



WINFARTHING

A village in the newspapers(v) 1876 - 1900

Transcripts of newspaper articles with a connection to the village of Winfarthing, with comments and notes on their content.



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Notes:

- Some of the original documents are hard to read and the transcripts are as accurate as possible.
- Especially in the earlier articles, grammar and spelling is 'different' to that normally accepted today. All transcripts are copies of the originals including these differences.
- Within some of the articles, there is content that is not relevant to Winfarthing. Where it is possible to omit this from the transcription without losing relevance, in its place will be shown '.....'.
- Comments and notes associated with an article is the work of individual researchers. No guarantee as to its accuracy can be given but it is checked as carefully as possible.
- If anyone finds errors within this document we will be pleased to receive them and update the original
- Any additional information on the articles you are willing to share, we will gladly include them in this booklet.
- Please contact the author by email to np781@btinternet.com.

Introduction

Some academics think the Romans were the first to have a 'newspaper' – the Acta Diurna, or daily doings, in 59 BC. No copies of this paper have survived, but it is widely believed to have listed events, assemblies, births, deaths, and daily gossip.

The Oxford Gazette was established as a government 'newsbook' in 1665, and was succeeded by the London Gazette in 1666. Its format as a single sheet, printed on both sides, now described as the first English newspaper.

Since about 1706, there are thought to have been at least 40 newspapers published in Norfolk, many based around Norwich and other towns. There are still some going today but nowhere like the number there had been. Add to this the newspapers from Suffolk, making newspapers significant sources of information. Old newspapers are sometimes the only easily accessible resources to show what was happening in our towns and villages.

For genealogists they provide a significant source of information on the social events taking place, and some of the more anti-social ones too! They include names of people and events in their lives. Births, marriages and deaths are often given for the more notable, whilst court proceedings name the less social (if guilty) people. Along with the main subject of the article there are often listed others, family members, etc., so expanding the knowledge we can glean from them.

The transcripts below are listed in date order, starting with the earliest.

1884 : Assault on Henry Scarff
The Ipswich Journal, Saturday 12 Jan 1884, Page 10

DISS.

Sessions Hall, Wednesday, January 9. -Before the Rev. C. R. Manning, and Francis Taylor, Esq.

Assaults, - Cornelius Green, Winfarthing, labourer, was charged with assaulting Henry Scarff, of Banham, at Winfarthing, on December 9th.

Mr J Clarke, solicitor, Diss, appeared for the defendant.

Complainant stated that on Sunday evening, the 9th of December he attended the chapel at Winfarthing, and when he came out the defendant and several others who were with him commenced to pelt him and his friends with snowballs. To set out of their way they went into the Old Oak Inn, where they remained till 10 o'clock, and upon leaving they were pelted again. A large number of young fellows followed them and commenced assaulting them with sticks; the defendant Green struck him a violent blow with a stick without any provocation.

Cross-examined ; He did not know that he was called "Jim Mace"; was sure that he had not sent a challenge to the Winfarthing men to fight, and had no intention of making a disturbance when he came to Winfarthing.

Mr. Clarke, on behalf of the defendant, denied that any assault had been committed, and called Horace Sparks, Winfarthing, who said he was with the others, but saw no blows inflicted.

There being other cases mixed up with the same affair, the Bench intimated that they would hear the whole of the evidence before giving their decision.

Albert Ellis, labourer, Winfarthing, was then charged with assaulting Thos. Gould at the same time and place.

Mr Clarke appeared for the defendant. According to complainant's evidence it appeared that he joined the Banham men as they were going home, when, without any provocation, he was attacked by Ellis, who struck him on the head with a loaded stick, which knocked him down and stunned him.

Defendant denied the assault, and called Thomas Turner and George Reeve, Winfarthing, both of whom said that Gould assaulted Ellis.

James Brown, labourer, Winfarthing, was charged with assaulting Arthur Chapman at the same time and place.

Mr. Clarke appeared for the defendant.

The complainant in this case lives at Banham, and was with the others going home when he was followed by about 25 young men belonging to Winfarthing, one of whom (Brown) struck him a violent blow.

Defendant denied the charge, and Frederick Parker was called, who said he was with the defendant, but did not see him strike complainant.

After considering the cases, the Bench decided to convict, and imposed a penalty of £1, including costs, in each case.

The money was paid.

Comments:

