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

Happy New Year to you all! Here's hoping that you have a year of great success in uncovering the deeds and misdeeds of your long dead, and not so long dead, ancestors.

This Journal has quite a lot about Irregular Border Marriages. This seemed appropriate as December saw an important sale in Newcastle of some Gretna Green Marriage records, which we mention elsewhere under the heading 'The Sale of the Century'. A recent 'discovery' of some Lamberton Toll marriages in the Scottish Record Office is also mentioned. Apologies to those of you with no 'missing marriages' in north Northumberland for taking up so much space but these are important and hitherto unpublished marriage records — which might hopefully solve the problems of quite a few of you.

Thanks to those overseas members who responded to my request for your views on how the Society might improve its service to you. Your thoughts are being considered.

We welcome views, not only from those of you abroad, and of course as Editor I 'positively thrive' (to quote one of my FHS editorial colleagues) on your contributions in the form of letters, snippets, articles or whatever.

As a trial, the Research Service at Bolbec Hall is being standardised, and a leaflet should be enclosed with this Journal. Further details on page 26.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. J. Blenkin, 10 Maxholm Road, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, W. Midlands B74 3SU writes:-

Recently I came across a 1991 letter from the Census Office, at a time when I had embarked upon a one-man campaign to have 'place of birth' included once more in the modern census form. Needless to say, I lost, so genealogists of 2091 may find the 1991 forms a sad disappointment. However, there was a small amount of comfort in that the writer thought I might have been aware (I wasn't!) that 'Place of Birth' and 'Date of Birth' could be appended when registering a death. I would have thought that under these circumstances, this privilege might not be uppermost in one's mind, but so be it. The 2091 genealogists might be grateful for that, if not for the census.

Mr. Stanley Edwards writes:

I have just read an item in another Society's magazine which states that if an English or Welsh Birth Certificate has a time on it, as well as the date of birth, a multiple birth is indicated. Can anyone confirm this, or tell me of any other quirks like this? In Scotland, the time of birth is always shown if known, so no twins or triplets are indicated by this.

Mr. J. Vandeppeer, 18 Cherry Tree Avenue, New Earswick, York YO3 4AR, writes:-

The following information is in a book containing copies of all Pilotage Licences issued by Trinity House, Leith between 3 May 1858 and 18th June 1912 in Scotland Record Office GD 226/13/7.

20th July 1874, licence issued to Andrew Minto, Newcastle, master mariner, aged 55 (5ft. 5in., grey hair, blue eyes, ruddy complexion) to act as a Pilot in the area Leith Roads to St. Abbs Head and south of Orford Ness, including Firth of Forth harbours.

4th May 1900, licence issued to Hans Simus Holm (naturalised) of South Shields, shipmaster aged 46 (5ft. 5in., brown hair, blue eyes) to act as Pilot in area St. Abbs Head to Firth of Forth and Fife Ness to Alloa, excepting certain ports.

These were the only non-Scottish pilots in the period.

Dr. P. Hull, 49 North Grange Road, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3AG, writes:

I was interested to read Diana Chabot's article on Lowingham Hall (Winter Journal). Hall families containing variants of this name appear on the Durham IGI and I noted the following in the Monkwearmouth Shore census returns:

1841 Hedworth Street. Lownger Hall (65) sawyer with other family members.

1841 Hedworth Street. Lownger Hall (30) shipwright with other family members including a 4 year old Lounger Hall.

The same family appear in the 1861 Census in Trafalgar Court, with both father and son named as Linger, and also in 1871 Census at Huddleston Street, with both now called Lawringer.

The spelling of the name appears arbitrary, as might be expected if standards of literacy were not high.

These Halls appear to have held on to this name with tenacity, whatever its secret. Would that all families had such tricks and that we knew about them.

NEW BOOKS

ROPNER PARK BOWLING CLUB 1895-1995

by David Major

Playing bowls has been a major leisure activity in the North-East for many years and some of our Bowling Clubs will have a history as lengthy and well documented as any of our better known Cricket or Football Clubs. The Club in Ropner Park, Stockton, was founded within a couple of years of the Park's opening in 1893 and, although it has had its ups and downs, it has survived its first hundred years and continues to thrive. This book (47pp, A5, paperback) is a family historian's dream - full of group photographs, lists of members, etc., so if a family member was active on the greens of the Stockton district, there is a good chance of him being at least mentioned, if not actually photographed, here. One feature of the book is a list of almost 400 Club members, as well as other lists, covering Club Officials, winners of major trophies, etc. It is available from our member Mr. F. Britton, who is the Club's Honorary Secretary, at 26 Springfield Avenue, Stockton on Tees TS18 4EH for £2.00 plus 38p for postage. The reviewer has no information about overseas rates - if ordering from outside the UK it would be best to contact Mr. Britton first.

LIFE'S VOYAGE

Edited by E. Howliston & B. Cuthbert

Reprint of the diary of Robert Howitt, a master shoemaker in Warkworth (born 1836). The book had lain undiscovered for 100 years and contains narratives of day-to-day life in the village from 1854 to 1889. The diary is a fascinating piece of social history which will be full of interest to anyone with Victorian ancestors in the village. Many names are mentioned and there is also a list of some marriages 1872-1882 and ten pages of notes on 'Deaths of Remarkable Persons in Warkworth and the Neighbourhood (1853-1890)'. This is a list of some 230 deaths, with extra historical and biographical detail added, often quite uncomplimentary! Edited by Elizabeth Howliston and Barbara Cuthbert, the 118 page book costs £4.50 UK or £5.00 overseas including postage and packing from Mrs. B. Cuthbert, Shrubbery House, The Butts, Warkworth, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 0SS.

SEAHAM HARBOUR: THE FIRST GENERATION (The 1851 Census of Dawdon Township)

Edited by D. Butler & D. Miller

This is a complete transcript of the 1851 Census of Enumeration Districts 16A and 16B in the Easington Registrar's District (PRO piece numbers HO 107/2392 folios 527 to 566), with an alphabetical name index.

It is the product of members of a Seaham evening class and has been edited by the class and by David Butler and Donald Miller.

A nicely produced A4 size book of 88 pages, there are two maps from the 1857 Ordnance Survey, a general introduction to the census and a brief history of Seaham Harbour included.

Dawdon's population of only 35 in 1821 increased to over 1000 in the next ten years following the development of the port and town of Seaham Harbour by the 3rd Marquis of Londonderry from 1828.

The population doubled again by 1841 and by March 1851 there were 3538 people. This is a useful volume and as with David Butler's other works, it is a meticulously produced transcript. A novel feature is the inclusion of over 100 'absentee heads' of households, mainly seamen, located in the Seaham parish registers. The cost, including postage and packing is £4.30 (cheques payable to Seaham Census Group) from Seaham Harbour Coastal Centre, Seaham House, Seaham, County Durham SR7 7EU.

HOSPITALS

by Lynn Redhead

This is a Newcastle Library publication which looks at the hospitals which have served the people of Newcastle, from the earliest days of a form of health care in the 18th century to the present --- the Infirmary (founded 1753), the Lying-In Hospital, the Dispensary, the Smallpox Hospital, St. Nicholas Hospital and many more. "Crammed with information and fascinating photos".

HEADY DAYS:

A HISTORY OF NEWCASTLE PUBLIC HOUSES

(Number One - The Central Area)

by Brian Bennison

Again, a Newcastle Library product. The city's pubs have a long and colourful history and this book, volume one of the first comprehensive account of its licensed houses, looks at over 300 pubs which graced and disgraced the city centre over the last century. Here are descriptions of premises, dates of demise, famous landlords and infamous characters.

Hospitals costs £1.95 while *Heady Days* is £4.99. Add 50p postage per book. Overseas purchasers should add £1. Sterling cheques only, payable to City of Newcastle upon Tyne. No credit cards. Order from Promotions & Arts Unit, Central Library, Princess Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1DX.

WILSON'S HANDBOOK TO

MORPETH & NEIGHBOURHOOD

A modern facsimile of a late 19th century local history and guide book. Illustrated with woodcuts, it examines the public and historic buildings, churches, bridges, streets, schools, newspapers, 'eminent men', not only in the ancient borough itself, but in nearby villages like Bothal, Longhirst, Mitford and Choppington. With 102 pages, liberally sprinkled with names, this is a handy volume with much 'local background' and is available from Appleby's Bookshop, 60 Newgate Street, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 1BE, price £4.99 plus 71p postage. Worth buying if you have Morpeth ancestry!

BIRTHS, DEATHS & MARRIAGES FROM

MORPETH HERALD (Vol. I April 1860-March 1861)

Includes full details as given in the newspaper. Approx 1500 names. Produced by Felton & Swarland Local History Society. Available from Mr. P. Cook, 23 Benlaw Grove, Felton, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9NG. Price £3.25 postfree in UK, £3.70 overseas.

December 1996 Microfiche Publications Leaflet
(Enclosed with previous Journal)

Many of you will have noticed that there is a printing error on the part of this leaflet listing 'Census Indexes Co. Durham'. The date of the Census fiche is shown as 1881 but should have read 1851. Our apologies for the error, especially to those members who suffered inconvenience and disappointment by ordering 1881 material which does not exist! The Society does have a complete index of the 1881 Censuses for Durham and for Northumberland (and, indeed, for every other county of England and Wales) and this can be viewed at Bolbec Hall. Limited postal searches can also be carried out if you cannot get there (see page 79 of your Autumn Journal Vol. 21 No. 3 and page 26 of this issue).

1871 Census, Newcastle All Saints Parish (7 fiche)

John Nieurzyla has completed two further sections of his prodigious one-man transcription of the 1871 Census of Newcastle. The first new section is that for All Saints parish, which comprises nine separate indexes (one for each Public Record Office 'piece' RG10/5094 to RG10/5102). Shows name, address, age, occupation, relationship to head of house and place of birth for each individual. Price £4.50 post free in UK, £5.25 by airmail overseas.

1871 Census, Newcastle St. Ann's & St. Anthony's (3 fiche)

This covers St. Ann's Chapelry of All Saints and St. Anthony's, Byker --- three separate indexes covering PRO pieces RG10/5103 to RG10/5105. Details as above. Price £2.50 post free in UK, £2.90 by airmail overseas.

Monumental Inscriptions of Northumberland - Belford and Ovingham (2 fiche)

The Society is indebted to Miss J.E. Wright of Belford, assisted by Gillian and Tony Lee, for this production of a comprehensive indexed transcription of the 1059 Monumental Inscriptions at St. Mary's Church, Belford from 1685 to 1994.

The fiche also include transcripts of 18th and 19th century inscriptions at Ovingham Parish Church, prepared in 1974 by D. Mason and J. Harker. 277 entries are listed, including the headstones of the engraver Thomas Bewick and his family. The 2 fiche covering Belford and Ovingham cost £2 post free in UK, £2.40 by airmail overseas.

All fiche should be ordered from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidans Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP. Cheques payable to 'NDFHS'.

FAMILY HISTORY SOURCES IN HEXHAM LIBRARY

Northumberland County Council Amenities Division publishes a small booklet entitled *Family History in Hexham Library* — a guide to sources in the Brough Local Studies Collection. The main sources held by the library are as follows:-

1. International Genealogical Index (I.G.I.)

On microfiche, the 1992 edition of this invaluable index is held for Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland and the Scottish Border Counties. The 1988 edition is held for the rest of the country.

2. Parish Registers

Transcripts of registers for the following parishes are held in book form (b), microfilm (fm) or microfiche (fc). Allendale (b), Bellingham (b), Chollerton (b), Corbridge (b), Corsenside (b), Elsdon (b), Halton (b), Haltwhistle (b), Haydon (b), Hexham (b), Hexham Catholics (b), Peculiar of Hexhamshire (fm), Humshaugh (b), Hunstanworth (b), Lambley (b), Newbrough (b), Simonburn (b), Slaley (fc), Thockrington (b), Warden (b), Whitley Chapel (b).

3. Census Returns for Northumberland

On film for 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871 and 1881. On fiche for 1891. Note that Newcastle is held for 1891 only.

4. Census Indexes

The index to the Censuses 1841-1881, a large black book, consists of five separate lists arranged by County, registration Districts and Parish or Township (Note: these are place indexes and not personal name indexes).

The index to the 1891 Census lists all townships and, in the case of Hexham itself, streets — covers west of Northumberland only.

The Index to the Census Returns 1851-1881 (red book) lists all streets, yards, major buildings etc., appearing on the censuses for Hexham. Indexes to 1881 Census of Northumberland and Durham (on fiche).

5. Electoral Registers 1832-1950

All registers from 1832 to 1900 are held. Thereafter, until 1950, at five yearly intervals. Bound copies of alternate years from 1990 are also held.

6. Local Newspapers

On microfilm. *Hexham Courant* (1864+), *Hexham Herald* (1868-80), *Tynedale Mirror* (1934-39), *Haltwhistle Echo* (1904-30), *Haltwhistle & Alston News* (1892-95).

7. Family Notices from Newcastle Courant 1723-1820

This is the N.D.F.H.S. microfiche publication of the volumes held by Newcastle Library.

8. Monumental Inscriptions (West Northumberland)

On fiche, but books held for Hexham Abbey, St. Peters Old Graveyard Sparty Lea and St. Mary's, Slaley.

9. Trade Directories 1822-1938

In book form.

10. Hexham Wills Proved at York 1688-1799

This is the N.D.F.H.S. microfiche index compiled by the late Dr. Kenneth Mitchell — the Wills themselves are held by the Borthwick Institute, York.

SOUTH SHIELDS LIBRARY

South Shields Public Reference Library (address: Prince Georg Square, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE33 2PE, telephone: 0191 427 1818) is situated in a fairly modern building near to the centre of the town, with a car-park immediately outside. The Local Studies section is entered by going into the main library and then descending a flight of stairs to the basement, where there is such a treasure house of material that some South Shields people have been known to spend months researching there before ever finding the need to go anywhere else! Here is a summary of their main holdings.

Census

South Tyneside 1841-1881 on microfilm;
1891 on microfiche.

I.G.I.

England, Scotland and Wales, 1992 edition, Ireland 1988 editions, all on microfiche.

St. Catherine's House Indexes

1837-1865 and 1913-1925 on microfiche.
1866-1912 on microfilm.

Parish Registers

All Church of England registers from South Tyneside, except Boldon and Harton, on microfilm.

Directories

Large collection, covers all Tyneside towns 1828-1940.

Electoral Registers

South Shields 1850-1996.
Also some from Boldon, Cleadon, Hebburn and Jarrow.

Monumental Inscriptions

The Library has many microfiche listings, published by the NDFHS, including those for South Shields St. Hilda, St. Stephen and Holy Trinity, Jarrow St. Paul, Harton St. Peter and Westoe Cemetery, as well as those for various other Northumberland and County Durham parishes.

Maps

A series covering South Tyneside 1768-1996.

Newspapers

These are mostly on microfilm, and include:

South Shields Gazette 1849-1996

Jarrow Express 1873-1913

Shieldsman 1932-1939

The Library also has the NDFHS microfiche of *Family Notices from the Newcastle Courant* 1801-1820 (NB - this is only part of the NDFHS's publication - we have also published the *Family Notices* 1723-1800).

Marriage Indexes

Various, including copies of some of the indexes compiled by our former Chairman, Mr. W.E. Rounce of Jarrow.

Pedigrees

"Selected Westoe Village Families".

The Library also has a large collection of local photographs and cuttings, and many local history books, including many rarely found nowadays, and is run by a very friendly and knowledgeable staff. As the numbers of microfilm and microfiche readers are limited, booking is advisable before making the journey to South Shields.

THE BORDER MARRIAGE TRADE

Although the subject has been covered before in our columns, a brief note of background might be useful to newer members on the subject of Irregular Border Marriages, in view of the several articles in this Journal.

Between 1754 and 1837, a marriage in England (other than for Jews, Quakers, or members of the Royal Family) could only validly be celebrated at a Church of England place of worship, after due reading of banns on three prior Sundays, or the obtaining of a licence from the Bishop. Scottish law was more lax --- one of the valid forms of marriage there simply required a declaration between the two parties that they were man and wife. No banns, no licence --- no previous notice at all needed --- no expensive celebrations, no inquisitive neighbours, no reproving parents!

For many people, a quick trip into Scotland provided an easy answer to what might be irksome restrictions in England. This was particularly attractive to couples in the northern counties of England --- Cumberland and north Northumberland especially.

A number of men set themselves up as 'priests' as spots just over the Border, like Gretna and Springfield in Dumfriesshire and Lamberton, Coldstream and Mordington in the east. These places possessed no special qualities other than being the nearest first Scottish ground a traveller from England would reach, and the 'priests' had no religious qualifications. They were merely local men who saw the chance to earn some money, who fulfilled a need by acting as witnesses, for a fee, for their clients who perhaps really believed they held some official position. There were some 'runaway' marriages, and some wedding between couples from elsewhere in England and abroad, but most weddings were between the ordinary people in border areas of England.

The 'marriage trade' was dealt a severe blow by the Marriage (Scotland) Act of 1856 which required residence in Scotland by one of the parties for 21 days before a wedding, and there was a sharp fall in the number of 'Irregular Border Marriages'. Previously, there had been many thousands of such weddings. Not all 'priests' kept records and not many of the records which were kept now survive.

IRREGULAR MARRIAGES AT LAMBERTON TOLL

by Arthur Brack

A fragment of a register of irregular border marriages has come to light in the Scottish Record Office, part of a deposit of miscellaneous papers from the Lord Advocate's Office (Reference AD 58/125). There is no indication of where the fragment came from nor whose was the register of which it formed a part.

The deposit consists of some letters to the Lord Advocate written in 1845-47 in support of civil registration and a packet containing an incomplete document headed Scotch Marriage Bill (the marriage bill of 1856) giving an account of the evils of irregular marriages and some loose scraps of paper on which are recorded the details of 48 marriages at Lamberton Toll and its satellites at Mordington and Paxton between 2nd February 1840 and 23rd March 1841. The scraps are numbered in a series from 114 to 132 and evidently formed part of a much bigger collection. The entries are written in more than one hand suggesting that more than one "priest" was involved. The marriages are listed below.

The entries are very similar in appearance to those in the registers of Henry Collins which the Society published in 1995 and I wondered at first if they might be rough notes from which Collins later transcribed into his register but there is no doubt that this is a separate series although it belongs to the same period. One difference is that most of the entries record (as Collins did not) the amount of the priest's fee which averaged 7/6 (37 1/2p) although on one occasion, Christmas Day, he charged only 2/6 (12 1/2p) and on another, to a surgeon, as much as £1. As with Collins, the "priest" did not always make his record immediately and subsequently was unable to remember the names of the pair he had married. There are two entries which are blank except for the date and the amount of the fee.

It is sometimes represented that the irregular marriage trade on the border was a cut-throat affair but there is some evidence here to suggest that it may have been an amicable business. Kirk Session records show that Edward Gray, a frequent witness below, had himself acted as a "priest" at Lamberton. He and Elizabeth Gray, and other witnesses, William and Isabella Kelly, John White and Barbara Hood, were also regular witnesses for Collins during 1840-41, even, on two occasions (Isabella Kelly on 27th June and the Grays on 7th December) on the same day.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Society is indebted to Mr. John Ballantyne of Edinburgh who discovered the fragment and kindly notified me, and to Mr. Arthur Brack for transcribing the entries. Note that a number of places e.g. Tweedmouth, are shown as being in "County Durham". This of course is the former detached part of Durham, ("Norham and Islandshire") which, like Bedlington in the south east of Northumberland, was transferred into Northumberland in 1844. Note also that Berwick upon Tweed was not in Durham, despite what the marriage entry of 21st September 1840 says. Any member who identifies an ancestor in this list is asked to advise the Editor. This list is printed by permission of the Scottish Record Office.

February 2 1840 Robert Carr **Fluker** of Berwick upon Tweed surgion and Elizth **Paulin** same place. Witnesses Robt Simpson, Robt Graham. £1.

February 4 1840 Jn **Martin** husbandman and Elizth Fortune. Witnesses Edwd Gray, Jn White.

February 15 1840 Js **Gowan** of N Sunderland, miner and Elzth **Hutchinson** of same place. Witnesses Wm Wood, John White.

March 1st 1840 David **Lamb** of Coldingham County of Berwick cordwainer and Elizabeth **Douglles** same place. Witnesses John White, Susen White. 10/6.

March 7th 1840 Frances **Clark** of Berrey Burn Co Northumberland husbandman and Elizth **Hudson** of Berington aforesaid County. Witnesses Wm Hudson, Margt Tulley.

March 7th 1840 Wm **Lyle** of Baremor Co Northumberland husbandman and Isabella **Dixon**, Ford Hill aforesaid County. Witnesses Wm Mossman, Christian Dixon. 5/-.

March 8th 1840 Robert **Kirkup** of Ulgham, husbandman and Philles **Straughen** of Lowick both Co Northumberland. Witnesses Mark and Margt McQueen. 7/6.

Married at Paxton March 29th 1840 James **Miller** of Berwick tailor and Sarah A **Lamb** of aforesaid place. Witnesses E Gray, Robt Simpson. 10/6.

Married at Paxton Aprile 10th 1840 Robert **Trotter** of Ladykirk County of Berwick husbandman and Jessie **Blair** aforesaid place. Witness Edwd Gray.

Married at Lamberton Aprile 18th 1840 Andrew **Denholm** of Spott County of Haddington gardner and Margt **Goodall** of the aforesaid place. Witnesses John White, Margt Russell. 12/-.

April 13th 1840 David **Cromie** of Bk and Ann **Allen**. Witness Charles M Morton. (No place of marriage stated.)

Married at Lamberton Aprile 19th 1840 David **McCormick** of Berwick miner and Ann **Allan** of the same place. Witness Charles Morton. 6/-.

Married at Lamberton Aprile 25th 1840 George **Giles** of Berwick upon Tweed mariner and Christian **Tullie** of the aforesaid place. Witness Wm Young.

Married at Lamberton May 2nd 1840. [Blank]. 8/6.

Married at Lamberton 3rd May 1840 John **Christie** of Berwick upon Tweed cordwainer and Ann **Weatherston** of the same place. Witness Elizabeth Loin.

Married at Mordington 15th May 1840 Robt **Sumers** of Emilton Co Northumberland husbandman and Ann **Bell** of the aforesaid place. Witnesses E Gray, Rt Elliott. 9/-.

Married at Paxton 17th May 1840 Geo **How** of Berwick upon Tweed mariner and Margaret **Sanderson** of the aforesaid place. Witnesses Robt Simpson, Agnes How. 8/6.

Married at Lamberton 18th May 1840 Gilbert **Gray** Longframlington Northumberland HM and Jane **Carse** same place. Witnesses Charles Currie, Margt Lindsay. 7/6. [HM = Husbandman].

Married at Lamberton 22nd May 1840 Wm **Pringle** of Tweedmouth Co Durham ironfounder and Mary **Thew** of Spittle same Co. Witnesses Thos Watson, Christian Thew. 7/6.

Married at Lamberton 14th June 1840 Robt **Stewart** of Fowbery Mains Co Northumberland husbandman and Jane **Dixon** of Chiswick Nab Co Durham. Witnesses Richd Redpath, James Currel. 5/-.

Married at Lamberton 14th June 1840 Wm **Aunges** of Eyemouth County of Berwick fisher and Hellin **Burgan** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Wm and Isabella Kelley. 7/6.

Married at Lamberton 27th June 1840 Anthony **Hall** of Lowick Co Northumberland baker and Mary Ann **Atkin** of Berwick. Witnesses Wm and Isabella Kelley. 9/-.

Married at Lamberton 7th July 1840 Wm **Alder How** of Alnwick Co Northumberland grocer and Eleanor **Lee** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Wm Smith, Isabella Kelley. 10/6.

Married at Paxton 9th July 1840 **Robertson** of Allington County of Berwick cordwainer and Margt **Henderson** of aforesaid place. Witnesses W Coltherd, Alex Heslep. 8/6.

Married at Mordington 9th August 1840 Wm **Mabon** of Spittle Co of Durham labourer and Margt **Johnson** of aforesaid place. Witnesses John Younger, Margt Gray. 7/6.

Married at Paxton 14th August 1840 Thos **Fish** of Berwick upon Tweed printer (?painter) and Elizth **Aird** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Geo and Jane Bake. 8/6.

Married at Lamberton 6th September 1840 Lorance **Smith** of Bornholm in [blank] and Eliza **Armstrong** of Tweedmouth Co Durham. Witnesses Edwd Gray, Jn Park. 10/-.

Married at Lamberton 13th September 1840 John **Sheil** of Tweedmouth County of Durham, labourer and Elizth [blank] of aforesaid place. Witness John Emery. 5/-.

Married at Lamberton 21st September 1840 Mathew **Bartarem** of Berwick upon Tweed Co Durham mariner and Isabella **Pearson** of Tweedmouth Co Durham. Witnesses John Patterson, Margt How. 7/6.

Married at Lamberton 26th September 1840 John **Ogle** of Lowick Co Northumberland labourer and Frances **Lumsdan** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Edwd Gray, Isabella Kelley. 5/-.

Married at Mordington 25th October 1840 Thos **Currie** of Berwick plumber and Cathn **Lockwell** of the aforesaid place. Witness James Lockwell. 9/6.

Married at Mordington 25th October 1840. [Blank]. 9/6.

Married at Lamberton 28th October 1840 Andrew **Young** of Tweedmouth reid(?) fisher and Margt **Pringle** of the aforesaid place. Witnesses Alex White, Isabella Pringle. 7/6.

Married at Lamberton 7th November 1840 John **Arnet** of Bowsen Co of Northumberland husbandman and Ann **Harberson** of Berrington Law of aforesaid county. Witnesses Jn Wightman, Elizth Selkirk. 7/6.

Married at Lamberton 9th November 1840 John **Thompson** of Whitingham Co of Haddington joiner and Margt **Davidson** of Thorntonington same county. Witnesses Thos Thompson, Mary Thompson, John Thompson. 7/6.

Married at Lamberton 15th November 1840 William **Brown** of Coldstream in the County of Berwick husbandman and Alice **Baird**. Witnesses Thos Johnston, Mary How. 7/6.

Married 27th November 1840 Robert **Gibson** of Scramerston Co Durham husbandman and Sarah **Tait** of the aforesaid place. Witness Edward Gray. 12/6 (Place of marriage not stated.)

Married at Lamberton 28th November 1840 Geo **Spowart** and Jane **Elliott** both of Spittle County of North Durham. Witnesses Thos Mean, Geo Spowart. 5/-.

Married at Lamberton 6th December 1840 Patrick **Wilson** of North Sunderland mason and Isabella **Thompson** of the aforesaid place. Witnesses Wm Miller, Ann Minto. 8/-.

Married at Lamberton 7th December 1840 Wm **Gray** of Berwick upon Tweed ironfounder and Elizth **Cowan** of the aforesaid place. Witnesses Edwd and Elizth Gray.

Married at Mordington 11th December 1840 Robt **Middleton** of Berwick upon Tweed mariner and Cathne **Dixon** same place. Witness Robt Lyl. 8/6.

Married at Lamberton 12th December 1840 Adam **Ker** of Scramerston County of Durham husbandman and Jane **Burnett** same place. Witnesses Geo and Barbara Dodds. 5/-.

Married at Lamberton 19th December 1840 Thos **Smart** of Berwick and Mary **Hewett** of the aforesaid place. Witnesses Edwd Gray, Jn Christie. 7/-.

Married at Lamberton 25th December 1840 John **Carlin** of Berwick labourer and Ann **Brooks** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Edwd Gray, Thos Burns. 2/6.

Married at Lamberton 26th December 1840 Robt **Payne** of Berwick shipwright and Jane **Davidson** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Geo Sutherland, Isabella Davodson. 7/6.

Married at Lamberton 27th December 1840 John **Park** of Horncliffe County of North Durham ingen fitter and Mary James **Brown** of Berwick. Witnesses Geo Watson, Mary Smebard. 6/6.

Married at Mordington 3rd January 1841 Thomas Turner **Matthewson** of Berwick ironfounder and Ann **White** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Stirling and Barbara Hood. 6/6.

Married at Lamberton 10th January 1841 George **Shanks** of Spittle County of Durham cooper and Elizth **Matthewson** of Berwick upon Tweed. Witnesses Edwd Gray, Wm Kelley. 7/-.

Married at Lamberton 24th January 1841 Joseph **McBride** of Berwick labourer and Susan **Knox** same place. Witness Edwd Gray. 4/-.

Married at Lamberton 23rd March 1841 Thos **Todd** of Berwick upon Tweed mariner and Hannah **Stafford** of aforesaid place. Witnesses Geo Stafford, Edwd Gray.

The Wedding That Wasn't

The *Berwick Advertiser* of February 18th 1854 recorded the marriage
'At Coldstream Bridge on 10th instant of Mr. Adam Farnington to Miss Helen Hill, both residing in Dunse'.

The paper a week later told us 'The marriage inserted in our last week's impression as having taken place at Coldstream Bridge between 2 parties residing in Dunse was an untruth. We have discovered the writer, but as others are concerned in this malicious hoax, we shall wait for fuller information before proceeding against them — to the utmost rigour of the law. In future we shall insert no such intelligences from Dunse unless it reaches us through our regular correspondent in that place'.

From the Ark to Northumberland ... the Heppell Family and its Pedigree Chart

by G.A.W. Heppell

1788 was a bad year, an *annus horribilis*, for the Heppell family. The Parish Register of St. Sampson, York, records the story : 20th March, baptism of James, second son of John : 12th June, death of William, first child, aged two, of convulsions : 30th October, death of John Heppell, aged 28, shoemaker of Thursday Market, of dropsy. Both John and his son were buried in the South churchyard. St. Sampson's is now a redundant church, used as a popular meeting-place for senior citizens, and whenever I have a coffee there I think back to 1788 and my 5 x great grandmother Mary, a widow at 27 with a baby.

Where had John come from? There were no earlier Heppell entries in any of the York parish registers and after several years of desultory but fruitless searching I looked at the Freeman's Roll in the City of York Archives and found that the surviving baby, James, had become a shoemaker like his father and had been a Freeman of the City and that his indenture as an apprentice still survived. In it he is described as son-in-law of David Proctor. As he was only 14 years old, I assumed that 'son-in-law' was being used as the term for step-son and I sought the marriage of his mother Mary to David Proctor. This did not take long to find, although Mary had re-married in her maiden name of Thursk and was described as a spinster. I located the marriage of John Heppell and Mark Thursk on 8th February 1785 at All Saints Church, Pocklington. It took place during the period when clergy were encouraged to record the parentage of bride and groom -- Mary's father was James Thursk, a stay-maker, and John was the son of William Heppell of Kirkwhelpington, Northumberland.

Whatever took John, in his early twenties, from Kirkwhelpington to Pocklington? I thought he might have joined the militia, but there is no record of events likely to take him to Yorkshire and I think it is likely that he walked to Pocklington, which had a shoe-making tradition, with a cattle-drove from Scotland, as the drove passed the farm and inn at Catcherside where his father had lived.

Some years earlier, I had noted a reference in a Harleian Society publication to a folio *The Ancient Families of Hepple, Ogle and Bertram*. I asked the Northumberland County Archivist at Melton Park if he had heard of it and to my surprise and pleasure he replied that it was held by him and that I was welcome to view it at any time. I visited the Record Office and was presented with a vast genealogical chart, some eight feet square, brown and varnished like the old school wall atlases of my youth.

I was told that no one had previously asked to see it, presumably because no one knew of its existence. It was prepared by Edmund Hepple and followed various Hepple lines from about 1540 to completion in 1850, with hundreds of names. I believe that Edmund presented it to the Trevelyan of Wallington Hall, where it remained until the National Trust passed it to the County Record Office.

Rev. John Hodgson, who prepared several North Country pedigrees, appears to have worked with Edmund Hepple, as some of his information is marked 'EH'. Edmund was born in 1788, the son of Robert Hepple of South Middleton and Elizabeth Robson, and died in 1875. He was a clerk in Batson's Bank in Morpeth and later in Ridley's Bank in Newcastle and was described by Hodgson as author, genealogist and tutor. Clearly, as Edmund was working on his chart 150 years ago he would have personal knowledge of his grandfather William Hepple of Black Heddon, of grandmother Mary Lawson and of relatives of these generations and the chart ought to be pretty accurate. However, he claims the 'father' of the family to be Robert de Hephale, Lord of the Barony of Hepple and Bothal, knighted in 1300, whose ancestors came in with William the Conqueror. The chart, alas, does not show any connection between Robert de Hephale and the Hepples of the Hartburn and Kirkwhelpington areas, although Hepples have lived in those areas for centuries. In the 18th century, Hepples are recorded as living on over 30 farms thereabouts and it is more likely that the name comes from the small village of Hepple, close to Rothbury. Edmund embellished the chart with the coats of arms of all the principal families in the north of England, although the only connection so far found is that a Hepple daughter married a third son of the Trevelyan. Edmund also has a map showing the route taken by his hypothetical ancestor from Mount Ararat across Europe to north Germany, thence to Normandy, across the channel and up to Northumberland. I think it will take me some time yet to fill in the gaps from 1066, and back to the Ark might prove difficult!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Mr. Heppell's address is 10 Riseborough House, Rawcliffe Lane, York YO3 6NQ. He will be happy to reply to letters. The 'eight feet square' chart is at the Melton Park site of Northumberland Record Office, reference NRO 788. Needless to say, it is not suitable for photocopying! Indeed I am told it takes two people to carry it. It is recommended that you should phone Melton Park in advance if you want to look at it. (Tel: 0191-236 2680).

HOW MY GREAT GRANDPARENTS MET

by Clare Abbott

"Did I ever tell you how Thomas Christal met Jane Fairlamb?" my mother asked. Well, I expect she had, but this time I really listened because these were her grandparents and I was collecting family stories. "Jane was writing her Christmas cards and had one left over. Not wanting to store the whole box with just one card in it, she wondered to whom she could possibly send it. Then she remembered Thomas Christal who had recently lost his wife leaving two small children, and sent him the card. He thought how nice it was of Jane to remember him and decided to thank her in person when the weather improved. In the Spring, he drove his pony and trap to Greenhaugh and the very first person he saw was Jane hanging up the washing. She was wearing a long lavender dress with the huge bow of her white apron showing off her tiny waist and he resolved there and then to marry her." They were married at Bellingham in January 1866.

I liked this story very much, but one small detail puzzled me. Thomas lived in Sunderland. How did Jane, 60 miles away, ever hear about Maria Christal's death? Would it have been acceptable behaviour for an unmarried girl to send a Christmas card to a widower in the 1860's? I asked my mother, who said that she always understood they were related. I thought this would be fairly easy to confirm and might even help in my search for origins of the Christal family.

I bought the N.D.F.H.S. set of microfiche *Marriages in Northumberland 1813-1837* and searched for any previous marriage of a Christal and a Fairlamb. I looked on the I.G.I., *Marriages in Durham* and the G.R.O. indexes. Absolutely no Christals married Fairlambs before Thomas and Jane.

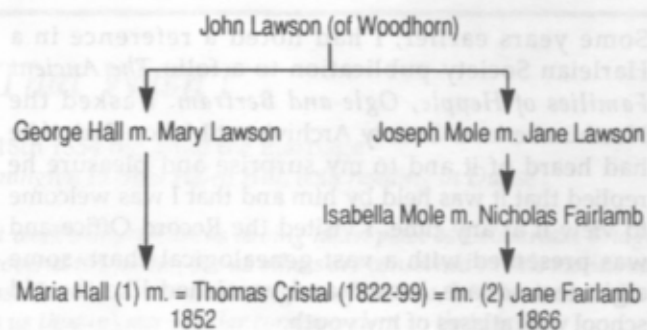
Jane's mother was Isabella Mole before she married Nicholas Fairlamb; perhaps a Mole married a Christal? I kept searching, but could find no marriage connecting the two families prior to 1866, and almost forgot about it.

Then one day I looked at the *Northumberland Marriages* again, trying to decide if any of the Fairlambs were mine, and one of them suddenly jumped off the microfiche frame. Ann Fairlamb married William Hall, Newcastle St. Nicholas, 12th May 1824. Thomas Christal's first wife was born Maria Hall, could these be her parents? (I had not been able to find her baptism, circa 1828). Perhaps Jane wasn't related to Thomas at all, but to Maria? The only Ann Fairlamb in my family who could possibly have married William was rather remotely related to Jane, but I would worry about that later.

I sent for a copy of the marriage certificate of Thomas Christal and Maria Hall, confidently expecting Maria's father to be called William. But in the space for the bride's father's name was written "George Hall, Stonecutter, deceased". The marriage entry for William Hall and Ann Fairlamb gave no additional information except that the witness was George Hall. Perhaps this George was William's brother and Maria's father, though the connection between Jane and Maria was now getting very remote.

I decided to try to find Maria on the 1851 census. At the time of her marriage in 1852 she was living with Thomas and his parents at 4 Vine Street, Sunderland but she was not there in 1851. I ordered the 1851 census index to Bishopwearmouth, parts 1 and 2, and quickly found entries for Maria Hall, her brother George and mother Mary. I was very pleased to see that Mary Hall, aged 62, was born in Bellingham (a few miles from Greenhaugh where the Fairlambs lived). Using my microfiche of the Bellingham Parish registers, I confidently expected to find a Mary with one of my family surnames baptised in 1788 or 9. There was no such baptism anywhere near that date. I could hardly believe I had come so close and yet found nothing.

However, I looked at the index of Bellingham marriages for George Hall and this time I was lucky. The marriage of Maria Hall's parents, George Hall and Mary Lawson, witness John Lawson was on 10th August 1817. Although I still can't find Mary Lawson's baptism, my guess is that she is the sister of Jane Lawson (father John, stonemason) born in Bellingham in 1791, who is Jane Fairlamb's grandmother. Jane Lawson had married Joseph Mole and they owned Boughthill Mill, just down the road from the Fairlambs in Greenhaugh. No doubt Jane Fairlamb heard of Maria's death through her grandmother, who was also Maria's aunt. Thus Jane and Maria were first cousins, once removed (see tree), and it would have been perfectly proper for Jane to have sent Thomas Christal a Christmas card.



Are there any more family stories to investigate? When I started looking for the Christal family, I quickly discovered that Thomas Christal's father was called John, but I still cannot find his baptism (about 1790). His birthplace was Etal in the 1851 census, but Berwick in the 1861. Talking to one of John's descendants, I was told the following story: "John Christal's parents had a farm near Wooler. He was apprenticed to a blacksmith in Spittal-on-Tweed but decided that he did not want to be an unpaid labourer for his parents all his life, so when he finished his apprenticeship he walked to Sunderland and started the Christal boiler building works."

He did start the works; but if I can ever prove any of the rest of that story, I shall be very happy.

I would like to thank the librarians of Wheatley library for allowing me to use their fiche reader and all those whose work makes the production of so many microfiche possible.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Clare Abbott's address is:-

83 Gidley Way, Horspath, Oxford OX33 1TQ.

NEWCASTLE - WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING, U.S.A.

by Patricia King Hughes

Many readers are aware that there are several communities in the United States named Newcastle. The origins of the namesakes are, in some cases, shrouded in mystery. However, it is certain that one is, in fact, named for Newcastle Upon Tyne, England. Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming, was named after Northumberland's city when founded in 1889 after coal was discovered in the area.

Attempting to find persons with links to England there, however, is quite a challenge. The U.S. Census of 1890 would be a logical first choice, but virtually all of it was destroyed by fire. The next available census, then, is that for 1900. A review of that census for the town of Newcastle reveals a total of some 756 persons. By then, three families appear to be the only remaining ones with the head of household being born in England.

The first family is that of Reverend Clinton Day, a Methodist minister, who, according to the census, was born in September 1855 in England. Furthermore, he came to the United States in 1877 and married a woman named Jessie in 1886. Apparently she was born in the state of Illinois in 1862.

The second family is that of Fred Horton, a physician who was born in June 1867 in England. He married a lady named Ellen in about 1891. The third family was rather fertile, as they indicated they had 13 children, of which 10 survived. George Simmons, a farmer, and his wife, Ann, were both born in England. He was born in December 1835 and she was born in February 1836. They exemplify the early pioneer spirit, as they came to the United States in 1858 and originally lived in Missouri and then moved further west to the Wyoming Territory.

It is also significant to note that at least three families living in Newcastle in 1900 indicated that they had come to that area via Canada, having been originally from England.

Today, Newcastle, at an elevation of 4,321 feet above sea level, boasts a population of 3,000 persons. Mining is a continuing industry, along with ranching, lumbering and petroleum exploration. The yield of Newcastle's oil field is processed by its own refinery. It also features the Anna Miller Museum of early history which is open year round.

