

# THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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NATIONAL REPLY COUPONS FROM OVERSEAS MEMBERS) AND QUOTE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

## EDITORIAL

Yet again, I have to begin with an apology. It seems that a considerable number of the Spring Journals failed to reach their destination, both here in the U.K. and abroad, especially in Australia. This is the second or third time this has happened within the last twelve months or so. Partly this seems to be the fault of a particular overseas postal administration, but we have to hold up our hands and admit that computer systems within the Society and elsewhere -- or rather the input into such systems --- have not been all they might have been. So, once more, to those members who have been inconvenienced, we are very sorry indeed and can only hope that this sort of thing will not occur again, if only to preserve the sanity of some of your long-suffering Committee, who have to take all the brickbats and who have had a lot of extra work as a result of these failings! If you are one of those still without a Spring 1992 Journal (or any earlier one for that matter) will you please write as soon as you can to Mrs Jennie Ashburner (address opposite) and she will do her best to remedy the matter as quickly as possible.

I know that frequent changes in the roles played by different Committee members can be confusing. These changes are usually made, as in the case of Mrs Ashburner to sort out "non-delivery" problems, in an attempt to get round a particular problem, so please do try to write to the "right" Committee member, as shown on the Contents Page, if you need to get in touch with the Society. And with a stamped addressed envelope if a reply is required, please!

Wearing my Editorial hat, can I make a plea to members who feel they might have something to contribute to the Journal -- an article, a "snippet" or something which might help your fellow members, or perhaps comment on something which has appeared in the Journal. Please put pen to paper (or, better still, typewriter to paper!) and send it to me. Of course, I cannot promise to publish everything. I already have quite a lot of articles which relate to the family of the author. This is often of high quality, but I am reluctant to publish too much of this type of material, as I suspect it might be of limited general interest unless there is an interesting historical context, an unusual or new source used, or a "twist" or human interest of some sort. Also, please remember there are copyright laws! We cannot normally print articles which have appeared in newspapers or other magazines or books unless (generally) they are over 50 years old. What I would particularly like are articles on lesser known sources for research e.g. on a particular trade or activity. I know there is sometimes difficulty on the borderline between "local" history and "family" history, but if you are in any doubt, send me your article anyway. Your Journal is only as good as its contributors make it!

One last request --- about the Map Page. I would welcome suggestions for areas which members would like to see "mapped", and at what approximate date. Again, I can't make promises, as I may not be able to find what you want, and remember, there is a problem in fitting a large map onto a page of this size!

## NOTES AND NEWS

As genealogists, we are accustomed to searching for long-dead people. Here is a change. Can you help to find someone who is (presumably) still alive? In 1976 - 78, Mrs Mary Dunkley was living at 76 Brownell Crescent, Medina, Western Australia. She supplied the Mormon Church with some details of the Coltman family of South Shields. She no longer lives in Medina. If you know where she is, Mr A.R. Yarrow, 16 Rose Walk, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0RW would like to know as it appears that he and Mrs Dunkley share a common ancestor. Can you help?

The South-Tyneside, Tyne and Wear NDFHS has acquired a microfiche. If any member would like to use it, please contact Bill Butterley (address on back cover).

Some important changes to the opening hours at Newcastle Central Library, that repository of so much genealogical material. It is now open 9.30 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. on Monday and Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on Saturday.

Did you know that Australia's oldest woman was a Geordie? An Australian member has sent me a picture of a bright eyed, grey haired Miss Gertie Nesbitt, born in Newcastle-on-Tyne on July 3rd 1882! The picture appeared in the local paper to celebrate her 109th birthday. May you have many more, Miss Nesbitt!

With this Journal, you should find a leaflet about the NDFHS 1992 weekend conference in Durham. This is always an enjoyable occasion, and we are hoping for the usual good turn out at Collingwood College in September.

A new and updated catalogue of the holdings of the NDFHS Library has been published and is available for £1 post free from Mrs C. Davison (address on Contents Page).

I have been asked by the Federation of Family History Societies to mention a new addition of *Tracing Your Ancestors; Britain*, published by the British Tourist Board in conjunction with the FFHS, a pamphlet which has long proved its worth in answering as concisely as possible those general and numerous questions so frequently asked by overseas researchers, especially newcomers to the subject. It is available for 3 International Reply Coupons of \$1.00 from Mrs P. Saul, c/o The Benson Room, Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS.

## MIS-USE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

It has been brought to our attention that at least one member who practices as a professional researcher has been using the published Members Interests in an attempt to drum up business. It must therefore be stated that although there are members, including our Chairman, who undertake professional work, the NDFHS as such is an entirely amateur-orientated organisation which does not recommend, or associate itself with, any particular researcher. Names and interests of members published by the Society are done so on the understanding that they will not be used for any commercial purposes.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maggie Lavan, 11 Perrers Road, London W6 0EY writes:-

"I am puzzled by Richard Moore's description (The Journal Spring 1992) of Nonconformists as doughty individualists. Logic applied to the evidence seems to suggest quite the reverse - that Nonconformity arose in response to a need for social control.

The growth in Baptist and Methodist worship coincided with the burgeoning Industrial Revolution. Employees, whether in factory, pit, shipyard, farm or home, wanted a cheap, reliable, trouble-free workforce. Nonconformity was able to supply it. Congregations were exhorted to live their lives according to catchy biblical mottoes. 'Vengeance is mine saith the Lord' - that stopped them fighting, 'The meek shall inherit the earth' - that stopped them complaining. 'Early to bed, early to rise' and 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' ensured that they were well rested and clean when they turned up for work. Temperance Societies, working in tandem with chapels to preach the evils of drink, kept them sober. Ministers railed against sloth, greed, envy and praised the virtues of hard work and sobriety.

Happily for the upper and middle classes the Church of England did not trouble its flock with the joys of piety and they continued as before drinking, gambling, speculating, having breakfast in bed and declaring war on all and sundry all with a clear conscience."

Mr Ed. Stanley writes:

"As a frequent visitor to Public Reference Libraries and Record Offices in our region, I would like to comment on a matter which is causing me increasing concern. This is the way in which it has become common for other users to flout rules of silence which always apply. I say 'other users' but yes, I acknowledge that I myself have been guilty at times - haven't we all?

Since staff shortages nowadays mean that search rooms are not supervised as much as was once the case, and since the practice now is usually to have self-service for microfilm users, we often find ourselves left to our own devices in a small annex to the main room. This, of course, is a privilege, but like all privileges, it is open to abuse if not used with respect.

Talking is obviously distracting to others, and is rightly always against the rules but many perpetrators seem not to understand that whispering can be just as bad. There is nothing, in my experience, so demanding of attention as a hoarse whisper. When immersed in my own researches, the last thing I want is to be drawn into listening to a conversation about someone else's problems, especially as experience tells me that they will probably show themselves as being ignorant of some point so elementary that they really should have done some homework before their visit anyway.

Many users come to such places in pairs, or even larger groups. At the risk of being attacked for sexism, I must say that the worst offenders seem to be middle-aged women, especially those who take the larger dress sizes. May I suggest that the staff of our Record Offices should discourage (i.e. ban) visits by such groups. If you go anywhere, or do anything, with someone else, you are bound to talk to them, so it follows that if talking is against the rules you should go alone. Microfilm readers are usually packed in so closely that there is only reasonable room for one chair over reader anyway, so unless you book more than one reader and thus prevent another searcher from being present at all, you will inevitably disturb the person unlucky enough to be placed next to you.

The old-fashioned image of a Library was of a place with a sign saying SILENCE in large letters. Modern libertarianism has caused such signs to be removed. Perhaps the time has come for them to be brought back!

If our Society is to be respected, perhaps members should take the lead in condemning this practice, resolving as individuals never to offend again - and I am unashamed about the fact that I personally now always do this - pointing out politely to offenders that there is a rule of silence, which should be obeyed."

**Editor's Note:** I must, in some haste, add the usual caveat that the views expressed in the Journal are those of its contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor or the Committee of the Society! I hope this saves me from the wrath of our female members! Mr Stanley's point will no doubt provoke some response, and I will be happy to print readers views.

# KNOW YOUR PARISH XXXII

## HOUGHTON LE SPRING

*By Geoff Nicholson*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The "ancient" parish of Houghton-le-Spring originally occupied an extensive area, from the edge of the equally large Bishopwearmouth parish on the east to the Durham parishes of St. Giles and St. Margaret on the west. Its population has therefore been strongly influenced by interchange in both directions - on the one hand with the expanding industries of the Sunderland area and on the other hand with the administrative centre of Durham City.

"Houghton" is a place name often found in the north-east, both in County Durham and in Northumberland, so we must be careful not to confuse Houghton-le-Spring with the parish of Houghton-le-Skerne (note the slightly different spelling) or with the township of Houghton-le-Side in Gainford parish, both in southern County Durham. In Northumberland there are Longhoughton and Horton, both near the coast. Strangers often make the mistake of pronouncing the name as if it were "How-ton", whereas the correct way is to say "Hor-ton".

Some idea of the original size of the parish can be got from a list of the townships of which it comprised: **Houghton-le-Spring, Hetton-le-Hole, Penshaw, East Rainton, West Rainton, Newbottle, East Herrington, Middle Herrington, Offerton, South Biddick, Burnmoor, Morton Grange, Cocken, Moor House, Moorsley, Eppleton, Little Eppleton and Warden Law**, most of which are now very highly populated areas but which began, as did all the older villages, as agricultural settlements.

### 2. EARLY BACKGROUND

The name arises from the manor having been originally held, under the Bishop of Durham, by the family of le Spring, or L'Espring. The last male heir of this family, Sir John le Spring, was murdered in his own house in the early fourteenth century by one Robert Lascelles. It would seem, however, that Lascelles did not act alone, as shortly after (1313) the Bishop excommunicated Ralph, Lord Neville of Raby, next to the Bishop just about the most powerful man in the Bishopric, because he had seized and retained the murdered Sir John's armour. The ultimate heir of the le Springs was Mary, daughter of Henry le Spring, who married into the Bellassis family. Eventually most of the land became the property of the Lambtons.

At the time of the Boldon Book (1183), the Durham equivalent of the Domesday Book, Houghton village contained thirteen cottagers and three "half cottagers". There was a grieve (called Henry), a smith, a carpenter, a punder, and no doubt millers at the three nearby mills of Newbottle, Rainton and Biddick, of which Rainton Mill was close to Houghton village. No doubt also there would be a Priest at a predecessor of the present St Michael's Church, most of the fabric of which is of the "Early English" period, but which does include one Norman window as an indication of there having been an earlier structure. There was probably also some sort of mediaeval ecclesiastical building just to the south of the village, where a field used to be called the Kirk Lee, and where coins and carved stones have been said to have been found.

Churches dedicated to St Michael are often said to occupy former pagan religious sites. This may also be so with Houghton, as the church occupies that central, yet slightly raised, position typical of such sites. One feature of the early church taking over pagan sites was that local pagan festivals were often adapted to a Christian form and associated with the local saint. At Houghton the local festival, called "Houghton Feast" and held in the week after Michaelmas, has certainly been very strongly observed for many hundreds of years, and continues to this day as a major event in the social life of the place. An ox is roasted and the centre of Houghton is, in several ways, no place for the squeamish when Houghton Feast is "on".

### 3. BERNARD GILPIN AND KEPIER SCHOOL

A Grammar School was founded in Houghton in 1570 or 1574 by the remarkable Bernard Gilpin, the then Rector, with the financial aid of John Heath, who had become the owner of the extensive estates formerly belonging to the monastic "Hospital" of Kepier and who passed on much of the endowments of the Hospital to the school. The

school was therefore called Kepier Grammar School. Unfortunately it no longer exists, although it did last almost into modern times and its name, but not its ethos, has been appropriated by one of the ubiquitous modern Comprehensives. Gilpin is thought to have been teaching boys himself, however, from at least 1566.

Bernard Gilpin was an amazingly active and evangelical man for his day. Not content with his comfortable living at Houghton he took himself off whenever opportunity arose and preached his way around the wild Pennine dales like an early-day John Wesley. He was a Westmorland man, educated at Oxford, who spent some time on the continent after graduating. He was a grand-nephew of Bishop Tunstall, to whom he owed his presentation first to Easington, then to the Archdeaconry of Durham and then, on resigning from Easington, to Houghton-le-Spring. A zealous convert away from Rome, he was summoned to London during the reign of the Catholic "Bloody" Mary and it was probably only Mary's timely death which saved his skin. He would never compromise his principles, not even for the Bishop, and at one time fell out with Bishop Tunstall, but the two were later reconciled.

Gilpin died in office in 1583 and his tomb is to be seen in Houghton Church. His life so impressed a later Archdeacon, Charles Thorp, the first Warden of Durham University, that he took a cast of Gilpin's tomb and had it attached to the chancel wall of his church at Ryton, where it still is. [He may have thought he was entitled to it as Ryton Church had been paying one mark (13s 4d) to Kepier Hospital each year since the twelfth century, and to Houghton Church for Kepier School since 1570. It was still being paid recently (67p)]. A contemporary "Life" of Gilpin, printed in "Black Letter" type, is among the Houghton Parish records in Durham Record Office and has been microfilmed, at the beginning of the first reel of Houghton Parish Registers.

#### 4. COAL MINING

Parts of Houghton parish were exploited for coal mining from the same Tudor times as saw the incumbency of Gilpin and the foundation of Kepier School. These were, at first, mainly around West Rainton and some of the early workings have recently been exposed in the course of open cast mining. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the area of mining gradually expanded until it came to be all that part of the parish which did not lie under the sheet of magnesian limestone which covers the east Durham plateau, and which extends into Houghton parish in the Hetton area. Under that obstacle, it was once thought that there was no coal to be got, but even when the decision was taken to sink shafts through the limestone, it was an almost impossible job - truly impossible, indeed, until methods of pumping were developed which could cope with the inrush of water, as the shafts turned themselves literally into large wells once the saturated strata were reached. Such developments were not possible until the first half of the nineteenth century, when Hetton Colliery was sunk, to be followed by several others in that area.

By the eighteenth century the Royalties from coal mines under the Glebe land and from wayleave rents charged for the transport of coal over it meant that the income of the Rector was raised far above his official stipend. **Houghton-le-Spring became a much sought-after living, as well it might be when the Rector's income was greater than the Bishop's!** As might be expected in such a case, those who were fortunate enough to become Rector had not exactly worked their way up from the masses. Take John Grey, for instance. His grandfather was the first Earl Grey, of tea fame, and his father was the second Earl Grey, the Prime Minister who introduced the Reform Bill of 1832 and whose statue crowns Grey's Monument in the centre of Newcastle. His eldest brother became the third Earl, two other brothers were Admirals, one a Colonel and one Rector of Morpeth. His daughter married John George Lambton, who became the first Earl of Durham.

#### 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The village of Houghton-le-Spring would originally have nestled under the protection of the magnesian limestone escarpment to its east. That protection has to some extent been removed, however, through the activities of various quarries and the ever-deepening "Houghton Cut" through which the road to Sunderland (now the A690) ascends the escarpment. Houghton Cut is now a landmark which clearly indicates the site of Houghton when seen from the west. To the west and north there were until recently large colliery waste heaps, but they have now all been removed or grassed over and the area has regained a much greener and pleasant appearance. Apart from St Michael's Church, the main buildings to draw one's attention in Houghton are the former Houghton Hall, built in Elizabethan times by Robert Hutton, a Rector who acquired property in the area and managed to found a local landed family, and the equally imposing, in its own way, former Robinson's Brewery, now a night-club.

Of the other villages in the area, Hetton-le-Hole has already been dealt with in this series, by June Watson (Journal, Volume 10 p12), so need not be specially mentioned here. West Rainton is the largest of the scatter of small settlements in its area - West, Middle and East Rainton, Rainton Gate, Pithouse Row, Leamside, Wilson's Row, etc. It

now contains many houses, both private and council-owned, West Rainton parish church, the Working Men's Club, two pubs and little else. Newbottle is an ancient village to the south of Houghton, and its village street once held the houses of several well-to-do families, most of which had connections in Sunderland. It once had a small pottery belonging to Peter Austin (0770 - 1863), who found he could make more money by moving to Sunderland and building ships. Now it has the appearance of going slowly to seed. That is an illusion; it used to be slightly worse than now and is actually slowly improving! Moorsley, near Hetton, was the birthplace of Mary Ann Cotton who was executed in Durham Jail in the late nineteenth century for the multiple murder of close relatives (to claim Insurance money, it was said). This subject, which some member may like to research, is a controversial one, as Mary Ann's plea of ignorance of the effects of the arsenic she fed her victims is almost believable.

