

THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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OR ITS CONTRIBUTORS

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PLEASE ALWAYS ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR YOUR REPLY
(TWO INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS FROM OVERSEAS MEMBERS) AND QUOTE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.

EDITORIAL

This *Journal* is the last covered by your 1993/1994 subscription. A subscription renewal form was enclosed with the last *Journal*. If you have not yet returned it with your cheque (£10.00 in U.K., payable to N.D.F.H.S.) to Mrs. J. Ashburner, please do so NOW. No reminders will be sent, nor will receipt of your cheque be acknowledged, but if you receive the February *Journal* in due course, you can assume your fee has been received.

Enclosed with this issue is an application form for the Society's One Day Conference at Cramlington in April. The last similar one was well attended and with an interesting selection of speakers we hope to attract a good attendance this time.

We want to give advance - very advance notice of another Conference to be held in September 1996. This will be a weekend residential affair to celebrate the 21st birthday of the Society. No firm dates or other details yet.

You will find elsewhere the details of a new set of 25 microfiche - the County Durham 1813-1837 Marriage Index covering the whole of the county and giving details of some 42,000 marriages. This index has been put together by George Bell and a team of helpers, partly from earlier indexes such as those by Bill Rounce and Paul Joiner. Thanks are due not only to George but also to all who have helped or made their indexes available to him. This Durham index complements the earlier Northumberland one for the same period, which has sold very well indeed, but which is still available (£8.50 in U.K.) from Keith Dalkin. Incidentally, a few errors are bound to creep into indexes of this size so if you spot any, would you send the details to George Bell at 113 East View, Wideopen, Newcastle upon Tyne NE13 6EF.

For some time, the Society has been examining the possibility of acquiring our own premises, either by rental or by purchase, where our ever expanding Library could be held and made available to members, where meetings could be held, and so on. A number of other Societies have successfully gone down this road. Finding suitable premises is not proving simple. If any member knows of any which may be suitable, please contact George Bell. Preferably, but not necessarily, they would be near a Metro Station, or with car parking nearby. A city centre location in Newcastle is probably ruled out on cost grounds, but premises in the Newcastle suburbs or elsewhere on Tyneside/Wearside etc., might be considered.

As a service to members, the Society has decided to accept commercial advertisements for a trial period - for services, books for sale etc. If you wish to advertise, please contact the Editor in the first instance with details, so that we can evaluate the type and scale of demand. It will not be expensive - a few pence per word for small line adverts and a bit more for "box" type. Not to be used for "Help me find Joe Bloggs" type, which are appropriate to the (free) Members Interests columns.

NEW N.D.F.H.S. PUBLICATIONS

There are no new books this time, but we have the usual selection of new microfiche for sale. All are available from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidan's Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP.

A most important addition to our range is the Marriage Index for County Durham 1813-1837, which includes every marriage in the county between 1st January 1813 and 30th June 1837. It is an alphabetical index, by both bride and groom and gives names, place and date of marriage, but other information, such as parishes of origin of the parties, is not included. There was a lot of interest in the corresponding Northumberland Marriage Index which was advertised in the Summer *Journal*, and it is anticipated that the Durham index will also be welcomed. It costs £8.50 post free (£9.25 overseas). The Northumberland index is still for sale at the same price.

The first fiche of the works of the late Dr. K. Mitchell (see Autumn *Journal*) is now available. It is a transcript of the Parish Registers of the Northumberland parish of Bellingham and covers Baptisms 1684-1851, Marriages 1754-1851 and Burials 1687-1851. It has been indexed by Mrs. C. Abbott and the set of 7 fiche costs £3.50 (£4.00 overseas).

We have also prepared microfiche of a number of volumes in the Index to 1851 Census of Northumberland series which have hitherto been available only in book form. Details are on the advertising leaflet enclosed with the *Journal*. All of the Society's books are now available also as microfiche, but not the other way round.

There are two new microfiche of Monumental inscriptions. The inscriptions on the tombstones at Muggleswick, County Durham, copied by Mrs. M.E. Sobo, are listed, together with an index and plan. Also included is a transcript of the Burial register 1765-1991. Cost only £1.00 (£1.30 overseas).

An important addition to this series covers the inscriptions at Holy Trinity, Berwick-upon-Tweed. This is a fully indexed list of over 1,500 inscriptions, and includes over 200 on stones which were removed in 1972. Some of the details on the stones are enhanced by details from the Burial Registers. Cost £1.50 post free in U.K. (£1.70 overseas).

Pigot & Co.'s National Commercial Directory for Durham, Northumberland and Yorkshire, 1834, has been reproduced in facsimile (554 pages) and is available from Mike Winton, 5 Lynn Road, Castle Rising, Kings Lynn PE31 6AB. Price £13.75 plus postage and packing.

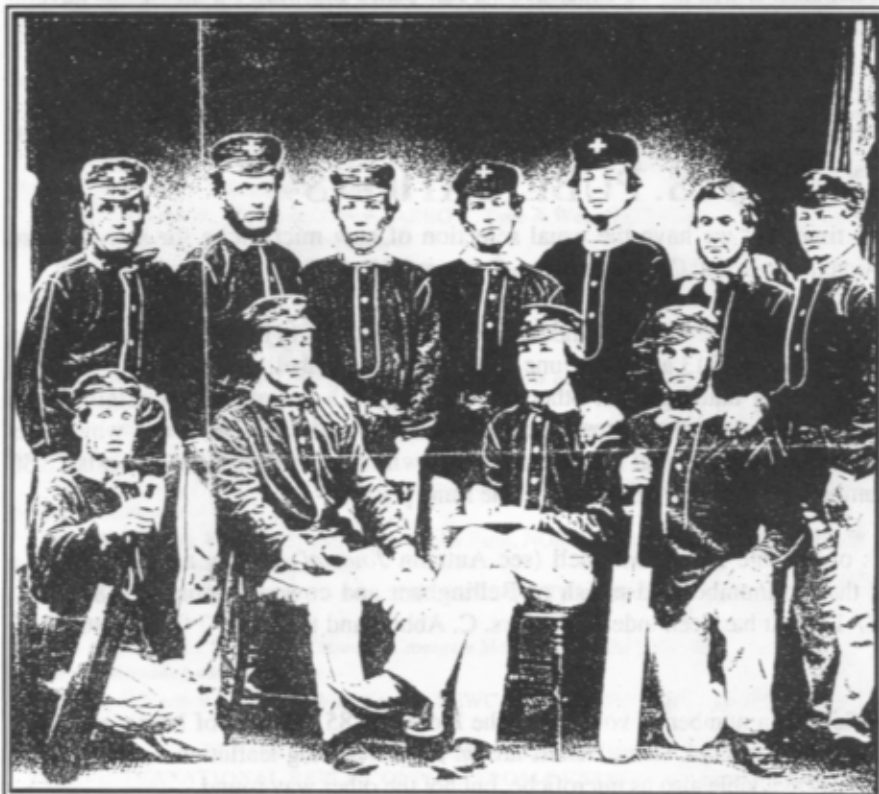
PRE 1920 GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS

A few members have responded to the request in the last *Journal* to send "group" pictures dated prior to 1920 and we are pleased to print a selection of them. Hopefully, some of your ancestors might be portrayed!

More similar pictures will appear in future, so if you have any you think might be suitable, please send a clear photocopy to the Editor, with a list of the names of the people shown. Do please remember the conditions - a picture of at least eight people, all of whom can be identified by name, relating to a Durham or Northumberland event or subject, other than wholly "family" items such as wedding photographs. Your name and address will be printed, so be prepared for correspondence from other interested members.

We start with what must be one of the earliest pictures of a cricket team in the region. Sent by Mr. John Ayton of 37 Oyster Row, Cambridge CB5 8LJ, it is dated 7th August 1860 and is headed "The eleven of the Helme Park Cricket Club, Newcastle-upon-Tyne". Since Helm Park is a tiny hamlet near Tow Law in County Durham, it is not clear why Newcastle is mentioned.

Many of the men feature in the 1861 Tow Law Census. The four Aytons were brothers, sons of William Ayton, a mason of Wolsingham and Charlotte Readshaw. Edward Glenton was a cousin of the Ayton boys. The Editor would be very pleased to hear from any member who may have further information about this early cricketing momento.



The Players are:

Back row, left to right

*John Ayton, Jos. Parkin,
Thos Ayton, Ed. Glenton,
William Ayton,
Benj. Messenger, Rob. Hall.*

Front row, left to right

*John Thomson, Robert Potts,
Joseph Ayton and George Hall.*



The mechanics of Waterhouses Colliery in County Durham, c. 1881-1885 feature on a picture sent by Mr. N.J. Armstrong, 23 Highdown Road, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1QA.

Back row, left to right - Lonsdale, T. or I. Parker, G. Davidson, Chrissop, G. Minto, Gowland, Smailes.

Front row - Sayers, A. Sayers, Hall Armstrong, Ward, Jno Willey.

Seated in front - Wanless Morton.

The third picture features sport of a different kind - a "shoot" in the Allendale area of Northumberland, probably in the vicinity of Parkside farm, owned and (still) farmed by the Nevin family. The "shoot" organiser was John Nevin, of Mirfield, Yorks who organised a local shoot and engaged a local man as gamekeeper. The picture is dated 3rd October 1896 and was sent by Mr. J. Temperley, 1 Stockdale Place, Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3XH.



Front row, left to right - John George Nevin of Parkside, Harry and John W. Kaye, John Jerrard, John Nevin, Anley McCanley.

Back row, left to right - Robert Hall, John Fairless, William Ridley, Thomas Henderson (? of Wooley, Allendale), Walter Bell, John Nevin Temperley (of Wooley Farm), Robert Hutchinson (Gamekeeper). Seated at rear - Matthew Nevin.

ANCESTORS BORN BEFORE 1800

Mrs. Wendy Bennett, 16 Grayshott Laurels, Lindford, Bordon, Hants GU35 0QB, has sent this picture of her three x great grandfather Edward Bell (1780-1857) who was a blacksmith and landlord of The Blacksmiths Arms at Lesbury, near Alnwick.

Mrs. Bennett asks if anyone can corroborate the story that in the late 19th century it was the custom of the then Duke and Duchess of Northumberland to drive around the area at weekends in their carriage. The Duchess was offended by the drunken state of the "navvies" building the railway and to stop this the Duke had all the pubs in the area closed down!

Mrs. Bennett has a photo album dated 1867 belonging to Margaret S. Bell. It contains the following named photographs:-



Jane Hall, Lesbury

Anne Hall, Lesbury

John Embleton, Lesbury Look Out

Miss Taylor, school, Lesbury

John Stamp, auctioneer, Alnwick

Jane Robinson, Longhoughton

Robert and Mary Davison, Lesbury

Wm. Yearnshaw, grocer, Lesbury

Bessie Thompson, Lesbury Mills

Robert Swan, Lesbury

Mary Green, servant, Lesbury Inn

Jas Swan, Lesbury Vicarage

Bella Chrisp, Bilton

Robert Smith, So Gate

Miss Marshall, Flint Mill

Mrs. Bennett will provide photocopies to descendants at cost. Please send her a stamped addressed envelope if you wish to take advantage of her kind offer.

CHARLIE RICHARDSON OF ALNWICK - VILLAIN OR HERO?

by Geoff Nicholson

Some people set about tracing their ancestry in the hope of proving a relationship to some rich, famous and, above all, worthy person whom they can be proud to acknowledge as one of the family. Others, especially our colonial cousins, seem to take a perverse delight in claiming descent from some petty thief or similar (never a serious criminal) who had been transported for his crimes. One rarely hears anyone bragging about a descent from a real villain - or even discussing it in a quiet voice, come to that. I am not going to go against the trend by claiming anything of that sort either. However, although I may not be a direct descendant of my great-great grandfather's brother I think I must at least acknowledge him as a pretty close relative!

I realise that in suggesting that the man in question, Charles Richardson, may have been a villain I am actually going against the strength of public opinion as it was in Alnwick in 1888. Whether he deserved the gratitude or the contempt of his fellow townsmen you must judge for yourself.

Richardson was described on one occasion as "no that canny to come across", an understatement if ever there was one. He stood nearly six feet high, was broad in proportion and had "all the massive strength of a bull". Like many of his friends he was given to doing a little poaching, when he felt so inclined and the night was right, and at such times never went out without his favourite single-barrelled shotgun. On one occasion he had been arrested for the murder of a policeman at Eglingham, a few miles outside Alnwick. Richardson had been discharged for lack of evidence, but the policeman in question had undoubtedly been shot by a poacher he had disturbed. His encounters with gamekeepers were usually violent and he had survived many of them in spite of having had his leg savaged by a retriever and his head split open by a blow. He had been arrested for poaching many times - whenever the police could find someone who dared to take him on, that is. One Police Constable who attempted the job had had Richardson's gun raised against him with the threat to "do for you as I did for the other *** brute" - or words to that effect. The Vicar of St. Paul's Parish in Alnwick at the time, Rev. Jeavon J. Muschamp Perry M.A. F.R.S., said of him "it is doubtful whether at any time during this century" (i.e. the 19th) "the town of Alnwick has seen his equal for strength, ferocity and desperation".

It was on the night of February 7/8th in 1879 that the events occurred which later became notorious as the "Edlingham Burglary". Although the story has much in common with the Victorian melodramas so much in vogue at the time (and was actually dramatised as such in about the 1920's) I must report that it was not "a dark and stormy night". In fact the night was cold but clear. There had been a hard frost the day before, but that was beginning to give a little and the ground was softening up slightly. From Charlie Richardson's point of view it was a grand night for a spot of poaching. His chosen companion for this expedition was George (Geordie) Egdell, another of Alnwick's poaching fraternity, but by no means such a desperate character as Charlie. Geordie was a very fit man, of lean build and with a reputation as a runner. On one occasion he had escaped arrest by running the distance from Earl Grey's estate at Howick to Alnwick (some six or seven miles) in so short a time as to establish an alibi which no one could shake.

Luck was not with them that night. They tried their favourite woods without success, working their way north-eastwards from Alnwick until eventually they found themselves in Birsley Wood, about half a mile north of Edlingham. Not getting any rabbits there either, they decided to spend the rest of the night on some more profitable exercise. Egdell had once worked as a gardener at Edlingham Vicarage and had often discussed with Richardson how they could burgle the place. This was their opportunity.

Having broken into the house by a drawing room window they were intent on ransacking that room when a voice rang out - "Who's there?" It was Miss Buckle, the Vicar's middle aged spinster daughter. Close behind her was her father, 77 year old, Rev. M.H.G. Buckle, who had recently retired as headmaster of Durham School to spend his last days quietly as Vicar of his undemanding country parish, which he had held in plurality with his headmastership since 1839.

Both burglars were desperate to avoid arrest for anything as serious as housebreaking, so Charlie knew what he must do - and he did it immediately. He raised his gun and fired a shot at the voice without hesitation. Fortunately, although it struck Miss Buckle and slightly wounded her father its effects were neither fatal nor, indeed, serious. At the first sound from the house the burglars had put out the candle they had been using and the consequent darkness had affected Charlie's aim just enough to save Miss Buckle's, and perhaps her father's life. A desperate tussle ensued, between the Vicar, who had armed himself with an old sword, and Charlie. Before long, Charlie broke loose and made his escape, as Geordie Egdell had already done. Separately, and with all speed, the two men made their way across the moor to their homes in Alnwick.

Back in Alnwick it had been a quiet sort of a night. The only incident to bother the Police had been when Police Constable's Buglass and Gibson stopped two Irish labourers who were entering the town near Pottergate at about seven o'clock in the morning. It seemed a suspicious time to be returning from a stroll and as both were known poachers the Police Constables formed the correct opinion that they were returning from just such an outing. They searched them, but the Irishmen had had the sense to hide their catch outside the town, intending to recover it later in the day. Nothing incriminating was found on them, so they had to be let go.

When news of the burglary at Edlingham Vicarage reached Alnwick it immediately became a matter for Superintendent Harkes, the most senior Police Officer available. Burglary was bad enough, but when it was at a Vicarage, of all places, and was aggravated by the shooting of a 77 year old establishment figure such as Rev. Buckle, to say nothing of Miss Buckle's injury, then it had to be taken most seriously indeed. Nothing short of an immediate arrest would satisfy the respectable people of Alnwick. The two reports - of the burglary and of the suspicious Irish labourers - would have reached the Superintendent at about the same time. It was not necessary to be a great detective (and a great detective Superintendent Harkes definitely was not) to make the obvious deduction. The reason the Irish poachers had not been poaching was that they had been burgling!

Within hours the two men were arrested. They were Michael Brannagan, a married man, and Peter Murphy, single, who had both lived in Alnwick for a number of years and were by now well known to the local people as well as to the police. Once the police began to accumulate evidence against them an amazing - truly amazing - amount turned up. It was no use Brannagan and Murphy pleading their innocence, which they did with great consistency. The weight of circumstantial evidence was enough to have them sent for trial at the Newcastle Assizes, where the law took its course.

Neither the suspiciously large and convenient amount of evidence, nor the strangely certain way in which Miss Buckle and her father had been able to identify their attackers, whom they had only met in the dark, remember, had any lasting effect on the Jury. I say "lasting" because the Jury did take some three hours to reach a verdict, so there must have been an argument of some kind going on amongst them. Indeed the Judge, Mr. Justice Manisty, became so tired of waiting that he left the Court and went off to his lodgings in Saville Place and it was there that the Jury had to go to deliver their verdict in the presence of the accused, who had also to be brought from their cells. They were found guilty. The next morning the Judge passed sentence - Penal Servitude for life.

The Judge was, of course, completely impartial, but it should be noted that he was the second son of Rev. James Manisty, Rev. Buckle's predecessor at Edlingham and had, in fact, been brought up at Edlingham Vicarage. This was never mentioned at the trial.

As far as the Law was concerned, the matter was closed. In the streets and pubs of Alnwick, however, it was far from closed. At first only a few were "in the know" about the truth of the matter, but gradually the secret spread, until it was a secret no more. The only way in which anything could be done, there having already been a conviction in the case, was for one of the real culprits to confess. In the case of Charlie Richardson, this was unthinkable, and no-one would dare even to suggest it to him. It would have to be Geordie Egdell but, apart from not wanting a prison sentence himself, Egdell was in terror of what Richardson had said he would do to him if he said anything.

It was the Rev. Perry who, together with his friend Charles Percy, an Alnwick solicitor, managed to get through to Egdell what he had to do. Although Geordie Egdell was hardly a religious man, and might not normally expect to have much to do with the Vicar, Mr. Perry did strike up an acquaintance with him when Geordie's young daughter, Maria, the only person he really cared for, fell seriously ill. Mr. Perry was a frequent visitor to Egdell's house during the girl's long illness and when she finally died, in 1887, the Vicar went to work on his conscience "for Maria's sake". It was not until November that year, however, that Egdell finally made a full confession. The only thing he held back was the identity of his companion.

This left Charlie Richardson feeling very isolated and vulnerable. What if he was arrested anyway, as probably would happen, and had to stand trial with Egdell as Queen's evidence against him? He would not stand a chance, so he himself, after another year of trying to bluff it out and to save himself from a more severe sentence than his companion, eventually admitted the truth.

Now, the Law, as it stood at the time, did not allow for such an eventuality, and it took several questions in the House and a petition to the Home Secretary before Brannagan and Murphy could be released from their sentence. They had served nine and a half years for a crime of which they were finally recognised as being completely innocent. They returned to Alnwick in triumph, Michael Brannagan to his wife and family and Peter Murphy to a bachelor life - sadly but understandably his long-standing girlfriend had not remained faithful to him and had married someone else in the meantime.

Richardson and EgdeU were seen, not as the villains who had allowed innocent men to go to prison for nearly ten years in their stead, but as the public spirited heroes who had voluntarily confessed to save the same innocent men from a life in prison. This was particularly the attitude towards Richardson, both locally and nationally, as it was his confession which had provided the last piece of evidence needed to bring this about. Strange as it may seem to us, that attitude was so general that when the two came to trial, instead of the life sentence which the Irishmen had received, they were given "only" a five year sentence.

The matter of where all the convenient evidence produced at the first trial had come from had also to be investigated, of course. Superintendent Harkes was by now dead, but six policemen who had been stationed at Alnwick at the time, were charged in connection with it. One was discharged by the local magistrates and the rest stood trial, but in the end all were found "not guilty".

Largely as a result of this case, sweeping changes were made in the Law of Criminal Appeal, resulting in essentially the modern system being set up instead of the virtually non-existent system which had existed previously.

So, was Charlie Richardson a villain or a hero? Or was he a former villain who perhaps reformed very slightly towards the end of this sad story, encouraged perhaps by the prospect not only of a lighter sentence, but of an eventual triumphant return to cheering crowds at Alnwick, as had happened to Brannagan and Murphy?

To me the real hero of the story is Rev. Perry, whose persistence in slowly persuading George EgdeU to confess is what really led to the release of the innocent men.

Note: Most of the above information has been condensed from Rev. J.J.M. Perry's book "The Edlingham Burglary - or Circumstantial Evidence", published in 1889, where much more detail can be found. Other sources used have been local papers and family tradition.

NEWS FROM DURHAM RECORD OFFICE

In April 1994 the Record Office undertook a second survey of the views of users of the Office.

In four areas the performance of the Record Office was rated as "good" or "very good" by almost all those replying to the questionnaire. The courtesy of the staff was rated as "very good" by 76% of responders, "good" by 16% and "average" by the remaining 8%. The speed of production of documents was reckoned as "very good" by 65% and "good" by 35%. The quality of user guides and handlists was rated as "very good" by 63% of respondents, "good" by 33% and "average" by 4%. The quality of catalogues and lists of documents was seen as "very good" by 48%, "good" by 48% and "average" by the remaining 4%.

The response in the four areas noted above is very similar to that in 1993, although it is worth noting that in 1994 no respondents placed the quality of catalogues in the "poor" category.

In 1993 the two areas which were identified as problems were photocopying and accommodation. In the former area 5% of respondents noted the Record Office's performance as "poor" and only 35% as "very good", in addition some unfavourable comments were made on the quality of the photocopies. A new photocopier was purchased in October 1993 and this appears to have been welcomed by users - no one rated the performance as "poor" and 50% of users now rate it as "very good". The introduction of a self-service microfilm reader-printer also received favourable comments.

The question of accommodation, despite the hopes expressed last year, is still unsatisfactory and is increasingly commented on as the one area in which the Durham Record Office is below standard. In 1993, 72% of users felt that the accommodation was "good" or "very good", 20% rated it as "average" and 8% rated it as "poor". In 1994 only 48% of users felt that the accommodation was "good" or "very good", 32% saw it as "average" and 20% saw it as "poor". This increasing awareness of the difficulties encountered in using the Record Office, are in part a reflection of the improvements which are being made in the public accommodation of other record offices, both locally and throughout the country.

AN ACCIDENT AT HEDDON COLLIERY IN 1890

by David Hunter

Here is a note about one of my ancestors killed in a small mine - Heddon Colliery near Heddon-on-the-Wall.

While drawing up a family tree of relatives in the area of Heddon-on-the-Wall, the family seat from 1816 to date, I came across an interesting entry in the Burial Register against the name of Thomas Hunter, a second cousin twice removed. The burial entry on 16th December 1890 contained the additional information "killed in an accident at a bore hole". This was interesting, something unusual and worth investigating.

Newspapers at Newcastle Central Library did not totally solve the mystery, but the intimation of death in one dated 20th December 1890 gave a further clue, in that it gave the place of death, a detail one would find unusual today. It read "Hunter, Heddon Colliery, Blayney Row 13th inst, age 25 years, Thomas, son of the late George and Mary Hunter of Heddon-on-the-Wall". As a result of my further enquiries at the reference section of the Library, I came across the Mining Inspectorate records. There, the report of James Willis, H.M. Inspector for the Number three District, listed a page of deaths for the year and details of the incident, as the illustration shows. "Unusual" incidents were reported in greater depth and Thomas Hunter was in this section - another bonus.

No. of Accidents.	Date and Hour of the Accident.	No. of Persons killed.	Name of the Mine or Colliery.	Where situated.	Name of the Owner or Company.	Persons killed.	Expected Age.	Occupation.	Cause of Accident, and Remarks.	Lives lost.				
										Explosion of Fire-damp.	Falls of roof and Sides.	In shafts.	Miscellaneous Underground.	Above Ground.
75	1890. Nov. 28 2.30 p.m.	4	Cowpen	Northumberland	Cowpen Coal Co.	John Simpson	21	Hewer	Dropped a candle accidentally into his cartridge box and exploded the powder burning him.	-	-	-	1	1
76	Dec. 4 9.45 a.m.	4	Boldon	Durham	Harton Coal Co., Ltd.	James Nelson	21	Shaftman	He was in the Bensham Seam, and put his head over the safety chains at the shaft to shout down to another seam, when the cage came down and hit him.	-	-	1	-	1
77	Dec. 5	5	Usworth	Ditto	J. Bowes and Partners, Limited.	Patrick McManus	10	Driver	Fell in front of the tubs he was driving.	-	-	-	1	1
78	Dec. 8	9	South Tanfield	Ditto	J. Joiney & Co., Ltd.	Thomas Scatery	15	Patter	Fall of stone	-	1	-	-	1
79	" 9 11.0 a.m.	5	North Biddick	Ditto	Sir G. Elliot, Bart, M.P.	Charles Todd	51	Waggonman	Fell under a waggon wheel	-	-	-	1	1
80	Dec. 11 12.30 p.m.	3	Cramlington	Northumberland	Cramlington Coal Co.	Thomas Nelind	23	Hewer	While working at the face of the coal a large stone fell from the roof and killed him.	-	1	-	-	1
81	Dec. 12 11.45 a.m.	4	Heddon	Ditto	C. J. Bales	Thomas Hunter	25	Labourer	A winch was being used to raise and lower rods at a borehole; while lowering some rods the handle of the winch broke and flew through the air a considerable distance, striking deceased on its journey.	-	-	-	1	1
82	Dec. 16	1	Cambois	Ditto	Cowpen Coal Co.	John Roxburgh	68	Furnaceman	Caught by an ascending cage and pulled into the shaft.	-	-	1	-	1

There were 14 accidents on the surface, resulting in 14 deaths, being an increase of three over the previous year.

Number 81 in the list. This accident, of an unusual character, occurred at Heddon Colliery on the 12th December. Deceased and others were engaged putting down a borehole by means of iron rods. The rods are hauled up by a winch and lowered by means of a break attached to the winch. The manager and engineer of the colliery were standing watching the rods being lowered, when the deceased, who was some distance from the winch, suddenly fell, and it was then seen he had been hit on the head. On examining the winch it was found that part of the handle had broken off, and was found a few feet beyond the deceased.

It was stated at the inquest that the rods were being lowered into the hole at an ordinary and moderate speed, and that the handle of the winch struck against nothing whilst revolving; the only cause of the accident being attributed to the severe frost.

Note:- Mr. Hunter's item has drawn attention to a most valuable source of information on fatalities at collieries. In 1850, Inspectors of Mines were appointed, the country being divided into a number of areas for this purpose. One Matthias Dunn was nominated as the Inspector for an area covering Northumberland, Cumberland and the mining areas of Scotland. This proved too large, and by 1855 the southern area of County Durham had been placed in the care of John J. Atkinson and Dunn's area had been reduced to cover Northumberland, Cumberland and the northern part of Durham.

Each Inspector made an annual report to the Secretary of State covering his region listing the fatal accidents there and their apparent causes and making recommendations. These give a quite horrendous picture of the human cost of coal mining. In 1869, for instance, 1,116 lives were lost - one life for every 309 miners, one life for every 96,777 tons of coal raised. And yet, at times, this waste of life seemed almost to be regarded as acceptable - Matthias Dunn, on resigning his post in November 1866, felt complacent enough to say "I beg humbly to remark that the district is placed in a most satisfactory condition with respect to the safety of the future as I have given it the full benefit of my valuable knowledge and experience". Presumably he did not deem it necessary to seek the views of the relatives of the 99 men in his area who died in mining accidents in his final year of office!

Of particular interest to family historians are the lists of names of the dead, with their ages, occupations, dates of death, the colliery at which they worked, and the cause of the accident (see table). The accompanying reports often go into more detail about particular accidents - not only the major tragedies, in which many men perished at one time, but also the smaller events involving only one or two men, doomed to die in the innumerable petty accidents which were part of everyday life in the mines. Unfortunately, Matthias Dunn did not adopt the practice of most of his colleagues, and the detailed lists of names for the Northumberland and north Durham area begin only after Dunn's resignation in 1866. For the South Durham area (something of a misnomer, as it seemed to cover all the collieries in the county except those near the south bank of the Tyne), the lists of names begin in the early 1850's. Here, therefore, we have the names of all the miners who died in the collieries of our area from the start of the reports in the middle of the 19th century until well into the present century, with a note of the circumstances of death. Newcastle Central Library's set of these reports will be found under reference 622. Durham County Record Office has years 1872 to 1897 under reference D/DMA 255-271.

VICTORIAN MILITARY FAIR

Our southern based members may be interested in the annual Victorian Military Fair to be held at New Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2. On Saturday 4th March 1995 from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Cost £2.50.

There will be stands for various militaria, books etc., but what caught my eye was the offer of a free identification service for military photos, medals, badges, etc.. If you have a photo of a soldier and need to know his regiment, or some other item you cannot identify, take it along. The Victoria Military Society is an international non-commercial body promoting the study of military history, of all nations, during the 1837-1914 period. For information, contact D. Allen, 20 Priory Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 7QN (telephone 0635 48628).

UNWANTED CERTIFICATES

Here is a further list of "unwanted" certificates held by the Society. **Please note that these certificates are no longer available for loan from the N.D.F.H.S. Library.** Members interested in obtaining further information about particular certificates should apply to Mrs. K. Willans, 9 The Ridge Way, Kenton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4LP. Full details will be supplied in return for one 19p stamp per certificate and a stamped addressed envelope (overseas enquiries please enclose two International Reply Coupons or two 41p stamps, plus one 19p stamp per certificate). A complete list of over 300 certificates can be obtained upon receipt of one 19p stamp, plus a self addressed envelope (three International Reply Coupons or three 41p stamps overseas) from Mrs. Willans. Please send your unwanted certificates (those obtained in error) to Mrs. Willans at the above address and not to Mrs Tait.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

144	RAIN, Kezia	11 February 1843	Westoe, South Shields
145	PATTINSON, Emily	26 August 1842	Penrith, Cumberland
146	CARR, Elizabeth	26 March 1849	Hazlerigg, Northumberland

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

95	GRAY, John Moore	SCOTT, Priscilla	29 March 1902	Monkwearmouth
96	ROBSON, James	TURNBULL, Mary Jane	4 June 1881	Gateshead
97	WINTER, Henry	BELL, Barbara Ann	5 June 1881	Gateshead
98	ATKINSON, George Potter	HUMES, Elizabeth	17 April 1852	Durham
99	CURREY, John	PATTEN, Mary	7 January 1850	Tynemouth

DEATH CERTIFICATES

82	PERKINS, Joseph	28 March 1912	South Shields
83	SNOWBALL, George	10 July 1860	Gateshead
84	LAVERICK, Thomas	6 October 1864	Easington
85	LAVERICK, Thomas	7 October 1864	Easington
86	RICHARDSON, Mary Ann	1 January 1850	Tanfield
87	SURTEES, Isabella	16 January 1901	Leadgate, County Durham
88	PATTEN, John	21 March 1842	Rothbury
89	PATTON, Eleanor	4 April 1849	Rothbury

GEORGE WILSON, THE CONVICT

by Moira Furness

George Wilson was baptised in Hexham in 1813, the son of another George, an inn keeper at the Bush Inn, and his wife Esther. In 1826, George senior died, leaving money and property to Esther with their children, Mary and George as heirs. So they were relatively well off.

Esther took out a licence for the inn and Mary married Robert Rowell two years later, so George as the only son must have lived with Esther and helped in running the inns.

George had become a spirit merchant by the time of his marriage on 16th May 1833 to Mary Armstrong and his occupation is confirmed by an entry in Pigott's Directory for 1834 - wine, spirit and porter merchant. According to the Church Rates Book in 1834, George and Mary were living in a house in Hallgate, Hexham owned by Esther Wilson, George's mother. In 1835 he also was the occupier of a coach house owned by John Nicholson and a room and cellar owned by Ann Hall, so he appears to have been a fairly respectable tradesman.

George and Mary's first child, John, was baptised at Hexham on 12th May 1835, George being described as "Inn keeper, Hexham". Mary Ann, their second child, was baptised at Hexham on 29th January 1837, when George is again described as "Inn keeper" - but this time "late of Hexham". Why "late"? - I presumed that he had moved and then returned as he died on 10th November 1882 at Hallgate, Hexham, of congestion of the lungs and was buried in West Road Cemetery, Hexham.

So George was "hatched, matched and despatched". But where was he between 1837 and 1882?

The first niggles began with the 1841 Census. George and Mary were not in Hexham, but the children John and Mary Ann were living with their maternal grandmother, Mary's mother Martha Armstrong, an inn keeper in Hallgate. I thought then that the children must have been visiting their grandmother, but the 1851 Census showed the children, now 16 and 14, still with Martha in Hallgate. Maybe George and Mary had left the children in the care of grandmother while they were working away - but where were they?