BITS & PIECES

English Genealogical Congress at Durham

The 1997 English Genealogical Congress is to be held at Collingwood College, Durham University, from Monday 11th to Saturday 16th August. There are 16 speakers, many of them with a subject of direct relevance to north-eastern England e.g. 'Men and Women Behind Bars --- The Licensed Trade in Durham City 19th Century' and 'On Marrows --- Evidence From The Victorian Household Panel Study of Durham Collieries'. In addition to a full programme of lectures, there are excursions e.g. to Raby Castle, the Bowes Museum, Durham Castle and Cathedral, Beamish Museum and Killhope Lead Mining Centre.

Precise fees are not yet known, but approximate accommodation fee will be £285, with day attenders paying £35 per day or £20 per half day.

Contact Miss. S. Colwell, Woodland View, Polstead Hill, Polstead, Colchester, Essex CO6 5AH --- the reservation form must be returned with £30 deposit before March 29th, so don't delay!

Clint Family of Ponteland

A recent book by Mrs. Elaine Kirkham has the lengthy title *Our Clint Family: Their Ancestors and Descendants From Northumberland County, England to Smith's Falls, Ontario, Canada, Thence to Western Canada and the U.S.A.*

The family's Ponteland origins are taken back to the 1756 baptism of Edward, son of Thomas Clint. Prospective purchasers should first contact Mrs. Kirkham at 16 Sandown Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1N 3VD as we only have the Canadian price (\$35).

by Lawrence Jones

"I saw a picture in the Star, of Mr. and Mrs. E.D. Scratch of Kingsville, who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding. As they are both closely related to me I thought I would give you a description of their relationship.

Mr. Watson Coatsworth's mother was my father's sister, who was a sister of Aunt Judy Malott who was the grandmother of Mrs. Scratch and also was my Aunt. My mother, Ann Iler, was the oldest daughter of Solomon Iler, who was the grandfather of Mrs. Scratch and also my grandfather. Aunt Hannah Malott was my mother's sister and Mrs. Scratch's mother.

The question is, then, "What is the relationship of Lewis Wigle to Mr. and Mrs. E.D. Scratch?"

Eventually I was able to construct a five generation tree to help solve the problem. The situation is in Ontario, Canada with the first recorded settlement in the area being in the 1810's. There are six family names in the solution which does not give a full list of spouses nor offspring (those mentioned in the letter are in capitals). The year of the birth is given when it is known.



JOHN JEFFREY DISCOVERED - The Chillingham Blacksmith

by Ann M. Alstead

"The smithy? You're the second person to ask me about the smithy this week."

I was in Chillingham, in Northumberland, with my sister, in search of our family roots. We are descended, through my mother's line, from John Jeffrey, blacksmith of Chillingham. We had come to the village to see for ourselves where our ancestors John and his son, George, had lived and worked.

At the beginning of my research an elderly aunt had given me a series of letters dating from 1825 to the 1870's. These were between three generations of the Jeffrey family and excited my interest, creating a desire to see Chillingham for myself. The letters included a copy of John Jeffrey's will and from this we knew he was buried in St. Peter's churchyard in Chillingham. We were unable to discover his grave, although we did find the headstone of William George Thomson, a signatory of John's will, who was Parish Clerk and schoolmaster in Chillingham for 51 years. We also found that of Robert Cessford of Hepburn, a family friend who wrote to George in July 1874.

Chillingham is an estate village and was in the hands of the Earls of Tankerville when John and his family lived there. A splendid castle where the Earls lived lies hidden behind the trees, and we discovered a well-built stable block in the castle grounds but no evidence of a smithy where John might have worked.

In the Castle's Great Hall we asked the guide if he knew of a smithy on the estate. What he told us next sent a tingle of excitement through me. Earlier that week another visitor had asked him where she might find the smithy and had told him why she was searching for it. It seemed that she had bought an old bedding box from a sale room some years before. Inside the box was an obituary for a blacksmith who had lived in Chillingham. On holiday in Northumberland she had spent an afternoon visiting Chillingham Castle to see the village and perhaps, the smithy where he had worked. Disappointed to find that the guide did not know of a smithy, she nevertheless promised to send the papers to him as they formed part of the history of the village.

Was this *our* blacksmith, we wondered? I hardly dared hope it would be, but left my address should it be a member of the Jeffrey family. The guide had later asked about the smithy and there was one! A former shepherd on the estate knew where to find it. Down a lane by the farm, over a ford and there it was, roofless after a fire and with trees growing through it, but it was still possible to see the fireplace and the flagged floor of the workshop where John Jeffrey and his son, George had worked.

Two weeks later, great news! The following story arrived in the post:-

MEMOIR

JOHN JEFFREY

of

CHILLINGHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND

Born April 1782 - Died November 1869

This memoir was written by his grand daughter, Mary Susan, in 1927, at the age of 92 years.

The Jeffreys were inhabitants of the above named village for four hundred years when the Estate was owned by the "Greys", before the "Tankerville" family took possession.

John Jeffrey was by trade a blacksmith, as were also his father and grand-father before him, and he married in 1802 Eleanor Pringle, and at the wedding there were eighteen couples. They had children as follows:- James, Mary Susan, John, George, Belle, Barbara, Thomas and Jean Gordon.

He was 6ft. 3ins. in height, and when a young man, was a Life Guardsman at Edinburgh Castle, being twenty-one years old when his father died. He was then "bought out" of the Army by Charles Augustus, fifth Earl of Tankerville, who was compelled to secure the enlistment of another man of similar dimensions.

After leaving the Army he carried on the business of blacksmith until 1842, when he retired, and was succeeded by his son George, the father of the writer. He was a highly educated man, which was most unusual in those days, and was a most successful bee-keeper.

His brother George went to the West Indies, tea and coffee planting, and died in Jamaica.

His father, James, was a man of 7 feet in height, and when his son wished to find him in the crowd at Wooler Fair, he used to stand on a barrel and pick out the tallest man present.

After his retirement from business the Earl of Tankerville built him a house in Chillingham which he was to occupy for his life-time, free of all charge and taxation; this being due to the great esteem in which the Earl held him. In this house he kept a grocer's shop, and there lived with him here a cousin of his wife's, by name James Rule, who was feeble minded, but who paid well for the attention accorded him, and after his death the Rule family still kept up payment of £1.00 per week until John Jeffrey died.

He was in the habit of taking The Times which was then priced at 1/- (one shilling) per week, it being a weekly paper, and he used to lend the paper to all in the village who could read.

The Earl, when John Jeffrey was too old to walk up to the Castle, used to visit him, and bring his eldest son Charles with him, and informed Charles that Jeffrey was a very old friend of his, and was always to be handsomely treated. Mr. John Jeffrey had the privilege of visiting the Castle gardens whenever he so desired.

Letters in those days were brought by Mail Coach, and people had to call for them at a house in the village which was occupied by a man named Trevelyan, and each person had to pay for their letters, etc., according to the weight of the packet, and the distance they had travelled; and in those days Mary Susan Hall can remember the introduction of the 1d post by Mr. Rowland Hill.

His wife died about 1850, when the writer went to keep house for him, remaining with him for about six years, and she was followed by her sister Maggie, who remained with him until his death.

James, the eldest son, migrated to Australia about 100 years ago, as a farmer, and was last seen or heard of in Sydney by his cousin, David Wallace, whilst selling young horses.

Mary Susan, eldest daughter, married in 1843, Mr. Snaith, of Felton, at Chillingham, and her father at the reception, could not quite remember Mr. Snaith's correct name, and continually called him Mr. Snipe.

John, second son, was also a blacksmith by trade, and married a lady from Wooler, and went to Newcastle-on-Tyne, when he worked in Stephenson's factory. He caught cholera, died, and was buried within twelve hours.

George, third son, father of the writer, as mentioned previously, took over the business of John Jeffrey. He was a very clever man, apart from being a blacksmith he made false teeth of ivory, and mounted on silver. He also had an electric battery, and used it most successfully about 1844.

Belle, second daughter, married (1) Mr. Guilfoyle, an Irishman, head gardener at Chillingham, and had one daughter, Helen. On Guilfoyle's death she was again married to her cousin, David Wallace, a ship's carpenter, by whom she had three sons. They emigrated to Sydney in 1850.

Barbara, third daughter, married Joseph Bell, cabinet maker, of Alnwick.

Thomas, fourth son, married Joseph Bell's sister, and the two families emigrated to Boston, Mass, in 1853.

Jean Gordon, fourth daughter, married James Douglas, of Chatton, and had four children by him, dying at the age of thirty; all her children died shortly afterwards.

In the writer's young days the schoolmaster was a gentleman named Thomson, a Scotsman, and a B.A.

You can imagine my delight to receive such a piece of history that opened up new areas of investigation and answered several questions raised by the letters.

The Chillingham Parish Registers showed Eleanor Pringle as having two husbands, a James and a John. The document showed that the children baptised by her and James and John were in fact, one family.

The older James Jeffrey, whose marriage to Isabel Batey on 12 August 1781 is recorded in the Chillingham Parish Register, must be the father of John. One of my letters was written from Port Adelaide, Australia, in 1855 and was to Dear Grandfather (John) from Eleanor (not Helen) Guilfoyle. It said that her stepfather, David Wallace, was working on Kangaroo Island building a cutter. The memory of the youngest daughter, Jean Gordon, may be a little confused as I believe her name was Jane and that she married John Douglas, as he is mentioned as Uncle John in one of the letters.

The writer of the Memoir, Mary Susan Hall, was sister to our great grandmother, Margaret Jeffrey. Margaret, daughter of George, married James Whillis in Gateshead in 1873. I have a letter in Mary Susan's own hand, written after John Jeffrey had died. In it she asks her sister Maggie to come and live with her, directing her what to keep and to remember to "bring mother's petticoat".

What an amazing twist of fate that the owner of the memoir and one of his descendants should both be in Chillingham in the same week! Now I'm off to the Reference Library in search of my elusive Whillis marriage - but that's another story.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Mrs. Alstead will welcome correspondence on any of the families mentioned above. Her address is 20 Rufford Close, Guisborough, Cleveland TS14 7PU.



ANCESTORS BORN BEFORE 1800

This worthy old gentleman is John Grey, born about 1785 at Shilbottle in Northumberland. He married Mary Rochester (c.1786 - 3 February 1858) at Lesbury in 1810 and he lived to the ripe old age of 97.

He was a mason and died at Alnwick on 2nd June 1882. He is buried at Shilbottle. He had three daughters --- Jane (1803-1868) who married Robert Weightman, Anne (1810-1888) who married John Bell, a master mariner and Margaret (c.1812-1892) married Hugh Percy.

This fine photograph was sent by Mrs. Janet Robinson, 34 Hampden Avenue, Wahroonga, New South Wales, Australia. She does not know when it was taken.

ACCURACY OF BAPTISMAL REGISTERS

By Primus

The neatly kept 'Roses' Act' pages of Wolsingham (Co. Durham) parish registers give an impression of faithful accuracy in their record-keeping. However, there is a carefully written correction slip inserted between two pages that belies this impression. It seems that, over a period of eight years from 1813 to 1821, there had been:-

- one error in recording the father's occupation;
- two errors in recording the father's christian name;
- two errors in recording the mother's christian name;
- one error in recording the child's christian name.

Over the period there were 480 baptisms, giving a rate of one in eighty, or 1.25%, of detected errors.

Such errors are found fairly often by researchers. It is a good idea to check doubtful entries against the Bishop's Transcripts, if they exist, though the Transcript often simply repeats the same error that exists in the register.

The best course for researchers is simply to be aware that the possibility exists, and to have an open mind when drawing conclusions. The Wolsingham errors are printed below, by kind permission of the County Archivist, Durham County Record Office.

Erroneous Entries From Wolsingham Baptismal Register

1813 July 4	Ann (d) William & Ann Galley, Uppertown, farmer. <i>Ann, the mother, should be Elizabeth.</i>
1813 Oct 13	Jane (d) John & Jane Green, Wolsingham, dyer. <i>Jane, the daughter, should be Ann.</i>
1814 Jan 2	Joseph (s) Joseph & Ann Featherston, Wolsingham, miller. <i>Joseph, the father, should be Thomas.</i>
1814 Apr 24	Joseph (s) Joseph & Margaret Featherston, Wolsingham, cartwright. <i>'cartwright' should be 'taylor'.</i>
1820 Apr 16	John (s) William & Jane Green, Wolsingham, brewer. <i>William should be Thomas.</i>
1821 Feb 25	James (s) Cuthbert & Isabel Robson, Wolsingham Park, farmer. <i>Isabel should be Mabel.</i>

THE NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

Set in Greenwich Park in London, the National Maritime Museum is an impressive sight, encompassing the old Royal Observatory, the 17th century Queen's House and a wide range of colonnades and galleries, against the backdrop of Wren's Royal Navy College.

The family historian with sea-going ancestors will find much of interest. The **Caird Library** contains over 100,000 books, 20,000 pamphlets and 20,000 bound periodicals. The Library is also the access point to the unique and renowned **Manuscripts Collection**, containing personal papers of the famous and the powerful, Admiralty and Dockyard records and the business papers of shipping companies. Of direct interest to many NDFHS members will be (a) Applications for Masters/Mates certificates (b) Ships Surveys (c) Agreements and Crew Lists.

Applications for Masters/Mates Certificates

If you can find his Certificate Number (from the Public Record Office indexes, for example, or from Lloyds Captains Registers) you will be able to locate, and obtain a copy of, an ancestor's application for his Masters or Mates Certificate.

The application gives his place and date of birth, his address, and a list of ships in which he had served. I learned that an ancestor of mine had first gone to sea as a 17 year old in 1827 and I now have a complete of his ships for the next 30 years! The system of examination for masters and mates was introduced in 1845, but it was not made compulsory until 1850.

Ships Surveys

The Museum hold the Lloyd's Shipping surveys, dealing with inspections for seaworthiness, from about 1830 to 1964. If you know the name of an ancestor's ship, you should be able to locate details similar to those I managed to uncover about the Sunderland built barque *Faerie Queen*. She was surveyed while being built in 1853 and my search for her survey revealed a mass of technical detail about her 'timbering', 'planking' and 'fastenings' and about her two foresails, two foretop mast stay sails, one main sail, two main topsails and 'others as usual'. I learned, too, that she had five anchors --- which would no doubt be useful in the Mediterranean waters for which she was destined.

Ship Plans Section

There are plans as well - the Ship Plans Section holds over 1 million of them.

Form For Acceptance of Research Enquiry Service Charge

Please complete the form below and send it with your enquiry to:

Research Enquiry Service
National Maritime Museum
Greenwich
London SE10 9NF

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Telephone number _____

University/College (if relevant) _____

This is to confirm that I accept the charge of £15 for undertaking research in response to the enclosed enquiry:

Signed _____

☐ Please tick box if you are a Friend of the Museum.

Agreements and Crew Lists

These are held, but only for certain years --- the rest may be found at the PRO in Kew or at Memorial University in Newfoundland!

Personal Visits

The library is open to all but you will need to get a Reader's Ticket. The opening hours are 10.00a.m. to 4.45p.m. Monday to Friday, and on Saturdays by appointment.

Some material is outhoused --- for example the Applications for Certificates mentioned above --- you are asked to contact the Museum in advance of your visit, by telephone (0181-312 6673), by fax (0181-312 6722) or by letter (The Caird Library, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF).

Photocopies of documents can be obtained and the Museum offers a fee-paid Research Service, currently at a cost of £15 per hour.

You might be able to get a copy of a **photograph** of an ancestor's ship.

Over a million prints and negatives are held, some dating back to the earliest days of photography in the 1840's.

The Museum will undertake a search for you and will provide you with descriptions of the images available and of the cost of obtaining copies. Write to the Ship Plans Section at the Museum or telephone 0181-855 1647.

OPPOSITE RIGHT:

Here is a copy of the Research Enquiry Form. Please copy and use when applying to the National Maritime Museum with your enquiry.

BELOW:

Shown is a copy of Ship Plans - Enquiry Form. Again, please copy and use when applying to the Ship Plans Section of the National Maritime Museum.

Ship Plans - Enquiry Form

Please send your enquiry on this form to:

Ship Plans Section
National Maritime Museum
Greenwich
London SE10 9NF
Telephone: 0181 855 1647

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Telephone number _____

Please provide as much detail as possible about the ship for which plans are required. If you require plans for more than one ship, please provide details on additional sheets.

Name of ship _____

Builder _____

Builder's yard number _____

Date of launch _____

Place of construction _____

Owner _____

A proforma will be sent within 28 working days, listing plans available and prices.

Source Code SP1

APPRENTICESHIP RECORDS IN THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

by Sue Wood

Many Journal readers will be aware how useful apprenticeship records can be in family history research. On several occasions, I have found them invaluable in confirming the parentage of an ancestor. However, records are not always available to the researcher. For example, with regard to Northumberland, there is an excellent collection of Berwick upon Tweed guild records held at the Berwick Upon Tweed Record Office; some Morpeth guild records are available at Morpeth Records Centre (some remain in private hands) and one book of Hexham skinners and glovers records is held at Melton Park. The location of any other Hexham guild material is unknown and the Alnwick guild records remain in the hands of the freemen of Alnwick and are generally unavailable for consultation. Not all apprenticeships were arranged via the guilds and the records of these non-guild apprenticeships are even less likely to survive.

However, if an ancestor was apprenticed between 1710 and 1808 (or 1711 and 1811 in London), it may be that the Inland Revenue records (IR 1) at the Public Record Office will provide you with some information re the apprenticeship. Between 1710 and 1811 apprenticeship indentures were subject to taxation at a rate of 6d for every pound (up to £50) that the master received for taking on the apprentice. If the master received in excess of £50 a rate of £1 for every pound above that limit was imposed. This duty was payable by the master and was expected to be paid within a year of taking on the apprentice. Those apprenticeships arranged by the parish or funded via public charge were exempt from taxation.

There are two series of registers - 'city' (London apprenticeships) and 'country' (non-London apprenticeships). Within the 'country' registers entries are arranged by county and listed chronologically by date of payment. Indexes to the volumes are available in IR 17. Information provided is the date payment was paid, the name, address (usually the town) and trade of the master; the name of the apprentice the date of the indenture; the number of years that the apprenticeship was to run for; the fee paid to the master on commencement of the apprenticeship and the duty payable. Until 1752 the name, residence and occupation of the father or guardian of the apprentice was usually recorded.

To give an indication of the detail provided I have listed below some of the details provided in the entries for Northumberland covering a four month period of 1717. I have excluded from this the information re the premium paid. The dates of apprenticeship and the number of years for which the apprentice was bound are given in parenthesis. It is interesting to note that the entries include a reference to one female, Elizabeth Potts, apprenticed to Mary Smith of Morpeth, a mantuamaker. Also, that two of the masters had not paid their duty within the stipulated one year period.

17th August 1717 - Henry son of Robt. Shotten of Morpeth to Robt. Nichols of Morpeth, feltmakr (24th July 1717 for 8 years).

20th August 1717 - Isaac son of Wm. Dixon of Newcastle to Richd. Smith of Newcastle Upon Tyne barber surgeon (24th January 1716 for 7 years).

10th September 1717 - James Raine of Newcastle to John Aynesely of Hexham, barber surgeon (1st May 1717 for 5 years).

23rd September 1717 - John son of John Hunter of Newcastle to Robt. Hudson of Newcastle, carpenter (6th August 1717 for 7 years).

23rd September 1717 - Richard son of John Coulden of Morpeth to Robt. Thompson of Morpeth, weaver (1st June 1717 for 8 years).

23rd September 1717 - Arthur Ranson of Morpeth to Wm. Watson of Morpeth, cordwainer (16th September 1717 for 7 years).

24th September 1717 - Jno. son of Wm. Snowden of Newcastle to Tho. Marshall of Newcastle, joyner (27th May 1717 for 7 years).

25th September 1717 - Eliz. Potts of Newtown to Mary Smith of Morpeth, mantuamaker (23rd September 1717 for 7 years).

26th September 1717 - Matthew son of Robt. Burrow of Mitford to John Crisp of Stanton, weaver (26th September 1717 for 7 years).

1st October 1717 - Geo. son of Geo. Wilson of Sunderland to Timothy Forster of Newcastle, barber surgeon (1st July 1717 for 7 years).

2nd October 1717 - Jno. son of Chris. Dickinson of Hexham to Tho. Younger of Hexham, cordwainer (1st May 1717 for 8 years).

2nd October 1717 - Jno. son of Jno. Armstronge of Newbiggill to Michell Chicken of Hexham, cordwainer (1st May 1717 for 8 years).

10th October 1717 - John son of Geo. Turner of Morpeth to Peter Hannah of Morpeth, taylor (1st October 1717 for 8 years).

25th October 1717 - Richard son of Tho. Johnson decd. to Richd. Johnson of Newcastle, cooper (30th August 1717 for 7 years).

25th October 1717 - James son of Robt. Embleton of Northumberland to Geo. Milikin of Alnwick, glover (1st March 1716 for 8 years).

25th October 1717 - Robt. Son of Robt. Sutton of Gateshead to John Bayles of Newcastle, mercht. (26th April 1717 for 10 years).

2nd November 1717 - John son of Jane Turner of Northumberland to Geo. Laying of Fenruther, taylor (28th September 1717 for 7 years).

2nd November 1717 - Marke Forster of Northumberland to John Marley of Morpeth, blacksmith (14th September 1717 for 7 years).

6th November 1717 - Wm. son of Samuel Whittaker gen. to Henry Peirson of Newcastle, fuller and dyer (4th May 1717 for 7 years).

6th November 1717 - Thomas Selby of Ord, Durham to Robt. Bates of Morpeth, tanner (11th September 1717 for 7 years).

6th November 1717 - Mathew Forster to John Wood of High Church, Morpeth, carpenter (14th September 1717 for 7 years).

10th November 1717 - John Burrell to John Wood of High Church, Morpeth, carpenter (14th September 1717 for 7 years).

10th November 1717 - Geo. son of Robt. Baites of Morpeth to Wm. Marr of Morpeth, butcher (14th September 1717 for 7 years).

15th November 1717 - John son of Wm. White of Morpeth to Wm. Gibbison of Morpeth, weaver (20th June 1717 for 8 years).

23rd November 1717 - Wm. son of Wm. Johnson deced. to Wm. Thompson of Newcastle, cooper (22nd August 1717 for 7 years).

21st November 1717 - Arthur son of Margaret Tate to Henry Whittingham of Alnwick, cordwainer (10th April 1717 for 8 years).

21st November 1717 - Wm. son of Eliz. Nelson to George Laying of Northumberland, taylor (23rd October 1717 for 7 years).

21st November 1717 - Robt. son of Henry Grey of Spinilston, miller to David Ord of Alnwick, glazier (1st November 1717 for 7 years).

29th November 1717 - Tho. son of Jno. Cockburne to Tho. Rickaby of Alnwick, cordwainer (20th April 1717 for 8 years).

29th November 1717 - David son of Wm. Browne of Alnwick, yeom., to Wm. Lightly of Alnwick, cordwainer (24th April 1717 for 8 years).

3rd December 1717 - Richd. Hind to Richd. Lishman of Hexham, joyner (12th June 1717 for 7 years).

4th December 1717 - James son of Robt. Young of Newcastle to John Humble of Newcastle, skinner and glover (23rd October 1717 for 8 years).

10th December 1717 - Peter son of John Ellet of Gateshead to Tho. Horsley of Newcastle, butcher (2nd May 1717 for 8 years).

10th December 1717 - Wm. son of Roger Dalton deced. to James Kirkup of Newcastle, goldsmith (17th September 1717 for 7 years).

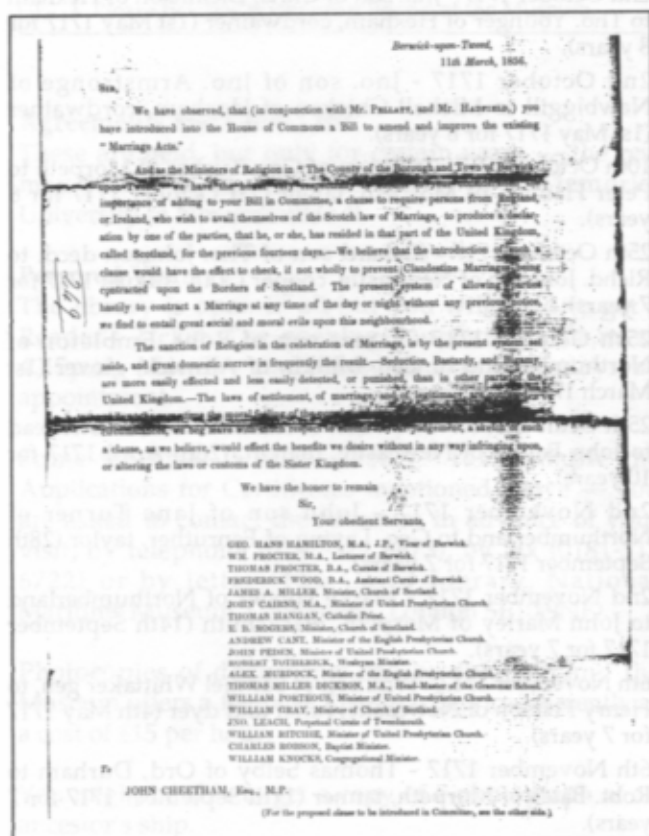
10th December 1717 - Tho. son of Daniel Weatherhead of Morpeth to Henry Walton to Morpeth, armourer (20th June 1717 for 8 years).

10th December 1717 - Edwd. son of Eliz. Milburne to John Chater of Morpeth, cordwainer (24th October 1717 for 8 years).

I would like to thank Dr. Alisoun Gardner-Medwin for drawing my attention to this interesting source.

WHAT THE CLERGY THOUGHT

Irregular Border Marriages were the subject of a number of tirades against them, over a long period, by the clergy. They were probably justified, not only on religious grounds, but also because many of the marriages seem to have been sordid affairs, often hastily arranged at Border fairs, with the parties often intoxicated, sometimes between couples who had never previously known each other and who perhaps quickly regretted their actions.



Here is a copy of a letter written in March 1856 to Mr. John Cheetham, MP before the Marriage (Scotland) Act of 1856 (which severely reduced the number of these marriages) became law.

What the ordinary people of Northumberland thought is not recorded!

This letter is reproduced by permission of the Scottish Record Office, where the original may be found, under Reference AD 56/225.

DRAMAS OF GREтна GREEN

The Robert Elliot documents held by Durham University Library (see page 18) include a bound volume which contains marriage entries and also has some comments on the circumstances of some of them. These tales have never previously been published, and we are grateful to the University Library, to the late Mr. C.R. Hudleston's daughter and to his literary executors for permission to print these fascinating stories in our Journal.

Elliot's original spelling, and his punctuation (or the lack of it) have been retained. The first story is about a groom over indulging on the night before his wedding, about the press gang, and about how he returned 20 years later to wed his 'old sweetheart'.

Thomas Ainsley, Irdinton
Isaba Johnston, Moffet Dumfreasshire 1815

A walk away Match after a Couartship of 20 years this Ainsley a salor and he belonged to Irdinton in Cumberland and had gone to moffat wels for his hilt and thare Fell a Courting Miss Johnston then a Fine Looking Young Woman and him a Young Man the Wedding Day been set and all got in readeness a party of Frinds as What was usewell in the place to be invited to the Bride grooms House the Night Before the wedding the Bridegroom got Drunk and as the Carlisle and Glasgow Mail was passin he got on to have a ride on to Carlisle and on to Liverpool and left the Bride and his party Without being Married at all and when he arived in Liverpool and still drunk not knowing Mutch what he was a Doing but the Press Gang got him in Tow and off to Bord a Man of War with him and no Word to be had of him the people that ware Invited to the wedding Did Not Know what to Do a bride but no Bride Groom so all went to thare own homes and the bride to Bewail the loss of hir Sweethart at nine months after or not so Mutch she brought forth a fine little Daughter to the absent salor hir Friends Did not Look well on Hir for having this child but she wear taken inders by some good nighbours taken into thare house well the people that wear bid to the wedding with some others got to Work to build hir a house What is Called a Clay Dabin that is to Build a house with Clay in scotland and verry warm cottages thay are when well thatched. she got into hir house as soon as it wear ready for to leev in and Comenced keeping a small shop dealing in sundry artickels and Contrived so to do for the Space of twenty years hir and hir daughter and had hard nothing from the sweethart all the time But that he was pressd at Liverpool. But at the Peace of Eighteen hundred and fowerteen the ship that he belonged to was paid off and he got home safe and sound after twenty years abesence he Bethought himself of his Old sweethart and after some Inquire he hard that she wear living with hir daughter at Moffat and unmarried he wrote hir telling hir if she was still for the same mind that she was in the Last time he seed hir and if she would forgiv him for goin away when he should have been married She Must Write him and let him know on Hir Receving the Letter hir and hir daughter set out to meet him at the place wear the letter was to meet him they all three met and what agreement was made I dont know but they came to Gretna and got married after him being away for twenty years. NB had plenty of prize money.

A County Durham couple, noted as J.G. Wittin of 'Westa' Durham (presumably Westoe) and A.M. Prattell, also of 'Westa', were married in 1814 (no date). Here is their story:-

1814. A runaway but no percuers this cuple after all thare fears and Being allmoast overtaken as they thought after gitin clean off without aney one knowing of What wear become of them as they had told no person of thare runaway on gitin a post Chase and Pair of horses and sett off for Scotland thay had not got verry Farr on thare jurney untell they espied a Chase and Fower Horses a liitle Way in the Rear What Wear the suprise called to the Post boy to drive on and at any rait Distence that Chaise Behind and he should have five guineas for his truble but the Fower Horses gained ground so quick that thare wear no chance to oscape he Beth of leeping from the chase at one time when thay wear hid by a Turn of the road but the other chase made its apeurance to soon for him for the road being up hill and the Fower horses more Powerfull then the pair and gainen ground When he thought all losed the two Carrages Boath alongside of others and gallopin the Fower pushed past and left them behind to thare great joy it was nothing wanting them

A "good beatin with a horse whip" was the reward which awaited Josh Park of 'Irdinton' (Cumberland) and Elizabeth Routledge of 'Stenwix':-

Hir Mother Followed them but too late to stop the Marrage but not to late to giv them Boath a good Beatin with a horse whip Mr P was a Horse Dealer and ran away with Miss R a publicans daughter thay came to Gretna in the Eving of a Winter Night after what money the Young Lady could lay holds of hir Mothers. Little of noat took place at Marrage after Marrage thay went to Longtown to sleep for the remaind of the Night But arley next morning old Mrs r arived on horseback and demanded Whear hir Daughter and that Fellow wear on being told that they had left for Longtown after a fewe oaths more like a Dragoon then a woman She Called hir horse Mounted and road off at Full speed on coming to Longtown and finding whear thay wear and that they wear in bed She Burst Open the Dore and got to work of Beating them Boath with hir whip thay boath being in thare Shirt and Shift the Whip told well on them after she had setesfired herself With whipping She retired Down Stars ordrd Brandy and brickfast after paying herself with the Brandy she allowed the young cuple to take brickfast with hir and ordrd them home with hir and told the daughter that When she got hir home she should have a better Thrishen then what she had got

The drama surrounding the wedding of William Kirran or Kieran Esq. of Dundalk, Ireland and Sophia Burridge, daughter of William Burridge Esq. of Portsmouth is recounted in the next tale:-

In the year of 1813 in the month of June two gntlemen stoped at Mrs Johnstons Springfield and sent for mee I went to see them after the usewell complemes was over the two gents and me took a walk towards a place calle Gretna hill whear you can have a fine vewe of the Soloway Firth and the Cumberland hills from this place you see into Five Diffrent Countys the one of those gents being an Irish gent and wear

verry pertickler of his Inquires concerning the Roads through
 Cumberland from Penrith to the Soloway Firth after Wee had
 taken a vew of the place we returned to the Inn agane and
 had Dinner togeather after Dinner the conversation wear
 concerning the Marrages and after two or three Glasses of
 Whisky Tody Pat says By Jas's I am comed to Git Married I
 asked him whear was the Lady O in Trouith she is at
 portsmouth I had hir out and at an Inn But in the time that
 Horses wear a Gitin ready hir two Bigg Brothers found us
 out and the one Gave hir a good kicking and Drove hir Home
 and the other set on me like a Bulldog and look and see the
 Black eyes the Great Bigg Beast gave me but hear is a trunk
 and some of hir Cloaths in it which you must keep untill I
 come hear with hir for i will have hir at all risks of my life I
 don't mind hir fortune so as I can git hir now sir for a bit of
 your advise what way is to do thare will only be three of us
 hir and hir made and Mee and If I could only git One Hower
 ahead of Them I would be shouer to Beet them O what a D—
 d Nace thare will be but tell me what way I is to Do. I told
 him to go on the road and hire Horses to be Ready at a
 Certon Time for three or fower stages by so doing he might
 Gane a Hower or two of them Before thay wear missed he
 said that he wear goin home to Ireland and that he would be
 back to Portsmouth in the Course of a Month and have hir off
 with him according about a month after that comes running
 into the Inn with a pair of Nankeen Trowse on up to the knee
 in Mud and up to the Waste of Water as he had Crossed the
 soloway Firth at a Boat he had comed with all the haste that
 he could make from Portsmouth untill he reached Penrith
 and the finding himself on the London Road he crossed the
 Country to avoid percute of hir father he came to sands field
 thar got a Boat to cross the River Eden and after walkind
 across mud and Sand for nearly two miels which wet them
 boath thay came to the River Esk thare got Cross in a Boat
 and leaving the young lady thare he prceded on to Gretna for
 a post chase to take hir up on the Chase being sent for hir he
 sent for Mee on my entring the Room and seeing him I was
 surprised he looked some Wild Man all Wet and Mud up to
 the Middle and his Hair Standing like Bricel of a Frighted
 Hog and always keeping his eye on the Carlisle Road on
 seeing me he came forward in a great hast and shok hands
 with me and Exclaimed For Heavens Sake Mr E Make haste.
 O Mr E marrie me amidetly for hir Father will be hear
 amedetly shouer a noff and that will be before the Lady can
 arive don't you see him a Coming with all haste O dear what
 will become of Me pointing to the Carlisle road which at the
 Distons of a Mile thare wear a gentlemans Carrage comming
 in full speed towards the place Patt O Dear what will I do he
 shoore anoof will shut me dead dead as af I naver had been
 living id thare never a pistle that I can git as I have forgot my
 owen I have nothing but the poder Horn Whear shall I go for
 pistols he will be on Mee in a Minet O by the Powers giv me
 a Shelaly and I will just step in behind the Doar and When
 he comes into the House I will have the first Blow at Him and
 Down him and git his pistols from him and spoile him for
 shouting by this time the Carrage wear at the dore Patt took
 his station with his shelaly to be ready for the first knock
 down blow a good Forton this wan't the Ladys Father A
 travling Famley and stoped to change horses the Gent
 nearlay escaped from giten his Head broak for if he had
 entred the House before he Ordred fresh Horses Patt would
 have had the first blow before he could seen the mistake this
 descreetly being got over and the Lady arived almoast as wett
 and Muddy as Patt himesels after gitin all ready for the
 marriage and a little more Reconciled and his fears a little left
 him. A nother Carrage apeared in sight which alarmed him

agane but not so mutch as the other did and onle changed
 Horses and went on as the other did. after Patt and his Lady
 had had some refreshment and stoping all Night the next
 morning set out with a chase and pare of horses for carlisle
 on thare road btwixt Gretna and Longtown thay met a chase
 and fower drivin at a rapped rate when thay came abreast of
 Each other the Gent called out for the Chases boath to stop
 Patt Horrar struck this was the Ladys Father in Realety now
 almost in despare to see himself in the hands of a Bitter
 Emmeney on a open Moor and no wapen to Defend himself
 with he satt close back in the chase and not being seen by the
 Father the Old Gent called to the Post boy and asked him if
 he had got two Ladys and a Gent inside he said no onley one
 Lady and Gent the Old Man being setisfised that wear not
 his prise as he understood that the Maid was with them but
 they had left hir behind on the road as thay wear Coming
 down for a Ceren Purpess after thar arrvell at Carlisle and
 thinking themselves safe ordred Dinner in the Meantime the
 Old Gent Came on to Gretna and on his learning that thay
 had been thare got married and passed him on the Road he
 was almost Fit to Chole with rage asked the Landlady if she
 seed them married she said she did he swore and wished that
 hir House might fall and Bury hir and all that Belonged to
 hir in the Rueans so saying he left the house cursing his hard
 fate on reaching the Bush Hotel and not finding them thare
 asking almost every servent in the house whear thay wear
 none could tell him for thay wear at the Crowen and miter
 Hotel a messenger having been sent from the Bush to warn
 them of the Danger as the old Gent had a pistol in his hand
 ready on Patt hearing he ordred a Chase to be got ready in
 the Back yard but before he could git out the Old gent was in
 the house and Demanded whear the Villan wear Patt and his
 Lady with an Eldrley Lady almost in the next room to him
 this Lad went to him and began to pittly his Case and to
 devart his mind a little untill Patt and his Lady got out a
 back way and to the chase that wear in waiting the old man
 kepted handling his pistols all the time him and the Lady
 wear talkin on the waiter telling him that thay wear gone he
 turned on the Lady and called hir an Old Cunning B...h
 knocked hir down and left hir lying he set off to the Bush for
 horses to follow them with in the meantime that Patt wear
 gitin to the Chase thare wear some Boys in the stableyard
 amusing themselves with shutin at Sparrows at the verry
 time that Patt was steping into the chase one of the Boys
 Fired thee pistle on Patt hearing the report he thought that
 was hir father and aimed the shot at him he called out Drive
 on he thought he had shot me dead and I though so myself
 but I am safe yet so saying he lay down in the Botom of the
 Chase half way almost to Penrith some times rising himself
 up to look out at the Peep Hone at the back of the Chase to see
 if he could see the Father But the Dust Wear so Thick behind
 them you could not see through it the post Boys Whipin and
 Gallopin all the Way when he arived at Penrith he told his
 stary to Mr Tyson the Landlord Mr Tyson sent him out of
 the way untill the Evning the Old Gent arived but to late to
 do any harm as all the house wear aware of his Intent he
 complained of being tired said he would follow no farther
 wished that he might never see nither of them agane he went
 to Bed and in the Evning Patt and his Lady boath sleped in
 the same house that hir father wear in but unknown to him
 in the morning the Old took Coach for Home

The end



ROBERT ELLIOT'S GREтна MARRIAGE RECORDS

Some Northumberland and Durham Entries

Did you know that there are some 'Gretna Green Marriage Registers' in Durham? Unpublished, and comparatively little known and little used are the records of Robert Elliot, held by Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections.

Elliot was just one of the 'priests' who made a living at Gretna, and some other spots just inside Scotland, by conducting marriages. Possessing no religious qualifications of any sort these 'priests' were merely latter-day entrepreneurs, quick to see an opportunity to earn a few shillings or pounds in 'marrying the folk', aware that their customers were probably ignorant of the niceties of Scottish Marriage Law and that they perhaps really believed that men like Elliot held some official position.

Robert Elliot, a Northumbrian born in 1784, worked for a firm of stage coach proprietors at Springfield, near Gretna where he met and married Ann Graham, the granddaughter of Joseph Paisley, an enormous 25 stone drunkard, who was the first of the Gretna 'priests'. No doubt Elliot learned the business from Paisley and effectively took over the business when the old man died. Between about 1811 and 1839 he conducted several thousand marriages, publishing a book of Memoirs in 1842 and stating in a letter to *The Times* that he had married 7744 people and that his Registers were to be published. They never were.

The surviving records are a mixed bag. It would be less than accurate to describe them as 'registers' Although there is a large bound volume and two smaller books, the bulk of the collection consists of largely loose sheets and unbound books now assembled in yearly folders or envelopes covering the years 1811 to 1839. There is also a very small number of marriages conducted by Joseph Paisley in the 18th century.

These records were acquired in the 1950's by Mr. C.R. Hudleston, who compiled a card index, alphabetical by male names, with a parallel female index. No check has been made to see whether this index is complete but it would appear that there may be some omissions from it. Nevertheless, use of this index is the easiest way to use the records. The indexes, and the records themselves are now held by Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections at 5 The College, Durham (very soon to move -- see elsewhere in this Journal). Northumberland and Durham Family History Society hopes to transcribe and publish these valuable records but this will be a long and difficult task. The majority of the marriages relate to Cumbrian people, with a few of the well-publicised 'runaway' type, but a number of people from our two counties, especially those from the areas around Haltwhistle and Haydon Bridge, resorted to Gretna for their wedding.

Pending publication of the full transcripts, we intend to publish in the Journal the details of those marriages where one or both of the spouses had a link with Durham or Northumberland. The details have been taken from Mr. Hudleston's card index and a glance will show that they are very informative, usually recording details of the parentage of the parties, but perhaps some of these details should be viewed with some degree of scepticism. Names of witnesses are usually given in the 'Registers' but for space reasons have not been included below.

The Society is grateful to Durham University Library, to Mr. Hudleston's daughter Mrs. A Cooper and to his literary executors for permitting publication of these details for the first time. Please note that the University Library cannot carry out searches.

The original spelling of names and places has been retained. The following abbreviations have been used.

Northd = Northumberland Cumbd = Cumberland p = Parish afsd = aforesaid dtr = daughter

1. Matthew Addison, of Henshaw & p of Haltwhistle, son of late William Addison, Ruffleas Close, p of Haltwhistle & Ann Baxter, Haltwhistle, dtr of late Thos Baxter of afsd. 14 May 1833.
2. Charles Allan of Carlisle & p of Westward, Cumbd, son of John Allan of Low Hesket in Inglewood Forest, Cumbd & Barbra Hansom of Carlisle & p of Righton, Co Durham, dtr of late William Hansom of afsd. 11th August 1833.
3. Joseph Allan of Longtown & p of Kirkandrews upon Esk son of Joseph Allan of afsd & Jane Bell of Longtown, p of Arthuret, dtr of Christopher Bell of Northd. 2nd May 1832.
4. Robert Allan of Corbridge, son of late (blank) & Ann Davison of Corbridge & p of Hesket-in-the-Forest dtr of late John Davison of Ireland. 17 July 1834.
5. (blank) Armstrong Northd of Semenburn, dtr of Northd. 1817.
6. Edward Armstrong of Shaws & p of Abbey Lanercost, son of late Thomas Armstrong of Brampton & Ann Bell of Shaws & p of Haltwhistle, dtr of Thomas Bell of Haltwhistle. 5th April 1831.
7. Francis Armstrong of North Scales & p of Cornwhaton, Cumbd, son of Thomas Armstrong of Carlatten, Cumbd & Hannah Fletcher of Carlatten & p of Knarsdale dtr of late John Fletcher of p of Knarsdale. 29 February 1824.
8. John Armstrong of Burnhall & p of Haltwhistle son of late James Armstrong of Haydon Bridge & p of Haltwhistle & Mary Pattison of Burnhall and afsd p, dtr of John Foster of Greenhead & afsd p. 11 July 1823.

9. William **Armstrong** of Burtley and p of Chollarton, Northd & Ellen **Crozer** of Thornhill & p of Morton Dumfriesshire. 15th March 1825.
10. John **Barnfather** of Butterburran & p of Abbey Lanercost, Cumbd son of John Barnfather of afsd & Mary **Armstrong** of Bellestons ... (?) & p of Falston dtr of Thomas Armstrong of afsd. 30th November 1829.
11. John **Battey** of Hallington & p of Corbridge son of late Geo Batte of Little Whittinton & afsd p & Jane **Robson** of Groundrish & p of Hexham, dtr of late John Robson of the Turnpikehouse p of Haltwhistle. 20th May 1824.
12. William **Beck** of St. Nicholas, Newcastle son of late William Beck of Downpatrick, Co Down & Ann **Ewians** of St. Nicholas, Newcastle, dtr of Isaak Ewen (sic) of afsd. 19th June 1822.
13. Ralph **Beckwith** of St Andrews, Newcastle & Frances Mary **Wooler** of Gateshead 25th October 1815.
14. John **Bedington** of Emelton & p of Carwell, Northd son of late Thomas Bedington & Elizabeth **Brown** of Emelton & p of Hayton Cumbd dtr of John **Gall** of a.... B(sic), Cumbd. 3rd February 1823.
15. James **Bell** of Temmont & of Abbey Lanercost son of William **Holms** (sic) & Elizabeth **Pattinson** of (torn) dtr of late John Pattinson of Crooks..... p of Haltwhistle. August 1832 (date torn - between 4th and 12th).
16. John **Bell** of Garriagill, Cumbd son of late Edward Bell of Knarsdale, Northd & Hannah **Wardel** of Kirkhaugh, Northd, dtr of late John Wardel of p of Cautley, Yorkshire. 24th January 1824.
17. Matthew **Bell** of Haltwhistle & p of Hexham son of Joseph Bell of Swinburn & of p of Chollarton, Northd & Margrey **Black** of Haltwhistle dtr of James Black of Bebside & p of Bedlington, Northd. 14 May 1823.
18. William **Bell** of Haltwhistle son of late George Bell of afsd & Isabella **Hankin** of afsd. 25th December 1822.
19. Elique **Bellas** of Penrith, Cumbd son of late John Bellas of afsd & Mary **Graham** of Penrith (Carlisle deleted) & p of Dalston, Cumbd dtr of William **Dixon** of Hexham & p of Penrith. 20th September 1825.
20. John **Billingsley** of Penrith & p of Ryton, Co Durham son of late John Billingsley of Willinton Mill & p of Ryton & Mary **Snath** of Penrith & p of Plumpton, Cumbd dtr of late AB (sic). 29th May 1825.
21. William **Birket** of Haltwhistle & Elizabeth **Bell** of Penrith, Cumbd (M by Joseph Paisley). 10th April 1800.
22. William **Blakeburn** of Carlisle & p of Haltwhistle Thirlwell Quarter son of late unknown (sic) & Jane **Smith** of St. Mary's Without, Carlisle dtr of James Smith of afsd. 14th February 1830.
23. Thomas Lowthian **Bland** of Alston & p of All Saints (sic) Newcastle son of late Joseph Bland of Alston & Mary **Spark** of Highgabligh & p of Alston dtr of John Spark of afsd . 1 December 1832.
24. Thomas **Bonner** of Pontenlan Northd & Alice **Earle** of Warwick Bridge & p of Wetherell, Cumbd 15th May 1815.
25. Henry **Bowman** of Shafthill & p of Lambley, Northd son of late John Bowman of afsd & Susannah **Thompson** of Linglry Cloas & of p of Hensew Quarter p of Haltwhistle dtr of John Thompson. 19th May 1827.
26. Samuell **Bradbury** of All Saints, Newcastle son of late James Bradbury of Moasley & p of Sattelworth in West Riding of Yorkshire & Hannah **Soulsby** of Piperwellgate in Gaitshead & p of St Marys Gaitshead Co Durham dtr of Thomas Soulsby of Balesthills in p of St Ann, Newcastle. 15th February 1823.
27. Thomas **Brown** son of late William Brown of Haltwhistle & Mary **Park** dtr of late James **Nixon** of St Marys, City of Carlisle. 9th January 1816.

(to be continued)

THAT PRESCRIPTION DECIPHERED

Mrs. S. Pearson writes:

The author of the article 'The Sick and Lame Poor of Bamburgh' (Winter 1996 Journal) hoped that someone could throw some light on the prescription shown. Nearly 50 years ago we used to have such examples given to us in our pharmacy exams. They were antiques even then! I have been retired a while now, but could not resist the challenge.

R. Elect Lenitive 2 ounces : Pulv Rhab 1 drachm; Nitre Pur 2 drachms, Bals Copalb 2 drachms, Ol Olivae Opt 1/2 ounce, Syr Alth 11/2 ounces. M. Capt. Cochli bis vel ter de die ex Haustus aq Hordeal.

R is short for recipe, the Latin for 'take', an instruction to the Pharmacist, not the patient!

Lenitive Electuary was another name for Confection of Senna, a blockbuster containing senna, figs, prunes, tamarind, liquorice, coriander and cassia.

Pulv Rhab may be Rhapontic Rhubarb --- I am not too sure what it is.

Nitre is Potassium Nitrate given as a diuretic or as anti-febrile.

Balsam of Copaiba is a sticky resin obtained from a tree bark, foul tasting, used in kidney complaints and bronchitis.

Ol Olivae Opt is the best olive oil.

Syr Alth is syrup of marshmallow made from marshmallow root which, with the oil, was there mainly to help the whole lot down.

M - another instruction. Means 'mix', and then the instructions to the patient to take a spoonful twice or thrice a day in a draught of barley water.

R Ung Alth 2 ounces; Ol Tereb 2 drachms M ft Ungt - mix and make an ointment.

Pars affecta applic - apply to the affected parts.

Ung Alth - is ointment of Marshmallow, a soothing application.

Ol Tereb - is turpentine oil, antiseptic and soothing.

I am making no guesses on Ann Hunter's complaint. I have found it interesting to research and am looking forward to a visit to Melton Park to look at the records there as I have direct connections with Bamburgh at that time.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Thanks Mrs. Pearson. Now all we want to know is the nature of Ann Hunter's complaint which required such drastic sounding remedies.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS TO MOVE

This University Department, currently at 5 The College in Durham City, will soon have a new home. Many members will know that this section of the Library holds much to interest us as genealogists, including in particular the original Wills and other probate documents for virtually the whole of Northumberland and Durham prior to 1858, and the Bishops Transcripts, those copies of Parish Registers which should have been sent each year to the Bishop of Durham.

During March and April, all the records (except Dean and Chapter Muniments, and the Church Commissioners' Dean and Chapter Deposit) will be moved to accommodation within the present Palace Green section of the University Library. This is only a few hundred yards from the existing premises --- Palace Green is the large open area between Durham Castle and the Cathedral, and the University Library is on the eastern side of the area. There is only very limited parking there.

The premises at The College will remain open during the move, although there may be some delay in producing documents.

You are asked to phone in advance (0191-374 3610) but you might feel it would be sensible not to go at all during the move period if this can be avoided.

As at present, access to the Library's holdings will be open to all, and will not be restricted to members of the University.

The Palace Green building is open from Monday to Friday and the move will in fact mean a slight improvement in access for researchers, as there will now be no closure during the lunch period.

It is hoped that the move will have been completed by the end of April.

BITS & PIECES

Missing Entries on 1891 Census Microfiche

Following the notes in the Winter Journal (page 117) about some pages missing from the PRO microfiche of Conside and Knitsley, Mrs. E.A. Ellis advises that enumeration districts 6 and 7, covering the Eastbourne District of Darlington, are similarly missing. Apparently, district 6 was found to be missing on the transfer of the records to the PRO and district 7 has been inadvertently omitted from the microfiche.

1891 Census Index

A surname index to the 6200 names on the 1891 Census for Benfieldshire, Shotley Bridge and part of Blackhill in the Registration District of Consett is available from Mrs. K. Willans, 9 The Ridge Way, Kenton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4LP. Also available from the same address and at the same price is a surname index to 7300 names on the 1891 Census for part of Conside (the old name for Consett) and Knitsley --- including the 'missing' entries referred to above! A third piece, to complete the coverage of Consett Registration Sub-District, should become available later this year. The first two pieces cost £2.00 each (£2.40 overseas). Overseas purchasers may send mint UK stamps.

Glassmakers and Allied Trades Index

Do you have glassmakers in your family tree? This is an index covering all trades connected with the blowing or enhancement of glass and includes stained glass artists, cutters and engravers of glass as well as any person working in a glass factory. Covers the whole of the UK, with a few entries from elsewhere. The compiler Mr. B.J. Hardyman, 42 Hansom Place, York YO3 makes no charge for extracting data, but a stamped self-addressed envelope must be enclosed (2 IRC's from overseas).

Yesterday Belongs to You 3

This is the third of a series of Local and Family History Fairs to be held at County Hall, Durham on 12th April 1997. It is jointly organised by Durham County Record Office and the Arts, Libraries and Museums Department of Durham County Council. NDFHS hopes to be represented there. As well as bookstalls etc., there will be displays by re-enactment groups from a wide range of historical periods and nostalgic guided tours of Durham City on historic buses. Members may be particularly interested in the specialist seminars on the resources available for studying local and family history.

Fleet Air Arm Museum

The Fleet Air Arm Museum has recently acquired a substantial collection of official papers for men who served in the Royal Navy during World War I. For further information, contact the Archivist, Moira Gittos, Fleet Air Arm Museum, Box D6, RNAS Yeovilton, Somerset BA22 8HT.

Scottish Census

A leaflet listing all known indexes to parts of Scottish Censuses 1841-1871 is available for £1 plus 50p postage etc from SAFHS Publications, 27 Woodend Drive, Aberdeen AB2 6YJ.

GRO Abandons St. Catherines House

The General Register Office Search Room is shortly to move from St. Catherines House into new accommodation not far away in Myddleton Place, which will also hold the PRO's London Reading Room for Census material, now at Chancery Lane. It is expected that Census material will be available there from March 10th and the contents of St. Catherines House are planned to move on April 1st 1997.

TREASURERS REPORT

The accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st October 1996 reflect a year of change for the Society. The establishment of the research centre at Bolbec Hall produced costs very much in line with budgeted expenditure, at £11,521, and this should be approximately the annual cost of running the centre.

There has been a steady increase in membership, and the profit accruing from publication sales has been encouraging.

The result for the year is an excess of expenditure over income of £1816, largely accounted for by the increase in depreciation charges. The Balance Sheet shows a marked change in liquid reserves with a reduction of £13,254 in Net Current Assets, reflected by an increase in Fixed Assets of £11,438.

NORTUMBRIAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 1996

Note	£	1995	£	1996	£
					2.
Subscriptions and Donations		27324		26640	
Income Tax refunds on					
Covenants		1219		1022	
Surplus on Journal and					
Publication sales	1.	8813		9047	
Add Stock (Decrease)/Increase		(30)		116	
		8783		9761	
Donations		116		97	
(Deficit)/Surplus on Conference		(907)		416	
Bank Interest Received (Gross)		2302		1436	
		38844		38372	
Less Expenditure					
Printing and Distribution		16408		13883	
of Journals					
Printing Postage and		2132		2827	
Stationery					
Telephone and Travel		1074		675	
Meeting Expenses		1124		1096	
Library Additions		-		75	
Professional Fees		410		-	
FFHS Affiliation		400		400	
Bolbec Hall Costs (Net)	2.	11021		-	
Equipment Repairs and					
Maintenance		1022		710	
Sundry		941		(9)	
Bank Charges		68		142	
Accountancy and Audit		884		673	
Depreciation	3.	4676		762	
		40660		23332	
DEFICIT/SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER					
EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR					
		£(1816)		£ 12132	

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF NORTUMBRIAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

We report on the accounts for the year ended 31st October 1996 set out on pages 2 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of the Officers and Reporting Accountants
The Council of Officers of the Society is responsible under the Charities Act 1992 for the preparation of accounts which comply with the provision of that Act. The Council considers that the Society is exempt from the requirement for an audit under the provisions of that Act and has accordingly requested an independent examination of the accounts. It is our responsibility to carry out the examination and to report on it. Our report is designed to enable the independent examination.

Basis of Opinion
Our work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants, and so our procedures consisted of comparing the accounts with the accounting records kept by the Society, and limited enquiries of the Officers of the Society. We have not obtained necessary evidence to enable us to express an opinion. These procedures provide only the assurance agreed in our opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion:
a) the accounts are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the Society;
b) having regard only to, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records:

- the accounts have been drawn up in a manner complying with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 1992, and
- the Society satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts for the year under the provisions of the Charities Act 1992.

BIRMINGHAM CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

67 Sadler Street
Durham
23 January 1997

AGM NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE

NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
WILL BE HELD

ON TUESDAY 3RD JUNE 1997 AT 7.30P.M.
AT PELAW SOCIAL CLUB, HEWORTH, GATESHEAD.

3.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST OCTOBER 1995

	Note	1995	1994	1993
FIXED ASSETS				
As at 1st November 1995				
Additions	3	1500	1500	1500
Less Disposals		17764	17764	17764
Depreciation		150	150	150
		15938	15938	15938
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stock at Bank		6681	6681	6711
Gift Accounts		44538	44538	97166
Officers Accounts		406	406	481
Sundry Debtors		793	793	1614
		1338	1338	388
		54165	54165	65560
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Subscriptions in Advance		7973	7973	9361
Accruals		8045	8045	5358
		16018	16018	14959
NET CURRENT ASSETS				
		18347	18347	51601
		511243	511243	51101

Represented by:

RESERVES At 1st November 1995

SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR

In approving these financial statements as Officers of the Society we hereby confirm:

a) that for the year in question the Society was entitled to exemption from audit under the Charities Act 1992;

b) that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:

(i) ensuring that the Society keeps accounting records which:-

- (a) disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Society at that time; and
- (b) enable annual statements of accounts to be prepared under the requirements of the Charities Act 1992.

The accounts were approved by the Council of Officers and signed on its behalf by

Signature

R. Hare

Date

28 January 1997

NAME (BLOCK LETTERS)

R. Hare

The Notes on page 4 form part of these accounts.

4.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 1996

	1996	1995	1994
1. SURPLUS ON JOURNALS AND PUBLICATION SALES			
Sale of publications	15417	19991	19991
Opening stock	5997	5997	5997
Cost of publications	12272	12272	12272
Less: closing stock	18370	18370	18370
	7164	11652	11652
Surplus on publication sales	8233	8233	8233
Sales of back journals	281	281	281
Journal advertising	182	182	182
Tap library receipts	8792	8792	8792
	1296	1296	1296
2. ROBERT HALL COSTS			
Rent, rates, water & service charge	6396	6396	6396
Insurance	303	303	303
Heat & light	351	351	351
Telephone	875	875	875
Volunteers expenses	941	941	941
Legal charges (re lease negotiation)	1258	1258	1258
Start up costs	17498	17498	17498
Less: sundry income	972	972	972
	61151	61151	61151

	Equipment	Furniture	Library	Total
3. FIXED ASSETS				
Written down value b/fwd	1500	2884	8337	1500
Additions	8043	2884	16264	16264
Disposals	(150)	(572)	(2501)	(150)
Depreciation	(1328)	2302	1836	(4626)
	4295	2302	1836	12328

DEPRECIATION POLICY:

Equipment	- 25% p.a. on reducing balance
Furniture	- 20% p.a. on reducing balance
Library	- 30% p.a. on reducing balance

THE SALE OF THE CENTURY



More money, probably, than the three Langs had ever seen in their lives.

The three Langs. First, David (1755-1827), the son of a sister of Joe Paisley, 'Gretna priest'. Then, David's son, Simon, who succeeded his father when the old man died. And, finally, 'Sime's' son, William, who had a "high if not exaggerated respect for his books --- the marriage registers --- which were enhanced by his having to produce them in Court. The certificates were a bit of a nuisance, and sometimes children played with them".⁽¹⁾

"I may as well tell you that the charge for opening the register is two-and-sixpence", Willie Lang is said to have told a visitor. "And every additional page is a shilling!"⁽²⁾ Perhaps Willie was turning in his grave at the sum his papers brought on 12th December 1996, just 12 days more than a century after his death. Fine timing by Anderson and Garland who were selling them at their Marlborough Crescent saleroom in Newcastle!

The registers recorded the 'Gretna Green marriages' conducted by the three Langs, 'the marriers', in over 100 years of their trade, from the 1790's to the 1890's --- thousands of couples.

David, the first of the three, was a pedlar, pressganged into one of His Majesty's men-of-war, prisoner of the American pirate Paul Jones, escapee and finally 'priest' at Gretna where "humble and lofty, all were welcome".⁽³⁾ For a fee, of course.

His records, and those of his son and grandson, were those which went under the hammer. Acquired in 1912 by a Gateshead solicitor, they remained with the legal profession until the Newcastle solicitors Muckle Son & Hall put them on the market late last year. A large metal box, a number of worn notebooks and indexes to their contents, and several bundles of papers, tied with string and ribbon. That was the legacy of the hundred years of marrying by the Langs.

Eleven thousand, five hundred pounds, no less! Add the auctioneers commission, add the taxman's VAT harvest, and you have a sum of over £13,500. That's what the records went for.



The press, present in force at the auction with flashing cameras and notebooks to the fore, made the most of the sensational 'runaway marriages' which appear in the Lang books. Thomas Erskine, Lord Chancellor of England, who wed his housekeeper Sarah Buck at Gretna in 1818, was their oft-quoted example. In fact, as with other 'priests' at places like Lamberton and Coldstream as well as Gretna, most of the customers of the priests were local couples, merely taking advantage of the lax Scottish Marriage Laws which applied only a few miles from their homes. They were people from what is now Cumbria, from Scotland and from Northumberland, as well as the handful of elopers of popular myth, pursued by the irate fathers of the brides.

The records, then, were essentially 'Border' in origin and local in character and understandably the Ewart Library in Dumfries, already custodian of other Gretna records, was very keen to acquire the Lang papers. A few days before the sale, the Committee of your Society met hurriedly and recognised the need to try to ensure that these irreplaceable documents passed into the public domain where researchers could have easy access to them. That, we felt, was what NDFHS was all about, and so we pledged £2,000 to the Dumfries Library to assist them in their efforts.

On the morning of the 12th December, a faxed bid went from Dumfries to Newcastle. Though substantial, it was not enough. Press publicity on the day before the sale had been brought to the notice of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies in Canterbury, Their bid was that which won the day.

Naturally, the Ewart Library --- and NDFHS --- were disappointed. Your Society had planned to transcribe, index and publish the records. The Ewart Library had similar plans and of course, the records themselves --- Scottish records --- would have returned home to Scotland. Dumfries would perhaps have been a more appropriate home for documents pertaining mainly to our Borders ancestors than a body at the other end of the country. Fortunately, the Institute (a registered charity, like NDFHS) replied promptly to my request for information about their future plans, declaring that the "first task will be to publish an index, the second to produce copies in suitable form, the third to see the collection is preserved in an appropriate permanent archive". We are delighted that they share our sentiments. Watch this space.



⁽¹⁾ Irregular Border Marriages by Claverhouse, 1934, Moray Press.

The Society is grateful to Anderson & Garland for permission to publish their photographs and to Mr. Marshall Hall for his help.

UNWANTED CERTIFICATES

Here is another list of 'Unwanted Certificates' -- those which, for one reason or another, are no longer wanted by the purchaser, but which might well help another member. There are now 284 Birth, 168 Death and 203 Marriage certificates held by the Society. A complete list of them can be supplied for £1.00, plus a self addressed envelope. Individual certificates 20p, plus self addressed envelope. Write to Mrs. M. Furness, 8 Shadfen Park Road, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3JD. If you have any 'Unwanted Certificates', send them to Mrs. Furness please (Northumberland and Durham only).

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

181 BAMBROUGH, Thomas	11th June 1848	Southampton, Hants
256 BIRKHEAD, James	26th May 1888	Gateshead, Durham
283 BROWN, George	25th March 1852	Westoe, South Shields, Durham
250 CARR, Jane	24th October 1845	Castleward, Stainfordham
273 CARRICK, Hannah	16th July 1857	Bishop Auckland, Durham
248 COULTHARD, William	3rd April 1860	Sedgefield, Stockton, Durham
252 CROSBY, Charles	9th June 1873	Sunderland, South Bishopwearmouth
253 CROSBY, Robert Tindle	4th July 1873	Sunderland, South Bishopwearmouth
247 DAVISON, Hannah	18th May 1867	Easington, Durham
244 DICKINSON, George	15th February 1865	Monkwearmouth, Durham
257 GALES, Margaret, Ann	1st February 1834	Tanfield, Durham (Baptism)
274 GORSMARK? Thomas	10th October 1845	Yalding, Maidstone, Kent
251 HARRISON, Martha	13th September 1843	Scarborough
258 HENDERSON, Mary Ann	2nd October 1867	Newcastle, Westgate
279 NICHOL, William	21st May 1878	Cuthbert, Carlisle, Cumberland
280 NICHOL, William	1st February 1879	Hexham, Northumberland
282 OLIPHANT, Elizabeth Ann	22nd September 1861	Monkwearmouth, Durham
259 RATCLIFFE, Edward	20th July 1862	Newcastle, Westgate
254 ROGERS, Hannah	1st December 1839	Tynemouth, Northumberland
249 SCOTT, William	11th November 1837	Easington, County Durham
245 SHAW, Elizabeth Ann	28th November 1862	Hartlepool, Durham
246 SHAW, Elizabeth Ann	12th April 1865	North Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland
260 SINCLAIR, David	15th December 1859	Newcastle, Westgate
276 STOREY, Mary	12th February 1838	Barnard Castle, Teesdale
275 STOREY, May	6th May 1841	Bishop Auckland, Auckland, Durham
278 WALTON, Thomas	2nd January 1859	St. John's Weardale, Durham
255 WARREN, Elizabeth	21st May 1873	Sunderland, South Bishopwearmouth
277 WATSON, Robert	12th August 1838	Dentend, Castleward, Northumberland
284 WATSON, Thomas	22nd May 1840	Middleton, Teesdale

DEATH CERTIFICATES

144 ANDERSON, Mary Ann	24th February 1864	North Bishopwearmouth
159 BALL, Thomas Arthur	20th December 1960	Tynemouth, Northumberland
161 CROSSMAN, John Guy	23rd February 1935	Stapleton, Bristol
160 CROSSMAN, Mary Emily	6th September 1924	Bedminster, Bristol
142 DAVISON, Ann	18th May 1862	Easington, Durham
143 DICKENSON, Mary	29th July 1861	Easington, Durham
141 DOBINSON, Mary Jane	17th May 1915	Elswick, Newcastle on Tyne
151 DRUMMOND, Robert	15th January 1855	Huddersfield, Yorkshire
165 FRASER, Robert Lovatt	22nd January 1931	Newcastle, All Saints
150 HARRISON, Jane	14th July 1860	Gateshead, Durham
145 LEWIS, Thomas	5th July 1879	Sunderland, South Bishopwearmouth
155 REAVELEY, Daniel	15th January 1895	Tynemouth
156 REAVELEY, Daniel	13th March 1898	Tynemouth
157 REAVELEY, Daniel	31st January 1914	South Shields, Durham
153 REAVELEY, Elsie May	10th February 1941	Whitley, Northumberland South
158 REAVELEY, Frederick William	10th May 1950	Whitley, Northumberland South
164 REAVELEY, Jane Ann	21st September 1900	Tynemouth, Northumberland
162 REAVELEY, Muriel Minnie	6th January 1992	North Tyneside
152 REAVELY, Elizabeth	31st October 1939	Whitley, Northumberland South
154 REVELY, Ann	19th August 1846	Tynemouth, North Shields
146 ROGERS, Hannah	4th March 1878	Tynemouth, Northumberland
147 ROGERS, Thomas	28th March 1881	East Sunderland, Durham
148 ROGERS, Thomas	30th January 1890	Sunderland, Durham
163 THOMPSON, Christina	27th December 1903	Tynemouth
149 THOMPSON, Robert	9th August 1853	Castle Ward, Stamfordham
166 THOMPSON, Thomas William	23rd June 1925	Winlaton, Gateshead
167 WATSON, John	3rd November 1848	Barnard Castle, Teesdale
168 WATSON, John	6th June 1849	Middleton, Teesdale

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

182 BALL, Thomas Arthur	FRANKLAND, Isabella	20th July 1912	Register Office, Tynemouth
189 BAMBROUGH, William	MUNDELL, Eliza Sarah	22nd September 1850	Northwood Parish Church, Southampton
178 BULLERWELL, George	GALES, Margaret Ann	18th June 1855	Tanfield, Durham
177 BULLERWELL, William	WILSON, Jane	24th November 1832	Sunderland, Durham
175 COULTHARD, Robert	WALKER, Ann	7th June 1856	Aycliffe, Durham
188 CROSSMAN, John Guy	RELLY, Mary Emily	15th July 1866	Parish Ch., Bedminster, Bristol, Somerset
185 CURRY, Robert	REAVELEY, Isabella	29th October 1905	St. Michael, Westoe, South Shields
198 DIXON, John	GRIEVESON, Mary	22nd May 1893	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham
186 GIBSON, Reginald	REAVELEY, Annie	16th March 1907	Congregational Church, Tynemouth, NBL
180 GILHESPIE, Charles Liddell ..	FRASER, Margaret	28th December 1946 ..	Reg. Office, Tynemouth, Northumberland
203 GOWLAND, Thomas Robson ..	PROUD, Ann Jane	16th February 1899 ..	Parish Church, Pelton, Durham
201 GRAY, John	GRIEVESON, Ann	24th July 1875	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham
183 HALL, George	REAVELEY, Jane	12th March 1856	United Secession Chapel, Norfolk St., T.mth
174 HUNTER, William	DAWSON, Jane	26th July 1873	Dalton le Dale, Durham
196 JACKSON, George Sweeting ..	LOWE, Jane Alice	15th June 1893	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham
194 LAING, John	BROMLEY, Mary Ann	4th July 1903	Parish Church, Durham
191 McVOY, Daniel	WATSON, Ann	28th January 1856	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham
192 NEWTON, Martin	JACKSON, Isabel	29th March 1902	Parish Church, Pelton, Durham
202 OAKLEY, Robert Hepple	GRUNSON, Mary Annie ..	4th February 1899	Parish Church, Pelton, Durham
176 PALLISTER, Richard	NORMAN, Hannah	4th July 1853	Registry Office, Darlington
179 RATCLIFFE, Edward	HENDERSON, Mary Ann ..	24th June 1888	Benwell, St. James, Northumberland
187 REAVELEY, Daniel	SLATER, Jane Ann	12th December 1865 ..	Wesleyan Reform Chapel, Tynemouth
184 REAVELEY, John	LAMB, Isabella	5th March 1856	United Secession Chapel, Norfolk St., T.mth
195 TAYLOR, William	TROTTER, Mary Hannah ..	8th June 1874	Trinity Church, Pelton, Durham
197 TEMPERLEY, William	GRIEVESON, Minnie	17th June 1893	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham
181 THOMPSON, Andrew	STRAKER, Christian	12th August 1902	Parish Church, Tynemouth, NBL
193 THOMPSON, James	MILLING, Mary	21st May 1870	St. Mary & St. Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street
190 THOMPSON, John	CARR, Louisa	10th March 1850	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham
199 URWIN, William Robson	LOW, Sarah Jane	22nd May 1893	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham
200 YOUNG, Thomas	YOUNG, Mary	29th June 1875	Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, Durham

SOCIETY NEWS

Bolbec Hall Opening Hours

From April 1997, the Society's Bolbec Hall premises will be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays on only the first of those days in each month --- Wednesdays from 4.00p.m. to 8.00p.m. and Saturdays from 11.00a.m. to 4.00p.m. This applies from Wednesday 2nd April and Saturday 5th April. Group visits can be arranged for other Saturdays. Other days are unchanged --- Monday to Friday 10.00a.m. to 4.00p.m.

Strays Co-Ordinators

The Society has new Strays Co-Ordinators, Maureen and Terry Howes, 1 The Kylins, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 2DJ (email-kyllins@aol.com). Many of our members would like to help the Society but live far away. Here is a chance to help --- search your local churchyard and parish records for entries about Northumberland or Durham people and send them to Terry and Maureen.

If you find entries about people from other counties, send those too, as they can be sent on to the Federation Stray's Clearing House and will eventually go to the right Society.

Northumberland 1851 Census

If anyone has Northumberland 1851 Census Indexes on computer could we have a copy on disk, please? We want to try to merge them to make an index for the whole of Northumberland.

Research Service

Moiria Furness and her band of volunteers are introducing a form for the limited research service they are prepared to carry out for MEMBERS ONLY. A copy should be enclosed with this issue of the Journal.

Research will be done in the RECORDS AT BOLBEC HALL ONLY, for a fee of £1 (cheques payable to NDFHS please) per query. This must be a specific query --- for a marriage, birth, death, Monumental Inscription or Census extract relating to a particular person in a specifically named record. In other words, we can't do wide ranging searches. Please confine your entries to those on the form.

DO NOT add further details about other family members or send any covering letters with more details --- the volunteers quite simply will not have time to read them!

We can supply photocopies --- see the research form.

A Library Catalogue (on microfiche) can be obtained from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidans Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP. Send your form and cheque to NDFHS (Research), Bolbec 2nd Floor, Bolbec Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1SE.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

CC.....17a.....	1851 Census - Carlisle Index Part 6.	
CC.....50.....	1851 Census - Cleator & Egremont Index.	
CZ.....90.....	1851 Census - Easington, Thorpe, East & West Horden, Shotton Hill Top, Hallfield, Duncombe Moor, Beacon House.	
FH.....103.....	Swan Joseph 1828-1914.	
FH.....104.....	Lumleys & Saundersons as Landowners. A North Country Estate 1600-1900	T.W. Beastall.
LH.GL.....32.....	The Great North Road	Frank Morley.
LH.GL.....33.....	Spas of England (1) The North - Granville.	
LH.DUR.....103.....	Durham, St. Oswald. Bastard Children & Reputed Fathers.	
LH.DUR.....103.....	Long Newton. Settlement Certificates.	
LH.DUR.....103.....	Darlington. Settlement Certificates.	
LH.DUR.....132.....	Sunderland. Antiquities of Volume V 1904	Sunderland Antiquarian Society.
LH.DUR.....133.....	Sunderland. Antiquities of Volume XII 1911	Sunderland Antiquarian Society.
LH.DUR.....134.....	Stockton. History of Stockton & Darlington Railways 1875, Jubilee Memorial of the System	J.S. Jeans.
LH.DUR.....135.....	Ushaw College. A History Of	David Milburn.
LH.DUR.....136.....	Bishopwearmouth. The Rectors of Parish Church 1195-1975.	
LH.DUR.....137.....	Shotley Bridge. Around About	Shotley Bridge Community Trust.
LH.DUR.....138.....	Durham. Castles Of	Robert Hugill.
LH.DUR.....139.....	South Shields. The Borough Of	George B. Hodgson.
LH.DUR.....140.....	Darlington. Memories of Darlington (2)	Chris Lloyd & A.J.A. Ferguson.
LH.DUR.....141.....	Durham. A History of Medicine in South West Durham	D.T. Prescott, F. Robertson & A.J.A. Ferguson.
LH.DUR.....142.....	Darlington. The Book of Darlington	George Flynn.
LH.DUR.....100.....	Poster of County Durham	Frank Staniforth.
LH.NBL.....73.....	Ponteland. One Thousand Years of History.	
LH.NE.....20.....	North Country Sketches (The Friday Book)	Paul Brown.
LH.NE.....21.....	North Country Sketches (The Third Friday Book)	Paul Brown.
LH.NE.....22.....	North England	A.E. Smailes.
LH.NE.....23.....	North East England - People at Work 1860-1950	Frank Atkinson.
LH.NT.....33.....	Newcastle - 12 Churches. An Architectural Journey	Tyne & Wear Archives.
LH.NT.....35.....	Newcastle Revisited. Wheels	Noel Hanson.
LH.NT.....36.....	Elswick, Down Elswick Slipways. Armstrongs, Ships & People 1834-1918	Dick Keys & Ken Smith.
LH.NT.....37.....	Monopoly on the Tyne 1650-1658 (Re-Ralph Gardner)	Society of Antiquities.
LH.NT.....38.....	Newcastle. Historic Architecture of Newcastle on Tyne	Edited by Bruce Allsopp.
LH.NT.....39.....	Newcastle. Forgotten Heroes : Oarsman Henry Clasper.	
LH.NT.....39.....	Newcastle Plate (Blaydon Races).	
NC.....12.....	Nonconformity in the Nineteenth Century	David M. Thompson.
NC.....13.....	Bewcastle - The Knowe United Reformed Church.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Relating to Immigration.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Relating to Convicts.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Relating to Shipping, Probate & Inquest Indexes.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Research Your Record Centres.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Addresses of Australian Overseas Archival Institutions.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Records of Interest to Family Historians. Select List.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Guide to Divorce Records.	
OV.....4.....	PRO Records - Victorian Railway Records.	
PR.DUR.....22.....	Medomsley St. Mary Magdalen Burials 1608-1797.	
PR.DUR.....31.....	Tanfield Marriages 1719-1837.	
PR.DUR.....35.....	Durham Co. Burials 1813 (1 year only)	G. Nicholson.
PR.NBL.....45.....	Whitley Bay Burials Churchyard	Frank Pearson.
PR.NBL.....50.....	Whitley Bay Burials Churchyard - 1864-1962	Frank Pearson.
RC.....12.....	Esh - Laude St. Michael's Roman Catholic M.I.'s.	
SEA.....15.....	Tyne Sail.	
SEA.....15.....	Records at Guildhall Library. Lloyds Captains' Registers.	
SEA.....15.....	Marine Sources at Guildhall Library.	
TD.....13.....	Esh St. Michael All Angels M.I.'s.	

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 March 1997. 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.

0217 PETER CLOUGH

1 Nant y Gader, Dolgellau, Gwynedd LL40 1LB

Seeks descendants of George James who married Elizabeth Newby at Romaldkirk in 1586. Subsequent generations were farming in, amongst others, the following parishes: Romaldkirk (1586-1691), Staindrop (1643-1727), Cockfield (1743-1861), Heighington/Denton (1695-1743), Well (1730-1874), West Witton (1768-1921), Burneston (1751-1820), Patrick Brompton (1784-1892), Northallerton (1785-1860), Pickhill (1809-1845) and Leeds (1852-1944).

0449 CHARLES F. FORSTER

30 Morley Avenue, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4AZ.

Seeks descendants of two brothers: William Forster, born 1804, died 1869 and Joseph Forster, born 1816, died 1880; both baptised at Witton Gilbert. Their father was Joseph Forster, born 1769 Elsdon who married his first cousin Isabella Armorer and died 1838. Also descendants of T.E. Usherwood Robinson, Francis Widowfield (married 1812 Hannah Forster) and Thomas Booth (married 1809 Sarah Forster).

1336 JOHN ROBSON

60 Meon Road, Boscombe East, Bournemouth BH7 6PP.

Seeking information on: 1) Marriage of Albert Frederick Darley of Newcastle to Margaret Coleman of Chester-le-Street before 1908. 2) John Chalder, an engine fitter, dead by the time of daughter Sarah Emily's second marriage to John Thompson Robson 1901 Newcastle; previously married to a Mr. Young. 3) Charles Swallow and wife Elizabeth nee Laverick who were living in Thompson Street, Sunderland in 1878 when their son Charles William was born. On 1881 Census, they were living at Mainsforth Terrace with children Isabella, Elizabeth, Maude, George H. and Charles W. 4) Ada Selina Penn married Charles William Swallow 1906 Newcastle. Her father was John (Jack) Penn, a bootmaker.

2768 Mr. DAVID MIDDLETON

49 Fairfield Drive, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3AG.

Would welcome references to the name Sparr. Andrew Sparr, aged 55, a retired seaman born Gateshead, appears on the 1851 Census at Bell Street, North Shields with his children Andrew (aged 31), John (aged 26), Ann (aged 22) and, Jane and Elizabeth (both aged 17). Elizabeth married John Thomas Middleton 1856 at Christ Church, North Shields.

2843 ADDISON LOWES

PO Box 305, Heidelberg, Victoria 3084, Australia.

Seeking information about 3 x great grandfather Joseph Lowes, joiner/cartwright, born c.1780's, and his son born Preston Village or Chirton 1818 and died 1890 Earsdon, a blacksmith at Earsdon and married 1842 at the Primitive Methodist Chapel at Earsdon to Eliz Graham of South Shields.

3234 NORA TAYLOR BERNIER

19 Sunny Acres, Baie D'Urfe, Quebec H9X 3B7, Canada.

Hetton Law School No. 3. I have a notebook with this written on the cover which belonged to great great grandfather Robert Brack, dated 18th November 1839; its contents are full of mathematical equations. Would like to know whether the title refers to a school, a place, or is taken from a mathematical textbook. Any information would be greatly appreciated.

3437 Mrs. CAROL MINSON

44 South Morning Ridge Drive, Gilbert, Arizona 85296, U.S.A.

Researching the Allendale Whitfields. In the 1600's there were at least 12 families in East Allendale from Catton to Swin Hope. Heads of these families were Hugh, Thomas (3), John (2), Richard, Ralph, William (2), Nicholas and Joseph; attempting to trace descendants of these families. Details of any Whitfield pedigrees or records would be appreciated.

Does anyone have pictures of any Northumberland Whitfields? I have pictures of Jane Whitfield born 1817 High Greenley Cleugh; also, pictures taken c.1870 of Jane's parents, Teasdale and Sarah (Bell) Whitfield who married 1816 Allendale.

Would be happy to pay expenses involved in copying and mailing any pictures.

3495 HELEN GREEN

12 Thornton Drive, Upton Park, Chester, Cheshire CH2 2HZ.

Would anyone be prepared to search the 1851 Census indexes for Northumberland and Durham for the following two families: Thomas and Jane Wilkinson, and Matthew and Ann Croudes or Cruddas? I can offer reciprocal research in Cheshire County Record Office.

3782 DENISE ALLISON

82 Carshalton Street, Croydon Park, N.S.W. 2133, Australia.
(email: dallison@ozemail.com.au).

Seeking information on Robert Allison, mason of Whitburn, and Margaret Peacock, parents of William Allison, bapt.1819 Whitburn, who married Mary Hutchinson at Whitburn 1842. Also, another William, possible brother of Robert. This William's son Robert married Ann Hutchinson 1846 Whitburn. Family lore has it that the Allisons were brought from Nottinghamshire by the Hedworth Williamson family to work as masons at Whitburn Hall.

Other names of interest include: Dunn, Dobson, Nicholson, Reed and Blain.