Penshaw is dominated by its Hill, on which stands Penshaw Monument, a Greek Temple in a most unlikely setting, built in 1844 as a monument to the first Earl of Durham. Visitors to the area will find it well worthwhile to make the climb to the top, if only for the extensive view naturally to be had from a landmark which can be seen from most of northern County Durham. Penshaw includes the township of Biddick, where dwelt James Drummond, a Scottish pitman who claimed to be the Earl of Perth and to have commanded the right wing of the Pretender's army at Culloden in 1746. Some members will remember a talk on the subject given to us many years ago by our member Geoffrey Fairs MA FRHS. This tale remains a matter of some controversy, but the writer, for one, changed from a sceptic to a believer when he helped Mr Fairs examine the evidence and do the first original research into the matter this century. There are two Drummond gravestones in Penshaw churchyard, as well as a most elaborate one to the local "self-made man", Sir George Elliot, who in the nineteenth century made the transition from ordinary miner to wealthy coal owner, thus giving the lie to those who would claim that such a thing was impossible.

## 6. THE RECORDS OF HOUGHTON

The following are the "outside dates" of the parish registers for Houghton, and for the parishes formed from it at various times, which are now deposited in Durham County Record Office. In each case the earliest date is the first year for which registers exist.

<b>Houghton-le-Spring</b>	<b>1563 - 1964</b>
West Rainton	1825 - 1961
Penshaw	1754 - 1874
<b>Hetton-le-Hole</b>	<b>1832 - 1950</b>
Newbottle	1850 - 1969
West Herrington	1841 - 1947

Houghton Roman Catholic Church, also dedicated to St Michael, was founded in 1831 as an offshoot from Bishopwearmouth. The registers to 1840 are in the PRO, with microfilm copies in Durham Record Office. There were numerous Methodist Churches in the colliery villages of the area, the early registers of which have not always survived. Houghton was the centre of a Wesleyan Methodist circuit from 1836 and its Baptism registers are in the PRO (1837 - 1839) and in Durham Record Office (microfilm copies 1837 - 1839; originals 1840 -1907).

Copies of Monumental Inscriptions for Penshaw (to 1851) and Herrington are in Durham Record Office. Unfortunately those at Houghton-le-Spring (many of which would have been very interesting to members) were cleared away some years before this Society was formed. The old stones at West Rainton were likewise cleared before being recorded. Those at Newbottle await a volunteer. Wills and BTs for the parish are in Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections.

## 7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Several publications give information about the area. Any list must be selective, but these are a few of the writer's "favourites". Most will now, unfortunately, be out of print, but they may occasionally be found in second-hand book shops or in Public Reference Libraries, especially those in the region.

FAIRS, G.L. "James Drummond of Biddick, County Durham and the Earldom of Perth", *The Scottish Genealogist*, Vol. 28, No. 1, March 1981. Much detail, some of it new at the time, about this amazing story.

MILBURN, G. "Newbottle: an Outline History", *Durham County Local History Society Bulletin* 23 (August 1979). A very useful introduction to Newbottle and its families.

SILL, M. "Land Ownership and the Landscape: a Study of the Evolution of the Colliery Landscape of Hetton-le-Hole, County Durham", Durham County Local History Society Bulletin 23 (August 1979). A study of the development of a pit village.

SMITH, E. "A Pitman's Notebook" (Frank Graham 1970, ISBN 900409 69). The Diary of Edward Smith, Houghton Colliery Viewer (Manager), 1749. It gives a fascinating insight into the problems of operating mines at that time and relates particularly into the "Hope" and "Success" pits between Newbottle and Herrington Burn. It mentions many names of local people (Look out for it in second-hand book shops - a paperback, original price "25/- or 125p").

SURTEES, R. "History and Antiquities of the County Palatine of Durham", Vol. 11 (1819). A detailed account of the early history, especially of the land ownerships and of church matters (Reference Library material).

VICKERSTAFF, J.J. "A Gazeteer of Durham County Schools 1400 - 1640", "A Gazeteer of Informal Learning in County Durham 1400 - 1550", "The Secret Life of a Mediaeval Schoolmaster: Curriculum and Method in Durham's Mediaeval Schools" and "A Register of Durham County Schoolmasters, 1400 - 1640" - in Durham County Local History Society Bulletins, 41 (December 1988), 42 (May 1989), 43 (December 1989) and 45 (December 1990), respectively. The first of these includes material on the funding of Kepier Grammar School, the second has a note relating to educational provision for choristers at Houghton, the third has much interesting background and the fourth includes brief details of the first twelve Headmasters of Kepier Grammar School.

WHELLAN, Francis & Company. "History and Directory of County Durham. First edition 1855; second edition (the best) 1894. An excellent potted history, together with a description of Houghton as it was in 1894, and a directory for that year (Reference Library, material).

Readers will have noted that several of the above items are contained in the Bulletins of Durham County Local History Society. For back numbers and information about the Society (annual subscription £7.50) they should contact Mr D.J. Butler, 3 Briardene, Margery Lane, Durham DH1 4QU.

## CITIZENS "WILLING TO TAKE IN SOLDIERS"

In 1745, Matthew Ridley, then Mayor of Newcastle, organised the defence of the town against a threatened attack by the Young Pretender. A letter in the Ridley papers in Northumberland Record Office from Amos Barnes to Ridley, dated October 12th 1745, lists those inhabitants of Longbenton who were "willing to take in soldiers". The list is given below, with permission from Northumberland Record Office and the depositor.

	Officer	Soldiers		Officers	Soldiers
Tho Codling		4	Geo Coxon		2
Mr William Lake	1	2	Andrew Cadwell		1
Mr Nelson		2	John Steafen (?)		1
Amos Barnes		2	Edwd English		2
William Clark		2	Mr Tho Robson	1	2
James Avery		2	Hen Warden		1
Tho Bell		1	Jos Wallace		1
Geo Thouborn		2	Edwd Thompson		1
Tho Blenkinship		4	<b>Wm Gustard</b>		2
Tho Coulson		2	John Curry		1
Robt Mins		1	Robt Moorehead		(torn)
Par Whinney		2	Richd Dinnas		(torn)
<b>Wm Yealden</b>		2	Ra Douglas		1

# OF ALE-TASTERS AND BREAD-WEIGHERS

## *The Manor Courts of Morpeth*

Maybe Thomas Daglish enjoyed his job as Ale-Taster in Morpeth in 1775. Possibly his colleague James Thompson did, too. It sounds a pleasant task. A year later, in September 1776, they changed jobs and became Fish-and-Flesh-Lookers, which sounds rather less appealing. Their reaction to the change of role remains unrecorded.

What, you may well ask, were these worthy gentlemen doing? Were the Ale-Tasters engaged in a pub crawl round the old Northumberland town? Well, not exactly! The Ale-Tasters were officers of the Corporation. Their full title was "Ale-Tasters and Bread-Weighers" and their tasks were to check the weight of bread being sold and to ensure that "All Brewers and tiplers make good and wholesome Ale and Beer for Man's Body." It cannot have been a very popular job, but it had to be endured for a year only, after which our Ale-Taster friends did a spell as "Fish-and-Flesh-Lookers", being required to ensure that "Flesh and Fish brought to be sold in the Markett be healthful to Man's Body." In some years, the officers seem to have been busier than in others. In 1758, for example, a number of people --- Mary Benbridge, Margaret English, Thomas Holmes, Ann Bambrough, Joseph Bentley, Alice Green and Mary Mills --- were "presented" for selling bread of short weight, whilst Francis Singleton faced the charge of "exposing flesh for sale, the same being unwholesome." In October 1777, Mary Bambrough, perhaps a relative of the Ann in 1758, was found "exposing for sale, within this Borough, certain quantities of Bread viz two halfpenny loaves and two penny loaves on the the 23rd of May last past which were short of weight." John Johnson and John Peet faced similar charges. Each of the three was "amerced" i.e. fined, three shillings and four pence.

You will find the records of these events in the books of the Manor Courts of Morpeth Borough. The Court Leet and Court Baron were the chief organs of government in the town. Their operation was inextricably linked to the "seven companies", the trade guilds which had existed in Morpeth since mediaeval days, the Tanners', the Merchants' and Taylors', the Fullers' and Dyers', the Skinners' Glovers' and Butchers', the Cordwainers', the Weavers', and the Smiths', Saddlers' and Armourers'.

I intend to deal only briefly with these ancient organisations, beginning by noting that each company consisted of an alderman and a number of brothers and freemen. The brothers had a number of privileges, not least of which was the right to carry on a trade within the Borough. Those brothers who were also freemen were entitled to vote in parliamentary elections, a valuable right in a period when the franchise was very limited.

Men "became entitled to be brothers by birth or servitude; as being the son of a freeman, or having served an apprenticeship to a freeman or brother; and are thereupon admitted to that company or trade of which their father is or was a tradesman, or of which their master is or was a brother." Each company had the right to elect a certain number of its brothers to be freemen, but because of the voting rights which freemen possessed, their creation was the subject of much manipulation for political purposes by the lord of the Manor, the Earl of Carlisle, or his agents and indeed the question was the subject of a great deal of litigation in the late 18th century. Details of the political aspects were discussed in an article by Dr J.M. Fewster in *English Historical Review* LXXXI (1966) entitled "The Webbs and the Borough of Morpeth." This article.. a cotgy of whirl- is, ~~in the NDFHS library, also includes a useful account of the background, history and operations of the guilds. In passing, I should mention that the records of four of the guilds --- the Weavers', the Tanners', the Fullers' and Dyers', and the Skinners', Glovers' and Butchers' are held by Northumberland County Record Office at their Morpeth branch.~~

The body of Morpeth Corporation consisted of aldermen and freemen, and its officers were two bailiffs, a sergeant-at-mace, four constables and our friends the two Ale-Tasters and the two Fish-and-Flesh-Lookers. These officers were elected at the Court Leet, one of the two manorial courts which were held at the suit of the Earl of Carlisle as Lord of the Manor. The other was the Court Baron. Both courts were held on the same days, after Easter and after Michaelmas in each year and in addition a Court Baron alone was held on the first Monday after the Epiphany.

<sup>o</sup> "An Account of the Customs of the Court Leet and Court Baron of Morpeth, with the Court Roll in 1632;" by J.C. Hodgson; in *Arch, Aeliana*, New Series XVI, (1894) pp. 52-76. A Copy is in the NDFHS Library.



The colourful events on Court days are described by J.C. Hodgson(> -- "In the early morning of Michaelmas Monday there was an appearance of bustle in the town -- a general sweeping of footpaths, repairing of pavements, and scattering of gravel to cover defects. Two men with halberts visited each public house: they were the ale-tasters, whose duty it was to see and report that the ale brewed was 'healthful for man's body'. At 10 o'clock the warning bell rang, fifteen minutes later the notice bell, and shortly after the meeting bell. Those whose duty it was to attend the court had for some time been assembling at the 'Queen's Head', where they prepared for the duties of the day by partaking of biscuits with wine and spirits. They took their places in order -- first, the town's waits, a piper and fiddler in green coats and drab knee breeches, each bearing on his right arm a silver badge of the corporation arms; then four constables bearing staves with square tops, having on the sides the arms of the lord of the manor and of the corporation, the old town cross with its flat roof and large balls at the corners, and the scales of justice; then two fish-and-flesh-lookers, having staves with knives at the top; then the two bread-weighers and ale-tasters with their halberts; the sergeant with his silver mace came next, followed by the two bailiffs, then the steward of the court, the seven aldermen and the jurymen. In the old town hall was a semicircular seat raised on an elevated platform. On this the lord's steward, as presiding officer, seated himself, the bailiffs, as assessors, sitting on either side, and beyond them seven aldermen. The sergeant placed the mace on the table opposite to the steward and standing beside him, made proclamation" calling upon those who held lands by suit and service to appear. He then called the burgesses, and the jury was then sworn in and 'charged' by the steward "who directed them to examine and report on any matter which he thought right, after which the jury retired, perambulated the" boundaries of the borough and then "sat to hear complaints, to decide them, and to prepare their report." In the evening, "when all were seated, the names of the leet jury were called, and the foreman handed their presentments to the steward, who, as each case was called, named a fine and entered them in the roll. Two burgesses named by the jury were then sworn as 'affeerers'. These confirmed or reduced the amercement as they thought right, but could not increase or altogether dispense with it: their decision was conclusive."

"The bells then rang a merry peal for the new bailiffs", the officers were sworn to do their respective tasks for the following year, and the Court then adjourned "to the house of the senior bailiff; here were assembled on the first floor many young people with great baskets of apples and nuts which were thrown to the streets to be scrambled for. In the rooms the tables were covered with linen, on which were a large Cheshire cheese, loaves of bread, pipes, and tobacco, and silver tankards borrowed from friends. Servers then gave each person two apples and two handfuls of **nuts while the sergeant received from each a shilling, although the payment was far from universal. After a short** sitting the party in like manner proceeded to the houses of the junior bailiff and sergeant, after which they all found their way home as best they could."

The jury of the Court Leet dealt with a variety of minor offences --- nuisances of various kinds, forestalling (buying up goods on the way to market before it was presented for sale during market hours), grinding corn away from the lord's mill, permitting pigs and cattle to stray. And of course they considered the cases of short weight and unwholesome food brought to their notice by Ale-Tasters and Fish-and-Flesh-Lookers.

The jury of the Court Baron, called the 'party' or 'petty' jury, then considered cases of debt and trespass in which the damages claimed amounted to less than 40s.

Where, then, will you find the records of these Courts and what will you find in them, possibly about your ancestors if you have links with Morpeth? There are six stout volumes, covering the period from 1696 to 1883. Until the 1730's they are in Latin, although the "presentments" to the Court Leet are in English throughout. You might expect the records to be held by Northumberland County Record Office, or in the borough of Morpeth itself, but this is not the case. Because the Howard family, the Earls of Carlisle, were the lords of the manor, the books are included in the Howard papers and these are held at Durham University, Archives and Special Collections (formerly the Department of Palaeography and Diplomatic) at 5 The College, Durham, where you can peruse them at your leisure.

The records of each half-yearly Court includes a lengthy list of those owing suit and service to the lord of the manor, and if your ancestor was a freeman or a burgess, or one of the officers, then you will almost certainly find his name there.

The actions for debt and trespass are noted, but they are somewhat disappointing as they seldom give details of

the "trespass" or the debt. Almost invariably, the Court awarded damages of £1-19-11, or even with the odd three-farthings added -- just below the 40s limit of their jurisdiction. Typical is the 1779 entry "James Allen complains against Thomas Wedderburn in a plea of trespass upon the case upon promises to the Plaintiffs damage of £1-19-11." Very occasionally, there is a little more detail, as in 1755 -- "Robert Brown complains against George Paul and John Taylor in a plea of taking and unjustly detaining one Black Gelding and one Bay Mare the property of the said Robert Brown to his damage."

The "presentments" are varied and interesting. Here are just a few samples. In 1740, Mary Kidd, widow, was presented "for coming in a scolding abusive manner to the Grand Jury giving them threatening and Approbious language with an intent to intimidate them." She was "amerced" 3s 4d.

In 1779, John Daglish appeared "for permitting several swine (that is to say) one sow and three piggs to go loose upon the king's high street." In 1778, we find William Nixon "Laying and permitting to lie a quantity of wood upon the king's high street." Also in 1778, John Thompson is presented "for an encroachment upon the king's high way within this borough leading from the river Wansbeck to the West End of the town of Morpeth for taking a part of the said highway into his garden." There is Frances Mills, who is "laying and permitting to lie a Quantity of Dung opposite her House" and Thomas Saint "laying and permitting to lye a quantity of stone, lime, sand and rubbish upon the king's high street ... fronting the house now in the possession of William Bell and Nathaniel Dunn", while Catherine Simpson, widow, committed an 18th century traffic offence "permitting her waggon, cart or carriage to stand upon the said publick street from 11 o'clock in the evening of Saturday the 3rd instant until 6 o'clock in the morning this day."

So far, I have mentioned only the Courts of the Manor of the Borough of Morpeth, but there was another Court Leet and another Court Baron, nearby, those of the "Manor and Barony of Morpeth Castle." This covered areas outside the town. Ulgham, Stobswood, Benridge, Duddo, Catchbum, Stobhill, Hepscott, Clifton, Tranwell, Morpeth Park, **Morpeth Fulling Mill, Morpeth Corn Mills, Morpeth Common Bakehouse, Cottingwood, Todburn, Hartburn**, Angerton, Hedleywood and Longhorsley are among the places mentioned in its records. The Earl of Carlisle was lord of this Manor, as well as of that of the Borough and hence the records of these courts are also at 5 The College, Durham. The earliest run from 1696 to 1706; they are in the same volume as those of the Borough for this period -- each Court's records are at opposite ends of the book. Then there are three further volumes covering 1706 to 1874.

