.<sup>84</sup> Emigrants from France and Holland continued to arrive in late 1794 and 1795, including

William V, Prince of Orange and last stadholder of the Dutch Republic, who went into exile in England.<sup>85</sup> Foreign secretary Lord Castlereagh passed through Harwich on his way to the Continent on a diplomatic mission, departing the port in January 1814.<sup>86</sup>

### *Seaside resort and bathing*

As early as 1714 Harwich was described as having a ‘very pleasant Walk...about Half a Mile from the Town, called *Beacon-Hill*’,<sup>87</sup> but it wasn’t until the middle of the 18th century that Harwich became a tourist destination. Not all visitors were complimentary as John James visiting in 1759 noted that the ‘ooze on the shore stinks Intolerably’ and that ‘Agues are no rarity here’.<sup>88</sup>

The first baths in Harwich were opened in 1753.<sup>89</sup> Competition was provided when a second bathing place, the Brewer’s Free Baths, operated between 1754 to at least 1758 under Thomas Cobbold.<sup>90</sup> Morant notes in 1768 that there is ‘handsom Walk, about a mile long: which is of great use to those who come here for benefit of Bathing’. The gravel path was maintained at the expense of local MP John Roberts prior to his death in 1772. The George Street baths, boasting both hot and cold bathing facilities, were owned by Griffith Davies, with Harwich at the time being noted as a ‘very genteel bathing place’.<sup>91</sup> Sir Robert Rich, 5th Baronet and a general in the British Army, and Lord and Lady Townshend and family visited Harwich to bathe in 1777.<sup>92</sup>

Visitors continued to be attracted to the surrounding area with one such excursionist in 1791, Revd Prince, describing ‘the most beautiful walks...especially by the sea side, fine high hills, where you may see ships for the distance of many miles’. Harwich itself though was usually described in less than favourable terms, with the same visitor calling it a ‘low and dirty place’ and an American visitor Elkanah Watson in 1784 pronouncing the town a ‘villanous [sic] dirty little hole’.<sup>93</sup> Harwich’s first coastal bathing machines were those operated by Messrs Enefer and Cottingham in 1792.<sup>94</sup> By the following year there were two hot- and two cold-water baths, as well as vapour baths, in Harwich, presumed to be the successors to the first baths.<sup>95</sup> Lord and Lady Hawkesbury visited Harwich in 1799 to take advantage of the hot baths, staying at local MP John Robinson’s house for the month of October.<sup>96</sup> By 1802 the bathing machines were being operated by Joseph Culpack, who also ran the hot and cold

baths until his death in 1804.<sup>97</sup> The baths were rebuilt and reopened in 1804, with surgeon John Bailey placed in charge of medicinal advice.<sup>98</sup> The bathing machines on the shore were run by Mrs Sherman from 1805 to at least 1825.<sup>99</sup> There were several incidences of bathers drowning at Harwich, Dovercourt and the vicinity: Captain Tucker in 1781, Samuel Poole in 1800, coachman James Petchey in 1807 and possibly Custom House clerk Frederick B. Wyles in 1811.<sup>100</sup>

### *Sport*

A cricket match between the gentlemen of Harwich and Colchester took place at Harwich in 1750, but there were complaints that the Colchester players engaged in delaying tactics.<sup>101</sup> A match against the gentlemen of Ipswich was played later in the same year.<sup>102</sup> The same contestants took part in a match in Ipswich in August 1774, with the return fixture taking place at Stomach Field, Harwich, three days later.<sup>103</sup> In 1784 at the garrison a cricket match between the officers of Landguard Fort and the gentlemen of Colneis Hundred took place, while the Harwich gentlemen challenged the Colneis gentlemen later that year but lost the match. However, the Harwich gentlemen did beat those of a joint Landguard Fort-Colneis team in two subsequent games.<sup>104</sup>

There was a bowling green at Harwich, which activity perhaps ceased after its site was taken over for use as an exercise ground by the Loyal Harwich Volunteers in 1798.<sup>105</sup> By 1800 there was a billiard room at Harwich.<sup>106</sup> In 1810 two members of the West Yorkshire militia undertook athletic endeavours, each for a bet. Lieutenant J. G. Ogle walked 22 miles in four hours and 40 minutes going back and forth over the same route between Blue House farm and Ramsey church and Captain Blake walked blindfolded from Harwich barracks to the Three Cups inn in two hours.<sup>107</sup>

### *Disorder*

Riots took place in Harwich on 1 and 3 August 1724, apparently as a result of a political protest organised by former mayor Daniel Smyth, snr, and his son, also Daniel. The first incident involved mariner John Hart being dressed up in horns at the front of a mob, said to comprise about 100 people. On the second occasion, one Thomas Norman, a fisherman, was

jailed having been sent out by Smyth to drum and lead a mob of upwards of 100 people to the Three Cups inn, resulting in a proclamation being read by steward of the corporation, Thomas Kempster, to disperse them.<sup>108</sup>

In 1745 two suspected Jacobites were captured and taken to Harwich for questioning as potential spies.<sup>109</sup> In 1748 three men identified as connected to the Jacobite rebellion were detained by HM Customs in Harwich gaol.<sup>110</sup> An unexplained disturbance occurred in 1775 when a gang blocked a street in Harwich with anchors, placed a boat near the town gates, turned over various vehicles and carried off a fishing boat before abandoning it up river.<sup>111</sup> In 1815 a ‘violent Outrage committed by the Populace’ involved a mob attacking Customs officers, apparently as a result of attempts to uncover a smuggling operation. A London officer James Croton was beaten and a mob of mostly women threw stones at other officers who were trying to escape in a rowing boat.<sup>112</sup>

