

Letter

Undoubtedly all of us who were fortunate to visit Old Hall Farm at Stiffkey came away with our own individual thoughts of this memorable day.

Having 'brushed up' for the occasion and re-read both *The Phasian Bird* and *The Story of a Norfolk Farm*, I considered how lucky we were to be guided by Richard Williamson. We were certainly given an intimate portrait of H.W. in his farming environment.

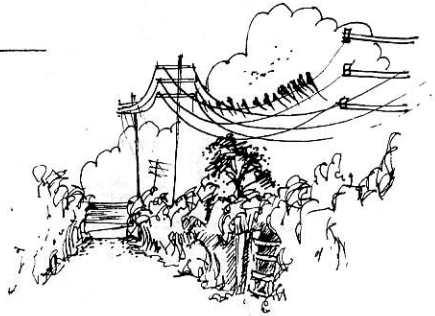
The one building in particular I wanted to see was the Granary, mainly because of Chapter 26 of *Norfolk Farm, A Vision of Christmas*.

Members may be interested in reading the words of H.W. which are in the frontispiece of my most prized possession. This is a copy of the first American edition of *Goodbye West Country*.^{*} The actual book was given to Merrill North. These few poignant words indicate the significance of the feelings of H.W. in those far off days of 1938.

Rex Cornell
Braintree
Essex.

^{*}See page 44

We would welcome letters from members. Our correspondence page is somewhat sluggish yet. - Ed.



LOETITIA WILLIAMSON

Members will be pleased to know that, following the unanimous decision of the committee, Loetitia Williamson has been offered, and has accepted, Honorary Membership of the Society. We look forward to a long and rewarding association.

GEORGE HEATH

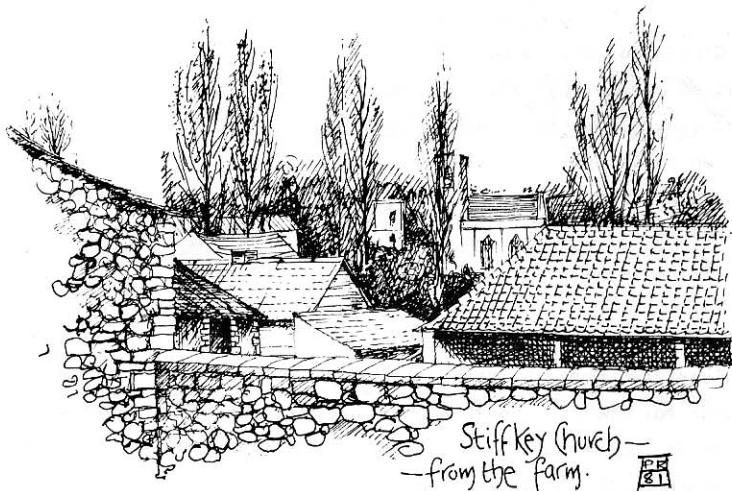
The Editor regrets that the name of George Heath has been omitted from the list of officers of the Society. George is one of the Society's two Vice-Chairmen. The fault is the Editor's alone, and he offers his apologies.

To Merril North, whose mind
points to the magnetic north, this
book of fragments is given by her
respectful friend & neighbour, Mr H.W.
Stiffley, 1 July 1938.

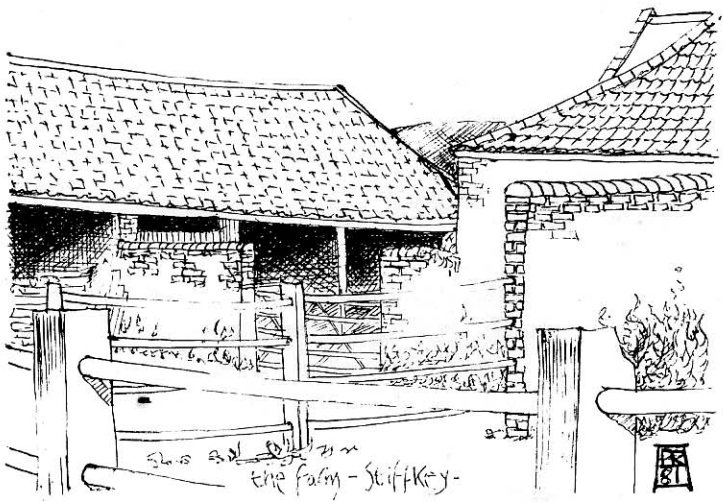
Friday Night, the Fried Fish Shop alight
and soldiers hats & shoulders in oil-lamp
silhouette: and noisy, while the radio
gives out dance music, & the Night Cart
Men tugs lovely about his business past
my open door. 1st of July ^{19/6/38} - and the
guns 'back on the first objective' below.
Briefed, 160,000 casualties. 1 July 1938, &
all's to do again, they say. No: No: No:
the Unknown Soldier is the strongest force in
Europe. Soon all men will praise him, and
God.

Inscription by H.W. in front of Rex Cornell's copy of Goodbye West
Country, published by Little, Brown and Co., Boston, U.S.A., 1938.

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Stiff Key Church -
- from the farm. FF
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Stiff Key Church
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