

Diss Family History Group

Lopham Project



Ancestral links to the Lophams

Marcia Bell

© Marcia Bell 2025

**The cover picture is of Marcia's mother,
Peggy May Fellingham.**

The notes below relate to my family members who have a connection to the Lophams.

My mother, Peggy May Fellingham.

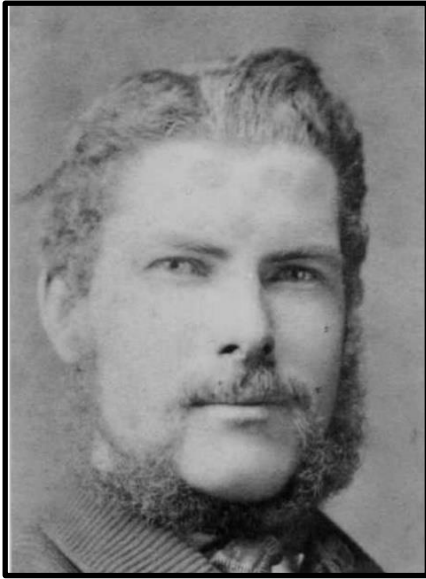
My mother, Peggy May Fellingham, was born in November 1924 in a thatched cottage on the Low Common, South Lopham. The property has since burned down.



Peggy May Fellingham

She moved to Rickinghall with her parents, Fred and Rosetta Fellingham, when she was two years old, when her mother decided to run a sweet shop there. Fred would be able to use the old stables at the back of the shop to run a poultry business. In 1926 she began renting the sweet shop and one of the cottages on the end of the row of terraced cottages. In 1933, when the owner of the terrace died, she assumed that she would be able to buy her shop and cottage, to safeguard the business. The executives of the will told her that the cottages were going to be auctioned as one lot and that she would have to buy them all! William Musk (see below) then stepped in and loaned my grandmother £200 of the £295 purchase price.

My great grandparents, George and Elizabeth Musk.



George Henry Musk



Elizabeth Musk (nee Coppings)

My great-grandparents were George Henry Musk (1855 – 1928) and Elizabeth (nee Copping, 1855 - ????).

They had 7 children; Arthur J (1879 - ????), Florence (1881 - ????), William George (1884 - ????), George T (1887 - 1895), Sophia M A (1890 - ????), Lily (1893 - ????), Rosetta (1895 - 1956) and George Thomas (1899 - ????).

The family were in South Lopham according to the 1901 and 1911 Census returns. They were living in Pooley Street somewhere near the Crown Inn. By 1911 they were living in Fen Street, Bressingham.

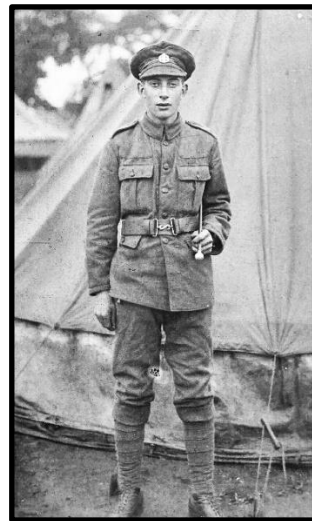
Elizabeth's legal name Copping although she often went by the name of Rodwell. Due to an illegitimacy back in the 1700s, some members of the family went by one name and some the other. In my great grandmother's case it changes from one census to another! There is a

link to the Rodwell/Dixon family involved in the 'Wortham murder' on 9th July 1899.

Elizabeth died in 1917 and was buried in Bressingham on 20th September. William lived until 1929 when he died in the Pulham Infirmary, and was buried in Bressingham on 14th March.