The records of the Morpeth Castle Courts are similar to those of its neighbours, in that they include a Court Roll -- giving each year the names of freeholders, tenants, and some "**cottagers**", **in the places mentioned above -- and also** details of action for debt and trespass, and some "presentments."

None of the volumes contain any form of index, but if you have some idea of the period in which your ancestors lived in or around Morpeth, a search could well add flesh to the bare bones of dates and names of your forebears. Such a search would not be particularly onerous or time-taking. Good hunting!

I have selected a typical Court Roll from the "Borough" records, and a typical list of "presentments" from those of the "Castle" courts, and they are now given in full, with the permission of Durham University.

The Call Book of the Freeholders and Free Burgesses of the Court Leet in View of Frankpledge and Court Baron of the Right Honourable Frederick Earl of Carlisle Lord of the Manor and Borough of Morpeth in the County of Northumberland held at Morpeth aforesaid in and for the said Manor and Borough on Monday the first day of October in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty One before Christopher Fawcett esquire, Steward of the Said Court.

The Heirs of His Grace John Duke of Newcastle for a tenement in Bridge Street.

Edward Young, tenant of the same.

The Heirs of Thomas Wright for Lands in Morpeth.

Thomas Marshall for Lands in Morpeth.

The Heirs of Wardhaugh Pye for Lands in Morpeth

The Heirs of Jno Fenwick for Lands in Morpeth.

Andrew Fenwick for Lands in Morpeth.

William Wood for Lands in Morpeth.

Alex Bolam, Mary wife of Edwd Blaire, Esther wife of Martin Robinson, John son of Elizabeth Thompson decd for the late Ephraim Fawcus's Lands in Morpeth.

Nicholas Whitehead for a Messuage in Morpeth.

The Heirs of James Crawford for Lands in Morpeth.

William Bolam for Lands in Morpeth.

#### FREE BURGESSES

Gilbert Shotton, Andrew Bullock, Charles Warriner, William Tate (Cordwr.), George Bullock, Stephen Tate, John Smith (Mercht.), Thomas Clennell, Gabriel Dunn, Andrew Fenwick, Edward Richardson, Edward Young, John Smith (Weaver), George Oliver, Robert Milburn, William Arthur, George Softley, Thomas Richardson, Henry Hancock, Thomas Davidson (Cordwr.), William Woodman, Robert Fenwick Snr, George Milburn, Thomas Potts, Thomas Marshall, Thomas Wright, Thomas Bennett, John Young Snr, Henry Oliver, Edward Challoner, Robert Cooper, Michael Hancock, John Spence, Robert Mitford, Thomas Mitford, Adam Bittleston, Robert Swan, John Davison, George Fenwick, Richard Wright, Edward Oliver Jnr, John Dodds, Edward Atkinson, Ralph Garrett, John Cranston, Francis Cowans, Thomas Wardle, Thomas Marshall (Cordwr.), John Sterling, John Hay, Robert Shotton, Robert Dobson, Mark Bowman, Robert White, Edward Bennett, Gilbert Shotton Jnr, William Marshall, Robert Mitford Jnr, Matthew Wilson\*, Thomas Brwan Snr, Gerard Browell, Thomas Swinhoe, John Atkinson, John Dobson, John Cornfoot, Nathaniel Dunn, John Reay, Alexander Bolam, Matthew Leightley, William Dobson, Roger White, James Forster, John Challoner, John Snaith, Henry Bittleston, John Fenwick Jnr, John Wright, Joseph Wright, Hugh Bates, Thomas Atkinson, Theophilus Dunn (Tanner), Henry Lumsden, Edward Lumsden, Charles Pye, John Bilton, Michael Bates, Michael Nevins, John Bates (Cordwr.), William Bell, William Tate (Weaver), William Wood, Thomas Cuthbertson, Richard Moffitt, William Singleton, Thomas Leightley\*, Thomas Bowan (Staymaker), Ralph Brady, John Hannah, Charles Stoddart, Joseph Milburn, Thomas Atkinson Jnr, Thomas Bowman Jnr, William Wilson, John Lumsden Stir, William Crawford, John Daglish, James Thompson, William Cleugh, Robert Partis, Edward Blair, William Jackson, Alexander Nevills, Francis Fenwick, Ralph Potts, Peter Hannah, John Bates (Mercht.), William Garrett, Robert Fenwick Jnr, Edward Bowman, George Bootyman, Joseph Burn, Thomas Daglish, Stephen Swinhoe, Joseph Heron, Hugh Watson, John Softley, Christopher Brown, Ralph Bowman, John Oliver, John Shotton, Peter Aynsley, William Reay, John Spence Jnr, Thomas Dunn, Joseph Wilson (Barber), Thomas Wilson, William Scott, Nathaniel Ramsay, John Burn, John Young Jnr, William Bullock, William Bowman, Edward Hedley, James Hewitt, Robert Hair, William Elliott, Marl Reay\*, Andrew Cowans, William Stoddart, John Stoddart, Bates Stoddart, Thomas Clennell Jnr, William Heron, William Young, Nicholas Watson, George Wright (Cordwr.), Matthew Bell, Robert Thompson, John Cuthbertson, John Bowman, **Theophilus Dunn Snr, John Embleton, John Grey, Stephen Wilson, George Crawford, Robert Browell, William Atkinson, John Bittleston, George Tate, Robert Saint, Thomas Young, James Bowman, Thomas Baites, John Marr, James Atkinson, Thomas Todd, Isaac Stephenson, William Aynsley, James Heron, Andrew Fenwick Jnr, William Leighton, John Todd, Robert Flint, William Shotton, John Shotton, Benjamin Thompson, Archibald Dunn, William Johnson, David Hedley.**

Editor's Note: The three names asterisked were crossed through, with a note "Dead".

#### PRESENTMENTS AT COURT OF MORPETH CASTLE 1703.

We P'sent Mathew Arthur of Hartbum for Cutting my Lord's Wood.

We P'sent Richard Potts of Ulgham for Keeping a Grayhound.

We P'sent George Wilson for Forestalling.

We P'sent Jane Strother for enclosing & ploughing the highway through the Stobhill Moore leading from Newbiggin to Morpeth.

We P'sent Thomas Story of Morpeth, Weaver, for an Affray upon Thomas Edmond.

We P'sent Cuthbert Dodds, John Dodds, Gawen Stoaker, Edwd Atkinson of Catchbum, for their Hedges being out of Repaire.

We P'sent Ralph Wood for Keeping a Gun.

Robt Browwe, son of John Browne of Greenlaton fined in court for Quarrelling and Fighting in Court.

Thomas Patterson Jnr fined for Abusing the Court.

Marke Thompson for the like.

# PRECOCIOUS GRANDFATHER?

*Dorothy K. Marshall*

My grandfather died before his 15th birthday. He was survived by six adult children and ten grandchildren.

Shocked you, didn't I?

Thomas FULTON was born 29 February 1884 - Leap Day - so his first birthday was in 1888, his second in 1892, his third in 1896, but then he had to wait until 1904 for his fourth birthday. The year 1900 was not a Leap Year. If you remember your Leap-Day rules, you will know that a year divisible by 100 is only a leap year if it is divisible by 400. So we can all look forward to an extra day in 2000.

Grandfather married his sister-in-law in Hayton-by-Brampton, Cumberland on 20 March 1909. His place of residence was Stocksfield, Northumberland and his first two children were baptised in Bywell, one in St. Peter's and one in St. Andrew's. He had a hard life working as a miner and later as a farm labourer, struggling to raise the nine children born between 1909 and 1924.

Grandfather liked to tease his growing children that he was younger than they were because he had celebrated fewer birthdays. However, the fact that the anniversary of his birth only occurred every four years did not delay the passing of the years and he died of cancer on Christmas Day, 1946.

Editor's Note: The address of the authoress is 653 Patricia Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 3A8, Canada

# IRISH TOWNLANDS

*by Godfrey Duffy*

In Irish ancestral research we may have been fortunate to discover the county of our ancestors and even their parish. Even if the parish registers are only extant from the mid 19th century all is not lost as the registers will probably reveal our ancestor's townland.

In Ireland the name of a person's townland is as important as their parish. The same family could have lived in the same townland for generations. Nolan remarks, 'the townland is the smallest administrative division in the country and all other territorial divisions are collections of townlands. Townlands may range in size from a few acres to thousands of acres and within each townland a number of families would be living. My own ancestors lived on about 15 acres of land and only then as tenants. It was at the end of the 19th century after the activities of Michael Davitt's 'land league' that tenants became owners of their meagre plots.

The townland names as old as the land itself give us substantial information combining as they do certain features:-

- a) **topographical plus personage**  
e.g. Carrickabrahey, In Carraig'rock', Ir. nabraithair'of the friar', i.e. Friar's rock.
- b) **botanical plus description**  
e.g. Derrybeg, In Doire 'oakwood', In beg 'small', i.e. small oakwood.
- c) **land unit plus personage**  
e.g. Gortsagart, Ir. Gort'field, Ir. saigart'priest', i.e. Priest's field.
- d) **item of settlement plus description**  
e.g. Kilcormack, Ir. Cill 'church', Ir. Cormac 'Cormack', i.e. the church of Cormack.

As can be seen the permutations are endless reflecting the descriptiveness of the Irish language as well as giving us an insight into the history of our ancestor's settlements.

The townland as a basic division became standardised in the 17th century through frequent use in survey and land transactions. The names however, were being written down by people who knew little of the Irish language and were often hostile to it. Legislation of 1662 suggested 'new and proper names more suitable to the English tongue.' Some names have been lost due to amalgamation with other townlands while some have evolved, although they can still be recognised e.g. Ballymacmurratty in 1640 becomes Ballymacmoriarty in 1857. Today's name is the same as in 1857 but more importantly is probably the original meaning i.e. Ir. Baile MacMoriarty 'homestead of the son of Moriarty.' Within the 20th century efforts have been made to regaelicise place names in Ireland, the most obvious example being Kingstown to Dun Laoghaire. This process had already started with the Ordnance Survey of Ireland in the 1830's. English surveyors and engineers accompanied by Irish speakers faithfully attempted to accurately record Irish place names.

Sources: Tracing the Past. W. Nolan, Dublin 1982. Parochial Survey of Ireland. W. Mason, 1814.

## JARROW IN 1861

*by W.E. Rounce*

When compiling an index of the people of Jarrow based on the 1861 census return RG9/3794, folios 4 to 80, it became clear to me that the population growth in the rapidly expanding town was from an influx of people from other areas, rather than from an increase in the native population.

1861 was a decade after the closure of Jarrow pit, with its history of explosion calamities, and it was also ten years after the opening of Palmers shipyard, with its prospects of prosperity which were to end so dismally in the 1930's.

Jarrow saw a leap in population following 1805 when coal was first drawn from the pit and the impetus for the second leap was just building up in 1861. So where did this non-indigenous population -- just a hundred or so more than half of the 1861 population -- come from?

The local areas on both sides of the Tyne contributed, but they too, growing rapidly and offering much the same opportunities for improved conditions, tended to have a population which was less mobile than further afield.

Ireland provided the greatest section of newcomers -- 163 married men, 147 married women, 138 single men, but only 27 single women. The Irish born families had 68 boys and 23 girls.

Then came the Scots with 137 men, 91 women, 87 boys and 88 girls. Cumberland also contributed. It sent 48 men and 25 women, with 20 male and 16 female children and of these 109 folk, 29 came from Carlisle and 17 from Dalston. Yorkshire's broad acres sent their share -- 34 men, 23 women, 22 boys and 17 girls, whilst from Norfolk came 81 immigrants, made up of 30 men, 17 women, 20 boys and 14 girls. The Rounces were to arrive in the late 70's.

Lancashire came next with 20, then Kent with a baker's dozen as part of the other 90 incomers, some from quite exotic places, 1 from France, 1 from the East Indies and a couple from South America. Devon sent 9, Warwick, Westmorland, Cheshire and Sussex 3 each, and London half a dozen. Surrey and Suffolk managed 2 and 5 respectively. Norway was represented by one, while another arrived from Australia, the rest being from other English counties.

The ratio of adults to children is interesting. Norfolk had 1.3 adults to each child, Scots also 1.3, Yorkshire 1.7, Cumberland 2 whilst Ireland had 5.2 adults to each child -- perhaps the large proportion of single Irishmen contributed to the latter.

With such a mixture of nationalities and area cultures, and with an average of just over 7 people to each of the 462 dwellings, it becomes easy to understand why it became the rather robust, boisterous place of local legend.

## CROOK AND MONKWEARMOUTH IN 1851

Bill Rounce's article reminded me of two booklets on County Durham towns published in the 1970's by the Extra Mural Department of Durham University -- "*Crook and Billy Row in 1851; an Analysis of the Census Returns*" and "*Monkwearmouth Colliery in 1851.*" In each case, an evening class held under the auspices of the Department had considered the 1851 Census from various aspects, including analysing the birth places of the inhabitants as stated on the enumerators returns.

Both Crook and Monkwearmouth were rapidly growing places. In 1821, a mere 228 people lived in Crook and until the 1830's agriculture was the main activity there. By 1841, the population of the mid-Durham town had grown to 538, but "the migration that brought Crook into being" really got under way in the 1840's and by 1851 the population had increased by over 400% to 2764. The town "was undergoing a profound transformation in size, appearance and character. It had become a populous and expanding centre of mining and associated industries." The Pease family, renowned Darlington Quaker industrialists had opened a railway to Crook in 1837, with the rival Durham County Coal company succeeding in opening a line to Billy Row in 1841. The Pease interests rapidly became predominant and they owned many of the houses and farms as well as controlling the collieries and the coke ovens and brickworks which developed in their wake. The town itself had "incessant bellows of soot and smoke from the surrounding collieries and from the sulphurous embers of an endless line of cinder ovens. "The living conditions of the people were often deplorable, with lack of water or adequate sewage. In 1853, following a cholera epidemic, the London doctor Walker Lewis visited the town and he vividly describes one house, in which 5 deaths had occurred. "The house forms one of three built against a bank earth 12 feet high, and therefore incapable of allowing any ventilation to the rooms on the ground floor. In front is a stream of water 15 feet wide into which is thrown refuse and filth of all kinds ... Against the side of the house, which is thus made to form a portion thereof, are pigsties, the bricks absorbing the fluid manure of the animals. A few feet removed from them are other pigsties. Behind one of the three houses is a large accumulation of dung from which a dark brown fetid fluid oozes ... the churchyard is full to repletion. The village green, instead of being a healthy rendezvous for the recreation of the children, is made the meeting place for the open sewers."

In Crook and Billy Row in 1851, only 175 of the 2764 inhabitants, i.e. 6.33%, had been born there -- and of these, 165 were children. Only 2 women and 8 men named the towns as their birthplace. But the workers flooding to the new industries often "came to work in the mines from other mining districts ... It is probably true to say that many of the older ones came trained to their work; and were following the already well-established custom of frequently changing house and places of work." Not surprisingly, therefore, two thirds of the 1851 population (1845 persons) had been born in County Durham, with 215 Northumbrians. There were 260 born in Yorkshire and 99, 73 and 23 from the other northern counties of Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire. Mere handfuls of people had been born elsewhere in England. The 38 Scots and 7 Welsh were heavily outnumbered by the 135 Irish (96 of them adult males -- and two-thirds of those were single).

The University's study notes the frequent moves made by miners and quotes the example of William Martin, miner, born in Bamburgh, Northumberland, and his Belford born wife, whose movements in search of work can be guessed by the birthplaces of his six children -- Elswick and Byker Bar in Newcastle, Lowick in Northumberland and **Chester-le-Street, Birtley and Shildon in Durham County.**

Crook's population, like the town itself, was young. 30% were under 10, 50% under 20 and no less than 89% under 50. And this despite appalling infant mortality -- children under 5 accounted for almost 50% of the deaths between 1847 and 1853. A mere 37 folk managed to reach three score years and ten!

Monkwearmouth, on the north bank of the river Wear at Sunderland, showed a growth similar to that of Crook, and for the same reasons. The colliery there, originally known as Pemberton Main, opened in the 1830's. In 1841, some fifteen years after sinking of the pit began, the village had 354 people in 63 families, but in 1851 there were 233 families and 1236 folk, an increase of some 2 1/2 times over the decade. The 362 adult males and 310 adult females made up to 54% of the populace. As in Crook, the population was young - 54% were under 20, almost three-quarters under 30, some 89% under 45 and 97% under 60. A mere 16 people were 70 or over in this "cluster of colliery rows where there was nothing at all before."

But only one-third of the colliery labour force lived in Monkwearmouth village itself with the rest in a few other rows of colliery housing nearby or in homes in nearby Sunderland. Virtually none of the adults had been born in Monkwearmouth and only 9% of the adult population (22 men and 40 women) were born in Sunderland, the

inference being that the colliery did not take on untrained local men but preferred experienced labour from elsewhere. However, 369 people, including 147 adult males, were born within 10 miles of the town, and a further 319 (93 adult males) between 10 and 20 miles. Unlike in Crook, the Scottish and Irish population was small - there were 17 Scots (7 adult males) and 12 born in Ireland (8 adult males).

"It is obvious" says the University's survey "that the adult population of a relatively new village like Monkwearmouth Colliery must be made up of immigrants" and, as in Crook, examples are given of the movement of the miners over the years, deduced from the birthplaces of their children. The largest family was that of Samuel Robson (born Winlaton 1810) and his wife Ann (born Pensher 1811). Isaac and Mary, born in 1831 and 1832 are shown merely as born in "Durham" and "Northumberland", but there are followed by children born in Gosforth and Seghill in Northumberland, three born between 1840 and 1843 in Hetton, a daughter born in Haswell and finally, young Elizabeth, born in Monkwearmouth itself in 1851.

Editor's Note: The NLF's library has copies of "Crook and Billy Row 1851" (reference 1013) and "Monkwearmouth Colliery in 1851" (reference 1014). A similar study of "Middleton in Teesdale in 1851" is also held (reference 1010). Anyone wishing to borrow the volumes, which contain historical and social background as well as statistical data, should apply to the Librarian Mrs. D. Tait (address on Contents Page). They are, however, unlikely to be of direct genealogical use, as few names of individuals are included.

## DON'T GRIEVE FOR THE GRIEVES

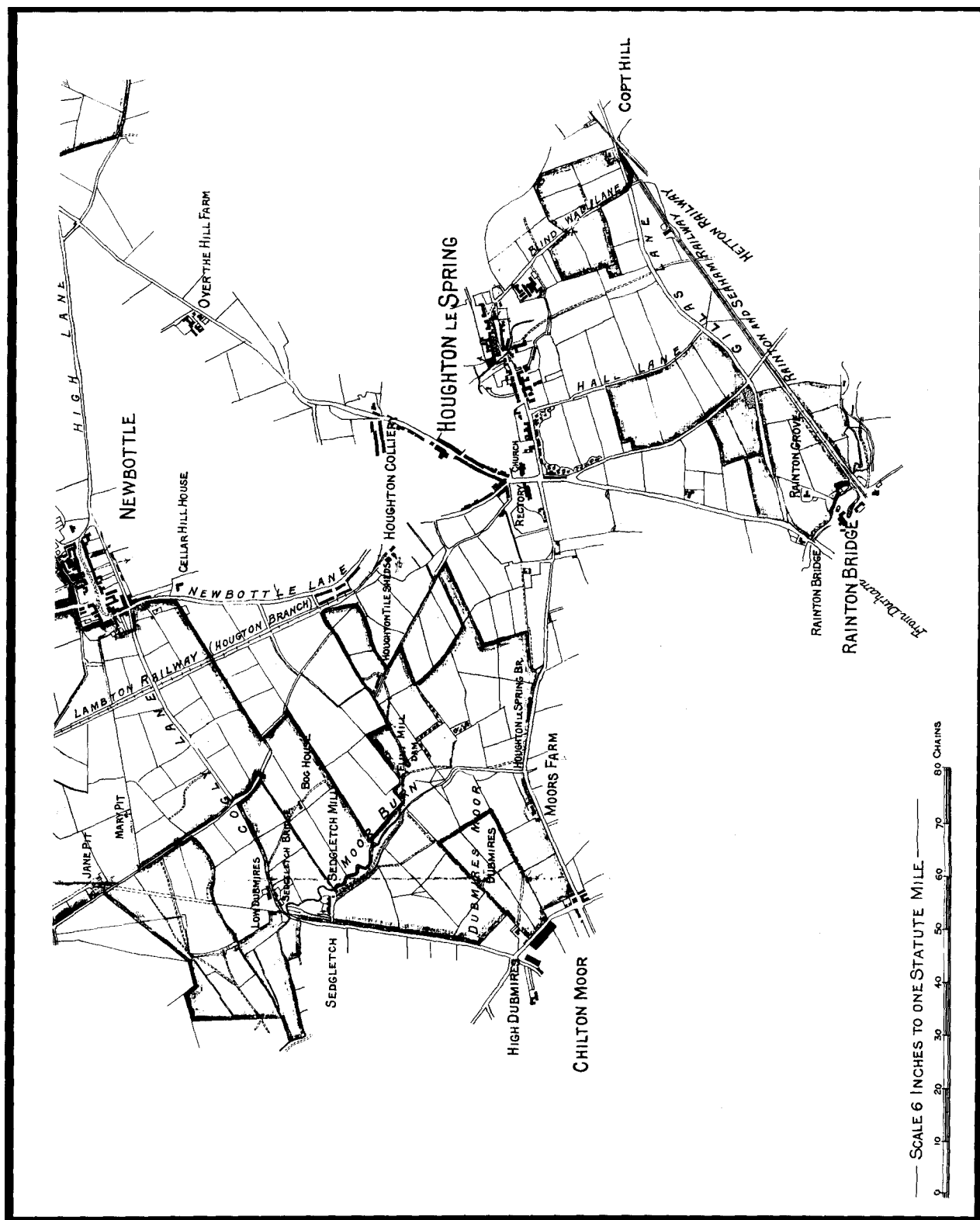
Two paupers, Ann and Jane Grieve, mother and daughter, one aged above 80 the other about 50 years of age, resided for some time back in one of the Duke of Northumberland's cottages in Chatton, from which parish they had received relief for upwards of 30 years. Their house had got into a rather dilapidated state, in consequence of which the said paupers were removed to Glendale Union Workhouse on the 25th ult; and, as is customary, they were put into the probationary ward until washed and changed. While this process was going on the old woman's pocket dropped on the floor, and the matron thinking it unusually heavy brought it into the house, where the overseer and master of the workhouse were. It was immediately examined, and found to contain no less a sum than £4 9s 7d. The overseer said he believed they still had more money, and suspected they had some in an old herring kitt which they had brought in the cart (in which they had been conveyed from Chatton to Wooler) with them, clinging most tenaciously to it all the way. This was examined and found to contain, along with some old wearing apparel, £14 9s 1d. By success suspicion being aroused and curiosity excited, further search was prosecuted, and in an old chest, which they had brought with them, after cutting up an innumerable quantity of small parcels firmly sewed up and pinned together in woollen and cotton rags, they extricated from their long confinement sixpences, shillings, half crowns, crowns, half sovereigns, sovereigns and notes to the amount of £94 9s 63/4d. It is supposed the three farthings (being new ones) had been put in for sovereigns. They left another chest at Chatton, which was also brought up on the following day, and subjected to an examination, and found to contain parcels put up in a similar manner to those already mentioned, from which the master etc picked up another sum of £12 8s 10d, making in all £125 17s 03/4d, of which £28 were bank notes, £42 in gold sovereigns and half sovereigns, the rest silver, except about 6d coppers. The clothes they had on when brought to the workhouse were filthy and wretched in the extreme, especially the caps on their heads, which they fought hard to keep possession of, and said they had no others to put on. Their minds were, however, put at rest on that subject by being promised by the matron a better one -- and will it be believed, that in the chests already alluded to they had the handsome complement of 362 caps, nearly one for every day in the year, and 39 handkerchiefs, 32 pockets, 37 aprons, 22 shifts, 12 bedgowns, 13 gowns, 6 petticoats, 5 shawls and numbers of other articles. It may be noticed that the great majority of the articles of clothing are almost useless by being so long shut up in a damp house. The most wonderful part of all is that they seemed quite unconscious of what they actually possessed, for neither of the two has ever named money to any one except the daughter, who asked the master if he had not seen two shillings in an old teapot which belonged to them. He told her he had, and would be responsible for it, which seemed to content her. They had both been accustomed to farm work, and when they had received their wages for the summer and harvest work they sewed up the money along with the paper containing the account, and had never looked at it -- for several of the shillings and half crowns were literally black. They are now changed, and have their victuals in a regular manner, and seem quite happy with their new home and situation, never having in all their life, or at least for many years, tasted the pleasures they now enjoy.

From *Berwick Advertiser* 24th May 1851.

# MAP PAGE

## *Map of Houghton-le-Spring*

This is a previously unpublished map of Houghton-le-Spring. The original is held by Durham University Archives & Special Collections (Halmote Court, Additional Maps & Plans, No. 26D). We are grateful for their permission to print it. Unfortunately, it is not dated but it is probably mid-19th century.





# LEAVE THE LADDER AT HOME, MATE!

*by G. Bell*

Consider the three classes of emigrants to colonial Australia: convicts, those who received assisted-passages, and those who paid their own way. The distinction between the last two is important because the administration involved in processing applications generated a mountain of paperwork. So did the transportation of convicts, but the records here are more tightly grouped in the Public Record Office and can be consulted with fewer misgivings than those relating to assisted emigrants. The same cannot be said about records for full fare-paying emigrants, which are few and widely dispersed.

Consider also the fact that all three groups of emigrants were not infrequently to be found embarked on the same ship. Social distinctions between cabin, steerage and hold, therefore, offer little consolation when faced with the prospect of consulting the thousands of documents held in the PRO, let alone those held in other archive offices.

The purpose of this article, therefore is to help you identify which records to consult in this country to learn as much as possible about the individual of interest to you before taking the inevitable step of extending your enquiries in Australia. First, however, stop to consider what has already been published.

The general and fairly widespread interest in Australian history over the last twenty years has seen the publication of hundreds of books covering every aspect of the country's colonial and more recent history. There's been much to celebrate, of course; the sesquicentenary of Tasmania in 1975, Western Australia in 1979, and South Australia in 1986. These culminated in the bicentenary celebrations of 1988. Come the millennium Victoria will celebrate its 150th birthday, and eight years after that it's the turn of Queensland. For background detail then, there's no shortage of secondary sources to consult once you get the ball rolling. Most are of a high standard of research and writing. More will undoubtedly follow.

If you happen to know the area or district in which your Australian connection settled, perhaps from oral tradition or from an old letter in your possession, you could be off to a flying start because there is a good chance that a local history has already been published. Many were commissioned by the local authority, and the author's research notes and card index of names may have been deposited in the local library. You could, then, start your search by writing to the local historian of the appropriate municipal library for guidance. Check the Australian telephone directories in the main city libraries in this country for the address of the library which interests you. If that fails, try the relevant consulate in London. Bear in mind, too, that some local authorities, Kensington & Norwood in South Australia, for example, have appointed Honorary Historians who can search records (mainly old rates books) which would otherwise not be available to the general public.

The above applies only if you have some very firm leads to follow. More often than not, however, the lead you have will be imprecise, if not entirely vague or misleading. From my own experience, Adelaide can mean either the capital of South Australia, or anywhere at all in the colony. What is usually meant is the port where the new colonist disembarked. But even if you had this information, you are still some way off locating individual immigrant or family groups. You have to narrow your field of vision by examining the records of the family group in this country to establish an approximate date of departure. You can then consider the shipping records.

The Public Record Office does not hold lists of passengers who sailed as ordinary emigrants until 1890. Whilst these are beyond the scope of this article, the state archives in the various capital cities of Australia do have indexes of ships, and sometimes passengers as well, before this date. Together with the general name indexes they maintain they can help to launch you into your research down-under. These indexes, however, are by no means complete or comprehensive. In some cases they have been supplemented by other finding aids.

Rica Erikson's three volume *Dictionary of Western Australians* appeared in 1979. I believe a fourth volume appeared in the early 1980's. These record an impressive array of data on the individuals listed, including date and place of birth, marriage and death, professional appointments, ship and year of arrival. As if that were not enough, full details of all children are given too. Additional details concern convict arrivals, and note the crime, where and when sentenced, and to what term.

I've not come across copies of Erikson's dictionaries in this country, but the four volume *Biographical Index of*

*South Australians 1836-1885*, published in 1986, can be found in the library of the Society of Genealogists. The BISA extends to some 1,800 pages and contains information on 250,000 individuals. Next to them are some of the eight Bicentennial Bulletins which add to, enlarge upon, and sometimes correct, entries in the main indexes. Each Bulletin contains approximately 800 entries, and provides, in addition, primary and secondary reference sources, together with contact names and addresses.

I'm not aware of the existence of publications of a similar scope covering the other colonies. Those for Western and South Australia are valuable research tools which you should make an effort to consult first if you suspect your Australian connection lies there. The Inter-Library Loan service may turn up copies of Erikson's books, but the BISA can certainly be consulted at the Society of Genealogists.

Few people realise it, but the shipping records of colonial Australia are duplicated in this country. All that's missing are the indexes, which have been compiled from the main newspapers of the day. Microfilm copies of these are to be found in the British Museum Newspaper Reference Library in Colindale in north London. There are gaps in the collections, but these can be worked around using alternative newspapers. Once you've started reading them you'll quickly pick-up the form, layout and contents, so progress will be rapid. It only slows when you find a reference to an emigrant ship complete with an account of the journey and a full passenger list. The information you can expect to find covers names, ages and occupations. For family groups the name of the wife is not usually given, nor are those of the children, but the size of the family is generally indicated.

The catalogue of newspapers held at Colindale groups them under the name of the colony, then the name of the town or the city, before arranging them by title. Coverage is also specified, so locating the reference to a newspaper is simple enough in itself. Those of greatest interest to the family historian are the major capital city newspapers, but don't overlook those published in other port towns.

The first newspapers to be published in the respective colonies sometimes doubled as the official Government Gazette, so there are significant holdings of early newspapers in the PRO which may not be found in Colindale. These also contain reference to ships and immigrants, though they are much less informative than they tend to be in the newspapers of later years. The records of the Colonial Office are what you want here. The group and class codes for the South Australian Government Gazette, for example, are CO 17 for miscellaneous newspapers (which includes the *South Australian Gazette and Register from June 1836 to June 1839*), and CO 16 for the *Gazette proper from June 1839*. Three group and class codes are to be found in the Current Guide to records in the PRO under the name of the colony. After that you need to identify the individual piece by referring to the alpha-numeric Class Lists.

When divorced from their original publishers, the Government Gazettes occasionally published lists of assisted-emigrants, and, for South Australia at any rate, reports of the Land and Emigration Commissioners in England. They are few and far between so you'd have to be pretty desperate to start searching them. The South Australian Government Gazette is indexed from 1858, however, which is a great help. A better place to start would be the Land and Emigration Commissioners original records in the [PRO.CO](#) 386 contains 193 pieces covering South Australia in the period 1833 to 1894. Of most immediate interest to family historians are the pieces numbered 137-193, which include registers of correspondence, land orders, registers and indexes of emigrant labourers, applications for free passage 1836-41, and registers of births and deaths of emigrants at sea 1847-69. Working with the earlier piece numbers in this class can be likened to beach-combing with a rake, and a metal detector. The same applies to the classes covering the other colonies. CO 384 contains original correspondence for the period 1817-96 in 193 pieces; and CO 385, the entry books for the period 1814-71 in 30 pieces.

New South Wales Original Correspondence 1784-1900 is to be found in CO 201, which contains 629 pieces, including lists of convicts and settlers for the period 1801-21. Contemporary indexes for most of these exist, whilst a later index covering the period 1823-33 has been prepared. This covers piece numbers 146-9, 159-60, 170, 180, 190, 199, 208, 217 and 237, and is arranged in rough alphabetical order of the name of the correspondent and the year the letter was written. The entry books for CO 201, logging inward and outward correspondence, are to be found in CO 202. These cover the period 1786-1873 and contain 78 pieces.

Whilst these are the main classes of Colonial Office records to be looking at, there are more general classes covering all the colonies. CO 323 contains original correspondence 1689-1943; CO 324 contains entry books 1622-1873; and CO 381 yet more entry books 1740-1872. These present another beach-combing exercise.

The sale of land in the colonies was not the only way of financing emigration. The Poor Law Amendment Act of

1834 established regulations for the emigration of paupers at the expense of the parish. Documents relating to the ~~administration of this assistance are to be found among the Ministry of Health records at the PRO. The group and class is MH 12, which contains 16,741 pieces covering the period 1834 to 1950. These are arranged by county and Poor Law Union, so the going might not be easy.~~

What you can expect to find in these records are lists of emigrants giving name, occupation, and destination.

To an extent, convict records in the PRO have already been covered by some of the more general classes of the Colonial Office referred to already. Remember, however, that wives and families often accompanied transported convicts as assisted emigrants, and that free settlers can also be found on convict ships. Also, there is a wealth of published material on the transportation of convicts, much of it very detailed, and most of it available in this country. You should consult as many of these as possible before contemplating what is available in the PRO. Specific convict records of most immediate use to the family historian are to be found in the papers of the Home Office, the Treasury Solicitors Department and the Admiralty.

Convict Transportation Registers 1787-1867, are in HO 11. These give the name of the ship on which the convict sailed, and in a lot of cases the date and place of conviction and the term of the sentence. This will lead to TS 18, which are the Treasury contracts with shipping agents employed to transport the prisoners listed on the indents. HO 11 and TS 18 are grouped by the name of the ship. For arrivals before 1828 and still alive at the time of the New South Wales census that year, the name of the ship can be obtained from the published version of the census. After that date it shouldn't be too difficult to locate what you are looking for, provided you have a year to work with, as HO 11/20 contains two indexes of the ships, the first by name, the second by date of departure.

Surviving Admiralty records, ADM 101, are Medical Journals of Ships Surgeons for the period 1785 to 1856. Pieces 1 to 75 cover convict ships in order of name; pieces 76-79 cover emigrant ships, and later pieces contain miscellaneous journals relating to other emigrant ships for which reference to the Class Lists is necessary. The medical journals may not refer to every passenger on a ship, but they are worth searching.

Another important source for convict family history is HO 10, which comprises 64 pieces of detailed lists of convicts and settlers in New South Wales and Tasmania in the period 1788-1859. These include the manuscript of the 1828 census, and various other musters and returns of landholders, and may mention details not referred to in other records.

Of the other records in the PRO perhaps the most important are those of the War Office which provide a specific approach to emigration to the Australian colonies for the years 1846 to 1851, when Army pensioners were encouraged to settle there. Surviving records covering settlement are in WO 43/523. Those relating to pensions paid in New South Wales 1849-80 are in WO 22/272-75; whilst those for South Australia, Queensland, Tasmania and Victoria, 1876-80, are in WO 22/227, 297, 298 and 300.

There are many other groups and classes of records to consider at the PRO. What I've tried to concentrate on here are the shipping records and those of a general nature with useful indexes. For the others you will need to refer to the Family Fact Sheets, and the Record Information sheets issued in the PRO listed below. Further details will be found in the PRO's own publication, *Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office* (HMSO £6.95), which also gives bibliographies of published works available in this country. You might also find it useful to refer to *Manuscripts in the British Isles Relating to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific*, edited by Phyllis Mander-Jones. This invaluable work provides a most useful description of every record relating to the colonies public and private collections throughout the country. Although published twenty years ago it remains a reliable reference tool, and the index is superb.

#### **Family Fact Sheets:**

10 Tracing an Ancestor who was an Emigrant

#### **Records Information:**

71 Emigrants: Documents in the Public Record Office

86 The Records of the Colonial and Diplomatic Office from 1782

94 Australian Convicts: Sources in the Public Record Office

## THE HINDMARSHES AND THEIR CONNECTION WITH THE RAILWAYS

by F.S. Hindmarsh

John Hindmarsh was a farmer at Black Callerton in the early 1740's and had at least three sons all baptised at Newburn. Thomas 17/1/1743, Mathew and Martin both on the 1/1/1746. Thomas, the eldest son, married Elizabeth Garrett at Newburn on the 12th May 1767 where their children were baptised over the next few years.

Thomas senior died on the 12th February 1823 and his obituary appeared in the *Newcastle Courant*:-

"The 12th inst. at Black Callerton, much respected, aged 80, Mr Thomas Hindmarsh, farmer. He was father, grand-father, and great grand-father to a numerous line of descendants; and it is remarkable that he died in the house in which he was born, and had never occupied any other, notwithstanding the estate on which he farmed had been in the hands of several owners during his time."

Elizabeth, his eldest daughter, had fallen in love with George Stephenson in 1801 but her father, a wealthy and prosperous farmer, insisted that the connection should be broken off. George was then a poor penniless brakesman and to all appearances without prospects. Although Elizabeth reluctantly agreed, she swore that if she was not allowed to marry the man of her choice, she would not marry at all. George Stephenson then married Fanny Henderson, who was about 12 years his senior at Newburn Church on the 28th November 1802. Fanny died from tuberculosis in 1806. They had issue Robert (the engineer who later built Newcastle High Level Bridge). Following the death of his wife, George Stephenson married his earlier love Elizabeth Hindmarsh. The marriage took place at Newburn Church on the 29th March 1820 and the witnesses were young Robert and Elizabeth's brother Thomas. George Stephenson who was born at Wylam on the 9th June 1781, was by then a famous engineer and had already mastered the application of steam to machinery and had invented in 1814 the first locomotive for use on a colliery road. Elizabeth died in 1845 and George in 1848.

Thomas Hindmarsh, the brother of Elizabeth, formed a company T. Hindmarsh & Co. The company owned the 'William' a 168 ton vessel built in 1820 at Fortness and operating out of Blyth. In 1829 Thomas was the Captain of the 'Fraser' built in 1799 in Sunderland and owned by B. Stafford & Co of Blyth.

The 'Fraser' was a small coastal smack-rigged sloop of only 68 tons. On the 28th September 1829 she was on a voyage from Newcastle bound for Liverpool with two of Stephenson's steam engines on board. The 'Fraser' was wrecked while endeavouring to take the North Harbour of Peterhead in a severe gale and Thomas and his crew were saved by the Coast Guard.

On the 17th April 1830, a Thomas Hindmarsh was baptised at Bishops Wearmouth. His father Thomas was described as a 'Superintendent of Durham Railway'. This Thomas could be a close relation.

In the 1850's the children of Andrew Hindmarsh and his wife Elizabeth were all Engine Drivers. Elizabeth died at 9 Gibson Place, Paddington, London aged 74 on the 27th January 1869. Details of the children are as follows:-

1. Andrew Hindmarsh who married Esther. Issue: Thomas Andrew bapt 24/3/1852 St. Pancras Old Church, London. Jane Ann bapt. 23/9/1855 St. Pancras.
2. Thomas Hindmarsh, Railway Inspector of Calcutta, India. Married Elizabeth Hart, widow of Sussex Square, London. d of John Abvery at Paddington, London 24/7/1860. Witnesses Jane Hindmarsh and Edward Wanderes Townson. They had issue:- (i) Elizabeth Jane born 2/5/1861 at 45 Havelock St. Islington, London. (ii) Frederick William bapt. 26/12/1866 Barrackpore, India. Died 29/12/1869 aged 3 at 9 Gibson Place, London.
3. Alexander Hindmarsh, Railway Engine Driver, married Sarah Ann Noble. Issue: (i) James Holmes born 11/1/1856 at 7 Salisbury Crescent, St. Pancras. (ii) Elizabeth Ann born 26/6/1862 at 5 Bingfield Street, Islington.
4. John Arthur Hindmarsh, Railway Engine Driver was born circa 1830/1. At the time of his marriage to Aurelia French at St. John's Calcutta on the 8/5/1860 his residence was at Howrah.

He was appointed to the East India Railway on 19/9/1859 and was still with the company in 1884 as an engine driver. He died in India 16/4/1890 aged 59. Issue 9 children all born in India, the eldest being Colonel Edwin Andrew Cuthbert born 25/7/1861 bapt. St. Thomas, Howrah 8/12/1861. M.B.E., V.D., [F.R.C.S. Edinburgh](#) he died in 1933 and was married to Dorothea Livingston d of Thomas Gott Livingston, Vicar of Addingham, Diocese of Carlisle. Their son, Lt. Colonel John H. Livingston Hindmarsh, Indian Army (Ret.) was living at Chichester, Sussex in 1956.

The final part of this research was provided by the Indian actor Victor Banerjee in the T.V. programme **Return Journey'. In one shot he visited an old English cemetery near Dehra Dun, north of Delhi where he read out the following worn inscription on a tombstone:-**

'Sacred in the memory of John (Arthur) Hindmarsh who died April 16th 1890 age 59, One of the Six Hundred.

Here lies one of the few survivors of that famous battle of Balaclava far removed from the volley and thunder of the charge of the Light Brigade Laid to rest here in Musso'.

Note: The Town of Mussorie rests above the Shivalik Ranges, the last bastion of the Gurkhe Front. As a young man, John served in the 11th Hussars.

Editor's Note: The address of the author is 12 Roy Street, Tawa, New Zealand.

## DEATHS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Newcomers to our hobby, wondering where to find information about a relative who perished in World War 1, could begin by looking at the massive work entitled *"Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-19."* This was first published in 1921, but was reprinted in 1989 by J.B. Hayward & Son, Polstead, Sussex. The hostilities lasted some 1560 days and the average daily casualty rate of the British Army was approximately 2000. More than 400 a day were killed in action. The book, which is some 80 volumes, lists all 635,000 of them. Each regiment merits a volume itself, and each volume lists the dead in alphabetical order, giving full names, numbers, ranks, places of birth and enlistment and date, theatre and nature of death. If you know the regiment involved, it will not take long to find your man.

A typical entry, from Volume 62, dealing with the Durham Light Infantry, shows under 1/7th Battalion, "Wood, William, born Blyth, Northumberland, enlisted Cramlington (Cowpen Quay), 277224, Private, Killed in Action France & Flanders 24 March 1918. Formerly 19/1859 Northumberland Fusiliers."

Major libraries may have the complete 80 volume set -- Newcastle Library has it, but only the volumes relating to the Durham Light Infantry, the Northumberland Fusiliers and the Kings Own Scottish Borderers are on open shelves (in the Genealogy Room). You will have to ask for other volumes at the Enquiry Desk. Smaller libraries may have only the volumes dealing with one or more local regiments.

There is a companion work *"Officers Died in the Great War 1914-19"*, also reprinted in the 1980's by J.B. Hayward & Son

## SOURCES IN GATESHEAD CENTRAL LIBRARY

Gateshead Library has published a new guide entitled *Local & Family History in the Gateshead Area*. It is available price 50p from the library (Prince Consort Road, Gateshead NE8 4LN) (Tel: 091-477 3478) Details are given of holdings of parish register microfilms and transcripts and of microfilms of censuses, directories (from 1778), Monumental Inscriptions, Electoral Rolls (from 1835) and other useful sources.

With the permission of the Library, we list the holdings of microfilmed parish registers.

	Baptisms	Banns	Marriages	Burials
<b>GATESHEAD</b>				
St. Mary (Index 1780-1850 Transcript 1559-1662)	1559-1960	1754-1804 1912-1927	1559-1960	1559-1889
St. John	1825-1918	1825-1898	1825-1929	1825-1924
Holy Trinity	1864-1936		1864-1865	
St. Edmund	1865-1972		1865-1972	1865-1974
St. Aidan	1892-1964		1895-1964	
St. Columba	1903-1968		1896-1968	
<b>BIRTLEY</b>				
St. John	1850-1921	1850-1971	1850-1942	1850-1950
<b>HEWORTH</b>				
St. Alban	1843-1953		1843-1946	1844-1960
<b>LAMESLEY</b>				
St. <b>Andrew</b>	1603-1966	1754-1972	1603-1970	1603-1913

Microfilms of non-parochial registers are held as follows:-

Felling Congregational Chapel 1831-37, Gateshead Half Moon Lane Presbyterian Chapel 1783-1837, Gateshead High Street Wesleyan Methodist Chapel 1812-37, Gateshead New Connexion Methodist Chapel 1833-37, Stella R.C. Mission (St. Thomas Aquinas) 1755-1838, Swalwell Presbyterian Chapel 1830-37, South Shields Methodist 1860-1916, Blaydon Circuit Methodist 1863-88, Central Hall Gateshead Methodist 1837-1883. All these are baptism/birth records, and all but the last three are indexed.

It should be noted that there is a head of household index to the 1851 census. The Library does not have a copy of the I.G.I.

## IS NOBODY RESEARCHING "MY" FAMILY?

*by Margaret McEwen-King*

Many of you will, I expect, do the same thing as I do when the latest edition of your Journal arrives - give a cursory glance at the list of articles and go straight to the Members Interests and Help Wanted sections. The anticipation is always there - perhaps this time SOMEBODY out there will be researching MY family! Between us, my husband and I have belonged to numerous family history societies, and the advice which is given in almost every 'Beginning Family History' book to join a local Family History Society is sound. The journals vary in quality, style and content and most will have something in each edition which is of specific or general interest to the reader. What they all have in common is this Members Interests section. How to become a member of that elite band of folk though, who apparently correspond with one another and discover all sorts of intriguing connections, was beginning to daunt me. Did they really work, these 'help wanted' columns? My names for research didn't seem to be too out of the way - a goodly mixture of the very common, the not so common and the distinctly rare! So why did nobody seem to be researching my family? The geographically 'local' family history society we first joined was chosen with reasonable care and had given us excellent facilities and service. The only missing ingredient was the lack of response for my family interests.

I wasn't too sure at first about joining the Northumberland and Durham Society as well. After all, I knew about all my north east ancestors and in any case many of them were 19th century migrants from Scotland. And living a few hours drive from the north east meant that I was unlikely to be able to take advantage of monthly meetings and so on. However, last October I decided to give it a try.

The first copy of the journal I received had me spellbound! There, leaping off the page at me was somebody wanting information about one of my rare family names, 'Greason'; and also mentioned was the house in which my mother had been born! Surely this was too good to be true. I then had the salutary task of assembling all the scattered information, both factual and anecdotal, which I had gathered over the years and putting it into some sort of order which would inform rather than confuse my fellow member. The next decision was what to include and what to leave out in the first letter. In the end I tried to answer her questions and, in a simple form, to show where the two of us met on the family tree with such supporting evidence as I could muster. Indications were given that there was 'much more to come' to whet the appetite! The reply was almost by return of post. Joyce Mylan had 'practically given up ever finding out about her Greason family' and yet the little information she had at that time showed straight away that I actually knew a lot less about my family than I thought I did. But there was clear evidence that we had each found ourselves a third cousin. For me at least, this was quite exciting, as I have no first cousins at all.

A flurry of further letters followed and by Christmas we had between us built up a substantial picture of both our past and present family. As she lives in Kent and I live in north Lancashire, a get together didn't seem imminent. By happy coincidence though, my husband found he had to attend a conference in Rochester in early February. Perhaps we could meet? What we didn't realise was that the conference was to be held only a few hundred yards from Joyce's home. Suffice it to say that we had a wonderful day swapping photos and certificates, anecdotes and facts. We took photos, we chatted non-stop, we spotted family likenesses and we probably spent the next week reorganising editing and updating our notes!

In the same edition of the Journal, which I now went through with a fine tooth comb, I found another 'name'. This time just in a long list of names with no other relevance to my interests. In following up on 'Kilburn' at Witton-le-Wear I was to try to unblock a 'stuck' line. Not being able to visit Durham too often, I hadn't been able to do too much research into this family. I wasn't even sure from the microfilm that the name was Kilburn. I had tried to make it into Milburn which I knew was a north east name .... But Kilburn I was assured it was by the archivist. Finding none of them in the parishes immediately surrounding Kirk Merrington, that one got put on ice. A much more tentative letter to John Ayton was composed, as I felt I had very little to offer. Two days later the phone went and an enthusiastic voice at the other end was 'pretty sure I've found Jane Kilbu n'. He had too! From entries in a family Bible. Another clutch of letters went back and forth from Lancashire to Cambridge. (I hope by now you are getting the message that these Members Interests do work!) I now had a fifth cousin, and so did Joyce, because this is all the same family! The family Bible which had provided so much wonderful information was in the care of Uncle Alec who lived in the Vale of Clwyd'. Again, coincidence played a major part. Not three years ago, I too lived in the Vale of Clwyd, not two miles from 'Uncle Alec'. Soon I was sitting in Uncle Alec's house looking across the fields to our old farmhouse. I must say it did seem strange to hear a Tyneside brogue in a predominantly Welsh speaking valley ... the family Bible which I had gone to see was only one of the many treasures which Alec produced. Signed copies of the Pledge, Temperance certificates, Memorial Hymn Sheets for the death of Edward VII, and all in pristine condition. But for me, perhaps the most moving thing was a card exquisitely cut and raised in heavy relief, black edged and 'In memory of Hannah Kilburn. This card looked as if it had just come from the printers, so perfect was its condition. Again, photos were taken and information swapped.

I learned that Alec's wife Joan had lived in the same Gardens area of Low Fell where I had been born ... and some delightful people had welcomed me into their home.

The winter 1991 Journal had an even bigger surprise. This was the one that listed MY 'help wanted' interests. Could it be that somebody would respond? Sure enough, no sooner had the Journal hit the doormat than it was followed by a wonderful insight into my Snowdon connections from Maurice Snowdon in Hertfordshire. So far, we haven't established our exact degree of cousinship, but we are talking about the same family. I have been able to add to his genealogical jigsaw, and he has among other things sent me a copy of a Will in which my greatgrandfather James Hird is named as an executor. The task continues and the teamwork is wonderful. Flushed with success I have now started on the ultimate challenge - My Robson family!

**Editor's Note:** The address of the authoress is Beck House, Homby Road, Caton, Lancaster LA2 9QR. I am pleased the Journal has been helpful to her and hope her comments here may produce even more "goodies". I hope, too, that they might persuade those of you who have not yet done so to send their interests to Phil Thirkell for Publication.

# THE GLASS MAKERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY 1835-37

by Andrew Morton

Whilst researching an article on the Flint Glass Makers' Society magazine I paid a visit to the Broadfield House Glass Museum in Kingswinford. Among the copies of the magazine which the curator, Mr. Dodgson, was able to provide, was a small, cardboard bound booklet. This turned out to be what may be the sole, remaining document concerning the short lived Glass Makers Friendly Society (unless anyone out there knows different). It is an account of the receipts and expenditure of the society for the period December 1835 to July 28th 1837. I **have reproduced below the entry for Newcastle** and South Shields exactly as it appears. I cannot add much information except to say that this was a tramping society, in other words, its members moved about the country from job to job. This accounts for the phrase 'Total of Tramps'. You will also see that strikes and travelling expenses are not a modern innovation!

## AN ACCOUNT OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE GLASS MAKERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY *From December 1835 to July 28th 1837*

LODGE		How expended			
Newcastle	Edward Minikin	£	s	d	
South Shields and Deptford	William Gray				
NEWCASTLE - 50 Members					
How expended		£	s	d	
William Martin		1	2	6	
Patrick Bulger		1	10	0	
Cathbut Pallister		1	10	0	
Frederick Thomas		1	10	0	
Joseph Mitchell		1	10	0	
Robert Oxberry		1	2	6	
Wm. Smith		0	10	0	
John Moore		1	2	6	
John Holder		1	2	6	
William Price		1	2	6	
William Benson		0	15	0	
Matthew Butler		1	2	6	
Francis Brannon		1	2	6	
Charles Watson		1	10	0	
John Lawson		1	10	0	
James Butler		1	2	6	
John Cummings		1	2	6	
David Carrot Jun.		1	2	6	
Joseph Brimmer		0	5	0	
John Miller		0	17	6	
Michael Downey		0	5	0	
John Baldwin		1	10	0	
John Rowle		1	2	6	
Michael Downey		1	0	0	
Thos. Benson		1	10	0	
Anthony Stevenson		1	6	0	
Robert Cooke		1	10	0	
Joseph Cooke		1	10	0	
Geo. Cooke		1	2	6	
Wm. Jukes		1	5	0	
Thos. Robson		1	0	6	
John Foley		1	7	6	
Henry Haydon		0	16	6	
Arthur Richardson		1	0	0	
Edward M'Carty		0	18	0	
Wm. Ward		0	9	0	
Total of Tramps		43	3	6	
Tramps		43	3	6	
Strike (R. Knox under wages)		3	15	0	
Dublin Strike		4	0	0	
Pot Setting Strike		12	10	0	
Glasgow Trial		3	0	0	
T. Benson's Strike (under wages)		1	0	0	
J. Baldwin- afraweA		3	3	3	
Rob. Brown		1	12	6	
Alex. Doll (struck for wages)		0	15	0	
Benson, Moore, Price & Holder		1	15	0	
Letters		1	10	6	
Committees		2	19	6	
Coach		4	16	0	
Days expenses		1	16	0	
Total Expend.		85	12	9	
Rec.		90	3	9	
Exp.		85	12	9	
Balance in hand		4	10	11	
SOUTH SHIELDS - 16 Members					
How expended		£	s	d	
W. Keedy		1	10	0	
J. Bramah		0	10	0	
Letters		0	5	1	
Committees		3	19	6	
District Meeting		1	16	2	
Sent to Newcastle		5	19	2	
Total Expend.		13	19	11	
Rec.		16	10	7	
Exp.		13	9	11	
Balance in hand		3	0	7	



## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Here is a further list of additions to the Library of the Society. An asterisk means the item is unsuitable for posting. If you wish to borrow Library items, please write to Mrs D. Tait, 26 Beechwood Avenue, Low Fell, Gateshead NE9 6PP. You will have to pay postage both ways, and also pay an extra 10p for packaging -- the packaging charge has not been increased since 1989 despite rising costs of envelopes.

- 1.170 PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE ON TYNE.  
Vol. 1 No. 10 Summer 1956.
- 1.171 PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE ON TYNE.  
Re Old Benwell Tower Chapel.
- 1.172 RURAL DARLINGTON by Vera Chapman.
- \*1.173 NORTHUMBRIA, PHOTOS AND TEXT. D. Bell and Brian Redhead.
- 1.174 TYNESIDE SINCE 1900. Clive Hardy.
- 1.175 SHORE OF SAINTS, PEOPLE, (History and Folklore of North East Coast). David Simpson.
- 1.176 THE BORDER COUNTY. David Simpson.
- 1.177 CLIPPING, Upper Coquetdale 1889-1987. Upper Coquetdale Publications.
- 1.178 CITY OF DURHAM. Town Hall and Guildhall Traditions [R.I.B. Morris](#).
- [1.179](#) WALKABOUT, EXPLORING DURHAM VILLAGES (Leaflets) Durham County Council.
  
- 2.287 ATHEY Family Tree. A. Searle.
- 2.288 PICKERING of Walton. Joan Cooke.
- 2.289 ARMORIAL FAMILIES IN DURHAM TOWN [HALL A. Stonebridge](#).
- [2.290](#) STORY OF LOTTIE BRENNAN IN ESH WINNING 1907.
- 2.291 TURNBULL, GREENHOW, TAIT, [Co. Durham A. Turnbull](#).
- [2.292](#) PHINN FAMILY TREE, South Shields. Jones.
- 2.293 JONES FAMILY TREE, South Shields and Durham. Jones.
- 2.294 BAINBRIDGE FAMILY TREE, [Chester-le-Street. N.G. Bainbridge](#).
- [2.295](#) CHARTER FAMILY TREE. W.F. Charter.
- 2.296 LEATHARD FAMILY [TREE. Corbridge. E. Styan](#).
- [2.297](#) CONYERS IN NORTH YORKS. J.K. Nesbit.
- 2.298 WATSON FAMILY OF ROTHBURY and Chopwell. P. Hewitt.
- 2.299 SHORT, TAYLOR AND FAWCUS, N'LAND ANCESTORS (Booklet) J. Light.
- 2.300 CAPTAIN ROBERT DAVISON AND FAMILY (Booklet) L. Tocher.
- 2.301 A FAMILY BUSINESS, W.M. SMITH & SONS, BARNARD CASTLE. Norma L. Smith.
- 2.302 ROOTS AND BRANCHES, ANGUS AND LEYBOURNE FAMILIES. Mary McIntosh.
- 2.303 HENDERSON AND HARM FAMILIES OF GATESHEAD. R. Chidlaw.
- 2.304 MENNIM FAMILY OF NORTHUMBERLAND. A.M. Mennim.
- 2.305 MANNERS OF AUCKLAND, COUNDON AND [WILLINGTON D.T. Manners](#).
- [2.306](#) EMMERSON PEART FAMILY TREE, ST. JOHNS CHAPEL. A.M. Peart.
  
- \*3.153 1851 CENSUS INDEX NORTH WEST DURHAM. D. Harding.
- 3.154 BURIALS IN NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM IN 1813. G. Nicholson.
- \*3.155 MEADLEY INDEX TO HULL ADVERTISER, 2 Vols. 1826-1845, 1846-1857. [D.W. Smith](#).
- [3.156](#) MARRIAGE INDEX ST. MARGARETS, TANFIELD, 1837-1876. R. Tait and M. Johnson.
- 3.157 INDEX TO MILITARY MARRIAGES, BURIALS AND BAPTISMS, HOLY TRINITY, BERWICK.  
F. and M. Furness.
- 3.158 MARRIAGE INDEX, CARHAM, Northumberland, 1813-1837.
- 3.159 DURHAM YEOMANRY CAVALRY. (See Article in Winter 1991 Journal.)
- 3.160 BAPTISM TRANSDEX, ST. OSWALD, [DURHAM 1751-1812. C. Jewitt](#).
- [3.162](#) BAPTISM STRAYS FROM HOLY TRINITY, BERWICK. F. and M. Furness.
  
- 4.054 ST. MICHAELS CHURCH, [INGRAM A.C. de](#) P. Hay.
- 4.055 SOUTH HYLTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE. IV Innes.
- 4.056 ST. MARYS, WOOLER. A BRIEF HISTORY. C. Hay & B. Lane.
  
- 6.119 ANGLO-SCOTS RELATIONS AND THE BORDER. B. Armstrong.
- \*6.120 LINCOLN WILLS 1600-1700. British Record Society.
- 6.121 AN ORDINARY OF ARMS AND QUARTERINGS, DURHAM VISITATION PEDIGREES 1575, 1615, 1666.  
A. Stonebridge.
- 6.122 COLLEGE OF ST. HILD AND ST. BEDE, DURHAM.
- 6.123 BEDE COLLEGE, DURHAM. Donald E. Webster.
- 6.124 PUBLICATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA including chapter on William Preston of Newcastle.
- \*6.073 DURHAM SCHOOL REGISTER, 1991.

A new and revised catalogue is available from Mrs C. Davison, 22 Ferndale Avenue, East Boldon, Tyne & Wear NE36 0TQ, price £1.

# THE PAUPERS OF ALNWICK 1843

The following is a "List of Paupers, with their Weekly Out-Relief; Quarter ending Lady-day 1843." (March 25th 1843), in the parish of Alnwick. The list is on a printer's proof of a public notice, in the papers of W. Davison, an early 19th century printer in Alnwick, held by Northumberland Record Office reference ZMD/167/22/78 and the list is printed with permission of that office. The list is in the order on the document, and is not in strict alphabetical order. The figures in brackets are the amounts of relief, in shillings (and pence where appropriate). Note that there are paupers from areas other than Alnwick included e.g. Newcastle, North Shields, Edinburgh etc.

Anderson, Elizabeth, aged 76 (2s6d), Angus, Margaret, 79(2s6d), Allison, Elizabeth, 71 (2s6d), Atkinson, Ann, 77 (3s), Anderson, Isabella, (ill health) 34, (1s6d), Atkinson, Isabella, Newcastle, 66 (1s6d), Ashburn, Dorothy, 68 (2s6d), Allan, Alexander, and Wife, Amble, (injury of the spine) 30, 29 (5s), Ainsley, William, and Wife, Shilbottle, (illness) 60, 68 (4s), Arthur, Jane, (mentally affected) 51 (2s6d), Akenhead, John, and Wife, 62,62 (3s), Anderson, Mary, (illness) 20 (2s6d), Brown, James, and Wife, Monkwearmouth, 79, 67 (4s), Busby, Jane, 66 (2s6d), Burn, Christiana, 64 (2s), Barkas, Ann, Newcastle, 77 (3s), Bathgate, John, 84 (3s), Binks, Margaret, 81(3s), Bormond, Catharine, Cowpen Quay, 72 (2s6d), Boyd, Mary, Stamford, Lincolnshire, 80 (2s6d), **Brewis, Mary, 80 (1s6d), Brown, Jane, Wark, 65 (3s), Bowstead, John, 79 (3s), Bormond, John, and Wife, Gateshead high Felling, 71, 70 (3s), Buchan, Barbara, North Shields, (mental affection) 72 (4s), Carr, Elizabeth, Belford, 71(3s), Clark, Isabella, 73 (2s), Cairns, Mary, Link-house, 72 (2s), Carr, Sarah, 70 (2s), Carr, Margaret, (Widow) and Child, Berwick, 50, 8 (2s6d), **Cunningham, Jane, 66 (2s), Chambers, Isabella, 70 (2s6d), Cleghorn, William, and Wife, 66, 65 (3s), Cunningham, George, and Wife, (Lameness) 59, 58 (2s6d), Crisp, George, 75 (2s), Caseley, Thomas, and Wife, 75, 66 (4s), Crawford, Eleanor, and 4 Children, Helworn, 42, 12, 10, 8, 3 (6s), Davidson, Mary, 71(2s6d), Diores, Frances, 70 (2s6d), Donaldson, Isabella, Newcastle, 63 (1s6d), Downey, Jane, 68 (2s6d), Davis, Dorothy, (Widow) and 2 Children, 32, 12, 9 (2s6d), Douglas, Ann, 64 (2s), Davidson, Martha, Newcastle, 64 (1s6d), Duke, Jane, 74 (2s), Douglas, Joseph, and Wife, 76, 64 (4s), Dand, Margaret, 72 (2s), Daglish, Mary, (Widow) and 2 Children, 40, 15, 8 (1s6d), Dand, Mary, (weakly state) 59 (1s), Dodos, Rachel, and 4 Children, 35, 9, 7, 5, 2 (6s), Dawson, Hannah, Bedlington, (ill health) 50 (2s), Edgar, Elizabeth, Newcastle, 73 (2s), ElRot, Barbara, North Shields, 64 (2s), Eadington, Sarah, 65 (1s6d), Elder, Ann, Morning Side Lunatic Asylum, Edinburgh, 31 (8s), Forster, Elizabeth, 66 (2s), Ferguson, Isabella, 78 (2s), Gunn, Margaret, 66 (1s), Grey, Jane, 59 (2s), Grey, Thomasin, (ill health) 55 (2s), Guthrie, James, Newton-on-the-Moor, (Palsy) 63 (2s), Gair, William, and Wife, Hull, 72, 70 (3s), Grey, Jane, Eshot Red Houses, (Widow) and 1 Child, 51,12 (1s6d), Gilroy, Mary, (Widow) and 1 Child, 41, 8 (2s6d), Gustard, Eleanor, 67 (2s6d), Green, Elizabeth, and 3 Children, 41, 7, 5, 3 (4s6d), Grey, Mary, 66 (2s6d), Guthrie, Mary, 63 (1s6d), Hope, Margaret, 83 (2s), Humble, Ann, 73 (2s), Henderson, Sarah, 64 (2s), **Hall, Ann, Beadnell, 67 (2s6d), Hall, Eleanor, 71 (2s), Hall, Ann, 10 (Orphan of Richard Hall, Beadnell) (4s6d), Hall, Thomas, 8 (Orphan of Richard Hall, Beadnell) (4s6d), Hall, George, 6 (Orphan of Richard Hall, Beadnell) (4s6d), Hall, Ann, (Widow) Beadnell, and 2 Children, 30, 6, 5 (4s), Hunter, Margaret, Boldon, 76 (2s), Hoy, Julia, (Widow) and 1 Child, 36, 6 (2s6d), Henderson, Frances, 56 (1s6d), Hunter, Sarah, 74 (1s6d), Holland, Alexander, and Wife, Eorbottle, 64, 64 (2s6d), Hay, Isabella, (Widow) and 2 Children, Alnmouth, 40, 12, 7 (2s), Hall, Ann, 68 (2s6d), Hume, Jane, 64 (2s), Henderson, John, and Wife, (4s as loan on Pension) 76, 76 (5s), Hunter, Francis, and Wife, 78, 74 (3s), **Hudson, William, and Wife, 65, 58 (2s6d), Jobling, Robert, and Wife, 72, 62 (3s), Jobling, John, (1 pint Wine weekly, & daily allowance of Beef) 35 (2s), Jowsey, Eleanor, (Widow) and 3 Children, Newcastle, 44, 13, 12 (4s6d), Jobson, Grace, (Widow) and 3 Children, Biddings, 55, 15, 11, 9 (3s), Johnson, Barbara, (Widow) and 5 Children, 42, 74, 12, 10, 5, 3 (4s), Jobson, George, Wife, and 5 Children, 39, 10, 9, 6, 4, 2, (1 gill Wine weekly) (7s), Kay, Elizabeth, and illegitimate Child, Gateshead, 32, 8 (1s6d), Kerr, Mary, 63 (1s6d), Laing, Frances, 73 (2s6d), Lillie, Christiana, 65 (2s), Luke, Jane, 78 (2s6d), Lewins, Mary, (Widow) and 5 Children, Berwick, 45, 15, 12, 11, 9, 8 (5s), Laing, Hannah, (Widow) and 3 Children, Darlington, 31, 7, 5, 3 (3s), Molden, Mary, 69(2s), Molden, John, 14 (Orphan of John Molden) (3s), Mcklee, John, 14 (Orphan of John Molden) (3s), Molden, Francis, 12 (Orphan of John Molden) (3s), Mills, Jane, 77 (3s), Mills, Jane, Shilbottle, 73 (2s), McLeod, Isabella, Alnmouth, 76 (2s), **Moody, Grizzel, Kelso, 80 (3s), Mather, James, and Wife, 66, 54 (2s), McKenzie, Eleanor, (Widow) and 1 Child, 29, 6 (1s6d), McKenzie, Ann, North Sunderland, (Blindness) 63 (2s), Middlemas, Mary, 71(2s), Muers, Jane, (Widow) and 3 Children, Warkworth, 45, 10, 8, 5 (4s), Moull, Ann, (Widow) and 3 Children, Woolwich, 35, 10, 8, 6 (4s), Murray, Dorothy, 75 (3s), Marshall, Isabella, 65 (2s), Mitchell, Isabella, (Widow) and 3 Children, 33, 10, 5, 3 (6s), Moffat, William, and Wife, 49, 48 (Injury from a Fall) (5s), McManus, Edward, Lunatic Asylum, Bath Lane, Newcastle, 20 (9s6d), McLain, Eleanor, 61 (1s6d), Newton, Margery, 73 (3s), Neal, Margaret, Rothbury, 77 (2s), Newton, Dorothy, 70 (1s6d), Neper, Charlotte, (ill health) 53 (1s6d), Oliver, Margaret, 68 (2s6d), Oliver, Jane, (Widow) and 2 Children, Newcastle, 39, 11, 9 (afflicted with Cancer) (5s), Oxley, Philip, and Wife, 66, 64 (3s), Potts, Michael, 89 (2s6d), Potts, Elizabeth, 67 (1s6d), Patterson, Isabella, 67 (2s), Pringle, Rebecca, Guyzance, 84 (2s6d), Potts, Elizabeth, Byker Hill, 67 (2s), Peacock, Ann, Morpeth, (ill health) 54 (2s), Pickard, Frances, (Widow) and 3 Children, 45, 10, 8, 6 (4s), Pearson, Charlotte, (Weakly state) 58 (2s), Patterson, Ann, (Deafness and Debility) 43 (1s6d), Parry, Jane, 64 (1s6d), Rogerson, Sarah, (Blindness) 74 (3s), Remy, Mary, Newcastle, (111 health) 59 (1s6d), Reavley, Elizabeth, 67 (2s), Rennison, Elizabeth, (Widow) and 1 Child, 59, 13 (2s6d), Robinson, Elizabeth, Rennington, 78 (2s), Rochester, Mary, Pow Burn, 90 (2s6d), Riley, Dorothy, 78 (2s), Renwick, Jane, 71(2s6d), Reed, Ann, (Widow) and 3 Children, 39, 10, 7, 4 (4s6d), Roxburgh, Catherine, Northam, 73 (1s), Reavley, Mary, 68 (2s6d), **Rennison, John, and Wife, 77, 73 (3s), Robinson, Eleanor, 63 (2s), Robinson, Edward, 70 (2s), Robinson, Rachel, Lunatic Asylum, Gateshead Fell, 62 (8s), Straughan, Fortune, 87 (3s), Stanfield, Ann, (Palsy) 58 (2s6d), Stanfield, Mary, (ill health) 59 (2s), Smith, Kathleen, 80 (3s), Stothard, Mary, (ill health) 54 (2s), Stephenson, Mary, (Palsy) 56 (2s), Shaw, Susan, Newcastle, 71 (2s), Shanks, George, North Charlton, (Blindness) 25 (2s), Swan, Robert, and Wife, Rennington, 72, 71(2s), Swan, James, 74 (2s6d), Swan, John, and Wife, Maiden Hall, 70, 66 (4s), Spence, Eleanor, 60 (General debility and Sight much impaired) (3s), Sham, Ann, 65 (2s), Swanson, William, and Wife, 70, 70 (4s6d), Sanderson, Eleanor, and 4 Children, Grumwell's Park, 45, 14, 9, 7 (3s), Scott, Robert, and Wife, 72, 54 (6s), Steel, Isabella, 67 (2s), Scott, Nichols, 69 (1s6d), Skelly, Jane, and 3 Children, 39, 10, 8, 2 (4s6d), Thompson, Matthew, 66 (3s), Thompson, Elizabeth, 59 (2s6d), **Thompson, Isabella, 73 (2s), Thompson, Jane, Bailiffgate Street, 71 (2s), Thompson, Jane, Felton, 72 (2s6d), Trotter, Jane, (Palsy) 55 (2s), Thompson, Ann, 69 (2s6d), Taylor, William, and Wife, (Illness) 61, 44 (2s), Ternent, Mary, Denwick, 87 (2s6d), Tindell, Grace, 69 (2s6d), Taylor, Alice, 75 (2s), Tate, Litigate, Belford, 83 (2s6d), Taylor, Ann (Widow) and 2 Children, Bamburgh, 51, 14, 11 (2s), Taylor, Alexander, (1 gill Wine, weekly) 57 (2s6d), Turner, Mary, (Delicate state of health) 59 (1s6d), Todd, Robert, and Wife, 80, 80 (5s), Wilson, Margaret, 69 (2s), Wilson, Eleanor, 66 (3s), Wilson, Mary, Whickham, (Weakly state) 58 (1s6d), Wallace, Isabella, Newcastle, 74 (2s), Wallace, Mary, Ulgham, 72 (2s6d), Wilkinson, Isabella, Doxford, 83 (2s), Wardle, Thomas, 7 (1s6d), Willis, Isabella, North Shields, 62 (2s), White, Isabella, (111 health) 60 (1s6d), Whellens, Ann, 72 (1s6d), Weddell, William, 72 (2s6d), Weddell, Eleanor, 72, 72 (2s6d), Gateshead Fell Lunatic Asylum (8s), White, Robert, 7 (2s6d), Young, Mary, Facey's Park, 81 (3s), Young, Margaret, 68 (2s), Young, Isabella, 69 (2s).**************

