NEWELL Robert Richardson
Born: 1750, son of Robert Newell, a surgeon and apothecary practising in Harwich and his wife, Susannah, daughter of John Richardson, who lived at Tymperleys and kept an apothecary’s shop in Pelham’s Lane.
Died: 24.5.1814
Practice: Surgeon and apothecary in Head Street, Colchester in 1777 to 1811.
Education: He was apprentice to Robert Sterling, a surgeon of Colchester, for five years at £126 on 14.8.1767. Memer of Corporation of Surgeons of London 1799. The MD after R. R. Newell first appeared in the records in 1810,
Extra Information: Founding member on 4.8.1774 and first Secretary of Colchester Medical Society
He married Sally Hasell in 1773 they had 12 children 6 boys and 6 girls.
He lived in Head Street, possibly at No 39 where a Blue Plaque was erected in 2013 where the lost 1932 plaque should have been.
He had three apprentices during his life: Robert Tabsam, on 19.1.1781, for four years at £126; John Toke, on 26.9.1789, for five years at £137, and Roger Nunn, on 30.9.1799, for five years at £160.
“In the 1950 Inventory of the Town Hall by Mr L Drinkell of Reeman and Dansies was a picture (silhouette) in ebonised glazed frame with written on the back “Robert Richardson Newell’s”. On one copy of this inventory a note in pencil opposite the entry “To Library” thought by Mr Drinkell to be in Mr Dansie’s hand. The picture was in the Tower Room (now the Deputy Mayor’s Room) where the Oyster Feasts pictures are hung. The above was absent from the 1965 inventory. NB There was a sale of “stuff” from the Town Hall in 1963”.
Inside St. Mary at Walls, on the North wall of the North aisle is this tablet: ‘Sacred to the memory of Edward Hasell Newell, surgeon who died Sep 23rd 1800 aged 21 years/ also of Robert Richardson Newell, M.D., who died May 24th 1814, aged 64 yrs,/ also of Sarah, relict of the above RRN who died 20 April 1825 aged 73.A similar plaque remembers another son Charles capt of an Eastindiaman who died in 1815. They are buried in the Sir Isaac Rebow vault in the cemetery.
In 1786, he instituted the Essex and Hertfordshire Benevolent Medical Society, which is one of the oldest in the kingdom but is now part of the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund. Newell opened the inaugural meeting on 20. October. 1786 by declaring himself as the author of the newspaper advertisement which brought them together. He was made a trustee on 2.1.1787 and was to be known as the “Institutor”. It says, much for Newell’s tact, diplomacy and enthusiasm that at the age of twenty-four he was able to persuade his professional colleagues, all older than himself, to found the Colchester Medical Society but, he was also instrumental in calling that meeting at Chelmsford, which resulted in the foundation of the Benevolent Medical Society “for the relief of distressed medical men, their wives, children and orphans”. Newell was no doubt remembering his own parentless youth. The first president of this charity was Baron Thomas Dimsdale, M.D. (1712-1800), who had been given his title and a pension by the Empress Catherine II of Russia for his work in inoculating her and her courtiers against smallpox in 1768. There is no doubt that Newell became one of the leading members of the medical profession in north Essex.
In 1813 he was presented with a silver bowl by his Colchester colleagues in recognition of his services to the medical profession. This piece of plate was subsequently bequeathed to the Colchester Corporation by his grandson Major F. H. L. Newell, and it now forms an interesting part of the town’s regalia. It was lent to the Medical Society for their bi-centenary exhibition in February 1974. Major Newell also left the corporation a small silhouette portrait of his grandfather, which has
since been lost. Dr Newell wrote to the newly-formed **Humane Society of London** founded in 1774 by Dr. William Hawes (1736-1808), and Dr. Thomas Cogan (1736-1818) as the Society for the Recovery of the Apparently Drowned. Their minute book records that, at a meeting held at the London Coffee House on 30 January 1776: ‘Mr. Hawes then reported that a Society at Colchester had applied to this Society by a letter to him requesting of us to extend our rewards to that town and to enforce their requests they had undertaken to raise by subscription in the town sufficient to defray expenses attending.’ This proposal was accepted at the annual general meeting of the Humane Society in May, and in the following February the secretary was able to report to the committee that the Colchester Medical Society had collected twenty guineas. In return for this financial help, the Humane Society elected all the members of the Colchester Medical Society at that date as “Directors and Medical Assistants”. It was also reported to the committee of the Humane Society in May 1777, that “a letter from Mr. Newell, secretary to the Medical Society at Colchester, having been read to the society, in which their society desired to have an apparatus according to the plans of the London Society, resolved to send their apparatus which was very soon put to use, for, in the annual report for the same year, Newell himself received a commendation for rescuing his own maidservant, who had fallen down a well. In this he was assisted by his colleagues Robert Sterling and Cater Day. It seems clear that the apparatus was a fumigator, which was a small pair of bellows and a tube, by which means they blew tobacco smoke into the rectum. It is not surprising that, as Newell recorded, the poor girl next day complained of a great sense of weight and fullness in the intestines, and I therefore gave her a gentle purge, which produced good effects”.