The second niggles concerned Esther, George's mother. According to Church Rate books and Directories she was inn keeper at the White Horse Inn between 1840 and 1855. In a *Short History of Hexham* by Frank Graham there is a picture of the inn and a description written by William Bell Scott - "This hostelry was scarcely ever disturbed by travellers except on one day, the market day of the week, yet the landlady, who had her cares, having lost everything 16 years before her son was banished for forgery, cheerfully said the world had been good to her; she now had something in the bank of her own again, her son was now a prosperous man and she was looking for his return."

The passage also says "... the landlady's daughter posed to me at full length on the window seat knitting" and "the tall maiden Isabell, my model, by and by disappeared to cook my dinner".

Now Esther had no daughter Isabella so far as I knew, but her granddaughter Isabella Rowell, daughter of George's sister Mary Rowell had been living with her grandmother at the time of the 1851 Census. Could this be Esther and her granddaughter - with her son George "banished for forgery"? I discounted this because I did not know when William Bell Scott had written his description. I should have known better!

I searched for years. One day, when I was looking in the *Newcastle Journal* of 20th June 1837 for another ancestor, I found my first clue. A fiat of bankruptcy dated 14th June 1836 had been awarded and issued against George Wilson of Hexham, spirit dealer, dealer and chapman. The Commissioners were to meet in the Bankrupt Commission Room, Royal Arcade, Newcastle to make a dividend of the estate and effects.

George must have found marriage and a child too expensive - or was he just a spendthrift? I had seen insolvent debtors in Quarter Sessions records, so I thought I would look at newspaper reports of the Sessions to see if George was mentioned.

Now came the shock. He was there, not as a debtor but as a forger in the Northumberland Assize reports, in the *Newcastle Chronicle* and *The Newcastle Courant* for 6th August 1836 and *The Tyne Mercury* on 7th August 1836. The case was heard on Friday 29th July 1836 and George Wilson, late of Hexham, inn keeper and spirit merchant and who moved in a respectable sphere was found guilty of having forged and uttered certain counterfeit and promissory bills and notes. The newspapers carried full accounts of the trial.

He had forged the names of Jacob Liddell, a husbandman and public house keeper of Great Whittington, as acceptor and George Davidson a farmer of Acomb, as endorser, on a bill for the amount of £54. He presented it, on 4th February 1836 to Richard Gibson, bank clerk and brother of Jasper Gibson, the agent for Sir Matthew Ridley and Co.'s bank and had received cash for it as he had done before in his business. The bill was sent to Newcastle as usual until it was due, then sent back to Hexham but was not paid. Jacob Liddell appeared to say he never signed bills and had not done business with George Wilson since 1834. The signature was not his. George Davison stated that he had endorsed bills in the past but the signature on this one was not his. He had said he would not sign more bills as George was spending too much money. Although John Harbottle, of Anick Grange, Joseph Robinson, John Cowing, Cuthbert Armourer and Gibson Dinning appeared and gave the prisoner an excellent character there were four other indictments against him and he was found guilty and sentenced to be imprisoned in the House of Correction at Morpeth for six months hard labour and then to be transported for life. No records of Morpeth House of Correction have been found.

I looked at records to see if George's wife Mary had become a charge on the Parish but this was not the case. In her father, John Armstrong's will her mother, Martha Armstrong, was left property in Hexham for her lifetime, with Mary as the sole heiress. So the parish were not likely to support her. She must have gone home to her mother as she and George would have lost everything they had with the conviction and bankruptcy. Mary Ann, their daughter was born while George was in Morpeth. I wonder if he received the news about their new baby daughter?

From Morpeth, George went to the Hulk *Justicia* at Woolwich. The convicts were kept in old ships and worked in gangs in the dockyards while awaiting transportation to Australia. George was reported by the surgeon on the Hulk to be healthy and his behaviour as good. If he had some money, extra food and blankets etc. could have been had but "green" convicts were prey to old lags and their property soon disappeared. Possibly his time spent helping Esther in the inns, perhaps dealing with unruly customers, stood him in good stead and he could look after himself. From the *Justicia* he was transferred to the *Waterloo* transport ship.

The *Waterloo* with John Cow as master, and James Ellis as surgeon left Sheerness on 2nd October 1837. Earlier ships had lost many convicts or delivered them to New South Wales in such a bad state that they needed hospital treatment and were not able to work. So in a way George was lucky because conditions for transportees had improved by 1837. Ships had a surgeon on board to see to the medical needs of the crew and convicts. The care of course depended on the quality of the surgeon and master. John Cow and John Ellis had made several voyages to Australia with convicts and must have been reasonably good at the job. No mention was found of George in either the Admiralty medical journal or the logs, so his health and behaviour must have continued to be good. They arrived at Sydney on 8th February 1838 after a journey of four months, a long journey for somebody who had possibly never seen the sea before.

In the Convict Indentures in New South Wales George Wilson was found. This gives the information that George, age 25, a protestant, could read and write and was married with two children, one boy and one girl. So news of the new baby must have reached him somehow. His crime, forgery, sentence for life and no former convictions is recorded. Best of all however is the physical description - "A stout athletic man, six feet tall with a ruddy complexion, light brown hair, grey eyes and a hairy breast". His size especially must have helped him to survive better during the hazards of the journey and his future life as a convict.

At the State Archives Office, New South Wales the *Waterloo* muster papers were checked for assignment lists. Despite his athletic build, George was not assigned to the chain gang for road building etc. possibly because of his ability to read and write and with his background of having run a business (however badly!). Unfortunately although all convicts on the *Waterloo's* muster were named, the clerk had not filled in the final column for the assignments. So I do not know where George was sent to work.

Meanwhile, back at Hexham tragedy had struck again. Mary, aged 25 years had died on 1st June 1839 of Erysipelas, a skin infection caused by Streptococcus bacteria. It starts suddenly and usually on the face which is red and hot and the patient has a high fever. Now it is quickly treated with penicillin (not to be used for another hundred years). Did somebody contact George in Australia? In a document of release dated 14th May 1840 to Martha Armstrong, found with Hexham Church Records, Mary is described as widow of George Wilson but somebody has added in pencil "Mary was erroneously called a widow - in fact her husband was transported". Proof at least that I had the correct George Wilson.

Back in Australia George received a ticket of leave, dated 9th April 1846 which shows he was in the district of Scone, Upper Hunter River. This meant that he could move around this district offering himself for work and getting better wages, thus no longer being fed and clothed at government expense. This was a privilege which could be

taken away if the convict got into trouble with the law by drunkenness, fighting or re-offending. This must not have happened to George, his name was on a schedule of 72 convicts from the U.K. recommended for Conditional Pardon by the Colonial Secretary on 21st May 1849 and approved by Governor Fitz Roy. He received it on 10th August 1850. Now he was able to go anywhere in Australia to settle and work but was not allowed to return to England.

George was a widower, although he may not have known this, but he did not apply to marry while he was a convict. There were in fact five men named George Wilson who married between 1852 and 1855. One of these was a marriage in Tamworth, New South Wales in 1852 of a George Wilson, widower and Jane Hall, widow. Tamworth is about 80 miles north of Scone. So it is possible that this is George of Hexham, but as civil registration in New South Wales did not start until 1856 no details of age, birth place or parents are given. A birth certificate of a Thomas Frederick Wilson in 1858, born to a George and Jane Wilson was obtained to try to find out more, but the father proved to be from Ireland married in 1857. So this was neither my George nor the George married at Tamworth.

There is mention of a George Wilson as District Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages in Tamworth in 1859 (possibly the one married in 1852), but no George Wilson is listed as an employee in the government "Blue Books" (returns of the Colony) between 1858 and 1860 and on May 1859 John McDonald was appointed to the position of District Registrar and held it for a number of years. So there is no proof as yet that this was my George.

In 1852 the Gold Rush occurred in Victoria. From letters in the *Newcastle Courant* we learn that many people left England for the gold fields and in Australia so many left their jobs to join the rush that employees in Australia could not easily be found and wages rose higher in an effort to keep workers. Some were fortunate and did find gold, though there was still the risk of being robbed or gambling it away. Inn keepers and store keepers were some of the ones who made money, especially those who sold picks, spades, cradles and provisions for the prospectors. Did George take the opportunity to go to the diggings in the hope of finding a fortune? If not there were always the higher wages and opportunities to find better work to be had. Esther seemed to think he was doing better by then.

By the 1861 Census, Esther was inn keeper in the Golden Lyon in Pudding Row, Hexham and Mary Ann, George's daughter, and her husband George Pearson were the inn keepers in the Bird in the Bush, in Hallgarth. Martha Armstrong lived with them until she died in 1862. Did someone contact George to tell him this news? Perhaps not. Martha's feeling towards him can hardly have been too kindly. Esther, though, may have done, as she seems to have had some news of him, judging by the piece about the White Horse Inn.

On 30th August 1861 a notice appeared in the *Newcastle Courant* stating that in reply to a recent petition George Wilson had been granted a free pardon. The petitions have so far not been found yet. Now he could return home at last after 25 years. If it took at least four months for the news to reach Australia and four months to return to England, plus time to prepare for the journey, George would probably not have returned to England before the end of 1862. So Martha who died on 11th April 1862 is unlikely to have seen George again. I doubt she cared! Esther, his mother, however, who died 9th January 1864 may have seen her son return as she hoped.

John, George's son married Margaret Ellis Scott in 1859 and had two boys of his own by 1862 when he moved from Hexham, first to North Shields, then to Newcastle and back to North Shields again. I wonder if he met his father or if he even wanted to? Mary Ann, and her husband George Pearson, were still living in Hexham and she did meet her father. It must have been strange for her meeting the father she had never known. By 1871 George had certainly returned home to Hexham. In the 1871 Census he is an officer at the workhouse, working as a clerk. He was a widower, so if he did marry in Australia, his wife was no longer living. By the 1881 Census he was an unemployed clerk aged 69 years, living with his widowed daughter, Mary Ann and his granddaughter, Mary Jane Wilson (John's daughter) at Hallgate, Hexham. George died in 1882. The grave has a headstone which tells us he was buried together with his mother and mother-in-law. I wonder. Did he rest in peace? The final word comes from the *Hexham Courant* on 11th November 1882. "Death. At Hallgate, 10 inst. aged 70, George Wilson, late of the Bush Inn. GREATLY RESPECTED!"

Thanks to Mary Mercy in London, Lillyan MacDonald in New South Wales, George Bell of our Society, Newcastle Library and Northumberland Record Office for their assistance.

Editor's Note: Mrs. Furness' address is 8 Shadfen Park Road, Marden Farm, North Shields NE30 3JD.

THE BURRADON MINING DISASTER (1860)

by A.G. Fryer

Burradon and Camperdown, having no space which strictly divides them together, in the 19th century, formed a typical North Tyneside colliery community. They are about six and a half miles north-north-east of Newcastle upon Tyne. In 1861 the combined population was 616 persons.

On Friday 2nd March 1860, at about 2.30 p.m., there was an explosion in Burradon Colliery which was to claim 76 lives. Although there had been previous mining disasters greater than, or equal to this one, the recent coming of the railways had made mass circulation newspapers, and therefore up-to-date news, freely available; Burradon was famous in every house in Great Britain, and attracted attention like no other mining disaster before.

The colliery had recently been purchased by Joshua Bower esq., of Leeds. Previously, it had been owned by Messrs. Carr and Co., who also owned the nearby Seghill colliery. The two collieries had been joined by an interconnecting door, but on the sale of Burradon colliery, the door was blocked off. This was thought by many, and the miners commented on it at the inquest, to have weakened the air circulation in the workings, and therefore was a contributing factor to the explosion.

As was the usual practice, the Overman, Mr. Kirkley and the Under-viewer, William Johnson, descended the pit to check the workings before the day-shift started at 8.30 a.m. They found everything to be in order. About 100 men and boys headed down the pit for the day-shift - only 30 would come out alive. Matthew Cleghorn and Thomas Thompson had just been transferred from Hartley colliery; it was their first shift; both men lost their lives.

The first explosion happened about 2.30 p.m. near the eastern extremity of the workings where men called Maddox and Williams were working. Thirty or 40 other men were also working in this district. The explosion does not seem to have made a large noise, but it would appear that it was very destructive. Two boys, George and Robert Allan ran off on hearing this explosion and hid in a cabin. They were met by the Back-overman, Thomas Alderson, who tried to persuade them to go back, saying that everything would be alright now. They had better sense and refused. The Allan brothers ran off, along with 30 or so men and boys, who had been alarmed at the explosion.

By this time a second explosion occurred. The first explosion had disrupted coal and released further gases, which ignited. Men who had been hewing in the south-workings made their way to the top of the rolleyway incline, but were met by this second explosion.

Kirkley, the Overman, had made his way from the offices to the pit workings, after the Onsetter called for him to say all was not well. He was met en route by several of the survivors, whom he tried to persuade to turn back towards the workings, including William Urwin, 14, holding him forcibly by the collar. Alderson had by this time suffocated on the afterdamp. Kirkley made it as far as the incline, where he realised the grim fate of his fellow workers. He met with the second explosion, and had to be carried out almost insensible from the effects of afterdamp.

Robert Jefferson and Thomas Fryer, having been at home, had on hearing the first explosion, rushed to the pit-head and descended the workings, with the intention of trying to rescue lost sons. Both men were killed by the afterdamp. Along with Thomas Alderson (Overman), who descended the pit on hearing the first explosion and lost his life in the second, these were the only men to be killed in the disaster not working in the mine at that time.

The rescue operation began. There was no shortage of volunteers; viewers from all the neighbouring collieries rushed to the scene, as well as miners, deputies, and the Government Inspector of Mines, Matthias Dunn. The proceedings also attracted a large crowd. A reporter for the *North and South Shields Gazette* put the figure at some 25,000 people. The reporter was very critical of the crowd, who had treated the whole thing as a public spectacle, some even taking picnics; their behaviour was not very becoming for such a sombre event. Copious amounts of water were flushed down the pit to stifle the effects of afterdamp, and to improve ventilation. By noon on Saturday, 25 men had been found at the top of the incline. Seventeen of these men had been found in a capsized tub, lying on top of each other. These men had been in the south-workings and on hearing the first explosion tried to run out. They all died by suffocating on afterdamp.

The families of the trapped miners were now beginning to realise they would never see their husbands, fathers and sons again. Nearly every house in Burradon/Camperdown was mourning some loss. Richard Fynes, a former miner, Colliery Manager and later an author on mining, was an eye-witness to the scene; he described it as being very melancholy; crying could be heard coming out of almost every house in Burradon and Camperdown, which was very distressing to the observer. The Maddox family was practically wiped out - five dying in the pit.

John Fryer, the Viewer of Seghill Colliery, opened the door between Burradon and Seghill workings to aid in the recovery of bodies. By Sunday morning 50 had been recovered, most dying from the effects of afterdamp, but parts of a body were found with a candle beside them, on the incline, and it was concluded, at the time, that this is where the second explosion had occurred, 20 minutes after the first; the scattered parts of Benjamin Nicholson were picked up on a shovel. On Monday the source of the first explosion was found, the bodies being so badly burnt as to be almost unrecognisable. Fifty-six bodies had been recovered by Monday night.

The colliery carpenters shop was temporarily used to keep the corpses. On Monday, the first of the funerals began, bodies being buried at Seghill, Earsdon, Cramlington and Longbenton churchyards. Some were taken in hearses, but most by horse and cart. Four more bodies were recovered on Tuesday and four more on Wednesday.

The accumulation of gases had been removed so far by Wednesday that it was considered safe to light the furnace at the foot of the upcast, which attracts the return current of air. Fresh air once again penetrated into the workings. A shift was sent down at 8.00 p.m. that evening to commence their routine work, even though there were bodies still to recover and repair work to be done in some parts of the workings.

On Saturday 3rd March, a Coroner, Stephen Reed esq., and jury was appointed, and an inquest was immediately opened in the colliery offices. The purpose of the first meeting was to make out a warrant for internment of the bodies. The inquest was adjourned until Monday 5th March, where evidence would be submitted.

On the Monday after the explosion, Thomas Messer of Blyth, a workman at Burradon, went to Newcastle and met Mr. H.L. Pattinson of Felling Chemical Works, with an aim of securing legal representation for the workers, therefore trying to gain some compensation for the "bread-winners". Mr. Sergeant Ballantyne, of London, and Mr. B. Blackwell, Barrister-at-Law of Newcastle, were engaged. Meanwhile the colliery owner, Joshua Bower, had Mr. Phillipson to represent him and Matthias Dunn, the Government Inspector of Mines, was instructed by the Home Office to get a Lawyer; he employed Mr. Lockey Harle of Newcastle.

