

CONTENTS

Vol 25, No 2

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Editorial	34
A Midwife Accused	34
Letters to the Editor	35
News	36
Brown Burials	37
Searching for my 42nd Cousins	by Christine Hawkins 38
The Dufours	39
Timothy Hackworth: 150 Years On	by Lilick Loring 40
Burke's Ear	41
Tracing Your Family History in Northumberland and County Durham	by Geoff Nicholson 42
The Egyptian Connection	by James Blenkin 44
An almost unknown Genealogical Resource	by William Neil 45
The Auckland	by James Blackwood Weatherill 46
Cholera and the Andersons	by David Morris 47
The Librarian looks at some New and Old Items at Bolbec Hall	50
Twenty Years Ago	51
The Hutton Connections	by Gerald Pearce 52
Burials at Smithesdale, Victoria	53
Newcastle Stobarts	by Walter Stobart 55
NDFHS Audiotape Library	by Edith Styant 57
Members' Interests and Queries	58
More Burials at Smithesdale, Victoria	65
Advertisements	66
Diary	68

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Durham Wills 1858 CORRECTION

We have been informed by Durham University Library Archives and Special Collections that no original wills survive for 1858 (see last journal, Spring 2000, p22). The only available documents are the Register Copy Wills which are bound into large volumes, making it impossible for photocopies to be provided.

Researchers might like to note that the Durham Wills (but not Administrations) are available on microfilm at Morpeth Record Centre.

We apologise for any disappointment the article may have caused.

WANTED PLEASE!

BOLBEC HALL needs more **VOLUNTEERS** to staff the Centre and help new members. **Monday mornings and Tuesdays especially, but offers for any weekday will be much appreciated. Shifts last 3 hours, 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm. Please contact Sheila Senior or Gerry Langley.**

INDEXERS for various ongoing projects, e.g. merging two large card indexes bequeathed by Don Mason and Bill Rounce; transcribing parish registers in Record Offices; inputting data (very easy!). Please contact Gerry Langley at Bolbec Hall if interested.

EDITORIAL



Geoff Nicholson's article on Monumental Inscriptions reminds us of the value of gravestones (or MI's as they are generally called by family historians), as a source for family history. A few churchyards in the North-east had their MI's recorded by local antiquarians before the First World War, but from that time to the early 1970's, very little was done to carry on the work. Then a tiny group, mainly founder members of the Society, started on what was essentially a rescue operation. The aim was to record as many as possible of the pre-1851 gravestones as a first step, in the assumption that census returns from 1851 onwards would help towards revealing the family groups that MI's so helpfully record. I have more than once heard critics say that it was 'wrong' to record only the pre-1851 stones; but, in the face of the rapid deterioration of our burial grounds, the need was urgent and the workers few. The critics were not around to help in 1970.

Since the 1970's, however, a very large amount of MI recording has been done, but much remains, and in the fine weather which this summer will hopefully bring, more volunteers will sally forth with notebooks and recorders to carry on the good work. Whether your favoured spot is an ancient or Victorian churchyard, a cemetery, or a yard where the post-1851 stones have as yet to be recorded: if you are interested in recording the MI's, don't forget to check with Gordon Corbett, our MI's co-ordinator, before you start. The work may already have been done, even though it may not yet be available to researchers. Given the all clear by Gordon, liaise with the local church/cemetery authorities, and take a few friends to help with the copying; it can be lonely and time-consuming work if you tackle it by yourself.

Finally may I back up Geoff's warning on the reliability of MI's as a source for research, recalling Samuel Johnson's dictum on gravestones: 'In lapidary inscriptions a man is not under oath'!

The Society has welcomed a very large number of new members these past few months, hence the unusually lengthy Members' Interests pages. You should in this *journal* be able to find a form to complete for the latest NDFHS Directory of Members' Interests. This undertaking would not have been possible, were it not for the generous offer by Raymond McSorley to compile the Directory on our behalf - an enormous amount of work for which the Society will be more than grateful. The Directory should make its appearance some time in 2001.

With so many new members, and considering the large number of overseas readers who may not be familiar with British archives, I have taken it upon myself to try out a new idea in this *journal*. Whether ordering books or fiche from the Society, or simply organising a day's research at one of our Record Offices, it is important to have a clear idea of just what research areas to plan for. It is becoming increasingly difficult to book a place in any Record Office, and in the bustling atmosphere of the search rooms, where time is at a premium and concentration is sometimes difficult, a written research plan in the form of a check-list can help to keep one on the straight-and-narrow.

Accordingly, I thought I would try an experiment: a photocopyable checklist of the 54 indexes of the 1851 census for Northumberland, to test the water among the readership. Whether you feel that such a list is useful or not, do drop me a line. I have in mind to appeal for other ideas for checklists but need to know whether this is an idea worth pursuing before I do so. As always, unless you are able to send an e-mail, please note that I shall only be able to answer those of you who send the traditional stamped addressed envelope or two International Reply Coupons. Should your response be favourable, I hope to produce a Durham checklist in the next *journal*. There are I believe some 100 indexes for Durham and it is very easy to miss some of them when pushed for time.

A MIDWIFE ACCUSED

This short but quite fascinating notice in a Tyneside newspaper shows just how useful that source can be to add some depth and colour to a family tree. The original newspaper can be seen at the Local Studies section of the Central Library, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Newcastle Courant, Saturday March 23rd, 1782

Whereas about the 9th February of February last, Mrs Elizabeth Richley, Midwife, in Corbridge, being called to the wife of John Scott, living at Portgate, who was then in labour, and I believe from the Thursday until the Friday, when I was sent for to give my assistance; accordingly I went along with the said John Scott, and in a few hours relieved his wife; since which time Margaret Taleford having blamed wrongfully and falsely the said Mrs Richley, and endeavoured to take from her, her character: And to confute the above false reports, I do hereby declare, that Mrs Richley neither had done, nor did anything, but what every prudent and careful Midwife ought to have done.

As witness my hand, this 15th day of March, 1782

RA JEFFERSON, Hexham. Surgeon and Man Midivife tic.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ken Brown, of 33 South Bend, Brunton Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 5TR, writes:

The 1851 enumerator was perfectly correct when he described a birthplace Newcastle, Northumberland. Whilst he need not have written Northumberland, he was simply being precise, surely not a fault.

In my lifetime as a Newcastle schoolboy, office boy, clerk, airman, sales executive and genealogist, the city and county of Newcastle upon Tyne has geographically been within the county of Northumberland.

If the census place was somewhere outside the boundaries of Newcastle and within the county of Northumberland, the enumerator of 1841 would write 'Yes' whether the householder was born in Newcastle or Northumberland. Similarly if the census place was in Newcastle.

Anyhow, when I've located a family in the 1851 census and then from the birthplace given I have found the same family in 1841 I couldn't care less what Henry IV did in 1400.

Incidentally Queen Elizabeth in a charter of 1589 described the 'castle within the town of Newcastle, Northumberland'.

The enumerator was perfectly correct and as the whole object is tracing ancestors EN Quirer's observations are irrelevant and trivial.

Andrew Hindmarsh, of 10 South Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7AG, writes:

Geoff Nicholson (Tracing Your Family History in Northumberland and County Durham, *Journal NDFHS*, Vol 25 No 1) notes that 'The Swedenborgian, or New Jerusalem church has the distinction of having been founded in 1787 by a Northumbrian, Robert Hindmarsh (1859-1835) a native of Alnwick'. The statement is strictly true, but he was not in Alnwick for long. He almost certainly left Alnwick at the age of five when his father, James Hindmarsh, went to run an inn near Dunbar. After a very brief return to Alnwick, the family went to Kingswood School, near Bristol, when James was appointed by John Wesley to be one of the Masters there. When he left Kingswood School at the age of 14, Robert was apprenticed to a printer in London, and it was there that he played a leading role in the founding of the New Jerusalem church in 1787. However, by 1789, he had either left or had been expelled (depending on whether you believe his friends or the remaining members of the church).

As the only relative of mine (Robert is my first cousin six times removed) who merits an entry in the Dictionary of National Biography, I have taken a close

interest and the story of both James and Robert Hindmarsh is an extraordinary one. For further reading I can suggest the following:

Journal of John Wesley (for an account of a revival at the School in 1770 led by James and involving Robert)
Any major biography of Wesley (e.g. Robert Southey 1820 *Life of Wesley*) for a scathing indictment of James' role in the "revival"

Robert Hindmarsh 1861 *Rise and Progress of the New Jerusalem Church*

Charles Odhner 1895 *Robert Hindmarsh, a Biography*

According to Robert (see *Rise and Progress*), New Jerusalem preaching began in Newcastle in 1807, though it was not until 1823 that the Percy Street chapel was opened. A Mrs Birch (previously Norman) from Stepney, near Hull, gave no less than £450 towards the cost, which must have been a substantial proportion of the total, and a Mr Coulson advanced a loan of £200.

Fred Kennington, of 35 Corbar Road, Stockport, Cheshire SK2 6EP, writes:

I write concerning the insert in the *NDFHS Journal Vol 25 No 1*, on a request for information on smallpox cases by Professor Shooter. This is a piece from my family history.

According to family legend, the most recent of which was given to me by a 90+ year old lady with a good memory, my great, great grandfather had died from a contagious disease.

This man, William Dods, was a blacksmith with his own smithy at Bonar Steads, Berwick on Tweed. He was described as having been a powerfully built man in good health.

The story is that a little girl who was in the habit of coming to the smithy had died of some contagious disease after a short illness. Nobody would touch her body to put it in the coffin so William Dods did so. He contracted the disease and died not long afterwards.

I checked his death certificate for September 1864 and found his death had occurred from smallpox. He was aged 44 and left a wife, one son and six daughters. No other member of the Dods family died at the time. Whether any had the disease and recovered is not known. Neither has it been possible for me, at least to date, to find the death of a child which fits in with the story.

That is the story in a nutshell. If it has been of interest to readers who wish to know anything else about the family, please get in touch with me.

NEWS

ST MARY'S CHURCH, WILLINGTON

Is your family linked to St Mary's?

All family historians are aware of the importance of church records. St Mary's, the Parish Church of Willington, in Wallsend, has embarked on a project that may help future genealogists. .

As part of our Millennium Celebrations we have commissioned a new set of windows for our west wall. Anyone who has any connection with St Mary's or Willington Parish may sponsor one of the panes. Sponsors will be asked to provide a written dedication of up to 20 words which will be published in a special Window Dedication Book. The book will be held as part of the church archives.

Sponsors may wish to use the Project to celebrate the birth of a child, a baptism or a wedding, or to remember those they have lost. Sponsorship costs £25 and all proceeds will go towards the cost of the window, estimated to be £15,000.

For a sponsorship form please send an SAE to St Mary's Vicarage, 67 Churchill Street, Wallsend NE28 7TE.

We hope that you will find the site both informative and interesting. Why not visit the parish information pages with parish maps and details of parish registers? This is just the first stage in a continuing project to make our documentary resources more widely available.

Yesterday Belongs to You 5

The first four Yesterday Belongs to You events attracted between 1000 and 2000 visitors and we are hoping for an even bigger turn-out when the north-east's biggest local and family history day is held at County Hall, Durham, on Saturday 7th April 2001.

Local and family history societies, record offices, museums, libraries and re-enactment groups will all be there and ready to talk to you, discuss your enquiries, give you the benefit of their experience and sell you their publications.

The event is organised and hosted by Durham County Council. For further information contact David Butler (0191 383 4200; [e-mail: record.office@durham.gov.uk](mailto:record.office@durham.gov.uk)) or Iain Watson (0191 383 4478; [e-mail iain.watson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:iain.watson@durham.gov.uk)).

NEWS FROM DURHAM RECORD OFFICE

Durham Record Office Talks, 2000-2001

Each of these talks will be given by an archivist at the Durham Record Office, County Hall, Durham. They will be held on Saturday mornings, starting at 9.00 a.m. and finishing at 12 noon.

Cost is expected to be approximately £5.00 per person.

Saturday 7 October 2000 Maps
Saturday 4 November 2000 Coal Mining Records
Saturday 2 December 2000 Poor Law Records
Saturday 3 February 2001 Taxation Records
Saturday 3 March 2001 Title Deeds

Further information and a booking form may be obtained from the County Archivist, Durham Record Office, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL. Telephone: 0191383 3253. [Email: record.office@durham.gov.uk](mailto:record.office@durham.gov.uk)

New Durham Record Office Website

You have been able to contact us by e-mail for over a year now at record.office@durham.gov.uk, but from Friday 8th April 2000 you will be able to visit the Record Office's new website at www.durham.gov.uk/recordoffice.

TYNE & WEAR ARCHIVES 25th ANNIVERSARY OPEN DAY

Staff at Tyne & Wear Archives Service would like to thank all those who joined them on Saturday 25 March. The Open Day was part of the celebrations to mark 25 years of the Service. Staff presented a series of talks and workshops giving visitors expert advice on such wide-ranging topics as palaeography, tracing the history of a house, and the care and importance of photographs and film. 'Awesome Archives' celebrated the more gruesome aspects of local history, and visitors had the rare opportunity to take a look behind the scenes on a tour of the Conservation Department and the strong rooms. It wasn't just an easy day out, though - visitors were encouraged to participate in our general quiz and caption competitions. Staff are still chuckling over the caption competition entries, but congratulations go to regulars Fred Furness and Wendy Stafford, who each won theatre tickets and a selection of local history publications. The Archives Service would also like to thank the NDFHS for joining us with their extensive range of leaflets and publications, and for making a valuable contribution to the day. We would welcome any feedback from visitors, to help us plan such events in the future ... when we've recovered from this one!

CREW LISTS UPDATE

by Kath Rolph, Principal Archivist,
Tyne & Wear Archives Service

In the article in the Spring 2000 issue of this *journal*, entitled, 'Crew Lists and "Clip": *The Crew List Index Project*' it was stated that there are no crew lists held by record offices in North-East England. I am happy to report that this is incorrect¹.

Tyne & Wear Archives Service holds crew lists and agreements of home service and foreign-going vessels for the port of North Shields, 1863-1910 (except for the years 1865, 1875 and 1895 which are part of the 10% sample selected for retention by the National Maritime Museum) and of fishing boats for the same port, 1890-1914. The Service also has some crew lists and agreements for the port of Newcastle, South Shields and Sunderland, though these are very sporadic.

These crew lists are currently being catalogued onto a new computerised database, CALM 2000. The system incorporates a sophisticated search package which will eventually enable researchers to look for the names of ships, ship owners and even individual crew members without the need to pore over lengthy paper catalogues or work through vast quantities of index cards, but simply at the touch of a few computer keys. Work began on the foreign and home trade series of crew lists for the port of North Shields in Autumn 1999, and by the time you read this all the lists for the first year, 1863, will probably have been input. It is a slow business and likely to take several years to complete, but in the meantime the Archives Service does have plans to enable researchers to access information held on the CALM 2000 system through new computer terminals to be installed in the public search room at Blandford House in the near future.

h) Northumberland County Record office holds crew lists for the ports of Berwick and Blyth.

THE IRISH SECTION AT BOLBEC HALL

by Godfrey Duffy

I am delighted to inform all Bolbec Hall library users with Irish ancestry that the Irish Section is now in place. Already on the shelf are a number of interesting and useful books catalogued under 'IRE'.

They include John Grenham's '*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*', an excellent source book for beginners in

Irish genealogy. It is packed with information, including parish lists, maps and a section which lists for each Irish county extant genealogical material. There is also a section listing Genealogical Office (Dublin) material, most of which is now in the National Library of Ireland. Several years ago John worked in the GO and was a founder manager of the Irish Genealogical Project. The book is also for sale at Bolbec Hall.

At the other end of the range is Samuel Lewis's '*Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*' (2 volumes) which are reprints of Lewis's books published in 1837. They describe in great detail Ireland's parishes, villages, towns and cities. Also listed are major landowners, houses and industries. Lewis clearly defines parish names and boundaries for all religious denominations. There is a book of Irish county maps accompanying the volumes which is on order.

For those of us researching our Irish surnames and their origins, Robert Matheson's '*Report on Irish Surnames*' (1890 reprint) is an invaluable reference book that needs to be regularly consulted, and fortunately we have it in the Irish Section.

The Irish Section will be augmented as time goes by, and donations concerning Irish genealogy are most welcome. I have donated some published articles on Irish genealogy and a bibliography '*The Irish in Britain*' from my postgrad days (see IRE). I have also included '*Tracing Your Kerry Ancestors*' by Flyleaf Press, Dublin. This is one of a series (6 published so far, and the publisher intends to publish one for each of the 32 counties).

May I take this opportunity to thank Gerry Langley and Moira Furness for the enthusiasm and help with setting up the Section.

BUCKS FHS OPEN DAY 2000

BUCKS FHS will be holding its Open Day on Saturday, 22 July 2000, 10am to 4pm, at Aylesbury Grammar School, Walton Road, Aylesbury (south east of town between A413 and A41). Many attractions for Bucks. researchers including full Bucks. FHS library and other services, Bucks. County Records and Local Studies Service, Bucks. FHS Computer Group demonstrations, guest societies, commercial suppliers, and family history advice. Free admission and free car parking at school. Light refreshments.

BROWN BURIAL

From Aldborough, East Yorks burial register:

"Wm. Brown of Sunderland Master Mariner and John Campbell - a Scotch (sic) youth both thrown upon this coast and buried 17th April 1770."

SEARCHING FOR MY 42nd COUSINS

by Christine Hawkins

In the Spring 1999 edition of the journal *of the NDFHS*, the Editor asks if any of us had done a downwards family tree from around 1800, tracing an ancestor's descendants. Here are some of my experiences.

Among my ancestors is Thomas Hamson (1801-1874), a framework knitter of Hinckley in Leicestershire. He and his wife Lydia were my 3 x great grandparents. As I researched my descent from them, and read about the world they knew, I became very fond of them. They had successfully raised eight children during a time of extreme poverty, only escaping from the dreaded Workhouse because it was already full - at one time in the 1840s nearly half the town was living (or at least existing) "on the parish". "No work, no money and no hope" was a current slogan for the framework knitters of Hinckley. Many people, including Lydia at the age of 46, died prematurely, not officially of starvation but of the diseases that result from crushing poverty.

As I searched the cemetery for their children, finding some of them at rest beneath impressive headstones, it grieved me that Thomas and Lydia had no memorial. I toyed with the idea of asking permission to erect a small headstone for them.

Then, quite by chance, I discovered from a book in Hinckley Library that Thomas and Lydia had, for several decades, lived in one of the preserved 17th century framework knitters' cottages which now house Hinckley Museum - there was a facsimile of the 1841 census entry to prove it, an entry I now knew well from my researches. Thomas's existence was still shrouded in obscurity, however, as the historian had transcribed his name as Harrison!

My husband and I visited the cottage and were regaled with welcoming coffee - served not by Lydia's ghost but by the kind ladies of the Friends of the Museum. It occurred to me that Thomas must have many descendants who, like me, would be thrilled to sit inside the old home of a distant ancestor. But who were they, and where were they? In a moment of madness I decided to set about tracing as many of them as possible, and make a family tree for Thomas and Lydia as a memorial.

Assuming 25 years to a generation, and an optimum doubling of numbers in each, I "guesstimated" that I could possibly be looking for about 250 people by now. I forgot to add all the intervening generations together, giving about 500 in total, and it's probably a good thing I did, or I might never have started!

I began this project in the early summer of 1997. Now,

less than two years later, I have reliably identified well over 500 descendants, plus about half that number of spouses. Amazing as it sounds, I have also managed not only to eat and sleep, but to pursue quite a few other interests at the same time!

The beauty of working forwards is that, instead of ending up with daisies or dust in the family vault, you end *up* with real people. The journey from the 1841 census to the 1998 Phone Book can be frustrating and tortuous, but very rewarding. Of course, just because I find Bill Bloggs in the Phone Book doesn't mean I've got him right, but I hope he'll be able to confirm his hoped-for identity by delving in his own memory (and perhaps his granny's) to recall his own ancestry.

When I began I already knew about Thomas's children and some of his grandchildren, and I combed the Hinckley censuses to try to follow their fortunes. Thomas and Lydia were married in the Parish Church, but only because the law required it. They were dissenters, and they brought their children up as Congregationalists, so parish registers were of little further use.

One of my first courses of action was to abstract all the Hamsons from the St Catherine's (now the GRO) Indexes. There were never more than two or three of them in a quarter, so it didn't take too long, and it has been - and still is - of tremendous value. Thomas had three daughters, so I identified them and obtained their marriage certificates to find out their married names. Each time a new batch of surnames became available, I combed the cemetery in search of them.

I visited the chapel where many of the family had been married, in the hope of being allowed to see old registers, but apparently all their records were stolen a few years ago and have never been recovered. Who would do such a thing?! But chatting to some of the members gave me some useful leads, and no fewer than six of Thomas' family are commemorated in stained glass windows.

In Hinckley I was able to consult such sources as war memorials, rates books, old newspapers and books of local memories. There is still a great deal there for me to work on whenever I get the time to go there. In the Leicestershire Record Office I consulted censuses, electoral registers, school registers and log books, minute books, and all sorts of unexpected sources which popped up. A chapel accounts book, sensibly deposited before the thief raided the chapel, actually told me that Thomas paid a penny a week at church, in the days before they passed collection plates round. A

particularly useful source was the cemetery burial register. Of course, a death often leads to a will, and a will can be a wealth of information.

Then other family history societies can be useful. A fellow member of the Coventry FHS, reading of my interests, sent me a tree from her own family that contained 40 of the people I was looking for, just like that! Last year I advertised in Hinckley newspaper, and received replies from several descendants, telling me about many more. All these, of course, have to be carefully verified, and double checked if there is a shadow of doubt.

So far I have followed the easiest lines (people with less common surnames, for instance) but now I am working on some of the harder ones. Some of the descendants have been so inconsiderate as to marry Smiths and Jones's, but I'll get them all in the end! Naturally I'm having to restrict my purchase of birth, marriage and death certificates to a necessary minimum. I wish I could afford a birth certificate for each descendant, but I'm not so keen to have death certificates. They are very informative, but can be depressing - it's no comfort to know how many great great aunts died of softening of the brain!

At the end of the road, when I think I have identified someone in the Phone Book, I ask their local library to look up the address to find the names of the people who live there. When I'm sure enough of my quarry, I send them a "twig" from the family tree, showing their descent from Thomas and Lydia and ancestors before them, a picture-postcard of Thomas's cottage, and of course a stamped addressed envelope. Most times I get

very interesting replies, and a lot of people have sent me old family photographs.

It's interesting to see how occupations have diversified, though some are still in the hosiery trade in Hinckley, and one is making socks in darkest Africa. Some are still Congregationalists, worshipping in the same old family chapel, but it now has carpets, coffee facilities and toilets, and other such worldly luxuries that might have shocked Thomas.

His descendants are now all over the globe - even in Northumberland and Durham! They have married into just about every colour, race and creed. Some of the babies are being given the name of Thomas, but are sadly more likely to be named after a well-loved Tank Engine than a long-forgotten framework knitter.

By the way, Reuben Henry Hamson (1861-?) disappeared. An elderly cousin remembers hearing that he was the Black Sheep of the family and went to sea. He never came back. Has anyone come across him on ships, crew lists?

Now I'm waiting for the 1901 census to come out, so that I can see who I've missed. I know there are still many descendants to be found. It would have been simpler - and cheaper - to have set up a marble memorial stone for Thomas and Lydia, but I wouldn't have had half so much fun.

Editor's Note: If you are able to help Mrs Hawkins in her search for Reuben Henry Hamson, I'm sure she would be delighted to hear from you. Her address is 13 Olympia Hill, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 11H.

THE DUFOURS



When looking for 'missing persons' for our Family Trees we occasionally come across oddities which, for no specific reason, fascinate as they appear to be out of the ordinary. One such entry in the Whitfield Northumberland Parish Register was the birth on the 26th September 1803 of Joseph, 1st son of Joseph Dufour, Innkeeper, native of Landrecy, French Flanders, by his wife Ann, daughter of Francis Simpson, native of Bishopwearmouth, Co Durham.

On the 15th October 1794 Joseph Dufour married Ann Simpson at Newburn. Ann had been baptised at Bishopwearmouth on the 16th April 1769, the daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Simpson. They had family, baptised as follows:-

9 August 1795	Charles Joseph at Ponteland	
6 May 1798	Maria Elizabeth at Ponteland	She married John Bulman at Whitfield on 1 August 1818
December 1801	Ann Catharine at Ponteland	She married John French (how appropriate) in 1825
26 September 1803	Joseph at Whitfield	Married Frances Bright at Hexham on 9 November 1828
20 April 1807	Charles John at Whitfield	Married Ann Bushby at Hexham on 17 November 1728
4 January 1810	Francis at Whitfield	
23 May 1814	Henry at Whitfield	

It is intriguing that a Frenchman married a girl from Bishopwearmouth at Newburn, and then became an innkeeper at a remote village like Whitfield. It is possible that he was, originally, a refugee from the French Revolution.

TIMOTHY HACKWORTH: 150 YEARS ON

by Ulick Loring



This year is the 150th anniversary of the death of one of the north-east's great unsung heroes, Timothy Hackworth, sometimes known as the Father of the Locomotive, who was born in Wylam, Northumberland in 1786 and died in Shildon, County Durham, in 1850. Although he was never forgotten at Shildon, his memory survived for many years on a national level only in the shadow of George and Robert Stephenson, whose achievements were popularised in the mid-Nineteenth Century through the books of Samuel Smiles. In 1923 Hackworth's grandson, Robert Young, published *Timothy Hackworth and the Locomotive*, but it was in 1975 that Hackworth's achievements were marked in a truly substantial way. In that year Jane and Reginald Hackworth Young, also descendants of Timothy, were instrumental in having *Timothy Hackworth and the Locomotive* reprinted. They were also involved in having Hackworth's house, Soho Cottage, converted into a museum. This was opened by the Queen Mother on 17th July 1975, and a Hackworth Society was formed at this time. In 2000 *Timothy Hackworth and the Locomotive* will again be republished and a steam cavalcade will be held on the Stockton to Darlington railway at the end of August. The efforts to revive Hackworth's memory were far more than mere family loyalty, but were also attempts to keep alive the industrial archaeology, and in particular the railway heritage, of Shildon, once one of Britain's largest railway centres.