- 4014 Mrs. M. HARLAND**
PO Box 205, Palmyra, Western Australia 6157, Australia.
Researching: 1) Cairncross family of Gateshead. William Cairncross and wife Elizabeth nee Redfern married Gateshead 1883. Known issue - William 1884 (went to Australia), Richard 1886, Stanley 1888, Frederick 1890 and Clara Selina 1892. 2) Laura Blenkinsop was a witness at the marriage of George Cleghorn Nicholson and Jane Mary Fair in Zion Chapel, South Shields 1882, and John Knox Blenkinsop was a witness at the marriage of Frederick Graham Downes and Mary Ann Bell at Christchurch, Gateshead 1883. Who were these Blenkinsop's thought to be related to the bride on both occasions? Does the Zion Chapel, South Shields still exist?
- 4025 Mrs. J. LLOYD**
68 St Mary's Walk, Middlesbrough TS5 7SD.
Researching the Elder family from Newcastle 18th-20th centuries. Also, the Dick family from Newcastle; particularly, John Dick, policeman, who died mid-1800's. He was married to Elizabeth Blacklock from Dalkeith, Scotland.
- 4043 Mr. F. PHILLIPSON**
55 Whitecroft Rd., West Moor, Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 0EY.
Seeking the birth of William Phillipson who married Margaret Tomlinson at Kirkwhelpington 1719. Other interests: Crowther of Elswick; Boulding of Matten; Tate of Armagh, Northern Ireland.
- 4107 Mrs. P. TEBBS**
10 Ainthorpe Close, Burdon Park, Tunstall Village, Sunderland SR3 2DE.
Seeks descendants of Thomas and Elizabeth Scott who came from Newburn but from 1836 lived in the coal mining areas around Kelloe, County Durham. They had several children, one being Mark Scott who had two sons. Descended from George born 1856, but Thomas born 1847 had several children including Mark, named after his uncle. Also interested in George Scott's wife Ann Mason born 1868, she had a brother Hedley Mason, and their parents George Mason and Ellen Moody. Ellen's father was John Moody (1800-1852) who was a blacksmith, as were her brothers Andrew and John.
- 4229 Mr. C.E. NEWTON**
Eastlands, 49 Lockton Ave., Heanor, Derbyshire DE75 7EQ.
Would like to hear of any instances of the surname Newton in the Lanchester and Esh area prior to 1840.
- 4262 DEREK A. THWAITES**
6 Kinloch Drive, Heaton, Bolton BL1 4LZ.
Does any reader have facts about the following: 1) Elizabeth Parkin, born Copley 1847, married John Charlton 1867. 2) Margaret Thompson, born Stanhope 1821, married Joseph Charlton 1844. 3) Jane Bateman of Alston Moor, born 1771, married John Charlton 1792 at Allendale. 4) Margaret Teasdale of Allendale, married Joseph Charlton 1770. Would also like to receive information regarding James Thwaites, probably a doctor, brother of Thomas Bowe Thwaites of Bishop Auckland, who may have lived at Wolsingham in 1850's before emigrating to America. Any references would be most welcome, particularly relating to his destination in USA.
- 4328 Mrs. SYLVIA HACKERS**
3 Orwell Close, Biddick Hall, South Shields, Tyne & Wear NE34 9JT.
Looking for birth/baptism of great grandmother Ann Steel, born Ann Wilson, who died 1903 at Leadgate, County Durham aged 59. She was 22 when she married John Steel in 1865 at St. Andrews, Newcastle. Their first child John was born 1866 at Bellingham and subsequent children, William, Francis, James and Isabella, were born at Medomsley. According to the Census, Ann was born at Blyth but no trace found.
- 4434 Mrs. BERYL CHESTERTON**
10 Emily Place, Cherrybrook, N.S.W. 2126, Australia.
Searching for the birth/baptism of Martha Ward, daughter of Edward and Ann Ward, born c.1808/9 at Whitehouse near Alnwick; not in the Alnwick registers or on the Northumberland IGI. Her mother died at North Shields in 1830, and Martha married John Veitch at North Shields in 1831.
- 4606 Miss L. CHIPCHASE**
23 Farmers Row, Blackburn, Lancs BB2 4NN.
Ancestor Hannah Bertram (married a Chipchase) born Houghton-le-Spring (per 1851 Liverpool Census), New Layton, Durham (per 1881 Liverpool Census), and Redmill, Durham (per 1891 Census). At Fatfield when married. What was correct place of birth/baptism?
- 4519 FIONA A. EASSON**
4 Monkridge, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE26 3EQ.
Seeks descendants of Ralph Gray, born 1850 (Villa Place, Newcastle, eldest of 11 children of George Gray and Deborah nee Thompson. A butcher by trade, he married Charlotte Richardson (1876 St. John's, Newcastle). Five known children: Frances (1877), Kate (1879), Mary (1880), Charles (1883) and George (1886). Family moved to South Shields pre-1886 and Ralph is listed as a butcher there until 1894; then, no trace. Enquirer descended from Ralph's youngest sister Sarah Isabella (Sissie), born 1868.
- 4642 Mrs. VAL CHALMERS**
199 Rushgreen Road, Lymm, Cheshire WA13 9QY.
(email: chalmers@argonet.co.uk).
Looking for any information on the following families: Surtees along both banks of the Tyne, and in Ebchester; Scott, Ogle, Feldwick, Pickard, Johnson and Glacken, all of South Shields; and Chalmers and Barrett in Rotherhithe.
- 4659 WALTER STEWART**
Traigh Mhor, Port Carlisle, Cumbria CA5 5DQ.
Would like information on Charles Carden Bishop, dentist/surgeon, born Brighton 1856, his wife Margaret Ann Stewart, born Sunderland 1855, and their family: Jane Margaret Carden Bishop, born Brighton 1879, Emma Louisa Bishop, born Brighton 1881, from the 1881 Census; were there later children?
Charles Carden Bishop was in practice in Sunderland in 1877 at 49 Nile Street, and in 1881 at 71 Hendon Street. He registered with the British Dental Association in 1878, but they have no further details of his career. Was there a local medical or dental association at that time?
- 4716 Mr. ROY SINCLAIR**
12 Regent Road, Ryhope, Sunderland SR2 0PP.
Seeking descendants of Alfred Simpson (b.1884 Cornsay to Ann Simpson and Harrison Wright Lowes) married Elizabeth Mole 1912 and had John 1913 and Hannah 1914 at Langley Park. John married Ada Toward (b.1914 to Ralph William Toward and Lily Turnbull). Hannah Simpson married John William Clark (son of William Clark and Barbara Bone) and they had son Barry Clark (b.1941 Sacriston) and Doreen.
Other interests: Henderson, Rutter, Scott, Wears (Weardale); Beck, Waggot, Kell, Gowland (Stanhope); Pattinson, Culley, Johnson, Armstrong, Oyston (Brancepeth); Glenndinning, Wray (Esh); Redhead (Brandon); Blakey, Nicholson, Claughan (Sacriston and Witton Gilbert); Agar (Langley Park); McIntyre, Rogers (Langley Moor); Windale (Darlington); Rennison, Armstrong, Gott (Durham City); Bradley, Gibson, Simpson (Hamsterley and Copley); Robinson, Butterfield (Barnard Castle); Redden, Firmin and McPherson.

4717 Mrs. ANGELA BRAIDFORD SINCLAIR

12 Regent Road, Ryhope, Sunderland SR2 0PP.

Seeking information on the following cousins and their families: William Wilson b.1929 Ashington; Margery Cooper b.1926 Birtley married Alfred Frederick Hill at Heworth 1945; Gladys Eleanor Cooper b.1932 Wardley married James Anthony Roy at Heworth 1954 and had James D. Roy 1960 and Marjorie A. Roy 1962; William Edward Cooper b.1936 Wardley. Are any members researching the descendants of Robert Wilson, bapt.1777 Pitlington, who married Hannah Carr of Bournmoor at Penshaw 1800 and brought up 12 children in Hetton and East Rainton?

4819 PHIL WILLCOCK

Via Orazio Vecchi 13, 50127 Firenze, Italy.

1) Information sought on Docherty families of Glover Row, Wallsend. Charles Docherty married Elizabeth McCoy 1872 at Our Lady & St. Columba R.C. Church, Willington Quay - witnesses included Catherine Collins and Elizabeth Riley. John Docherty married Bridget O'Neil 1878 at the same church with the same witnesses and a Peter Docherty. Was Peter a brother? The father of Charles and John was given as Charles. Where in Ireland did they originate and was Alice Docherty who married John O'Neil c.1873 a sister?

2) Researching Robinson and Watson families of Newcastle. 1871 Census gives Margaret Ann Watson aged 15 living at Gibson Street, Newcastle with mother Jane; father Thomas, a mariner, was presumably at sea. Margaret Ann married William Henry Robinson at All Saints, Newcastle November 1871. William's father given as William John, and a Robert Robinson was a witness. Any information on these families would be welcome.

4972 Mr. T. CHILTON

Mayfield, Tame Bridge, Stokesley, North Yorkshire TS9 5LF.

Rebecca Amy Meggett and Andrew Croudace, engine fitter, had a son Andrew Gascoyne Croudace born January 1876 at 10 Bolt Street, Newport, South Wales. On his birth certificate Rebecca is described as "wife of Andrew Croudace" but no marriage has been found in the St. Catherine's House indexes. Any information on the marriage, Meggett family, or a check on the 1881 Census for Newport for the family would be appreciated. Details regarding Amy are also sought.

5222 Mrs. P. GIBSON

8 Brunton Avenue, Fawdon, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2PT.

Great grandparents Hugh Cochrane and Margaret, nee Oliphant, were married at Kirkmabreck in 1836; they had a daughter Hannah. A Hugh Cochrane was born c.1810 at Inch, Co. Down, Ireland, son of John Cochrane and Hannah, nee Mossey. Is this the same Hugh Cochrane? Does anyone have any information regarding Margaret Oliphant's parents?

5403 PETER MORTON

8 The Haywain, Stanway, Colchester, Essex CO3 5YG.

Seeking details of some Morton marriages and movements 1870's onwards; probably Leadgate/Lanchester/Chester-le-Street areas. The following children of John and Mary Morton; marriages of James born 1855 and Mary born 1859 (after 1881), Hannah born 1857 and Jane born 1861 (between 1871 and 1881).

5428 Mrs. M. ZISSLER (nee DIXON)

34 Wicklow Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2HQ.

Seeking baptism of (Capt.) Joseph Dixon, (1818-1867), born Blyth; married Margaret Dodds (1822-1881), born Blyth. Known children: John (1848-1859), Annie (1851), Joseph (1853), Aaron (1858-1919); and hopefully, confirmation for Charles G.W. (1856-1916), known to be son of a Capt. Joseph Dixon, who married Sophie Ferguson 1880 at North Shields Presbyterian Church. Would also appreciate any early details of Thomas Veitch, native of Simonburn, born late 1770's school master of the Blue Coat School, Durham City; married Jane (Brooks) Harding, native of Whickham. Still seeking the baptism of their first son John Harding(e) Veitch born 1803 Swallow.

5498 Mrs. JACQUI WHEELER

14 The Close, Bulkington, Nr. Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 1SR.

Researching Sugget(t) or Suggit(t); especially John Sugget married Elizabeth Littlefair 1821 Gateshead, children: George (Offerton), John (Houghton-le-Spring), Mary Ann (Hetton-le-Hole), James (Hetton), William (Chester-le-Street), Thomas (Old Shildon) and Jane (Lamesley). Seeking information on George and Jane Suggett, farmer of Newbottle, children: Edward (1828), William (1831) and Eleanor (1832).

5562 Mrs. E.M. REDHEAD

10 Park Drive, Forest Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 9JP.

James Scott, railway clerk, born 1864, son of John and Mary Scott, lived Rutland Street, Westoe in 1891, married Ursula Jane Ella in 1884, children: Mary c.1885, Francis J. (Frank) c.1888 and Ursula Jane Ella 1891. Frank married Frances who lived at Railway Cottages Jesmond and South Gosforth 1930's and 1940's. Two of her children were Doreen and Ursula, one of whom lived in the Hunters Road area. Would like to contact any relatives.

5593 H.E. DREW

Francis Lodge, Windermere Rd., Thundersley, Essex SS7 3HZ.

My great great uncle Robert Moore Leslie was an artist. He painted "Miners at the Beaumont Seam at Oxhill/Oxlip(?) Colliery" [Oxhill Colliery, Stanley - Ed.] which was exhibited for many years at Stanley or Annfield Plain Library until refurbishing work in the mid 1970's. Does any member know what became of the painting? Contact with the Arts, Libraries and Museums Dept. at County Hall, Durham, and Beamish Museum has not produced any information. Are the whereabouts of any other works by him known to members?

5696 Mr. R.C. ROBERTSON

Ashtree, Station Road, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex CO16 0HF.

Seeking information on the Robertson family of South Shields: Archibald Robertson, master mariner, and wife Margaret; son Robert Bowman, shipwright/carpenter, baptised 1815, married 1839 to Mary Ann Nicholson (1812-1856); children - Margaret (1839-1864), Elizabeth and Mary Ann Champlain, born 1841, John Nicholson, butcher, born 1842, Robert Bowman, mariner (1844-1884), William Laidler, born 1849, and Thomas Campbell (1850-1856).

5760 Mrs. W. COUSANS

28 Endsleigh Drive, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS5 4RG.

Interests: Elgie/Elgey (Stockton, 18/19th century); Monkman Stockton, 1900+; Raybo(u)ld (Stockton, 1800+); Grant (Berwick upon Tweed, Jarrow, Gateshead, Newcastle and Middlesbrough, 1800+); Renwick (Alnwick and Berwick, 1800+); Cairns (Norham and Berwick, 1750+); and, Stewart (Learmouth, Ford and Norham, 1750+).

5771 BRYAN CONNELL

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

Researching: 1) Descendants of John Gallagher and Margaret O'Neil married 1868 St. Mary's RC Cathedral, Newcastle. He may have come from Derry, Ireland and possibly son of Rose and John Gallagher, tailor. In 1856 he was a witness at his sister Bridget's marriage to Patrick McGinty, and in 1869 at her second marriage to Richard Carr. 2) Parents and siblings of Benjamin Johnson born Gateshead c.1839. In 1881 he was living in Berwick upon Tweed with his wife Bridget and three children Mary Anne, Benjamin and Edward. He was a labourer and possibly the son of Benjamin Johnstone and Ann Wilson. Family tradition has it that the Johnsons were originally Swedish with the name Johannson.

5775 Mrs. RUTH JENNINGS

3 St. George's Road, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 2HG.

Can anyone help to connect the following **Armstrongs** to each other, to Joseph **Catherall** of the *Hexham Courant*, or to his wife's family of **Whinfield**. 1) Michael Armstrong, printer, Hexham c.1830's. 2) Sarah Armstrong of Low Leazes, daughter of Nicholas Armstrong, Customs Office, Newcastle, married Thomas Neild **Cathall** 1847 Hexham. 3) Thomas Armstrong of Low Leazes in 1881, printer and editor of the *Hexham Herald*, son of William Armstrong, traveller, Newcastle, born c.1809 Haltwhistle. 4) Joseph Armstrong c.1804-1863, proprietor of the *Newcastle Courant*, born St. John Lee, son of Joseph Armstrong of the Brewery, Priestpopple, Hexham.

5826 RICHARD STONEBANKS

15 Hocombe Wood Road, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hants SO53 5PN.

Stonebanks(s) - One Name Study. Robert Stonebanks, baptised 1795, named his children born in North Shields, Thomas Parkinson, Ralph Cole and William Ayre. William Ayre has been repeated down the generations. The first child, John Davidson, was named after his mother's maiden name, but why the others? Are they 'famous' names in the North Shields area? Could there be a maritime connection? Any Stonebank(s) enquiries welcome.

5901 Mrs. HILARY FOX

Oakley, Wellesley Close, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 1QP.

Researching **Heppell/Hepple**. Seeking information about Lionel Tristram Heppell, birth believed to be c.1877, son of Lionel Tristram and Eleanor (nee **Goodman**) Heppell of Oakden Street, Kennington Road, Surrey. Believed to have been employed by a gentlemen's club in London and alleged to have gone to the U.S.A. in the early 1900's. Known siblings: Beatrice born 1876, Edmund 1879, Jessie, Marian and Walter.

5940 PEARL COLLINS

4 Porter Street, Moama, N.S.W. 2731, Australia.

Great grandparents John Collier, shoemaker, son of Joseph Collier, labourer, married 1855 at Brompton, Yorkshire to Jane Bulmer, daughter of William Bulmer, weaver, and Mary Ann Tonar. Mary Ann was daughter of James Tonar. John was living at Crook, County Durham and Jane at Brompton at the time of their marriage. Jane had been baptised at Brompton 1832. William Bulmer and Mary Ann Tonar were both living at Leith, Midlothian when they married in 1837.

5959 IVOR LEE

25 Wainbody Avenue North, Green Lane, Coventry CV3 6DD.

Seeks baptismal details of:

- 1) Ann Errington who married Thomas Whittle 1826 Houghton-le-Spring. She appears on the 1851 Census for Usworth aged 41, born Durham, Dunplington Hall [sic]. Where is Dunplington Hall?
- 2) Elizabeth Griveson/Greeveston who married Thomas Lee 1836 Bishop Middleham. On the 1881 Census she was described as aged 65 born Durham, New Lambton; the 1871 Census gives Houghton-le-Spring as her birthplace. Any information gratefully received.

6026 AUDREY PORTER

88 Warwick Road, St. Annes, Lancashire FY8 1XL.

Seeks information on: 1) William Wilson Carr, born 1849 Wylam, son of Thomas Carr, born c.1817, and Hannah Wilson, born c.1818. 2) Elizabeth Ann Hindmarsh, born 1837, father Edward Hindmarsh of West Rainton. 3) Matthew Innes born c.1836 Brandon. 4) George and Susannah Mole born c.1850 Hetton le Hole.

6027 Mrs. J.M. SAMBROOK

2 Durrant Close, Holland Park, Rhyl, Denbighshire LL18 4NX.

Seeking possible marriage of widower George Johnson, miner, to his general servant Sarah Jones, born South Shields or Shropshire, both single on 1851 Census. Five known children, first Eleanor born 1851, last Sarah born 1870; lived Westoe, South Shields between 1851 and 1881. Also, Richard Finlay married 1797 Gateshead to Margaret Flett, both OTP; four children baptised 1804 to 1810 to Richard Finlay and Margery/Margaret Flett/Fleck.

6046 Mrs. CYNTHIA WILSON

11 Camira Close, Port Macquarie, N.S.W. 2044, Australia.

Information sought on the marriage and descendants of Robert Armstrong and Jane, children: Mary, William, John, Jane and Ann. 1851, 1861 and 1881 Census show Robert as agricultural labourer living at East Acomb and Bywell St. Peter's. His place of birth is given as Whickham c.1791-93 and Jane's as Warden c.1815-21.

6051 Mrs. MARGARET J. WEST

6 Berens Road, Shrivenham, Swindon, Wiltshire SN6 8EG.

Seeking information on:

- 1) The Hettle family anywhere in Northumberland and Berwickshire but especially in the Glendale region.
- 2) Middlemiss/Middlemist also of the Glendale area and who attended West Chapel, Wooler.
- 3) John Heron, father of Mark Heron who was living at Little Ryle near Whittingham in 1766.
- 4) Family of Eleanor (Nellie) Arkle who was born 1813 Alwinton.
- 5) Thomas Pringle, born Lowick in 1807, and his wife Elizabeth Hornsby.
- 6) The bondager system which operated in north Northumberland in the last century.

6080 DOROTHY RALLI (nee BREWIS)

6 Moogerah Street, Duffy, ACT 2611, Australia.

Trying to trace birth details of William Brewis, butcher, late of Seaham Harbour, born Embleton c.1828. His wife was Mary Anne Donald and he had a son James born Seaham Harbour 1856; did James have any siblings?

Also, birth and marriage details for Michael Pattinson, plumber and gas fitter of Sunderland, father of Thomas George Pattinson born c.1851. Would also welcome information on Thomas Worthington, father of Elizabeth who married David Cole 1848 at Monkwearmouth.

6140 Mrs. MARY STEDMAN

50 St. George's Road, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9LG.

Seeking descendants of James and Emily Scott of the Express Hotel, Westgate Road, Newcastle (early 1900's), later of 378 West Road, Newcastle (1940's), and son Norman Scott of the Northumberland Arms, Northumberland Street, Newcastle.