Letter to Newell from John Coakley Lettsom: “I somehow mislaid thy letter which deserved an earlier answer as I approve the plan for establishing a Fund for the benefit of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men. I have long wished to see such an Institution effectually established, Every department of our Profession is in general fitted up with Gentlemen of Education who are under a necessity of supporting a certain appearance of expense, they are exposed to numerous sources of infection and suffer premature death frequently thereby; and the Fair prospects of a Family suddenly blasted and painful reverse presented to persons well brought up but thus sent off from future resources! May this Institution obviate the repetition of so dark a scene! Accept my Mite of five guineas enclosed and believe me your cordial well wishes Signed John Coakley Lettsom.”

**NEWMAN Adam Perry**
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: Physician and surgeon at White House, Bradfield,, and Manningtree in 1902.KD
Education: M.D. Dublin.
Extra Information: -

**NEWMAN Edward James**
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: Witham
Education: - Ms 8241B   LSA 10.4.1828
Extra Information: -

**NEWMAN Henry**
Born: 24.11.1819, son of Richard Newman of Kersey.
Died: 1908
Practice: Surgeon in Hadleigh where he practised from 1851, retiring in 1902, he is buried there.
Education: Apprenticed to C. Boutflower and W. Waylen of Colchester from 1837 to 1842 and then spent eighteen months at Barts Ms 8241B MRCS 1841. LSA 15.9.1842.
Extra Information: He married twice: firstly, to the daughter of W.H. Travis, a surgeon of East Bergholt, and secondly, to Harriet Slack on 7.9.1854, who died 10.12.1861. He had one daughter born in 1859, and a son in 1877. He was a well-known follower of Essex and Suffolk Hunt.

NEWMAN John
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: Surgeon in Kelvedon 1791- 1827
Education: -
Extra Information: -

NEWTON Samuel
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: Surgeon and apothecary of Thorpe-le-Soken in1779, 1780 and 1783
Education: 6.5.1730 he was the son of widow Sarah Newton and was apprenticed to Mark Fox, surgeon, for 6 years at £60. After 1768, he was a student at Leyden.
Extra Information: He and Harris Salter, surgeon, of Colchester bound Samuel (25) to Elisabeth Fox . widow (40) at St Martins, Colchester in 1739. (there is a Marriage Licence between Mark Fox of Dedham and Susan Firmin of 1699).
William Mayhew, attorney of Colchester, made the will of Susannah Newton, spinster, in March 1741: she left her mother property at Much Holland for life, "she providing thereouts according to her discretion, for my unfortunate reputed Daughter or Child Susannah, the spurious offspring of that ungrateful and perfidious villain, Edward Jones of Colchester, grocer" She revoked all wills, particularly the one she made in 1738 “by the base artifice and insinuation of the said Edward Jones”

NICHOLAS The Physician:
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: Physician Colchester
Education: -
Extra Information: he was one of the Bailiffs, as well as Mayor of Colchester in 1272.
(Red Paper Book p36)

NICHOLAS F.K. Lucius
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: Surgeon of St Osyth in 1886 – 1888 KD.
Education: -
Extra Information: -

NICHOLLS William
Born: -
Died: 1799
Practice: Surgeon of Earls Colne in 1787-8 then of Nayland till 1798
Education: -
Extra Information: Essex and Herts. Bene. Med Soc subscriber: from 1787 to 1798. The “District Court Angel in Kelvedon on 12.5.1800 received a letter from Mrs Thamar Nichols(aet.59), widow of the late Wm Nichols, surgeon at Nayland formerly of Earls Colne stating her husband is
dead and she is needy. She also asks for apprenticeship fee for her daughter Sarah Maria aged 16”. This was confirmed by a letter from Mr Thomas Harrold of Nayland “a very respectable surgeon”. She was granted £15 per annum and 2 guineas by Mr R Newell. Her petition was repeated in 1801 and 180. The Essex and Herts. Benev. Med Soc General Court granted Sarah Nichols a donation of £5 in 1823.

**NICHOLS Charles**

**Born:**
**Died:**
**Practice:** Surgeon of Harwich
**Education:** MD (Caen)1626
**Extra Information:** On 29.8.1706 he witnessed a Harwich document

**NICHOLSON Benjamin Hugh**

**Died:** 19.2.1945, aged 85, at Lynwood, Newton Stewart.
**Practice:** Hon Surgeon to Essex and County Hospital, from 1894 and at 84 the High Street in 1894, 1898 and 1902.
**Education:** M.B. Ch.M. Edinburgh and Vienna.
**Extra Information:** Lived in East Lodge ,84 High St 1895-1944. Joined the CMS in 1884 was President in 1893, 1922 and 1923. Member of the Council of Edinburgh University. Contributed : “Glycosuria with Low Specific Gravity of Urine” the Lancet, 1.10.1892; “Treatment of Oxyuris Vermincularis” the Lancet, 7.1.1893; “Rectal Injection of Saline in a Case of Severe Haemorrhage during Abortion” the Lancet, 1893, and “Radical Cure of Inguinal Hernia in Early Infancy” BMJ, 1903.
**Hunt and Nicholson were first doctors with a telephone in 1905. Captain of the 1st Eastern Gen. Hosp. RAMC T.F. in 1910; M.O. to Post Office and Orphan House; House Surgeon to Fire Brigade. Medical Examiner to Education Department; Medical Referee to Essex Hall Asylum; Medical Referee on Pensions for Colchester and District Labour Dept. in 1920.**

“He came as H.S. to the ECH and simply owed his election to the fact that we would not have Dr Worts’ nephew, and we never ceased to regret our votes. His conduct to Miss Moore was very bad, he was constantly running after her and paying her so much marked attention, which led Mrs. Moore to do all she could to get Mr. Hunt to take him as a partner, as she fully expected he would marry her daughter. When he had gained his points and was pressed as to his intention the “bounder” showed up clearly, he said he had no intention of ever getting married. He has been true to his character as a cad ever since.” – {P.Laver}.

“The house: East Lodge, occupied by Dr Nicholson is a notable specimen of Elizabethan domestic architecture. With its four broad gable ends facing the street, its heavily moulded oak beams overhanging the cobbled pathway, its leaded casements, contemptuous of such modern innovations as sashes and its warmly tinted plaster panels it has since the days of the Armada looked down with quiet dignity on passers-by. It was the property of John Duke, “physitian” who died in 1628 and probably built by his father the Town Clerk. It was in 1670 sold by his eldest daughter, wife of William Cooke Esq. of Pebmarsh for £400 to Dr Skinner. Thomas Skinner was physitian [physician] and chyrurgeon [chirurgeon – archaic form of surgeon] to George Monk, Duke of Albemarle who lived in princely state at New Hall, Boreham some 18 miles away. The worthy doctor was both an Oxford graduate and a learned etymologist and his patient often is said to have loved conversing with physicians better than swallowing their prescriptions no doubt visited him here... Dr Skinner died in 1679.” – (Social Life in Bygone Colchester, George Rickword, 1925).
He was also known “Butcher Nicholson” for his primitive surgical skills but he successfully performed the first appendectomy in Colchester in 1901 on a young man John Brown.