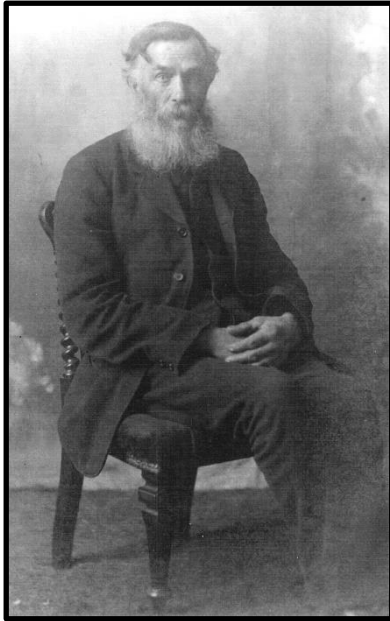
Rosetta Musk



George Thomas Musk (jun)

George (jun), above, is in his Rifle Brigade uniform. His army service started with attestment on 16 April 1919, enlistment on 24 August 1917, joining the 18th Battalion Training Reserve (Rifle Brigade) at Norwich and moving to Northampton Camp. He joined the 5th Company Rifle Brigade at Rugeley Camp, Rifleman No. 62598. During a period of leave, whilst out shooting, he accidentally shot himself in the foot. George spent several periods in military hospitals having his toes on his right foot operated on. Finally he was discharged on 20 April 1920 having been found unfit for further service, being unable to march.

My great grandparents, William and Sarah Ann Fellingham.



William Fellingham



**Sarah Ann Fellingham
(nee Kerry)**

My great grandparents William and Sarah Ann (nee Kerry), lived for several years at Brook Farm, Pooley Street, South Lopham.



**Brook Farm, Pooley Street,
South Lopham before WW1**

William was born in Bressingham in 1854 and baptised there on 11 June 1854. His parents were Joseph (1821 – 1854) and Alice (nee Hart, 1856 - 1932).

Sarah Ann was born in Fersfield on 14 March 1856. Her parents were John Kerry (1812 – 1860) and Levinia Violet (nee Rivett, 1818 – 1882). There are lots of John Kerrys around and it didn't help that he wasn't baptised - at least a baptism has never been found. John married Violet in Fersfield on 31 Jan 1837. Violet was often known as Levina to confuse matters. They made their home in Fersfield. On the 1851 census he gives his birthplace as 'Fraton' Suffolk which doesn't exist. He doesn't live until the 1861 census, which may have told us, but in 1841 he does live next door but one to a Hannah Kerry. She is his stepmother who married his father, John snr. John senior's first wife, Susan Kerry, nee Tufts, my 3x great-grandmother, is buried at Fersfield. The family originated from Eye. ***[There is a baptism for a John Kerry on 18 March 1912 in Wattisfield with parents John and Susanna.]***

William and Sarah Ann were married at Bressingham on 2 July 1880 and were very well regarded in their local community.

On the 1911 census William is living in South Lopham age 56 and working as a miller's carter. His wife Sarah is age 54. They have three children living with them, the other three having grown up and left home. Son Allen age 23 is described as a yardman on a farm and the other son Frederick age 17 is also working as a miller's carter. Lily, a daughter, is age 11 and still at school. It is known that William and his son Fred worked at Burroughes' Mill, just up the road in Bressingham.

(All other relevant census returns show the couple and children residing in Bressingham.)

They had 6 children: William J (1885 - ????), Alan (1888 - ????), Gertrude (1891 - ????), Frederick William (1893 – 1956), Edith (1896 - ????) and Lily (1900 – 2000).

Their son Allen moved to London and became a policeman at Battersea police station. He married Rose Adelaide Frost on Christmas Day 1914, and they remained in London.

Fred enlisted in the Norfolk Regiment during WW1 and was then transferred to the Army Service Corps because of his experience of working with horses at the mill. He was sent to Egypt where General Allenby led the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. His brother Allen and sister-in-law Rose named their son Allenby Fellingham after the great commander. In January 1923, Fred married 'the girl next door,' Rosetta Musk and they lived initially in a cottage on the Low Common.



**Fred Fellingham outside Brook Farm in
Pooley Street, South Lopham.
(The Crown Public House is in the distance.)**

Lily married Roland Sparrow in 1926. On the 1939 register they are shown living at Corner Farm with a family. At the time of her death, in 2000 age 100, she was the oldest resident of South Lopham.

Their eldest son William, who had left home by 1911, bought Three Gates Farm in Bressingham in 1935 and his family farmed there for 60 years.

William and his family are found living in Fen Street, Bressingham, according to the 1939 Registration: William J (b. 03.10.1885, farmer), living with wife Phoebe (b. 28.08.1878, unpaid domestic duties) and children Charles W (b. 16.03.1906, poultry farmer), Alan J (Jim) (b. 20.11.1907, cowman) and Hilda (b. 28.06.1913, domestic duties). Charlie, Jim and Hilda, my mother's cousins, feature in the book 'Behind the View, Portraits of a Norfolk Village' by Elizabeth Handy.