Robert Young's work was an account primarily of Hackworth's engineering achievements, and less a biography in the present-day sense. Although several pieces appeared in Methodist publications, they tended to be hagiographic in style. His family background was, therefore, dealt with as a side issue. At the beginning of the Eighteenth Century we find mention of a John Hackworth. He was the father of Thomas Hackworth, Timothy's grandfather. Thomas married Thomasin Stuart of Earsdon, north-east of Newcastle. Thomas, a blacksmith, moved around, his eldest son John being born in Newburn in 1747, and his youngest child Ann being christened at Ovingham. Thomas died in Wylam (in Ovingham parish) in March 1786. John married in Ovingham in 1781, Elizabeth Sanderson of Lower Cornsay in the parish of Lanchester. It was claimed that she came from a Jacobite family. This can only have been the Sandersons of Healey, near Slaley. However, this link has not been substantiated through her probable parents Francis and Hannah Sanderson of Lower Cornsay. Timothy, the eldest son of John and Elizabeth, was born in December 1786. John was foreman of smiths at Wylam Colliery, which was owned by the Blacketts of Wylam. Timothy at first worked under Christopher Blackett, and cared for the

family after John's death in 1804.

Around 1813 Timothy converted to Methodism and this was to be central to his life. However, his faith was one which he wore with a sense of *joie de vivre* and he was no puritan in the colloquial sense of the word, but for example enjoyed hunting and dancing. At the time of his conversion he was involved with William Hedley in the development, at Wylam, of the steam engines known as 'dillies', of which the most famous was *The Puffing Billy*. In 1814, Timothy married at Ovingham Jane Golightly who came from Weardale, and who was also a devout Methodist. Jane, perhaps unfairly, has an austere reputation since she forbade her husband from taking their children to inspect the family records. Her portrait shows a strong-willed looking woman with a comely face. She came from a remote and tough locality, and maybe she lacked her husband's sense of finesse. Ironically, in view of her apparent strictures on family history, her own ancestry can be traced back to the end of the Sixteenth Century.

In 1815 Timothy parted company with Wylam Colliery over his refusal to work on Sundays, and he moved to Walbottle Colliery where he worked on stationary engines. In 1825 George Stephenson asked the agent at Walbottle if he might borrow Timothy to superintend his works at Newcastle, since he himself was surveying the Stockton to Darlington Railway. Stephenson wished to retain Timothy, who eventually accepted the post of Resident Engineer and General Manager of the Railway. Here in 1827 he developed *The Royal George*, famous for its blast pipe and unique design of wheels, which are illustrated on the present-day £5 note. This was the first locomotive capable of working cheaper than animal power. In 1829 Timothy submitted an entry for the Rainhill Trials near Liverpool. This was *The Sans Pareil*, which is on display at the National Railway Museum. The other principal contender was Stephenson's *Rocket*, which won the competition. This created much acrimony in the Hackworth camp, and Stephenson was accused of sabotage.

However, Timothy never seems to have involved himself in this fracas, and his career as a locomotive engineer does not appear to have suffered from this temporary setback. In 1836 he sent what was probably the first passenger locomotive to Russia. It was accompanied by his 16 year old son, John Wesley. In 1837 he sent three of the first locomotives to Canada. In 1840 Timothy resigned from the Stockton & Darlington Railway to devote all his time to his own company at Shildon, where he had set up the Soho Works in 1833. Timothy continued as a successful locomotive builder for the remaining ten years of his life. Appropriately

his last steam engine was *The Sans Pareil No 2* built in 1849. Timothy died at Shildon on 7th July 1850. The death certificate described the cause of death as 'Typhus'. His funeral was the occasion of much grief for a man who was not only a skilled engineer, but also a kindly employer and a generous supporter of local causes. Jane, his wife, died in 1852.

The Soho Works were sold six years after his death. Of his eight children, John Wesley, also a notable engineer, was financially unsuccessful and his family suffered severe hardship. He became involved in the heated debate between supporters of Stephenson and supporters of Hackworth. There are no known living descendants of Timothy in the male line, although the lives of two grandsons of John Wesley, Timothy (b1885) and John Wolferson Hackworth (b1881), have never been accounted for. Two daughters died in asylums. A third daughter, Prudence, ran a successful

girls' school in Penrith. The line of the youngest daughter, Jane, was the most fruitful. She married George Edward Young, the son of Robert Young, who was engineman at Brusselton engine house. George Edward Young began life in the engineering field; but became a Methodist minister. Robert Young, Timothy's biographer, was their second son, and also a qualified engineer.

The third edition of *Timothy Hackworth and the Locomotive* is to be published soon, and may be purchased from The Hackworth Society, The Timothy Hackworth Victorian & Railway Museum, Soho Cottages, Shildon, County Durham DL14 1PQ. The cover price is £17.

Editor's Note: Rev Ulick Loring's address is: 31 Upper Church Road, St Leonard's-on-Sea TN37 7AS.

BURKE'S EAR

Moira Ruddick (Mem 3486) writes: "I am enclosing an excerpt from a book my grandfather wrote about life in North Shields as he remembered it. He was George Henry Park, born North Shields 1857, living all his life in either North or South Shields, he died in Alma Place (North Shields) in 1946. He was a great chronicler and an amateur artist".

She enclosed a photograph from about 1901, showing George Henry Park together with daughter Elizabeth Maud (1882-1958), twin sons George and Henry (b1884), and youngest son Hylton (1894-1982, father of Moira). Hylton's mother died when he was six, and "within a decade he lost two stepmothers, so it is not surprising he went off to sea as soon as he was old enough. He lost a leg in WWI, was invalided out of the Navy; went to University, becoming a dentist, and practised in South Shields until 1965".

George (the older twin) went to Canada, settling near Calgary. ~~He married and had a family, and called his homestead Westoe. Elizabeth followed her brother to a city, married and had three daughters. Henry~~ never married; he became an engineer, and for many years was in charge of an oil installation in Morocco. He retired to North Shields and died in 1949.

The extract quoted here is from text written in Hylton Park's own handwriting:

Mary Manners, an old maiden lady and friend of my grandparents (she lived to the age of 96 years and died in 1892), told me the residents of Milburn Place when attending Christ Church had to come by the Ropery Banks

(before the New Cut was made). When nearing Bedford Street end they had to go down the slope of the bank and cross over a stream there by a small wooden bridge (that part is still called the Wooden Bridge Bank) and up the Causeway Bank into Union Street and so on up to Church-way. In wintertime they nearly all carried their lamps or lanterns after dark. She used to tell terrible tales of 'former days' and warned us not to take any letters from anyone to any house whatever, for the "Burke and Hare" scare was quite rife in her days, and these notorious kidnappers were said to give children letters and money to take to some house, where they were taken in and seen no more. Burke and Hare however were convicted in Edinburgh, and portraits published in the press of them at that time. This led my grandfather (John Park) to believe that Hare was a man who visited his house, and given him advice concerning his birds, as they appear to have been bird fanciers. So my grandfather went to Edinburgh to identify Hare. It was a long journey then by coach. When he arrived and stated his business to the jailer, he was told he was too late, as Hare had turned king's evidence and discharged and gone off. But Burke had been hanged that morning, and he took my grandfather in to see his body. Of course he had not (crossed out) seen Burke alive (crossed out and 'before' inserted), but the jailer said you have come so far, would you like a piece of him, and so saying cut off one of Burke's ears and gave it him in a piece of paper. This is absolutely true, and we had that ear in our possession up till a few years ago, when in the possession of my brother William, it got lost somehow - it was preserved in spirit in a bottle.

Mrs Ruddick's address is 14 Moor Place, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4AL.

TRACING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY IN NORTHUMBERLAND AND COUNTY DURHAM

by Geoff Nicholson

WHO HELD THEM IN LOVING MEMORY? - MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

In a sense, family historians are continually seeking whatever traces our ancestors may have left behind them, whether in official records, in our family papers or wherever. However, we have one type of record which tells us literally what their contemporaries thought of them. That is their gravestone.

It should be said right at the outset that most people who died in the past did not have a gravestone. That was because such things have always been expensive and for a family, struggling perhaps to survive after the loss of a breadwinner, they were an expensive luxury they could well do without. A few very rough calculations to do with the number of burials per year in the registers of certain parishes during the period for which there are stones in the churchyard, the number of those stones and the average number of people mentioned on them, brings me to the conclusion that very roughly 5% of all people are mentioned on stones. As all the parishes considered were rural ones, and the proportion of those on subsistence level was probably always higher in towns, this figure is, if anything, probably on the high side.

Why have a stone at all? Well, in a parish churchyard of limited size, which was used and re-used for successive interments, a permanent grave marker may well have been a good disincentive against the grave being re-used and the bones of the family's forebears being thrown out to the charnel house. Even when the family themselves were long gone and there was no-one left to put flowers on the grave, that stone would continue to say that "So-and-so is buried here. Do not disturb: let them rest in peace!"

Very few people ever get to compose their own epitaphs, which is probably just as well. What is put on a gravestone is the combined wisdom and belief, about the person concerned, of their nearest and dearest. As far as the basic facts are concerned - name, date of death and age at death, plus possibly a relationship to some other person also mentioned, most inscriptions are as reliable as anything else we might come across. However, even when reading a gravestone, remember not to necessarily believe it to be true "just because it's there". The people who compiled that information might have been genuinely mistaken, especially about the age at death, or they may have been pushing the truth to its limits in order to make some point or other. It may even be that the stone mason made an error

when carving the inscription. There are several examples of stones where a surname has been spelled one way on one occasion and another way a few years later. To quote an example from the interesting churchyard at Ryton, an otherwise immaculate and imposing white marble stone very close to the church porch belongs to a family who, after having been parish clerks for a couple of generations, went on to provide the parish with medical men for a couple more. One wonders what they said when they discovered the mason had put the wrong date on the stone! There was no way of altering it so he chiselled the whole date out and on the otherwise-empty plinth, added - a PS! Wording such as a Biblical quotation or a sickly sweet Victorian verse, is usually best ignored, unless its choice is odd enough for one to conclude that perhaps it was chosen for its special significance. Sometimes the size and splendour, or otherwise, of a stone tells us something of what their relatives thought of them, or at least of the image they wanted to present to the public in general.

Nevertheless, gravestones can be an excellent source of information and often let us see a little more than does the entry in the burial register. Sometimes, for instance, the combination of people commemorated on one stone can be interesting, and tell us a little about which of their adult children and in-laws an elderly person was close to and which they were not. Sometimes an occupation is given, sometimes a more precise address than in the register and sometimes some comment is made which one is likely to have overlooked if reliant only on other sources, such as the comment on the grave of an old sailor, in Ryton churchyard, that he "Lost an arm in the service of his country at Trafalgar" or that in the same churchyard referring to a man who "fell down a shaft by the breaking of a chain". Sometimes it is possible to see how a family prospered, for instance by the adjacent stones to the Laycock family, also in Ryton churchyard. One, erected when the family were solidly well-off tradesman, is a large but plain slab of local stone, covered with inscriptions. The other, erected when the next generation had become seriously rich, is a "coped tomb" with a cross at one end, and has several different sorts of marble in it. The inscription is in an elaborate script, yet it mentions only one couple, instead of the numerous ones on the older stone.

Those who have never thought about gravestones before are often surprised to hear it said that the inscriptions should be recorded as soon as possible. They think that by being carved in stone they have been

made permanent and that transferring the information to flimsy paper can do little further to preserve it. However, stones left in a churchyard are at the mercy of all sorts of damaging agencies. Vandalism is the obvious one - and here I do not mean only the attentions of louts. Clergy who allow their churchyards to be cleared of stones, especially those who break the Law and do not arrange for proper recording beforehand (as has happened, to my certain knowledge) are just as much vandals as the drunken morons who think it fun to tip a stone over or smash it up. However, there are also natural hazards such as the weather for a stone to contend with. I know a case where one stone has half its inscription worn away, for no apparent reason - until one looks at a tree stump a few yards away. When that tree was a certain size, probably a century or two ago, its twigs would have been swept across the stone with every breeze and in time would have worn it away.

One hears a lot these days about how overgrown churchyards are effectively nature reserves and should be preserved as such. Twenty years ago it was all "tidy it up - get that clutter of stones out of the way so we can get large mowers in to cut the grass" and "We'll get more lucrative wedding bookings if we can guarantee a pleasantly-manicured lawn for the wedding photos: no-one wants a lot of gloomy tombstones around on their wedding day". The pendulum has swung but before long it may well swing back again!

Recording the inscriptions on paper, however, does allow them to be not only preserved but widely distributed and this Society has been able to do a lot, through the exertions of some of its members, to publish lists of inscriptions (or summaries of them), mainly on microfiche. Nevertheless, don't think that finding a note of an inscription on a microfiche or in a book is the end of the story. One should still endeavour to visit the site itself, as only that way can one get the fullest information from the stone. Sometimes a hurried transcriber does not have the time to record that last sunken line, which will always be the one with the final piece of absolutely vital information on it. Also, the transcriber may not have had your patience to really study an inscription which is on the border-line of legibility. There may well not be a plan of the churchyard with the list, so you won't be able to tell whether your family plot was on the southern (sunny) ~~side of the church or on the cold northern side, with~~ evil-doers, suicides, nonconformists and the excommunicated.

There was a definite pecking order when it came to getting the plum plots in the churchyard. Land-owners could be buried inside the church, with a well-protected and therefore possibly ancient, monument, but only the greater ones would be put in the Chancel and only clergy would be buried in the Sanctuary. Outside, a place as near as possible to the south wall of the chancel was desired, and that is usually where one

finds the yeoman farmers and well-established village families. There may be some later clergy, unable to get into the Sanctuary due to its being full or to modern regulations, who find it possible still to be nearest the altar by being buried just outside the east wall of the church. A quick look around a churchyard will soon tell you, from the style and apparent expense of the monuments therein, whether there was some special corner reserved for the high and mighty of the parish. One churchyard in our region has a definite "nob hill" where all the local 19th century coal-owners were buried together, as far removed as reasonably possible from their workers, where were consigned to other, less salubrious, parts of the churchyard. Such a thing will probably be difficult to spot when looking at a recorded list, but may be very obvious when on the ground.

Sometimes one gets groups of stones, all relating to the same "extended family", and all close to each other, so always be sure to look at other stones, close to that in which you are primarily interested, as they may belong to relatives. Remember also that unless the inscription actually says "Here teeth" or some similar phrase, the person concerned may not actually be buried there. One has only to add up the number of people mentioned on some of the larger stones to realise that they cannot all be physically buried in that one grave. What will have happened is that they were buried elsewhere in the churchyard but it was found cheaper to add a line or two to the existing family tombstone, rather than to erect a brand new one over the new grave. Sometimes the stone actually says that the person died, and/or was buried, elsewhere, in which case you will at least know where you stand and will have another angle from which to approach your research. Sometimes a new stone has been erected over a previously unmarked grave, and an inscription put on it, some time after the details have been added to a pre-existing stone, which results in the same person being mentioned on more than one stone.

Not all stones are what they seem: it is not unknown, especially when a family is still around and well-off after a few generations, for their old stones to be removed and replaced with brand new ones, bearing the original inscriptions, or at least what was thought to have been the original ones - again, with every transcription there is a potential source of error. In the 1920s Brig-Gen Sir Herbert Conyers Surtees MP had the ~~original Surtees stone against the south wall of Ryton~~ church encased in concrete, into which a copy of the inscription was impressed. Other stones may seem to break the general rule that ones older than the late eighteenth century are not normally found surviving in the open air. This may be because, as in one local churchyard known to the author, those whose family graves were inside the church had placed so many lair-stones, as they were then called, in their private pews, to mark the graves and provide a decent floor in the otherwise earthen-floored nave, that over time they had built up into a sort of crazy-paving in the church. When

a nineteenth century Rector decided to provide the church with a concrete floor those old stones were removed and deposited in the churchyard, some making a path; others in convenient corners. The largest, which must have caused the workmen a great deal of trouble, is just outside the church porch. One can imagine the workmen not wanting to take it an inch further than they needed to. In the same "removal" one lovely sixteenth century stone was placed at the top of the church drive, where it remained unharmed for a further century - until, indeed, the church modernised its heating system. Previously it had been coal-fired and the local coal merchant who made the deliveries was himself a regular member of the church choir, so great care was taken with that stone. All was well until the new system was installed. It was oil-fired and required deliveries from a large, extremely heavy, tanker-waggon. On the first delivery the stone cracked and before long it was in many small pieces. Probably no-one thought of that possibility when the new heating system was being discussed!

One more thing - when trying to read an old stone which can barely be deciphered, do try a few simple dodges. The simplest is to rub the stone with a handful of wet grass, or to dampen it in some other way. The writer was once on the point of giving up on a difficult stone, placed face upwards in a path (not a good idea!), when forced to seek shelter from a short summer shower. A few minutes later, with the shower over, he looked at the same stone, this time a rather wet one, to find the inscription was now quite plain for all to see. Some books will tell you to use side-light - go at sunset, they say, ignoring the fact that stones in English churchyards normally face east and so the inscriptions are in shadow at sunset. Wait until it is fully dark, others say, and use a torch to provide the side-light. I read that one in the same book that recommended taking a spade to dig up that last sunken line. What local people would think of anyone seen entering their churchyard after dark, and carrying a spade, is not mentioned!

THE EGYPTIAN CONNECTION

by James Blenkin

On the Thames Embankment in London stands the stone pillar known as Cleopatra's Needle. It is obviously not a needle, and its link with Cleopatra rests on its having been brought down the Nile to Alexandria, probably in the first century B.C., about the time when Cleopatra was dallying with Mark Anthony and Julius Caesar. It was actually quarried from red granite and covered with hieroglyphics during the reign of the Pharaoh Thothmes III, about 1500 B.C.

In 1820 the Egyptian ruler, the Khedive, presented the obelisk to Britain as a token of gratitude for the expulsion of the French. With masterful inertia and a deep reluctance to spend public money, successive British governments allowed over half a century to elapse until in the 1870's private benefactors raised the finances required to bring the obelisk to England.

Brothers John and Waynman Dixon, experienced civil and mechanical engineers, were appointed to supervise the transfer. John Dixon (1835-1891) was born in Newcastle upon Tyne and had been an articulated apprentice of the railway engineer Robert Stephenson, son of the famous George. John was assisted by his younger brother Waynman.

The Dixons designed a wrought-iron cylinder, superficially like a submarine, which encased the "needle", and which floated and could be steered and towed. This innovative craft was 92ft long, 15ft in diameter, and loaded had a weight of about 300 tons. She was, appropriately, named "Cleopatra".

The towing ship and "Cleopatra" left Alexandria in the autumn of 1877, but disaster struck on 15th October during a storm in the Bay of Biscay, when the tow parted and "Cleopatra" was lost. Remarkably she was soon sighted by another ship which managed to secure her and towed her into a Spanish port. From here she was towed to England without further mishap, arriving in January 1878.

On her arrival John Dixon took over again, and by spectacular engineering techniques lifted and mounted the obelisk into its present position on the Embankment, under the eyes of a huge crowd of people, including members of the Royal Family.

This saga of the successful transport of an ancient Egyptian monument from Alexandria to London was actually only one of many engineering tasks carried out by the Dixon brothers, who were involved in building the first railway in China, the first bridge over the Nile, and harbour works around the world.

It occurs to me that some fellow members may count John or Waynman amongst their ancestors and could possibly enlarge on their life histories. They were certainly two sons of the north east of whose accomplishments we might well be proud.

Editor's Note: This obelisk was actually one of a pair, the other being given by the Khedive to USA and erected in Central Park, New York in 1881. Mr Blenkin's address is 10 Maxholm Road, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B74 3SU.

AN ALMOST UNKNOWN GENEALOGICAL RESOURCE - THE BRITISH LIBRARY'S ELECTORAL REGISTERS

by William Neil

A couple of years ago, unable to access electoral registers (ERs) in the north east, I rang the British Library (BL) more out of frustration than hope, to ask if they could guide me to an alternative source. I was staggered to learn that they had many ERs and Poll Books going back to day one in 1832 (and some Poll Books from before then) - 65,000 volumes in all, taking up 1.864 miles (3km) of shelves and covering the whole country. Only a few readers use them, due no doubt because they are, in the main, omitted both from BL's General Catalogue of Printed Books - including its digital form - and also Gibson & Roger's *Electoral Registers Since 1832*.

The BL collection is unique; no other institution has such. Unfortunately for us, ERs were excluded from the requirement to deposit published works at the BL and therefore their holding is patchy, but complete from 1947. Prior to that date there are approximately 25,000 volumes held. This is also why they may not have survived locally in CROs and libraries.

I went along to the BL at their new HQ next to St Pancras Station to search the ERs, only to learn they could only be viewed back at the British Museum north entrance (Official Publications Reading Rooms), and that they had first to be brought up from the Woolwich Arsenal store (some 12 miles away), after I had ordered them. But knowing what to order was a problem in itself due to boundary, name, and other changes over time. There was a "guide" on how to locate your area and this was in two hefty volumes, which had to be consulted to pinpoint "your" street. Plunging into this for the first time was impossible for a newcomer, but I was fortunate to be given a generous 15 minutes personal tuition by the Library's ER expert Richard HA Cheffins. Staff had been aware of this problem for some time and I learned from Mr Cheffins that BL was about to publish a new compilation of the ERs, as a book, which lists constituencies in alphabetical order to provide much easier access to the records. He is the author of this book and it is a major work that must have taken some years to produce - imagine indexing, and explaining variant names etc. for 65,000 volumes! It also includes the BL's holding (small) of Manx, Irish and Channel Island registers, along with other lists. In addition he discusses that most important element - the franchise; i.e. who and when were the various types of members of society given the vote. For the family historian this is a crucial piece of information, since there would be no point in looking for someone who was not entitled to vote.

ERs are in address order, so to trace an individual the street name should be known to narrow down the search, otherwise it would be necessary to search much

of a volume; actually, if the time was available a whole town could be searched!

An ER volume can be big, and the ones from the 1928 onwards (when the voting age of women was lowered to 21) certainly are. Today a new ER is produced each year and it contains the names and addresses of some 43.2 million voters - the size, weight and number of volumes this requires can be imagined; adding another few dozen yards of shelving to the BL each year.

Therefore, in this article, I hope to do two things: a) publicise an effectively unknown resource; b) flag-up a reference work, which has only recently become available, and which acts as the key to unlocking a resource which might otherwise have remained an arcane collection.

A few words about Richard Cheffins' engrossing volume. Firstly, most of what is here in this short article is taken from it, and can only be paraphrases of his extensive explanations and listings, being by way of a taster of what is in it. I have therefore dispensed with the tedious insertion of quotation marks; if there are any errors in what is reproduced here then they are mine. Secondly, I understand that only a few hundred copies have been printed (I asked by local university to buy one, which they did), and, at only £39 for a book of this importance, they may soon sell out. The book is A4 size with 251 pages.

So, who was entitled to vote and therefore who is on the lists?

1. THE GREAT REFORM ACT OF 1832 - gave the vote to those who owned or rented property over a certain value, and moved the voting majority from the landed gentry (including the Rotten Boroughs) to middle and commercial classes on a money qualification e.g. a £10 per year householder as owner or tenant. It also required lists of voters to be published (but not compelled to be deposited with the authorities, unfortunately). However, all women (by using the phrase "male person") and five-sixths of men were excluded.

2. THE REFORM ACT OF 1867 - extended the franchise to all householders subject to a one-year residential and payment of rates qualification. This doubled the size of the electorate by including many urban working class men but excluding agricultural workers and servants. Males only continued - 2.5 million out of the population of 22 million.

3. THE REFORM ACT OF 1884 - extended the franchise from borough to county as the previous two had been

borough only, and increased the electorate to about 5 million. Males only continued - now two-thirds of adult male population.

4. THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT OF 1918 - gave the vote to all men over 21 (or over 19 if serving with the armed forces), and all women over 30, with a residential qualification. Universal voting came about in 1928, and the age was reduced to 18 in 1969.

In the chapter headed *How to find Electoral Registers in the British Museum*, the main points are as follows, but first note that there have been 9 boundary changes since 1832 - 7 since the last war!

1. Identify the period required.
2. Examine the Boundary Commission maps issued as parliamentary papers - these are on the open shelves. Do this in association with a map of Britain, or street map of urban area, and compare the two. This will provide the name of the constituency which can then be looked up in the alphabetical order list in the main section of the book. There are many pitfalls in assessing exactly where a location was, and this is the hardest part of the search, but expert and helpful staff will assist where there are difficulties.

It is suggested (in the book) that anyone visiting for the first time should phone in advance to the Enquiry Desk on 0171412 7536. It is possible to place orders by phone if the constituency is definitely known, otherwise a first visit will be needed, followed by a second to view the ER. They are due to move to St Pancras, but, even when that happens, paper-slip ordering will have to be retained, except for the more recent registers, since they are not contained in the main catalogue and therefore were not automated.

Pages 21 and 22 provide worked examples of the more difficult type of location and I would say that reading these before embarking on a search is essential.

References:

1. *Parliamentary Constituencies and their Registers Since 1832*, by Richard HA Cheffins, September 1998, 251p, 297x210mm, paper, ISBN 0-7123-0849-0 £39 UK postage inc. Can be ordered from: To British Library Section, Turpin Distribution Services Ltd, Blackhorse Road, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 1HN. Phone: 01462 672555, Fax: 01462 480947, [E-mail: turpin@rsc.org](mailto:turpin@rsc.org) Cheques payable to the British Library.
2. *UK - INFO DISK 4.1*, from SHOPS DIRECT (approximately £39) Phone: 01703 450450 [E-mail: mail@shopsdirect.com](mailto:mail@shopsdirect.com)

Editor's Note: William Neil's e-mail address is: william.neil@btinternet.com

THE AUCKLAND

by James Blackwood Weatherill



My maternal great-grandfather, George Henry Lepine, was a master mariner, and in 1863 was living at 20 William Street, Sunderland. One of his commands was the *Auckland*, a snow-rigged brig (twin-masted square-rigged sailing ship) of some 246 tons, 87.2 feet long, 57.7 feet in breadth, built in Sunderland in 1836. Her managing owner was William Hem, and the crew was as follows:

Name	Age, born	Position
George Lepine	45, Dover	Master dis.
Robert Hem	45, Tynemouth	Mate dis.
Robert Stonehouse	24, Sunderland	AB Cook dis.
Henry Jones	30, South Shields	AB dis.
John Brown	25, South Shields	AB dis.
George Green	21, Southampton	AB dis.
Andrew Miller	22, Southampton	Ordinary dis.
William Hem	18, Sunderland	AB dis.
Robert Hem	16, Sunderland	Ordinary dis.