“At a meeting of the Committee of the Management of the Essex County Hospital, the Chairman (Lieut-Col. Charles J. Round, D.L.) referred to the death on February 19, 1945 of Dr. B.H. Nicholson who served on the active honorary staff as a surgeon for forty years and made a vice-president of the Hospital. Deep appreciation of this long record of service was expressed and it was unanimously resolved that the Committee”. – East Anglian Daily Times, 28.2.1945.

Harry Green, who worked for John Wheeler, said he worked for Dr Nicholson for 11 years. He looked after the open Vauxhall. Nicholson was a cheerful extrovert who called him “Harry me boy”. He was “a right swanker” and a man for the ladies. He [Harry] used to drive him to Southend every now and then for a couple of nights there. Dr N. lived with his sister Miss Nicholson – she was a nice person and kept giving Harry things but he hadn’t “to tell the Doctor”.

From Dr George Brown’s daughter, Mrs Georgina Bland, aged 86 (1975): “Dr Nicholson was a very dapper man and used to drive a high dog cart and a little groom [H. Green] would sit on the back seat with a Dalmatian dog sunning under the cart.”

N

NIXON Richard
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: chirurgeon of Braintree/Brainford
Education: -

NORMAN John
Born: 24.6.1811 in Somersham Suff
Died: September 1880, buried in Hadleigh
Practice: Surgeon at 3 Headgate 1839 to 1878. Oculist, surgeon, farmer and landowner.
Education: Apprenticed to William Mudd of Hadleigh 1826-1831, then 9 months at Guy’s Hospital. : L.S.A. 1831, and MRCSE, 1832
Other information: His wife Hannah born in 1811, in Homerton, was a schoolmistress and teacher of English Literature, apparently running a school with her husband. He had three children, born in Colchester: John M (1837), Arthur (1839 but died as a child), Julia (1842) and Arthur Harry (1849 who became a doctor and died at Bourke, in NSW, in Australia on 8.8.1895).” John Norman was once on the Town Council lived in house round the corner of S. John St. and Head St.( now removed), was no relation of Dr J Norman of Mersea. He came from Layham in Suffolk and was a brother in law of the late Mr. Robert Hall, he having married Norman’s sister [in 1836]. The Normans of Layham were the most cantankerous family I ever knew, even among themselves. When Norman’s wife died he was present at the P.M. and kept the diseased vertebra of her neck for a long time (PGLaver).

NORMAN John Sargent
Born: -
Died: October 1860
Practice: Surgeon in West Mersea in 1835 to 1855.
Education: :- MsB241B LSA 30.5.1816
Other information: Essex and Herts. Benev. Med. Soc. in 1816. Elected to Col. Med. Soc. in July 1817. He was a pretty good attender at the meetings (34/96). He showed a case of bronchocele in 23.8.1842.” Married on 18.1.1831 to Amelia Laura, second daughter of Thomas Cooper of Langenhoe Hall. They had one son who married a French woman and I think died in Paris, but I am not sure.” (P Laver)
**NORMAN Joseph Clement**  
Born: 1850 in Hertford  
Died: 14.10.1923  
Practice: Surgeon at Needham Market, then Hadleigh for 47 years.  
Education: Christ’s Hospital, then Bart’s. MRCS 1871, LSA 1874  
Other information:. Married Margaret Dickens in 1875, 3 sons and 2 daughters. Elected to Suff. Med. Book Soc. in 1883. Member of Col. Med. Soc. 1889-1891. In his later years he had severe rheumatic arthritis and had to be helped into his gig, whence he did all his work.