## CHARITIES FOR THE POOR

St Nicholas’ church received income for church repairs from a bequest of William King in 1627. The house and windmill bequeathed by King were apparently acquired by the Government in 1714, with £188 compensation being paid. In 1720 the money was used to purchase a farm in Tendring for the sum of £241 3s. 3d. so that the rent would continue to provide an income for the church.<sup>113</sup> Four almshouses attached to the Harwich workhouse, a gift of George Coleman in 1673, were rebuilt in 1718, with the corporation agreeing to spend £212 and the southern end of the building funded by a £20 donation from Daniel Smyth, snr.<sup>114</sup> They were partly rebuilt again in 1769.<sup>115</sup> There were also two other sets of almshouses, one group built of cliff stones and the other on St Helen’s Green (near St Nicholas’ church) and possibly religious in origin. The latter was still extant in 1728.<sup>116</sup> Giles Baker, in his will of 1741, bequeathed two tenements in Harwich to fund three poor seamen’s widows.<sup>117</sup> Similarly, a bequest from Mary Wiseman in 1758 provided for bread to be distributed each year to 24 Harwich widows and housekeepers, of the Church of England, but who were not otherwise receiving alms.<sup>118</sup> Offley’s Gift originated c.1760 when a total of £4 10s. p.a. was set aside for the poor of Harwich under the various wills of members of the Offley family. During the remainder of the 18th century Mrs Offley’s Gift, as it became

known, allowed for £2 10s. to be distributed to the poor, and also provided to the poor two tenements in West Street, Harwich.<sup>119</sup>

The parish church of All Saints, Dovercourt, received an income from the Dovercourt Church and Poor Lands Charity, which comprised the earlier founded charities of Revd Richard Strought, Robert Smart and Margaret Baylam or Bolland.<sup>120</sup> Most of these funds were for distribution to the poor, with some going towards church repairs.<sup>121</sup> The Richard Strought charity admitted eleven new trustees, including Henry Nevill, earl of Abergavenny, in 1786 as there was only one surviving trustee at the time.<sup>122</sup> Robert Smart's Gift relating to his will of 1638 gave land for the use of the poorest widows or other poor people of Dovercourt parish while Margaret Bolland's Gift via her will of an unknown date devised a field in Dovercourt for the use of the poor.<sup>123</sup> In 1807 two new tenements in George Yard, Dovercourt, part of the Charity Lands, were allocated rent-free to two poor families and two almshouses were converted into a workhouse for the aged and infirm poor.<sup>124</sup> The Henry Smith Charity, dating from 1626, also provided for the poor of Dovercourt.<sup>125</sup>

In 1775 the corporation donated 20 guineas to the Committee for the Relief of Soldiers' Widows and Orphans as a result of British involvement in the American War of Independence.<sup>126</sup>

#### *Benevolent institutions*

A house in West Street, Harwich, was used as a 'Hospitall for Sick & Wounded Seamen', probably in the early part of the 18th century.<sup>127</sup> In 1731 a corporation for the 'Benefitt of poor Widows and Children of Sea Officers' was established.<sup>128</sup> A friendly society was established at Harwich in 1794 by Robert Whiting, Edward Boyden and Jacob Squirrel.<sup>129</sup>

## **POOR RELIEF**

### *Harwich*

A new workhouse was built in 1728, with the help of £300 given by John Perceval and Sir Philip Parker, the Harwich MPs.<sup>130</sup> Expenses paid by the overseers of the poor covered a

variety of circumstances. For example, in 1729 they included the funeral expenses of a girl called Crick; in 1734 the sum of £2 was given to Elizabeth Nichols for rent costs and in 1735 Daniel Walker was paid 3s. 6d. ‘[f]or keeping a poor boy a week’.<sup>131</sup> Costs relating to the enforcement of the poor law and settlement were sometimes covered, as in 1735 when 2s. was paid out to send two poor women and three children to Manningtree.<sup>132</sup> The costs of transporting three families to Scotland in 1742 and another family to Lancashire the following year were not apparently covered as these fell under vagrancy laws.<sup>133</sup> Also in 1742 an important case before the Court of King’s Bench ruled that the order for the removal of Thomas Parsons, his wife Susannah, and their children from Woolverstone (Suff.) to Harwich should be quashed.<sup>134</sup> In 1747, apparently as a result of the Vagrancy Act of 1744, one individual and two families were prosecuted and transferred to the next parish, in this instance Ramsey, though their places of origin in these cases were Warminster (Wilts), Hinton St George (Somerset) and Bideford (Devon).<sup>135</sup> Unusual expenses paid by the overseers included £1 10s. ‘[f]or Fetching James Sheppard from Shotl[e]y to Marry Mary Smith’ in 1730 and 1s. 9d. spent on ‘Beare and Biscakes for y<sup>e</sup> Old People’ at the workhouse in 1741.<sup>136</sup> In 1736 a total of £2 3s. was paid by the corporation for bread that had been provided to the poor in 1732 and 1734, probably part of the gift of 12 loaves made by the corporation on a weekly basis.<sup>137</sup>