Information also given was date discharged, last ship and date of joining the ship. In each case it was 16 November 1863, *Auckland* and 26 September 1863.

After loading with coal at the port of Sunderland the *Auckland* set sail for Hamburg in Germany on 23rd

October 1863. In the North Sea and nearing the coast of Denmark on 30th October, the ship was struck by a heavy sea which started the main stem and caused her to make a great quantity of water*. On 1st November the vessel sank in 15 fathoms of water. There was no loss of life, as before the *Auckland* sank the crew were picked-up-by the sloop *Ulrika Kure* of Alborg, Denmark, and landed at Copenhagen. The previous voyage of the *Auckland*, with the same crew, was also to Hamburg, and had passed without incident. The *Auckland* left Sunderland on 27th September 1863, and arrived back there on 14th October, the cargo on this voyage also being coal.

**Nautical terms meaning that the *Auckland* was struck by a heavy wave with such force as to loosen the planks around the bow, allowing water to pour through the resultant gaps.*

Sources:

Customs House Records (on film at Sunderland Public Library, Local Studies Section).
Crew List: Public Record Office, Kew BT99/141
Guildhall Library, London
Sunderland Herald 13th Nov. 1863, p.7 (on film at Sunderland Library, Local Studies Section)

Editor's Note: Mr Weatherill's address is 6 Wetherby Road, Grangetown, Sunderland SR2 9SW.

CHOLERA AND THE ANDERSONS

by David Morris

Having found that two of my ancestors died from cholera in South Shields in 1849, I was stirred to investigate in more detail the background to the Tyneside outbreaks which so ravaged the population at that time - particularly as I was looking for two other antecedents who disappeared between 1851 and 1861. These had been located in the 1851 census in Hillgate, Gateshead, a fatherless family living in shared accommodation, the details of which were to become all too clear as my investigation deepened. Hillgate and its neighbouring street Church Walk were covered by a Ministry of Health Clearance Order in 1932, and nothing now remains around St Mary's church to remind us of the living conditions there.

Plagues of various kinds have been recorded for centuries, but the first "modern" one, the Asiatic cholera as it was called, struck the North East in 1831, lasting from October until the following April. It brought terror to the population, originating in India in 1826 and reaching Britain via Moscow, no doubt through the Baltic trade. Winter months were the worst and the ports most affected, particularly those inhabitants unfortunate enough to be living in the insanitary streets near the riverside. The parish register of St Mary's is annotated by the curate on 29th October 1851, "the first supposed case of cholera in Gateshead" when Oswald Reay was buried. Local historians writing many years later questioned that judgement, but the matter is probably academic, and what is not in dispute is that 234 died there and 205 in Sunderland during the outbreak. Cholera was not confined to towns, however, as Newburn for example, with only 550 inhabitants, had 424 cases in Jan-Feb 1832, including the vicar. Compare the disproportionate effect there with the city of Newcastle, where a population of 53,000 yielded 1,000 cases, resulting in over 300 deaths.

The second outbreak came in September 1847, raging until February 1848, although in Europe generally it persisted until 1855. During this period total mortality in the Tynemouth and South Shields Unions was 1,171, Sunderland 435, Newcastle 412, Gateshead 292 and Durham 232. In Gateshead the Council was so alarmed that in 1849 an Inspector from the General Board of Health was invited to investigate the sanitary conditions of the town - one of the earliest instances of local government seeking central help rather than resenting interference. The enquiry was conducted by Mr Robert Rawlinson and the evidence was fully reported in the local press before his conclusions were published in 1850. The proceedings make fascinating reading, as they detail comprehensively the kind of living conditions which were obviously widespread in expanding Victorian towns and cities.

The inspector worked within wide terms of reference and obtained full reports from those local officials responsible for sewage, drainage and water supply, burial grounds, local boundaries, and bye-laws covering paving, lighting and cleansing. Population records were also noted: Gateshead had grown from 8,600 in 1801 to almost 25,000 in 1849, and the number of inhabited houses from 1,037 to 3,290. The vast majority of these were clustered on the hill leading down to the river crossing, and the industries were concentrated along the river bank: manufactories for iron, glass, alkali, soap and earthenware. It is hard nowadays to picture the conditions that such a concentration would produce, and therefore all the more interesting to come across a contemporary account in a radical news sheet of 1843, Peter Putwright's *Newcastle Register* ("A magazine of local literary and scientific investigation"):

"My correspondent requests me to ask the Mayor and Corporation of Gateshead about the state of "the dirty street leading to Newcastle" [as the Earl of Chatham had described it]. Hillgate is paved with good broad stone, but when you come to the worst part, especially for descent, you have nothing but very small stones, that sort of pavement which, when not attended to, becomes most obnoxious from the hills and hollows, rises and falls, and general unevenness with which it is invariably accompanied. The carts are endangered from their frequently rolling over to one side, and especially in such a narrow place, and the horses are endangered for, weakened by dragging heavy weights, they have not the strength to resist the fearful impulses from side to side which the inequalities of the street must necessarily produce. Foot passengers are thereby greatly annoyed, not only by being splashed in wet weather, but by running the serious risk of being jammed against the wall I suppose the Gateshead people will not repair Hillgate till some person is killed with the coal carts and a heavy fine laid on them: they have had warning enough about it. Newcastle is bad enough, but Gateshead has holes and corners and lanes and queer out of the way alleys in it a thousand times worse. At the low part of Hillgate where Messrs Haggie are making a new raff-yard the road thereabouts is absolutely bottomless! There should be planks laid down or some such plan adopted as would prevent people from being bogged and almost lost in their place I hope the Gateshead authorities will stir and set themselves in good earnest to put right this neglected street."

Pipewellgate, which ran parallel to the river, in fact averaged under eight feet in breadth incorporating back-to-back houses. Unconsumed smoke constantly issued from the many manufactories, and ventilation was extremely difficult. Light was also excluded. Cellar kitchens were common and the excess of damp permeated walls from the adjacent ashpits. The roads

had no side-channels for drainage. The inhabitants had nowhere to dispose of refuse water, excrement etc, other than to throw it in the street.

Peter Putwright's anger, moreover, encompassed these dirty conditions as well as the inadequacies of street construction:

"There is a good deal of dirt in Gateshead; more, I consider, than would be tolerated in Newcastle. All the butchers in Gateshead hang their meat out so far that any passenger runs the risk of spoiling his coat and hat, nay, even his pantaloons or breeches, from the contact into which he must frequently come with grease and blood continually troubling all who go by. It is quite impossible to detail the histories of dunghills or pigsties, of want of drainage, of dirt and filth of every description, of open drains becoming the very nuisances they were meant to prevent, of places which have recently been found uninhabitable on account of the damp, of the shocking state of entries or yards, of confined air and imperfect ventilation, of the immense number of instances of unwholesome numbers living in single rooms - of uncleared middenheads and noisome manufactures - of foul water, ashes, animal and vegetable refuse and dead cats, of filthy and abominable sloughs and unapproachable privies - of lanes made into privies altogether, and of such a want of accommodation that one portion of Gateshead have to go along the Tyne Bridge to the Newcastle side for necessary relief!"

Not that they would necessarily have found relief. In riverside Newcastle privy accommodation for the poorer classes was exceedingly deficient. "In Sandgate out of a population of 4,600 perhaps not 100 had rights of access to any private privy. In another district with 300 inhabitants there was only one public and one or two private places of accommodation."

The Rawlinson Report produced a great many facts to substantiate these acid observations, giving an equally graphic picture of a booming town with an infrastructure totally inadequate to support its population. The only common sewer built prior to 1842 was made in 1773 on the rebuilding of the Tyne bridge and the formation of Church Street. It extended from the river under dwelling houses to the western end of Hillgate. An open vennel (deepened and covered in 1844-45) ran from Church Street to Oakwellgate, and a public privy was erected over this, but the owner of an adjacent property pulled it down and closed the opening to the sewer. At the time of the main report a sewer had just been built from Sunderland Road to the Tyne, covering 900 yards of High Street, 145 yards of Church Street and 93 yards of Bottle Bank. Branches were provided to enable 165 adjacent property owners to connect in to this, but only 22 had done so: the local authority had not yet power to enforce this. The whole of the drainage both of Newcastle and Gateshead went into the Tyne. Gateshead was an excellent town to drain, with no physical difficulties, but "property owners have a dread of some undefined expense - yet it would not be more than £1 per house". No other parts of Gateshead were sewered.

In 1845 only eight streets were supplied with water (and then only parts of them), but by 1848 supplies no longer came from the river at Ovingham, 12 miles away, which also supplied Newcastle. In tenanted property supply was one tap in a common yard. There was "considerable apathy on the part of the landlords and a deal of stealing among the tenants". There were no public baths or washhouses, and the poor invariably washed their clothes at home, hanging them to dry in the thoroughfare or in the room where they lived.

The Superintendent of Police reported that the borough contained 26 lodging houses containing 396 people. These were houses situated for the most part in low and crowded neighbourhoods. Seventeen of the keepers were Irish, seven English and one German. Within, many of the dormitories were little better than hovels. In Hillgate, for example, there was one lodging house for tramps where five families were in one room about 18ft square: 18 human beings, adults and children of both sexes sleeping therein each night. Hardly surprising that 11 of these were in a state of continued fever. The writer commented that it was actually worse than the packing of negroes in a slave ship. Men and children were completely naked and women wore a shift which had the appearance of an oilcloth than an undergarment. The users of such boarding houses were "sturdy vagrants (posing as) shipwrecked mariners, widows with a large family or begging little impostors". It was rare to find an unfortunate artisan driven to work far from home - except the Irish labourer - in such places. Inhabitants invariably stopped up all openings by which fresh air could penetrate.

Small wonder then, that cholera should strike these poor districts very hard, although by no means missing the better areas. During September 1847-February 1848 fever raged and centred on Pipewellgate and Hillgate. It was a mild form of low typhus with a mortality rate of one in seven. But in January 1848 the first case of Asiatic cholera was found - a tramp from Edinburgh, where there was an outbreak, in a room 9 feet square sleeping 15 or 16 people, mostly vagrants very dirty in habit and intemperate. The outbreak spread rapidly and two-thirds of the cases were fatal. Wrekenton, despite a good water supply, was more than decimated in a fortnight. This outbreak centred on a "nest for tinkers and muggers who were continually coming and going and lived huddled together, four or five families in a house, not paying rental, and with horses, asses and dogs - and in one case, pigs - ashes etc, accumulating in one corner of the room". Total deaths were 120, one-sixth of the population, 30 of whom were "respectable clean people living in clean houses", and 21 in the asylum, including the proprietor and his son.

The burial of victims caused many problems and necessitated the provision of more burial grounds. It was reported that "the soil on the northern side of the burial ground attached to (St Mary's) parish church is a

stiff retentive clay so much enlarged with water that, on vaults being opened on that side of the churchyard, the coffins are found swimming around like boats, and on a grave being opened it fills with water so rapidly that it is necessary to bale it". At this time churchyards were not covered by the code of practice for municipal cemeteries, and the Town Council was told that a body might lie undecomposed in St Mary's for 35 years. That churchyard in fact had to deal with 3,455 burials in the ten year period 1839-49, and St Edmund's at the southern extremity of the town, where almost all the 1832 cholera victims were buried, had a further 1,118. St John's Sheriff Hill dealt with 1,127. A new burial ground was opened at St Cuthbert's, to the west, in 1848, but Gateshead East municipal cemetery was not opened till 1861. The Gateshead Observer had already drawn attention to the problem, writing in rather florid terms. "Our churchyards have gaped with unsated appetite. Day by day and hour by hour the procession to the tomb has been the most common and familiar spectacle of our thoroughfares".

What a background in which to identify an ancestor! Especially one with a name as common as Elizabeth Anderson. I had identified her as the only possible mother of George Anderson, who became in later life a respected foreman chainmaker at Hawks's engineering works, and in the 1851 census the family were in Hillgate: Elizabeth a widow of 37, James scholar of 14, George 6 and Thomas 17 months; all born in Gateshead. Also recorded were three lodgers. The problems began to emerge. George's birth certificate showed him as being born in Church Walk, but with no father shown. James must have been born just before civil registration began, as no suitable entry could be found, and Thomas's birth certificate also listed no father. There were no baptismal entries in St Mary's registers for James or George, but a possible match emerged for Thomas, a baptism to Elizabeth, Widow, on 27 August 1849 and a burial on 15 April 1851. Was Elizabeth a widow, or did she hide behind that title? No trace of her has been found in Gateshead in 1841, but she may not have been Elizabeth *Anderson* then. For 1861 there is a listing of an Elizabeth Anderson 55, widow receiving parish relief, at 36 Church Street, and she may be the correct one although the age does not tally. There were at least thirty Anderson families living in Gateshead in the mid-50s, and the 1851 census index lists 59 folio references. By another misfortune even there the family headed by the correct Elizabeth is not correctly identified - its head is given as Hugh, with not even a mention of Elizabeth!