Hilda was the last Fellingham to live there and when she died the property was bought by Mervyn Lambert who runs the plant hire firm.

My Great Uncle, William Musk.




William Musk

The photograph above is possibly of William, but with less than 100 per cent certainty.

William was born in Palgrave on 25th July 1884. He was the third child of George Musk and his wife Elizabeth, and is shown on the 1901 census in the old cottage in Pooley Street, South Lopham. His eldest brother Arthur and eldest sister Florence had already left home.

He married Annie Florence Holden in South Lopham, registered in the fourth quarter of 1906. Banns were read in South Lopham on the 14th, 21st and 28th October 1906 and they married there on the 3rd November.

Ancestral links to the Lophams



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE
GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number R470097

19 <u>06</u> Marriage solemnized at <u>(the Parish Church)</u> in the <u>Parish</u> <u>of South Lopham</u> in the County of <u>Norfolk</u>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
245	7 hours	William George Musk	22	Bachelor	Builder	South Lopham	George Henry Musk	Labourer
	1906	Annie Florence Holden	21	Spinster	—	South Lopham	Henry Holden	Engine Driver

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by Henry X Holden his mark or after banns by me, C. J. Eastwood
 This Marriage was solemnized between us, William George Musk in the Presence of us, Sophia Mary Ann Musk. Rector
Annie Florence Holden

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a register of Marriages in the Registration District of Thetford
Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 23rd day of March 2005


MXC017231

THIS certificate is issued in pursuance of section 65 of the Marriage Act 1949. Sub-section 3 of that section provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the marriage to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE. ©CROWN COPYRIGHT

WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.

03/004 4286 1004 SP5L/00008



LAC

William was self-taught. He bought books on farming and had a very good business brain. He and Annie hosted games evenings for the younger members of the family at their home, The Limes, in Scole.

Annie was a South Lopham girl, baptised on 20 July 1890, age 5. Her parents were Henry Holden (1855 - ????) and Laura (nee Lusher, 1863 - 1937).

William was very highly rated in our family. He looked after his relatives, employing some of them on his farms. As well as The Limes in Scole, William also owned Millway Farm in Palgrave, Rookery Farm at Topcroft and various cottages.

He died on 1st September 1947.

Norfolk and Suffolk Journal and Diss Express
Friday, 5th September, 1947, page 5.

**THE LATE MR. W. G.
MUSK OF SCOLE**
**Well Known Poultry
Dealer**

The funeral took place yesterday (Thursday) at the Parish Church, of Mr. William George Musk, of The Limes, Scole, aged 63 years. Mr. Musk, who had been in failing health for some time, died at his home on Monday. Born at Bressingham he had been a farmer for many years, and was one of the best known poultry dealers in South Norfolk. He owned farms at Scole, Topcroft and Palgrave and carried on an extensive poultry business at Diss.

The funeral service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. D. Warburton, and Mrs. Warburton was at the organ for the hymns, "Oft in Danger" and "Abide with me."

The immediate mourners were: The widow; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Musk (son and daughter-in-law); Messrs. Arthur, Albert and Stanley Musk (sons); Mr. and Mrs. A. Constance (son-in-law and daughter);

The funeral took place yesterday (Thursday) [04.09.1947] at the Parish Church, of Mr. William George Musk, of The Limes, Scole, aged 63 years. Mr. Musk, who had been in failing health for some time, died at his home on Monday [01.09.1947]. Born at Bressingham he had been a farmer for many years, and was one of the best known poultry dealers in South Norfolk. He owned farms at Scole, Topcroft and Palgrave and carried on an extensive poultry business at Diss.

The funeral service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. D. Warburton, and Mrs. Warburton was at the organ for the hymns, "Oft in Danger" and "Abide with me."

The immediate mourners were: The widow;

Mr. and Mrs W. J. Musk (son and daughter-in-law); Messrs. Arthur, Albert and Stanley Musk (sons); Mr. and Mrs. A Constance (son-in-law and daughter);

The full article lists a great many who attended the funeral, reinforcing the high regard William was held in

My Great Aunt: Sophia Mary Ann Musk.