Part of the workhouse was built or rebuilt in 1769.<sup>138</sup> In the early 1770s the number of vagrants sentenced to hard labour in the workhouse was six (1772), three (1773) and six (1774), to be employed in picking oakum.<sup>139</sup> In the year to Easter 1776 the amount spent on poor relief in St Nicholas parish was £686 19s. 9d. with the workhouse capable of accommodating 60 people.<sup>140</sup> Tasks undertaken at the latter in 1777 included knitting and spinning, while in 1784 the inmates were usually employed in manufacturing worsted gloves, mittens and stockings.<sup>141</sup> In the severe winter of 1789 potatoes, coals and money were given to the poor of Harwich.<sup>142</sup> Measures were taken in 1796 to reduce the consumption of wheat in the borough due to food shortages.<sup>143</sup> The borough authorities allowed coal carters to charge 10d. per chaldron in 1785, the amount increasing to 1s. in 1795.<sup>144</sup> In 1803 there were over 40 inmates in the workhouse, a number that increased to an average of about 60 by 1813, presumably indicating the workhouse was full at that time.<sup>145</sup>

Through the high constable, the mayor of Harwich had discretion to give small amounts of money to the needy. For example, in 1807 a sum of 2s. was given to ‘two poor Shipwreck sailors’ and 5s. to a ‘poor man escaped out of a French Prison’.<sup>146</sup> Other examples of outdoor relief in the early 19th century included in 1813 Sarah Adams being bought a new pair of shoes and a Mr Garred having a boat purchased on his behalf and receiving 1s. per week relief until the debt was paid off.<sup>147</sup> In the winter of 1814 bread and coals were distributed to the poor by the mayor, corporation and packet captains.<sup>148</sup> Expenditure on poor relief in Harwich amounted to £2,405 in 1814–15, at which time there were 56 people in the Harwich workhouse. The decline of the fishing industry contributed significantly to the increasing annual poor relief bill.<sup>149</sup>

#### *Dovercourt*

Dovercourt’s workhouse was recorded in 1736 when 700 bricks, sand, clay and nails were acquired for the ‘Town house’.<sup>150</sup> The building was thatched in 1738 and 1751 and considerable improvements were carried out in 1753.<sup>151</sup> Expenditure on the poor by the overseers again catered for a wide range of situations. It sometimes included the costs of removing the poor to another parish, as in 1741 when 5s. was paid for carrying a family to nearby Ramsey and in 1745 when costs of £2 5s. 6d. were incurred for removing a Mr Clarke and his wife to Colchester.<sup>152</sup> There were also some exceptional items. For example, in 1736 the cost of William Goodall’s wedding and his wife’s confinement was covered, including £8 14s. 10d. for an attorney’s bill.<sup>153</sup> In the Michaelmas 1746 to Easter 1747 half-year 13s. was expended on ‘Plowing and Sowing Cricks Field’.<sup>154</sup> In 1749 the sum of £1 13s. 10d. was paid out, being the ‘charge of the strange man that was found de[a]d in mi<sup>r</sup> Ealiston [Elliston’s] field’.<sup>155</sup> In 1762 Joseph Baker received £3 for providing the uniforms for three young sailors to go to sea.<sup>156</sup>

In the year to Easter 1776 the sum of £149 3s. 2d. was expended on poor relief in Dovercourt All Saints parish while the workhouse housed eight people.<sup>157</sup> In February 1795 it was agreed by the majority of Dovercourt’s inhabitants that money should be raised by subscription to supply the labouring poor with flour at a reduced price and also with coals for those in need. In the same month it was also agreed by the parish overseers that charity be given to the labouring poor ‘whither they belong to this parish or not provided they have no Weekly

Collection of A parish'. Parish overseer John Funnell was ordered to provide clothing to the poor in 1799. Owing to the rising price of corn the allowance for the poor was increased in the same year.<sup>158</sup> Poor relief expenditure in Dovercourt in 1814–15 was £338, more than double the amount paid in 1775–6.<sup>159</sup>

## EDUCATION

### *Corporation Free School*

The Corporation Free School in King's Quay Street, Harwich, was built in 1724 by Harwich MP Humphry Parsons, who donated £500, with the mayor Daniel Smyth, snr, adding another £200.<sup>160</sup> The school was also the residence of the schoolmaster, who was initially appointed by Parsons and paid £20 p.a.<sup>161</sup> In 1728 it was determined by the corporation to teach 'Eight poor Children of the Town in Writing Reading and Arithmetick' and to spend £10 quarterly teaching a further ten children of the poor, to be nominated by the mayor, aldermen and capital burgesses.<sup>162</sup> The number of pupils attending was fixed at 20 in 1730.<sup>163</sup> It was stipulated by the corporation in 1734 that no boy under ten should be admitted and also introduced was a requirement to leave on reaching the age of 14. Further it was decided that the mayor's opinion would have precedence in nominating the boys followed by the nominations of the aldermen and capital burgesses according to seniority.<sup>164</sup>