The problem was next compounded by George's marriage certificate, where he is stated to be the son of "John Anderson - pit sinker". The ages of both parties are given as "full", and addresses "of this parish". How unhelpful some certificates can be! Searching for the death of a John Anderson locally only produced a 29-year-old dying in 1850, in which case he would surely have been named as father on both George's and

Thomas's birth certificates. Moreover the next searches for a possible John Anderson-Elizabeth X marriage proved equally blank. That John would have been at least eight years younger than his bride: not impossible but less likely. All the old doubts familiar to seasoned family historians soon surfaced. Was the census enumerator sufficiently attentive to his responsibilities? Was she really 37, a widow, and born in Gateshead? Given the housing conditions which prevailed, could we expect him to be as diligent as he might have been elsewhere? And what about George's belief as to his father? Was this something he had heard his mother say in the past for the sake of respectability - especially at the time of his wedding it might be important to establish the fact?

The only additional clue I had was a family saying that George's parents died young, and he was looked after by an aunt Barton, this turning out to be of some significance in that George married a Barton, Jemima, whose father James was a boot and shoe dealer in Castle Stairs, just across the river in Newcastle. Surmising that George might therefore have been with this family at the time of the 1861 census, that was clearly the next search to be undertaken, but by yet another stroke of misfortune the enumerator's notebook appears not to have survived complete, judging from the microfilm. There is a gap from 97 Castle Stairs to the end of the Enumeration district, the completed entries being far too few to represent the whole district. This too was an area of slums. Middlebrook's History of Newcastle, quoting late 19th century writers, says it was "crowded from basement to attic with a swarming population tumbledown tenements chiefly occupied by dealer in second hand clothes. The Castle Stairs were lined on both sides by clog shops with an air of squalor and decay". How George came to meet Jemima can only be guessed at, even though they would be living within a few minutes walk of each other across the bridge. We do know that the Barton family had moved to the rather more salubrious area off Westgate Road by 1871, and shortly thereafter George and his expanding family moved back to Gateshead, but what had happened to his mother Elizabeth? Even following up the deaths in the 1851-61 period yielded nothing, and it seemed too much of a wild goose chase to follow up all the Newcastle possibilities. As for her birth, we do not know whether or not she was born Anderson, so it is a real case of "from an unknown beginning to disappearance without a trace". The mystery becomes all the more understandable, though, when one reads about the actual conditions in which some of our ancestors lived. Perhaps the surprising thing is that we can find out as much as we do.

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THE LIBRARIAN LOOKS AT SOME NEW AND OLD ITEMS AT BOLBEC HALL

"Very interesting" is how my non-genealogist wife described *A Fine and Private Place - Jesmond Old Cemetery*. Coming from her, that's high praise, and for once we agree! This new Newcastle Library book "tells the remarkable story of Newcastle's own necropolis since its opening in 1836" and the individual stories of over 100 people who are buried there. There are well-known Newcastle "shop" names like Fenwick, Bainbridge, Mawson, Murton and Pumphrey, and "street" names like John Dobson but also many others I'd never heard of, like murder victims Mark Frater, a tax collector slain on entering his Blacked Street offices, and John Innes Nesbitt, found dead with gunshot wounds on a train. There is 53-stone William Campbell, once the heaviest man in the country who died aged a mere 22, whose funeral attracted 30,000 sightseers. There are a host of others and if you are interested in the history of Newcastle, you will be interested in this book, available price £5.99 from the library or from NDFHS at Bolbec Hall.

Also available from Bolbec Hall at £6.99 (plus postage) is *Mitford 2000*, a nicely produced 72-page history of the Northumbrian village published by the newly formed Mitford Historical Society. As well as looking at church, castle and the well known Mitford family (of the five sisters Nancy, Unity, Jessica, Deborah and Diana), there are notes on some local farms and businesses, and on some of the village houses, and some attractive old photographs.

Our ever-growing Library at Bolbec Hall contains a mass of valuable material and I thought a random look at a few of them - some new, some not so new - might help some of you. Our Research Service is available for those who can not get to Bolbec Hall.

You've heard of *Soldiers Died in the Great War*, originally 80 volumes, one for each regiment, listing the dead of World War I and now available (at Bolbec Hall and elsewhere) in an easy-to-search CD Rom. Well, its World War II equivalent is now under way and we have the first of ten planned volumes of *Roll of Honour Land Forces World War II* covering Yeomanry, Royal Armoured Corps, Reconnaissance Corps, Royal Tank Regiment and Brigade of Guards. No local regiments - they come later - but there were of course local men who fought and died in other units, like Lance Sergeant Norman Best 405423 born Durham died Middle East 25 October 1942 whilst with the Nottingham Yeomanry. This is a typical entry. The listing is by regiment, but there is an overall index which makes searching a simple matter.

On the topic of WWII, an 18 page monologue by Brian Pears entitled *When the Bombs Fell on Rowlands Gill* tells

the story of an "awful night", 30th April 1942, when 36 people were killed in the northwest Durham village by German bombs. This is a detailed account of the events, the people and how it affected them.

Many of you will have ancestors who lived and died on the Scottish side of the border line. Did you know we have twenty-plus volumes, produced by Borders Family History Society, of *Monumental Inscriptions in Roxburghshire and Berwickshire*? We also have two earlier listings - *Pre-1855 Monumental Inscriptions in Peeblesshire*, by Sheila A Scott, published in 1971 by the Scottish Genealogy Society, and the late David Cargill's *Pre-1855 Monumental Inscriptions in Berwickshire*.

The Library has a whole section on "Education" which includes histories of local schools and some published registers giving brief biographies of pupils. In the latter category, there are the 3rd, 4th and 5th editions (the last to 1991) of *Durham School Register*, and the *Royal Grammar School, Newcastle Register 1545-1954* and also an original admissions register (don't ask me how we came to acquire it!) for Westoe Senior Boys School in South Shields which gives names, addresses and dates of leaving 1917-1921. Our "histories" - not registers but usually with many names - include Hookergate School 1932-70, Heaton Park School, Newcastle 1920's and 1930's, Durham Johnston School, Cullercoats Junior School 1850-1970, Morpeth Grammar School (published 1951), Newcastle Church High School 1885-1935, the College of St Hild and St Bede, Durham, and Rutherford Grammar School, Newcastle (1964).

We have a run of *Tynemouth School* magazines from the 1930's. If you know WE Hay, did you know about his cricket and that "he must restrain his impatience for the first over or two until his eye is in"?

And Mary Waugh, if you are reading this, we know you passed in French, History and Geography in your 1939 Higher School Certificate exam. We even know what grades you got! We have *List of Successful Candidates, Examination Reports and Statistics for Durham University School Certificate Examinations December 1938 and July 1939 and High School Certificate results for July 1939*. This is arranged into school order from all over the northeast. If you were one of the pupils, you can no longer pretend about your results! And if you don't go back that far, maybe your parents did, so you can look them up and discover the dreadful truth.

The late Donald Mason, a founder member and former Treasurer of this Society, left a large collection of his research material to the Society and much has still to be catalogued. But to mention just three of his many

transcripts in the Presbyterian field, we have the Baptism registers of the Northumberland Chapels of Branton (1785-1809) and Glanton (1784-1837) and, in Sunderland, of Monkwearmouth Presbyterian Chapel to 1851. I also came across a typescript called *High Weetslade* by Robert Gilholme (born 1888) which tells us of his life on that farm, in Stannington and elsewhere, and some war memories. Among the names mentioned are Matthew Barrass, David Hetherington, Stephen Fairbairn, John Horgarth, Miss Swan, TW Steele, Joe Givens (Tritlington), Madge Dobson, Mary Aldred, Mary Patterson, Louise Leach, Dora Nicholson and John Tweedy.

The library has many local histories. I came across a delightful little volume by "Glen Aln" entitled *People and Places of Northumberland*, published (and twice reprinted) in 1945 where the author "shows us the people who quietly - and, in many cases, humbly - carry on traditions carried through generations of Northumberland". There are 28 chapters, full of names and tales, mainly from the 19th and early 20th centuries. To take just one, there is a chapter on postmen and the antics and foibles of Northumbrian characters like Robert Rutherford (born Alnwick 1874) who later became head postman in the town, "Willie" Copeland of Berwick, Wooperton and North and South Middleton, and George Blyth of Percy Cross who covered the same ground for 43 years until 1935. There

is George Ord a "well known character" at Belford, George Dunn also of Belford whose round was 24 miles on a horse, and Robert Dickinson in the Powburn and Whittingham areas for 26 years. Maybe some of these old stalwarts are "yours"?

On coal mining, so much a part of our history, we have *Durham Miners Association Fatal Accident Book* 1920-50, which is in alphabetical order, giving date of accident, date died, name, age, occupation, injury and colliery.

And finally, on a totally different topic, we have the scholarly and very readable *Convict Ships* 1787-1968 by Charles Bateson, dealing with the vessels used for convict transport to Australia, and the crews and prisoners on the ships. Particularly useful is an appendix listing every voyage, every ship, with year and place of building and the masters' names and if you know the vessel concerned, there can be a lead to much interesting research at, for example, the Public Record Office, Kew and - no doubt - in Australia, too. There were a lot of prisoners - a grand total of about 162000 - so a fair chance that someone of yours went there!

I hope there might be something for you in this "taster" of the goodies we can offer. Naturally, we would welcome your donations of material such as the items above! Keep it coming in.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

The *NDFHS journal Vol V No 4* (July 1980) was the last to be edited by Geoff Nicholson in his first stint as Editor. Not surprisingly, he had decided to hand the job on after a full five years.

This *journal* typically contains material that is now out-of-date, and only those parts likely to be of continuing interest are listed below.

Articles:

The Grainger Family of Newcastle by AJ Pain (pages 94-95). A brief biography of the famous Newcastle builder, Richard Grainger (1789-1861), is followed by a note on each of his thirteen children and a few of his grandchildren.

The Corder Mss in Sunderland Public Library by DW Smith (pages 99-100). A very brief listing of these mss, an invaluable search aid to anyone researching Sunderland families.

Know Your Parish 4 - Chollerton, Northumberland by DW Smith (pages 100-101).

The Lizzie Webber and the Emigrant by Patricia J Storey (pages 102-107). Pat Storey was at this time a member who gave enormously of her time typing out the entire *journal* every quarter, before the days of word processors. Her article was a major contribution to this edition of the *journal*. It describes the first emigrant voyages in 1852 from Wearside to Australia aboard the two ships named in the title. Some 100 emigrants' names are listed with their trades and, in some cases, notes on their families. The sources for the lists were contemporary editions of the *Sunderland Herald*, aided by research in the UK carried out by a Mrs Clarke and the late Bill Rounce, and from Australia by Mrs N Wylie.

Married in London (page 108). Ten marriages with Northumberland/ Durham connections from St Paul Shadwell, 1671-1754, and one from All Hallows, London Wall.

The Catherine: A Sunderland Ship Lost in 1821 (page 108). MI from Warkworth listing all who perished in the wreck.

THE HUTTON CONNECTIONS

by Gerald Pearce

Whilst pursuing my Stephenson family history the following proved an interesting diversion. It is known that a Robert Hutton was Rector of Houghton-le-Spring, possibly embracing the years from 1589 to 1623. He is reputed to have built Houghton Hall, in Elizabethan style, which was still owned by his Hutton descendants in 1894 (Whellan's Directory), and was the former residence of Sir George Elliot, Bart, D.L. The Rector Robert acquired considerable property in the parish of Houghton. This living was once rated the highest in England and included 343 acres of glebe land. The parish register commenced in 1563.

The Bishop of Durham from 1589 to 1595 was Dr Mathew Hutton (1526), but it was thought at the outset of this research that it was a coincidence that a Robert Hutton became Rector of Houghton-le-Spring, near Durham in 1589. Bishop Hutton was born at Priest Hutton, Warton near Carnforth, Lancashire.

It appears from scrutiny of IGI records, taken from parish registers, that Elizabeth Hutton (abt 1591) who married Humphrey Stephenson in 1612 was the daughter of Mathew Hutton (1565) and Ann (1569), his wife. This being the case, the date of birth would be 1591, as the christening is recorded as being at Houghton-le-Spring in that year. The only other birth attributed to a Mathew Hutton was of an un-named male child on 15 July 1592, and was registered at Auckland St Andrew. No other child of a Mathew Hutton appears on the IGI in Durham before 1600.

What appears to be the birth of this Mathew is given at Auckland St Andrew in 1565 (the parish register commenced in 1558), of parents Robert and Anne Hutton. The date of birth of this Anne is given elsewhere as estimated to be around 1532, possibly at Auckland St Helen's. Robert and Anne had another son, Thomas, given as baptised at Skerningham, near Darlington in 1568. The only Robert recorded as born about this time is as son of Edmund about 1554 at Houghton-le-Spring. This cannot be verified as that parish register only commenced in 1563. It could therefore be an error.

There are children recorded from Robert Hutton (1554) and Grace Pilkington from 1590 to 1606, all at Houghton-le-Spring. Apart from these and others mentioned above there are no Hutton births recorded in Co Durham bearing the relevant IGI Batch Film Numbers before 1600. This would suggest that there were no other members of the immediate family, although it was later discovered that Robert (1528) and Anne (1532) did have two other sons born in Yorkshire. Which Robert was the Rector at Houghton and was he related to the then Bishop of Durham?