Sophia Mary Ann Musk, known as Sophie, was born on 19 January 1890 and baptised on 4 April 1890 in Palgrave. She was the fifth child of George Musk and his wife Elizabeth, and is shown on the 1901 census in the old cottage in Pooley Street, South Lopham.

She went into service at a young age and married Edwin Tooley Thorp at the Register Office in Lambeth on 26 Oct 1910. Sophie was still a servant, living in Streatham, when they got married.

Edwin (Ted) was much older than her, having been born in 1871. On their marriage certificate he is described as a house painter (journeyman). Although he was born in Walworth, Surrey (now part of Newington), his father came from Heckington Lincolnshire, which now has the only surviving 8-sailed windmill in England.



Heckington Windmill

She and Ted are shown living in Herne Hill on the 1911 census and later moved to West Norwood. She never returned to East Anglia.

Edwin joined the Royal Scots Regiment on 5 July 1890, serving in Malta, India, and at home. He was transferred to the reserves in 1898, only to be recalled the next year to go to South Africa and the Boer War. Most of his time in South Africa was spent patrolling and in mobile columns without engaging in any major battles. He returned home in 1902. He enlisted again with the Royal Scots at the beginning of WW1, being posted to the Glencorse depot and was discharged in 1919.

A description on his enlistment in 1914 reads: 'Tattoos! Numerous tattoos both arms and across chest including flag trophy chart with words ""India"", "Burma" and "Malta"'.

Ted and Sophie had two daughters, Dorothy Gladys Vera and Lilian Florence born in 1911 and 1913 respectively. Sophie and her family travelled to various European destinations on holiday, often sending postcards to their relatives.

Edwin Thorp died in 1944 and Sophie in 1962. When they retired, the two unmarried daughters moved to Store Street, Roydon as they felt that South Norfolk was their true home and not London.

Marcia's outline ancestors:

Marcia HEALEY (-)

- 1 **Marcia J HEALEY (-)**
Marr: Christopher R BELL c. 1977.¹

- 2 **James HEALEY (-)**
Marr: Peggy May FELLINGHAM c. 1947.²

- 3 **Frederick Henry HEALEY (-1948)**
Died: 4 Nov 1948, Lower Helledon, Norfolk.³ Carrobreck, Drayton Road.

- 3 **Rhoda Beatrice UNKNOWN (-)**

- 2 **Peggy May FELLINGHAM (1924-)**
Born: 15 Nov 1924, Bressingham, Norfolk.^{4 5} Bap: 21 Dec 1924, Bressingham, Norfolk.⁴

- 3 **Frederick William FELLINGHAM (1893-1956)**
Born: 7 Dec 1893, Bressingham, Norfolk.^{6 7} Bap: 18 Mar 1894, Bressingham, Norfolk.⁸ Marr: Rosetta MUSK 6 Jan 1923, Bressingham, Norfolk.^{9 10 11} Died: 18 May 1956, Rickingham, Suffolk.

- 4 **William FELLINGHAM (c. 1854-c. 1933)**
Born: c. 1854, Bressingham, Norfolk.¹² Bap: 11 Jun 1854, Bressingham, Norfolk.¹³ Marr: Sarah Ann KERRY 2 Jul 1880, Bressingham, Norfolk.¹⁴ Died: c. 1933.¹⁵

- 5 **Joseph FELLINGHAM (c. 1821-c. 1854)**
Born: c. 1821, Redgrave, Suffolk. Bap: 7 Jan 1821, Redgrave, Suffolk.¹⁶ Marr: Alice HART 4 Jul 1847, Bressingham,

Ancestral links to the Lophams

Norfolk.^{17 18} Died: c. 1854, Bressingham, Norfolk.¹⁹ Buried:
28 Dec 1854, Bressingham, Norfolk.²⁰

6 **Joseph FELLINGHAM** (c. 1766-)
Born: c. 1766.

6 **Jemima UNKNOWN** (c. 1777-)
Born: c. 1777.