## PAUPERS IN THE ALNWICK UNION WORKHOUSE

Berry, Jane, (Bastard) 5, Brewer, Marshal, 66, Burns, Margaret, (Orphan) 9, Charlton, Thomas Housby, (Bastard) 5, Finlay, John, 72, Garrett, Ann, 76, Jobson, Joseph, (Orphan), 10, Lathoore, Jane, 20, Ladmore, Mary, 61, Lawson, Edward, 35, Lindsay, John, 77, Little, Mary, 13, Oldcorn, Elizabeth, 78, Robson, Isabella, 20, and Bastard, Sanderson, Joseph, 40, Skelly, Isabella, 14, Skelly, Jane, 77, Skelly, Sarah, (Orphan) 10, Snowden, Eliza, 25, and Bastard, Stott, Isabella, 28, and 2 Bastards, Thompson, Ann, 64, Thompson, James, 57, Welsh, Jane, 20, and Bastard, White, Jane, 18, Wilkinson, George, 61, Williams, Charles, 29, Wilson, George, 52, Wood, Jane, (Bastard) 7.

## NEW MEMBERS

The following new members, whose names do not appear in the Member's Interest column, have joined since the deadline for publication of the last NDFHS Journal. They can of course send their interests and queries to Phil Thirkell for inclusion in the column at any time, if they want to.

Welcome to all our new members.

4643 & 4644 Mr E.I. & Mrs J.H. HILL, 7 Meggit Lane, Winteringham, Nr. Scunthorpe, Humberside DN15 9NY. 4646 Mr C. WOOLGAR, 1 King Edward Road, Crookhill, Ryton, Gateshead NE40 3EG. **4647 Mrs M.I. HARRISON, 40 Watson Avenue, South Shields, Tyne & Wear. 4648 Mrs S.M. MARSHALL, 24 Ogle Drive, Cowpen Farm Estate, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 5EH. 4649 Mr R.T. BLEMMING, 27 Worcester Road, Newton Hall, Durham DH1 5PZ. 4651 Mr J.T. ROBSON, 13 Gladstonbury Grove, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 2HA. 4652 & 4653 Mr M. & Mrs E. BLADDES, 11 Horsley Close, Stakeford, Choppington, Northumberland NE62 5SE. 4655 Miss E.M. GOWLAND, Ashdown, Rayson Court, Ingleton, Darlington DL2 3RQ. 4656 Mrs J. HEAL, 2 Balmoral Gardens, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE29 9BA. 4658 Mrs R.H. STEWART, Traigh Mhor, Port Carlisle, Carlisle CA5 5DQ. 4660 Mr J.W. BROSHOUS, 421 W. Hancock Street, Stillwater, Minnesota 55082 U.S.A. 4662 Mrs E.M. RAILTON, 85 Lea Gardens, Peterborough, Cambs PE3 6BY. 4663 & 4664 Mr J.W. & Mrs M.E. SHEPHERD, 13 Plessey Road, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 MA. 4666 Mrs D.M. DAVISON, 4 Ridsdale Square, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 5AQ. 4668 Mrs E. HARRISON, 20 Romney Drive, Carrville, Durham DH1 1LS. 4669 Mrs M.M. ELIOTT, 4872 Dalridge Hill, NW Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3A 1J9. 4670 Mr A. KING, 7 Morpeth Drive, Moorside, Sunderland SR3 2QN. 4671 Mr N.J. GRAY, 7 Renwick Road, Ferntree Gully, Victoria 3156, Australia. 4673 & 4674 Mr R. & Mrs J.E. MURRELL, 89 Willowtree Avenue, Gilegate Moor, Durham DH1 1DZ. 4676 Mr H. GRAHAM, 70 Haig Avenue, Whitley Bay, North Tyneside NE25 5JD. 4677 Mrs M.C. COLEMAN, 18 Suffolk Road, Royston, Herts SG8 9EX. 4678 Mrs S.E. DAVISON, 224 Wynyard, Chester-le-Street, Durham DH2 2TG. 4679 Mr G. TAYLORSON, 3 Tulip Court, Old Penshaw, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham DH4 7JL. 4680 Mr K.R. PICKERING, 'Whitehaven', Upper Weare, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2LA. 4681 Mrs D.M. WALKER, 40 Tamekaha Road, Titirangi, New Zealand. 4682 Ms A.E. KNOX, 3511 59th Street N.W., Calgary, Alberta T3B 5E1, Canada. 4685 Mrs M.S. RUSSELL, Tanamera, Rockhead Road, Fairlight, Hastings, East Sussex TN35 4DT. 4686 Mr T.H. WESTBROOK, 5 Newlands, Northallerton, North Yorks DL6 1SJ. 4687 & 4688 Mr B. & Mrs B.McT. BAGNALL, 18 Hadricks Mill Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1QL. 4689 Mrs S.J. BYRNE, 54 Bellevue Road, Ealing, London W23 8DE. 4690 Mr M. SMITH, 8 Park Drive, Forest Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne NE 12 9JP. 4692 & 4693 Mr F. & Mrs E.A. LO WES, 117 Sidecliff Road, Roker, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear SR6 9PP. 4694 Mr J. JAMFREY, The Old Post Office, Welsh Newton, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 3RN. 4695 Mr F.L. CLEGG, 9 Frost Drive, Irby, Heswall, Wirral, Merseyside L614XL. 4696 Mr J.R. JOHNSON, I The Orchard, Riseley, Bedford MK44 1EB. 4697 Mr C. BLAND, 7 Carroll Close, The Elms, Lindin, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 6JR. 4698 & 4699 Mr I.P. & Mrs J.A. PARISH, 8 Farm Close, Kidlington, Oxfordshire OX5 2BE. 4700 Mr R.A. FUTERS, 4 Chaldon Close, Strensall York YO3 5AR. 4702 Mrs S. BURNIP, 5 Mere Drive, Pity Me, Durham DH1 5DD. 4703 Mr J.R. COULSON, Holystone House, Holystone, Newcastle NE27 ODB. 4704 Mr T.P. MEEHAN, 38 Stanley Road, Redland, Bristol, Avon BS6 6NW. 4705 Mr J.P.H. VICKERS, 212 Finchamsted Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 3HV. 4706 Mr J. RUTHERFORD, 33 Topping Street, Boldon Colliery, Tyne & Wear NE35 9HX. 4709 Ms H. MURRAY, 31 Crusader Road, Hedge End, Southampton, Hampshire SO3 4PD. 4710 Miss S. ROSCOE, 33 Windmill Platt, Handcross, Nr. Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH 17 6BT. 4711 Ms H.O. KENNEDY, 56 Park Street, Beeston, Nottingham HG9 1DH.**

# MEMBERS INTERESTS AND QUERIES

Items for this column should be sent to Phil Thirkell, 100 Stuart Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2SG.

If you wish to have your interests or any queries published, send a paragraph outlining your areas of research, problems [etc. to](#) Phil Thirkell at the above address. Please include your membership number with any correspondence and print names to avoid errors. Try to be brief, as, the shorter the items, the more we can print.

Any inaccuracies in the address shown in these columns should be notified at once to Mrs J. Ashburner at the address shown on the contents page.

Welcome to all our new members.

0005 J.A. READDIE, 38 Archery Rise, Durham DH 1 4LA

Seeks birth and parentage of Stephen Sibbitt who married Rachel Thompson at Mordington, Berwickshire in November 1785 (Lowick Register). He died 1813 aged either 68 or 72 and is buried at Ancroft, Northumberland with several of his children. Probably Presbyterian.

0022 WILLIAM C. WOOD, 33 North Side, Shadforth, Durham DH6 1LJ

Can anyone confirm that William Hunter, born c.1850 in West Boldon, was the son of Robert Hunter, shoemaker, and Jane nee English? No record found of his birth at local registrar and no baptism found. Family tradition has it that there is some connection between this family and George Burton Hunter, the founder of Swan Hunters, the shipbuilders. Is there any substance to this?

~~0258~~ Mrs M.A. LAINE, 52 Crosby Road, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL6 1AF

Between the start of the century and 1912 a house was built by Henry Carr in Thomas Street, Low Fell, Gateshead. It was built only one course of bricks up which caused a lot of trouble resulting in the removal of some stage of the front of the building. His mother in law, Hannah Robson, also built several houses in the area, including Robson Terrace. Can anyone help with information about the area and the people involved?

0405 Mrs DOREEN LOMAS, 17 The Rise, Darlington, Co. Durham DL3 8HD

Would appreciate help with the origins of Thomas Nesbitt, boatbuilder of Monkwearmouth, possibly the son of George Nesbitt of Northallerton. He married Isabella Dobson of, variously, Jarrow, Whickham or Newcastle. Also interested in Isaac Elsdon who married Mary Steel in 1770 at Bywell St Peter; Mary Ann Robinson of Bishop Auckland b.1825; Ralph Brown m.1800 at Whittonstall; and any Bambroughs from Bishop Middleham or Sedgfield area before 1777.

1842 Mr DAVE WHINHAM, 7 The Beeches, Goddard Avenue, Hull, North Humberside HU5 2BG

Studying history and lineage of Whinham families. 95% of all occurrences are in NBL and DUR, others in Hull, Manchester, London and Gloucestershire, with NBL connections. Earliest record 1200, Robt. Whinhamme murdered at Berwick. Main groups: Alnwick 17-19th C., Morpeth, Warkworth, Rothbury, Whittingham, Glanton 18-19th C., Newcastle, Willington Quay, Tynemouth, Gateshead, Shields, Sunderland, Durham and Houghton-le-Spring 18-19th C. Any 'sightings' would be appreciated.

2735 Mrs E. HARLAND, 216 Gilesgate, Durham City, Durham DH 1 IQN

Researching the following families in the Blyth area: Chapple, Cooper, Richardson, Wilson, Brocket, Skea, Garner/Guerner, Harney, Clay, Hope, Miller and Brewis. Also McRae (Berwick and Blyth), Guthrie (Chatton, Wooler and Blyth). Would like to contact anyone with an interest in the history of Blyth.

2948 Mr A.F. WATSON, 35 Jenifer Grove, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7QT

Would appreciate help in tracing the marriage of George Greener, born 1805 at Ryton, to Jane Watson, formerly Scott between 1824 and 1838 in the Newcastle/Gateshead area. Also birth of Mary and William Greener between 1822 and 1829, children of George, but not necessarily of Jane.

3000 Miss V. CIUKAJ, 70B King Henry's Walk, London N1 4NJ

Seeking information relating to the name Chipchase in the Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire area, especially the families of Jonathan or John Chipchase (died Stockton 1742) and his wife Ann Garbet (married 1738 Stockton). Also any Longhorn information particularly birth/baptism of Jane Longhorn (mar. Thomas Chipchase 1770 Stockton), and anything of George Raper, a native of Whitby, married Hannah Chipchase when?

3595 L.S. COCKBURN, 12 Lysander Place, Salisbury East, South Australia 5109, Australia

Help needed to find the baptism and parents of Jasper Cockburn, born Chillingham 1805, died Birtley, 1863, and wife Isabella Taylor born c.1806/9 Eglington. Children were Joseph born 1833, William c.1834, Jasper c.1836, George c.1837, Mary c.1838, Alexander 1840, Ann 1844 and Lily. Mary, Ann and Alexander all emigrated to Victoria, Australia prior to 1888.