The inquest on Monday saw Overmen William Kirkley and Walter Nicholson on the stand. Both described the events on the day of the explosion, and how they checked the workings and found the "air good and free". They both were of the opinion that the explosion had happened at Maddox and Williams boards in the far-east workings of the pit. William Urwin, 14, was called next. He had been working with Benjamin Nicholson and on hearing the first explosion ran off, to be greeted, and held by the collar, by William Kirkley. On hearing the second explosion he managed to slip away from Kirkley and escape to the bank.

The inquest was adjourned until Friday 9th March, and the location was moved to the Primitive Methodist Chapel and School Rooms in Camperdown. Charles Carr, the Viewer of the colliery since July 1849, was the only witness this day. He spent five hours being cross-examined and was said to be a very uneasy witness, unlike Kirkley who quickly became a master at it. Carr told the jury that he had last inspected the pit on February 21st, although only the north-workings. The part of the workings where the explosion took place had last been inspected some ten days before this. He had found the air current to be strong and good, but did not take a barometer with him to check air pressure. His Under-viewer however, was down the pit regularly and reported a good current of air. Burradon Colliery was considered gas-free enough to use candles instead of the safer, but dimmer, Geordie or Davy lamp. Walter Nicholson, under oath, had already told the Coroner that three weeks previous to the explosion three men had complained about gases in the pit and had refused to go down. Two of the men went back to work after masters reassured them the conditions had been improved, but a third, Dryden, was dismissed by the Under-viewer. When Charles Carr was asked at the inquest if any of the men had previously complained, he replied "none".

The inquest carried on until Wednesday 18th April 1860. A great number of miners, persons involved in the rescue efforts and experts were called to give evidence. Much discussion was given to technical details, such as the volume of air in the pit, but there was much disagreement, and little real proof, as to the cause of the accident. Theories put forward were: a fall in the north-return released firedamp at the eastern extremity where Maddox had been working; a door - trapper boy Thirlwell's - was left open, diverting the current of air from the workings; or there was a "blower", although Burradon was not known for having these. A verdict - the usual one - of accidental death was recorded. The jury made this statement - "... Also there has been part neglect or oversight of some of the officials connected with the colliery; also of the workmen not complaining to the proper party of the state of the ventilation". The jury also complained that the Government Inspectorate for Mines was inadequate and more should be done. The Coroner did not think this a fitting remark and asked that it be scratched from the record.

James Mather, a miner, probably summed it up best when he was asked at the inquest to give his opinion of the cause of the explosion, he said "too much gas and too little air".

The *North and South Shields Gazette* was very critical of the outcome of the inquest. They criticised the Coroner for wanting to get the trial finished within a couple of days, without considering every angle; they criticised the barristers for their conduct during such a serious and sombre trial, and they criticised the verdict of the jury for not laying the blame in the right direction, and so not having the distressed receive any compensation.

J.B. Langley was the editor of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*. He had a long association with some of the miners of Burradon. George Maddox, William Urwin senior and Alderson, amongst others, had been described as intelligent and were influential figures in establishing a Miners' Provident Institute, a Miners' Union and the Methodist movement within the area. All these men were killed in the explosion. Langley had for a long time given his newspapers' support to their cause, knew them personally and paid a fine tribute to them in the *Chronicle*.

In his editorial on Saturday 3rd March 1860, Langley subtly attacked the colliery owner, Joshua Bower. Behind the diplomatic wording were some very scathing comments. He said that he knew nothing of Mr. Bower and had no personal disrespect of him; but he did know he was a rich man and £400 (the amount Bower contributed to the relief

fund) was a small sum to pay towards the relief of suffering for the miners' families. He also mentioned that if he had listened to the miners' request for a Miners' Provident Association, his conscience may have been a little clearer.

The miners had approached the colliery management of Seghill and Burradon a year earlier with the idea for a provident association, whereby the miners would contribute a percentage of their wages towards an accident relief fund, if the colliery owner's would also contribute. The colliery management declined this sensible request. The colliery management, it would seem, did not have too much of a conscience. After all their efforts to help the trapped miners, the eloquent words at the inquest and the criticism of themselves in certain newspapers, Langley received this letter while the inquest was still taking place; it speaks for itself:

Newcastle Daily Chronicle - Tuesday 19th April 1860

THE BURRADON SUFFERERS

To the editor of the Newcastle Daily Chronicle - We have received the following letter, which we print just as it came into our hands:-

Dear Frend,

I beg to inform you that the poor weddows at Borraddon has nor receved thare weeks monny they have to wate a nother week they never got no notice but when thay went to the office there wase no monny so thay have to live on one weeks monny a fortnight and some of them are very bad of but the forst week that we receved the forst monney the priest at Benton church came the same day and gave us 6s. a pece and so they never gave us nothing for a week and four days, ples publish it in the papers and let the publick know for thay all think that thay ar well of and a nother thing if every one had a few pounds it wold help to put them in some way of doing but the way thay ar going on with us we have no chance, exques my bad spelling so no more from your freend.

Borraddon Colliery April 16th.

I hop you will be a freand to us and the lord will be a one to you.

Langley had followed the proceedings of the inquest carefully, and he too, was appalled at the verdict of the jury. He organised a public meeting on the Town Moor, Newcastle for June 23rd 1860, and stated that the Coroner and lawyers at the inquest had been unfair, and that the coal owners should be held responsible for the men's deaths.

Langley was also a leading figure in establishing a relief fund for the families left destitute by the explosion. A meeting was held in the Guildhall, Newcastle, with the Mayor as Chairman, to form a relief fund committee. The newspapers carried lists of all the largest donors, and there were many; Mr. Bower, the owner, as mentioned previously, donating the largest sum of £400 and paying all the funeral expenses. On 30th September 1884, the *Shields Daily News* carried an article that the relief fund was almost exhausted and a concert was held in the Colliery rooms to raise money on behalf of the seven remaining widows. The Manager of the colliery chaired the event and locals gave recitations and songs, while Edward Urwin played the piano.

VICTIMS OF THE MINING DISASTER

Thomas Maddox, 20; George Maddox, 46; John Maddox, 31; James Maddox, 17; John Maddox, 15; Samuel Carr, 15; Edward Dryden, 30; John Carr, 40; Thomas Lawson, 22; William Wilkie, 49; Thomas Wilkie, 14; James Brown, 38; Thomas Wilkinson, 29; Thomas Thompson, 25, first day; William Turner, 32; William Urwin, 45; Thomas Beadlen, 20; John Beadlen, 11; Thomas Dawson, 21; Robert Soulsby, 45; William Donnelly, 30; David Addy, 55; David Addy, 22; John Addy, 24; Robert Leitham, 37, first day; John McWilliams, 30; John Fittes, 21; Robert Kyle, 24; James Amor, 22, first day; Ralph Herron, 23; John Pease, 39; John Pease, 10; John Thrift, 20; George Thrift, 15; Alfred Allen, 30; John Carr, 21; George Fisher, 29; Martin Sankey, 25; Daniel Duffy, 12; James Wood, 24; Matthew Mordue, 20; William Nichol, 26; David Phillips, 28; Thomas Phillips, 23; Matthew Hepplewhite, 20; James Nichol, 18; Andrew Messer, 20; Matthew Cleghorn, 33, first day; Moses Thompson, 18; James Brown, 38, first day; Jacob Weatherley, 10; Thomas Grey, 15; William Cook, 11; Thomas Golightly, 17; Ritson Golightly, 15; Joseph Musgrave, 17; John Marshall, 20; Thomas Marshall, 15; William Alderson, 39; Benjamin Nicholson, 43; John Dewry, 31; Henry Johnson, 17; Isaac Johnson, 16; John Hetherington, 15; Thomas Fryer, 57; Robert Jefferson, 59; John Jervis, 22; John Fryer, 22; George Shotton, 25; John Gallon, 18; William Doxford, 16; George Schimpf, 26; Edward Thompson, 14; George Whips, 23; Francis Smith; James Yought, 30.

Editor's Note: Mr. Fryer's address is 142 Moor View, Camperdown, Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 0XR. Another member, Mr. R. Maddox, has sent a photocopy of a small book published in 1860 entitled "A Poem on the Burradon Pit Explosion", by George Cooke (described as the author of a poem on the "Page Bank Calamity"). The poem, in 73 verses, mentions all the dead and gives some of the background. It is now in the N.D.F.H.S. Library, and can be borrowed from Mrs. Tait, the Librarian.

NORTHUMBERLAND COAL OWNERS MUTUAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

A valuable information source

The minute books of the Northumberland Coal Owners Mutual Protection Association contain details of claims for compensation following fatal and non-fatal accidents in the Northumberland collieries which had indemnity agreements with the Association and cover the period 1st October 1898 to 19th December 1947. There are entries for each case stating whether the accident was fatal or non-fatal, at which colliery the accident occurred, the name of the individual killed or injured, how the accident happened, details of the person's occupation, earnings and length of employment, details of his or her family and details of any compensation given. The example shown illustrates the wealth of information which may be found.

	AGE	OCCUPATION	AVERAGE EARNINGS DURING LAST 12 WEEKS	REMARKS
Deceased	21	Labouring	£1 19s. 9d.	
Father	62	Labourer		Separated from wife. Living at Newburn.
Mother	50		£1 4s. 0d.	
Brother	22	Labourer		Married. Living at Newburn with father.
Sister	17			
Sister	15			
Sister	13			
Sister	10			
Sister	8			
Uncle	-			Pays 26s. per week for lodgings, and additional payments in respect of children of whom he is father.
Deceased has been employed since September, 1918, and had earned on an average £1 19s. 9d. per week.				
Three years' earnings on average, £310 1s. 0d.				

The N.C.O.M.P.A. minute books are held at the Morpeth Records Centre, but there are restrictions on access to more recent records. The staff at Northumberland Record Office are compiling a name index in all cases.

The example shown, which unusually shows a female worker, is from N.C.O.M.P.A. Volume 3, page 420. The Association decided to resist this particular claim.

Thanks to Christine Jones of Northumberland Record Office for her assistance.

The family consisted of the above

PARTICULARS

No. 1015 Seaton Delaval. Jane Aspin, 21, labouring in plantation at Morpeth. Killed on October 29th, 1918. Deceased was riding in a tub which was being pulled by a pony, and at the time of the accident was shouting, singing, and rattling her clogs on the tub bottom. The pony was startled and galloped, with the result that the tub overturned.

HOW BOB DENNISON EARNED FIFTY QUID

From a local newspaper report:-

Died at Sunderland on 24th March 1840 in Chapel Street, aged 68, suddenly, Mr. Robert Dennison, running fitter. The deceased, about 45 years ago, was mate of a vessel belonging to the port of Newcastle when on her voyage to London she was taken off Cromer by a French privateer. Five Frenchmen were put on board the English vessel along with Dennison and a boy who were put into the cabin.

After being a day and night at sea and steering towards the French coast, Dennison ordered the boy to cry out "Murder", when two of the Frenchmen immediately made their way into the cabin whilst Dennison hastened up the main hatchway and instantly killed the man at the helm with a marline spike which he had previously provided. He placed himself at the companion-door awaiting the return of the men who on their approach shared the same fate from his daring hand. After throwing their bodies overboard, our hero proceeded to the forecabin and the other secured two Frenchmen, who were asleep below, by fastening the hatchway. Having now full charge of the vessel, he steered towards Harwich, where he left his two prisoners in charge, got the vessel manned and brought her safe back to Newcastle. For this almost unparalleled act of British heroism, we understand he received £50 from the Government besides several sums from various insurance societies. After leaving the sea, he was employed by Mr. Featherstonehaugh of Sunderland as a keelman in which capacity he proved himself a faithful servant. He was also employed by the Commissioners of the River Wear. Dennison was a native of Sunderland.

MINING RECORDS AND FAMILY HISTORY

by Tom Manners

In the North East we are fortunate in having extensive records of the mining industry held principally in the Northumberland and Durham County Record Offices. These archives are very varied and defy simple description or classification. They range from private letters to colliery accounts and include maps and plans of collieries, plans of machinery, personal notebooks of famous 18th and 19th Century viewers and reports and surveys of all kinds. They have been made use of extensively by students of mining history and books on that subject are numerous.

Family Historians can also find much to interest them in the mining archives. Searches are made easier by name and place indexes held at the Records Offices, but old documents will need to be searched through because not all names mentioned in documents are indexed. They are far too numerous.

I was able to find records of exploratory boring for coal made by one of my ancestors in 1830 and to read his actual report on his findings. These are indeed voices from the past, which can make family history research very rewarding.

Information about all types of mining personnel are to be found. As an example which might interest some of our readers there is an alphabetical list of the whole of the colliery pay bill for Bedlington A Pit in Northumberland for the fortnight ended 8th August 1846. Every bit of coal was measured and the men were paid piece rates. Hewers worked in pairs, each man with his "marrow" or partner. The wage shown was thus for two men and must be halved for one man. Others worked individually.

Although the men's ages and addresses are not given, most of these names can be found in the 1851 Census for Bedlington, as the men in those days all lived within walking distance of the pit. Putters were usually men between 17 and 21 years and Hewers could be any age above that. The very low paid jobs were done by younger boys. If one has found a relative described as a miner in the Census, the payroll of the local pit may tell you what job exactly your relative did, how much coal he shifted in a fortnight and what he was paid for it. As can be seen from the repeated surnames there were often several members of one family in the same pit. Earlier in the century, before the Census started, these payrolls and lists held by viewers may be the only record of our ancestors' occupations.