**N**

**NOTT James Stewart**  
Born: -  
Died: -  
Practice: Nott and Reilly, surgeons at the Gravel House, Coggeshall in 1835 to 1845. Surgeon on Church Street, Coggeshall (and of Witham Union) in 1848 to 1855. Surgeon on Stoneham Street, Coggeshall in 1862 and 1863.  
Education: LFPS (Glas) 1839, MRCS (Eng) 1843  
Other information:. Elected to Col. Med. Soc. 30.10.1860 and removed from Society on 27.10.1863. Married Mary, daughter of John Hall, she died 29.3.1847, aged 29. This caused him doubtlessly to take to drink for he frequently gave way to that habit in later years with such a bad result that he died in Stanway Union (Poor House). He had a daughter and maybe a son. She was a well-conducted and nice, ladylike person, going into a situation as a teacher and doing all she could for her father with no luck. He may have done well but he was always so hopelessly drunk that all wished to be bereft of him. His name may have been spelt Knott, and his first names were either John or James, followed by Stewart, Steward or Stuart.(PGLaver)

**NOTT William Fraser**  
Born: -  
Died: -  
Practice: Surgeon on Market Hill, Coggeshall, in 1848.WD  
Education: -  
Other information: -

**NOURSE Stuart Christopher Myngs**  
Born: -  
Died: -  
Practice: Physician and surgeon at Redbourne Villa, Old Road, Clacton on Sea in 1898 and 1899, and in Hurst Villa, Jackson Road, Clacton on Sea, in 1902.  
Education: - MRCS (Eng) and LRCP (Lond).  
Other information:.

**NUGENT Henry**  
Born: 1842 Ireland  
Died: -  
Practice: Staff Ass. Surgeon in 1871.  
Education: - LRCSD  
Other information:. Married to Fannie A. of Jamaica, 8 years his junior, and father of Harry Tony Forbes Nugent, born 1871.
NUNN George
Born: -
Died: -
Practice: White Parish
Education: - Ms8241B LSA 5.6.1830
Other information:

NUNN Henry
Born: circa 1740
Died: 1818
Practice: Surgeon in Mistley in 1766. Surgeon and apothecary in Manningtree in 1772 to 1799.
Education: Apprenticed to James Nelson, surgeon of Manningtree for 7 years at £80 on 11.1.1759.
He apprenticed: Jeremiah Foker for 7 years at £75, on 22.7.1767; Edward Turner for 6 years at £48, on 23.3.1773; Luke Hill for 4 years at £50, on 26.2.1778; Joseph Nunn for 5 years at £50, on 30.3.1782, and Mark Lambe for 5 years at £105, on 26.1.1789.
He subscribed to the Essex and Herts. Benev. Med. Soc. in 1787, 1788, 1795 and 1798. He attended the 2nd meeting at Chelmsford on 2.1.1787, where he was made steward, the 5th meeting at the Half-Moon in Hertford on 8.6.1789, and the divisional meetings at the Angel in Kelvedon on 9.8.1790 (when he was made Vice-President), 9.5.1791, 9.5.1792, 13.5.1793 and 12.5.1794 (G. Rogers made Vice-President in place of H. Nunn died in 1819).
He was in partnership with George Rogers then 1795 took William Silk in partnership who would receive one third of the profits for 7 years. Full partnership dissolved in 1817 and Nunn was paid £400.

NUNN John
Born: Bap. 18.8.1793
Died: -
Practice: -
Education: Apprentice to Samuel Philbrick 1819-1824 then nine months at City Dispensary Ms8241B LSA on 27.5.1824 MRCS 21.5.1825.
Other information: Do.. Assistant to Mr Travis of East Bergholt February 1837. In 1851 he was a non-practising surgeon, aged 57, lodging at 84 Lexden Road, the house of Edmund W. Watts, headmaster.