Repairs to the school were undertaken in 1768 and 1786.<sup>165</sup> In 1792 a salary of £7 10s. was granted to Revd William Whinfield, curate of Dovercourt with Harwich, when he was appointed headmaster of the Free School, with a further £5 allowed for supplying paper and stationery.<sup>166</sup> In 1802 John Robinson, MP, gave £150, described as Robinson's Gift, to be invested to provide books for poor children to teach them the Christian religion.<sup>167</sup> New regulations were implemented in 1807, including that 20 poor boys between the ages of eight and 14 be admitted and that 'such Boys be instructed in the principles of the Church of England and in reading writing and Arithmetic and such other good Learning as the Form of each Boy's continuance in the said School will admit of'. The headmaster's salary was increased to £30 p.a. at the same time and further raised to £40 p.a. in 1810.<sup>168</sup> That year it was also agreed by the corporation that the school and school-house be repaired at a cost of not more than £186.<sup>169</sup>

### *National School*

A National school was established in Harwich in 1812 after the corporation agreed to pay an initial sum of £21 and a further £10 10s. p.a. under Dr Bell's National plan.<sup>170</sup> In 1813 the sum of £450 10s. (exclusive of glazier's and painter's costs) was agreed to be spent by the corporation on the new school in King's Quay Street, Harwich.<sup>171</sup> In 1814 the National School pupils were treated to a dinner to celebrate the temporary peace.<sup>172</sup>

### *Private schools and tutors*

There were a number of private schools in Harwich and private tuition was also offered by individuals in the 18th century. Mr Jones, a dancing teacher, taught every Friday at Harwich in 1730.<sup>173</sup> John Coleman opened a school offering writing, arithmetic and merchant accounting in 1745.<sup>174</sup> William Enefer offered tuition in arithmetic, navigation and bookkeeping at his school in West Street in 1760.<sup>175</sup> Mrs Spratlin ran a school in Harwich for seven years before moving to Elmstead in 1777, but she returned to open a boarding school for young ladies in 1779.<sup>176</sup> Mrs Hartley, of Church Street, offered tuition in the 'elegant Art of Drawing and Painting Houses, Landscapes, and Miniature Portrait Painting upon ivory, in water colours' in 1793.<sup>177</sup> Miss Tills provided an education for young ladies at her boarding school in Harwich in 1795, teaching English language, geography and needlework, before transferring the school to Colchester in 1796.<sup>178</sup> A new boarding school for young ladies, opened by Miss Death in 1798 with board and tuition costing 16 guineas a year, continued to operate until 1802 or after.<sup>179</sup> In 1810 it was estimated that c.100 boys were taught at the several day schools in Harwich and there was also a day school in Dovercourt.<sup>180</sup> At the same time the Congregational church ran a school at their meeting house.<sup>181</sup>

### *Charities for education*

Testators provided for the education of the poor in the Church of England tradition though no school is recorded in the 18th century. John Rolfe's will of 1717 stipulated that the interest on £50 go towards educating two poor children of St Nicholas parish. In 1727 Daniel Smyth, snr, bequeathed £60, with the interest to go towards educating three poor children in Harwich

borough. In 1730 William Godfrey bequeathed £25, the interest on which provided for one poor child's education in St Nicholas parish.<sup>182</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *IJ*, 9, 30 Dec. 1752, 6, 13, 20, 27 Jan., 3 Feb. 1753, 4 Sept., 23, 30 Oct. 1773; J. Gibson, *Some Useful Hints and Friendly Admonitions to Young Surgeons on the Practice of Midwifery* (1772). Gibson died in 1773 after an altercation with Josias Baker: below, Local Govt and Politics, Municipal govt, Admin. and expenditure.

<sup>2</sup> *IJ*, 4 Mar. 1758, 6, 13 Oct. 1781, 2 Mar. 1782.

<sup>3</sup> Brown, *Essex at Work*, 67. Mark Du'land was advertising as a stationer, bookseller and bookbinder in 1754: *IJ*, 21 Dec. 1754.

<sup>4</sup> Above, Econ. Hist., Trade and commerce, Market.

<sup>5</sup> HTC, 144/3.

<sup>6</sup> ERO, D/B 4/136/12; T/P 86/22; HTC, 98.7 G, mins, 27 July 1789; *IJ*, 5 Jan. 1765, 6 Feb. 1779, 16 Sept. 1786. For the Cox family's involvement in banking and brewing: above, Econ. Hist., Trade and commerce, Banking and Econ. Hist., Ind., Brewing and malting.

<sup>7</sup> ERO, D/DU 206/8; D/P 170/1/3, bur. 13 June 1763; *IJ*, 8 Apr. 1758.

<sup>8</sup> ERO, D/P 170/1/4, bur. 11 Apr. 1766; T/P 86/22; HTC, 98.6 F, mins, 21 Dec. 1773; *IJ*, 19 Feb. 1780, 19 Oct. 1805.

<sup>9</sup> TNA, IR 26/383/367; ERO, D/DU 206/10, release of legacy by William Hearn, of Harwich, draper, 15 Oct. 1770; *IJ*, 13, 20, 27 Jan., 10 Feb. 1770, 15 Sept. 1810, 25 Jan., 22 Feb., 31 Oct. 1812, 25 Feb. 1815.

<sup>10</sup> ERO, T/P 86/22; *IJ*, 28 Mar. 1801, 15 Oct. 1803, 14 Mar. 1845; Weaver, *Harwich Papers*, 75; above, Intro., Communications and transport, Packet boats, Mail packets.