BEDLINGTON A PIT PAYROLL FOR 12 DAYS ENDED 8TH AUGUST 1846

ADAMS, Thomas, Hewer, £6-8-0; AUSTIN, Henry, Leading small coal, £1-12-0; BARKER, Peter, Hewer, £6-10-9; BIRTLEY, Benjamin, Hewer, £6-7-7; BIRTLEY, Thomas, Putter, £2-4-6; CARR, Robert, Hewer, £5-19-3; CHARLTON, Robert, Leading small coal, 16s.-0; CHARLTON, Robert, Putter, £1-13-3; CHARLTON, William, Putter, £2-8-0; COLPITTS, Thomas, Hewer, £6-13-5; DAVISON, George, Hewer, £4-19-5; DAVISON, George, Putter, £2-1-3; DAVISON, Robert, Putter, £2-4-5; DAVISON, Thomas, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; DICKINSON, Thomas, Hewer, £5-16-0; DIXON, Benjamin, Leading Wood, 18s.-0; DIXON, Charles, Hewer, £5-16-8; DIXON, George, Hewer, £4-4-7; DIXON, John, Putter, £2-1-7; DIXON, Joseph, Keeping Switch Doors, 12s.-0; DIXON, William, Putter, £1-8-11; DODDS, Hugh, Hewer, 6s.-8; DODDS, James, Hewer, £5-6-0; DOUGLASS, James, Keeping Rolley Way, £1-12-0; ELLIOT, Thomas, Hewer, £7-1-6; ELTRINGHAM, Richard, Leading Wood, 18s.-0; ELTRINGHAM, Thomas, Putter, £1-16-8; EMBLETON, Benjamin, Hewer, £2-18-9; EMBLETON, William, Leading Water, 18s.-0; FAIR, Matthew, Deputy, £1-18-0; FENWICK, Charles, Hewer, 9s.-9; FENWICK, Charles, Putter, 15s.-5; FORSTER, Robert, Brakeman, £2-0-0; GIBSON, Robert, Hewer, £4-12-7; GIBSON, Thomas, Fireman, £1-12-0; GIBSON, Thomas, Hewer, £3-10-10; GLEDSON, George, Keeping Switch Doors, 12s.-0; GLEN, Robert, Leading small coal, £1-6-8; GLEN, Robert, Putter, 6s.-0; GLEN, Thomas, Hewer, £1-6-0; GRAHAM, John, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; GRAHAM, Peter, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; GRAHAM, William, Putter, £2-2-6; GRAY, James, Hewer, £6-4-5; GRAY, John, Leading small coal, £1-12-0; GRAY, Ralph, Hewer, £6-7-6; GRAY, Ralph, Putter, 8s.-0; GRAY, William, Leading small coal, £1-12-0; GRAY, William, Putter, 10s.-6; GREENE, John, Keeping Barroway Doors, 7s.-6; GREENE, John, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; GREENE, Lewis, Hewer, £6-2-2; GREENE, Lewis, Putter, £2-10-0; GREIVES, William, Hewer, £2-19-0; HOOPER, Robert, Hewer, £5-8-10; HOY, John, Keeping Rolley Way, £1-4-0; HYMERS, John, Hewer, £4-10-5; JACKSON, Robert, Hewer, £5-6-0; JACQUES, George, Putter, 8s.-0; JACQUES, Roger, Hewer, £3-5-5; JACQUES, William, Hewer, £4-6-10; LATTY, James, Hewer, £5-5-2; LAVERICK, John, Keeping Barroway Doors, 7s.-6; LEATHARD, Joe, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; LEDGER, Jo, Bankman, £2-12-5; LEE, George, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; LEE, Peter, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; LEE, Robert, Hewer, £3-1-0; LEIGHTLY, Henry, Putter, £2-0-11; LEIGHTLY, Robert, Hewer, £5-5-2; MASON, James, Keeping Flatts, 12s.-0; MASON, Thomas, Onsetting, 18s.-0; MITCHELL, Benjamin, Keeping Barroway Doors, 7s.-6; MITCHEY, Robert, Onsetting, £3-7-3; MOODY, Robert, Putter, 12s.-7; MORRIS, Alexandria, Hewer, £6-16-5; MORRIS, James, Hewer, £6-12-0; MORRIS, James, Putter, £2-2-9; MORRIS, John, Keeping Rolley Way, £1-16-0; MORRIS, Joshua, Putter, £2-10-0; MORRIS, William, Hewer, £5-14-7; MORRIS, William, Leading small coal, 16s.-0; MORRIS, William, Overman, £3-0-0; MORRIS, David, Hewer, £7-7-3; NEWTON, Walter, Hewer, £5-3-5; ORD, Edward, Putter, £2-2-10; ORD, John, Hewer, £5-5-0; ORD, John, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; PACKER, William, Hewer, £4-11-9; PARKER, John, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; PEARSON, Isaac, Keeping Flatts, 12s.-0; QUARRY, James, Leading Water, £1-12-0; RAMSAY, Thomas, Leading small coal, 12s.-0; REED, John, Hewer, £5-3-0; REED, John, Keeping Barroway Doors, 7s.-6; REED, Thomas, Putter, £1-17-5; RICHARDSON, Daniel, Hewer, £3-14-9; RICHARDSON, David, Hewer, £6-18-0; RICHARDSON, Edward, Putter, 3s.-3; RICHARDSON, George, Hewer, £6-7-8; ROBSON, Robert, Hewer, £2-7-0; ROGERS, George, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; SAMPLE, Arthur, Hewer, £5-3-6; SAMPLE, Henry, Leading Wood, 18s.-0; SAMPLE, Joe, Onsetting, 18s.-0; SEWELL, John, Deputy, £1-18-0; SHIELDS, Mark, Hewer, £4-14-11; SHIELDS, Valen, Keeping Flatts, 12s.-0; SHORT, Thomas, Hewer, £6-16-0; SIMM, John, Hewer, £5-6-5; SIMM, John, Leading small coal, £1-12-0; SIMM, John, Putter, 3s.-6; SIMM, Robert, Keeping Flatts, 12s.-0; SIMM, Thomas, Hewer, £5-19-0; STEEL, Joseph, Hewer, £2-11-0; STEEL, Robert, Hewer, £4-18-0; TELFORD, Gilbert, Putter, £2-7-0; TELFORD, William, Rolley Driving, 14s.-0; TEMPLE, James, Hewer, £6-1-2; TEMPLE, John, Putter, £1-1-6; TERNENT, Matthew, Bankman, £2-12-5; WATSON, George, Hewer, £6-17-2; WATSON, Ralph, Hewer, £7-2-2; WHITE, George, Hewer, £4-18-10; WHITE, John, Deputy, £1-18-0; WHITE, Thomas, Hewer, £6-11-4; YOUNG, George, Hewer, £5-14-9; YOUNG, Thomas, Hewer, £6-11-7.

The payroll is reproduced by permission of the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers and the Northumberland County Records Office where the document is held.

COLLIERY PERSONNEL RECORDS IN DURHAM COUNTY RECORD OFFICE

Listed below are those records held by Durham County Record Office which contain names and, in some cases, other information, of miners and other colliery workers. Only 19th century (and earlier) records are shown below, but there is a complete list at the Record Office, and this extract from that list is published by permission of the Durham County Archivist. The list is arranged alphabetically by colliery, with the records which do not relate to individual collieries at the end of the sequence. The first column contains the colliery name, with the pit, if different, in brackets; the second column contains the name of the colliery company which originated the records; the fourth column shows the Durham Record Office reference number for the records. It must be emphasised that this list is only a brief guide to the records, and more details are available in the catalogues to the relevant collections of documents. It must be stressed, too, that the information may be limited to a small number of names.

It will be noted that some *Northumberland* collieries appear on the list.

<i>Colliery</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Catalogue Numbers</i>
Addison	Stella	1851-1886	NCB 1/SC/109-148, 248-249, 255
Andrew's House		1777	NCB 1/X/1
Beamish		1864, 1871	D/X 672/1-2
Black Boy		1827-1833	NCB 1/TH/13
Black Prince		1889	D/X 498/189,190
Boum Moor		1801	D/X 26/4
Brancepeth		1896*	D/X 446/10
Burnopfield		c.1890-1965	NCB 3/3-4, 7-8
Burradon		1860*	NCB 1/SC/621, 1/RS/284-285
Byermoor		1897-1967	NCB 3/12/1-2
Catherine	Stella	1876	NCB 1/SC/250
Chopwell		1896-1966	NCB 3/20, 23-52
Clara	Stella	1896	NCB 1/SC/251
Cockfield Fell		1827-1833	NCB 1/TH/13
Comb Hill	Stella	1840-1844	NCB 1/SC/149-152
Coxlodge		1863*	NCB 1/RS/464
Crawcrook	Stella	1896	NCB 1/SC/251
Crookgate		1872-1906	D/MRP 115/2
Dawdon	Londonderry	n.d.*	D/X 1051/29
East Hetton		1897*	D/MRP 50/1
Elmore		1829	D/X 36/2
Elmore		1864-1913	D/X 56/1
Emma	Stella	1848-1886	NCB 1/SC/153-213, 252, 255, 584
Eppleton		1864-1913	D/X 56/1
Frankland	Lambton	1865	D/X 248/2
Freehold	Stella	1852-1861	NCB 1/SC/214-221, 253
Gibside	Bowes	1782	D/Su/ES/21/33
Harraton		1817*	NCB 1/RS/464
Hartley		1862*	NCB 1/RS/310-311
Haswell		c. 1840	D/X 830/6
Hetton		1829	D/X 36/2
Hetton		1864-1913	D/X 56/1
Heworth		1874-1917	NCB 1/X/63
Hylton	Wearmouth	1899-1958	NCB 15/366-367
Kimbleworth		1880-1937*	NCB 2/21-22
Lambton	Lambton	1868	D/X 248/9
Lambton (Cocken)	Lambton	1863, 1868	D/X 248/1, 5
Langley Park	Consett Iron	1899-1943, n.d.	NCB 13/22, 24-25
Littletown	Lambton	1866, 1868	D/X 248/3, 6, 8-9
Lumley		1891-1897*	NCB 2/30
Marley Hill	Bowes	1757-1813	D/Su/B1/2/103-115
New Silksworth	Londonderry	1895-1905	NCB 19/2/8/3-19/2/8/8
Newbottle		1868	D/X 26/5
Newbottle		1868	D/X 369/11-14
Newbottle (Houghton)		1868, 1899	D/X 369/2-8
North Banks	Bowes	1724-1813, n.d.	D/Su/B1/2/42-58, 63, 67, 103-115
Old Durham	Londonderry	c.1860	D/Lo/F 477
Old Durham	Londonderry	1870	D/Lo/B 232
Pelton Fell		1866*	NCB 1/RS/464
Pittington	Londonderry	c.1860	D/Lo/F 477
Pontop	Stanhope and Tyne	1818, 1824	D/X 115/2, 6
Pontop	Stanhope and Tyne	c.1832-c.1838	NCB 1/JB/2177
Rainton	Londonderry	c.1860	D/Lo/F 477
Rainton	Londonderry	c.1884	D/Lo/B 263
Rainton (Nicholson)		1879	D/X 999/12
Seaham	Londonderry	1872*	D/EBF 96
Seaham	Londonderry	1873	D/Lo/B 268

Seaham	Londonderry	1878-1925, n.d. *	D/X 1051/8-14, 16, 18, 29
Seaham	Londonderry	1880*	NCB 1/RS/449
Sherburn	Lambton	1868	D/X 248/9
Sherburn House	Lambton	1868	D/X 248/4
Shotton	Horden	1877-1953	NCB 13/92, 93-107
Stargate	Stella	1873-1886	NCB 1/SC/222-246, 254
Stella Grand Lease	Stella	1812-1824	NCB 1/SC/528-530, 533
Towneley Main	Stella	1806	NCB 1/SC/247
Tudhoe		1882*	NCB 1/RS/458
Usworth	Washington	1898-1944	NCB 1/X/129
Usworth	Washington	1899-1914*	D/DMA 322/33-36
Walker		1862*	NCB 1/RS/464
Wallsend (G)		1835*	NCB 1/JB/2347
Wardley	Washington	1898-1944	NCB 1/X/129
Washington	Washington	1898-1944	NCB 1/X/129
Washington Glebe	Washington	1898-1944	NCB 1/X/129
West Stanley		1882*	NCB 1/RS/458
West Towneley	Stella	1842-1844	NCB 1/SC/260
Wheatley Hill	Weardale Iron	c. 1890-c. 1940	D/X 833/1
Whitefield (B)	Stella	1806	NCB 1/SC/247
Whitfield	Stella	1812-1824	NCB 1/SC/528-530, 533
Whittonstall		1896-1966	NCB 3/20, 23-52
Not specified	Harton	1887-1954	NCB 1/X/12
Not specified	Lambton	1868	D/X 248/7
Not specified	Londonderry	1871-1873	D/Lo/B 448
Not specified	Stella	1811-1855	NCB 1/SC/284-303, 564
Not specified	Stella	1851-1861*	NCB 1/SC/628
Not specified	Stella	1851-1883	NCB 1/SC/261-269, 304-316, 348, 586, 1009
Not specified	Stella	1863	NCB 1/RS/20
Not specified	Stella	n.d.	NCB 1/SC/562, 583
Not specified	Stella	n.d.	NCB 1/SC/574-578

* records relate to an accident

EXTRAORDINARY BIRTHS

Miss M. Robson, Flat 2, Regent Court, 17 Lawn Avenue, Doncaster DN1 2JE, sends an item from the *Sunderland Daily Echo* of 6th October 1883:-

On the first of April 1835 the wife of Mr. George Ormston, grocer, High Street in this town gave birth to a daughter. Exactly two years after, on the first April 1837, she produced another daughter and two years afterwards viz on the first April 1839 she again presented her husband with a girl. The thing had now become so regular that on this occasion Mr. Ormston informed some friends, who had met to drink the good lady's health, that if they would call on him that day two years they should have a similar pleasure. This promise came to the lady's ears, and in order that her lord and master should not look like "an April fool" she obligingly gave birth to another daughter on Thursday the first of April 1841.

Editor's Note: Miss Robson seeks the marriage of this George Ormston to a Mary Moore, pre-1822. Can anyone help her to locate this wedding of her great great grandparents?

POLICE RECORDS

In the last *Journal*, an article entitled "Constabulary Matters", by T.A. Sergeant was published. It described Durham County police records. Mr. D. Cromarty has drawn attention to a most useful list of the members of the County Constabulary 1852-1889 which gives many details about each Officer, including date of entry, age or date of birth, height, previous occupation etc. Our apologies for failing to mention this in the article.

A similar article on Newcastle and Northumberland police records was promised, but publication of this has had to be postponed.

JAMES H. WILSON -POET

Dr. John Stokes, (Department of English, Warwick University, Coventry CV4 7AL) seeks information about a Newcastle poet, James H. Wilson, who published at least two books, *Zalmoxis* in 1892 and *Iscariot's Bitter Love* in 1912. In 1895, he tried to mount a protest about the Oscar Wilde affair, which he felt to be a terrible injustice. There is a correspondence in American Libraries about this. Wilson and his family lived in St. Ann's Street, Newcastle and had a business, possibly matters connected with the fur trade. When in London, Wilson used to stay at the Friend's Institute and there are Quaker membership lists at Tyne and Wear Archives in which his name appears. The family business continued until at least the 1950's. Does anyone know more? Contact Dr. Stokes direct if you do.

WHAT DID YOUR MINING ANCESTOR READ?

Here and there, among the "Yearly Reports of the Commissioners appointed under 5 and 6 Vict. c. 99 to enquire into the operation of that Act and into the state of the population in the Mining districts", in the 1840's, we can find quite detailed comments on the literacy of the miners and what they read.

Charles Carr, one of the owners of Seghill colliery wrote "There is a library of 600 or 700 volumes in the village . . . established in 1837. It has, however, no subscribers, and is entirely neglected. The strike knocked it all up. The use of the library fell off at least 12 months before the strike (1844), when the men's minds got filled with what they were told by their leaders. They then read nothing but the *Miners' Journal* and the *Miners' Advocate*, and the Chartist papers, such as the *Northern Star*. The library remains still, but is little used now".

By contrast, Rev. Barrett of Pelton Parsonage in County Durham spoke of the class of books the miners "will avail themselves of when a sound and healthy literature is placed in their way". He wrote about Urpeth Colliery Library, where 113 people were offered "the advantages of the library. Fifty-four were hewers, few of whom can read, ten putters, most of whom can read, six deputies, two rollyway-men, two furnace-men, nine shift and waste-men, all of whom can read, 30 bank-men, most of whom can read. It would be a fair calculation that of these 113, at least 60 can read".

The promoter of the Urpeth Book Society had formed a small library, "comprising many of the standard works of our language, in the various departments of literature . . . useful and agreeable, works of science, suitable to the mechanic and artizan, with a large proportion of history, biography and travels; poetry and the drama have not been excluded . . .". All employed at the Colliery could join, contributing one penny per fortnight, in return for which they were entitled to borrow one volume per fortnight. The table below shows the books borrowed over the period June 1846 to April 5th 1847.

Class of Books.	No. of Vols.	No. of Vols. read.	No. of Times read.	Average of Times read.	Title of Books most frequently read.	No. of Times.
Religious	18	18	104	5½	{ Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul	13
					{ Abbot's Young Christian	12
History and Biography	59	56	232	4½	{ Susan Carter: a Colliery Tale	16
					{ Life of Sir Isaac Newton	13
Voyages and Travels	9	9	46	5½	{ Backwoods of Canada	11
					{ Voyages of Columbus	7
Science and Natural Philosophy	32	26	68	2½	{ Mechanics' Magazine	6
					{ Results of Machinery	5
Poetry	10	10	49	4½	{ Burns	14
					{ Milton	8
					{ Shakespeare	5
					{ Scott	5
Entertaining and Miscellaneous	56½	46	265	5½ nearly.	{ Chambers's Miscellany	16
					{ Chambers's Information for the People	15
	184	165	764	46.3		

"OF", "IN" AND "AT" - THE SCOTTISH SITUATION

You might be puzzled sometimes, in seeking out your ancestors in Scottish parish registers, by the significance of the tiny words "of", "in" and "at" after a surname and before a place name.

"In the very baldest terms, 'of' as in Scott of Stonedge indicates a landed proprietor, 'in' as in Dods in Habrule indicates a tenant with or without a lease, and 'at' indicates a landless person." (Source - article by John Shaw in *Genealogists Magazine* 1988, page 360.)

Has any member come across cases which cast doubt on this statement?

MINING ARTICLES IN PREVIOUS JOURNALS

This is a list of the articles on coal mining topics which have appeared in earlier issues of the Journal. It does not include references to miners in the "Members Interests" columns or to any mining areas in the "Know Your Parish" series.

