

St. MARGARET's Churchyard, HALES, NORFOLK

Memorial Inscriptions

Summer 2010

The following names were copied from the headstones/tombs in St. Margaret's Churchyard, Hales, Norfolk, by members, and friends, of the Loddon & District Local History Group.

The map has been measured and hand-drawn rather than properly surveyed, and arbitrarily divided for convenience of recording. The records are as accurate as we could make them - some inscriptions are difficult to read, some impossible, some stones may have been 'lost' in the grass/hedges/bracken, some broken or fallen on their face.

The results have been catalogued in alphabetical order to make finding an entry easier. For a guide to where the stone can be found, please refer to the map. The stones at Hales seemed to be rather random, in places, and clear lines were a bit difficult to establish. However....

Each name is preceded by a code eg. NE C 3

The churchyard was divided into four areas, North West, North East, South West and South East. NW & NE separate along the main path between the gate and the North porch. SW & SE are divided by the footpath leading south from the south doorway. The division between NW & SW follows an imaginary line from the southern edge of the tower to the west boundary, and the division between NE & SE is a similar line from the northern edge of the chancel to the big yew tree. The first letter of the code indicates the area where the stone is. The next letter refers to the row in which the stone stands - please refer to map. The number indicates how far along the row the stone stands - again, refer to the map. So, our example (if there were one) is in the area to the East of the main church path, third row from the path and third grave in from the church. Unmarked graves, empty spaces, or those stones impossible to read, are counted in the numbering scheme and marked on the map but, obviously, no names are recorded.

Biblical inscriptions/texts may have been recorded on paper, but have not been transferred to computer.

At Hales, we have been helped by a detailed recording of headstones done by Mr Kingsmill in 1980. If we were unsure of names/dates etc we have referred to Mr Kingsmill. If he had been able to read them in 1980, I have added them in **bold** text. If Mr Kingsmill's details differed from those we think we can read today, I added his reading in **(bold)** with brackets. As Mr Kingsmill's records are so detailed, we intend to offer his originals to the Records' Office, along with our 2010 survey.

If you cannot find 'your' headstone, location or other details you could try telephoning 01508 520036, and I will help, if I can.