5 **Alice HART** (c. 1825-c. 1901)
Born: c. 1825, Bressingham, Norfolk. Marr: Thomas BOND 2
Jul 1880, Bressingham, Norfolk. Died: c. 1901. Buried: 9
May 1901, Bressingham, Norfolk.

6 **Robert HART** (-)

4 **Sarah Ann KERRY** (c. 1856-1932)
Born: c. 1856, Fersfield, Norfolk. Died: 23 Mar 1932, South
Lopham, Norfolk.

5 **John KERRY** (c. 1812-c. 1860)
Born: c. 1812. Marr: Lavinia Violet RIVETT 31 Jan 1837,
Fersfield, Norfolk.²¹ Died: c. 1860.

6 **John KERRY** (-)

6 **Susan TUFTS** (-)

5 **Lavinia Violet RIVETT** (c. 1818-c. 1882)
Born: c. 1818. Died: c. 1882.

3 **Rosetta MUSK** (1895-1979)
Born: 7 Jun 1895, South Lopham, Norfolk.^{22 23} Bap: 27 Aug 1899,
South Lopham, Norfolk.²² Died: 4 Apr 1979, Rickingham, Suffolk.²³
²⁴ The Street.

Ancestral links to the Lophams

- 4 **George Henry MUSK** (c. 1855-c. 1928)
Born: c. 1855, Burgate, Suffolk. Died: c. 1928, Pulham Market, Norfolk. Buried: 14 Mar 1928, Bressingham, Norfolk.²⁵

- 5 **William MUSK** (c. 1823-)
Born: c. 1823, Yaxley, Suffolk.

- 5 **Sarah Ann UNKNOWN** (c. 1824-)
Born: c. 1824, Burgate, Suffolk.

- 4 **Elizabeth COPPING** (c. 1854-)
Born: c. 1854, Wortham, Suffolk.²⁶ Bap: 6 Aug 1854, Wortham, Suffolk.²⁷

- 5 **Robert COPPING** (-)

- 5 **Mary Ann UNKNOWN** (-)

Musk's outline descendants:

William MUSK (c. 1823-)

1 **William MUSK** (c. 1823-)

Born: c. 1823, Yaxley, Suffolk. Census: 7 Apr 1861, Burgate, Suffolk.
Census: 2 Apr 1871, 2 Apr 1871.

= Sarah Ann UNKNOWN (c. 1824-)

1 **Elizabeth MUSK** (c. 1849-)

Born: c. 1849, Burgate, Suffolk. Census: 7 Apr 1861, Burgate, Suffolk.

2 **Henry MUSK** (c. 1852-)

Born: c. 1852, Burgate, Suffolk. Census: 7 Apr 1861, Burgate, Suffolk.
Census: 2 Apr 1871, 2 Apr 1871.

3 **George Henry MUSK** (c. 1855-c. 1928)

Born: c. 1855, Burgate, Suffolk. Census: 7 Apr 1861, Burgate, Suffolk.
Census: 2 Apr 1871, 2 Apr 1871. Census: 5 Apr 1891, Palgrave,
Suffolk. Census: 31 Mar 1901, South Lopham, Norfolk. Census: 2 Apr
1911, South Lopham, Norfolk. Census: 19 Jun 1921, Bressingham,
Norfolk. Died: c. 1928, Pulham Market, Norfolk. Buried: 14 Mar 1928,
Bressingham, Norfolk.

= Elizabeth COPPING (c. 1854-)

Dau. of Robert COPPING (-) [1801] and Mary Ann UNKNOWN (-)
[1802].

1 **Arthur J MUSK** (c. 1879-)

Born: c. 1879, Wortham, Suffolk. Census: 5 Apr 1891, Palgrave,
Suffolk.

2 **Florence MUSK** (c. 1881-)

Ancestral links to the Lophams

Born: c. 1881, Wortham, Suffolk. Census: 5 Apr 1891, Palgrave, Suffolk.

3 **William George MUSK** (1884-)

Born: 25 Jul 1884, Palgrave, Suffolk. Census: 5 Apr 1891, Palgrave, Suffolk. Census: 31 Mar 1901, South Lopham, Norfolk. Marr: Annie Florence HOLDEN 28 Oct 1906, South Lopham, Norfolk. Marriage Banns: 14 Nov 1906, South Lopham, Norfolk.