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Vol. 6, No. 2, January 1981</i> | Felling Colliery Mining Disaster. Brief outline of 1812 disaster, and list of the dead. |
| <i>Vol. 7, No. 3, May 1982</i> | A Colliery Pay Roll 1802. Howgill Colliery. |
| <i>Vol. 7, No. 4, September 1982</i> | The Hartley Families: Detailed story of 1862 disaster, of the victims and of their known families and next of kin, partly based on New Hartley colliery accident Relief Fund papers - a most useful list of 204 men and their families. |
| <i>Vol. 9, No. 1, Spring 1984</i> | Cornish Miners in Durham. 1866 list of Cornwall men who moved to Wingate Grange Colliery. With places of origin. |
| <i>Vol. 9, No. 4, Winter 1984</i> | Peggy Pit Disaster. List of dead at 1885 disaster near Fencehouses. |
| <i>Vol. 10, No. 1, Spring 1985</i> | Emigrant Miners to Virginia. Fourteen miners recruited in 1840 for America and who sent money home (surnames: Jewitt, Peel, Lockey, Delancie, Forster, Henderson, Simpson, Twentyman, Dickinson, Kay, Lewins, Teel, Cowey, Hall). |
| <i>Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer 1985</i> | Disaster at Hebburn Colliery. List of victims of 1852 explosion. |
| <i>Vol. 12, No. 4, Winter 1987</i> | The Miners Strike. List of demands made by strikers in 1831. |
| <i>Vol. 13, No. 3, Autumn 1988</i> | Newcastle Keelmen in 18th century. Details of Scots keelmen 1739. |
| <i>Vol. 14, No. 4, Winter 1989</i> | In Search of the Black Boy. Story of research into South-West Durham Colliery (and see Vol. 18, No. 2 below). |
| <i>Vol. 15, No. 3, Autumn 1990</i> | Durham Pitmen in Ireland. Note re-early 19th century emigrants. |
| <i>Vol. 16, No. 1, Spring 1991</i> | Children in the Coal Mines. Children's Employment Commission 1842. Article and list of large numbers of local miners, including children, who gave evidence about working conditions. |
| <i>Vol. 16, No. 1, Spring 1991</i> | Explosion at Wallsend Colliery. 1838 newspaper article and list of dead. |
| <i>Vol. 17, No. 2, Summer 1992</i> | Crook and Monkwearmouth in 1851. Conditions in two Durham mining communities. |
| <i>Vol. 17, No. 3, Summer 1992</i> | The Last of the Old Miners Representatives. Story of Thomas Wakenshaw. |
| <i>Vol. 18, No. 2, Summer 1993</i> | Black Boy Revisited. Further article on South-West Durham pit (see Vol. 14, No. 4 above). |
| <i>Vol. 18, No. 3, Autumn 1993</i> | A Most Melancholy Accident (The Townley Main Explosion 1826). |
| <i>Vol. 18, No. 4, Winter 1993</i> | A Durham Colliery Village. 1872 newspaper article on Coxhoe. |
| <i>Vol. 18, No. 4, Winter 1993</i> | The Northumbrian Pitman. 1872 newspaper article. |
| <i>Vol. 19, No. 1, Spring 1994</i> | America's First Lady. Hillary Clinton's descent from Durham mining family. |

GREटना GREEN MARRIAGE

At Gretna Green on 31st-ult (December 1848) Mr. W.H.B. McCann
to Ann Wheatley, only daughter of John Garry Esq., of Langton, Durham.

(From *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*, 5 January 1849.)

A LABOUR OF LOVE?

This superb photograph shows part of the ultramodern process by which your Journal starts on its way to you four times a year.

Once upon a time, the children of the then Secretary used to circle purposefully around a dining room table, picking up pages on their exciting journey and earning one penny per copy. The pages were then stapled together by hand (okay, not exactly by hand, but by a hand held stapling machine, if you must be pedantic). They were then stuffed into large brown envelopes, had addresses scrawled on them and stamps affixed and the finished products were then passed into the caring hands of H.M. Postmaster General's staff.

Complaints about the use of non-union labour led to the replacement of the children by a Boy Scout troupe for a while. But, at last your Committee, never slow to exploit modern technology, learned to its surprise that there were actually people, called printers, who earned a crust or two by producing pages of linotype and fastening those pages together by machine. Such things seemed almost unbelievable, and the Scouts had to be restrained from destroying these new fangled machines which were depriving them of a living wage. Then a "mailing house" was discovered in the wilds of County Durham, which put the thing into a plastic envelope, put on a pre-addressed label (yes, we had come that far) and saw it on its way to former penal colonies over the sea, and similar establishments nearer home, like Wallsend and Willington Quay. But, these miracles of modern science brought forth angry words from members, who were receiving the esteemed Journal late or not at all.

So, the Durham branch of N.D.F.H.S. stepped into the breach. And here you see some of them, doing a streamlined version of the old walk around the table. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose, as they say in Ashington. Both sexes labour together, as the Society is very conscious of the laws of sexual equality. Journals are put into envelopes from never ending piles. Until quite recently, the labourers also attached sticky labels saying "If undelivered, return to J. Ashburner . . .", and this gave rise to a new verb "to ashburner", as in the question "Has this lot been ashburnered yet?". However, our worthy Secretary's name had only a brief appearance in the dictionary. Having risen, phoenix like, it vanished almost as quickly when it was learned that you could actually have his name pre-printed on the envelopes. And now we don't even have to stick on funny little bits of paper bearing the Queen's head as "Mailsort" takes care of even that. Such is progress. What would the early pioneers have thought if they could see us today?

Here you see the process at a crucial stage. The two figures in the foreground are discussing prospects for the 2.30 race at Kempton Park. They are called "Committee Men" and hence do not work. Note too the menacing figure to the right of the picture, standing over two cowed workers. He is an Oberguppenfuhrer and his name has had to be withheld for security reasons.

This thought provoking picture is by Ted Shaw. It deserves a world wide audience and is now getting it - although I can't think why.



*Seriously, thanks to Durham Branch for their efforts.
Your work is appreciated.*

Editor's Note: Ted Shaw's address is c/o Bank of Liechtenstein, Panama City and orders for future work should be sent to him there. Cash only, no cheques.

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 in the Spring 1995 Journal, send a paragraph outlining your areas of research, problems etc., to Phil Thirkell at the above address by 31st December. 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 Jenny Ashburner, Membership Secretary at the address shown on the contents page.

Welcome to all our new members.

1790 SHEILA PATERSON, 60a West Hill, London SW18 1RU.

Local interests include: **Nevi(n)son** of Hexham 1820+ and Cumberland pre-1800, particularly looking for the marriage of Henry Nevinson and Margaret **Williamson** c.1800; **Gray**, miners in Northumberland 1840+ and South Shields pre-1840; **Dobbins** of Seaton Delaval c.1850 and Whitehaven Cumberland before then; **Wakenshaw** of Northumberland. Other interests are **Casely** (18th century) and **Little, Robson** and **Potts** of the Hexham area 18th/19th century.

3327 Mrs. V. HESTER, 130 Badshot Park, Badshot Lea, Farnham, Surrey GU9 9NF.

Joseph Wheatley, birth not found, and his sister **Elizabeth**, born 1823, lived in Gateshead. Between 1841 and 1851 they were working on the Ravensworth Castle estate. Does anyone know of estate or family papers which might have information regarding servants?

3426 ELEANOR B. CONARY, P.O. Box 896, Bethel, Maine 04217, U.S.A.

Searching for the parents of **James Martin** who married **Ann Brown** at All Saints, Newcastle in August 1841. James' father's name given as **Robert** and had previously been thought to be the son of **Robert Martin** and **Isabella** of **Ford**. This has now been shown to be incorrect.

3516 Mrs. E.M. READER (nee OLSEN), 95 Gipsy Lane, Wokingham, Berks, RG11 2BW.

Benjamin Olsen, aged 30 years, married **Catherine McKeon** 1878 at St. Bede's R.C. Chapel, South Shields. His father was **Edward Olsen** (deceased). No trace of the births of either have been found and Benjamin was not present on the night of the 1881 Census. I believe that some ancestors may have come from Norway; has anyone got any advice? Also, where is St. Bede's Chapel, and are there any records for it available?

3565 Mrs. JILL HARBERTSON, 182 Powder Mill Lane, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9DT.

Looking for any information on the following: **George** and **Margaret Burn**, married c.1844 Lowick; **George** and **Eleanor Carse**, married 1850 Meldon; **Nicholas** and **Catherine Gibson**, married Belford 1845; **John** and **Eleanor Scott**, married Alnwick 1846; **William Robert** and **Mary Short**, married Belford 1849 and **Ann Riddle**, born Eglington c.1798. Would also like to hear of any **Harbertson** or variant.

3680 Mrs. DOROTHY BLENKINSOP, 1 Hertford Court, 54 Wharmcliffe Road, Highcliffe-on-Sea, Dorset BH23 5DG.

Still searching for the first marriage of **George Blenkinsop**. At his second marriage 1862 at Sunderland parish church he was described as a 48 year old collier, father **John**. He married **Margaret Elliott**, a 40 year old spinster, daughter of **George Elliott**, deceased. They lived in the Houghton-le-Spring area and **George** was dead by the time of the 1891 Census.

3934 MICHAEL STOKER, 39 Woodbourne, Farnham, Surrey GU9 9EE.

Searching for the marriage of **Matthew Stoker** and **Jane Anderson** 1780-1790. Would like to make contact with anyone who has an interest in **Stoker/Stokoe/Stokell** of Durham, especially in the Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring and South Shields areas in the 18th/19th centuries. Other interests are 19th century grocery businesses in Durham towns and villages and Methodism in mining communities.

3964 Mrs. K. STEVENS, 27 Walford Avenue, Worle, Weston-super-Mare, Avon BS22 0YZ.

Interested in learning anything about **Elizabeth Langstaff/Longstaff** who married **Joseph Thwaites** at Marston-on-Dove, Derbyshire in 1849. **Elizabeth** was a minor, her father **John**. She was born 1831, supposedly at Newcastle where her father was keeper of the White Swan Inn. There was an inn of that name in the Cloth Market and a 1881/1882 directory shows a **Mrs. H. Langstaff** as innkeeper. Can anyone help trace **Elizabeth** and her parents **John** and **Elizabeth** nee **Bean**? It is known that there were also two brothers and a sister.

4015 JEAN THORNTON, 90 Fir Avenue, Sherburn Road Estate, Durham DH1 2EU.

Looking for information about **William Langley** of Bath Street, Walker c.1910. His mother **Dorothy** died at Bath Street aged 64 and his father **William** died aged 72 at East Pit, Walker. A son-in-law **Benjamin Richardson** also lived in Walker. **Benjamin** married **Elizabeth Langley**, son **Joseph** born 1905, Walker, The Langleys were living at Hetton-le-Hole on the 1891 Census. **Dorothy Langley**, living in Wallsend, married 1910 aged 24, later moving back to County Durham. Interested in her brothers and sisters.

- 4085 **Mrs. H. MILLER**, 40 Southfields Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 1BU.
Researching Alexander **Scott** of Waterville Terrace, North Shields, shipowner and councillor for Percy Ward, Tynemouth in the 1860's. Also Mrs. **D.A. Stansfield**, Monkseaton and Alex Scott, North Shields in 1920's.
- 4158 **Mrs. AUDREY BATEMAN**, 17 Queensthorpe Close, Bramley, Leeds LS13 4JT.
Researching the **Iveson** family of Heworth Shore. James Iveson married Jane **Redhead** 1833 at St. Paul's, Jarrow. Would welcome any information.
- 4336 **JOHN AYTON**, 37 Oyster Row, Cambridge, Cambs CB5 8LJ.
Seeking any information regarding the following: 1) Joseph and Mary **Ayton** of Holebeck Mill, Wolsingham - their marriage c.1748 and Joseph's birth c.1727. 2) The early life of Cockerel Readshaw, a member of the Baptist Church at Hamsterley. Were his parents Robert **Readshaw** and Jane **Cockerel** who married at Durham Cathedral in 1712? 3) Matthew **Atkinson** and Ann **Postle** of Allenhead who baptised their illegitimate daughter Hannah in 1784 at Allenheads. 4) The family of William **Faill**, born c.1757, married Rothbury 1782. 5) John **Reavley** of South Yardhope near Elsdon whose children were baptised at Harbottle Presbyterian Church in the 1750's. 6) The **Hanson** family of Thornley, Wolsingham and Helmington Row.
- 4341 **B.D. ARMSTRONG**, White Cottage, West Green Common, Hartley Wintney, Hants RG27 8JE.
Researching **Armstrong**, shipwrights of Newcastle: John (c.1799-1859) apprenticed 1812, son of Thomas, mariner of North Shields. Had shipwright sons Thomas (1817), Andrew (1819), John (1825) by Elizabeth, all baptised at All Saints. In 1851 he was living with a wife Ellen. His will names step children named **Harrup** as well as **Armstrongs**. Will also mentions Glenwelt and Crakes Tenements within the manor of Blenkinsop. Son John married Jane **Vipond** of Wetheral.
- 4434 **Mrs. BERYL CHESTERTON**, 10 Emily Place, Cherrybrook, New South Wales 2126, Australia.
Researching the family of Robert **Veitch**, yeoman, born Wark, died c.1827 Chirton, married Elizabeth **Smith** 1795 Lanchester, Durham. Children were: Mary, 1795 Lanchester, Robert living Chirton 1851, married 1) Ann **Bell**. 2) Elizabeth **Dawson**; Elizabeth 1799 Cramlington, married John **Bell**; Hannah 1801 Cramlington; John 1803 Cramlington, married Martha **Ward**, born c.1808 Whitehouse, near Alnwick, daughter of Edward and Ann Ward; Henry 1806 Cramlington, married 1) Mary **Bertram**. 2) Jane **Sharp**; Margaret 1809; Lucy; Thomas Hilton c.1826 Horton, married Isabella, living Tynemouth in 1851. Hohn and Martha Veitch were living in North Shields before emigrating to Australia with their six children in 1852.
- 4489 **JOAN LAYBOURN**, 74 Tyne Gardens, Crookhill, Ryton, Tyne and Wear NE40 3DR.
Looking for descendants of the following: Michael and John **Elliott**, born 1850 and 1852 Burnopfield; Mary and Ann Elliott, born 1859 and 1860 Gateshead; Joseph (1865), George (1868), William (1871) and Jane Ann (1872), all born at Ovingham. The above are all children of Joseph and Ann (nee **Shaw**) Elliott, who married 1849 at St. Mary's, Gateshead.
- 4623 **Mrs. MURIEL EAST**, 49 Welholme Road, Grimsby, South Humberside DN32 0DR.
Seeks information on the following: 1) John **Smurthwaite** of Gibbet Hills (Witton-le-Wear) married Mary **Wright** at Wolsingham 1775. 2) Thomas **Dunlap** (Dunlop) of Shoshton (Bamburgh) married Barbara (of Elford) c.1720. 3) Henry **Hownam** (Hounham/Hunam) married Elinor **Jobson** (Robson?) 1677 Bamburgh. 4) Christopher **Race** married Isabel **Wilson** 1703 at Winston.
- 4691 **Mrs. ANN CHAPMAN**, 2 Wordsworth Avenue, Pilton, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1QQ.
Could anyone help with the history of Rennington, Northumberland, and in particular: 1) Rennington Hill Head, occupied by several generations of the **Dickman** family during the 18th/19th centuries, and 2) Lee Moor, where Ralph **Shanks**, a day labourer, and his family lived from 1804 to 1849.
- 4784 **ROB KERSS**, 7 East Priors Court, Northampton NN3 8LB.
Can anyone help in tracing the families and ancestors of the following: 1) Francis **Calaghan** who was born at Lincoln Garrison c.1833 and his spouse Isabella born c.1834 in Glanton, Northumberland. They had a daughter Eleanor Elizabeth born 1869. 2) Catherine **Oldham** who was born 1822 in Darlington and married Henry **Kerrs** of Newcastle. 3) William **Nesblitt** and Mary Ann **Wilson**, parents of Mary Wilson Nesbitt, born 1845 at Prudhoe Street, Newcastle.
- 4832 **NEIL DORNEY**, 13 Collingwood Terrace, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE26 2NP.
Would appreciate any contact with, or information about, descendants of Thomas Edward **Longstaff**, born c.1870 at Eshot Brocks near Morpeth and married Elizabeth Mitchell Beach **Masson**. Thomas died in 1947 at Magill, South Australia. Have been unable to find Magill on any maps. Can any Australian member help to locate this place which has the postcode 5072?
- 4859 **SHIRLEY EMMERSON**, 7 Hall Lane Estate, Willington, Crook, County Durham DL15 0QF.
Seeking any information on the following family: Mary Jane **Ricalton**, born 1868 Bedlington, married John **Dobinson** 1892 Burradon. Children - Peter born 1895 Longbenton and Elizabeth 1900 Winlaton. Also seeking the marriage of James **Allan** and Isabella **Elder**, possibly Newcastle 1870-1800. Other interests **Jude** of Gateshead, **Jenkins** of Durham, **Allan** of Coldstream and George Henry **Hill**, born Dudley, Worcs, died Waterhouses, Branton Newbottle.