<sup>11</sup> ERO, D/P 170/1/4, bur. 7 Dec. 1776; T/P 86/22; *IJ*, 30 Jan. 1808; J. H. Bloom, *Heraldry and Monumental Inscriptions in the Chs, Nonconformist Chapels and Burial Grounds of Harwich, Dovercourt, and Ramsey, in the Hundred of Tendring and County of Essex* (1893), 10; Weaver, *Harwich Papers*, 75; below, Local Govt and Politics, Municipal govt, Elections. William Deane also served as chamberlain (HTC, 98.6 F, mins, 30 Nov. 1773) and Thomas Deane (1762/3–1837) worked for HM Customs (TNA, CUST 99/16, 17 Dec. 1805; 99/20, 11, 28 Nov. 1816) but his relation to the wider family is unclear.

<sup>12</sup> TNA, T 11/20, 14 Apr. 1731; below, Local Govt and Politics, Parl. representation.

<sup>13</sup> TNA, CUST 99/8, 28 Jan. 1769; ERO, D/P 174/8/1, 25 Mar. 1799; HTC, 98.6 F, mins, 30 Nov. 1777, 30 Nov. 1778; *IJ*, 22 May, 13 Nov. 1779.

<sup>14</sup> C. Bridge, *Some Recollections By Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge G.C.B. With Illustrations* (1918), 7; *IJ*, 27 May 1797.

<sup>15</sup> Above, Harwich and Dovercourt, 1604–1713, Econ. Hist., Trade, markets and fairs.

<sup>16</sup> HTC, 98.5 E, mins, 26 Feb. 1728; 98.6 F, mins, 3 Mar. 1739.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.* 99.3, 5 Nov. 1742, 30 Oct. 1745, 26 Apr. 1748.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.* 5 Apr. 1745.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.* 98.6 F, mins, 17 Feb. 1749.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.* 99.3, 6 Nov. 1752, 6 Nov. 1769.

<sup>21</sup> L.T. Weaver, ‘*Times* trivia - II’, *Highlight*, no. 191, Spring 2018, p. 20, citing *The Times*, 9 Nov. 1803.

<sup>22</sup> *IJ*, 28 Mar. 1789.

<sup>23</sup> HTC, 98.7 G, mins, 7 Nov. 1809; *IJ*, 28 Oct. 1809.

<sup>24</sup> *IJ*, 13 Oct. 1798, 7 Sept. 1799.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.* 30 Nov. 1805.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.* 9, 16 July, 6 Aug. 1814; below, this sect., Educ., Nat. Sch.

<sup>27</sup> HTC, 98.16, 13 July 1764, 19 Apr. 1765.

<sup>28</sup> *IJ*, 15 Apr., 12 Aug., 7 Oct. 1749, 3 Feb., 28 Apr., 16 June 1750.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.* 21, 28 June, 9, 30 Aug. 1755, 10, 17, 24, 31 July 1756.

<sup>30</sup> HTC, 148/6; *IJ*, 29 July 1758. The assembly room hosted an auction in 1769 when it was styled the Old Assembly Room: *IJ*, 12 Aug. 1769.

<sup>31</sup> *IJ*, 15 July, 12 Aug., 9, 16 Sept., 7, 21 Oct. 1758, 11 Aug. 1764, 6 July 1765.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.* 24 Oct., 21 Nov., 12 Dec. 1767.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.* 21 May 1785, 24 Nov. 1787, 18 July 1789.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.* 9, 30 Oct., 27 Nov. 1790, 1, 29 Jan., 26 Feb. 1791.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.* 21 Aug. 1813.

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.* 24 June 1780, 13 Mar., 24 Apr. 1784. It appears that the second theatre was similarly short-lived, probably dependent on the military presence for its viability.

<sup>37</sup> *Ibid.* 3 Aug. 1782.

<sup>38</sup> ERO, D/B 4/136/14; HTC, 98.17, 15 July 1793, 14 July 1794; *IJ*, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Aug., 7 Sept., 12 Oct. 1793, 9 Aug. 1794.

<sup>39</sup> *IJ*, 3, 10 June 1809, 21 Apr. 1810.

<sup>40</sup> TNA, MFQ 1/92/6; *IJ*, 1 Jan. 1814.

<sup>41</sup> *Ipswich Gaz.*, 1–8 June 1734.

<sup>42</sup> *IJ*, 3 Sept. 1768.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.* 7, 14, Aug. 1773.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid.* 21 Sept. 1782.

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.* 15 Nov. 1788.

<sup>46</sup> *Ibid.* 21 Aug. 1813.

<sup>47</sup> HTC, 159/3.

<sup>48</sup> *IJ*, 12 May 1753.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.* 2 Jan. 1762.

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.* 30 Aug., 6 Sept. 1766.

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.* 21 Mar. 1767, 11 Nov. 1769.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.* 11 Mar. 1780.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.* 2, 16 Aug. 1777.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.* 3, 10, 17 Aug. 1793.

<sup>55</sup> ‘Clericus Leicestriensis’, ‘A voyage from Harwich to Helvoetsluys’, *Gent. Mag.* 63, pt 2 (Nov. 1793), 971.

<sup>56</sup> *IJ*, 18 June 1791, 13, 20 Oct. 1792.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.* 23 July, 3 Sept. 1796.

<sup>58</sup> *Ibid.* 17 Nov. 1810.