6151 PATSY PATTERSON and

6152 IAN PATTERSON

3 Pool Road, Hadhall, Shrewsbury SY4 4BG.

Seeking any information about James Johnson and family of the Stamfordham area. This family of stonemasons were responsible for repairing Alnwick Castle and for the figures on the battlements. We believe this was c.1760; any information or guidance appreciated.

Also, information on Calley Ramsay who married 1802 at Chester-le-Street to Mary Holmes. Calley supposed to be a family name derived from the connection with the castle at Callander, Scotland; what was the connection? And, looking for any reference to John Ryan whose daughter Eleanor was born 1817.

- 6160 Ms. W.J. FAIRCLOUGH**
7 Daphne Street, London SW18 2BJ.
1) Rev. James Taylor (Primitive Methodist minister in Crook 1875 to 1907). Interested in information about his life, his ministry and his family, and recommended sources of general information about the Primitive Methodists in the area. Also James' wife Elizabeth Maddison and their daughter Annie. 2) John Clough whose son Leonard married Jane Fothergill in 1840; their son Leonard married Margaret Dove in 1874 and had a son Richard in 1876. Margaret Dove's parents were Edward Dove and Ellen Johnson. Interested in any information about these families who lived in and around Bishop Auckland.
- 6187 Miss P.J. WRIGHT**
2 Tyldesley Square, Thorney Close, Sunderland SR3 4PG.
Seeking information on Robert Thompson Taylor, born Hylton Ferry 1810, foreman shipwright. Also, Annie Moffat, born Castle Eden 1871, married George Herring Wright, domestic coachman; and his mother Mary Svenson, born Chester-le-Street 1839, husband a mariner. Their other children were: Joseph, Jane A., Elizabeth and Thomas W., all born Sunderland.
- 6252 MARGARET R. BURGESS**
191 East Boundary Road, East Bentleigh, Victoria 3165, Australia.
Following the Johnson family in the Hexham/Plankey area. Also, Natrass and Hope of County Durham.
- 6253 BRUCE CHILTON**
22 Dolphin Lane, Northport, New York 11768, U.S.A.
(email: bchilton@suffolk.lib.ny.us)
Seeking information on: James Chilton, died 1796 Ryton, married Margaret? 1762 Ryton, children: Mary 1763, Fortune 1765, George 1768 (baptised 10 April 1768, died 1836 New York) and James 1781, all born Ryton.
- 6271 ANN LEESON**
5349 Monte Bre Crescent, West Vancouver, British Columbia V7W 3A7, Canada.
Seeking the marriage between John Lieser/Liecer (born Germany c.1829) and Elizabeth Trainer (born Scotland c.1834); family located on 1861 Census at North Shields. The same John Lieser/Liecer later married Mary Burn (born Ireland c.1834) at Carlisle 1863 and they took up residence at Bishop Auckland. Found at Bishop Auckland on 1871 Census but not 1881. One 1891 Census for Bishop Auckland, have found Mary Lieser/Liecer, their son Thomas and visiting married daughter Mary Harwood, son in law William Harwood and grandsons John Robert and James Laurence; no trace of John Lieser/Liecer. John's occupations varied from waterman, musician, hawker, instrument maker. Any information or suggestions?
- 6362 Mrs. S.H. CLARK**
259 Rosalind Street, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 9AZ.
Seeking information on the following: William Tweddle married Elizabeth Cawthorn (Sleekburn 1883), issue: John Thomas 1891, George 1892. James Briggs married Elizabeth Hughes (when, where?), issue: Mary Ranson born 1898 Escomb, Bishop Auckland.
- 6406 TIM TAYLOR**
11 Minley Avenue, Harborne, Birmingham B17 8RP.
Seeking marriage of William Taylor to Sarah Bullerwell, who appear on the birth certificate of son Nicholas Thomas born July 1852 St. Nicholas, Newcastle. William and Nicholas Thomas were both shipwright/blacksmiths. Cannot find a marriage registered for Bullerwell so this could be a former married married or maiden name, the marriage being recorded vice versa. Contact from any Bullerwell descendant might help. Also seeking ancestors of Thomas Dinsdale born c.1821 Trimdon, son of John Dinsdale, keelman. Thomas' daughter Mary married the above Nicholas Thomas 1854 Sunderland. John Dinsdale possibly married Catherine Bone/Bowen. What could the entry on IGI of "Keel, Sunderland" mean. Were John Dinsdale's children born on his keel?
- 6450 BARBARA HARDING**
300 Black Jack Road, Valley View, Texas 76272, U.S.A.
Seeking information on George Glendinning, son of John and Elizabeth Wood Glendinning, born 1829 at Carham. George was on the 1841 and 1851 Census with his parents but not on the passenger list when they emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1854. George was counted as a child still, living when his father died in 1886 in Shullsburg, Wisconsin; there was no location of children listed, so George may have stayed in England.
- 6496 ISABEL C. TAYLOR**
'Fionn-Erne', 30 Manor Gardens, Blairgowrie, Perthshire PH10 6JS.
Researching Hutchinson in the Haltwhistle, Coanwood, Rowfoot, Parks area. William Hutchinson, farmer, born Haltwhistle c.1775, married Mary Watson, born Alston c.1775, daughter of John Watson, miner of Middleton in Teesdale and his wife Margaret. Family born between 1802 and 1822; John, William, Mary, Robert, Matthew, Jane, Thomas and Margaret. Matthew married: 1) Mary Bell, 1842 and had family, Ann (1843), William (1845) and John (1847); 2) Margaret Spottiswood, daughter of George Spottiswood, miner of Alston, and Jane Pearson, family, Mary, George, Jane and Margaret.
- 6549 MIKE DUNN**
44 Stevens Lane, Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0TH.
Seeks information about the Dunn family at Wallhouses near Matfen. William Dunn, husbandman, believed to have died c.1840 leaving a widow Mary (nee Harle) and eight children. His son Thomas Dunn, blacksmith, was at Wallhouses when his first wife Margaret Ann (nee Mordue) died 1840 "in childbed". In 1841 he married Ann Smith, daughter of shoemaker Thomas, at St. John's, Newcastle but she was at Wallhouses for the birth of their son John in 1844. John married Margaret Smith at Bishopwearmouth in 1871 and went on to serve as Chief Engineer on the vessel *Seaham Harbour* at the age of 37.
- 6588 TERRY GLENDENNING**
91 Newgate Street, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 1BZ.
Seeking the forebears of John Glendenning, 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 of George Glendenning, 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 Glendenning of Tweed Street whose son Wilson died 1867 aged 15, and another George William Glendenning whose son George William was born 1865 at Lawrence Street: both were journeyman 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.
- 6600 Mr. ERIC BELL**
26 Buckstone Oval, Leeds LS17 5HG.
Looking for connection by marriage between the Bell family of Villa Place, Westgate, Newcastle on 1851/61 Census and Market Place, Cowpen in 1881, and Mrs. B. Scott, daughter of Waldegrave Brewster (1813-1888), Archdeacon of Prestwich and Middleton, Manchester from 1810 until his death.
- 6642 Mrs. BRENDA GRAHAM**
2 Keeble Court, North Seaton, Northumberland NE63 9SF.
Researching Thomas Stokoe (engineer) born 1845 Corbridge, apprenticed to John Jameson, Bywell St. Andrew in 1859, married Anne F. (Ferranti?) born Sunderland 1852; first child Margaret born Blaydon 1871. Family eventually resided Prince Consort Road, Gateshead. Daughter Mary born 1876 married George Welsh Aynsley born Tynemouth 1873/4 to Anne Welsh, father not known but possibly a John Welsh, seaman, North Shields. George and Mary married Venerable Bede Church, Gateshead 1897, he was described as gardener of Cullercoats. On 1881 Census, George Welsh was living at Monkwearmouth with grandmother Margaret Welsh, born West Rainton 1812. His mother Anne Welsh married William Aynsley who was verger of St. Paul's, Whitley Bay.

6643 FRANCOIS BOISTON

125 Rue Leon Blum, Allee 1, 69100 Villeurbanne, France.

I am looking for information on anyone, anywhere with the name **Boiston**; particularly interested in the link between people in France and England with the name. The oldest Boiston known in France is Francois Boiston de Morteau en Franche Comte, born 1616, died 1687. The oldest Boiston known in England is George Boiston, farmer of Elsdon, born 1708, died 1798. All occurrences of the name Boiston seem to be in Tyne & Wear and Northumberland area.

[See member 6808 - Ed.]

6661 A. BELL

2393 Stryker, Fort Lewis, WA 98433, U.S.A.

Seeking information on:

- 1) Nicholas Bell, yeoman of Stanington, born 1751, married Ruth Robson of Whalton 1779.
- 2) John Bell, spirit merchant of Gateshead and North Shields, born 1780, son of Nicholas and Ruth, married Elizabeth Brown of Whickham 1803.
- 3) Martin Bell, butcher at Stranton, born 1804 in Gateshead, son of John and Elizabeth, married Jane Armstrong 1835.

6664 P.R. KERRY

15 Stanley Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 1DA.

Researching **Cunningham** in Morpeth, Hebburn and Jarrow areas. William Cunningham married Jane Walker at St. Paul's, Jarrow in 1800. William's father, also William, married Isabella (surname not known), possibly at Morpeth or in Scotland. The marriage in Scotland could have been at Abercorn, West Lothian and the bride's name Muckle (or Meikle). Also researching **Fairweather** in South Shields 1750-1850.

6668 HOWARD MACNAY

32 Beechwood Park, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8NL.

Looking for help with his **MacNay/McNey/Macknay** ancestors, originally from Tweedmouth. Thomas MacNay was married to Alice and they had five children baptised from Spittal 1782-1790. Thomas and his family moved to Wallsend and where the name appears as Magna before eventually settling on MacNay. A grandson Thomas was born in Wallsend, and he eventually became the Secretary and Area Manager of the Stockton and Darlington Railway. There were also MacNays and MacNeys at Simonburn and Haltwhistle, but the connections are not known.

6691 Mr. R.A. HARRISON

24 Chalky Road, Mile Oak, Portslade, Hove, East Sussex BN41 2WF.

Seeking information on the family of William Dykes and Ann Dykes nee Robinson, at North View Tynemouth c.1900 and later North Seaton Road, Ashington. Also, the family of William Harrison and Margaret Harrison nee Lillico of Ashington c.1900.

6698 Mrs. JOY AINSLIE WATSON

1 Causey Foot, Nelson, Lancashire BB9 0DT.

Would be grateful for any help with the following queries:

- 1) William Blaney/Blayney, first wife Ann Bennett, son Joseph died Monkwearmouth 1909. Second wife Mary Taylor, married Liverpool 1848; where did they live in Sunderland, and were there any children?
- 2) Joseph Blaney married Monkwearmouth 1892 to Elizabeth Ann Gray (1846-1918), daughter of John Gray. Son John (1870-1952) married Kate Gosden (1867-1941) and had seven children.
- 3) "Uncle Palmer", possibly David Palmer, connected with the Blaney/Gosden family c.1898 aged about 50 and may have been a solicitor and shipowner.

6708 Mrs. LOUISE A. HUGHES

164 Waddens Brooke Lane, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV11 3SJ.

Names of particular interest: **Longstaff, Hudson, Washington, Summerside, Boag, Thwaites and Shotton**, of the Kelloe, Trimdon, Shincliffe, Houghton-le-Spring, Boldon, Westoe, Newcastle, Longbenton and South Shields areas.

6725 GORDON GARDENER

R.R.#3, Durham, Ontario N0G 1R0, Canada.

Looking for information on **Charles Hay** and son **Henry Hodgson Ogle Hay** of Sunderland (married **Elizabeth Black** 1845) and their son **Henry Gilbert Hay** born 1849 (married **Grace Liddell Kirkley** 1872). Their children: **Percy Lancelot Hay** 1874, **Frank Hay** 1877, **Kate Fawcett Hay** 1879 (married a **Richardson**) and **Alice Hay** (married a **Herdman**). Also researching **John Lister**, born before 1634, died after 1697, married **Margaret Marlay**, son **Robert Lister** (married **Jane Rea** 1693) and their offspring **John Lister** died 1765 (married **Mary Garthhouse** 1729), **Ralph Lister** (died before 1769) and **Robert Lister**. The Lister family owned property in Jackson Street, Gateshead for several generations.

6748 MIKE TOOGOOD

28 Moorside South, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 9BB.

Interests:

- 1) **Toogood** families and related names, **Clark** and **Jobson**, etc., who are show people who attended the annual Newcastle 'Hoppings'.
- 2) Would appreciate any references to 'military' Toogoods.
- 3) Interested in military research regarding the Durham Light Infantry and Northumberland Fusiliers.

[The local branch of the Orders and Medals Research Society meet at the DLI Museum, Durham at 7.30p.m. on the first Monday of each month, other than January and August, and new members are always welcome - Ed.]

6763 Mrs. SHEILA ROBERTS

43 Spring Lane, Littlemore, Oxford OX4 5AQ.

Isabel Ann Marshall, born 1873 Dunston, married 1895 to **James Best**, born 1876. Their parents were **Robert Best**, son of **James**, married **Mary Gregory** 1872. Her parents were **Thomas** or **Henry Gregory** and **Alice Millington**. **Robert Marshall** married **Ellen Cook**. Any information on these couples would be appreciated. The families lived in the **Swalwell, Whickham** and **Dunston** areas.

Also trying to find information about a house called 'Abode of Love' which is believed to have belonged to the Marshall family. It was sold c.1929 and became **Dunston Mechanics**, **Dunston House** (Working Mens Club).

6779 PAT ABLETT

15 Oban Avenue, Maybury Road, Kingston upon Hull, East Yorkshire HU9 3NH.

Researching grandmother **Elizabeth Edwards**, born ?1885 Tynemouth, or possibly Blyth. She married **David Walkington** 1905 at Morpeth. He had moved from **Bridlington** looking for work and was a bricklayer in the pits. Family tradition is that **Elizabeth's** father was a Scottish sea-captain. **Elizabeth** and **David** had eight children and in the 1920's the family moved back 'south' to Hull. Any clues or pointers would be welcome.

6793 NITA WHITAKER

1215 16th Avenue, Clarkston, Washington 99403, U.S.A.

Researching the family of **James Hedworth** and **Jane Stokoe** who married 1826 at Ryton. Children: **Dorothy** 1826, **Margaret** 1828, **Ann** 1830, **Jane** 1831, **James** 1834, **Charles** 1836, **Anthony** 1837, **Elizabeth** 1839 and **Hilary** 1841. **Dorothy** married **William Jackson Thwaites** 1852 at Marylebone, Middlesex and had five children in England before emigrating to Canada. Interested in any ancestors or descendants of the **Hedworth** and **Stokoe** families.

6796 D.G. CLARKE

31 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5ES.

Seeking information on the ancestors of Thomas Stephenson Rowntree born in Sunderland 1818. Particularly interested in resolving doubts as to his precise date of birth (probably 9 June) and his true parents (probably William Stephenson Rowntree and Mary Ann Hunter).

6799 Mrs. A. OWEN

'Penfro', Bryn Gardens, Newtown, Powys SY16 3DR.

Needs help in tracing the family of Jane Douglass, born c.1836/7, daughter of Joseph Douglass. The family is believed to have lived at Hexham at some time and it is thought that there were railway connections.

6803 JOAN M. THORLEY

126 Oxford Road, Stone, Nr. Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 8PT.

Would be grateful for any information or help with:

- 1) James Thorley, born 1833 Scarborough, married Ann Stokoe, born 1837 Newcastle.
- 2) Mary Ann Potts, born 1886? Newcastle, who married grandfather George Thorley in 1904. Mary Ann's father Edward Potts was a blacksmith of Edward Street, Newcastle.
- 3) Charles Hyde King, born 1800 Leicester, married Elizabeth Hensbrough of Hull and moved to Hartlepool between 1851 and 1861.
- 4) Thomas Gibbs born c.1864 Pershore, Worcestershire married Jane Bruce born Ulverston c.1886.

6808 Miss. C.B. WHEELER

24 Warwick Gardens, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0RA.

Interested in the names: Boiston, Armourer and Green of the Elsdon/Otterburn area. [See member 6643 - Ed.]

6812 JANET WARKCUP

3 Bertona Drive, Mudgeeraba, Queensland 4213, Australia.

Researching the names of Warkcup/Warcup, particularly in the Dinnington and South Shields areas. Could anyone advise about adoption records for Gateshead c.1912? Trying to trace details of Florence Walton born about this time, daughter of Margaret Walton, a domestic servant of Ord Street.

6813 GEORGE W. HARPER

Santisstr.4, CH-8123 Ebmatingen, Switzerland.

On the wedding certificate of great grandparents George W. and Elizabeth Harper, their fathers' names are given as Charles Harper, rope maker, and Heckling McFarlane, joiner, but no other information is known. On George W. Harper's indentures dated August 1854 (when he was 13 years old), it states that he was born at South Shields. Any information would be appreciated.

6816 JANETTE K. HICKS

27 Western Drive, Claybrooke Parva, Lutterworth, Leicestershire LE17 5AG.

Researching mother's family which originated in Walker, Newcastle. Particularly interested in great grandfather Davison Bainbridge who married Isabella Punton and they had fourteen children including grandmother Eleanor Jane born 1911. Davison was listed as a dredger waterman on Eleanor Jane's birth certificate. Can anyone help with information about the family, or the job of a dredger waterman?

6817 JOHN O'KEEFE

205 N. Franklin Avenue, Madison, WI 53705, U.S.A.

(email: jkeefe@itis.com)

Interested in searching the Kirkwhelpington, Thockrington and Hexham areas for the Pigg surname, and the Hetton-le-Hole area for both Burdis and Pigg.

6819 Mrs. A. GERAGHTY

24 St. Andrewgate, York YO1 2BR.

Any information would be appreciated on: Henry Watson Moor, photographer of Newcastle. His known children - Lily Jane born c.1866 married Frederick Watson on Boxing Day 1893 at Newcastle Cathedral, and George Watson Moor born c.1873 married Sarah Timney at St. Dominic's Priory Church, Newcastle in 1900. Also any information on the family of Sarah Timney born 1875, the illegitimate daughter of Mary Ann Timney.

[As St. Dominic's is a RC church, presume Newcastle Cathedral would be St. Mary's RC Cathedral - Ed.]

6829 Mrs. P.E. BREWIS-CARR

9 St. Peters Terrace, Farnworth, Lancashire BL4 9AZ.

Trying to find more information about John Thomas Brewis, born, according to the 1891 Census, at The Allotments, near Earsdon, son of Thomas and Sarah. Where is 'The Allotments'? [The Allotment and West Allotment about 1-2 miles south west of Earsdon on OS map - Ed.]. Father was born 1851 at Willington.

6835 Mrs. ANNE ROBERTS

Petria House, Kells Place, Carlisle CA3 9DT.

Researching:

- 1) Swindle/Swindale of Nenthead and Allendale. 'Lost' Jane Swindle, daughter of John, after her marriage to Robert Bell, Nenthead 1869.
- 2) Ed/Edd/ Eadington. Help required regarding the marriages of John Edington to Isabella c.1788, and of their son John, born Brandon White House 1796, to Ann of Lowick c.1840.
- 3) Heron of Great and Little Ryle and Hartside. Looking for marriages of Mark Heron to Margaret Jackson of Barmoor c.1800, and of their son John Heron to Eleanor Arkle c.1835. Who erected the stone, and when, to mark the place where Eleanor (Nellie) died in a snowstorm December 1863? Has anyone heard of Mireshall, Nenthead where John Walton lived with wife Betty Lattimore and their son Isaac born 1809?

HELP OFFERED

2361 COLIN WANLESS

15 Hillcrest, North Seaton Est., Ashington, Northumberland NE63 9SH.

- 1) Has transcribed the 1891 Census for Cambois and Pegswood.
- 2) Has the 1891 Census on microfiche for various places in south east Northumberland including Bedlington, Blyth, Cramlington, Earsdon, Longbenton, Seaton Delaval.
- 3) Also has the 1891 Census for Haltwhistle on microfiche. Will look up specific information for a SAE.

Mrs. JANET ROBINSON

34 Hampden Avenue, Wahroonga, N.S.W. 2076, Australia.

Mrs. Robinson has an Index of Master Mariners of (mainly) South Shields, which currently has about 1300 names including those taken from Lloyds Captains Register 1869, M.I.'s and baptismal records of South Shields, 1858 Maritime Directory, 1852 Lloyds Register etc. Also gathering information on Pilots of South Shields for an Index. She will check these indexes in return for a 43p British stamp (or equivalent) to pay the postage.