- 4939 Miss M. PERCY**, 19 Sycamore Avenue, Guide Post, Choppington, Northumberland NE62 5NU.
Any information regarding the following would be welcome: 1) John **Gray**, post worker, born c.1778/1779 Newburn. 2) Samuel and Isabella **Bell** living at Galley Hill, Bolam in 1816 when a daughter Mary was baptised. 3) William **Laws**, coalminer, and wife Mary **Robson**, both from Houghton-le-Spring. A son Robert was born 1812 at South Shields. 4) William **Norris**, husbandman and Mary his wife living at Whiteale, Cramlington in 1820 when a daughter Isabel was baptised. 5) Jeremiah **Davison**, baptised 1735 at Stanington, and his wife Margaret **Grieve**. They married at Stanington in 1760. 6) William **Murray**, born c.1800-1803 Ireland and wife Mary, born 1805-1807, also in Ireland. Living at Berwick upon Tweed in 1860. 7) James **Flannigan** and wife Ellen **Tucker**, living at Alnwick 1866 when daughter Rosa was born. 8) Robert **Percy**, born 1803/1804 Murton, Berwick and wife Sarah **Patterson**, also born Murton. They spent their married life in Spittal.
- 5009 CAROL SMALL**, R.R.1, Denfield, Ontario N0M 1P0, Canada.
Seeks information regarding the following: 1) John **Robinson** born 1873, son of Thomas Robinson and Mary **Greener**, married Mary Ann **Little** in 1895 at St. Paul's, Winlaton. Known children include: Mary Elizabeth (1899), David Little (1901), Isabella (1903) and Margaret (1905). 2) Thomas Robinson born 1887, son of Thomas Robinson and May **Greener**, married Elizabeth **Brown**. 3) Eliza Robinson born 1880, daughter of John Robinson and Mary **Greener**, married Edward **Mulligan** of the Black Hill area. 4) John **Greener** born 1814 Chopwell, son of John **Greener** and Elizabeth **Laws** of Halgarth Farm, Winlaton, married Mary **Rayne** and had family: John a coalminer (1831), Elizabeth (1834) married "Coffee Johnny" **Oliver**, George a colliery worker (1839) married Jayne, Sarah (1844) married Joseph **Turnbull**, Joseph, and Mary (1852) married Thomas **Robinson** and lived at High Spen.
- 5203 Mrs. J. WATSON**, 20 Malton Way, Blackhurst Lane, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4QE.
Seeking any information on: Francis **Watson** born c.1790, but where? Lighthouse keeper on Inner Farne Island around 1810/1830 and latterly connections with stables and horse racing in Newcastle/Alnwick areas. Children: 1) James Watson, born 1813, race horse trainer of Richmond, Yorks. 2) Robert Watson, marine artist born 1815. 3) Francis Watson, born 1817 Rothbury. 4) Nathaniel David Bates Watson, mineral water manufacturer in Richmond. 5) Jacob Ralph Watson, race horse owner born 1822. James and Robert were reputed to have been born in Alnwick and North Sunderland but no records can be found.
- 5210 PETER BURNS**, 5 Henry Street, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE29 6SH.
Researching Cullercoats families of the 18th-20th centuries, particularly **Storey**, **Taylor**, **Lisle**, **Brunton** and **Robson**. Any information would be gratefully received.
- 5251 VALERIE HICKMAN**, 3 Crown Point, Conway, Arkansas 72032, U.S.A.
Searching for descendants of Mary **Davidson**, born 1819 Startforth, Yorks to John Davidson and Ann **Harker**. Mary had an illegitimate son William in 1850 in Bishop Auckland and was in Coundon at the time of the 1861 Census. Did she marry and have any other family?
- 5254 Mrs. MURIEL PRATT**, 28 Astor Crescent, Ludgershall, Nr. Andover, Hants SP11 9RF.
Would appreciate any information regarding the families of: 1) Walter **Cook** and Sarah Ann nee **Winwood**. Walter was born 1887, son of William Cook and Marie **Olde**, and Sarah, daughter of Robert Winwood and Ada **Powell**. 2) William Henry **Pratt**, born London 1907, married Mary Cook. William's parents were Herbert and Alice Maud **Williams**, married 1905. 3) Herbert Jennings **Warters**, born Hertford 1866, married 1899 to Matilda Sarah **Bennett**.
- 5269 MARY VOISEY**, 687 Gainsborough Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 2Y9, Canada.
Researching the following names: **Tindle**, **Delap**, **Rutherford**, **Shilling**, **Harrison**, **Clarke**, **Anderson**, **Cowans**, **Barkass**, **Leighton**, **Haig** and **Dodd**. Would also like any information about how to find any apprenticeship records for blacksmiths, masons and tailors.
- 5283 Mr. L.J. HUSBAND**, Rike Landevej 42, 6100 Haderslev, Denmark.
Seeks information regarding: 1) Francis Wilson Watson **Caldwell**, born Stockton 1886, and his wife Mary Ellen **Mineham**, born Stockton 1889. 2) Marriage of Mary Hannah **Watson** to Francis Wilson **Caldwell**, pre-1886. 3) Does anyone know anything about Old Acres Lodge, Sedgfield, or its owners pre-1913? 4) Marriage of Mary Ellen **Greaves** to John James **Mineham** in 1883.
- 5308 Mrs. M. HANSON**, 2 Eleventh Avenue, Anglesea, Victoria 3230, Australia.
Researching William **Bainbridge** who married Hannah **Bell** of Hexham at Newcastle in 1851. Their first born were twin girls Anne and Doutha, both died within the year. After they migrated to Victoria another daughter, also named Doutha, was born. Does anyone know where the name comes from? I am hoping that it might give a lead as to where the family originated.
- 5326 DIANA ALLISON**, 40 Chingford Avenue, Chingford, London E4 6RP.
As part of a research project centred around the activities of the Aldermen and members of Sunderland Borough Council, information is sought on the following: 1) Marriage between John **Allison** and Alice c.1763 in the Sunderland area. 2) William Allison, Sunderland, second gunner on "Theseus" at the Battle of Santa Cruz 1797, and later naval career. 3) James Allison, common brewer, ship owner, alderman, Mayor of Sunderland 1844 and 1864, and any of his living descendants. 4) J.J. and W.H. Allison, brewers, pub and hotel owners, Monkwearmouth and Sunderland 1865-1890.

- 5334 Lt. Comdr. RONALD SCOTT PURVIS**, 3415 Lakeside View Drive, Falls Church, Virginia 22041, U.S.A.
 Samuel Purvis, iron moulder from Scotland, married widow of John Balfour who died Newcastle 1869. Three previous Samuel Purvis' lead back to Alan Ramsey's "*Gentle Shepherd*", Sir William Purves of Woodhouselee, later to Lord Nelson's sister via his name change to Eyre. Any information regarding this family would be appreciated.
- 5345 Mrs. IRENE ROW**, 198 Burdon Road, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 4BL.
 Still looking for the marriage of Joseph Snowdon to Mary Johns about 1820 in or around Newcastle. Joseph was a printer and bookbinder and migrated c.1821/1822 to Newport, Monmouthshire. Any information welcome.
- 5354 HOWARD JAMES DAVIS**, 160 New Road, Ryhall, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 4HL.
 Seeking any details regarding Robert James Davis married 1891 Matilda Morgan, a widow with seven children. Lived at Frank Terrace and died 1913 Hylton Street, Gateshead. Also Jack Armstrong who kept the Shipcote Arms public house on Sunderland Road, Gateshead near the Palace Theatre.
- 5356 BRYAN COPE**, Roake House, Lyveden Road, Brigstock, Northants NN14 3HE.
 Would welcome information on Michael Hume, collier, and his wife Eleanor who were raising their family in the 1830/1840's in the Bedlington/Seaton Terrace and possibly Tynemouth district.
- 5367 CASSIE KASZEFKO**, 14 Dene Road, Blaydon, Tyne and Wear NE21 4QB.
 Researching: Jobling/Jopling in Blaydon/Whickham; Denton in Lemington/Ryton; Laing in Rothbury; Prudhoe in Winlaton. Also looking at Rutherford and Ludlow in Newcastle and Muir of Dundee in Scotland. Could anyone advise on tracing Polish family trees, i.e. Kaszefko?
- 5424 BRIAN WILKINSON**, Avalon, Templeburn, Kilmarnock KA3 6HP.
 Seeking information about the following in the Chester-le-Street area: 1) Thomas Hindmarch, son of Robert, born c.1843 but no record of his birth found. 2) Elizabeth Lockey, daughter of William, born c.1816. 3) Jonathan Wilkinson, born c.1833, and Matthew Wilkinson, born c.1800-1810.
- 5428 Mrs. M.V. ZISSLER**, 34 Wicklow Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2HQ.
 Researching: 1) George Dixon of Pandon Bank, Newcastle (1841/1851 Census), timber agent, born c.1793 Newcastle, wife Ann (c.1798) and sons Joseph (c.1828) and Matthew (c.1830). 2) Baptism and burial of John Dixon (c.1823/1824 Newcastle), timber merchant at South Shields/Tyne Dock. No trace after 1894 or death. Sons John George (1848), Matthew Theodore (c.1855), James A. (c.1851/1852) and daughter Blanche Edith (c.1867). 3) Whereabouts on 1891 Census of Walter Percy Dixon (1865-1940) and wife Sarah (1865-1903). No knowledge of Sarah's baptism or parents, except her father was John Ferguson, a ferry official.
- 5432 ALAN OLIVER**, 56 St. John's Drive, Bilton, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 3AG.
 Lost! Henry Knighton in the 1851 Census. He should have been at Great Gidding in Huntingdonshire aged 19 but his family later moved to Fencehouses area in Durham. Was he there "testing the ground"? The Knightons were associated with Fencehouses but there may also be a link with the Annfield Plain area. Does anyone know anything about Devon House in that area?
- 5433 MERILL J. BAYLEY**, 2nd Floor Flat, 106 Baker Street, London W1M 1LA.
 Seeking help with any mention of the family of George Tinn, married Barbara Pearson at Heworth 1790, son Richard Tinn married Hannah Charlton at Longbenton 1821; any children? John Tinn married Margaret Swinhoe in 1796; did they have any children? Marriage of Joseph Tinn to Isabella Atkinson of Wallsend c.1830. Other Tinn girls married to Cuthbert Ramsey, Thomas Brown and Utrick Thompson.
- 5464 Mrs. CYNTHIA K. PAINTER**, 36 Woodside Avenue, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 1JJ.
 Researching the following families: 1) Cuthbertson of Rennington/Embleton, particularly James and Mary (nee King?). In 1841 they were living at Embleton with Margaret and grandchildren James and Mary. Who was the husband of Margaret who later moved to Barrasford with son John? 2) John Pearson, tenant farmer of Benwell, wife Ann. Parents of John Edward Pearson, blacksmith apprenticed to John Gallon of Capheaton and later living at Kirkwhelpington. 3) Gallon, blacksmiths of Capheaton and parents of Mary Pearson, nee Gallon. 4) Archbold and Barber of Chillingham and Craster, particular the families of John Archbold and Mary Isabella Barber who married at Longhoughton in 1854. 5) Crisp family of Ellingham.
- 5469 EMMA THOMSPON**, 1 Mason View, Seaton Burn, Newcastle upon Tyne NE13 6EZ.
 Researching the family of John Caffney who married Ellen Dodd 1869 at Newcastle Registry Office. Her father was Thomas Dodd, shopkeeper born in Corbridge. Any information on his marriage or parentage would be appreciated. John's father was James Caffney, a farmer but from where? Also looking for the birthplace and marriage of George Bullerwell. He married Eleanor Thompson Ralton; where and when? Both George and Eleanor's families possibly had links with Bishopwearmouth or Easington.
- 5475 Mrs. MABEL GRISDALE (nee DODDS)**, 9 Abbots Way, St. Bees, Cumbria CA27 0HD.
 Researching the families of John William Dodds and Mabel Ann, nee Sisterson, married 1885, and Robert Thomas Tilley and Janet, nee Hamilton, married 1899. Both couples spent most of their married lives at Greenside. The men worked at Greenside Colliery, Robert as a deputy and John William as an overman. A Dodds family bible indicates a link with Dotland and Nunsbrough in Hexhamshire, and marriage links with Robsons of Whitley Mill and Bridge End, Allendale in 1855. Janet Hamilton was born at Runhead Farm 1876. The Tilley family lived at Stevens Hall and the Sistersons at nearby Dents Hall. All these are in the Ryton area.

- 5490 Mrs. J. HAFFENDEN**, 3b Stockdale Close, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG6 8EA.
Researching the **Lackenby** family of Bishopwearmouth and Sunderland. Although strong evidence of a connection with Dalton-le-Dale, research stuck at birth of William, to William, upholsterer of Darlington in 1729. Where did the latter come from and go to? And where is Matfen Heughs where the son William left property in his will of 1860? Also, information sought on the firm of Lackenby and Welch, stonemasons of Sunderland in 1880+.
- 5501 SANDRA L. DAY**, 56 Stockhill Road, Ashby, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN16 2LG.
William **Hall**, riveter, and Ann **Clark**, both of South Shields, married in 1889. William's son Edward married Matilda **Matthews** 1889. Seeks help with the Matthews who were also from South Shields. Particularly interested in William Temple Atkinson Matthews born 1870. Also interested in **Morton** of Hartlepool, particularly Isabella Victoria Morton, born c.1898.
- 5527 Mr. E.K. HERBERT**, 5 Meadow Hill, Duns Road, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland TD15 1UB.
Seeking information on Robert **Finlay**, labourer, who married Ann **Eustace** in Newcastle 1864 and then lived in Berwick for about ten years where they had two sons later apprenticed engineers in Newcastle. No trace of the family on the 1871 Census for Berwick. Robert born c.1836, but where? His father was also Robert, a weaver. Can anyone help please?
- 5537 Mrs. P.A. FENWICK**, 1 Ocean View, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland NE64 6PD.
Seeking information about Michael, Henry, George and Ann **Walker**, resident in Crossgate, Durham between 1782 and 1812, possibly in a workhouse. Also seeking information about the family of Thomas **Tate** shipowner, born 1775, died 1853 at Saville Street, South Shields, and P. **Medici**, a clock maker in Shotley Bridge.
- 5540 Mr. H.I. SWORDY**, 169 Waldegrave, Basildon, Essex SS16 5EL.
Researching the **Swordy** family in Shilbottle in 19th century, particularly the ancestors and descendants of Thomas Swordy born c.1801 (Lesbury), farmer at Southmoor, Shilbottle in 1861, and his wife Mary (nee **Dairymple**), born c.1804 (Yetlington). I.G.I. give marriage of Thomas Swordy and Mary Dairymple at Longhoughton in 1830.
- 5548 MELVYN WILKIE**, Field View, Garboldisham Road, East Harling, Norfolk NR16 2PT.
Researching the **Wilkie** family of Northumberland, especially James (born c.1808 at Humbledon and buried at Whittingham) and his wife Anne (born c.1812 at Swarland and buried 1878 at Whittingham) and the **Egdall** family, also of Northumberland.
- 5552 JAMES WOOD**, 23 Bedford Gardens, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 2UX.
Researching the following families from 1700: **Martin** and **Orren** (Westoe, South Shields); **Salmon** and **Grieves** (St. Hilda, Westoe, South Shields); **Shotton** and **Tyzack** (Felling, Jarrow, Westoe); **Cooper** (Shadwell, Westoe, South Shields) and **Laing** (Shadwell, South Shields).
- 5556 Mrs. C.J. KIRK**, 38 Haselbech Road, Binley, Coventry CV3 2HT.
Seeking information regarding Thomas **Beattie**, born Dumfriesshire 1831. His wife was Charlotte **Swinburn**, born Dacre, Cumberland 1831. They were living at Tow Law, at the time of the 1871 Census. Where did they die? Interested in any descendants.
- 5559 Mr. J.A.E. BRITTON**, 15 Ngarimu Grove, Ngaio, Wellington, New Zealand.
Researching: **Britton**, **Faulkner**, **Walton**, **Gibbons**, **Oxberry**, **Cassap**, **McKnight**, **Phillips**, **Bland**, **Forster** and **Darling** - Sunderland and County Durham, 17th/18th centuries. Willing to share information and costs, and to help fellow members with research in New Zealand.
- 5566 Mrs. ANNE TAYLOR**, 10 Precentors Court, York YO1 2EJ.
Is anyone researching the **Gamsby** family? Have tried without success to obtain a birth certificate for Constance Anne Gamsby, supposedly born in Kirk Merrington 1863. Her father Joseph appears in the 1861 Census aged 19 living with his parents. By 1871 he had left home but his parents and brothers and sisters were still living at Kirk Merrington. Have also failed to find any record of his marriage to Anne **Charlton**, which according to family tradition took place in 1862, of the births of their other children Mary and Eleanor. Also interested in the above Ann Charlton. 1861 Census for Kirk Merrington shows a John Charlton aged 49, married to Mary, with a daughter Eleanor but no Anne.
- 5567 GARY J. O'CONNELL**, 243 North Cottonwood Drive, Gilbert, Arizona 85234, U.S.A.
My lines left the Stanhope area in 1854 for Wisconsin. Interested in the following family names: **Coulthard**, **Wilkinson**, **Richardson**, **Watters**, **Longstaff**, **Fenwick**, **Bainbridge**, **Johnson**, **Curry**, **Verty**, **Longmire**, **Corry**, **Nealson**, **Thwaites**, **Savage**, **Coates**, **Bell**, **Croxton**, **Emerson**, **Hall**, **Hodgeson**, **Fallowfield** and **Dixon**.
- 5568 ALBERT KNIGHT**, 11 Thomson Drive, Codnor, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 9RU.
Searching for information about William Joseph **Knight**, a butcher and his descendants. He married Judith **Wilkinson** 1871 at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Bishop Auckland. On the marriage certificate, his address is given as William Street, Bishop Auckland, and his wife's Newgate Street; her father was William Wilkinson, also a butcher. The couple are believed to have lived for some years at Tudhoe Grange.