<sup>59</sup> Freemasonry Libr., GBR 1991 HC 2/E/6, GBR 1991 HC 2/E/9, GBR 1991 HC 8/A/5; Lane’s Masonic Rec., version 2.0: <https://www.dhi.ac.uk/lane/record.php?ID=742> (accessed 17 Sept. 2021).

<sup>60</sup> Lane’s Masonic Rec., version 2.0: <https://www.dhi.ac.uk/lane/record.php?ID=775> (accessed 17 Sept. 2021); G. O. R., ‘Gothic Lodge of Freemasons, No. 186, Harwich’, *ER* 49 (1950), 7.

<sup>61</sup> *IJ*, 4 Oct. 1806.

<sup>62</sup> Freemasonry Libr., GBR 1991 HC 8/A/32.

<sup>63</sup> Lane’s Masonic Rec., version 2.0: <https://www.dhi.ac.uk/lane/record.php?ID=1084> (accessed 17 Sept. 2021); *HDFP*, 16 May 1896.

<sup>64</sup> Lane's Masonic Rec., version 2.0: <https://www.dhi.ac.uk/lane/record.php?ID=1268> (accessed 17 Sept. 2021).

<sup>65</sup> *Hist. Essex by Gent.*, VI, 99.

<sup>66</sup> J. Beresford (ed.). *The Diary of a Country Parson: The Revd James Woodforde*. 1758–1781 (1924), 206.

<sup>67</sup> TNA, ADM 106/808/64, 106/866/282, 106/1003/151, 106/1003/152, 106/1003/158, 106/1055/32, 106/1079/117; *Ipswich Gaz.*, 25 Oct.–1 Nov. 1735; *IJ*, 6–13 Sept. 1729, 12 Nov. 1743, 11 May 1745, 21 May 1748, 14, 21 Apr. 1750.

<sup>68</sup> *Ipswich Gaz.*, 2–9, 9–16, 16–23, 23–30 Nov. 1734.

<sup>69</sup> *IJ*, 7 Feb. 1747.

<sup>70</sup> *Ibid.* 6, 13 Apr. 1745, 6 Dec. 1746, 14, 21 Nov. 1747, 27 Feb., 3, 17 Sept. 1748.

<sup>71</sup> TNA, ADM 106/1099/59, 106/1099/60, 106/1102/124, 354/146/4, 354/146/13–15; CUST 99/6, 30 Apr. 1752.

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.* SP 36/130/2/13; *IJ*, 26 Apr., 3 May 1755.

<sup>73</sup> *IJ*, 12 Sept. 1761.

<sup>74</sup> *Ibid.* 13 Dec. 1794, 3 Sept. 1803.

<sup>75</sup> <https://morethannelson.com/the-navy-conveys-princess-caroline-of-brunswick-to-england-march-1795/> (accessed 23 Oct. 2021).

<sup>76</sup> J. Boswell, *Life of Samuel Johnson* (1791), I, pp. 256–7.

<sup>77</sup> *IJ*, 7 Sept. 1765; 'G. O. R.', 'Wilkes in Essex', *EJ* 54 (1945), 67.

<sup>78</sup> *A Review of the Conduct of Pascal Paoli. Addressed to the Rt. Hon. William Beckford, Esq; Lord Mayor of the City of London* (1770), 7; *IJ*, 23 Sept. 1769.

<sup>79</sup> *IJ*, 12 Aug., 9 Sept. 1786; [Harwich Wesleyan Methodist Ch.], *One Hundred Years and More of Wesleyan Methodism at Harwich* ([1929]), 2, 3 (copy in ERO, Acc. C1032, Box 7); S. La Roche (transl. C. Williams, with a foreword by G.M. Trevelyan), *Sophie in London 1786: Being the Diary of Sophie v. La Roche* (1933), 77–8; J. Wesley, *An Extract of the Jnl of the Rev. Mr. John Wesley. From June 29, 1786, to Oct. 24, 1790* (1794), XXI, 9–10 (copy in ERO, D/DU 617/1).

<sup>80</sup> *IJ*, 22 Jan. 1780.

<sup>81</sup> *Ibid.* 23 June, 28 July 1787.

<sup>82</sup> TNA, HO 42/22/176, ff. 452–3; 42/22/214, ff. 529–30; 42/23/145, f. 342; 42/23/194, f. 435; 42/23/268, f. 587; 42/24/36, ff. 75–6; see also *IJ*, 24 Nov., 1, 8 Dec. 1792, 5, 26 Jan., 25 May 1793.

<sup>83</sup> *IJ*, 19 Jan. 1793.

<sup>84</sup> *Ibid.* 12 July, 2, 23 Aug. 1794.

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid.* 6 Dec. 1794, 24 Jan., 17 Oct. 1795.

<sup>86</sup> *Ibid.* 1, 8 Jan. 1814.

<sup>87</sup> [Macky], *A Journey Through England*, 11.

<sup>88</sup> C. Fell Smith, ‘Eighteenth century travels’, *ER* 36 (1927), 116.

<sup>89</sup> *IJ*, 28 July, 4, 11, 18, 25 Aug., 1 Sept. 1753.

<sup>90</sup> *Ibid.* 17 Aug. 1754, 7, 21, 28 June 1755, 30 July, 6, 20 Aug. 1757, 13 May 1758.