Another fact recorded in history is that a grandson of the Rector, also Robert Hutton, was a Captain in Oliver Cromwell's army who eventually died in 1680 and was buried in his garden at Houghton-le-Spring. It is believed he died of natural causes. He is said to have served in Scotland under General George Monck and took part in the storming of Dundee. This would be in the mid 1650's. There are two possible Roberts who would fit this timescale. One was the son born in 1598 of parents Robert (1554) and Grace Pilkington, who would have been in his 50's when Monck took Dundee. The objection to this explanation is that this Robert (1554) is believed to have been the son of Edmund (1522) and therefore young Robert (1598) would not fit the criteria. The other, more likely one, was the Robert born in 1626, son of Robert (1598) and Elizabeth Fulthorpe. He would be in his late twenties, almost thirty at the time of the Cromwellian Army's Scottish campaign, a reasonable age. Although only 54 at his death in 1680 this must be the Captain.

Can it be therefore that Robert (1554), son of Edmund, was the rector of Houghton-le-Spring? This would be the case if Edmund (1522) and Robert (1528) were brothers. Robert (1528) seems to have had four sons with wife Anne. Mathew (1565) was baptised at Auckland St Andrew's and Thomas (1568) at Skerningham, near Darlington. It is probable that their father Robert (1528) was also a cleric. Durham Priory was located at Skerningham and would be closely associated with the Bishop's Palace at Bishop Auckland, the two locations where the boys were born.

Accepting that it was Mathew's (1565) daughter Elizabeth who married Humphrey Stephenson, they had at least four sons and it is these boys who are linked on the IGI film 0452783 with George Stephenson (1781). Several of the Hutton females of Houghton-le-Spring are also linked on film no 0452773 with George's sister Eleanor and other Stephenson girls at Ovingham in Northumberland, George Stephenson's place of baptism.

Scrutiny of film 0452773 in the LDS Family History Centre has revealed further details of the known Hutton females and early Stephenson females from the Ovingham area. These LDS films are a collection of data cards laid out in sequence and photographed. Family and related groups tend to be on the same films, although it appears that males and females of families are on different films for some reason. One unexpected entry among the Huttons is that of Elizabeth Hutton, given as born at Warton area 1558 with father as Edmund (1522). An entry on the IGI had previously been noted, that Robert Hutton of Houghton-le-Spring was born about 1554 with father Edmund. No mention was made of Warton with that entry.

This Elizabeth Hutton (1558) entry suggests that there could, after all, be a family connection with the

Warton parish, at the hamlet of Priest Hutton. Following up this line of enquiry a book on Warton parish was found* in which, as we would expect, much is made of the Archbishop's connection with the area. In the book it clearly states that the Bishop Mathew had two brothers, Robert and Edmund, and further that Robert became Rector of Houghton-le-Spring. They could be wrong in identifying the Bishop's brother as Rector rather than, which is more likely, the Robert born 1554 who was Edmund's son. Nevertheless it is now clear that the Huttons of Houghton-le-Spring, including Elizabeth (1591) daughter of Mathew (1565), were of the same family as Archbishop Mathew Hutton and originally from Priest Hutton. This Mathew (1526) served as Bishop of Durham until 1595 when he became Archbishop of York. The Mathew (1565) whose daughter married Humphrey Stephenson of Auckland St Andrew would be nephew of the Bishop and, most likely, cousin of Robert the Rector of Houghton-le-Spring.

Little is known of the Huttons of Priest Hutton, but the sometimes quoted belief that Archbishop Hutton was a foundling has been firmly refuted by historians in recent times. He was granted a Coat of Arms in 1594 and was at the time described in the terms of this grant by the College of Heralds as descended from parents 'Sufficiently famous or illustrious in the County of Lancaster'.

It is believed that his brother Edmund was a 'husbandman', that is, he cultivated land and would probably be described today as a farmer. There appears to have been Huttons remaining in the Warton parish into the 17th and 18th centuries at least. Parish records show births, deaths and marriages where Roberts and Mathews figure prominently. Archbishop Mathew Hutton founded a Grammar school at Warton in 1594 although this has now disappeared. The Charter granted from Queen Elizabeth I together with the inscribed foundation stone and a portrait of the Archbishop, are now on display at the Archbishop Hutton Primary School in Warton.

One interesting record from the history of Warton parish is that in the late 16th century it is recorded that a John Washington lived at a place called Tewitfield. This cluster of houses and farms still exists today and is less than a mile from Priest Hutton village centre. John Washington married a Margaret Kytson, said to be

sister to Sir Thomas Kytson (Sheriff of London in 1533). John and Margaret are reliably claimed to be ancestors of America's first President George Washington. There is a commemorative arms plaque in Warton Church tower to this day marking the influence of the Washington family and for which, it is understood, Americans have in recent times provided funds for upkeep. The church has also become a place of pilgrimage for American travellers with an interest in their history. Any possible relationship between Huttons and Washingtons must be pure speculation, although the two families could have known each other about the time of the birth of Archbishop Mathew (1526) and his brothers Edmund and Robert.

The only family so far revealed in Warton parish who were related to the Huttons were the Dawsons. Archbishop Hutton left £10 in his will to 'my cosin Robert Dawson'. It is known that a John Dawson held Aldcliffe Hall, near Lancaster, about that time, but no relationship is recorded.

In 1600 the Master of the Grammar School at Warton founded by Archbishop Hutton was a Myles Dawson, and elsewhere a Mr Dawson of Warton was described in that period as an Attorney-at-Law. They appeared to be an educated family and if, as is supposed they are of the family related to the Archbishop, it would explain how Mathew and his brother Robert, and apparently Edmund's son Robert also, were provided with the education leading to their successful careers in the church.

With regard to other possible relatives further research is needed. However, for the benefit of later researchers, it is worth noting that this search has failed to reveal the maiden surname of Sir Thos Kytson's wife Margaret, whilst no information has come to light at all with regard to his mother's maiden name, as she is shown only as the wife of Robert Kytson of Warton Hall.

Archbishop Mathew Hutton was married three times, but only with his second wife Beatrix did he have children. Their family of eight were probably all born in Yorkshire or Cambridge where Mathew spent the early years of his career. He left considerable wealth, mainly from property, in Durham and Yorkshire when he died in 1606.

*'How It Was, A North Lancashire Parish in the Seventeenth Century'- Mourholme LHS

Editor's Note: Mr Pearce's address is: Netherhead of Skelmuir, Achnagatt, Ellon, Aberdeenshire AB41 SXE.

BURIALS AT SMITHESDALE, VICTORIA

While undertaking research into local burials in the area around Teesdale, Victoria, Mrs Dianne Hughes found a number of people buried in a local cemetery who came from North-east England. These burials were all at Smythesdale, Victoria.

9th July 1859 Elizabeth *Johnson* 35 years, daughter of Robert & Hannah *Stephenson* born Allendale NBL, married aged 22 yrs at St Peters to Anthony, she had four children Joseph Robert, Barbary and Hannah.

(continued on page 65)

NEWCASTLE STOBARTS

by Walter Stobart

My search started when I found among my mother's effects a gold watch and chain that originally belonged to my grandfather. The watch was a small medallion about one inch in diameter with a florid engraving on the face formed by the letters JSKC. On the reverse side was inscribed:- "Presented to JAMES STOBART for his valuable services to the Nine Hours League, Newcastle, 20th May 1872". Although my grandfather's name was also James, he was only just six years old in May 1872, and it is unlikely it was given to him.

My grandfather died in the mid 1930's and said little about his early days, or any Stobart relations up North, to my parents. When I questioned my grandmother in my twenties, she said his father had been an independent millwright working in the countryside until he had moved into Newcastle. Unfortunately he had died young, before he had been able to enter his son as an apprentice at the Armstrong Works in Newcastle. This had been a major calamity, because the son was only able to become a semi-skilled worker with all the disadvantages of lower pay and insecurity that this implied in the 1890's.

My grandparents had married in 1888, but the witnesses did not include his mother, and so far I have no record of her. The family came down to Erith in North-West Kent in 1890 to work in a newly established mining machinery works and, although there were visits to the wife's family, there did not seem to be any contact with any Stobart relatives.

Faced with such a dearth of family records, I set out to ascertain what could be recovered, helped by the close proximity of St Catherine's House to my office. From my grandfather's death certificate I eventually located his birth certificate. The birth was registered by his mother, Mary Stobart nee Miller, in 1865, and James was described as a Journeyman Millwright. The address given was 13 Duke Street, which would have been convenient for the Armstrong Works.

Having found his wife's maiden name I came to the hard part. Although it was probable they were both from the North East I had to search back through all the Marriage Indexes from May '65 until I came to a James Stobart with a reference that matched with a Mary Miller marriage reference. As they had been married some nine years by the time young James was born, you can imagine how many bulky indexes I had to shift!

They had married in one of the relatively new Registry Offices which had been opened all over the country. The Hexham Certificate gave James's address as Woodshields, Haydon Bridge and Mary's as Bush Cottage, Haydon Bridge and I had found two artisan ancestors: Thomas Stobart (Blacksmith) and George Miller (Mason). Both farmsteads are still there with their cottages.

About this time I joined the NDFHS and with the help of the 1851 Census microfiche I found James living with his father and mother, West Wood Cott, just to the West of Hexham. In the adjacent cottage was another Thomas Stobart aged 34 and his young family. Almost certainly Thomas must have been James's brother. His father's days at the forge must have been over, as he was listed as a pauper. However, unlike poor James whose later homes were bulldozed flat in the post-war housing drive, Thomas's little cottage still has an occupant, and I have walked on the stones of the farmyard and seen the farm buildings he saw every day.

It is probable but not confirmed that Thomas and his wife Elizabeth were the pair who were married at St John Lee in 1812, and that John, Thomas, Elizabeth and Edward who were baptised there between 1813 and 1821 were James's brothers and sister. It is even possible that it was Thomas who was baptised there in 1798 because the date matches his quoted age; in which case I have a further ancestor in John Stobart. Old Thomas lived to a good age and died at Wheelbirks, Broomley, in 1873 a year after the medallion was given to James. Interestingly the witness to the Will was one Edward Stobart. Was he another brother?

Another NDFHS Census Index for Newcastle enabled me to find James and his wife and son at 5 Kyle Place, Low Elswick in 1871. The following year saw the bitter struggle for a nine hour working day in the growing engineering industry in the North East. Was James involved with John Burnett in arranging support from the Northumberland Miners' Union, or was he merely engaged in raising funds from the general public? The most likely interpretation of the JSKC as "King of the Cadgers" favours the latter. Was he an early member of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers or an ordinary workman drawn into the conflict by the obduracy of Sir WG Armstrong? So far I have not found any answers.

All that I can tell is that his life ended prematurely, with a Death Certificate dated 22 April 1880 recording his death from pneumonia at 30 Alliance Street, Hartlepool and witnessed by his 14-year-old son. Unless he had gone to Hartlepool for a holiday in an attempt to improve his failing health, this must have meant he was no longer employed by Armstrong. Had he had to leave Newcastle because he had been blacklisted as an agitator? Had the publicity over the small gold medallion cost him his job? My grandfather had clung to this link with his father through some very hard times, and I am very glad he did. If not, I would not have learnt so much about the industrial life and geography of the austere but beautiful North East.

Editor's Note: Walter Stobart's address is: Honeyhurst, Oast View, Horsmonden, Tonbridge TN12 5LE.

NDFHS CHECKLIST (1): 1851 CENSUS NORTHUMBERLAND

Introduction

The NDFHS has been entirely responsible for the indexing of the 1851 Census for Northumberland. The Felton Local History Society also indexed certain places in the Felton area, but this was duplicated in the NDFHS Vol N5, fiche CN24.

This checklist is meant especially for researchers who have to do a large area search, or who wish to be sure that they have all examples of a particular name in the area of their choice. The list is ordered numerically by Piece number, and folio numbers. It should be remembered that this is a guide to a set of indexes which may themselves be incomplete, or contain errors.

The NDFHS retains the copyright of this list, but it may be photocopied by members for private research.

Notes on column headings

Piece refers to the Piece Number at the Public Record Office. A full reference for any 1851 Census return is HO107/(piece number)/(folio number)/(page number). Page numbers are not used in the 1851 indexes, however. The Piece numbers follow the pattern of Sub-districts, starting in West Newcastle and moving east to the coast. They then return West via Castle Ward to West Northumberland, and then work east and north to Morpeth. Finally, after working North to Berwick, they come roughly South along the Border to Rothbury. The area covered by each Piece number is contiguous with the area covered by the proceeding and following numbers. Piece 2412 borders on the areas covered by 2411 and 2413, for example.

F1. Star : the first folio number in that index. Generally, enumeration begins at folio no. 4, the first folios being introductory. For completeness' sake however, Folio 1 is shown as the first folio in any indexed piece.

Fol. End: the last folio in that index.

District: Superintendent Registrar's District. This relates directly to the General Register Office Indexes (formerly St Catherine's House Indexes) of births, marriages, and deaths.

Sub-District: Registrar's District, known also as Sub-district. Some of the Northumberland Districts contained just one Sub-district, for example Haltwhistle. In the earlier days of indexing, and for reasons of practicality, Sub-districts were often divided between a number of indexes.

Place: If '(all)', then all places within that Sub-district are included. Otherwise, a few names are given as a guide. *Journal NDFHS Vol 22 (Autumn 1997) No 3 pp81-82* has lists of the main places covered by each Piece.

