

### **Another ancient tragedy**

Note: The following is a translation of the 1660 book made in the 1800's by a local historian.

Thomas Luptons 'Thousand Notable Things, Book Six', published in 1660, tells not only the story of the Rochester paramour who died with his murdered victim in the River Medway, as recorded in the last *Newsletter*, but also a second Rochester story two pages on.

Titled: A Strange Thing Yet Very True, of a Young Gentleman Who Being a Little Merry With Wine, Came to Rochester Over the Bridg.

Tis known for truth, yet very strange, that a gentleman being a little merry with wine came to Rochester over a bridg on horseback in the dark of the evening, there being but a plank laid over betwixt two arches, with small railles for foot folks only, for the bridg was repairing: he not knowing of it, nor his horse making any stop, when he came into his inne, the man bad him welcome, and wondering to see him there, asked him how and which way he came into town. Over the Bridg: tis impossible, said his host for a horse to come over: the other defended it. Next morning the gentleman and his host went to the bridg, and he seeing the height of it from the water, the narrownesse of the plank, and the greatness of the water, fell down dead immediately, and could not be recovered. Many have been known to be swallowed up with grief, and to make away themselves, by thinking what evils they went to suffer. Scarce any, before this man, is known to have died, for escaping great and imminent dangers.