<sup>91</sup> *Hist. Essex by Gent.*, VI, 100; Morant, *Essex*, I, 500.

<sup>92</sup> *IJ*, 23 Aug. 1777.

<sup>93</sup> J.H. Prince, *Original Letters and Essays on Moral and Entertaining Subjects* (1797), 95–6; E. Watson, *A Tour in Holland, in MDCCCLXXXIV. By an American* (1790), 16.

<sup>94</sup> *IJ*, 25 May, 1 June 1793.

<sup>95</sup> *Universal Brit. Dir.* (1793), III, 239.

<sup>96</sup> Brown, *Essex People*, 91, citing ERO, D/DU 251/89.

<sup>97</sup> *IJ*, 5 June 1802, 23 June, 28 July 1804.

<sup>98</sup> *Ibid.* 23 June 1804.

<sup>99</sup> *Colch. Gaz.* 28 May 1814, 13 May 1815, 14 June 1817, 23 May 1818, 15 May 1819, 6 May 1820; *IJ*, 15 June 1805, 17 May 1806, 30 May 1807, 20 Apr. 1811, 28 May 1825. Mrs Sherman went into partnership with Horn in 1820.

<sup>100</sup> ERO, T/A 335/1; HTC, 98.17, 6 Oct. 1800; 98.18, 6 Apr. 1807; *IJ*, 23 June 1781, 17 Jan. 1807, 31 Aug. 1811. Frederick Wyles’ body was not found and later he was considered a suspect after a burglary at the Custom House: *IJ*, 9, 16, 23, 30 Nov. 1811, 18, 25 Jan., 1, 8 Feb. 1812.

<sup>101</sup> *IJ*, 4 Aug. 1750.

<sup>102</sup> *Ibid.* 1 Sept. 1750.

<sup>103</sup> *Ibid.* 6, 13 Aug. 1774.

<sup>104</sup> *Ibid.* 8 May, 26 June, 3, 17, 24 July 1784. Note: the newspaper was incorrectly dated 27 June 1784.

<sup>105</sup> ERO, T/P 86/14, p. 9.

<sup>106</sup> Weaver, *Harwich: Gateway*, 14.

<sup>107</sup> *IJ*, 2 June 1810.

<sup>108</sup> Weaver, *Harwich*, 80–1, citing TNA, SP 44/124.

<sup>109</sup> TNA, CUST 99/4, 6, 9, 14 Nov. 1745; SP 36/73/2/32, 36/73/3/28, 36/73/3/42, 36/73/3/115.

<sup>110</sup> Ibid. SP 36/106/1/56–7.

<sup>111</sup> *IJ*, 2 Sept. 1775.

<sup>112</sup> TNA, CUST 99/19, 20 Sept. 1815.

<sup>113</sup> Ibid. CHAR 2/84; 32–*Pt I. Rep. of the Com.* (Parl. Papers 1837–8 [108], xxv), p. 566; below, Relig. Hist., CoE, Endowment, glebe and vicarage houses.

<sup>114</sup> 32–*Pt I. Rep. of the Com.*, p. 566; HTC, 98.5 E, 21 Dec. 1718; Dale, *Harwich and Dovercourt*, 30 n., 55–6 n.

<sup>115</sup> ERO, T/P 86/18, notes extracted from Harwich and Dovercourt par. mag., vol. 1, no. 1 (Jan. 1873).

<sup>116</sup> Dale, *Harwich and Dovercourt*, 29 n.

<sup>117</sup> TNA, PROB 11/712/204.

<sup>118</sup> Ibid. PROB 11/836/121; ERO, D/P 170/13/1.

<sup>119</sup> 32–*Pt I. Rep. of the Com.*, pp. 565–6; ERO, T/P 195/8/20, [p. 87]; Morant, *Essex*, I, 501.

<sup>120</sup> Above, Tudor Harwich and Dovercourt, Soc. Hist., Chars.

<sup>121</sup> 32–*Pt I. Rep. of the Com.*, p. 567; ERO, T/P 195/8/19, pp. 23–4; below, Relig. Hist., CoE, Endowment, glebe and vicarage houses.

<sup>122</sup> ERO, D/DLy M4, 10 Nov. 1786.

<sup>123</sup> TNA, CHAR 2/84.

<sup>124</sup> ERO, D/P 174/8/1, 22 Apr. 1807.

<sup>125</sup> Ibid. D/P 174/25/17.

<sup>126</sup> HTC, 98.6 F, mins, 30 Nov. 1775; 99.3, 1 Jan. 1776.

<sup>127</sup> ERO, D/DSg T3.

<sup>128</sup> TNA, ADM 106/826/107, 106/826/127.

<sup>129</sup> HTC, 98.17, 13 Jan. 1794.

<sup>130</sup> Dale, *Harwich and Dovercourt*, 56 n.

<sup>131</sup> ERO, D/P 170/12/1, 21 Oct. 1729, 29 Apr. 1734, 4 Feb. 1735.

<sup>132</sup> Ibid. 20 Oct. 1735.

<sup>133</sup> HTC, 98.16, 5 Oct. 1742, 14 July 1743.

<sup>134</sup> J. Burrow (compiled by), *Decisions of the Court of King's Bench, upon Settlement-cases; from the Death of Lord Raymond, in March 1732, to June 1776, Inclusive* (2nd edn, 1786), 171–7.