- 5570 JOHN R. WAUGH**, 116 Wilton Road, Wellington 5, New Zealand.
Researching the family of William **Waugh**, brewer, and Ann **Davison**, married 1797 St. John's, Newcastle. Their fifth child James Davidson Waugh, bapt. 1807, moved to Roxburghshire and married Wilhamina **Riddell** 1833. Would be pleased to contact anyone researching Waugh or Davison families in Northumberland.
- 5573 GEORGE DYNE**, 123 Woorward Close, Winnersh Farm, Wokingham, Berks RG11 5UT.
Searching for information on James **Dyne** born c.1842, married Catherine **Carrol** 1861 Sunderland. Their son, also James born 1862 married Isabella Hannah **Pratt** 1882 at Amble. She was born c.1862 in North Wylam but can't find any record. Also any information of their descendants John W. Dyne, born c.1883, James (c.1884) and Joseph (c.1886).
- 5574 CHARLES HARPER**, c/o Cable & Wireless Plc., Sangcom Project, P.O. Box 9854, Riyadh 11423, Saudi Arabia.
Local interests include **Craig** and **Potts** of Alnwick, **Graham**, **Hudspeth**, **Maughan** and **Vickers** of Allendale, **Illingworth** of Shincliffe and Berwick, **Lamb** of Byker and Allendale, and **Smith** of Berwick. Also interested in the Norfolk families of **Harper**, **Lovick** and **Whall**.
- 5580 Mrs. GLADYS SKELDING** (nee **LEARMOUTH**), 12 Butterwick Close, Cleethorpes, South Humberside DN35 0JY.
Researching **Learmouth/Learmond** and **Sharp** of Seaton Delaval, Hartley and Earsdon. Parentage wanted of George Sharp, born c.1776, buried at Earsdon in 1849, and of Hannah his wife, born 1780, died 1856. Was she nee **Cowans**? Parents of John Learmouth, born c.1820 sought and the maiden name of his wife Isabella. Descendants of James Learmouth, born 1876 sought, possibly America or Canada.
- 5583 ROBERT J.S. BRACK**, 94 Cavendish Street, Worcester WR5 3DX.
Seeking information on **Brack** families anywhere, particularly: James Brack, coalminer, born c.1817 Ancroft, married Jane Ingles, born c.1818 Norham. James Brack and Jane **Ingles** married in 1839 but not found on St. Catherine's House index. Possibly they nipped over the border into Scotland to save the Banns fee!
- 5585 ROBERT B. EGGLESTON**, Rt. 3, Box 274-B, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801, U.S.A.
Interested in the **Eggleston** family of Durham prior to 1630. Also pre-1640 families in other counties, especially Yorkshire.
- 5590 PATRICK BRENNAN**, Riding Lea, Strathmore Road, Rowlands Gill, County Durham NE39 1JA.
Terence and Julia **Rooney** came to Sunderland from Ireland via Newcastle c.1843 with six children - John born c.1826, Patrick 1831, James 1833, Maria 1835, Bridget 1839 and Laurence 1841. Two further children were born in Sunderland - Ann 1846 and Joseph 1848. I have exhaustively researched the descendants of Patrick and would be very interested to exchange information with descendants of his siblings.
- 5592 Mrs. LESLEY BARROW**, 29 Lockhart Avenue, Palmerston North 5301, New Zealand.
Seeks information on the **Temple** families of Northumberland and Durham. Edward married: 1) Ann **Pigg** 1784 Longbenton. 2) Margaret **Fiddes** 1795 Newcastle. Children from these marriages - Sarah (1789), Edward (1792), Jane (1795), Margaret (1797), all born Newcastle, Thomas (1802), Hannah (1804), Francis (1807), John (1810), born Heworth and Ann (1811) born South Shields. Edward married Mary c.1818. Their children were Edward (1819 Rainton) married Ann Johnston **Forster** 1842 Pitlington, both buried at Hartlepool; Robert (1821 Rainton) married Elizabeth **Edwards** 1864 Trimdon; Thomas (1824 Hetton-le-Hole) married Isabella **Cook** 1849 Wingate Grange; William; Margaret (1829 Hetton-le-Hole) married Robert **Hammond** 1855 Hartlepool; John (1829 Hetton-le-Hole). Descendants of Edward and Mary lived mostly in the Trimdon and Hartlepool area and were coalminers.
- 5598 NICHOLAS THOMAS**, 8 Clifford Manor Road, Guilford, Surrey GU4 8AG.
My grandfather was a bastard! He was William **Spensley**, born Sunderland 1888, his mother Isabella Spensley, daughter of Joseph and Margaret Spensley of Sunderland, and she was 17 years old at the time of his birth. Isabella later married a Mr. **Scott**. The father was reputed to have been a Mr. **Walker**, son of the local "big house", and his father subsequently became Mayor of Sunderland. I have been told that they lived near Tunstall Hill. Mr. Walker later offered to establish contact but my grandfather refused. Does anyone recognise Mr. Walker and can they help to identify him?
- 5602 Mrs. PATRICIA KING HUGHES**, 3522 Newridge Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, California 90275, U.S.A.
Seeking information on William Amor **King**, born 1888 Westgate, Newcastle. His parents were William John King, born Newcastle 1860, and Isabella **Spoor**, born Tynemouth 1864. Siblings included: Robert (1884), Michael (1891), Ethel (1887) and Fred S. Isabel was daughter of Ambrose Harding Spoor, born 1798 Tynemouth, and Isabella **Fairless**, born c.1832 Tynemouth, William John King's parents were Charles King and Margaret Ann **Scott**. William Amor King left Newcastle at the turn of the century, emigrating to Canada and later to U.S.A. Fred S. King had two daughters last known to be living Low Fell, Gateshead. Ethel married a man named **Anderson** and emigrated to Cleveland, Ohio. They had a son Richard who is thought to have returned to Newcastle area 10-20 years ago.
- 5604 BERNICE MATTHEWS**, 3538 D-E 56th Street, Maywood, California 90270, U.S.A.
Interested in researching **Blenkinsop** lines, especially those who emigrated to America. Would be happy to exchange information.

- 5609** **RAYMOND H. CANDLISH**, Sunnyside, Beaford, Winkleigh, Devon EX19 8LJ.
Research interests are Tasset Hall, Bellingham 1750 to 1850 the Londonderry Bottle Works, the bottle boats "Lollard" and "Oakwell", both lost in the Robin Hood's Bay area during World War I. Also interested in the history of the 2nd Durham Artillery volunteers.
- 5611** **Mrs. SUE EYNON**, Pavilly, Treskillard, Redruth, Cornwall TR16 6LB.
Seeking information about grandparents James Horden Askew Wright and Alice Robertson who married in Gateshead in 1907. The Robertsons were living in Felling in the 1880's. Particularly interested in finding out about Archibald, Sidney and Norman Robertson who were probably born sometime after the 1890's. Great grandfather Burdon Robertson married firstly to Mary Jane McLeod, may have remarried in 1899. James' father was John Wright who almost certainly married Sarah Askew but have been unable to trace the marriage. Also, unable to find the birth registration of James.

The address of member number **5210** **PETER BURNS** was incorrectly printed in the last Journal. It should have read: 5 Henry Street, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE29 6SH. **5548** **Mr. M. WILKIE**'s postcode should have read NR16 2PT, not NR1. Apologies to both members.

HELP OFFERED

- 5501** **SANDRA L. DAY**, 56 Stockhill Road, Ashby, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN16 2LG.
Would be prepared to do reciprocal research in Scunthorpe, Grimsby and Lincoln Libraries. Also Lincoln Archives and South Humberside Area Record Office at Grimsby in exchange for work in South Shields and Durham.
- 5570** **JOHN R. WAUGH**, 116 Wilton Road, Wellington 5, New Zealand.
Has ready access to New Zealand's National Archives and would be willing to check out the arrival of assisted emigrants to New Zealand. These people are indexed and there are often shipping lists giving names, ages and occupations as well as details of the ship and dates and places of departure and arrival.
- Mrs. R.M. WILLSON-FITZAKERLEY**, Kalkoenspreuk 6, 4386DD Vlissingen, Netherlands.
Has kindly deposited in our library, a compilation of the **Fitzakerley** family. This name is more usually associated with the Yorkshire area, but the name does occur in Sunderland. Mrs. Willson-Fitzakerley would be happy to answer any queries about the name, or advise anyone needing help in the Netherlands.

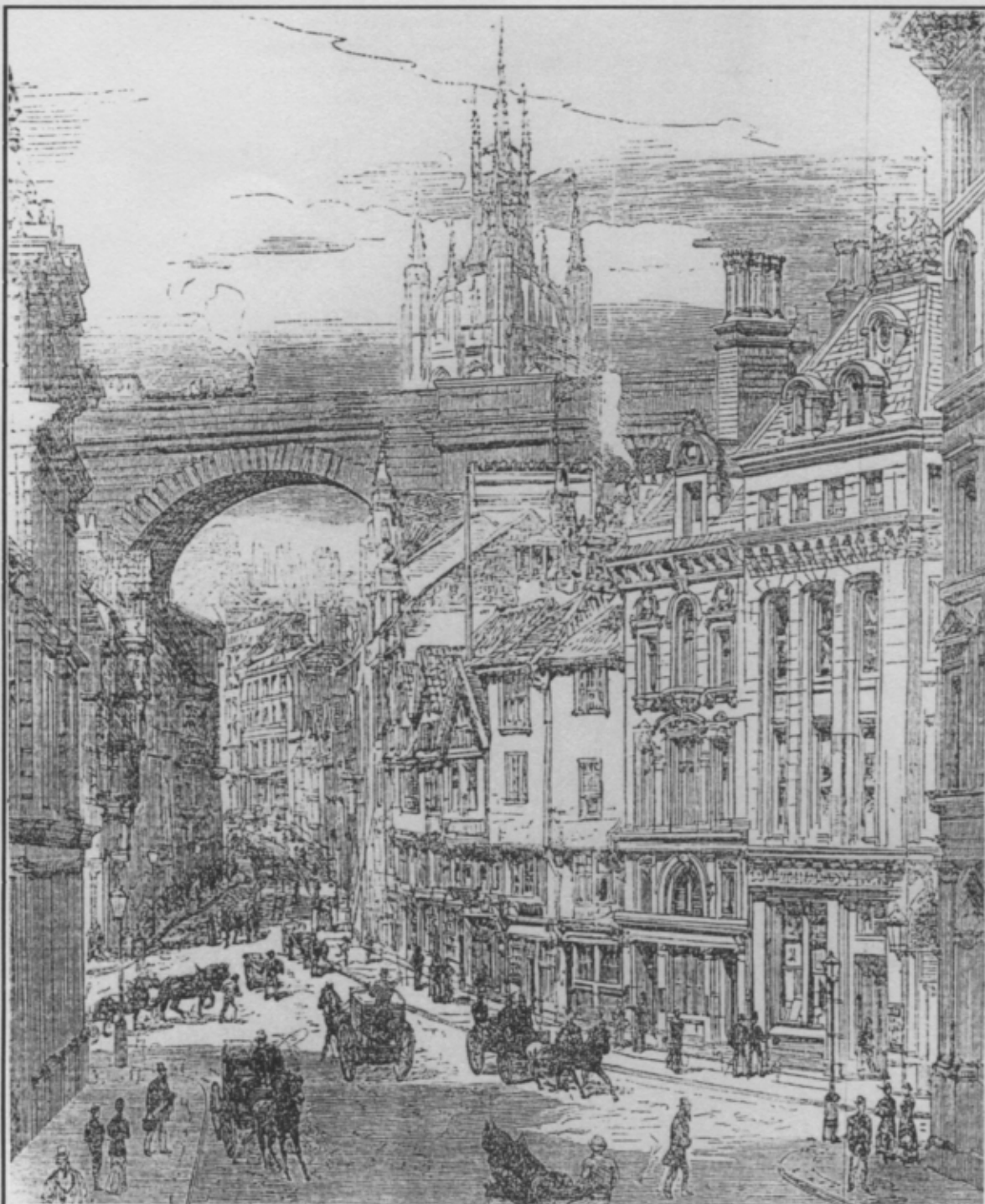
NEW MEMBERS

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 N.D.F.H.S. Journal. They can of course send their interests and queries to Phil Thirkell for inclusion in future Journals at any time, if they want to.

Welcome to all our new members.

- 5569** **Mr. A.R. LAWES**, Mini Orchard, Headley Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8PT. **5571** **ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**, Acquisitions - Periodicals, P.O. Box 2270, Fort Wayne, IN 46801, U.S.A. **5572** **Mrs. E. WILSON**, 22 Brookside Close, Yelvertoft, Northants NN6 6LP. **5575** **Mrs. G.J. STEVENS**, 6 Eastcote Road, Welling, Kent DA16 2SX. **5576** **Ms F. WATSON**, 26b Leighton Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 1XJ. **5577** **Mrs. S. RUSSELL**, 2 Weavers Road, Tring, Herts HP23 4EZ. **5578** **Miss D.E. SLATER**, 7 The Sycamores, Guide Post, Choppington, Northumberland NE62 5LW. **5579** **Mrs. M. NEEDHAM**, 10 Castle House Lane, Adlington, Nr. Chorley, Lancashire PR7 4DL. **5581** **Mr. P. STOTTEN**, 11 Summerhill Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE34 6DT. **5582** **Mrs. M. ALSTON**, Woodlea, St. Aidans, Seahouses, Northumberland NE68 7SS. **5584** **Mrs. S.F. FERRIS**, 56 Briardene Close, East Herrington, Sunderland SR3 3RU. **5586** & **5587** **Mr. R. & Mrs. S. MANGLES**, 31 Blackwater Way, Braintree, Essex CM7 6BX. **5588** **Mr. A. BAINBRIDGE**, 24 St. Peter's Road, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 1QS. **5589** **Mrs. P. GREEN**, 8 Albert Drive, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire G84 7HF. **5591** **Mr. S.W. PIERCY**, "The Haven", 97 Manor Road South, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey KT10 0QB. **5593** **Miss H.E. DREW**, Francis Lodge, Windermere Road, Thundersley, Essex SS7 3HZ. **5594** **Mr. J.B. MORALEE**, "Dunelmia", High Hesleden, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS27 4PZ. **5595** & **5596** **Mr. B & Mrs. J. MUNROE**, Claremont, Hartfell Crescent, Moffat, Dumfriesshire DG10 9AL. **5597** **Miss A. MUSGROVE**, 12 Norburn Park, Witton Gilbert, County Durham DH7 6SF. **5599** **Miss M.E. SILK**, 93 Springbank Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 0PA. **5600** **Mrs. C.E. MASON**, 30 Raikeswood Road, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 1NB. **5601** **Mr. J. PICKERING**, 8/951 Punt Road, South Yarra, Victoria 3141, Australia. **5603** **Mr. A.J. BOND**, 324 West 86th Street, New York, NY 10024, U.S.A. **5605** **Mr. G. MATTHEWS**, 12 Lenton Avenue, The Park, Nottingham NG7 1DY. **5606** **Mr. K.J.B. CONSTABLE**, 122 Doncaster Road, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN15 7DN. **5607** **Mr. A.E. BAILEY**, 20 Cherrytree Drive, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne NE16 4TQ. **5608** **Mr. A. MEDOWS**, 9 Haddington Road, Beaumont Park, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE25 9UP. **5610** **Miss I.M. LEE**, 59 Church Lane, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN15 7AE. **5612** **Dr. R.W. PALMER**, 5 Valley View, Prudhoe, Northumberland NE42 5BL. **5613** **Mrs. P.M. COTTLE**, Jeffreys Orchard, Afton Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight PO40 9TP. **5614** **Mrs. V.E. EDGAR**, 21 Stackbraes Road, Longtown, Carlisle, Cumbria CA6 5UR. **5615** **Wing Commander J. SEWELL**, 36 Rectory Road, Ruskington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 9AD. **5616** **Mrs. B. HARRISON**, 66 Leeholme, Warden Grove, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear DH5 8HR. **5617** **Mrs. P. FOX**, 3 Tower Street, Hendon, Sunderland SR2 8NF.

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The Side, Newcastle, from Queen Street, Quayside