= Annie Florence HOLDEN (c. 1885-c. 1958)

Dau. of Henry HOLDEN (c. 1855-) [1138] and Laura LUSHER (c. 1863-c. 1937) [1139].

4 **George Thomas MUSK** (c. 1887-c. 1895)

Born: c. 1887, South Lopham, Norfolk. Census: 5 Apr 1891, Palgrave, Suffolk. Died: c. 1895, South Lopham, Norfolk. Buried: 25 Feb 1895, South Lopham, Norfolk.

5 **Sophia Mary Ann MUSK** (c. 1890-1962)

Born: c. 1890, Wortham, Suffolk. Census: 5 Apr 1891, Palgrave, Suffolk. Census: 31 Mar 1901, South Lopham, Norfolk. Marr: Edwin Tooley THORP 26 Oct 1910, Lambeth, London. Died: 1962.

= Edwin Tooley THORP (c. 1871-c. 1944)

1 **Dorothy Gladys Vera THORP** (c. 1911-)

Born: c. 1911.

2 **Lilian Florence THORP** (c. 1913-)

Born: c. 1913.

6 **Lilly MUSK** (c. 1893-)

Born: c. 1893, Fersfield, Norfolk. Census: 31 Mar 1901, South Lopham, Norfolk.

= Douglas NOBLE (-)

7 **Rosetta MUSK** (1895-1979)

Born: 7 Jun 1895, South Lopham, Norfolk. Bap: 27 Aug 1899, South Lopham, Norfolk. Census: 31 Mar 1901, South Lopham, Norfolk. Census: 2 Apr 1911, Diss, Norfolk. Census: 19 Jun 1921, Kensington, London. Marriage Banns: 17 Dec 1922, South Lopham, Norfolk. Marr: Frederick William FELLINGHAM 6 Jan 1923, Bressingham, Norfolk. 1939 Register: 30 Sep 1939, Rickingham, Suffolk. Died: 4 Apr 1979, Rickingham, Suffolk. MI: 6 Aug 1979, Ipswich, Suffolk.

= Frederick William FELLINGHAM (1893-1956)

Son of William FELLINGHAM (c. 1854-c. 1933) [1748] and Sarah Ann KERRY (c. 1856-1932) [1749].

1 **Peggy May FELLINGHAM** (1924-)

Born: 15 Nov 1924, Bressingham, Norfolk. Bap: 21 Dec 1924, Bressingham, Norfolk. 1939 Register: 30 Sep 1939, Rickingham, Suffolk. Marr: James HEALEY c. 1947.

= James HEALEY (-)

SWon of Frederick Henry HEALEY (-1948) [1783] and Rhoda Beatrice UNKNOWN (-) [1784].

1 **Marcia J HEALEY** (-) Marr: Christopher R BELL c. 1977.

= Christopher R BELL (-)

2 **Frederick FELLINGHAM** (1927-)

Born: 30 Sep 1927.

8 **George Thomas MUSK** (c. 1899-)

Born: c. 1899, South Lopham, Norfolk. Census: 31 Mar 1901, South Lopham, Norfolk. Census: 2 Apr 1911, South Lopham,

Ancestral links to the Lophams

Norfolk. Census: 19 Jun 1921, Bressingham, Norfolk.

- 4 **Mary Ann MUSK** (c. 1857-)
Born: c. 1857, Burgate, Suffolk. Census: 7 Apr 1861, Burgate, Suffolk.
- 5 **David MUSK** (c. 1859-)
Born: c. 1859. Census: 7 Apr 1861, Burgate, Suffolk. Census: 2 Apr 1871, 2 Apr 1871.
- 6 **Arthur MUSK** (c. 1865-)
Born: c. 1865, Burgate, Suffolk. Census: 2 Apr 1871, 2 Apr 1871.
- 7 **Jane MUSK** (c. 1868-)
Born: c. 1868, Burgate, Suffolk. Census: 2 Apr 1871, 2 Apr 1871.

This story has been written for inclusion in the Diss Family History Group's project on the villages of North and South Lopham.

If anyone has any information that could be added to this story and are willing to share it, please make contact. Any additions will be fully acknowledged.

**No part of this document can be reproduced
with obtaining the consent of the author**

© Marcia Bell 2025