<sup>135</sup> HTC, 98.16, 15 Jan., 13 Apr., 8 Oct. 1747.

<sup>136</sup> ERO, D/P 170/12/1, 16 Nov. 1730, 17 Jan. 1741.

<sup>137</sup> Ibid. T/P 195/8/20, [p. 88]; HTC, 98.5 E, mins, 8 May 1736.

<sup>138</sup> HTC, 152/16, p. 29.

<sup>139</sup> *Rep. from the Cttee Appointed to make Enqs Relating to the Employment, Relief, and Maintenance of the Poor* (Parl. Papers 26 Oct. 1775–23 May 1776, xxxi), p. 73.

<sup>140</sup> *Abstracts of the Returns made by the Overseers of the Poor* (Parl. Papers 31 Oct. 1776–6 June 1777, xxxi), p. 56.

<sup>141</sup> IJ, 9 Aug. 1777, 4, 11 Sept. 1784.

<sup>142</sup> Ibid. 17 Jan. 1789.

<sup>143</sup> TNA, HO 42/38/18, ff. 33–4; HTC, 144/8/18; 98.17, 11 Jan. 1796.

<sup>144</sup> HTC, 98.17, 10 Jan. 1785, 13 July 1795.

<sup>145</sup> IJ, 21 Aug. 1813; Brown, *Essex at Work*, 149.

<sup>146</sup> ERO, T/A 335/1, bdle 103/1–12, notes from mayor to high constable.

<sup>147</sup> Ibid. D/P 170/8/2, 4 Feb., 26 Aug. 1813.

<sup>148</sup> IJ, 5 Feb. 1814.

<sup>149</sup> ERO, Q/CR 1/10; HTC, 98.7 G, mins, 18 Sept. 1812.

<sup>150</sup> ERO, D/P 174/12/2, 26 Aug., 21–2 Sept. 1736.

<sup>151</sup> Ibid. 23 Mar. 1738, 2 Mar. 1751, 9–13 Jan., 7–8, 14, 19–21, 26 Feb., 7 Mar., 22 Apr. 1753.

<sup>152</sup> Ibid. 11 Mar. 1741, 17, 20 Sept. 1745.

<sup>153</sup> Ibid. 20–21 May, 5–6, 25 June 1736, 16–7 July 1736.

<sup>154</sup> Ibid. Michaelmas 1746 to Easter 1747.

<sup>155</sup> Ibid. Easter 1749 to Michaelmas 1749.

<sup>156</sup> Ibid. 7 Apr. 1762.

<sup>157</sup> *Abstracts of the Returns*, p. 56.

<sup>158</sup> ERO, D/P 174/8/1, 9, 20 Feb. 1795, 9 Jan., 6 Nov. 1799.

<sup>159</sup> Ibid. Q/CR 1/10.

<sup>160</sup> Dale, *Harwich and Dovercourt*, 57 n.

<sup>161</sup> HTC, 98.5 E, mins, 10 June 1725. The requirement for the schoolmaster to preach an afternoon sermon was rescinded by the corporation on 9 Dec. 1726.

<sup>162</sup> Ibid. 5 Oct. 1728.

<sup>163</sup> Ibid. 19 May 1730.

<sup>164</sup> Ibid. 3 Feb. 1734.

<sup>165</sup> HTC, 99.3, 13 Dec. 1768; 98.6 F, mins, 14 Feb. 1786.

<sup>166</sup> Ibid. 98.7 G, mins, 6 July 1792.

<sup>167</sup> 32–*Pt I. Rep. of the Com.*, p. 564; HTC, 454, copy letter, 14 Dec. 1801.

<sup>168</sup> HTC, 98.7 G, mins, 16 Sept. 1807, 11 June 1810.

<sup>169</sup> Ibid. 15 Oct. 1810.

<sup>170</sup> Ibid. 4 May 1812. The £10 10s. annual sum was no longer paid from 1814 as a result of a resolution rescinding the original agreement: HTC, 98.7 G, mins, 14 May 1814).

<sup>171</sup> Ibid. 28 June, 10 Aug. 1813. The eventual cost far exceeded this, however, with up to c.£900 being spent in 1814: HTC, 99.4, 30 Nov. 1813 to 30 Nov. 1814.

<sup>172</sup> *IJ*, 2 July 1814.

<sup>173</sup> Ibid. 19–26 Sept., 26 Sept.–3 Oct., 3–10 Oct. 1730.

<sup>174</sup> Ibid. 19 Jan. 1745.

<sup>175</sup> Ibid. 5 Jan. 1760.

<sup>176</sup> Ibid. 26 Apr. 1777, 6, 13 Feb., 20 Mar. 1779.

<sup>177</sup> Ibid. 11, 18 May 1793.

<sup>178</sup> Ibid. 3 Oct. 1795, 6 Feb. 1796.

<sup>179</sup> Ibid. 13 Jan., 7 July 1798, 12 Jan., 6 July 1799, 4 Jan. 1800, 3 July 1802.

<sup>180</sup> Lamb. Pal. Libr., FP Randolph 10/7, 10/8.

<sup>181</sup> Ibid. FP Randolph 10/8.

<sup>182</sup> TNA, PROB 11/618/253; 32–*Pt I. Rep. of the Com.*, p. 564; ERO, D/ABW 82/176, 88/2/45.