

St. BARTHOLOMEW'S IPSWICH

April 2018

The first unusual things about St. Bart's (as it is affectionately known) is its size and its setting. A substantial red brick building, it stands dominant in the midst of Victorian terraced housing, just 100 metres from Derby Road railway station, on Newton Road, in a district known as Rose Hill. This name is a corruption of Roe's Hill; **Mr Owen Roe (1770-1825)** (#2878 on the web family tree) being a wealthy land owner whose daughter **Ann (1795-1851)** (#103) married **Charles Cobbold (1793-1859)** (#102) at St. Clement's in 1815. Prior to that, legend has it, Ann danced four times with the Prince Regent during a Ball held at Prigg's Assembly Rooms in Ipswich; the Prince rating his 17-year old partner 'a very good dancer'. Owen Roe disliked his son-in-law and tried, unsuccessfully, to prevent Charles from inheriting. The estate (still some 238 acres in 1864) finally passed to Charles' son **Alan Brooksby Cobbold (1830-1901)** (#166) whose 3 older siblings all died, rather extraordinarily, in 1837. But, I have digressed, sorry!

The second unusual thing is the huge light internal space. It seems almost too large for the area it serves. St. Bart's was built with funds provided by **Mrs. Spooner n e Ann (Anna) Frances Cobbold (1830-1906)** (#184) as a memorial to her father, **John Chevallier Cobbold (1797-1882)** (#114), his wife and their five sons. The foundation stone of this thorough-going Anglo-Catholic church was laid on 25th April 1895 by **Lord Henniker** with full Masonic rights and the church was consecrated the following year by the **Bishop of Norwich**, though it was not completed until 1907. The first incumbent was Anna's cousin, **Rev. George Augustus Cobbold (1857-1915)** (#2867) and the architect was **Mr. Charles Spooner**, a nephew of Anna's husband, **The Very Reverend Dean Edward Spooner (1821-1899)** (#185) who was Rector of Hadleigh and Co-Dean of Bocking. It all sounds a bit nepotistic but I suppose the old adage applies: 'he (or in this case, she) who pays the piper....'

Our illustrations show (1) the exterior, (2) the interior looking east, (3) plaque to Anna Frances, (4) plaque to Edward Spooner, (5) the vicars and (6) plaque to Rev George Augustus. The inscription around the base of the font explains that it was given to the Glory of God and in memory of parents and husband by **Constance Green n e Cobbold (1845-1932)** (#203) and **Caroline Alice Cobbold (1850-1922)** (#198). Constance was Anna's sister and Alice her sister-in-law.

Alice's maiden name was **Kinder** and she was the daughter of **Thomas Kinder (1813-1881)** (#1732), Mayor of St. Albans, and **Frances Caroline Chevallier (1814-1882)** (#2022), and she married **Nathanael Fromanteel Cobbold (1839-1886)** (#195) so she represents the coming together of the three great families of Kinder, Chevallier and Cobbold.



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