4060 Mrs M.K. LASCELLES, Silver Howe, High Shincliffe, Durham DH1 2PQ

Would like help in finding the marriage of John Fitzpatrick and Sarah Spraggon, parents of James Fitzpatrick baptised 1817 at Sunderland. Also searching for the birth/baptism of Simon Kenney, (Keeneay on his marriage certificate to Elizabeth Brough 1853), son of John Kenney, born Richmond c.1828.

4218 N.G. BAINBRIDGE, 42 The Parade, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5DU

According to an inquisition post mortem in 1616, Phillip Bainbridge, maltster of St Margaret's parish, Durham City, and his wife Ursula (maiden name unknown) had property in, or called 'Sowingburne' (possible Bishoply near Wolsingham). Any information concerning its exact location, and anything about their three sons Thomas, John and George would be appreciated.

4229 Mr C.E. NEWTON, 49 Lockton Avenue, Heanor, Derbyshire DE7 7EQ

Can anybody advise on how to find out if a Hutchinson ancestor, who settled in Nottingham prior to 1653, arrived with the Scottish armies during the Civil War?

Mr Newton lives near the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire County Record Offices and would be happy to research there for members in exchange for similar research in Durham and/or Northumberland.

- 4324 Mrs J.M.D. WILLIS, 11 Ridley Close, Beaumont Park, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 2HY  
Any information regarding the following or their descendants would be welcome. John Parker buried at Staindrop 1816 age 94. Where was he born? Possible connection with North Yorkshire. William Charles and Robert Parker who emigrated to New Zealand from Ferryhill in the 1880's. Robert retired early and came back to live with his sister Jane in Sunderland. Other brothers and sisters were Frances, Thomas, John Henry and Anna Maria. General interest in Parker families of Durham with connections by marriage to Lynn, Hudson, Walker, Morgan, Newcomb and Warcop.
- 4489 Mrs JOAN LAYBOURN, 74 Tyne Gardens, Crookhill, Ryton, Tyne & Wear NE40 3DR  
Does any member have information of the Elliott family of Gateshead 1880 - 1930. Mary Elliott married Frank Underwood in 1880 at Gateshead Registry Office. At the time Mary lived in West St. and Frank in Jackson St. One of the witnesses was Emily Paris who may have been a relative. Mary's parents were Joseph Elliott and possibly Ann Kennedy. Mary had a brother who was a manager at Watergate Colliery, Co. Durham. Any information would be very much appreciated.
- 4497 Miss VALERIE SMITH, 49 Biddlestone Road, Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 5SL  
Seeks information on Thomas Lockey, farm stocksman, and his wife Isabella. His brother Joseph bought Downhill Farm, West Boldon. Thomas' eldest son, Joseph, was born 1890. The Lockeys were quite well known in West Boldon and any information of them, or their direct descendants, would be appreciated.
- 4512 Mrs CHRISTINE OLDERSHAW, 18 Tetney Road, Humberston, Grimsby, South Humberside DN36 4JD  
Any information for a possible Mercer one name study. Also William Foulds born 1855, possibly at Seaham, and Jane Ann McGee who married George Mercer in Seaham in 1893. Would also appreciate any information on the victims of the Hartley Colliery Disaster of 1862 for book research.
- 4515 JOHN AUTON, 7 Windermere Avenue, London N3 3QX  
Researching family of Thomas Hutchinson, butcher and cattle dealer, born Whitworth, Spennymoor in 1839, married Hartlepool 1861, buried Billingham 1895. Does anyone know the location of the marriage of his parents Thomas (killed by a train at Sedgfield in 1844) and Jane Brunton c.1830? Siblings were Jane Dobing, Elizabeth Buckton, Dorothy Fleetham, Christopher and John Hutchinson. Thomas married Jane Eliza Dresser originally from Well, Yorkshire but later Hartlepool. Thirteen children included Joseph Farrow Hutchinson, born 1870, and Maude Edith Lamb Hutchinson, born 1872. What are the Farrow and Lamb connections?
- 4521 THOMAS HUNTER, 86 Alexandra Road, Grangetown, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS6 7DD  
Researching the Hunter and Tweddell families of the Hexham area. Any information would be welcome.
- 4555 Mrs S.M. RIPPON, 3 Rose Tower Court, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 3BG  
Would welcome information on the following: 1) Parents of James Hammond, mariner and Ann Reay married Sunderland 1823. 2) Parents and marriage of Thomas Parkin, mariner and Isabella Heaton, born South Shields whose daughter Ann was born 1828 in Sunderland. 3) Parents and wife of James Scott, mariner whose son William, stonemason was born 1820 in Sunderland. 4) Parents and wife of William Snowdon, shipwright whose daughter Maria was born 1824 in Sunderland.
- 4570 Mrs JUDITH HIATT, 50 Pierce Street, Wellington 2820, New South Wales, Australia  
Any information on the following would be welcome: 1) David Holmes born c.1829 at North Shields, son of Thomas born c.1795 Bedlington and Elizabeth b.c.1794 Preston. David married 1859 to Martha Rowland born c.1829 North Shields, daughter of James Rowland, mariner. 2) Margaret Ann Garrard/Garrad, born c.1828 North Shields, daughter of Robert, bootmaker. She married firstly Bowman, children Martha (c.1846), Robert (c.1847) and Edward (c.1850); and secondly Koefod.
- 4575 PAUL HOCKIE, 7 Bridgeman Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW 11 9AJ  
Any information on John (Ware) Hill and Susanna Taylor, parents of Albert Hill born 1883 Stockton. Also John Crawford and Sarah Share, parents of Mary Crawford born 1857, Heworth Low Felling. Also looking for birth details of Mary Crawford's husband Duncan Stewart born c.1853. They married at Garth Head, Newcastle in 1883.
- 4579 Mrs ELSIE M. DAVISON, 20 Blackbrook Lane, Bromley, Kent BR2 8AY  
George Younger, seaman, bapt.1766 Tweedmouth married Alice Walters. He was the son of James Younger, bapt.1714 at Berwick upon Tweed. Unable to find the marriage or Alice's baptism. Known children from the marriage were born 1803 to 1821. Other interests are Blenhisset of Berwick, Wallace of Tweedmouth, Derry and Henny of Newcastle.
- 4590 Ms LIL DAVIDSON, 2561 Third Avenue, Port Alberni, British Columbia V9Y 2H5, Canada  
Seeking information on the following: James Cowperthwaite married Jane Gair (Gare) 1841 at Tynemouth. Son William born Tynemouth 1856. Any siblings born before him? William married Elizabeth Legg at Dundee in 1883. She was born 1860 at South Shields, daughter of George Legg and Jane Ann Mann. George and William were active in shipping and were ship's masters.
- 4606 Miss L. CHIPCHASE, 23 Farmers Row, Blackburn, Lancashire BB2 4NN  
Can anyone help with the burial place of Joseph and Mary Chipchase? They appear on the 1841 Census at Fatfield but are gone from the area by 1851. Their son John married Hannah Bertram, moved to Darlington where a daughter was born in 1845, and later went to Liverpool. Joseph may have been a brother of John and Richard born in 1780's in Sunderland to Joseph Chipchase and Catherine Shevill. Can anyone please confirm?
- 4622 Mrs M.J. NICHOLSON, 39 Links Road, Cullercoats, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3DY  
Researching McCabe and Sullivan families. John McCabe came from Newcastle and was on the Police Force in 1883. His wife Mary Hunt was from Gateshead. William Sullivan came from South Shields and was a stoker in the R.N.R., married to Mary Jane Coulman of North Shields.
- 4627 Mr H.J.K. BORDISS, 2 Hillview Close, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire RG3 6YX  
Seeking information about Joseph Bordiss (Burdiss?) whose birthplace was given North Shields on 1861 and 1871 Census, and South Shields on the 1881. Estimated date of birth about 1824/25. He married Mary Ann Wraith, born at Felling, in 1851 in London. Later settled in Aston, Birmingham.
- 4630 Mrs JEAN GRAHAM, 41 Hollinhill, Lockhaugh, Rowlands Gill, Tyne & Wear NE39 1AZ  
Is anybody researching the Bul(I)man family? Help needed regarding John and Ann Bulman who lived at Overacres, Elsdon in the 1720's. They had two children, John and Ann baptised at Elsdon, but little else known. Is there a connection with Bullman of Longhorsley?
- 4632 Miss P.A. DANIEL, 20 Chapel Road, Liverpool, Merseyside L6 0AU  
A marriage that took place in 1846 was 'By Certificate of Publication Before Board of Poor Law Guardians'. Both parties concerned were 'Of full age'. Can anyone explain what the statement means?

- 4633** ERIC MUSHINS, 10 Mitic Court, Frankston, Victoria 3199, Australia  
Seeking information about the family of George Mushins, 6.1814 Sunderland, married Mary Simmons c.1839. James Mushins 6.1856 County Gaol Durham married Eliz. Whitmore 1889 at South Shields; James Frederick Mushins 6.1890 married Adelina Paynter 1915. Leslie Mushins b.1921 Sunderland married Joyce Green of Sunderland in Australia in 1944.
- 4642** Mrs V. CHALMERS, 199 Rushygreen Road, Lymm, Cheshire WA13 9QY  
Can anyone help with information of the following: 1) Wallace Pickard, shoemaker of South Shields, married Jane Ogle 1877 and had his business in South Shields in 1895. He seems to have eluded all the census'; where did he come from? 2) Sarah Daglish, born South Shields c.1870, married firstly Heslop then Robert Scott c.1895. Father reputed to be a boatbuilder who had a smallholding at Wylam. 3) George Glackon of Learghboy, Co. Armagh came to South Shields mid 19th C. He put his life savings into the glass works at the Mill Dam shortly before it closed.
- 4645** ROGER W. STORY, 25 Claire Court, Woodside Avenue, London N12 8TD  
Researching Mason and Pellington in the Newcastle area and Allan of Houghton-le-Spring, early 19th century. Probably all Methodists. Robert Mason born Newcastle c.1900 married Jane Pellington also b. Newcastle c.1900. Robert was a clerk for the Newcastle & Carlisle Railway. Mary Allan of Shiney born c.1823, daughter of William Allan, grocer and draper, married Joseph Officer, Methodist minister, at Houghton-le-Spring 1844. All information welcome.
- 4650** PETER DARLING, 18 Cheltenham Avenue, Marton, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS7 8LR  
Seeking information of the Darling family of Blyth in the mid-19th century, later of Whitley Bay; Heatley who seemed to move between Alnwick and Newcastle in the second half of the 19th century; and Urquhart and Landells of Tynemouth, also in the 19th century.
- 4654** Mr T.K. CARTER, 34 Gleneagle Crescent, Wollowdale, Ontario M2J 3H3, Canada  
Searching for the birth and death of William Carter, butcher/farmer who married Jane Wilson 1834 at Houghton-le-Spring. Their son Thomas married Jane Swan at Sunderland in 1865, address 14 Hilworth or Walworth Street, Bishopwearmouth. Also any information on Jane's father Thomas Wilson, butcher, also of Houghton, married Anne Meggison 1812.
- 4657** Mrs MARGARET ANDERTON, 31 Knights Templar Way, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP11 1PX  
Searching for: 1) Parents and any other information about the family of Thomas Rogerson born c.1783/4 at Bewick Folly/Eglington area; married Jane Telfer/Telford at Kirkwhelpington in 1822. 2) Parents of Jane Mather born c.1825/6 Shilbottle, possibly of the Berwick/Ford area. By 1841 at Carham with sister Isabella and brother Henry.
- 4659** WALTER STEWART, Traigh Mhor, Port Carlisle, Carlisle CA5 5DQ  
Would like information or hear from descendants of: 1) William Dean, cabinet-maker, born Sunderland c.1806 and his wife Ellen. Children: Ellen born c.1842 Newcastle; Emma Louisa c.1848, married Robert Stewart 1870; Mary E. c.1851; Isabella c.1854; John H. c.1856, all born at Bishopwearmouth. 2) Thomas Pearson Johnson, boilermaker, born Sunderland c.1850, son of Charles Johnson, mariner. Married Janet Stewart, daughter of Robert Stewart, mariner, in 1875. Lived in Bishopwearmouth and later at Wallsend.
- 4661** Mr B. COOK, 20 Cotswold Drive, Skelton, Saltburn, Cleveland TS12 2JN  
Looking for information on Paulin (forename not known), worked as a stonemason on the Victoria Tunnel, Newcastle (opened 1842), father of William Paulin 1833 -1898. Also Thomas Harrison Cook, draper of Dundas Street, Sunderland in 1894.
- 4665** Mrs MARY JONES, Llainwen, Llanfair Yn Neubwll, Caergeiliog, Holyhead, Gwynedd LL65 3HL  
Mary Shaw gave birth to a son, William, in 1851 at Hamsterley. Father was unnamed on the birth certificate, how can he be identified? Mary Ann Short, schoolteacher, born 1857 at Seaham Harbour married William Shaw 1880 at Baildon. William and Mary Ann both died in 1901. Any information of her parents would be welcome.
- 4667** Mrs D. MORGAN, 8 Winpenny Close, Yarm, Cleveland TS15 9XG  
Robert Wilson married Sarah Ann Chilton at Sunderland 1871. They lived at West Rainton and had five children-Joseph, Mary Ann, Isabella, George and John. Robert had previously been married to Elizabeth Jane Burn who died 1871 and was buried at Rainton. Robert's parents were Joseph Wilson and Mary, nee Hall. Any information of ancestors or descendants would be welcome.
- 4672** Mrs D. SUTTON, 10 Robert Avenue, Cundy Cross, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S71 5RB  
Would appreciate any information on Gair of Sunderland, Southwick, Castletown, Hebburn or Jarrow. Robert Gair was a master sinker of mines who lost a leg in the course of his work. He married Jane Storbs, probably c.1883 and son William was born in 1884. He was to later marry Rachel Harding at St Simon's Church, Tyne Dock in 1910. Other children were John, Henry, Thomas, George, Sarah, Elizabeth and Lilian.
- 4675** Mr JOHN EAGLE, 12 Burney Villas, Gateshead NE8 3RH  
Any information regarding the following would be welcome: 1) John Eagle 1862-1931, son of Enoch Eagle and Charlotte Harris. 2) His wife Isabella nee Lawson 6.1862. 3) His 2nd wife Frances died 1929. 4) Daughter Charlotte married Ralph Wilson. All of Durham.
- 4683** Mr G.B. MILLICAN, Greenwood Lodge, Ayton, Eyemouth, Berwickshire TD14 5QY  
Seeking information on Millican family 1750-1800 in Wooler, Glanton area. Also Middleton possibly in Darlington, Houghton-le-Skerne area 1750 and may have moved to north Northumberland. Both families in Berwickshire 1840-80. Would be glad of any help.
- 4684** Mr E.M. RUSSELL, 'Tanamera', Rockmead Road, Fairlight, East Sussex TN35 4DJ  
Would welcome any information regarding birth and parentage of. 1) James Russell born 1851/2 in Scotland (father John Russell, a seaman), married Mary Ann Murray at Berwick upon Tweed in 1876. The family subsequently lived at Newcastle, Morpeth and Whitley Bay. 2) John Murray born 1807/11 in Scotland and married Ann Batey (born 1815 Alston) at Longframlington in May 1837. Occupation an ostler and lived in Berwick from 1840 until his death in 1888. Children: William 6.1837, John 6.1843 and Sarah 6.1845.
- 4691** Mrs ANN CHAPMAN, 2 Wordsworth Avenue, Pilton, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1QQ  
~~Any information, please on: 1) John Wilson, draper, his son James married Rhoda Playford 1890 at North Shields. 2) Robert Percy born Embleton, Nb 1. c.1835 and his wife Jane born Cleadon, Dur. c.1832, children born at North Shields.~~
- 4701** Mr R. CAWSON 38 Ajax Close, Laceby Acres, Grimsby, Humberside DN34 5QR  
Would welcome information on the following families: Cawson of Beamish, Kidman of Spennymoor area, Stoker of Kimblesworth. Also anything on Thomason Cawson, nee Craggs, born 1888 at Sunderland.
- 4707** Mr M. LANNEN, 6 Langley Way, Kettering, Northants NN15 6HL  
Seeks information on James Price born 1851 Dunnington, Yorks, and his wife Mary Ann nee Cunningham born 1853 Washington, Durham; daughters were Mary b. 1879 and Theresa 6.1881. James Price connected with, possibly manager of, the Half Moon Inn, Byker Bank, Newcastle c.1900.
- 4708** JIM McCULLY, 50 Erris Street, Johnsonville, Wellington 4, New Zealand  
Seeking information worldwide on McCully and variant spellings. Aproximately 7,000 entries from IGI, St Catherine's indexes, etc. already on database. Printout of information received adding any relevant data on record returned to all writers.



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