

# THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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Accounts & Other Financial Matters .....	Mr. P.R.G. Thirkell, 100 Stuart Court, Kingston Park, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE3 2SG
Articles for Journal (other than 'Members Interests') ...	Journal Editor, Mr. J.A. Readdie, 38 Archery Rise, Neville's Cross, DURHAM DH1 4LA
News Items for Journal, Book Reviews, Readers' Letters .....	Mr. G. Nicholson, 57 Manor Park, Concord, WASHINGTON, Tyne & Wear NE37 2BU
Members Interests and Queries .....	Mr. P.R.G. Thirkell, 100 Stuart Court, Kingston Park, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE3 2SG
New Members, Applications for Membership, Changes of Address & Missing Journals .....	Mrs. J. Ashburner, 10 Melrose Grove, JARROW, Tyne & Wear NE32 4HP
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First, a reminder. If you have not yet renewed your subscription, please do so now by sending a £10 cheque to Jenny Ashburner, preferably with the renewal form sent with the last Journal. The next issue in February will not be sent to you if you have not renewed. By the way, if you are one of the dilatory ones (!) and if you have not previously paid your subscription under covenant, why not do so now? Provided you are a UK taxpayer of course. When you send your renewal form and cheque, simply also complete and send the bottom half of the form, the Deed of Covenant itself, and we will do the rest, including claiming over £3 extra from the Inland Revenue. If you've already paid your sub, you can't backdate a new covenant, but thanks anyway for paying early.

In the last Journal, I said we were looking at ways of improving service to our overseas members. I asked for suggestions/ideas. Believe it or not, I have received precisely none, so don't forget to drop me a line.

Two 'Journal' matters, both mentioned on the back cover. If you require an acknowledgement to material you send me (always welcome!) please enclose a SAE if you live in the UK. And do please note the deadline for contributions. There is quite a lengthy preparation period, involving proof-reading and all the rest of it, so if you are thinking of writing something for the February issue, send it along as soon as you can please. Contributions received after the fatal date will of course be considered for the May issue.

## GENERAL NEWS

**SOUTH TYNESIDE BRANCH** - As we 'go to print' we have learned that 1997 meetings of the South Tyneside branch will no longer be at West Park Hotel, South Shields. No details of new venue yet. Contact Mrs. E. Stafford on (0191) 519 0009 for information.

**LIBRARY CATALOGUE** - A new catalogue of the holdings in the NDFHS Library at Bolbec Hall has been produced on microfiche. A number of items are now available for postal lending and these are identified in the list, which is available from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidans Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP price £1.50 postfree (£1.90 overseas).

**OLD JOURNALS** - Mrs. G.D. Massam of 568 Victoria Avenue, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8S 4M6 wishes to purchase the following issues of past NDFHS Journals: 1979 (Oct.) 1980 (April), 1981 (Oct.), 1982 (May and Sept.), 1984 (Autumn), 1985 (Spring, Summer and Winter) and 1986 (Spring & Summer). Contact Mrs. Massam direct if you can help.

**YESTERDAY BELONGS TO YOU** - The third local and family history event under this title is to take place on Saturday, 12th April 1997 at County Hall, Durham. The two earlier events were most successful, so make a note in your diary.

## NEWS FROM BOLBEC HALL RESEARCH CENTRE

Moiria Furness is the Co-ordinator for the Centre, which is used by Bridget Rawle, for Book Sales, Phil Thirkell for the Exchange Journals, for Committee meetings and by all members of the Council for photocopying etc.

Sheila Senior is Daily Co-ordinator and works closely with Mrs. Furness. She is in charge of the volunteers, the daily rota and essential supplies to the tea/coffee area.

Mrs. Vivien Mackin is our new Librarian with Kathleen Phillips as her assistant. They have worked very hard to arrange the Library, sort the books for the postal library and produce the Catalogue. If you bought the August issue of the catalogue, you can obtain update pages by sending a stamped addressed envelope. One request from the Librarian is that visitors do not bring bags into the library if at all possible.

### Changes to Opening Times:

Wednesday Evening 5.00p.m. to 8.00p.m.  
Saturday 10.00a.m. to 4.00p.m.

It is essential to book for these times. If there are no bookings the library will be closed. Book by Tuesday afternoon for Wednesday evening and book by Friday morning for Saturday. A short phone call could save you a wasted trip.

### Christmas Holidays:

The centre will be closed from 4.00p.m. Friday December 20th 1996 and will re-open at 10.00a.m. Monday January 6th 1997.

### Easter Holidays:

The Centre will close 4.00p.m. Wednesday 26th March 1997 and re-open 10.00a.m. Wednesday 2nd April 1997.

We will do limited research (see previous Journal). This only covers the records etc. available at Bolbec Hall. We cannot visit Record Offices or other libraries.

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

### **PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL AT EAST STREET SOUTH SHIELDS 1809-1843**

The baptism register of the *Presbyterian Chapel at East Street, South Shields* for the years 1809 to 1843 has been transcribed and indexed and is now produced on microfiche by kind permission of Tyne and Wear Archives Service, which holds the original registers, and the Minister and Serving Elders of St. Paul's and St. John's United Reform Church, South Shields. This register is of particular interest, since for much of the period the native parish of the father of the child, and the names of paternal and maternal grandparents are given as well as the more usual date, child's name and parent's names. A typical entry reads "William Blenkinsopp (son of Wm Blenkinsopp, seaman, native of Newburn, Tyne Side, Northd son of Wm Blenkinsopp, staithman at Lemmington, Northd and Hannah Dove, Hexhamshire and of his lawful wife Sarah Phillips daughter of David Phillips, tailor of Newburn and of Ann Stoker of Blue Houses near Newcastle) was born April 18th 1813 and baptised 17th same month."

The fiche costs only £1.50 (£1.90 overseas), inclusive of postage, and is available from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidans Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP.

### **PERSONAL NAMES IN WILLS PROVED AT DURHAM 1798-1800**

The series of *Personal Names in Wills Proved at Durham* is deservedly popular, as it lists not only all the testators at the Durham Consistory Court in the relevant years but also all other names mentioned in each will --- beneficiaries, executors, trustees, friends and neighbours, landlords and tenants etc., with their addresses and relationships to the testator where known. There are many thousands of names in each volume, fully indexed. Maybe your ancestor is among them?

The wills cover the whole of Northumberland and Durham except Hexhamshire and volumes covering the years 1787 to 1791, 1792 to 1794 and 1795 to 1797 have already been published and can be purchased in both book form and on microfiche.

The latest volume, the product of the labours of Phil Thirkell, is *Personal Names in Wills Proved at Durham 1798-1800*. 183 pages.

The book is available from Ms. B. Rawle, 31 East Moffett Street, South Shields NE33 3PL, price £7.00 postfree (£8.50 overseas). The microfiche edition costs £2.50 (£2.90 overseas) and should be ordered from Keith Dalkin.

### **1851 CENSUS INDEX OF STANHOPE, COUNTY DURHAM**

Cleveland FHS, like ourselves, have been active in the field of census indexing and their members have produced an index to the *1851 Census of Stanhope, County Durham*. Public Record Office piece number HO 107/2388 covers the whole of the parish of Stanhope and there are four alphabetical indexes covering (1) Burnfoot, Daddry Shield, Ireshopeburn, Heathery Cleugh and Burnhope (2) Killhope, Heathery Cleugh, Burtreefoot, Blackdean and Park Quarter (3) Westgate, Eastgate, Old Park, Middlehope Common, Crawleyside and Weatherill (4) Stanhope, Newfield, Newlandshire, Hill End and Frosterley. Individuals names are listed alphabetically with name, forename, age, place of birth and folio number. Note that relationships to head of house and occupations are not included. Order the book from Ms. B. Rawle, price £6.00 postfree (£7.75 overseas) and the fiche from K. Dalkin, price £2.50 postfree (£2.90 overseas).

Please note that a number of Census and other volumes recently out of stock, have now been reprinted and are available for sale. A Library Catalogue has also been produced - see page 109.

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MEMBER



# THE ULTIMATE IN FAMILY GATHERINGS?

by Doug Smith

Over a year went into the planning of this event. It all arose from a remark I made when meeting some cousins on holiday in Craster. I say 'cousins' - in fact we were related through a marriage in 1763 but we still know each other, such being the lengthy memories of kinship amongst Northumbrians. "Do you realise" I said to a bemused Jim Newbigin from Gosforth, "it will be five hundred years in 1996 since our 'first ancestor' as we term him, claimed sanctuary at Durham Cathedral?" It took place on July 7th, 1496. "That will be a Sunday" murmured his wife looking up her diary. "We really should do something to mark such a date." And in that moment there grew up the idea of a clan gathering.

Letters were sent out. Some with Christmas cards. Others wrote to ask what was going on. Distant cousins of distant cousins showed interest. From the replies we estimated that somewhere between forty and sixty people might be tempted to congregate in Durham on that day. Accordingly, lunch was booked at a hotel and liaison made with the cathedral authorities. As we entered 1996 we had but vague plans in mind plus a few definite promises to attend the gathering. It seemed it was all going to fall flat until a Newbigin from Bath (but born at Wallington) rang me to demand if this gathering was definitely 'on'. In a rash moment I said "Yes" and during the following months wondered what on earth I had been thinking about.

Suddenly the replies poured in. From Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France. Even from Wall in Hexham, scarcely a couple of miles from where the 'first ancestor' had fled to Durham. From places all over the country, it seemed as if they were ALL coming! The hotel protested that they could not cope with such a number and last minute panic searches were made to find elsewhere. Fortunately Lumley Castle came up trumps and how appropriate! For it was a Lumley of the days of the first Elizabeth, you will remember, who was the ultimate of genealogists. The one who so wearied Jamie Sixt and First with his recital of pedigree that the king cried out "Nae mair! I dinna ken that Adam's name was Lumley!"

Had the king seen the assembled throng when July 7th dawned, he might well have exclaimed "I dinna ken there were so many Newbigins!" Bishop Lesslie Newbigin had been invited to preach in the cathedral that morning so that several family members had already gathered for the service. He had privately promised to keep his sermon short as timing was crucial in our commemoration. As the congregation left the church, the Dean of Durham came out to briefly welcome everyone.

Then with the youngest children of the family (from aged 2 upwards) dressed in sackcloth tunics and carrying a white wooden cross - a replica of the dress of the original sanctuary seekers - they followed a Northumbrian piper together with Rouge Croix poursuivant, another relative of the family. Following this tableaux in procession came no less than 109 Newbigin descendants!

We had asked our piper to compose for us a gathering tune, much as the Percy's have their 'Chevy Chase'. Not only had he done so, but presented us with an entire collection of tunes and variations, beautifully bound and signed, each bearing a title referring to the adventures of the 'first ancestor'. Bishop Newbigin as head of the clan, the direct male descendant of the senior branch stretching back to the 1590's grasped the great Sanctuary Knocker whilst the rest of us joined hands to him in a circle. The circle got bigger and bigger. It reached to Palace Green and still there were stragglers about. Camera and video shots vied with local press for coverage.

Our next stop was in the church itself. To the alcove under the monks' staircase where the original sanctuary seekers had been lodged. Here one of the family, fortunately a professor of Latin, read out the original record of the sanctuary in Latin then gave a spontaneous translation into English:

*"John Newbigin of Errington in the parish of St. John-Lee in Hexhamshire came to the Cathedral Church of Durham on July 7th, 1496, and there upon the ringing of the bell was given sanctuary and immunity of St. Cuthbert ..."*

Another Newbigin then read out the Oath of Abjuration of the King's Realm and with this completed, we encircled the Galilee Chapel where the bishop gave a short address. In this he noted how the idea of sanctuary was coming back into play, with refugees fleeing to a church from injustice, rather than justice. After a blessing we then made our way to Lumley Castle. In one of the three great state rooms there has been hurried preparations early that morning. A huge display of documents, books, heirlooms, photographs, christening-robcs and illuminated pedigrees had been spread out. Further additions had been made to this by visitors from Australia and New Zealand. An illuminated Book of Record was there to sign; a table cloth also to inscribe (heirloom for the future) though pleas for someone to embroider all 109 names fell, I fear, on deaf ears. Pedigree charts and pencils were a-plenty for present day members to complete their own details.



A printed family history was available as well as bound and signed copies of the Northumbrian pipe tunes.

The chatter at the luncheon table you can imagine as long-lost cousins met again and relationships were worked out with new acquaintances. Both atmosphere and setting was magnificent. Finally we all stood to attention as the piper played the 'Newbigin Gathering' - our own national anthem in fact - and the youngest and oldest members of the family (aged 2 and 86) cut a cake with a broadsword.

Truly a memorable day. One that will be passed down as oral history to generations in the years ahead. Already a couple of branches of the family - 'lost' since 1775 and 1825 - have contacted me since. Despite all the worry and planning involved, how glad I was that I had said "Yes" to that phone call! And who knows? This account of one family gathering might just give you an idea of your own to try!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Smith's address is 7 Crow Lane, Middle Herrington, Sunderland.

## DID YOUR ANCESTOR SEEK 'SANCTUARY' AT DURHAM?

What exactly was the 'sanctuary' sought by John Newbigging which was celebrated by the family 500 years later, as the previous article recounts? Who claimed its privileges? Was the rogue involved --- and they were all rogues --- one of your ancestors? If so, like our Australian cousins and their convict forebears, you might be glad to be linked now with a 15th century felon --- if you can find the link!

The first question is simple to answer. The second is more difficult, but there are some records available. The third problem, proving that link with your own line, may be difficult or impossible but if you discover one of *your* surnames, it might just prove worthwhile for you to look further.

Sanctuary seems to have commenced in England in 693, when Saxon laws provided that if a person accused of a capital offence fled to a Church, his life would be spared. Norman laws stated that a fugitive could on no account be seized by his pursuers from the moment he reached a church. All churches apparently had the privilege of sanctuary, but the great cathedral at Durham had particular appeal, and criminals fleeing there 'besought the immunity of the said church and the liberty of Saint Cuthbert' - as did John Newbigging.



The Sanctuary Knocker

On reaching the cathedral, a man would raise the huge bronze Sanctuary Knocker on the north door and would knock loudly, no doubt fearing that at any moment his pursuers might arrive to thwart him. Day and night, men within the cathedral were ready to answer the knock and admit the fugitive. The Galilee bell would be tolled to give notice of the sanctuary and the offender would be required to give full details of his offence and of

the victim. He would be provided with a tunic and a cross --- St. Cuthbert's cross --- to carry on his shoulder. He would be given food, drink and shelter for 37 days and would then be required to leave the country, being granted a safe passage to an appointed port.

It was not until 1624 that sanctuary was completely abolished.

So who were the men who benefitted? The records of sanctuary are in the Cathedral archives but there is an easier route, using one of the earliest volumes published by the Surtees Society - Volume V, published in 1837 and entitled *Sanctuarium Dunelmense et Sanctuarium Beverlacense*. You should be able to find a copy in most large local libraries. There you will find the names and crimes of 262 men who sought sanctuary at Durham between June 18th 1464 and September 10th 1524. A useful abstract indicates that no less than 195 were murderers, with smaller numbers of horse and cattle thieves, housebreakers, and prison escapees, whilst others sought only to escape their creditors.

With few exceptions, the entries are in Latin. They give the name and abode of the fugitive, the date and place of the offence, the name of the victim and other particulars. John Newbigging, for example, had on 12th June 1496 "made insult to a certain Gerard Still of Hexham, freemen, and struck the said Gerard in the chest with a semi-lance known as a spear-staff, from which the said Gerard died".

Most of the named fugitives were from outside the immediate area --- from Yorkshire, Cumberland, Lancashire and even from as far afield as Somerset, but it might be of interest to NDFHS members to have a list of those men who can be identified as being from Durham or Northumberland. At the end of this article, there is such a list, extracted from the Surtees volume. The original spelling of names and places has been retained.

The second list below is taken from the July 1889 edition of *Monthly Chronicle of North Country Lore and Legend* (pages 289-292) which gives a brief history of sanctuary and lists what is called 'Abstracts' of persons claiming sanctuary for offences committed in Newcastle. The *Monthly Chronicle* list, in English, is in every case shorter than the corresponding Latin entry in Surtees from which it was culled and if you find an entry which interests you, it will pay to check with Surtees.



The third problem I envisaged was that of proving that your rogue was in fact your ancestor. As these records pre-date parish registers, and as not many of us can get our lines back that far, it seems unlikely that you will be able to prove a definite link. But you never know, and research in Tudor records makes a change from Victorian censuses, don't you think?

### List of Durham and Northumberland 'Fugitives' from Surtees Volume V.

The original entries are dated - the period covered is 1464 to 1524.  
CD = County Durham. CN = County Northumberland.  
(does not include 'Newcastle cases' - these are shown separately in the second list)

Robertus Person de Barnard-Castell; Oliverus Branthwayt de Iveshopburn in Werdale; Thomas Wall de Dunelm; Roulandus Carlyle, Dunelm, yoman; Ricardus Hawden de Whikham in C.D.; Ricardus Wright de Dunelm, Glover; ...ius Huntley de Langwiton in C.N.; Edwardus Hayden de Whikham, C.D.; Cristoferus Fairbarne de Falowden in C.N.; Johannes Weddrelt de Bolom in C.N.;

Johannes Newbigging (see article above); — Colson de Wolsyngham, Dunelm; Johannes Bulman de Morpath, C.N.; Robertus Robynson de Hegley in C.N.; Robertus Ussher de Prudow in C.N.; Robertus Spore de Kylne House in Reyddisdale et Henricus Spore de Shottlehewgh in Reyddisdale; Cuthbertus Law de Witton of the Watyr, C.N.; Willielmus Wynship de Dunnyngton in C.N.; Johannes Thomson de Malyng, parochiae de Bellingham in Tyndall; Willielmus Chesman de Bolton, C.N.; Gerardus et Edmundus Pattenson de Naresford, parochiae de Chollerton in Northumbria; Georgius Robynson de Berwico super Twedam; Thomas Hichenson de Haden Brigs, C.N., et Robertus Huchenson; Georgius Watson de Belsay, C.N.; Robertus Watson et Johannes Watson; Johannes Cowper et Jacobus Couper, parochiae de Hartburn, C.N.; Georgius Yong de Angerton, C.N.; Edwardus Horsley de Scranwood, C.N.; Cristoferus Horsley de Horsley; Johannes Heron et Clemens Ledyll de Werkworth in C.N.; Johannes Smyth de Staynton de parochiae de Horsley in C.N.; Archebaldus Reveley de Fowbery in C.N.; Johannes Kechyng de Walnewode de parochiae de Alneston; Georgius Reweley, Johannes Reweley et Willielmus Reweley de Horton, C.N.; Johannes Stokow de Nunb- in parochiae de Newburgh in Tyndale; Robertus Atkynson de Tynmouth, C.N.; Anthonius Heron de Werkworth, C.N.; Georgius Mayll de Wekworth, C.N.; Georgius Byrket de Standropp, C.D.; Edwardus Donne, de la Hewgh, parochiae de Stanerden, C.N.; Willielmus Ridley de Cosley, infra Franchesiarn de Hexham; Johannes Hogeson, Johannes M an et Robertus Hoton de Rokk, C.N.; Thomas Watson de Bassenden prope Hulpark, C.N.

This list is from the July 1889 Monthly Chronicle listing offences committed in Newcastle.

1477, 4th July. Christopher Holme desired sanctuary, and confessed that on the 24th April last, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, he, with Harry Stobbes and Humphrey Usher, met one William Marley, and grievously struck and wounded him with a staff called a "walshbill," in consequence of which the said William died.

1489-90, 13th January. Alexander Taylleyour desired sanctuary, because he, on the Wednesday after the feast of Epiphany, in the year aforesaid, in Newcastle, near Caylecrosse, had feloniously struck one Thomas Smyth, in self-defence, with a certain weapon, under the left breast, whence the said Thomas died the same day.

1493, 4th August. Robert Grene, of South Shields, desired sanctuary, because he, on the 1st August, in the year aforesaid, in Newcastle, in a certain street called the Close, in consequence of an attack made upon him by one Robert Nicholson, of Winlaton, twice struck and feloniously wounded the aforesaid Robert in his chest, from which wounds he died.

1495, 16th December. John Bonner, of Gateshead, desired sanctuary, because he, on the Sabbath Day next before the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, 14 years before, attacked one Alexander Stevenson, near Dotland Park, in Hexhamshire, and feloniously wounded in him the chest with a dagger, otherwise called a "whinyard," from which wound he immediately died.

1502, 9th August. Roger Raw, merchant, of Newcastle, desired sanctuary, because he, on the 6th day of the month aforesaid, in the town of Newcastle, in a street commonly called the Side, with a Scotch axe, attacked one Antony Ray, and grievously wounded him in four parts of his body, viz., in the flank, and in the left breast, and in both arms.

1503, 2nd August. Thomas Wylkynson, of Gateshead, desired sanctuary, because on account of an attack made on him by one John Rede, of Alnwick, on St. Michael's Day, 1502, in self defence he struck the said John Rede with a whinyard, and mortally wounded him twice in the chest and also in the neck, from which wounds the said John immediately died.

1507, 9th June. John Sharparow, of Newcastle, desired sanctuary, because he, on the 6th of the said month, in consequence of an attack made on him by Edward Gallon, of the said town, feloniously struck the said Edward with a dagger, inflicting upon him a mortal wound on the right side of his neck, from which, the day after, the said Edward died.

1508, 7th November. Edward Robson, of Tynemouth, desired sanctuary, because on the Sabbath before Palm Sunday, in a street commonly called Cloth Market, in the town of Newcastle, he feloniously struck one Edmund Tailour on the shoulder with a dagger, of which he immediately died.

1509, 31st March. Robert Bynks, of Newcastle, desired sanctuary, because on the last Sunday in Lent, in the house of a certain Thomas Sanderson, near the churchyard of St. Nicholas's Church, he feloniously and mortally struck one Robert Tailour in the right breast with a dagger, in consequence of which he died within five days.

1512, 11th October. Robert Lee desired sanctuary, because he, with others, was present when one John Fresill, between the walls of the town of Newcastle and the water of Tyne, and below the bridge of Tyne, mortally struck one William Wright with a dagger on his lock between the shoulders, on the ninth day of the month aforesaid; from which wound he died the same day. Lee also declares that he aided and helped Fresill to escape from the hands of the bystanders.

1514, 22nd May. John Horsley, of Newcastle, desired sanctuary. On the 13th December, 1513, on the Sandhill, in Newcastle, in consequence of an attack made on him by one John Taytte, he feloniously and mortally struck the said John Taytte with a dagger on the right side of the chest, inflicting on him a mortal wound, from which he immediately died. For which felony John Horsley was taken and arrested by the officers or servants of the lord the king in that town, and put in the prison there called Newgate, which prison the same John Horsley feloniously broke and escaped.

1515, 5th September. . . . Colt, of Alnwick, shoemaker, desired sanctuary, because he on the — day of the month of — in the year aforesaid, feloniously broke and escaped from a certain prison in the town of Newcastle called the Newgate, where he with others was imprisoned, and because he is afraid, on account of such prison breaking and escape, to submit himself to the secular law.

1515, 9th September. Roland Hall, of Marley-on-the-Hill, in the parish of Whickham, desired sanctuary because, in consequence of an attack made upon him, he struck one Thomas Heryaby, of Whickham, with a sword, at the Close Gate, on the feast of Our Lady's nativity, inflicting on him a mortal wound, of which he died the same day.

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## UNWANTED CERTIFICATES

In a number of previous *Journals* (the last in Spring 1996) we have listed "unwanted" certificates sent to the Society - certificates which related to the "wrong" person, or which, for other reasons, the owner does not want to keep.

You are invited to send any such certificates you may have. You never know who may be delighted to receive the information on them. Northumberland and Durham only, please. A list of all certificates we hold can be had by sending £1 plus an A4 envelope. Copies of information on the certificates can be obtained by sending 20p or 20p in stamps. Write to Mrs. M. Furness, 8 Shadfen Park Road, Marden Farm, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3JD.

### DEATH CERTIFICATES

132	HOWEY Lily	17 October 1945	Newcastle upon Tyne.
133	LEWIS Mary	2 January 1884	Stockton, Durham.
134	SCOTT Christopher	27 October 1957	Tynemouth, Northumberland.
135	LAVERICK, John	29 August 1908	N.S.W., Australia.
136	GRIERSON Dorothy	9 November 1902	Knaresborough, Harrogate, York.
137	RACE Hugh	28 December 1841	St. Oswald, Lanchester, Durham.
138	RACE Mary	1 June 1883	Easington, Durham.
139	RACE Mary	28 December 1884	St. Nicholas, Durham.
140	ATKINSON Elizabeth	13 January 1851	Tanfield, Durham.

### BIRTH CERTIFICATES

217	DOXFORD George	4 August 1838	Tynemouth, North Shields, Northumberland.
218	ROBSON John Edward	16 December 1857	All Saints Newcastle.
219	ROBSON Mary Anne	9 May 1860	Gateshead, Durham.
220	HARRISON Margaret Ann	4 January 1841	Houghton le Spring, Durham.
221	LOWE Constance Janet	17 July 1859	Eastern Bolton, Lancs.
222	HARLE Joseph	21 June 1856	Bywell, Hexham.
223	HARLE Edward	5 May 1865	Harraton, Chester le Street, Durham.
224	ALLPORT Mary Ann	22 May 1845	Harraton, Chester le Street, Durham.
225	ANGUS Ann	20 November 1850	Lanchester, Durham.
226	SMITH William	15 January 1841	Bishopwearmouth South, Durham.
227	SMITH Thomas	3 December 1855	Heworth, Durham.
228	SMITH William	14 April 1839	Sunderland East, Durham.
229	ELLIOTT Edward Thomas	24 September 1872	Gateshead, Durham.
230	HEDLEY Margaret	24 May 1870	Wallsend, Tynemouth, Northumberland.
231	LINDSEY Elizabeth	2 May 1933	Tynemouth, Northumberland.
232	HUSS Roland Joseph	10 July 1906	Tynemouth, Northumberland.
233	EARLE Charles William	6 April 1863	Shoreditch, Haggerstone West, MDX.
234	HOGG Mary Jane	1 August 1848	Warkworth, Northumberland.
235	LAVERICK Elizabeth	11 October 1856	Ballarat, Australia.
236	RICHARDSON Elizabeth	18 July 1875	Houghton le Spring, Durham.
237	ATKINSON Eleanor	21 June 1850	Lanchester, Durham.
238	RICHARDSON John Pearson	6 February 1848	Lanchester, Durham.
239	ATKINSON Eleanor	14 July 1850	Easington, Durham.



## MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

133	GRAHAM Robert	DIXON Elixabeth	8 July 1838	Newcastle.
134	WIND William	SAYERS Elizabeth	16 February 1871	Durham.
135	DENNISON John	CODY Ann	19 November 1851	Newcastle upon Tyne.
136	MOYLE Stephen	ROWE Elizabeth Jane	15 October 1871	Ulverston, Lancaster.
137	LLOYD John	LLOYD Elizabeth	10 May 1845	Cerringydrudion, Denbighshire, Wales.
139	ROBSON William Morpeth	RAYNE Sarah	24 September 1871	Gateshead.
140	JOHNSON William	SNOWBALL Jane	14 May 1840	Haltwhistle, Northumberland.
141	ELDER Joseph	HUGLE Hannah	6 January 1852	Stranton, Durham.
142	JOBING Cecil Matthew	IRVINE Jeanie M.S.	10 February 1926	Launceston, Australia.
143	BOWNESS George	BLAKE Ellen	29 October 1874	Lydenburg, South Africa.
144	BELL Joseph	ANGUS Ann	6 May 1871	Durham.
145	RIDLEY Miles Scott Dent	FENWICK Adela H.V.	1 November 1925	Tanfield, Durham.
146	GODDARD Sidney Fred G.	DENTON Maureen Marie	5 January 1957	South Moor, Durham.
147	CLIFFORD George	COULSON Sarah	27 February 1909	Beamish, Durham.
148	WALKER William	GRAY Elizabeth	16 September 1882	Shadforth, Durham.
149	RAWLING William	LOWE Jane	23 July 1850	St. Oswald, Durham.
150	ATKINSON Thomas	DAWSON Isabella Jane	22 August 1881	St. Mary's, Gateshead, Durham.
151	WAKEFIELD Thomas	WAKEFIELD Sarah	16 October 1861	St. Mary's, Gateshead.
152	DRESSER Frederick	FRATER Margaret	17 April 1909	St. Peter, Sacriston, Durham.
153	TODD John	WILSON Isabella	27 October 1838	St. Mary's, Gateshead, Durham.
154	MODRAL Lawrence Sydney	JOHNSTON Doris	19 November 1938	Sacriston, Durham.
155	COTTERILL Thomas	CAIREY Susannah	28 June 1859	St. Mary's, Gateshead, Durham.
156	BRIGGS Matthew	DAVIES Jane	30 June 1857	St. Thomas, Bishop Wearmouth, Durham.
157	ROBINSON John	WADDELL Mary Letitia	6 February 1857	Shincliffe, Durham.
158	ALLISON John	JACKSON Jane Ann	31 July 1859	Colliery, Catchgate, Durham.
159	OWEN George	CRINSON Margaret	14 June 1873	Shincliffe, Durham.
160	PADGET John Jacob	HARLAND Jennie Righton	16 December 1903	Chester le Street, Durham.
161	AUSTIN John Thomas	GEORGESON Jane	18 February 1905	Chester le Street, Durham.
162	DAWSON John James	WHISKER Isabella (nee CARR)	2 November 1912	Beamish, Durham.
163	HILLARY Alfred	SPENCE Mary Jane	25 October 1913	Beamish, Durham.
164	SCOTT Nicholas	MOON Mary Isabel	3 October 1917	Tanfield, Durham.
165	CALLENDER Matthew Hunter	MILBURN Eleanor	23 November 1918	Tanfield, Durham.
166	BATES John	NICHOLSON Jane Annie	22 December 1923	Chester le Street, Durham.
167	CROSBY John	WRIGHT Sepsie	4 March 1925	Tanfield, Durham.
168	VASEY Edward	BROWN Elizabeth	13 May 1878	St. Peter, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland.
169	DONKIN John	MATTHEWS Isabella	1 January 1866	Holy Saviours, Tynemouth, N/land.
170	LAVERICK John	GRAY Mary	2 March 1850	Union Chapel (Presbyt.) Sunderland.
172	GRIERSON Thomas	MASON Ann	28 February 1846	Shadforth, Durham.

## BORDER BAPTISMS & BURIALS - A QUIRK

You will know that you should look in the 'next parish' if you cannot find a baptism, burial or marriage in the place you expect it to be. If you are looking in north Northumberland, the 'next parish' may well be in Scotland!

You will also know that Civil Registration began in England on 1st July 1837 but did not begin in Scotland until 1st January 1855. A searcher for a 'Border birth' after 1837 may well start by looking at the English Civil Registration, and if that fails, may try a Scottish Parish Register next. If that also fails, what next?

It might not be too obvious that some children could be born in Scotland, but baptised in England. So, if the birth occurred in the 1837-1854 period, it will be recorded neither in the English birth registrations nor in the Scottish baptismal register. It will appear only in the baptismal register of the English church. The baptismal registers of English border parishes such as Berwick, Norham and Cornhill contain many entries with Scottish addresses and it seems reasonable to assume that, in these cases, at least one parent was English and that the child was being brought back to an English 'home parish' for baptism. Take the case of Mary, the daughter of William Fulton, a labourer of Eyemouth — in Scotland — and his wife Margaret. She was baptised on 13th August 1837 — but at Berwick!

Obviously, she will not be in a Scottish baptism register, and although I haven't checked, it is a fair bet she is not in the St. Catherine's House Indexes, either.

In fact, the baptism register of Berwick contains 34 such baptisms, with Scottish addresses, in the three years 1837-1839 alone, whilst at Norham there are over 50 between 1837 and 1855.

There is a similar situation in English post-1837 burial registers. Many entries relate to people with Scottish 'abode' who presumably died in Scotland and will therefore not appear in the English civil registration of deaths, and obviously will not appear in a Scottish burial register. Possibly many of these folk were English and were being brought back to their English parish of origin to be buried. The Norham register contains 40 such entries, whilst there are 16 in Kirknewton.

So don't rely on English Civil Registration. There are other possibilities.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Members of long standing, and with long memories, may recall that an article on this topic, entitled 'Odd Borderers' appeared in the very first NDFHS Journal, volume 1, number 1, in 1975, and in that issue and the next one were published the 'odd' Berwick baptisms 1837-1840 and those for Kirknewton 1837-1855, together with the 'odd' burials in Kirknewton 1837-55 and in Norham 1838-39.

# M.H. 106 ... WORTH A LOOK?

by John Sheen

During the First World War every unit of the Royal Army Medical Corps which treated wounded and sick soldiers had an Admissions Book. The surviving books are kept in M.H. 106, at the PRO Kew. My initial introduction to these records came about in the following way.

My mothers father, Ralph Frater, enlisted into the 9th Battalion of the Border Regiment, in Durham, in the early days of September 1914. Although the Regiment recruited in Cumberland and Westmorland, over 500 men of the 9th Battalion were recruited from County Durham. The battalion became the Divisional Pioneers to the 22nd Division, and embarked for France with that Division on the 3rd September 1915. After only two months on the Western Front the 22nd Division was transferred to the Salonika Front, where it remained until the Armistice with Bulgaria, when some units went as Garrison troops to Turkey. There were more casualties on the Salonika Front due to sickness than to battle injuries, and this is why my research led me to the M.H. 106 books.

As a boy I spent many hours with my grandfather, talking about his time as a Battalion Headquarters signaller in the dug-outs and trenches of Salonika. One story he told me stuck in my mind for many years. When soldiers went sick in Salonika they were sent to Malta to convalesce, but once fit again they were not sent back to Salonika, but were drafted to France. Word soon spread amongst the soldiers what was happening, and they became reluctant to go sick because being sent to France was regarded as more or less a death sentence.

One day Signaller Ralph Frater became ill with dysentery, and was eventually evacuated to a clearing station behind the lines. The word was that every one was going to be evacuated to Malta and the men were not at all happy about it. So Ralph had words with the Matron - very strong words! - and told her she was an old dragon. The Matron's reply was that if he did not behave himself he would be sent back up the line. Well he said a bit more, and she came back with an order signed by an officer, that he, and several others who were trying the same thing, were to return to their units. (Exactly what they wanted.) As he said "I practically crawled out of there back to the battalion". Back with the 9th the M.O. was sympathetic and the men were put on light duties.

Having been told this story, when I became aware of the Admission Books, I went post haste to see if I could find him in them. Only a small selection of books remain; those from the Salonika Front are for the 28th General Hospital and the 66th Field Ambulance was one of three Royal Army Medical Corps Units.

The 66th Field Ambulance was one of the three Royal Army Medical Corps Units serving in the 22nd Division. Could it be he passed through here?

The Admission Books for the 66th Field Ambulance on the Salonika Front cover the period from November 1915 through to October 1918. The Books are relatively thin, about 14 inches high and 9 inches wide. The entries for a casualty cover both pages and there were 23 columns to be filled in. However, very often many are left blank. They are as follows:-

- Admission serial number.
- Regiment, Battalion, Corps.
- Battery, Company.
- Regimental number.
- Rank.
- Surname, Christian name.
- Age, Service (shown in twelfths).
- Months with Field Force (shown in twelfths).
- Diseases, Wounds, Injuries.
- Date of Admission -  
(for original disease), (new disease).
- Date of Discharge -  
(to duty), (new disease), (by death).
- Date of Transfer to -  
(sick convoy), (other hospital).
- Date of Transfer from -  
(sick convoy), (other hospital).
- Number of days treatment.
- Designation of Ward in which treated.
- Religion.
- Observations.

The 66th Field Ambulance Admission Books are covered by pieces MH106/130 through to MH106/150. The soldiers names were entered as they arrived, no indexes, and to complicate matters, French Zouaves and Cypriot Muleteers were also admitted at the same time. The books for 1916 came and went without any trace of my grandfather and by the time I had reached the volumes for late 1917 I was getting disheartened. However, I pressed on with 1918 - still no sign by the end of the summer and with only two volumes to go I almost gave up, but there in MH106/148 was an entry for 9th Border Regt., 14079, Frater R. The only other columns with an entry were the Diseases, which said NIL INFLUENZA and Date of Admission 15/9/18.

So after all the work it wasn't the dysentery I found, but an entry to the Field Ambulance with Flu. Of course the great Influenza epidemic of 1918 was sweeping across Europe and my grandfather Ralph was one who caught it and survived.

So what next? The Battalion War Diary for the 9th Border Regt, gives their location on 15th September 1918 as Christmas Ravine. The War Diary for the 66th Field Ambulance gives the location of the Advanced Dressing Station as being on the reverse slope of Border Hill. The next step after this was to look at a map of the Salonika Front and find both locations. As it happened there is also marked on the map, the track that my grandfather would have travelled down to go sick all those years ago. The War Diary for the Field Ambulance records "Weather Hot and Sunny. Wind blowing tents down, lots of dust. Isolation Camp set up 16/9/18. Influenza very prevalent in the 22nd Battalion M.G.C. and 9th Border Regiment."

But what about *my* ancestor I hear you say! For those with ancestors in the Tyneside Irish and the Tyneside Scottish there are several Medical Health sets of books worth a look.

The 3rd Casualty Clearing Station was based in Punchvilliers behind the 32nd Division on the 1st of July 1916. Passing through the books during June and July are Tyneside Irish and Scottish of the 34th Division, 16th Newcastle Commercials and 17th North East Railway Battalions of the Northumberland Fusiliers, of the 32nd Division, as well as men of the 18th Durham Light Infantry, The Durham Pals of the 31st Division.

The 34th Casualty Clearing Station was based at Vequemont, to the rear of 34th Division. Many Tyneside Irish and Scottish passed through this C.C.S., although the reader must be warned there were many other Casualty Clearing Stations in the area, so your ancestor may have gone elsewhere.

For those with ancestors in the 20th Durham Light Infantry, Wearside, the records of 139th Field Ambulance are worth looking at.

The records for Number 2 General Hospital, at Le Havre, and the 18th General, at Camiers, have Tyneside Irish and Scottish passing through.

In some cases the actual Ward notes have survived. These, in some cases, make very sad reading, particularly when the casualty dies, as all injuries are noted and the exact time of death is given. One can see the soldier passing away in front of you, as you see his pulse drop and life drains away, from multiple gun shot wounds in the chest and thigh, and the left hand is amputated. (This from the ward notes of 24/882 Cpl Robert Charters 1st Tyneside Irish who died in the 18th General Hospital at 1150 a.m. on the 14th February 1917).

Yet, on the brighter side, some men can be traced nearly all the way through the evacuation system, e.g. 24/878 Private Hugh Monaghan was admitted to the 3rd Casualty Clearing Station on the 2nd of July 1916, and evacuated the same day. On the 4th of July he was admitted to 2nd General Hospital where he remained until the 5th when he was evacuated to England aboard HM Hospital Ship *Asturias*. In the same volume are the names of 20 men of the Tyneside Battalions - some evacuated on the HMHS *Egypt*, HMHS *Marahawa* or transferred to Convalescence Camps on the French coast.

So the moral of the story is GO ON, HAVE A LOOK. If you know he was wounded, it might be worth it.

## LOST FOR EVER?

There can be no doubt that the tale implied by the following paragraph in Falstone Presbyterian Chapel Register was repeated across the region, as the Presbyterian movement became more organised in the mid-eighteenth century, and regular record-keeping commenced.

The Falstone Presbyterian community was formed in 1709 and the earliest baptism is dated 1735. There must almost certainly be baptisms from the early days, for children whose parents had moved away before the opportunity to 'give in' the names had been offered.

*The names registered in this book are placed in proper order as the children were baptised only from the 22nd day of June 1770. Those that are registered which have been baptised before that time are written in the Beginning (sic) of the Book in the order as the names were given in.*

*As a Register had not been kept for some years past no other form could be followed here.'*

## MISSING ENTRIES ON THE 1891 CENSUS MICROFICHE

Are you looking in the 1891 Census of the Conssett area of County Durham for the surnames Almond, Buckle, Dowds, Gibson, Griffin, Knaggs, Langton, McAnney, McLeer, Moor, Purvis, Suddes, Surtees, Thew or Wade? The PRO microfiche of 1891 Census, piece RG12/4090, which covers Conside and Knitsley omits two of the census pages (parts of folios 117 and 129). The addresses covered by these missing pages are 54-63 Front Street and 16-20 Albert Row.

If anyone has looked through the Census for these names, and has drawn a blank, perhaps this is the reason! The NDFHS Library has a copy of the 'missing' entries and anyone interested should write to the Librarian at Bolbec Hall enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope, plus 10p extra in stamps to cover photocopying costs, and they will be sent details.

Thanks to Mrs. K. Willans for this information.



# CALENDAR CALCULATIONS

by Jim Brannigan

This article first appeared in Coventry FHS Journal and we are grateful to that Society and to Mr. Brannigan for permission to reprint it here.

Often family historians would like to know the day of the week a marriage, birth or baptism occurred. In the March issue of the Journal I said that I had seen an article in the Journal of the Tunbridge Wells Family History Society on this subject and that I would seek permission to reprint their article. In response to my note Graham Matthews has sent me his method of doing the same thing, together with a computer programme called DATEDAY which calculates the day of the week and also works out the dates of Easter between 500 AD and 3999 AD.

The following is my adaptation of Graham's method of working out the day for any given date.

There are ten stages to the process, which is given below together with an example for the 14th of March 1945.

1. DAY:	Write down the day of the month	14
2. MONTH:	Write down the month offset (see table 1)	3
3. YEAR:	Write down the last two digits of the year	45
4. LEAP:	Divide above number by 4 but ignore remainders	11
5. MINUS:	Subtract one in leap year if before the 1st of March	0
6. CENT:	Write down the century offset (see table 2)	0
7. JULIAN:	Add 11 if on or before 2nd September 1752	0
8.	Add the six numbers together	73
9.	Divide the sum (in 8) by 7 and write down the remainder	3
10.	Read the day of the week from table 3	Wednesday

## TABLES

1: Month Offset	2: Century Offset	3: Day Codes
January 0	16th 6	0 Sunday
February 3	17th 5	1 Monday
March 3	18th 4	2 Tuesday
April 6	19th 2	3 Wednesday
May 1	20th 0	4 Thursday
June 4	21st 6	5 Friday
July 6		6 Saturday
August 2		
September 5		
October 0		
November 3		
December 5		

## NOTE

In the year 1752 the Gregorian Calendar was adopted in England and Wales. Prior to this the Julian Calendar was used and the year ran from the 25th of March<sup>1</sup> to the 24th of March. The last time this was used was 1750/51 with 1751 starting on the 25th of March and ending on the 31st of December. 1752 started on the 1st of January and ended on the 31st of December but eleven days were missing out of September of that year viz. the 3rd to the 13th inclusive.

The eleven days are corrected for in item 7 of the process.

To correct for dates between the 1st of January and the 24th of March in years prior to 1751 it is necessary to increase the year by one i.e. if the Parish Register gives a date as 14th March 1745 then use 14th March 1746 to obtain the correct day of the week.

<sup>1</sup>Lady Day, nine months before Christmas.

## Pitmen's Dress

The older pitmen had many peculiar characteristics. Their dresses were velveteen, with large and shining metal buttons. They delighted in gaudy colours, and their 'best' waistcoats, called by them posey-jackets, were frequently of various curious patterns, displaying flowers of various hues. Their stockings were blue, purple, pink or mixed colours. Many had their hair very long which, on week days, was either tied in a queue, or rolled up in curls; but when dressed in their 'best', it was commonly spread over their shoulders. Some of them wore two or three narrow ribbons around their hats, placed at equal distances, in which it was customary to insert one or more bunches of primroses or other flowers.

(Taken from Story of 50 Years of Crook Co-op Society 1865-1915).

## A Foundling

This entry from the baptismal registers of Christ Church, Tynemouth illustrates a typical method adopted by the Overseers of the Poor for naming foundlings:

'(Baptised) 20 February 1861: Fanny Dockwray (of) Tynemouth Workhouse, (found in Dockwray Square, January 17th, 1861).'

# ONE ARTICLE LEADS TO ANOTHER

by Russell Wear

Marjorie Robson (*Autumn 1996 Journal*) hits the nail right on the head - I was one of the many members who felt that I knew little that would be of interest to others. However, her own notes show just how wrong you can be, and indeed provide an interesting connection with my own research.

Unlike many, I had a passing interest in family history from an early age, and whilst questions about my mother's family usually met with an interesting response, this was not true on my father's side where I got the impression the subject was considered not worthy of discussion. My father's full name - Ian Thompson Curry Wear - was interesting, evidently including two surnames. In the course of visits to the paternal family home ("Bungonia", Elvaston Park Road, Hexham), I became aware of the origin of Curry; this had been my great-grandmother's maiden name, and I was told the family had been clockmakers. Indeed, a grandfather clock inscribed "T. Curry, Hexham" stood on the stairs, and eventually came into my possession.

The notes on the early days of the Society in the *Autumn Journal* were also of interest. It was in the *Autumn* of 1975 that I exchanged some letters with Don Mason, then resident in Harrow - he suggested that I should join the newly formed NDFHS. To my regret, it was 19 years before I finally did so! Contact with Don revolved around my interest in the Haydon area, to where I had traced the Wear family's earliest known roots. I had been told by an elderly relative that the gravestone of my great-great grandmother was beside the path leading to the door of Corbridge Church - but she had been buried as Mary Jamieson, evidently as the result of a second marriage. A visit to the church located the stone, which seems to be in the nature of a memorial. It said that Mary Jamieson had died on 6 May 1874 at the age of 47, the wife of John Jamieson, and had been buried at the cemetery.

That seemed reasonably conclusive - but a check of the Corbridge Parish Registers produced no record of the marriage, and more interesting, neither did a check of the index at St. Catherine's House.

A check of the 1871 Census of Corbridge produced some even more interesting information: what appeared to be Mary (with surname spelt Weir this time) and a family of two sons and a daughter, with names corresponding to known family names, appeared - she was shown as unmarried, and born at Haydon Bridge. Alas, the Haydon registers were silent about Mary.

On one of my periodic visits to Hexham, I was told that the old Curry gravestone was to be found in Hexham cemetery, and I went along to find it. Again, it was exactly where I had been told, and revealed that Thompson Curry, watchmaker, had died on 10 June 1924, aged 82. It occurred to me that as he had been a local trader, an obituary might appear in the press.

As Marjorie Robson says, such sources can be of great value, and so it proved. A visit to Hexham Library soon revealed an obituary in the *Hexham Courant* for 14 June 1924. This said that he had been in business in Priestpopple, Hexham and had come to Hexham nearly 60 years ago from Berwick. After being with the late Mr. W. Harrison, (one of Marjorie's forebears, it seems!) in Fore St., he had started up on his own "many years ago". It had the usual list of mourners, including some names I had come across but not placed, and in some cases their relationships.

Flushed with success, I then thought it worthwhile to check the 1881 Census of Hexham, and was certainly not prepared for what came next. It said that Thompson Curry (then aged 39) was a journeyman watchmaker - and had been born in New South Wales (British Subject). (A journeyman, I discovered, is a qualified tradesman employed by another). I knew of no connection at all with Australia and came to the conclusion it could be an error. Again the research lapsed.

It was in February 1995 that I received a letter from my mother, still resident in Hexham. She sent me a copy of a letter that had appeared in the *Hexham Courant* on 3 February from one Eric Coleman of Bristol, enquiring if any reader knew of his relative Ian Weir (*sic*) who had lived in Hexham, and had been a Japanese prisoner of war. His letter also gave the names of my grandmother and great-grandmother, so there was an obvious connection. I quickly made contact with Mr. Coleman, and discovered that he was the grandson of Thompson Curry's brother, John Dumble Curry.

He told me that the family had indeed come from Berwick, and had gone to Australia in the first half of the last century. There had been three brothers (Thompson, John Dumble and Andrew), and when their father (who had been connected with the building trade, including the construction of a church) had died in Australia when they were young boys, their mother had brought them home. Thompson had found his way to Hexham, John Dumble to Bristol, and Andrew to Torquay. Why the family has dispersed in this way is not yet known. He said that they had been in a place in Australia called "Bungonia", after which the family home in Hexham had been named. The pieces start falling into place!

The next obvious move was to try and find out something about the Australian connection. A glance at books about Australia did not produce any places called Bungonia, but I eventually found that there was an area of National Park of that name near Goulburn in New South Wales. From the "Genealogical Research Directory" I established that there was a Family History Society in Goulbourn, so I sent off a letter to their Secretary asking if they could suggest likely avenues of research.

It did not take long to receive a reply; as all family historians will know, you do get a bit of good luck sometimes, and in this case I was fortunate. I was told that the cemetery records at Bungonia contained a record of the burial of one John Thompson Curry aged 44, a plasterer, who had died 2 February 1846 and had been buried two days later. His spouse was listed as Sarah and he had lived at a nearby property named Glenrock. There was no headstone, and he had been buried in the Anglican section. It seems that death registrations in Australia record the names of parents, but in this case it was shown as "unknown". There was, however, a record of the birth of Thompson Curry at Bungonia in 1841, his parents being shown as John and Jane - perhaps she had been Sarah Jane, a not uncommon combination? However, there was no record of his brothers.

Even more interesting, I was sent a small booklet about the history of Bungonia, which had been produced by the local historical society. It is a fascinating booklet about the early days of settlement in Australia, and mentions the construction of The Parsonage in 1841, as a residence for the clergy to use as a base from which to serve the exceptionally large area they had to cover. The building is still there, and the names of those engaged on the construction are recorded, including John Curry and Robert Evans, plasterers. John Curry was said to have had a brother in Australia who had been a Chaplain to the Army; the story is that he died intestate and the family in England later tried to claim the property he left. This remains to be followed up.

Some loose ends remained. Why should the rather unusual Christian name of Thompson be used? I decided to have a look at the IGI for Northumberland. This revealed the baptism at Berwick on 22 September 1799 of George Curry, son of Andrew Curry and Dorothy Thompson.

Two more sons followed - John (30 August 1801 - which would fit with his death in Australia in 1846 at the age of 44) and James (27 July 1803). But why had they gone to Australia - was he a convict? This is perhaps unlikely, as his wife was able to bring her three children home; there remains much more to find out! One lead is that the 1881 Census of Bristol has revealed that John Curry claims to have been born in Berwick about 1837. If this is correct, it seems they went out between 1837 and 1841 and perhaps returned in the 1850's. Might shipping records in Australia help?

This had all proved very interesting, but what of Mary Jamieson? I decided to try the local Registrar in Hexham. A very helpful lady checked her records, and suggested that an entry of marriage at Hexham Register Office on 24 June 1871 might have a connection. This shows that Mary Wear, spinster aged 43, married John Jemmison, a widower and road contractor, of Corbridge. It is easy with hindsight to think of local accents!

Marjorie Robson mentions the involvement of one of her relatives in railway accidents. I wonder if he was involved when Mary's son, William Usher Wear, had the misfortune to lose his legs in a railway accident at Corbridge station when he was a boy. This was probably reported in the *Courant*; how ironic that it was to Joseph Catherall, proprietor of the *Courant*, that he was apprenticed as a compositor on 1 August 1878! It did not seem to affect him that much - he lived to the age of 74 and ran a cafe in Hencotes in his spare time. He was always known in the family as Usher - now why might that be, and where does that name come from?

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

Mr. Wear's address is 50 Tattershall, Toothill, Swindon SN5 8BX.

## I.G.I. ERROR - Test Your Latin!

The IGI is a wonderful tool, but all entries must be checked against the original to make sure there are no errors, and to garner any additional, possibly essential, information contained in the entry.

Here is an extreme example of what can happen.

First, study the following baptismal entry from the IGI for Northumberland, 1992 edition.

**MATHER, JACOBO : ROBERTI & ISABELLAE 1797 MARCH 26 : NEWCASTLE ST ANDREW RC**

Now, compare it with the original entry:

*Die 2do Martii 1797 nata et die 26o ejusd. mensis at anni baptizata fuit a Jacobo Mather, Anna Joanna, filia Robberti et Isabellae (olim Gibbon) Mather conjugum. Patrinus Jacobus Mather, Matrina Helena Potts, Gateshead.*

See if you can translate the entry and explain the error!

For those whose Latin is a little rusty, the answer is on page 139.



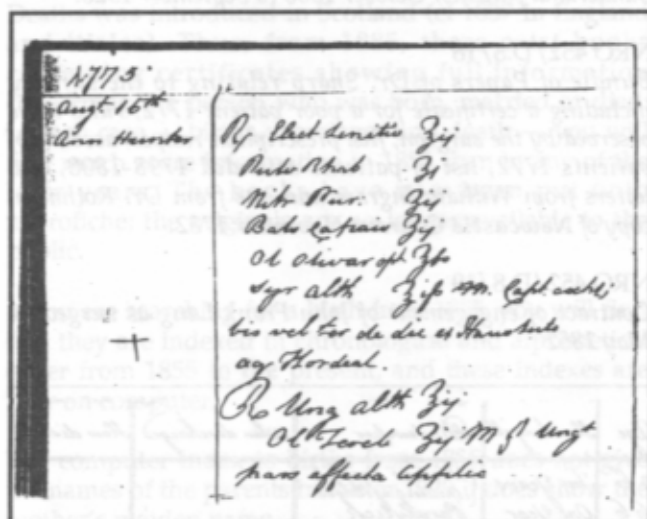
# THE SICK & LAME POOR OF BAMBURGH

## Some 18th Century Hospital Records

Do you know about your ancestors' illnesses? What they suffered from? You may well know the cause of death from a death certificate or, in earlier years, from the extra details which you can sometimes find in a Burial Register. But they don't tell you anything of the diseases and traumas your forebears had to endure in their lifetime — the minor and the serious, the almost fatal, the chronic, the crippling. How can you find out?

Old hospital records do still exist but in the main they are late 19th or 20th century compilations. Earlier records are scarcer, but some survive and if you can find some for 'your' parish, they can give you tantalising glimpses at the everyday ailments of your long-dead great-great grandparents.

Hospital Records, and medical records in general, can take several forms. Have you ever seen an 18th century prescription, for example? Here is one for Ann Hunter, dated August 16th 1775. My late-20th century doctor struggled a bit when I confronted him with it, but did suggest that Ann had been given an ointment which she was to use twice a day. Maybe some of our medical members can tell us more, and perhaps even suggest what Ann's complaint was!



Reproduced by kind permission of Northumberland Record Office.

Ann lived, almost certainly, in the Bamburgh area of Northumberland. Her prescription appears, with many more, in a 'Prescription Book' which runs from May 13th 1775 to June 15th 1776. It is from the 'Castle Surgery', the 'Charitable Institution at Bambro Castle for the Relief of the Sick and Lame Poor'. You will find it at the Melton Park site of Northumberland Record Office under reference NRO 452/D.8/8.

This surgery and a dispensary were operated by Lord Crewe's Charity. The history of this is fascinating but can be only briefly mentioned here.

Nathaniel, Lord Crewe (whose name appears on a few pubs in our area) was Bishop of Durham and by his Will in 1720, he made certain specific dispositions, but more importantly for us and for many beneficiaries of his largesse, he left the residue of his considerable estate to be devoted to such charitable purposes as his trustees might consider desirable.

They decided to devote funds to such causes as building and repairing churches, supporting schools, assisting shipwrecked seamen - and to setting up and maintaining a surgery and dispensary for the poor.

The numerous facets of the Charity have produced an abundance of records, many of them of potential interest to family historians.

Let us examine the surviving Dispensary records, which are likely to interest anyone with ancestors in the Bamburgh area. I want to mention, in particular, three hefty volumes. First, there is the 'Prescription Book' to which I have already referred. Unfortunately, it covers a period of only just over a year, but embracing a much longer period are two other volumes -- a 'Dispensary Register of Patients October 1777 to January 1784' (NRO 452/D.8/10) and a 'Dispensary Book', a similar register of patients from April 1793 to June 1816 (NRO 452/D.8/11). Each of these tomes contains many thousands of names of the patients treated, either as in-patients or, more commonly, as out-patients.

Our Georgian ancestors, perhaps like ourselves, found many reasons to visit hospitals, and it seems likely that almost everyone who lived in the Bamburgh area at the appropriate period will have visited, and will have been recorded, maybe several times, in these registers.

The information given in the Dispensary Registers is in a standard format, with a date, and then columns for:

- (1) Name.
- (2) Parish or Township --- predominantly in the Bamburgh area with places like Beadnell, Budle, Embleton, Newstead and Lucker as well as Bamburgh itself, but I also noted a few from further afield such as Berwick, Wooler, Ellingham and Longhoughton.
- (3) County --- almost invariably Northumberland.
- (4) Age of Patient.
- (5) 'Time Diseases'd'.
- (6) Nature of Illness.
- (7) Date discharged.
- (8) How discharged - this is either 'cured', 'relieved', 'sent to Newcastle Infirmary', or inevitably, 'dead'.

The illnesses from which the good folk of Bamburgh suffered cover the whole range of ailments, many recognisable today but some vague and uncertain. The dread cholera morbus appears. There was sore throat, deafness, worms, abscess on finger, cough and cold. There was ague, fever, dropsy, heat, rheumatism, nervous, measles, pleurisy, obstruction, strain on thigh, smallpox and even a gunshot wound on a 23 year old woman in March 1803.

An 'account' was drawn up each year and a glance at some of the figures shows very clearly the large numbers treated. The year is to 17th October.

Year To	Patients At Start Of Year	In-Patients	Out-Patients	Total	Cured	Relieved	Sent To Nide Infirmary	Dead	Patients At End Of Year	Total
Oct. 1779	27	25	856	908	768	81	3	6	50	908
Oct. 1780	50	16	768	834	685	100	3	4	42	834
Oct. 1781	42	22	1255	1319	1106	66	3	5	139	1319
Oct. 1782	139	29	1578	1746	1585	123	2	12	23	1746
Oct. 1783	23	29	1865	1917	1623	200	3	7	84	1917
Oct. 1784	50	17	835	902	744	86	5	15	52	902
Oct. 1785	52	81	821	904	697	131	3	28	45	904
Oct. 1786	45	25	938	1011	850	108	4	15	34	1011
Oct. 1787	34	26	727	787	612	135	3	13	24	787

With numbers like this, surely virtually every inhabitant of Bamburgh must have passed through the portals once or more in a lifetime!

The records might well provide useful genealogical evidence. Whilst they do not tell us of the marital status, or of the occupations of the patients, the mere knowledge that a man or woman was in Bamburgh on a certain date might prove valuable. And the stated ages, perhaps to be taken with scepticism in some cases, are obviously of interest. If a patient was 43 in 1783, you will know the approximate year of birth even if the burial entry you might find, perhaps many years later, fails to mention an age at death. And, as we all know, any tit-bit about your ancestor is always worthwhile, isn't it?

Unfortunately, searching is not easy. There are thousands of names and hundreds of pages to plough through. They are in date order rather than in alphabetical --- the medical staff of the time weren't thinking of genealogists 200 years later, after all!

There is no index. So there are no shortcuts. There are no copies or transcripts --- certainly NDFHS does not have any --- so you will have to go to Melton Park yourself, or if you can't manage that, persuade a friend or perhaps a professional researcher to look for you. The Record Office itself will of course search for you, for a fee, either for a given number of minutes or hours, or to cover specified years. You choose! And of course, you can get photocopies!

Good hunting ...

List of Records of Bamburgh Castle Surgery held by Northumberland Record Office, Melton Park, North Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 5QX.

Apart from the three items mentioned in the text, the Record Office holds the following, most of which I have not examined.

NRO 452/D.8/9

Dispensary Prescription Book 1901-1923.

NRO 452/D.8/12

Volume of Dispensary Statistical Reports 1866-1911.

NRO 452/D.8/13

Dispensary Casebook (separating Bamburgh and North Sunderland patients) March 1881-December 1888.

NRO 452/D.8/14 to 17

Dispensary Casebook (separating Bamburgh and North Sunderland patients) October 1888 to September 1920.

NRO 452/D.8/18

Bundle of Papers of Dr. Sharp relating to the surgery including a certificate for a poor patient 1772, rules to be observed by the surgeon, five prescription recipes, account of patients 1772, list of patients attended 1798-1800, two letters from William Ingram and one from Dr. Rothman, copy of Newcastle Courant November 1782.

NRO 452/D.8/19

Contract of engagement of John Frank Lang as surgeon 4 May 1852

1772	No.	Patient's Name	Parish	County	Age	How long ill	Disease	When discharged	How discharged
October 17	1	Donald Grant	Belford	Northumberland	36	Ten Years	Violent Cough & Spitting of Blood.		
	2	Andrew Anderson	Bambrough	D.	66	One Year	Paralytick		
	3	Daniel Lee	D.	D.	33	12 Months	Phthisis.		
	4	Eleanor Wright	D.	D.	7	8 Months	Scrophula.		
	5	Sarah Grey	D.	D.	40	2 Months	Rheumatick		
	6	Mary Birtam	D.	D.	8	1 Year	Scrophula.		
	7	Andrew Hood	D.	D.	20	16 Days	Tumor on his face.		
	8	Jane Thompson	D.	D.	3	3 Years	born paralytick.		
	9	Elizabeth Smith	Challen	D.	13	26 Days	Fever, and a large abscess on her arm.		
	10	Jane Wake	Bambro	D.	24	two Years	Scrophula.		
	11	Elizabeth Brydon	Coldingham	Scotland	49	two Months	Nervous		
	12	Ann Frobber	Balbros	Northumberland	44	20 Years	Scorbuleck		
	13	Thomas Holton	D.	D.	11	14 Days	Scorbuleck.		
	14	Adam Scott	D.	D.	31	4 Years	Scorbuleck.		
Oct. 24	15	Margaret Mc Donal	Belford	D.	13	16 Years	Scorbuleck.		

List of patients 1772 (NRO 452 D8/18). Reproduced by kind permission of Northumberland Record Office. In this instance the final two columns have been left blank, but they are usually completed in the 'Dispensary Book' mentioned in the text.

# SCOTTISH RECORDS

by Kathleen B. Cory

*This is a resumé of a talk given by Mrs. Cory at the 21st Anniversary Conference of NDFHS at Durham in September.*

The main repositories for Scottish records are in three separate places in Edinburgh. The General Register Office, known locally as New Register House in Princes Street, is adjacent to the Scottish Record Office, known locally as The Old House, and it is a split site with West Register House in Charlotte Square.

I will deal with each repository in turn.

## NEW REGISTER HOUSE

Now operates a self-service system. It holds records of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and Census Returns, microfiche and microfilm copies of which are only available for searching on payment of a fee.

The Birth, Marriage & Death records fall into two sections:

- (1) Old Parish Registers (OPR's) cover the years 1553 to 1854, the actual dates varying in each parish.
- (2) Statutory Records cover the years 1855 to the present.

In 1855, Statutory Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths was introduced in Scotland (cf 1837 in England and Wales). Thus, from 1885, there exist books containing certificates showing full information concerning the person who was born, married or died. In each case --- births, marriages and death --- you will find much more information in 1855 than in any of the later years. The books have now been put onto microfiche; the originals are no longer available to the public.

If you are searching for a birth from 1855, you will find that they are indexed in chronological and alphabetical order from 1855 to the present, and these indexes are now on computer.

The computer index to births from 1855 does not give the names of the parents but after 1929 it does show the mother's maiden name.

Having chosen your entry from the index, you must fill in a requisition slip with all the reference numbers, and then get yourself the microfiche entry.

**Births** - you will find the name of the child and its sex -- which can be useful as some names usually associated with boys, such as Bruce and Nicholas, were used for girls, whilst some names associated with girls, such as Ann, were used for boys. You will find the date and time and place of birth. Note the date of registration as well as that of birth. If a child is born at the end of December it may not be registered until January of the next year.

You will find the name of the father and his occupation, and the name and maiden surname (recorded as 'M/S') of the mother. If either parent had died by the time the birth was registered, this will be recorded as 'decd' or 'deceased'.

You will find the date and place of the parent's marriage --- particularly useful if the marriage was elsewhere than in Scotland. Irish families are particularly difficult to follow, and it is a great help if the date and place of a marriage in Ireland can be located on a birth entry in Scotland.

You may find different dates for one family, when father has celebrated well but not wisely and cannot remember when and where he was married!

The date and place of marriage was not recorded on birth entries for the years 1856 to 1860, but it is shown in 1855 and in years from 1861.

Note the name of the informant at the birth, usually a parent, but might be another relation, perhaps an aunt, uncle or grandparent.

For births between 1855 to 1891, be sure to note all addresses, as they can be most useful when census returns are to be searched.

If you are seeking a birth for, say for a great grandparent -- when you may not know the names of the parents -- check out your likely candidate and see if he or she died while still a child. If so, they could not possibly be your direct ancestor! It is very important to be sure you have the correct death entry or you will end up being a cuckoo in someone else's nest! Recently, I had a case where the birth of a great grandfather, and all his siblings, had apparently been located. When I checked what had been done, I found the child whose birth had previously been located had died age 7 days and so could not possibly be a great grandfather even though his name, place and date fitted what was known of the family.

**Marriage** - searching for a Marriage on the Computer index. There is a cross-index system available, and if you know the names of the bride and groom, or even just their surnames, just read the screen and you will find that by typing the letter 'z', you will be led into the programme you need.

Having found the date and place of a marriage, either from a birth entry or from the computer index, fetch yourself the marriage microfiche of your choice.



You will find:

- (1) Date and Place of Marriage. The place is not always a church. Scottish weddings can take place in a hotel or at home.
- (2) Denomination will be shown as 'according to the rites of the Church of Scotland' or the 'Episcopal Church' or the 'Roman Catholic Church'. This is important to note, since if the family were not 'Church of Scotland' their birth entries may not be found in the pre-1855 Old Parish Registers, and you will wish to know where to search before 1855. You will get the same information for both bride and groom.
- (3) Full Name, Age and Occupation. May be used in a search in a Trade Directory.
- (4) Marital Status. Bachelor or Widow, Spinster or Widow.
- (5) Usual Residence. Useful for searching a Census or a Directory.
- (6) Name of Father, showing his occupation and whether he was deceased at the time of the marriage.
- (7) Name of Mother and her maiden surname and whether she was deceased at the time of the marriage. Be sure to note if either of the parents is dead. This will cut down the time needed to locate their deaths.
- (8) Signature of Priest or Minister.
- (9) Witnesses. At least two people, sometimes relatives.

**Deaths** - after 1854, in the Statutory Records, are computer-indexed. These indexes show:

- (1) Ages from 1860 only.
- (2) Mothers maiden surname from 1974.

On the death certificates, you will see the full names of the deceased, age and occupation, marital status (married to or widower of ...) and name of spouse for the years 1856 to 1860.

If you find an entry without the name of the spouse, you should search the 1851 and 1861 census returns to see if the family is at the same address. You may find that the name of the informant and the address may give you enough information for you to be certain. If you find a death with the wrong spouses name but nearly everything else correct, do not dismiss this, as the person may have married twice and the first spouses name was not recorded. So search for a second marriage.

Place of death and usual residence should be used for a census return if they fall within the years 1855 to 1891.

Full names and occupations of parents should be shown. If the parents were deceased, this should be stated. This may be useful when searching for the deaths of the parents.

Also shown will be the cause of death and, in the early records, the burial place. The name of the informant is important when searching for present day relatives. Note whether the informant can sign his or her name, or whether it is merely 'x'. When searching for the deaths of a married couple, if you have no information about the death date, you should search for the name of the woman first. In Scottish law, a married woman retains her maiden surname, and should be indexed under both married and maiden surname.

Read the computer screen carefully and you will find that the cross-index search for married women can be carried out by pressing key 'x' and following the directions on the screen.

Having established that the death entry found for the woman, by checking the address, and the name of the spouse and informant, note whether or not she was a widow or married to her spouse. This should cut down the search time for the man's death, as you will know whether to search years before or after the woman's death. If however, the family remained in one parish all the time, and if this parish was a small one, then a search in the census returns may be worth while. If one of them died before 1891 (the latest publicly available census) it should be obvious between which years you will need to search for the death. Also, elderly people may be living with other family members.

If you search for a present day relative in Scotland, try to find the death in Scotland of a member of the family whose name you know. This death should give you the name of the informant, usually a son or daughter, and by finding his or her marriage and/or death, you can gradually come down to the present time.

**Old Parish Registers** - prior to 1855, records of births, marriages and deaths were kept by the Churches. These records are known as Old Parish Registers (OPR's). In comparison to the post-1855 registers, the information is sparse. These registers were usually compiled by the Session Clerk or the Minister, and they vary in content. Also, they tend to be about Church of Scotland members, but I have found other denominations recorded there. This is why it is important to note, from a statutory marriage entry, the denomination. Records for other denominations are held either by the Churches themselves or, in some cases, by the Scottish Record Office.

Only Church of Scotland Old Parish Registers are on computer and this OPR index includes births and marriages only, as it has been made from the International Genealogical Index (IGI) which does not include deaths. The computer index to OPR's, unlike the statutory index, shows the names of the parents, as well as the reference to the relevant OPR. Because this index was taken from the IGI, it is not entirely reliable and includes entries from Temple Records of the Mormons which may never have been near the OPR's!

All OPR's are on microfilm - not microfiche.

Birth entries show the name of the child and its parents. The usual wording is 'Lawful son' or 'Lawful daughter'. The words 'natural son' (or daughter) imply an illegitimate birth. These are shown as 'L.S.' or 'L.D.', or sometimes as 'A.S.N.' (a son named) or 'A.D.N.'.

Rarely is an address found, but in country areas, names of farms are often recorded. Witnesses are sometimes relations. The entries for Dundee are very informative - there you will find the name of the relative that the child has been named after, such as a maternal aunt.

**Date of Birth and/or Baptism.** In the index, the date is usually that of baptism, not birth. If both are shown on the OPR's, the Mormons have tended to choose the date of baptism and not the date of birth for the microfiche index from which the computer index was taken.

**Marriage entries** are indexed on the computer, with a reference to lead you to the relevant OPR, where you will find, as well as the names of the couple, sometimes the name of the bride's father. There is seldom an address. Usually just 'of this parish' or 'of the parish of .....'. If either bride or groom lived in another parish, it will be worth searching there — you might find further information. Sometimes the only extra information is the amount of the dues paid to the church. You will find the words 'pands' 'pawns' and 'pledges'. Couples were required to give pledges, sums of money as a promise of good conduct before the marriage, and a promise to marry within a certain time of calling the banns. Part was returned to the couple and part returned to the poor. Cautioners were appointed to check that the couple behaved themselves to the satisfaction of the Minister and Elders!

The dates found on the marriage index, and on the OPR's, is usually the date of proclamation, rather than of the date of marriage, although some parishes did record the marriage date.

The event will be indexed twice in the county microfiche index — under both bride and groom. The computer has a facility enabling you to key in both surnames.

**Deaths before 1855** - are not on the computer index. Few parishes kept death records, and of those which did, very few recorded more than simply the name of the deceased. You will have to find references from the paper index books in New Register House.

Often the only record of death is in the parish accounts with references such as 'Mortcloth hired out. Second best 1/- for a child of James Smith' — but which child of James Smith?

**Monumental Inscriptions** - are held in New Register House and at the Library of the Scottish Genealogy Society at 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh.

**The Census Returns** - are the vital link between events taking place before and after 1855. As in England and Wales, censuses were taken every ten years from 1841, but are only available to the public for 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891. They give the name, age, marital status, occupation and address and, most importantly, the parish and county of birth.

The 1841 returns, as in England, are less informative than later ones. They do not show marital status and the age is rounded down to the nearest five years. No parish of birth is shown, only whether or not the person was born in the county for which the census is being taken. There is also 'E' for England, 'I' for Ireland, and 'F' for all others — 'Foreign'. Kinship was not shown so be careful you do not assume a brother or sister is not assumed wrongly to be a husband or wife.

The 1851 Census gives more information, the same as in England.

## SCOTTISH RECORD OFFICE (The Old House)

There is no fee payable for researching in the Historical Search Room. You will be given a pass which also covers research in West Register House in Charlotte Square. In the Scottish Record Office ('S.R.O.') you will find Sasines (Land Records), Kirk Session Minutes, records for Churches other than the Church of Scotland, and Gifts and Deposits (private family and estate papers), as well as Wills and the 'Register of Deeds'.

**Wills** - there are two types of Testaments.

1. Testament Testamentar, where a Will was left and an executor named.
2. Testament Dative, where a person dies without leaving a Will and the Court appoints someone to look after the Estate. You will almost always find an Inventory.

**Sasines (Land Registers)** - are useful as land etc., passes from one person to another. The abridgements give most of the information you need. They are indexed by place and person.

**Kirk Session Records** - contain lists of Elders and the minutes of the day to day running of the Church. They also contain Communicant Rolls and lists of the poor. The Church concerned itself with the discipline of the congregation, especially with illegitimate births. Very often the names of alleged fathers are given as they are 'compeared' (summoned) before the Elders and the Minister who would admonish and fine.

**The Register of Deeds** - is well indexed, contains some marriage contracts, some testaments and a variety of other information. The early series are known by the Clerks or secretaries --- Dalrymple, Durie and Mackintosh, known as 'DAL', 'DUR' and 'MAC'.

**Gifts and Deposits (G.D.'s)** - are private and estate papers which have been deposited and can be useful, for example, with information about tenants. They are now being computerised.

## WEST REGISTER HOUSE

Holds specialised records such as railways, maps, customs and criminal records, which contain a great deal of detail.

**Scottish Naming Patterns** - there is a well recognised pattern to naming habits used in Scotland. The first son is named after the Paternal Grandfather, the second son after the Maternal Grandfather and the third son after the father. The first daughter is named after the Maternal Grandmother, the second after the Paternal Grandmother and the third after the mother.

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The author, Mrs. Cory is a professional genealogist who has written a highly-regarded textbook entitled *Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry* (2nd Edition 1996, ISBN 0 7486 6215 4) price £7.95. Available from Polygon, 22 George Square, Edinburgh EH8 9LF.)

# IN SEARCH OF LOWINGHAM HALL

by Diana Chabot

The name Lowingham Hall may conjure up an image of an imposing building such as a grand Elizabethan mansion with many spiralled chimney stacks, patterned brickwork and decoratively carved timber or a much older property like a fourteenth century timber-framed house. One might imagine a large Georgian residence, built of well-fashioned stone standing in acres of beautiful landscaped parkland.

However grand the title may sound, Lowingham Hall is not a great historic house. In fact, it is not a building at all. Lowingham is not even the name of a place - there is not a town, village or hamlet of that name anywhere in England. Lowingham Hall is the name of a person. I first came across the name about forty years ago on an old black-edged card on which was written the birth dates of members of the Hall family who were born at Brampton in Cumberland between 1770 and 1816. The card was hidden within an old exercise book which contained jottings and newspaper cuttings about the family and had been handed down through the family from one generation to the next.

It was only in the 1970s, when I took an interest in tracing my family tree, that I considered why the child had been given such a strange Christian name and came to the conclusion that it must have been a surname of an earlier generation. Having traced his paternal grandparents and many generations back on the maternal side of his family, Lowingham appeared to be the first child of that name to be baptised in the Brampton and Carlisle district of Cumberland. Lowingham himself was five generations back from me and was a younger brother of my great-great-great-grandfather, John, who was twenty years his senior. Although the name was given to many members of the Hall family descended from the brothers' paternal grandparents no members of the direct line from John Hall to myself were called Lowingham and, having looked for surnames in the family and even places with the name to no avail, my interest in its origin waned.

Just recently, in connection with some other research to do with the Halls of Brampton, I enlisted the help of a fellow researcher, Iain Parsons, who, when checking eighteenth century "Hall" marriages, discovered that William Hall, John and Lowingham's grandfather, came from the parish of Stanhope, on the other side of the Pennines in the County of Durham. Anxious to confirm that William's mother's maiden name was Lowingham, I quickly pursued the Stanhope trail which disproved my theory but did reveal that his father was *Lowinger* Hall. The suffix "er" was replaced with "ham" when Lowinger's great grandson had been named.

Tracing the Stanhope "Halls" proved easy with the help of the IGI and the West Durham Database and it did not take long to find that Lowinger's father Robert married the daughter of a Lowinger. Yet again it was just a forename because Robert's wife, Jane, was the daughter of Lowinger Maddison who was baptised in 1641 and was the son of John Maddison.

*Low* was Scandinavian nickname for a small man, a pet-name for Laurence and a local name from Old English *hlaw* "hill". The name could, possibly, have derived from the Old English personal name of *Loefing* — son of beloved, changed to Middle English *Loving* in the thirteenth century and then became *Lowing* in the 1500s when it would be first recorded in parish records. In the north of England peasant names did not begin to become hereditary until the 1400s and as all the Lowingers located appeared to work at leadmines and quarries or laboured on the land it seemed almost certain they came from peasant stock.

Although the 1538 Mandate, formulated by Thomas Cromwell, instructed every minister to enter into a book every marriage, baptism and burial at which he officiated, it was not until 1598 that books made of parchment were used. All entries which had previously been recorded on loose sheets should have been copied into the new parish registers but in practice most of the records dated before the accession of Queen Elizabeth in 1558 were omitted. As for the parish of Stanhope, the earliest register — *This Volume, of parchment, is bound in leather; marginal lines, corner ornaments, and stamped "Stanhope" and measures 13 1/2 x 6 inches. It is 1 1/4 in. thick, and contains 212 pages - has been "very carelessly kept" and does not appear to include any records earlier than 1595 of which the earliest marriage recorded took place in 1613.*

This leaves barely three generations in which Lowinger could have been the maiden name of a Maddison wife during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. Such records, if they ever existed, have been lost in the mists of time.

Convinced that Lowinge was an ancient personal name handed down through the generations I was surprised to come across a reference to a place named the Lowing. During a visit to the Record Office at Durham I was reading through the microfiche of the first register of the parish of Stanhope when I found an entry of the burial March 1622 of a John Gibson of Lowing who, four months before his death had married a Mary Maddison. I also found a Cuthbert Hall of Lowing buried in 1634. This established that Halls and Maddisons lived at a place known as Lowing. Was this a breakthrough or just a coincidence? Although Lowing does not appear on the first edition Ordnance Survey Map (6" to the mile) dated 1857 it does appear on a street listing of the 1841 census return. The place was still in existence over two hundred years after Cuthbert's death. Lowing in the form of Lowing, Lowinge, Lowenger, Lowinger, Lowingham, Lowegham has stood the test of time and been given as a personal or Christian name for many centuries.

I would be very interested to hear whether the name, in any of its variations, is in use today and particularly if any person is known as LOWINGHAM HALL.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Mrs. Chabot's address is 16 Norman Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 4LS.



# IF ONLY

by Eileen Dixon

Reading the *Autumn Journal* with my customary enthusiasm, I was fascinated to learn about the early days of NDFHS. Suddenly I suffered a severe attack of the *if only's*. I'm sure the affliction is familiar to many, if not all, Family Historians, especially the "*if only I had talked and listened to my elderly relatives, before it was too late*" version. Not long before my obviously failing mother died, I had suggested that we spend some cosy winter afternoons by the fire, with our many boxes of photographs. She was the last of the older generation and my only known relative who could identify the people and places in those photos. When she died, very soon after, I realised I had left it too late.

At that time, some nine years ago, I thought a genealogist was only interested in tracing aristocratic family lines, and pedigrees were for dogs. *If only* I had been in the right place in Newcastle and had discovered the NDFHS in its early days, my life could have taken a different path altogether. I might have chosen to stay in my native Geordieland, spending every spare minute searching for my particular ancestral treasure trove, among the marvellous records and archives available there.

Fortunately all was not lost, for I have always been a natural hoarder, but *if only* my memory was better I would have remembered who the 'mystery gent' is in the photo that mam did identify, decades ago. About the time that NDFHS was learning to run, I had just moved house, and had re-discovered the box containing the few ancestral certificates, which my late father had kept. As a teacher he was often called upon, when a relative died, to sort out the probate etc., which resulted in his acquiring various documents, which he would file away. My mother was just the opposite, a real "Charlie chuck-it-out". After he died I was just in time to rescue his grandparent's marriage lines and a very mouldy, dilapidated Family Bible. These had come from the home of my great Aunt Polly, whom I never knew, but who died alone in York, I remembered.

My father was the last relative and had to clear her house. She had kept the Bible, certificates and a grandfather clock which came home to us with dad. As my mother was about to consign the Bible to the bin, years later, I discovered the Family Register pages. I had no idea what use they were, but in a fit of sentimentality, I tore them out and saved them. *If only* I hear you cry, I had saved the whole Bible, which might have contained other clues.

It turned out to be slightly inaccurate as to dates, many of which seem to have been put in later from memory.

But the sad record of births, and deaths so soon after, could be the only way I would have traced the children between Census dates, as well as the nomadic movement back and forth across the Tyne; a different address for almost each birth and death. Polly's father, James Stewart, was a Journeyman Joiner.

Family History remained a closed book to me until about three years ago. By then I had followed my living family and migrated to my present home in Wales. Once again my boxes of memorabilia, increased by now through the intervening years, were sorted, examined and stored away. This time, however, I took time to read those pages from the Family Bible carefully. I began to work out relationships and match up events. The past began to come alive and I began to wish I could find out more about my origins.

Then, one day, my sister's husband asked if by any chance I had any knowledge of my father's family, the Stewarts and Buckhams, or any GRO certificates. He had started to trace his own family and thought he might do his wife's too. When I showed him my boxes he could not believe his luck, but when he explained how he was doing the searching, I was in seventh heaven. Suddenly the doors opened. At the bookshop I bought their last copy of Estelle Catlett's paperback *Track Down Your Ancestors* now on the list for Beginners in *Family Tree Magazine*. That led me to the library in my new home town where there was a poster publicising Clwyd FHS. The ball was rolling and I was hooked! But then came the biggest 'if only'. *If only* I was still where my roots were!

I had access to St. Catherines Index at the County Library, and the Probate Index had recently moved to the Record Office at Hawarden, from Newcastle, would you believe? This was a good start, but once back to 1837 I was left high and dry, with everything you could want for Welsh Ancestry, but not for anywhere north of Chester! So, I joined NDFHS, having finally heard of it, and bought a microfiche reader (second hand, very cheap), and at last came to Newcastle where I buried myself at Blandford House, Central Library and Morpeth Records Centre. I built up a shelf of *Bygone Books* for background, and started sending for *Journal* back numbers. I marked the Library List with Highlighted Titles to send for, before you opened the Bolbec Centre. *If only* you hadn't discontinued the Postal Lending Library.

Last but most importantly, *if only* I had more time! At this stage I know that the years ahead are bound to be less than the ones behind me. Moreover, although my "dead people", as the family call them, aren't going anywhere, the trail is growing colder and the ink is fading.

Quite recently on another trip to Newcastle, my son opted to help me by taking photos of local places. As we drove around Benwell he decided to show his daughter where Daddy went to school. We turned the corner eagerly, as he described his days in the Primary School not so long since. It was gone, superseded by a modern building, in place of the massive brick structure that he had known and loved. He had just one thing to say "If only ....!"

Our visit was not all failure, thank goodness. We found flats in Byker and a house at the Coast which were still looking good nearly 100 years after my parents had lived there as children. Next we came back to the West End to record the 'modern' places. The house where I was born was still standing, but surprisingly it was at the opposite end of the street from where I had always imagined. "Right" said dad, to my granddaughter, "Now we'll go and see Daddy's other school. It was very large and modern, with playing fields all round, you know." But it wasn't! Just a wide open space, with a lonely bulldozer in the corner, was all that remained. If only...

I then mentioned one of the results of my day in the Archives. I had come across some information about the Gables Maternity Home. My sister, her children, my son and myself were all born there.

It had been bought from the Richardson family originally, and was used as a branch of the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, before becoming Hopedene, run by the Salvation Army. That information would add interest when I came to write the Family History. Perhaps you can guess the outcome. We drove over to take its picture. Another if only..., too late again, it had gone.

There isn't really any cure for the 'if onlys'. There is, however, a lesson to learn. I must try to ensure that my future generations suffer from them less than I have done. I may not finish finding out about my grandchildren's distant ancestors, but at least I have a golden opportunity of leaving behind sufficient clues, so that they can enjoy this 'magnificent obsession' if they wish.

So away with the if onlys. I will say instead, if I had started thirty years ago, would I have been any further forward, or rather backwards? Maybe not. The age of film and fiche, computer and Internet is very recent, and I have only 6 years to go to the next Census release. If, as they say, I am spared!

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

Mrs. Dixon's address is 9 Parkhill Avenue, Gwersyllt, Wrexham LL11 4RQ.

## NEWCASTLE CITY LIBRARIES PUBLICATIONS

The publications of Newcastle City Libraries cover many aspects of the north-east, both past and present.

#### BYGONE BOOKLETS

The 'Bygone' series of photographs of a vanished Newcastle, are 24 page booklets which are prefaced by short historical introductions. *Bygone Bells Close & Lemington*, *Bygone Benwell*, *Bygone Elswick*, *Bygone Fenham*, *Bygone Heaton*, *Bygone High Heaton*, *Bygone Jesmond*, *Bygone Newburn*, *Bygone Scotswood* and *Bygone Westerhope* cost only £1.25 each. The Bygone booklets covering *Benwell Revisited*, *Blucher & North Walbottle*, *Central Newcastle*, *Fawdon & Coxlodge*, *Gosforth*, *Kenton*, *Spital Tongues*, *Throckley*, *Walbottle*, *Walker* and *Westgate Road* cost £1.50 each, whilst at £1.95 are *Bygone Lower Ouseburn*, *Bygone Byker*, *Bygone Shieldfield* and the recently published *Bygone Denton Burn*.

#### DOWN ELSWICK SLIPWAYS:

##### ARMSTRONG'S SHIPS & PEOPLE 1884-1918

I enjoyed *Down Elswick Slipways; Armstrong's Ships and People 1884-1918* (ISBN 1 85795 037 2, price £4.99) which traces the history of now vanished Elswick Shipyard. Here is a story of mighty ships built for many nations, of strikes and lockouts, of the tragic losses of HMS *Cobra* in 1901 and HMS *Wasp* in 1887, and of the surprising Chinese graves in St. Johns Cemetery, Elswick. Nicely illustrated, this book will interest you if you have ancestors among the thousands who worked in the yard before shipbuilding ceased in 1918 with the launch of the aircraft carrier *Eagle*.

#### BREWERS & BOTTLERS OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE FROM 1850 TO THE PRESENT DAY

By Brian Bennison (ISBN 1 85795 012 7 price £4.99) is the first comprehensive, illustrated account of the city's drink trade and traces the history of Newcastle's brewers and bottlers. Here, in detail, are the business activities, personalities and pubs behind many famous names — and many not so well known.

#### THOSE WERE THE DAYS

By Tom Callaghan (ISBN 1 85795 005 4 price £4.95) takes a boy's eye view of childhood in Benwell and Elswick during the 1930's Depression, where the author lived in a two roomed flat for a family of ten and an unemployed father.

#### WHEELS

By Noel Hanson, it is the first of a new series of photographic booklets in the series *Newcastle Revisited*. It takes a look at all types of wheeled transport, from prams to trams and from lorries to taxis. Price £1.95

All books can be ordered from Promotions & Arts Unit, Central Library, Princess Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1DX. Add 50p postage for one book, £1 for two or more. Overseas purchasers should add £1 (sterling cheques only) payable to City of Newcastle upon Tyne. No credit cards. A complete Publications List can be obtained from the Library.

#### LIBRARY PICTURE COLLECTION

The Library has a *Picture Collection* comprising over 70,000 photographs, prints and postcards representing the social, recreational and working lives of the region from the 1850's to the present. The collection can be searched by library staff on request, and copies of photographs can be obtained.

# 21st BIRTHDAY CONFERENCE

by Elizabeth Lyall - Conference Co-ordinator  
(the one who got everyone else to do the work)

Moira Furness and I are now in A.C. Time (After Conference Time). Those Members who joined us at Collingwood College, Durham, during the weekend September 20th to 22nd have taken away memories of a time spent among friends as well as some new knowledge gained. The tone of the weekend was set by Edwin Grieve and his talk 'Characters of Northumberland'. The following Birthday Cake and Sherry Party enabled people to start talking, and they never stopped for the rest of the weekend.

Saturday brought topics as diverse as Military Bunglers, Newspapers, Photographs and Coastguards, with Computer Information, Bookstall and a selection from the Bolbec Hall book and fiche library available for Members to browse through. A guided tour round Durham Cathedral was arranged and proved very popular. The dreaded Quiz raised its head as well. Originally this had been designated as a 'Pub Quiz' in the Bar but the presence of at least 3 other groups using the College prevented this, so it became an ongoing event groups or individuals until the answers were given out and prizes awarded during Saturday evening. A lot of Members racked their brains, and there was even attempted bribery to get the answers.

The winners were Mrs. Doreen Tait's team of 6 intelligentsia who swept the board with 44 points out of 50. The rest of the prize winners wish to keep their scores a secret. A departing Member at the end of the Conference said her abiding memory of the weekend would be the giving out of the Quiz answers! 'I have not laughed so much for years'.

Sunday bought a Hussar, Scottish Ancestry and Mike Kirkup urging us to go into print with our Research. For me the weekend echoed with laughter and the stimulated chatter of people who had enjoyed the lectures. So many Members told us they had enjoyed themselves that it made all the hard work worth while. That is what the Moving team kept telling themselves as they unloaded the van at Bolbec Hall on Sunday evening while their bad backs were complaining. Moira and I would like to thank all those who worked so unstintingly to make the Conference the success it was.

If you want another Conference though you will have to find other organisers. For Moira and I, this one was our Swan Song. I hope we went out on a high note, and if we can do it, so can you.

## WORKMEN AT HARTLEY 1757

The following is a list of the 'Coal Workmen' and their families at Hartley Colliery in 1757. The list has been compiled by Northumberland Record Office and is reproduced by permission of that office - reference 2 DE 7/6.

John Pearson & wife.	Geo. Forster, his mother & 1 sister.	Jos. Simpson, his wife & 4 children.
William Grey, his wife & 3 children.	Thos. Winship, his wife & 3 children.	Chas. Stuart, his wife & 4 children.
Geo. Wardel, his wife & 3 children.	Wm. Smith, his wife & 3 children.	Robt. Dinnis, his wife & 3 children.
Will. Pearson, his wife & 3 children.	Elinr. Wright & her 2 sons.	John Fleming & his wife.
John Watson, his wife & 3 daughters.	Henry Ellison, his wife & 4 children.	John Todd, his wife & 2 children.
Margt. Crawford & her 2 daughters.	John Hindmarsh, his wife & 1 child.	Robt. Waugh & his wife.
Thos. Ord, his wife & 3 children.	Matt. Pearson & his wife.	Fra. Burton, his wife & 1 child.
Will. Curry, his wife & 1 child.	Thos. Finn, his wife & 2 children.	Lrond. Whitesmith, his wife & 3 children.
John Gibson, his wife & six children.	John Cork, his wife & 2 children.	Robt. Spence, his wife & 4 children.
Wm. Corby, his wife & 2 children.	Robt. Hindmarch, his wife & 2 children.	Will. Mason, his wife & son.
Thos. Carr, his wife & 2 children.	John Crawford, his wife & 3 children.	Ra. Barker & his sister.
John Gibson, his wife & 5 children.	Robt. Knight & his wife.	James Grey - unmarried.
Stepn. Wright, his wife & 2 children.	Ral. Stuart, his wife & 1 child.	Edm. Watson - unmarried.
Geo. Stuart, his wife & 3 children.	Robt. Tweedy, his mother & 1 sister.	John Watson - unmarried.
Hen. Barker, his wife & 3 children.	John Tayler, his wife & 4 children.	Wm. Ord - unmarried.
Arthr. Corby, his wife & 2 children.	Thos. Tayler, his wife & 5 children.	Robt. Ord - unmarried.
James Cork, his wife & 1 child.	Geo. Hindmarch, his wife & 3 children.	Chris. Tweedy - unmarried.
Thos. Stuart, his wife & 7 daughters.	Geo. Morrow & 1 son.	James Winders - unmarried.
Will. Wright, his wife & 3 children.	John Thoburn & his wife.	Wm. Dodds - unmarried.
Thos. Hindmarsh, his wife & 2 children.	John Smith, his wife & 3 children.	Richd. Staward - unmarried.
Henry Winders, his wife & 2 children.	Robt. Brotherick, his wife & 3 children.	Isbel Stuart - widow.
John Dodds, his wife & 3 children.	James Crammon, his wife & 6 children.	Dolly Tayler - widow.
James Forster & his wife.	Will. Tweedy & his wife.	John Winship - unmarried.
Wm. Smith & one son.	Robt. Crawford, his wife & 4 children.	Mary Forster - widow.
Peter Bakk (?) & his wife.	Robt. Johnson, his wife & 6 children.	John Hindmarch - unmarried.
John Brotherick & 1 daughter.	Jane Staward & 6 children.	John Smith - unmarried.
Richd. Staward, his wife & 2 children.	Geo. Dryden, his wife & 5 children.	Wm. Ord - unmarried.
Stepn. Brotherick & his wife.	Rob. Carr & his mother.	



# I know that KERSS is pronounced 'CARSE'

by Rob Kerss

My late father always said our name was pronounced 'Carse'. I wish I had asked him about it a long time ago. He also said our family came from Scotland. Those were the only clues I had about our family history until it grabbed my attention about 5 years ago - too late by then to ask him. I divined what I could from my late mother and was really hooked. Up till then I had been led by a French language examiner to believe our name was Breton from the root Ker - marsh-dweller. We looked around on holiday in Brittany in the 80's but a lack of results discouraged us and I let it drop.

It was when my Aunt Nell died that I found that she had married my mother's brother, and my mother was her husband's sister, fascinating enough to make me curious about my origins. Then I remembered the thing about 'Carse' and Scotland.

I was born and bred on Tyneside and I quickly found out from my mother that my father and grandfather were born there too. A quick tour round the tomes at St. Catherine's House and several certificates later, I was quickly back to John Kerss born 23 August 1846, son of Henry Kerss, Whitesmith.

However, no trace of Scotland or the unusual pronunciation yet. There I got stuck for some time. By this time I was recording every occurrence of Kerss in St. Catherine's indexes, but could not find a pre 1846 wedding of a Henry Kerss. After two extensive searches under many spelling variations including 'Carse' it occurred to me that I should go back to John's birth certificate and try looking for his wife, Catherine Oldham. BINGO! ... there he was : Henry Kears. Not only had the old fashioned 'j' for 's' caught me out, but who would have thought they would have put an extra 'a' in as well. Here was the first indication of the 'Carse' pronunciation.

That obstacle over, and Henry's wedding certificate of July 5th 1846 in my hand, I realised that he and his wife were not only 'of full age' but would have been born before Civil Registration began in 1837. Where now? They were married in the Parish Church in Gateshead Fell, but I could not immediately find copies of the registers. This is where my intent to record ALL occurrences of Kerss came in handy. I was in Newcastle Public Library genealogy section and pulled out all the baptism records I could find. There, under Half Moon Lane Presbyterian Chapel in Gateshead, was Henry, baptised on 4th November 1825.

Several moons later I got the Half Moon registers on microfilm through Northampton Church of the Latter Day Saints. What a treasure. Henry Kerfs was born on September 7th 1825. Even better, there were several entries for children of Alexander Kerss and Catherine Errington. First Samuel Carse (1801). Next Samuel Kirse (1803). Then William Carse (1805). Finally Catherine Kerfs (1808). Four children later they must have convinced the minister that the name they pronounced 'Carse' was really spelt Kerss.

Since then I have seen more instances where, for example, a census enumerator has written Carse and Kelly's Directory lists Kerss at the same address. Good enough for me, and proof enough that my father was right. Not only that, but Alexander Kerss was a native of Coldstream - the Borders connection I had been searching out. Once this connection had been made, what a lot of Kerss's I found from Edinburgh to the Borders, though I have still to make the connection with my Newcastle family.

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

Mr. Kerss's address is 7 East Priors Court, Northampton NN3 8LB.

## NEWS FROM DURHAM RECORD OFFICE

### SEARCH ROOM

The rebuilding of the Search Room and administrative areas are scheduled to take place before the end of the current financial year.

The Record Office is interested in gathering the views of users of the Search Room as to how the facilities can be improved and what features could be incorporated in the new Search Room.

If any members are interested in attending an evening meeting at which the plans will be explained and views of users can be expressed, they should send in names and addresses to the Record Office who will send out details of the meeting as soon as possible.

### DURHAM PLACES

#### IN THE MID-NINETEENTH CENTURY

An index to the place names which appear on the Ordnance Survey first edition, 6 inches to 1 mile, maps of Durham and part of Yorkshire (North Riding) 1854-1858. This index contains over 13,400 names of farms, hamlets and physical features which appear on the first edition Ordnance Survey maps. Each name is located by map sheet number, quarter division of the sheet and township. Available from Durham County Record Office, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL. Telephone (0191) 383 3253.

#### Prices:

- £6.50 if collected from Record Office
- £7.50 including postage and packaging inland mail
- £14.50 including postage and packaging air mail.

## Registrars

Here are the addresses of the Registrars of Births, Deaths & Marriages for each Australian state. The costs of certificates are those applicable at June 1996.

### AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Registrar's Office, GPO Box 788, Canberra, ACT 2601.  
Extract \$21.00. Full certificate \$21.00.

### NEW SOUTH WALES

Principal Registrar, Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, GPO Box 30, Sydney NSW 2001. Full certificate \$20.00. Where register number and registration district given \$15.00.

### NORTHERN TERRITORY

Registrar General's Office, GPO Box 3021, Darwin, NT 0801. Full certificate \$25.00.

### QUEENSLAND

Office of Consumer Affairs, Registrar General's Section, PO Box 188, Albert Street, Brisbane QLD 4002. For certificates prior to 1890: State Archivist, PO Box 1397, Sunnybank Hills, QLD 4109. Full certificate \$20.50.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Principal Registrar, GPO Box 1351, Adelaide, SA 5001. Full certificate \$26.00.

### TASMANIA

Registrar General, Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, PO Box 198, Hobart, TAS 7001. Full certificate \$25.00.

### VICTORIA

General Manager, Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, PO Box 4332, Melbourne, VIC 3001. Full certificate \$32.00.

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Registrar General's Office, PO Box 7220, Cloisters Square, Perth, WA 6850. Full certificate \$25.00.

## Censuses of New South Wales

Although 'musters' were held in New South Wales in earlier years, the first Census was in November 1828. Later censuses were in 1833, 1836, 1841, 1846, 1851, 1856, 1861 and then every ten years to 1901. However, records of individuals survive only for 1841, 1891 and 1901.

The 1841 Census records only the heads of household by name. It is arranged by district but the Archive Office of New South Wales holds indexes. The 1891 Census is also arranged by District.

The 1901 Census was taken on 31st March in that year but details have only recently been made public. The only records which have survived are the Collectors' Books for household returns.

Filming and checking of them was expected to be completed by June 1996; they can be viewed in the Search Room of the Archives Office of NSW and microfiche copies can be purchased.

Forty seven Collectors' Books cover the whole of the state. They record the place, the name of the householder and the total number of persons in the household, divided into male and female. They also show how many residents are Chinese or Aboriginal.

There are census details for ships in NSW ports on Census day 1901 but these do not record the names of the individuals on board.

## Australian State Genealogical Societies

Every Australian state boasts its own genealogical society and in addition there are many smaller family history societies in certain towns and districts. The addresses of the 'state' societies are given below.

### AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Heraldry and Genealogical Society of Canberra, GPO Box 585, Canberra, ACT 2601.

### NEW SOUTH WALES

The Society of Australian Genealogists at Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street, Observatory Hill, Sydney 2000, New South Wales.

### NORTHERN TERRITORY

Genealogical Society of the Northern Territory Inc., PO Box 37212, Winnellie, NT 0821.

### QUEENSLAND

Queensland FHS, PO Box 171, Indooroopilly, Brisbane, QLD 4068.

Genealogical Society of Queensland, PO Box 423, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society, GPO Box 592, Adelaide 5001.

### TASMANIA

Genealogical Society of Tasmania, PO Box 60, Prospect, TAS 7250.

### VICTORIA

Genealogical Society of Victoria, 5th Floor, Curtin House, 252 Swanston Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000.

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australian Genealogy Society Inc., 6/48 May Street, Bayswater, Western Australia 6053.

The address of the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies is PO Box 339, Blackburn, Victoria 3130.

There are copies of the journals of each of the above societies in the NDFHS Library at Bolbec Hall.

# THE DURHAM & NORTHUMBERLAND OATH OF ASSOCIATION ROLLS OF 1695/96

In the *Spring Journal*, an article by Alex Glendinning outlined the history of the Association Oath Rolls, when "all men of importance" responded to a call to vow to "combine with others for the better protection of His Majesty's royal person and government" and to recognise William III's sister-in-law and cousin Anne as his successor, maintaining the Protestant succession.

The Rolls are now in the Public Record Office and we listed the names appearing on the Berwick-upon-Tweed Roll in the *Spring Journal*, those of the Master Pilots and Seamen of Trinity House, Newcastle in the *Summer Journal*, and in the *Autumn Journal* those for the City of Durham and for the Officers of Militia Newcastle.

We now publish the names on the Roll for :-

## (C213/199) ASSOCIATION ROLL, ALNWICK

rearranged into alphabetical order.

Thanks to Mrs. Sue Wood of Northumberland Record Office for palaeographic help.

?ell ..... Willm.	Gibson ..... Steaven	Robeson ..... John
?tler ..... John	Gibson ..... John junr.?	Robinson ..... John
Alder ..... George	Gipson ..... John senr.	Rogerson ..... John
Alnwick ..... Matt.	Gla...hum ..... Roger	Rogerson ..... Edward
Anderson ..... Gudland?	Greenwood ..... Cha. Officer of Excise	Rowell ..... Wm.
Anderson ..... Ralph	Grey ..... Edward	Sandeland ..... John
Anderson ..... James	Grieve ..... Ra.	Sanderson ..... Thomas
Anderson ..... Gawin	Grumwell ..... Mark	Scott ..... Matt.
Anderson ..... Robt.	Hadston ..... John	Scott ..... James
Anderson ..... Robbert senr.	Hardy ..... Tho.	Shankes ..... Richd.
Anderson ..... Fra.	Harrison ..... Thomas junr.	Shankes ..... Robert
Archbould ..... Joshue	Harrison ..... Henry	Shele ..... William
Archer ..... John	Harrison ..... Robert	Shotton ..... Edward
Atcheson ..... James	Harrison ..... Thomas senr.	Sk...ving ..... Adam
Beirrels? ..... John	Hindmarsh ..... Luke	Smith ..... Roger
Bell ..... Thomas	Holburn ..... William	Snowball ..... Joseph
Blyth ..... James	Hornbleton ..... Robert	Spence ..... Christopher
Bosbe? ..... Oswald	Hubbeck ..... Thom. Officer of Excise	Stampe ..... John
Browning ..... Nich.	Humble ..... John	Stanley ..... Edward senr.
Bunien ..... Tho.	Humble ..... Robert	Stanley ..... Edward
Burrell ..... John jnr.	Humbleton ..... George	Stanton ..... Wm.
Busson ..... Roger	Hunter ..... Thomas	Stanton ..... John
Byde? ..... John	Hunter ..... Nicho.	Stephenson ..... Robert
Carns? ..... Andrew	Hunter ..... John	Stevenson ..... Charles
Carr ..... John	Huntly ..... Wm.	Strother ..... John
Clark ..... William	Jacson ..... John	Strother ..... Robert
Clark ..... Osw.	Johnson ..... Edward	Strother ..... Richard Chamberline
Clark ..... George	Johnson ..... John	Summerbell ..... Jo.
Clarke ..... Fran.	Laing ..... David	Swinhoe ..... Henry
Clarke ..... George	Latteth ..... William	Swinhoe ..... Matt.
Claxton ..... Ro.	Lawson ..... Richard	Taylor ..... Richard
Collingwood ..... Henry	Lermoth ..... Thomas	Th...ners ..... George
Courtney? ..... Tho.	Lindsay ..... Thomas senr.	Thinker? ..... John
Craister ..... Thomas	Lindsay ..... Thomas junr.	Thompson ..... Willm.
Craister ..... John	Locke ..... Wm.	Trumble ..... James
Crastor ..... Robert	Mathewson ..... James	Turner ..... Wm.
Dand ..... Rob.	Milliken ..... David	Turner ..... Lanclott
Davidson ..... Thomas	Moffitt ..... Roger	Turner ..... John
Davison ..... Robt.	Mosrup? ..... John	Turner? ..... John senr.
Davison ..... James	Nesbett ..... John	Vardy ..... John Chamberline
Dixon ..... Rob.	Nicholl ..... James	Vardy ..... Tho. Chamberline
Doers ..... Edward	Nicholson ..... John	Wai? ..... Robert
Duncan ..... And.	Nicholson ..... Alex.	Waitt? ..... John
Elder ..... Henry	Oliver ..... Jo.	Wakinsley ..... John
Eliot? ..... Rob ert	Paterson ..... Edward	Wallace ..... George
Ellit ..... John	Patrick ..... Wm.	Watson ..... James
Fenkle ..... John junr.	Patterson ..... Andrew	Watson ..... Georg.
Fenwicke ..... Tho.	Pearitt ..... George	Watson ..... Edward
Fenwicke ..... Thomas	Randleson ..... Fo?	Watson ..... Tho.
Forster ..... Matt.	Rannaldson ..... Ralph	Waugh ..... Ralph
Forster ..... Mark Chamberline	Reavelly ..... Wm.	Weatherburn ..... John
Gair ..... Lanclott	Revely ..... John	Whittinham ..... Henry
Gaire ..... John	Richardson ..... George	Wilson ..... Henry
Gaire ..... Tho.	Richardson ..... Richard	Wood ..... John
Gaire ..... Will.	Richardson ..... Robt.	Woodhouse ..... Tho.
Gallon ..... William	Rickabie ..... Thomas	Yelloley ..... Robert



# SUPERINTENDENT REGISTRARS in the TWO COUNTIES

by Primus

It is far cheaper to apply for certificates of birth and death from your local Superintendent Registrar, than to make a postal application to Southport or St. Catherine's House.

Marriage certificates pose a special problem. Some parishes still have their old marriage registers and, if they do, your local registrar will not yet have the records available. Also registrars may be reluctant to make searches amongst their many marriage registers, especially in areas of large population. Providing you are confident that you know where the marriage took place, it is nevertheless a good idea to apply to the Superintendent Registrar. If not, then the next best method is to get a London-based agent to apply for you directly from St. Catherine's House: that is still cheaper than applying by post.

Since the start of Civil Registration of births, marriages and deaths on 1st July 1837, there have been a number of reshuffles of Registration Districts, especially since the local government changes of 1974. This can make the location of any particular record quite difficult, depending on where the event took place.

Obviously, if an event took place in Newcastle, then the Newcastle Superintendent Registrar will still hold the records that have been created there ever since 1837. But, for example, events that took place in Longbenton parish just outside Newcastle are less easy to locate. The ancient parish of Longbenton, once entirely part of Northumberland County, was sub-divided over the years so that sections of it are now variously in the Borough of North Tyneside and the City of Newcastle. Not only that: Longbenton once formed part of a Registration District, Castle Ward, that no longer exists, and which was itself redistributed between the districts in such a way that bits of Castle Ward can be found in Morpeth, North Shields and Newcastle offices!

The whole business of obtaining a certificate by writing to the Superintendent Registrar can look a little nightmarish when one is dealing with a borderline parish such as Longbenton. However, enquirers can help themselves by following these steps:

1. Using a map, find out which District Register Office is closest to the place where the event is supposed to have taken place.  
Most District offices are still in the traditional city or market-town where they have always existed. The general rule, is that the number of offices has been reduced over the years, as rural populations declined. A good example, though not in our immediate area, is that of Northallerton in North Yorkshire. There has always been a District Office there, but Northallerton now also holds the records of the dissolved districts of Bedale, Thirsk, Easingwold and Stokesley.
2. Write to the Superintendent Registrar giving the fullest possible details of your enquiry. Give name, district and quarterly date of the event (e.g. September 1862).  
*There is no point in giving the St. Catherine's Reference.*

This is only of use to St. Catherine's House. Mention especially, if you know it, the name of the place where the event may have taken place.

*Don't forget:*

- i) Cheque for £5.50 per certificate made out to 'Superintendent Registrar'.
- ii) Stamped addressed envelope, or international reply coupon(s).

It is often not enough to provide the District reference. If you can possibly do so, go as far as naming the hamlet or other locality where you believe the family was living. Some of our large northern parishes were sub-divided between more than one District. Furthermore, the old Districts have sometimes had their records divided into two or even three of the new Districts!

Do not under-estimate the ability of a Superintendent Registrar to track down your certificate, providing you express your requirements succinctly and clearly. Remember that he or she is not interested in your entire family history, and will thank you for a clearly written request.

In the case of a death, however, always list the names of the deceased's closest adult relatives if you know them. One of them may have been the Informant. In the case of a birth, give the mother's maiden name if known. This is especially useful in sorting-out births where the surname is locally common.

If the Registrar can not help, your cheque will be returned and you will receive either a note explaining why the required record can not be found, or a suggestion as to what other registrar might be tried. Your request may even be forwarded on to the correct office.

Superintendent Registrars are almost invariably helpful and will make every effort to oblige, providing you play your part.

Be warned that your request may not be successful. It has happened that, despite the correct name, district, and date being supplied, the entry can not be found. One reason for this is that some Registrars made fraudulent returns in the early days in order to boost their income. In our area, it is known that this happened at South Shields; perhaps a fruitful source of an article if an old South Shields hand is reading this! [*"Genealogists Magazine" September 1996, includes an article on the South Shields fraud - Ed.*]

In other cases, the reasons for an unsuccessful search can be inexplicable. The writer knows of one example where the registrar making the entry had inadvertently started to enter a death record in the 'births' register. Realising his mistake, he had duly made the correct entry in the deaths register, but had forgotten to strike out the partially completed birth entry. This was eventually forwarded on to Somerset House as an entry of birth, and is listed as such for all eternity.

In another case, the writer found a reference for a death in the St. Catherine's Index in the 1860's. Despite two attempts, staff at the relevant registrar office was unable to trace the entry. Eventually, a request was forwarded to St. Catherine's House for a check on their records, and a certificate was duly produced. The Superintendent Registrar apologised for this mistake and explained that they simply could not 'see for looking'. It goes to show that human error can creep into every event, and enquirers must be both patient and prepared for the occasional disappointment.

Below is a list of Superintendent Registrars' offices in the two 'Old Counties' of Northumberland and Durham. There is also a rough - very rough - indication as to the possible whereabouts of the old districts' records. Much more research needs to be done on this, and we hope to supply a definitive list in due course.

The question of districts can reach a truly Byzantine complexity. As an out-of-area example: Middlesbrough District was formed in 1875. It had three sub-districts. The records of all three are now in different places: the old Middlesbrough sub-district's records are still at Middlesbrough. The Thornaby sub-district records went to Stockton (where the office has just been reopened); and the Ormsby/Eston sub-district records are at Guisborough. Obviously, all these places are listed in the St. Catherine's House index as simply 'Middlesbrough'; so some knowledge of where the event might have taken place is a great help, saving perhaps several weeks' correspondence.

## SUPERINTENDENT REGISTRARS' ADDRESSES

**Warning:** the whereabouts of the Old Districts' records are given only as a rough guide. Make written enquiry when in doubt, sending a s.a.e. In all cases, correspondence should be addressed to: The Superintendent Registrar - to whom cheques should also be made out.

### COUNTY DURHAM

#### CLEVELAND NORTH DISTRICT

Old Hartlepool District, formed 1859 out of Stockton.  
The Register Office, Raby Road, HARTLEPOOL TS24 8AF.  
Tel: 01429 236369. Fax: 01429 236373.

#### DARLINGTON DISTRICT

Has no records from other districts.  
Central House, Gladstone St., DARLINGTON, Co., Durham DL3 6JX.  
Tel: 01325 346600.

#### DURHAM CENTRAL DISTRICT

Old Durham District. For Lanchester, write to Durham Northern.  
40 Old Elvet, DURHAM DH1 3HN.  
Tel: 0191 386 4077.

#### DURHAM EASTERN DISTRICT

Old Easington District.  
16/18 Upper Chare, PETERLEE, County Durham SR8 1BW.  
Tel: 0191 586 6147.

#### DURHAM NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT

Jarrow section of South Shields District.  
Register Office, Suffolk Street, JARROW, Tyne & Wear NE32 5BJ.  
Tel: 0191 489 7595.

#### DURHAM NORTHERN DISTRICT

Former Lanchester District.  
7 Thorneyholm Terrace, STANLEY, County Durham DH9 0BJ.

#### DURHAM WESTERN DISTRICT

Former Auckland, Weardale, Sedgfield Districts.  
Cockton House, Waddington Street, BISHOP AUCLAND, County Durham DL14 6HG.  
Tel: 01388 607 277.

#### GATESHEAD DISTRICT

Civic Centre, Regent Street, GATESHEAD, Tyne & Wear NE8 1HH.  
Tel: 0191 477 1011.

#### SOUTH TYNESIDE DISTRICT

Formerly South Shields District; sub-divided, see also Durham North Eastern.  
Register Office, 18 Barrington Street, SOUTH SHIELDS, Tyne and Wear NE33 1AH.  
Tel: 0191 455 3915.

#### STOCKTON DISTRICT

For Hartlepool, which was in Stockton pre-1859, write to Hartlepool.  
Nightingale House, Baladava, STOCKTON TS18 2AL.  
Tel: 01642 39155.

#### SUNDERLAND DISTRICT

Also has former Houghton-le-Spring District.  
P.O. Box 108, Civic Centre, SUNDERLAND SR2 7DN.  
Tel: 0191 553 1000. Fax: 0191 510 9104.

#### TEESDALE DISTRICT

8 Newgate, BARNARD CASTLE, County Durham DL12 8WG.

### NORTHUMBERLAND

#### NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE DISTRICT

Includes part of former Castle Ward District close to the City.  
Civi Centre, Barras Bridge, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE1 8PS.  
Tel: 0191 232 8520. Fax: 0191 211 4970.

#### NORTH TYNE DISTRICT

Former Tynemouth District plus some outlying areas in Castle Ward.  
Northumbria House, Norfolk Street, NORTH SHIELDS NE30 1QJ.  
Tel: 0191 200 6164.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND CENTRAL DISTRICT

Includes former Morpeth District plus parts of Castle Ward, etc.  
94 Newgate Street, MORPETH, Northumberland NE61 1BU.  
Tel: 01670 513232.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND NORTH FIRST DISTRICT

Former Berwick and Glendale Districts.  
49-51 Bridge Street, BERWICK UPON TWEED TD15 1ES.  
Tel: 01289 306479.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND NORTH SECOND DISTRICT

Former Alnwick & Rothbury Districts.  
6 Market Place, ALNWICK, Northumberland NE66 1HP.  
Tel: 01665 602363.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND WEST DISTRICT

Former Hexham, Haltwhistle & Bellingham Districts.  
Abbey Gate House, Market Street, HEXHAM, N/land NE46 3LX.  
Tel: 01434 602355.

## Research in London

### ST. CATHERINE'S HOUSE - SOMERSET HOUSE

#### G.R.O. CERTIFICATES

(up to 5 year search) - £10.50

#### G.R.O. CERTIFICATES

(with full G.R.O. reference) - £8.50

#### WILLS: 1858 TO DATE

(up to 20 year search) - £5.50

~other research considered~

#### ERIC N. MALTBY

114 Fallowcourt Avenue, Finchley, London N12 0BG.

# DURHAM REGISTRATION DISTRICTS

1837~1938

by Gordon Somerset

The Registration Districts of County Durham, like those of all other counties of England and Wales, corresponded, in 1837, to the Poor Law Unions. The two Unions of Durham and Lanchester were combined into one District: Durham and Lanchester District. This is always shown as 'Durham &c.' in the St. Catherine's House Indexes. Likewise, the two Unions of Stockton-on-Tees and Sedgefield were combined into one District, referred to normally as Stockton District.

As the population grew, three important changes were made. First, in 1859, the new Union - and District - of Hartlepool was formed, from parishes that had formed part of Stockton and Sedgefield District. Then in 1876 Lanchester District was formed out of Durham and Lanchester District, leaving of course Durham District by itself. Finally, Sedgefield District gained its full independence from Stockton in 1896.

So, when looking for events in the port of Hartlepool, one should expect to see them indexed under Stockton up to 1858, and under Hartlepool from 1859.

In more recent times, the names of the Districts have changed and their boundaries have been redrawn, sometimes more than once, so caution is required when tracing events from 1939 onwards.

This is an index to all places in County Durham which had been formed into one or more parishes by 1838. It is therefore a guide to which registration district held records of events in that place. It is not meant to be an exhaustive list covering every township which never became a parish in its own right, but a little research using (for example) a good directory will quickly reveal which parish is involved.

For example: the township of Newton Bewley was not a parish in its own right before 1939. It was in the Chapelry, later a full parish, of Wolviston, and therefore events at Newton Bewley should always have been registered in Stockton District.

It is hoped that this will be of help to readers who are unfamiliar with the County and wish to obtain certificates the cheap way: from Superintendent Registrars. Not one of the old districts remains in its 19th century form, however. When in doubt, write to the nearest Superintendent Registrar to the place where the event is supposed to have taken place. If you are mistaken, you will quickly be put right.

For example: supposing you know that a family lived in the village of Dipton over a period of time in the 19th century. Dipton was formed into a parish in December 1883 and its registers commence in 1884. Before then, it was in Collierley parish. Using the index, you will quickly see that births, marriages and deaths in Dipton should have been registered in Durham and Lanchester District up to and including 1875, and in Lanchester District from 1876 to 1938. Lanchester District no longer exists. The 'best guess' would be to try the Superintendent Registrar for what is now North Durham District, at Stanley.

It is hoped at some point to print a fuller guide to where the old districts' records are now held.

## NOTE:

This is not a guide to every parish within a place. There were by 1938 two parishes in Felling, for instance. No matter: all Felling events should have been registered in Gateshead District ever since 1837.

PLACE	DISTRICT	PLACE	DISTRICT	PLACE	DISTRICT
Annfield Plain	Lanchester	Boldon	South Shields	Collierley	Durham <sup>1</sup>
Auckland (all parishes)	Auckland	Brancepeth	Durham	Coniscliffe	Darlington
Aycliffe	Darlington	Brandon	Durham	Consett	Durham <sup>1</sup>
Barnard Castle	Teesdale	Brandon Colliery	Durham	Cornforth	Stockton <sup>1</sup>
Beamish	Lanchester	Burnmoor	Chester-le-Street	Coundon	Auckland
Bearpark	Durham	Burnopfield	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Coxhoe	Durham
Bellasis	Stockton	Byers Green	Auckland	Craghead	Lanchester
Belmont	Durham	Cassop-cum-Quarrington	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Crawcrook	Gateshead
Benfieldside	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Castle Eden	Easington	Crook	Auckland
Billingham	Stockton	Castleside	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Croxdale	Durham
Binchester	Auckland	Chester-le-Street	Chester-le-Street	Dalton-le-Dale	Easington
Birtley	Chester-le-Street	Chilton Moor	Houghton-le-Spring	Darlington	Darlington
Bishop Auckland	Auckland	Chilton	Stockton <sup>1</sup>	Dawdon	Easington
Bishop Middleham	Stockton <sup>1</sup>	Chopwell	Gateshead	Deaf Hill & Langdale	Easington
Bishopston	Stockton <sup>1</sup>	Cleadon	South Shields	Denton	Darlington
Bishopwearmouth	Sunderland	Coatham Mundeville	Darlington	Deptford	Sunderland
Blackhall	Easington	Cockerton	Darlington	Dinsdale	Darlington
Blackhill	Lanchester	Cockfield	Teesdale	Dipton	Lanchester



PLACE	DISTRICT	PLACE	DISTRICT	PLACE	DISTRICT
Dunston	Gateshead	Leadgate	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Thornley (formerly in	
Durham	Durham	Long Newton	Stockton	Wolsingham parish)	Weardale
East Boldon	South Shields	Low Team	Gateshead	Trimdon	Stockton
Eastgate	Weardale	Lumley	Chester-le-Street	Trimdon Grange	Stockton
East Herrington	Sunderland	Lynesack	Auckland	Tow Law	Weardale
East Rainton	Houghton-le-Spring	Lyons	Houghton-le-Spring	Tudhoe	Durham
Ebchester	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Marley Hill	Gateshead	Tudhoe Grange	Durham
Edmundbyers	Weardale	Medomsley	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Usworth	Chester-le-Street
Egglescliffe	Stockton	Merrington	Auckland	Usworth Colliery	Chester-le-Street
Eggleson	Teesdale	Middle Hendon	Sunderland	Washington	Chester-le-Street
Eighton Banks	Chester-le-Street	Middleton-in-Teesdale	Teesdale	Waterhouses	Durham
Eldon	Auckland	Middleton St. George	Darlington	West Auckland	Auckland
Elton	Stockton	Millfield	Sunderland	Westgate	Weardale
Elwick Hall	Hartlepool <sup>2</sup>	Monk Hesledon	Easington	West Hartlepool	Hartlepool <sup>2</sup>
Embleton	Stockton <sup>1</sup>	Monkwearmouth	Sunderland	West Herrington	Houghton-le-Spring
Eppleton	Houghton-le-Spring	Muggleswick	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Westoe	South Shields
Escomb	Auckland	Newbottle	Houghton-le-Spring	West Pelton	Chester-le-Street
Esh	Durham <sup>1</sup>	New Brancepeth	Durham	West Rainton	Houghton-le-Spring
Etherley	Auckland	New Seaham	Easington	Whickham	Gateshead
Evenwood	Auckland	New Shildon	Auckland	Whitburn	South Shields
Fatfield	Chester-le-Street	Newfield	Auckland	Whitton Park	Auckland
Felling	Gateshead	Newton Cap	Auckland	Whitwell House (e.p.)	Durham
Ferryhill	Stockton <sup>1</sup>	North Hylton	Sunderland	Whitworth	Auckland
Fir Tree	Auckland	Norton	Stockton	Whorlton	Teesdale
Forest & Firth	Teesdale	Pallion	Sunderland	Willington	Durham
Frosterley	Weardale	Pelton	Chester-le-Street	Windleston	Auckland
Gainford	Teesdale	Penshaw	Houghton-le-Spring	Winlaton	Gateshead
Gateshead	Gateshead	Pittington	Durham	Winston	Teesdale
Gateshead Fell	Gateshead	Preston-on-Tees	Stockton	Witton Gilbert	Chester-le-Street
Grangetown	Sunderland	Quarrington see <i>Cassop-cum-Quarrington</i>		Witton-le-Wear	Auckland
Greatham	Hartlepool <sup>2</sup>	Redmarshall	Stockton	Wolsingham	Weardale
Great Stainton	Stockton	Roker	Sunderland	Wolviston	Stockton
Greenside	Gateshead	Rookhope	Weardale		
Grindon	Stockton	Rowlands Gill	Gateshead		
Hamsteels	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Ryhope	Sunderland		
Hamsterley	Auckland	Ryton	Gateshead		
Hamsterley Colliery	Lanchester	Sacrison	Chester-le-Street		
Hart	Hartlepool <sup>2</sup>	Sadberge	Darlington		
Hartlepool	Hartlepool <sup>2</sup>	St John's Chapel	Weardale		
Harton	South Shields	Satley	Durham <sup>1</sup>		
Harton Colliery	South Shields	Seaham	Easington		
Haswell	Easington	Seaham Harbour	Easington		
Haughton-le-Skerne	Darlington	Seaton Carew	Hartlepool <sup>2</sup>		
Haverton Hill	Stockton	Sedgefield	Stockton <sup>1</sup>		
Hawthorn	Easington	Shadforth	Durham		
Heathery Cleugh	Weardale	Sherburn	Durham		
Hebburn	South Shields	Sherburn Hospital (e.p.)	Durham		
Hedgefield	Gateshead	Shildon	Auckland		
Hedworth	South Shields	Shincliffe	Durham		
Heighington	Darlington	Shiney Row	Houghton-le-Spring		
Hendon	Sunderland	Shotton	Easington		
Herrington	Houghton-le-Spring	Silksworth	Houghton-le-Spring		
Hetton-le-Hole	Houghton-le-Spring	Sockburn	Darlington		
Heworth	Gateshead	South Hetton	Easington		
High Spen	Gateshead	South Moor	Lanchester		
Holmside	Durham <sup>1</sup>	South Hylton	Sunderland		
Horden	Easington	South Shields	South Shields		
Houghton-le-Spring	Houghton-le-Spring	South Westoe	South Shields		
Hunstansworth	Weardale	Southwick	Sunderland		
Hunwick	Auckland	Spennymoor	Auckland		
Hurworth	Darlington	Staindrop	Teesdale		
Hutton Henry	Easington	Stanhope	Weardale		
Ingleton	Teesdale	Stanley	Auckland		
Jarrow	South Shields	Stella	Gateshead		
Jarrow Dock	South Shields	Stillington	Stockton		
Jarrow Grange	South Shields	Stockton	Stockton		
Kelloe	Easington	Stranton	Hartlepool <sup>2</sup>		
Kimblesworth	Durham	Sunderland	Sunderland		
Kirk Merrington see <i>Merrington</i>		Sunnybrow	Durham		
Lamesley	Chester-le-Street	Swalwell	Gateshead		
Lanchester	Durham <sup>1</sup>	Tanfield	Durham <sup>1</sup>		
Langdale see <i>Deaf Hill</i>		Thornley (formerly in			
Langley Park	Lanchester	Kelloe parish)	Easington		

## NOTES

- 1876:  
Transferred to Lanchester District.  
Pre- 1876, listed as 'Durham &c.' in  
GRO Index (Durham & Lanchester).
  - 1837-1858:  
Stockton District.
  - 1896:  
Transferred to Sedgefield District.
- (e.p.) Extra-parochial. One or two small  
extra-parochial places in Durham  
City have not been listed.

The Editor would be grateful for any  
suggestions for alterations/additions to  
this list. Teesdale, Darlington and  
Stockton Districts all included parishes in  
North Yorkshire not listed here.

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*Whellan's Directory of County Durham*,  
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# WHAT IN THE WORLD IS ON THIS WORLD WIDE WEB?

by Ronald Branscombe

There must be few members who haven't heard of the World Wide Web. Some, I know, have already discovered it.

Since the early part of the last year, I have been publishing, on the Web, a monthly-updated list of Northumberland and Durham surnames being researched by people with access to the Internet. Of the 340 subscribers to date, 38 claim to be current members of the Society. There are just over a thousand surnames and variants listed, and this is growing by 40-50 a month. It's like having a constantly refreshed Members' Interests Index available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to anybody in the world with a computer hooked up to the Internet. At present, the list is accessed about sixteen times a day. Subscribers have told me of useful contacts arising from these listings, although I have to say my own entries, which were naturally the first to go in, have not yet brought a single "bite"!

If you are ever in front of a computer that has Web access, or you are looking over the shoulder of someone who's "surfing the Net", ask to have a look at the Northumberland and Durham surnames list. You can find it easily enough by using one of the Web's many excellent "search engines", but if you happen to have the address, or URL (Unique Resource Locator) scribbled on a bit of paper in your pocket, you can get there directly:

<http://www.gendex.com/users/branscombe/genuki/nblindex.htm>

While you are at it, you might be curious to see your Society's very own Web site. It's part of "genuki", the Internet virtual library that has become the world's greatest on-line repository of genealogy information for the UK and Ireland. Together with its discussion (or news-) group, <soc.genealogy.uk+ireland>, it's been an enormous success for its creators, a group which includes Professor Brian Randell, of the University of Newcastle's Computer Department. The Society's pages are at:

<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/6549/>

They are designed and maintained by Society member Brian Pears, who has done an excellent job. He manages the Society's email enquiries service, too. He also publishes the Northumberland pages of genuki, which can be found at:

<http://www.swinhope.demon.co.uk/genuki/NBL/>

The Durham pages are hosted by Paul Joiner. They can be found at:

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/pjoiner/genuki/DUR/>

The content of these pages depends entirely on volunteers devoting their own time and talents in contributing, designing and maintaining (sound familiar?). As a result, some parishes have a great depth of material, while others have virtually none. It's hoped this will gradually even out, as more people become involved with submitting information, or hosting it themselves, as in many cases, the volunteers are also paying from their own pockets to have their pages published for the benefit of all. The long-term aim of genuki is that, eventually, the Federation of Family History Societies and the Societies themselves, will take over responsibility for this increasingly important resource. Meanwhile, genuki is always on the look-out for volunteers with access to the Internet, who can supply original or out-of-copyright or copyright-cleared information that might be of use to genealogists studying family lines in Northumberland or Durham. An example of a page I researched and published myself, can be found on the Web in glorious colour at:

<http://www.gendex.com/users/branscombe/genuki/ears1813.htm>

At present, the appeal for volunteers to help build up the Northumberland and Durham pages can only be extended to people who already have access to the World Wide Web. So if you've been looking for an excuse to jump in and discover what it's all about, here's your chance! Once on-line, there is plenty of help available from us and others. The same applies to the Northumberland and Durham surnames list (and similar lists for a number of other counties); the one condition is that you must be contactable by email. One enterprising group of sixteen ladies in New Zealand who are on my list have all clubbed together to buy one Internet account between them. Perhaps they should be looking for their ancestors in Scotland, not Durham!

Feel free to email me at any time on:

<branscombe@globalnt.co.uk> to discuss these, or any other topics. One day, with any luck, we might be able to persuade our Committee to provide an Internet hook-up at Bolbec Hall. Then visiting members will be able to see for themselves what in the world this World Wide Web is all about!

## BITS & PIECES

### **Midlothian F.H.S.**

Anyone interested in joining a newly formed Midlothian Family History Society should contact Anne Agnew, Lasswade High School, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg, Midlothian EH19 2LA.

### **Public Record Office**

Did you know that the Public Record Office at Kew now offers a search service in some of its records? The Readers Service Department will search the Army, Navy and Marine Medal Rolls for the First World War, Gallantry Awards for the Second World War, as well as Design Registers and Continuous Service Records for the Royal Navy between 1853 and 1892. More categories are likely to be added by the end of the year. Each service costs £18.80 including VAT if you live in the UK or in the European Union; outside Europe the rate is £16.00 - no VAT! This fee is fully inclusive and includes postage and copies of documents. You can also have a search done in the Census Records, Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills and Non-Conformist Registers for the same price, £18.80. It is of course possible to get a cheaper search done by a professional researcher — see for example advertisements in *Family Tree Magazine*. For more information contact Bruno Derrick in Readers Services Dept., Public Records Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU, or telephone 0181-392 5200. There are regular PRO updates on the Internet:

<http://www.open.gov/pro/prohome.htm> or:  
<http://midas.ac.uk/genuki/>.

Members will know that some World War I soldiers' records will be opened to the public at the PRO, Kew on 11th November 1996. Individual service records vary greatly in content, and of course many were destroyed in the Blitz. Considerable work will have to be done to provide a proper index and the PRO is seeking volunteers to help. If you are interested, contact Lesley Wynne-Davies, the Volunteers Co-ordinator of the Friends of the PRO at the PRO.

### **Lancashire Record Office**

The Public Search room now closes for the first full working week in each calendar month, to allow staff time for cataloguing etc., e.g. closed 4th-8th November, 2nd-6th December 1996. Ring the Record Office on 01772-263039 for information.

### **Suffolk Roots (Suffolk F.H.S. Journal)**

*Suffolk Roots* has an article by a Superintendent Registrar in the county who reminds us that local registrars do not have a central marriage index for their areas. The arrangement is by churches etc., apart from civil marriage, and unless you know the church a search will be time-consuming. Apparently, Sudbury registration district has 65 churches but only 58 have handed in registers.

Seven are still using the registers from 1837 so the office does not have a complete record from the area. One village has so far only 97 entries in a 500 entry volume - another 500 years to fill it?

*Suffolk Roots* also reports an academic paper which suggests that about 4% of the present populations of Britain, Germany and Iceland are descended from the old Ice Man found in the Alps in 1991. They were traced through 'genetic fingerprinting'. How many NDFHS members can claim descent, I wonder?

### **Stead/Steed - One Name Study**

For details of one name study, with 6000 names on a database and a quarterly newsletter, send SAE to Mrs. S.A. Mason, 46 Field Ave., Canterbury, Kent CT1 1TR.

### **Blanchard Society**

For details contact Mrs. R. Exley, 63 Eastholme Drive, Rawcliff, York YO3 6SZ.

### **The Postcard Index**

Is a collection of thousands of postcards sent to people living in the British Isles between 1900 and 1950 (mainly 1902 to 1930). Indexed by surname, it aims to unite the cards with descendants of the original addressees. If any cards are identified, they will be supplied for only £1 each. You can buy the present index of 10,000 names or submit names for checking against it. Compiled as a hobby by a serving police officer, this sounds a nice idea. Contact Colin Buck, 36 Kirkwood Way, Cookridge, Leeds LS16 7EX.

### **Sensible Advice from the "Greenwood Tree"**

I am sure I will be thanked by my archivist and librarian friends for printing the following piece of sensible advice which appeared in the *Greenwood Tree* (Somerset and Dorset F.H.S.) in 1995. "Archivists and librarians often get long letters of potted histories when all they want is the question (with the cheque). Lesson one is that we must never assume our family history is of interest to anyone else, as other people are more interested in their own! If writing to an official, I suggest the following. Get some rough paper, write the question in the middle. Now write Dear Sir/Madam at the top and sign the bottom. Lastly, look at that and consider if you genuinely need to add anything else." Worth a thought isn't it?

### **Durham University - Archives & Special Collections**

Most of the records held and available for public searching at 5 The College, Durham, are to be moved from there to a location within the present University Library at Palace Green, Durham, probably in March or April next year. Public access will not be affected. More details later.

## I.G.I. ERROR - Test Your Latin - ANSWER

Here is the translation to the item shown on page 120. Born on the 2nd day of March 1797, and baptised on the 26th of the same month and year by James Mather, Anne Jane, daughter of Robert and Isabella Mather (formerly Gibbon) his wife. Godfather: James Mather. Godmother Helen/Eleanor/Ellen Potts, Gateshead.

James Mather was the priest at Stella Hall, Ryton and must have been deputising for the famous Fr. Worswick of Newcastle at the time. Note what the IGI has done — it has indexed James Mather (Jacobo Mather) as the child. If you were looking for a baptism of Anne Jane, you wouldn't find it on the IGI!



# MEMBERS INTERESTS AND QUERIES

This section of the Journal is to allow members to advertise their interests and to seek help from other members with their problems and queries. We will also publish any offers of help from people with specialist knowledge or information, or who are prepared to do searches for fellow members in their local record offices, libraries, etc.

Items for the column can be sent to Phil Thirkell, 100 Stuart Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2SG, or via email address (106146.2460@compuserve.com).

If you wish to have your interests or any queries published, send a paragraph outlining your areas of research, problems etc., to Phil Thirkell at the above address by 31st December. Please include your membership number with any correspondence and print names to avoid errors. There is no restriction on how often you may submit items but please try to be brief, as, the shorter the items, the more we can print.

Please note that it is hoped that, as a matter of courtesy, members will acknowledge any communication they receive as a result of their entry in this column.

## 1829 BILL SLOAN

Tubbenmyrvn 3, 3580 Geilo, Norway.

Wards Directories 1886-96 give Bernard Sloane, licenced lodgings, Pudding Chare, Newcastle, Bernard Sloan (junior), 49 Sandhill and Michael Sloane (in 1896), Pudding Chare. Trying to find out where in Ireland Bernard Sloane and wife Mary O'Hare came from. Census only states Ireland. Would there be a lodging house licence application that might give birth place?

## 2130 KEN ILBERTON

Whiteshell P.O., West Hawk Lake, Manitoba R0E 2H0, Canada.

Searching for the birth/baptism of Elizabeth Kent who was living at Gallowgate Lane, Westgate, Newcastle in October 1859 when she gave birth to Ebenezer Kent. Also searching for a Stephen Hands who was living at the same time as Elizabeth.

## 4045 DOROTHY M. WILSON

The Paddock, 36 Main Street, Scholes, Leeds LS15 4DH.

Information would be appreciated on: William Johnson, mariner, born 1804 North Shields, second son of Henry Johnson, master mariner of Stromness, and his wife Eleanor Elliot. William married Isabel and had two children: Ann born 1828 and William born 1825. What was Isabel's surname? Where were they married?

## 4278 Mrs. CYNTHIA WILSON

17 Hunsley Crescent, Grimsby, Lincolnshire DN32 8PU.

Looking for the baptisms of the children of William Hamilton, tanner and skinner, and Margaret nee Ramsay, who married 1813 Linlithgow, West Lothian. There is a gap between Jane, baptised 1820 Cannongate, Edinburgh and Mary, baptised 1834 St. John's, Newcastle.

## 4489 Mrs. JOAN LAYBOURN

74 Tyne Gardens, Crookhill, Ryton, Tyne & Wear NE40 3DR.

Would welcome information on the descendants of William Paris who married Harriet Underwood, a widow, in 1856 in Essex. Their children: William 1858 Colchester, Elizabeth 1861, Emily 1863, Alice 1865, Harriet 1866, Rose 1869, Charles 1870, all at Lowestoft, Ada 1873 and John 1877, these last two at Burnopfield. The Paris family were living at Burnopfield at the time of the 1881 Census.

## 4519 Mrs. FIONA A. EASSON

4 Monkridge, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE26 3EQ.

Seeks contact with, or information about, descendants of James Birkett (b.1818 Kirkbampton, Cumberland) and Dorothy Twentymen (b.1822 Orton Rigg, Cumberland). They came to Newcastle c.1854 with sons Jeremiah (1844), Joseph (1846), John (1850), and Hannah and Wilfred (who both died Newcastle 1855), and left the eldest son Daniel (1842) in Cumberland.

Further children were born in Newcastle: Mary (1857, probably died young), Elizabeth (1858), James Twentymen (1863) and Tom (1868). The family lived in the Shieldfield area of Newcastle. James was a fruiterer but later ran a milk round with son Daniel and grandson (rejoined the family from Cumberland in the 1880's). Descended from Joseph who married Annie Arnott.

## 4610 Mrs. MARGARET KENNEDY

PO Box 718, Shepparton, Victoria 3632, Australia.

Seeking information on:

1) William Fail born 1802 Scotland, married Mary Walshaw at Sunderland. Issue: Thomas born 1827, William 1831 married Isabella Robinson, Hannah 1842 married R. Robinson, Elizabeth 1844 married James Laidlaw McLaughlan, Benjamin 1848, Eleanor 1850 married John McKenzie. Issue of James Laidlaw and Elizabeth McLaughlan were Mary 1863 who married firstly James Duncan then Richard Kennedy, Jane, James, Benjamin, William who married Annie Conquerer. Many of the men were connected with the glass bottle industry of Sunderland.

2) John Tulip of Stamford married 1725; son William born 1738 married Elizabeth Robson 1764 at Ovingham. Son Robert born 1773 married Isabel Eltringham. Son Robert 1794 married firstly Hannah Turner then Isabella Dawson at Bishopwearmouth. Son James 1835 married Jemima Haugh. Daughter Isabella 1857 married Peter Calvert, a plumber.

## 4785 GLYNIS MORRIS

56 Armond Road, Witham, Essex CM8 2HA.

Thanks to a fellow member found Morris in Bolton, but also interested in marriages to Morris of: Sarah Lear c.1930, Elizabeth Briggs 1911, Janet Tate 1902 and Henry Wharrier Marshall who married Ellen Morris 1894, all Radcliffe area.

Is anyone researching Douglas? Interested in Janet Douglas married William Morris 1872.

**4914 Mrs. VALERIE HAWLEY**

Tindal House, Killingworth Village, Tyne & Wear NE12 0BL.  
Seeking grandfather Charles William Clarke, born 1874, income tax collector, married Ethel Gertrude Nicholson of Beamish 1898 and had children: Gertrude, William, Vivien, Colin, Renee, Terence, Maurice and Albert. His father was William Clarke of Chester-le-Street, ironmonger and owner of the *Chester Chronicle*. No trace of Charles after 1917 - what happened to him? Also looking for the birth of Ebenezer Cout c.1757 and subsequent marriage to Elizabeth. They had children: Ellison, Ebenezer, Benjamin, Joseph and Elizabeth baptised at St. Nicholas Close United Secession or Scottish Church, Newcastle between 1783 and 1795. He was a flour dealer of Bottle Bank, Gateshead and died in 1833.

**4939 Miss M. PERCY**

19 Sycamore Avenue, Guide Post, Choppington, Northumberland NE62 5NU.

Researching: Atthey of Newburn; Bell of Bolam; Birkley of Newcastle; Clarke of Hexham; Charlton and Nicholson of Ponteland; Davison of Stannington and Bedlington; Docherty and Flanagan of Berwick and County Mayo, Ireland; Gray of Newburn, Seghill, Ashington and Alnwick; Grieve and Yeaman of Stannington; Harrison of Cowgate; Laws of Ovingham and Earsdon; Murray of Berwick and County Antrim, Ireland; Norris of Cramlington; Percy and Patterson of Berwick; Robson of Ovingham; Tucker of Alnwick, and Thompson of Bedlington.

**5189 Mrs. E.E. RAWLINSON**

40 Birchwood Drive, Rushmere St. Andrew, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 7EB.

Interests: Vickerstaff: descendants of Daniel, papermaker of Humshaugh 1842, especially those of his son John, coalminer, County Durham. Blackett: Cuthbert married Margaret Johnson 1834 New Painshaw. Robinson: John married Bridget Allinson, Kelloe 1842. Craggill: Stephen married Harriet Morris 1887.

**5223 Mrs. ALICE MAEERS**

95 Middletune Avenue, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 2JE.

Seeking information on Thomas Lashley, father of William Lashley born 1865 Killingworth Colliery; also the mother of William Lashley, Martha Lashley, formerly Cowperwhite or Cowperwaite, of Killingworth Colliery.

**5328 Miss. E.A. MORALEE**

9 Sherburn Avenue, Billingham, Stockton on Tees, Cleveland TS23 3PX.

Seeking information on Ruth Lammonby, born 1885 at Brackenbeds, Pelton, County Durham; father Robert, mother Mary Jane Moralee. Ruth was taken, by her grandparents, to America where she was known as Mary Ruth Moralee. Her father went to Western Australia. Also researching, Isabella Moralee, cousin of the above; parents William Moralee and Grace Broadmore of South Shields.

**5465 Mr. J.A. LAWS**

17 Loyalty Road, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS25 5BA.

Interested in any additional information about the marriage of Jonathan Lowes (various spellings) and Phoebe Hodgson in 1790 at Stanhope. Particularly interested in the date and place of Phoebe's birth. Jonathan was a lead miner in Weardale. Their children were: John (bapt. 1791), Elizabeth (1793), Bella (1795), Jonathan (born 1798, died 1799), Jonathan (born 1800 and baptised twice), Joe (1802) and Harry (1805). Information on any of the children would be welcome.

**5771 BRYAN CONNELL**

53 Westview Street, Scarborough, Western Australia 6019, Australia.

Local interests: Carr, Gallagher, Johnson and McGinty, all of Newcastle pre-1870.

**5893 THOMAS PEEL**

407 Hamill Road, Indiana, PA 15701, U.S.A.

Researching the family of Joseph Marshall Peel, born 1836 Hertford [Hartford, Northumberland near Bedlington? - Ed.], England, son of Matthew and Martha Peel. Joseph left the Bedlington area in 1883 to go to the U.S. with his wife Ann (Gray), and their four children: Edward aged 15, Jane aged 10, John William aged 3 and Joseph newborn. Would like to correspond with anyone with knowledge or interest in this family.

**6060 Mrs. SHEOLA FRIZZLE**

174 Westgarth, Whorlton Grange, Westerhope, Newcastle upon Tyne NE5 4PJ.

Searching for descendants of Thomas Waugh (tailor) and Jane Morgan nee Melville who were married at St. Stephen's, South Shields 1854. Their children were: Anne Arabella (1855), Jane (1857), Robert (1858), Thomas (1860), Melville (1862), Elizabeth (1864) and George William Melville (1866), and Dorothy Melville Morgan (1849), step daughter to Thomas.

**6097 Mrs. MAUREEN WALLACE**

20 Larkfield Road, Sunderland SR2 9BE.

Looking for the marriage (pre-1887) of William John Muers, born Shilbottle c.1857, and Eliza Jane Wombwell, born Gateshead 1862. Their children were born Gateshead 1890-1900. Has anyone seen them on a Census?

**6137 MARLENA D. TURNER**

Unit 9/17 Armitae Crescent, Burnie, Tasmania 7320, Australia (email: Mickey\_Finn@msn.com).

Seeking information on Andrew Scott, mason by trade, who married Jane Meikle in the Wooler area; there were at least three children. William born 1787 Newton, baptised Wooler, Cheviot Street United Presbyterian, married Janet Wood in Scotland and had 3 or 4 children including twin girls Mary and Elizabeth born Doddington, baptised Wooler.

**6147 Mrs. DOROTHY FERDINAND**

Pike Foot, Buckden, Nr. Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 5JA.

Seeks birth and parentage of William Wilkinson, cinder and coke merchant who married: 1) Elizabeth Dixon 1833 at Jarrow, and 2) Jane Sheldon, 1841 at Jarrow by licence.

**6182 Mrs. ANNE McINTYRE**

MSI 1877, Hillcrest Rd., Malanda, Queensland 4885, Australia.

Searching for information on John and Elizabeth Jane (formerly Robson) Lowrey/Lowery of Low Fell, Gateshead. Their children were: Agnes Esther, born c.1863, Elizabeth Jane c.1864, Isabella Shipley c.1866/8, Hannay Mary c.1869, Frances Berwick c.1871, William Riddle 1874, John 1876. John Lowrey was a domestic gardener and Elizabeth died sometime after John's birth. John married Emily Moffatt and had two sons, Thomas 1880 and Matthew 1881 before the family left for Australia on board *Albany*. Matthew died at sea and four more children were born in Australia. Any information on the parents of John Lowery and Elizabeth Jane Robson would be welcome; also, the significance of the middle names Shipley, Berwick and Riddle.

**6184 Mr. ROBERT HEWITT**

6 Oakhill, Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0TG.

Trying to trace descendants of William Hewitt, born 1841, and Emma nee Hudson, born 1843, lived in South Shields; their children were: 1) Joseph born 1863, children Hughie, Susie and Josie. 2) William, born 1867, had children, but names unknown; lived in the area of Sunderland Road, South Shields. 3) Emma Isabella, born 1873, lineage known. 4) John Henry, born 1878, my father, family known. 5) Florence, was a nurse/midwife, emigrated to Canada after WW I. 6) Herbert, one-time worked in colliery office at Washington, married Nell, only child, daughter Audrey.

**6206 Mrs. JOAN HENDERSON**

23 Witham Way, Peterborough PE4 7XR.

Any information appreciated on Thomas Tipping born 1879 in Northern Ireland, son of Jackson Tipping and Annie McKinley. Thomas moved with his parents to Walker, Newcastle where he married Margaret Brankston born 1882 St. Nicholas, Newcastle, daughter of Robert Brankston and Margaret Kelsey.

Information also sought on Thomas Taylor born 1844 Earsdon, married Margaret Thompson born 1851 Barnard Castle.

**6300 Mrs. A. SEYMOUR**

Spring Grange Farm, Barkby Road, Beeby, Leicester LE7 3BQ.

Seeking information on Robert Ro(d)gerson and wife Mary Jane Wardle between 1887 and 1900. They married at St. Mary's Heworth 1885; known children: Isabella 1885, Meggie 1887, Elizabeth Ann 1900, Mary Jane 1902, all born Portobello, Birtley but can't find them on the 1891 Census. There may have been more children born 1887-1900. Need to find the birth places of Robert and Mary Jane; both father's names were John.

Also trying to find the connection through marriage of a Ro(d)gerson daughter to an owner or manager of Vaux Brewery, Sunderland around 1915-1920. Any information on the brewery would be appreciated.

**6337 Mrs. C. LADERACK**

86 Blackwell Road, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2 4DZ.

Looking for information on his 4 x great grandfather Jasper Crager who was born in Heligoland. Also, Thomas William Gray, born Sunderland, married Catherine Skillings in 1902 at Sunderland, but unable to find any information about his birth or death.

**6392 Mrs. GILL STENNING**

23 Collier Row Lane, Romford, Essex RM5 3BL.

Seeking any information on Joseph Robinson, miller and farmer of Leap Farm, Burnopfield in 1840, married Margaret Hepple. Ann Robinson, his daughter, married to George Handcock in 1860 at Newcastle. On the 1881 Census lived at 6 Cotfield Terrace, Gateshead with the following known children: William, Elizabeth, Joseph, Ralph, Meggan?, Robert and Florence.

**6430 WILLIAM THOMPSON**

PO Box 2098, Griffith, New South Wales 2680, Australia.

Seeking information and contact with relatives of Thomas William Thompson, married 1903 St. Ignatius, Sunderland, to Mary Elizabeth Shepherd, born Elswick 1882, died Wamberal, New South Wales. She was the daughter of George Shepherd and Margaret Jane Gibson who married at High Elswick 1874. Other known daughters were Isabella, born 1876, Nellie and Ethel.

Also seeking information on Frederick Ayre Lowrie, born c.1859, died 1937, Sydney, New South Wales. He married: 1) Jane Brothers 1881 South Shields; one known son - Frederick Brothers Lowrie born 1883 South Shields, married Mary Jane Hudson 1905 South Shields and had son James Hudson Lowrie 1910. 2) Janet Sinclair, born 1869 St. Andrew's, Newcastle, married 1913 Gateshead, died 1926 Gosforth; one daughter Freda born South Shields. Janet Sinclair was daughter to George Sinclair and Georgina Dougal, both born and married in Scotland. Other children believed to be: Alison 1858 Berwick, David Dougal c.1860; Georgina 1875 Spital Tongues, Newcastle (married John Joseph Pattinson 1898 at High Elswick), George c.1877. The fathers of Frederick Ayre Lowrie and Jane Brothers, William Lowrie and Peter Brothers, were both master mariners out of South Shields.

**6450 BARBARA HARDING**

300 Black Jack Road, Valley View, Texas 76272, U.S.A.

Seeking information on Glendinning of Northumberland and Scotland. Ancestor John Glendinning married Jane Brown at Alnwick 1790, known children: 1) Mary 1791; 2) John 1793, married Elizabeth Wood at Chillingham 1816; 3) George 1801, married Margaret Carr at Cornhill 1825. John and George both had large families. John appears on 1841 Census at Wooler and George was at East Layton, Yorkshire, and by 1851 both were at Raby/Staindrop. In 1854 they both emigrated to Lafayette, Wisconsin, U.S.A. Also looking for information on Isabella Glendinning, daughter of John and Elizabeth above, who married a Hutchinson. On 1880 Census for Shullsburg, Wisconsin, Isabella was living with step daughter Ellen Hutchinson, son in law Thomas Davison Lawrie and his children Annie, William, Ellen, Ethel and Ida. A funeral card of Elizabeth Lawrie who died 1878 at Low Willington aged 29 years has been handed down in the family. Where is Low Willington? Cannot find a marriage for Isabella or any other possible children. Also, a marriage of Thomas Lawrie and Elizabeth. Thomas was born in Edinburgh in 1843 and died Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1944.

[Low Willington is part of the town of Willington, west of Durham City - Ed.]

**6467 GRAHAM F. WEIR**

6 Whitelands, Hook End, Brentwood, Essex CM15 0QG.

Seeking information on the Mears family of Willington Quay 1870 onwards, and birthplace/date of Charles Maers, or Mears, who married Anna Elizabeth Spink at Jarrow in 1867.

**6472 Mrs. P.J. HALL**

86 Moorgreen, Newthorpe, Nottingham NG16 2FB.

Researching the family of Joseph Fawcett and his wife Ann Stoker who married at Newcastle, All Saints 1827. Known children: Selby Sharpe Fawcett, born and died 1839, and Edward Stoker Fawcett, born 1842 Lamesley, died 1903. Also, John Moore of Stanington and his wife Catherine Vizard/Bizzard of Tanfield, married 1807 at Chester-le-Street. And, Ann Lawson of Fatfield who married 1832 to John Hutler of Stavely in Derbyshire.

**6476 ROGER BARRINGTON**

159A Whitton Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 7QU.

Researching William Bullock who was married to Jane, and who was buried at Esh in March 1777.

**6530 ANGELA MILSTED**

35 North Street, Barming, Maidstone, Kent ME16 9HE.

Interests: 1) Any Milsteds in the Northumberland and Durham area. 2) Hobson in the Annfield Plain and Windmill Hills area of Gateshead 18th and 19th centuries. 3) Markham in Newcastle, Westoe and Stockton areas 18th and 19th centuries. 4) Heppell in the Gateshead area 18th and 19th centuries.



- 6544 Mrs. JOYCE M. TREMBLAY**  
PO Box 171, Tilbury, Ontario N0P 2L0, Canada.  
Seeking information on William Mather Hustwick, born March quarter 1888, Gateshead, who married Maud McAdams. Known children: Albert, born Durham, and Arthur. GRO indexes show Hustwick births in Auckland starting in 1857, Gateshead in 1888 and Durham 1918. Information on the name Hustwick would be appreciated.
- 6552 DONALD E. WATSON**  
5189 Cliff Place, Delta, British Columbia V4M 2C6, Canada.  
William R. Watson married Eleanor Hopper in 1896 in Newcastle and any information from descendants still living in the area would be appreciated. Can reciprocate with information on descendants in the Greater Vancouver area.
- 6566 MARGARET LEARMOUTH McKINNON**  
861 Tolman Drive, Stanford, California 94305, U.S.A.  
Seeking information on family of William Nicholson, son of William Nicholson and Margaret Cumming, born c.1816 at Percy Main, died 1886 at South Leith, Edinburgh; and of his wife Mary Fryar, daughter of William Fryar and Martha Hogg, born c.1814 Willington and christened at Wallsend, died 1874 South Leith. 1851 Census shows them and children, William, Elizabeth, Isabella, Edward and Robert, living at Chirton; William was a steamboat owner. By 1856 they had moved to South Leith where a daughter Margaret was born and where William continued his ship business. Any details on ancestors, places they lived, and work they did, as well as sources for more information, would be helpful.
- 6570 Mrs. N. WRIGHT**  
Westwood, Leeming Lane, Catterick Village, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 7NL.  
Researching: Chisholm of Tudhoe Colliery, Low Spennymoor and Hebburn; Dixon of Ferryhill, Hetton le Hole, Tudhoe Colliery, Shincliffe, Mooresley and Chester le Street; Hird of Hunwick and Ferryhill; and, Moreland of Hunwick and Bishop Auckland.
- 6585 PHILLIP H. HARRIS**  
932 Bunker View Drive, Apollo Beach, Florida 33572, U.S.A.  
Great grandfather Robert Moon (1755-1837) could have been born at either Bishop Middleham or Norton. He was buried at Bishop Middleham in 1837 and his wife Dorothy in 1846; they would have married in the early 1780's. They had ten children, all baptised at Bishop Middleham except Dorothy, the eldest born 1784, and a daughter Elizabeth mentioned in Robert's will. Daughter Dorothy married Steven Watson of Sunderland at Bishop Middleham in 1806 and they converted to Wesleyanism in later life. The parish registers, and Robert's will, show that they lived in and owned Thinford Mill, Cornforth, but the deeds have not been traced. Any help or suggestions would be welcome.
- 6588 TERRY GLENDINNING**  
91 Newgate Street, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 1BZ.  
Seeking the forebears of John Glendinning, black and whitesmith of Sunderland, born 1796, married Dorothy Leeman at Bishopwearmouth 1828. He died in 1840 and she in 1844 leaving four orphans. Was he a son George Glendinning, blacksmith of Deptford listed in *Parson's Directory of 1827*? Family names were George, John and William, and the name Wilson seems to be connected. I have notes of a George Glendinning of Tweed Street whose son Wilson died 1867 aged 15, and another George William Glendinning whose son George William was born 1865 at Lawrence Street: both were journeymen shipwrights. Were they brothers or cousins? John's three sons all went to Australia in 1855; William returned in 1865 and his daughter Elizabeth died Bishopwearmouth in 1861.
- 6595 Mrs. RACHEL M. MAYERS**  
387 Park Lane, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 8JR.  
Interests in the north east area are: Wilson, farmers near Barnard Castle 1830-1960, Bishop Auckland c.1800-1830 and Hamsterley pre-1800; also, Pinkney and Longstaff of Bishop Auckland, Stanwix and Barnard Castle through marriage to the Wilsons.
- 6596 Mrs. K. STURGESS**  
29 Tann Road, Finedon, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire NN9 5JA.  
Researching the Champley family of Pickering, Yorkshire, Sunderland and West Hartlepool. Thomas Champley, born 1834 Pickering, married Frances Johnson of Shields in 1855; at this time he was a merchant seaman. Known children, all born Sunderland: Thomas 1862, Richard 1864, Jacob 1868, Septimus 1870, Elizabeth 1872, James 1877, and Susannah 1875 born at Murton Colliery, and Hilda Jane 1879 at West Hartlepool. Thomas Champley, born 1862, married Jane Ellen Woods in 1884 at West Hartlepool. Known children: Jane Ellen 1889, John Thomas 1900, Frances 1902 and Albert Norman Winston 1908-1940. Also researching Michael McGory, born 1862 Milton, Glasgow, son of Michael, a coal merchant, and Margaret S. McGuire who married at Inver, County Donegal in 1860.
- 6597 DAVID JOHN MILLWARD**  
53 Derwent Close, Alsager, Stoke-on-Trent ST7 2EL.  
Tel: 01270 876616.  
Researching Millward/Milward of Durham (including, but not exclusively, Witton Gilbert, Sacriston, Willington) and Northumberland. Appreciate any help, but in particular: 1) William Millward, b.1852 Sacriston, miner, married 1871 at Chester-le-Street to Ann Smith, b.Hendon. Residence on certificate Waldrige Fell but not on 1871 Census. 2) Family of Hannah Vasey, born 1889 Hunwick, who married William and Ann's son George Millward (born 1887 Willington) at Hunwick 1911.
- 6600 Mr. ERIC BELL**  
26 Buck Stone Oval, Leeds LS17 5HG.  
Seeks information on William Bell born 1845/6 and his forebears. He married Mary Dobson at St. Andrews, Newcastle 1869, fathers William Bell and George Dobson, both master mariners. A daughter Lilian Maud was born at Leytonstone 1893, her mother dying the same year. William later married Anne Eliza Baker at Llanfihangel-G-Glyn, Cardiganshire 1895 and a son Charles Kingsley was born 1896 at Leytonstone. William Bell was an agent for the Prudential Assurance Company in Newcastle 1869 and district superintendent at Willsden, London 1913. He died between 1913 and 1918. His date of birth and death are sought, details of his parents, etc. Were there any other children?
- 6604 Mrs. Y. MARSHALL-JONES**  
PO Box 12146, La Jolla, California 92039, U.S.A.  
Seeking any information on William Eric Marshall, born Edinburgh, (but when?), died 1970 Gateshead. He was a social worker and also flew with the 80th Squadron of the R.A.F. in WW II. Also seeking any information about any relations, i.e. spouse, children, grandchildren.
- 6606 Mrs. CAROL TAYLOR**  
3/68 Oogar Street, Alexandra Headland, Queensland 4572, Australia.  
Particular interests are in the Stanhope area where grandparents were born. Is there a local history society for the area? Names being researched are: Gray, Best, Bowman and Proud.

**6612 Mr. ROBERT N.G. KEMSLEY**

27 Silverdale Parade, Jewells, New South Wales 2280, Australia.

Interests as follows: Walton - 1845+ North Killingworth and Heworth; Laybourne - 1823+ Swalwell; Francis Brown married Mary Bell 1806; Edward Forster married Isabel Taylor 1805; Ralph Forster married Mary Surtees 1838; Thomas Walton married Margaret Outon 1840?; John Laybourne married Mary Carr? 1844?

**6613 T.S. CROSBY**

25 St. Peter's Close, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 2QY.

Researching: 1) Thomas Lewis, joiner of Sunderland, and his wife Jane nee Anderson; both born 1800-1810; Jane probably died before 1860. 2) Wayman Watson, shipwright of Sunderland, and his wife Mary Ann; both born c.1800. 3) Edward Bunton, mariner of Tynemouth, born c.1795. 4) John Rogers, potter, also of Tynemouth, born 1790-1800. Would also like to trace the ancestry of John Spain, master mariner, born c.1801-2, and married at St. Peter's Monkwearmouth in 1825.

**6615 JOHN HEPPL**

22 Sandileigh Drive, Hale, Altringham, Cheshire WA15 8AS.

Seeking any information on Hepple based in central Durham in the 1800's, and Gilholm from Northumberland in the 1800's: the IGI seems to indicate not too many of them.

**6620 ANNE CORKE**

1980 Cathcart Crescent, R.R.#3, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 6X4, Canada.

Seeking any information on: 1) Frances Thornton, teacher, residing Sixth Avenue, Heaton, who gave up daughter Florence, born Wallsend 1907, for adoption in 1908 to James Scott Wood of Falmouth Road, Heaton, because of her husband's death. 2) James Scott Wood, business man in Whitley Bay area, believed to be the first distributor of razor blades in the north east; well known collector; resided in 1940-50's at Westley Avenue, Whitley Bay; died 1952. 3) ? Bush, bandleader in 1920-30's in Whitley Bay area; married Florence Wood in late 1920's; died 1940's. 4) Clara Morris (nee Roberts), born Wales; married Albert Henry Morris; two sons - Cyril and William; died 1942 Monkseaton, buried Whitley Bay - grave G2313 but cemetery unknown.

**6632 ALAN F. SHOUT**

PO Box 14, Manama, Bahrain, Arabian Gulf.

Researching maternal ancestors: Sanderson, originally from Northam in the late 18th century, moved to North Shields by the end of the 19th century.

**6633 TONY BUTCHER**

PO Box 167, Jamison Centre, A.C.T. 2614, Australia.

Researching the descendants of Francis Watson Pearson, son of George and Eliza, born 1819 Newcastle, married 1841 at All Saints, Newcastle to Mary Ann Blackett, daughter of John, born 1814 Newcastle. Children: Isabella Jane, Charles, Robert Blackett, Elizabeth Blackett and Catherine.

**6634 RICHARD LAPLANTE**

8298 Cook Road, Vernon, British Columbia V1B 3M7. Canada.

Henry English and his wife Hannah Clough appear on the 1881 County Durham Census. They may have been Quakers, but has not been able to confirm this. Information sought.

**6637 Mrs. VALERIE M. BRENTON**

28 Dogwood Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 9PA.

Surnames being researched include: Reay, Ord and Tomlinson of Westoe, South Shields, and Chapman of Cowpen Quay, Blyth.

**6641 Mr. R.H. BOUTLAND**

52 The Park, Redbourn, Herts AL3 7LS.

Researching and seeking information concerning the Boutland/Bootland/Boatland families of Tyneside. Also interested in Bailes, Wrightson and Riseborough of Sunderland and Colling of Pelaw Main.

**6644 Prof. E.C. SLATER**

9 Oaklands, Lymington, Hants SO41 3TH.

Seeking information regarding John Slater and Elizabeth Norvell and their families, and the early life, before he emigrated to Australia, of great grandfather John Norvell Slater born 1836/7. John Slater is believed to have been born at Swalwell and emigrated to Australia in 1859 but this does not agree with the marriage certificate in 1860 of John Norvell Slater, miller, residing Inglewood (now Bendigo, Victoria), married Ann Neleyn, aged 21, of County Clare, Ireland, daughter of Edward Neleyn and Mary Sheeny. John Norvell Slater had a brother Thomas.

**6648 Mrs. M.A. STEPHENSON**

Caervallack, Ongar Road, Standon Massey, Brentwood, Essex CM15 0EQ.

Seeking information about Isabella Blackett who gave birth to a son Thomas in 1856, residing in Byers Green. Thomas married Mary Ann Watson in 1879 and a number of children were born whose names are not known except for Joseph Blackett born 1879 Byker, Newcastle. Also interested in John Shotton Stephenson born 1840 to Thomas and Jane (nee Siddle) Stephenson.

**6670 Mrs. JOAN BRADLEY**

15 Royal Military Ave., Cheriton, Folkstone, Kent CT20 3EF.

Researching great uncle Albert Edward Walton, eldest daughter known as Lil, sister Matilda Carney and brother James emigrated to U.S.A. pre-1922. Albert served in the Army and by 1923 was living in Uxbridge and moved in 1926 to Sarisbury in Hampshire.

## HELP OFFERED

**0020 Mr. W. VEITCH**

'Haydon', 39 Ivinson Road, Darwen, Lancashire BB3 0EN.

Has copies of the pre-1812 parish registers for Elsdon, Chollerton, Haydon Bridge and Whitfield and will look up information required for a S.A.E.

**6450 BARBARA HARDING**

300 Black Jack Road, Valley View, Texas 76272, U.S.A.

Has been researching the history of Lafayette County, Wisconsin, an area that many lead miners emigrated to, and would be happy to help anyone who thinks they might have connections with the area.

**6615 JOHN HEPPL**

22 Sandileigh Drive, Hale, Altringham, Cheshire WA15 8AS.

Visits the Manchester Record Office every three months or so and would be willing to check records for fellow members, if time permits.

## E-MAIL

It has been suggested that we should publish e-mail addresses of members. If you would like your e-mail address listed please contact Phil Thirkell at:  
106146,2460@compuserve.com

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