Vol./Fiche shows the official NDFHS numbers, to be used when ordering copies. It should be noted that some indexes are available only in fiche form, e.g. Castle Ward, Piece 2413. Please refer to NDFHS price lists, published twice a year, and available on the Society's Website. It can be seen that some of the Society's volumes contain a number of indexes. Volume N5/Fiche CN24 covering part of Bedlington Sub-district has seven indexes, for example.

Checked: a box to tick as you work your way through!

We welcome comments as to the usefulness or otherwise of publishing such lists in the *Journal*.

Piece	Fol. Start	Fol. End	District	Sub-District	Place	Vol. Fiche	U
2404	1	630	Newcastle T.	Westgate	(all)	N10/CN1	
2405	1	570	Newcastle T.	Newcastle	St Andrew	N8/CN2	
2406	1	470	Newcastle T.	Newcastle	St Nicholas	N7/CN3	
2407	1	731	Newcastle T.	Newcastle	All Saints	N11/CN4	
2408	1	367	Newcastle T.	Byker	(all)	N12/CN5	
2409	1	112	Tynemouth	Wallsend	Wallsend	N13/CN6	
2409	113	138	Tynemouth	Wallsend	Willington	N13/CN6	

Piece	Fol. Start	Fol. End	District	Sub-District	Place	Vol. Fiche	Ch e
2409	139	183	Tynemouth	Wallsend	Howdon	N13/CN6	
2409	184	304	Tynemouth	North Shields	Chirton	N14/CN7	
2409	305	549	Tynemouth	North Shields	North Shields	N15/CN8	
2409	550	597	Tynemouth	North Shields	Preston & Murton	N14/CN7	
2410	1	233	Tynemouth	Tynemouth	North Shields	N6/CN9	
2410	234	499	Tynemouth	Tynemouth	N Shields, Tynemouth &c.	N26/CN36	
2411	1	288	Tynemouth	Longbenton	(all)	N9/CN10	
2412	1	115	Tynemouth	Earsdon	Seghill & Seaton Delaval	N2/CN11	
2412	116	131	Tynemouth	Earsdon	Backworth	N2/CN11	
2412	132	134	Tynemouth	Earsdon	Burradon	N2/CN11	
2412	135	153	Tynemouth	Earsdon	Earsdon	N2/CN11	
2412	153	328	Tynemouth	Earsdon, Blyth	Holywell, Seaton Delaval &c.	/CN12	
2412	329	580	Tynemouth	Blyth	Newsham, Cowpen, Horton &c.	/CN13	
2413	1	238	Castle Ward	Ponteland	(all)	/CN14	
2413	239	505	Castle Ward	Stamfordham	(all)	/CN14	
2414	1	268	Hexham	Bywell	(all)	/CN15	
2414	259	610	Hexham	Hexham	(all)	/CN16	
2415	1	320	Hexham	Allendale	(all)	/CN17	
2415	321	502	Hexham	Chollerton	(all)	/CN18	
2416	1	273	Haltwhistle	Haltwhistle	(all)	/CN19	
2417	1	292	Bellingham	B'ham, Kirkwhelpington	(all)	/CN20	
2418	1	50	Morpeth	Morpeth	Hartburn	N1/CN21	
2418	51	62	Morpeth	Morpeth	Netherwitton	N1/CN21	
2418	63	103	Morpeth	Morpeth	Longhorsley &c.	N1/CN21	
2418	104	136	Morpeth	Morpeth	Mitford	N1/CN21	
2418	137	145	Morpeth	Morpeth	Meldon & River Green	N1/CN21	
2418	146	289	Morpeth	Morpeth	Morpeth, Tranwell &c.	N3/CN22	
2418	290	460	Morpeth	Bedlington	Hepscott, Bedlington &c.	N4/CN23	
2418	461	518	Morpeth	Bedlington	Woodhom	N5/CN24	
2418	519	535	Morpeth	Bedlington	Widdrington	N5/CN24	
2418	536	557	Morpeth	Bedlington	Chevington, Hadstone &c.	N5/CN24	
2418	558	570	Morpeth	Bedlington	Ulgham	N5/CN24	
2418	571	603	Morpeth	Bedlington	Bothal	N5/CN24	
2418	604	623	Morpeth	Bedlington	Hebron	N5/CN24	
2418	624	641	Morpeth	Bedlington	Thirston, Eshott, Bockenfield	N5/CN24	
2419	1	275	Alnwick	Warkworth	(all)	N21/CN31	
2419	276	557	Alnwick	Alnwick	(all)	N22/CN32	
2419	558	820	Alnwick	Embleton	(all)	N23/CN33	
2420	1	250	Belford	Belford	(all)	N18/CN28	
2421	1	142	Berwick	Islandshire	(all)	/CN25	
2421	143	239	Berwick	Berwick	Tweedmouth	N16/CN26	
2421	240	435	Berwick	Berwick	Berwick, Spittal, Ord &c.	N19/CN29	
2421	436	604	Berwick	Berwick	Berwick	N20/CN30	
2421	605	809	Berwick	Berwick, Norhamshire	Norham, Coldstream &c.	N27/CN37	
2422	1	303	Glendale	Ford	(all)	N24/CN34	
2422	304	577	Glendale	Wooler	(all)	N25/CN35	
2423	1	331	Rothbury	Rothbury, Elsdson	(all)	N17/CN27	

NDFHS AUDIOTAPE LIBRARY

by Edith Styan

Our Tape Library has been growing for twelve years and it seems appropriate to discard, rather reluctantly, some of the early tapes which the volume of more recent research makes redundant.

I am meanwhile bemused by one or two tapes which comparatively few members have borrowed and which contain a wealth of obscure source material for researchers. In particular we had a most informative lecture from Rosalin Barker (number 027), titled 'Trades & Networks & Tracing Seamen'. Anyone with sea-going ancestors would find some fascinating source material here. Another tape with a wealth of names and unlikely links is number 018 'Beer, Barley and Brigs' which traces most of the old beer making families and includes links with shipping and families across the area. Neither of these lectures were of apparent interest to me but both opened possible lines of research that had not been thought of previously.

The tapes are available from:

Mrs Edith Styan, 18 Albert Street, Cambridge CB4 3BE.

The cost of hire is £1.60 inclusive of post and packing, and is for 14 days. All cheques/POs to be made to: N&DFHS.

To conform to strict copyright laws and undertakings given to speakers:-

All tapes are FOR INDIVIDUAL USE ONLY and are available only to UK members.

006	Anglo - Scottish Migration	Mrs Marnie Mason
007	Catholic Records in Northumberland & Durham	Michael Gandy
009	North East Methodists and their Records	DWV Branfoot
011	Amost Melancholy Accident (The Stargate explosion of 1826 and families in the Ryton area)	Geoff Nicholson
012	Not a Drum was Heard, not a Funeral Note (The Rollo family)	Norman Welch
014	Was Your Ancestor a Coastguard?	Eileen Stage
015	The Pilots of South Shields	Bill Stephenson
016	Origins of Northumberland & Durham Names	Alan Foster
018	Beer, Barley and Brigs (Links with ships and their owners)	David Bond
019	What did Uncle Harry do? (Northumberland Fusiliers)	Tom Hewitson
020	Glassmaking in Tyne and Wear	Dr Catherine Ross
022	Durham History 1560-1930	John Smith
023	The Bolden Book - People, Places & Social Life in Northumberland & Durham	Alan Foster
024	The Border Reivers before 1603	John Smith
025	Keelmen (new recording)	Geoff Nicholson
026	Life and Death at Sea	George Patterson
027	Trades & Networks & Tracing Seamen in the 17th & 18th Century	Rosahn Barker
029	A Place by Itself - Berwick on Tweed in the 18th Century	David Brenchley
030	The Diary of a Tyneside Teenager in the 1890's	Mrs Anne T Simmonds
031	North East Dialect	Alan Foster
032	A Game of Forfeits after the "Fifteen"	Dr Leo Gooch
033	Shipbuilding on Tyneside 1850-1913	Joe Clarke
034	Lord Armstrong - Northumberland's 19th Century Genius	Alan Fendley
035	Potters and Potteries of the North East	Nick Nolan
036	The Evidence of Durham Wills & Inventories 1550-1650	John Smith
037	The Lit & Phil - History and Some Past Members	Mrs Sheila Wilson
038	Hidden Newcastle*	Christopher Goulding

* new tape since the last published list

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 30th June. 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.

0899 Mr P BATESON, 650 Southmore Drive W, Ottawa, Ontario K1V 7A1 Canada ([email: bateson@cyberus.ca](mailto:bateson@cyberus.ca))

Seeking information on the location of the burial ground of St Nicholas, Durham in 1819 and whether or not there are any MI indexes for this burial ground.

1286 Mrs MURIEL ATKINSON, 69 Paddock Green Crescent, London, Ontario N6J 3P6, Canada

May I use this column to send a big thank you to the contributor who kindly mailed me information about the RAMSAY family of Heworth in response to my query in the Winter 1999 edition of the NDFHS Journal, but neglected to include their name or address! If they would like to get in touch with me I can be reached by email at: murielatkinson@sympatico.ca

1324 Mrs MILDRED ROBSON, 12 Spring Terrace, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE29 OHQ.

Interests: 1) Joseph ANDREWS of Roker, Sunderland, master mariner, Captain of 'Thorpehall' who 'ran the gauntlet' of the blockade of Bilbao in 1937 Spanish Civil War; wife probably Nora, mother Lizzie, father Joseph, sisters Ethel and Violet who married a McFARLANE, firman in Newcastle. Relatives in North Shields called WHIPP and BAKER. Trying to connect Joseph with Joseph Andrews who married Margaret CUMMINS in 1816. 2) Thomas ROBSON, born c1740, died 1812 Morley Hill, Whitfield, married Margery DICKENSON 1769. Children: Jacob 1769, Mary 1771, Alice 1773, John 1775, William 1777 who married Ann LOW(E), Thomas 1780 and Joseph 1784. Thomas had siblings, Mary and William. William's son, William, moved to Gateshead, then North Shields, where he married Hannah RUMNEY 1864. 3) Thomas Huddleston EDEN married 1817 Eleanor Isabella SMAIL(E) at St Andrew's, Newcastle. First daughter Elizabeth (1817) married John URWIN 1834 St John's, Newcastle. Their son, Thomas Huddleston Urwin became a dentist, as did three of his four sons. First daughter Frances Amelia married John Irvine PARKER 1889, then Michael McMANUS in 1898 (Bedlington?).

1598 Mrs NANCY McKINNA, PO Box 232, Cooktown, Queensland 4871; Australia

Seeking descendants of COULSON, HAWKINS, COOPER families of ~~Whitby~~, and HENDERSON of Co Durham, shipbuilders and mariners. Pilot, Captain Edward Coulson, born c1790, married Ann Cooper, daughter of Elizabeth and Robert Cooper, ship's master, and had daughters, Mary, Hannah, Elizabeth and Ann. Elizabeth, born 1816 at Whitby, married Capt John Hawkins at Wearmouth 1836. He had been born at Sunderland 1803 and was killed in the China Seas before 1865. They had two children: Elizabeth Ann and John. Elizabeth Hawkins, widow, married William MAUGHAN, master blacksmith in 1872. Son John married Mary Ann REID 1865 at Sunderland Register Office. Daughter Elizabeth Ann married Henry Henderson, shipwright, son of Mary and James Henderson, mariner of Sunderland.

2186 Mrs SM SNAITH, 28 Queens Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3PB

Researching: 1) Charles CRUTE (1821-1869/71), born Lymington, Hampshire, marine, apprenticed at Sunderland in 1840 to T

SPEEDING, Master of the Isabella. Would like to trace a lost portrait of Charles, last seen 1928-30 in the Fulwell, Monkwearmouth area. 2) SNAITH all references, but particularly John Snaith, pewterer of Durham City, Warden of the Guild c1670. He married Thomason MORLAND at St Mary's, Gateshead 1699. Children Margaret, Searle, John and William were baptised at St Nicholas, Durham and a daughter Mary at St Oswald's, Durham. He owned a shop in St Oswald's parish in 1717; how can I find where it was situated? He was buried at St Oswald's in 1717.

3076 FRANK PEARSON, 2 Beverley Road, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE25 8JH

Interests: Miss Jean PINKNEY MRCVS, daughter of William Ferrier Taylor Pinkney MIEE, electrical engineer of NESCO, Newcastle, lived Sunderland, then Newcastle. Grand-daughter of William Pinkney of Sunderland, solicitor, Turkish Consul and partner with Thomas William Pinkney in the Neptune Steam Navigation Co of Sunderland. Great grand-daughter of David Guellan Pinkney, shipowner of Sleights, near Whitby, Yorkshire. She appears to be the last of this line of Pinkneys but would be pleased to learn that this is not so.

3550 Mrs E HARBOTTLE, West Hawk Lake, Whiteshell, Manitoba ROE 2110, Canada

Seeking information on Thomas and George HARBOTTLE, 1786 and 1789, sons of William Harbottle (1744) and Mary SIMPSON (1744) who married 1776 at Chatton, could have resided at Lyham.

3552 Mrs MARY ASTLEY, Erw Wen, Penybontfawr, Montgomeryshire SY10 OPF

Ernest CALDERWOOD born 1873 married Elizabeth DIXON 1897 Newcastle. His sister Agnes married Henry HARDING. His father Abel Calderwood, painter, married Margaret HENDERSON 1870 and died age 35 in 1873. Margaret re-married Davy SCOTT, a fell runner and had more children. Abel's father was Alexander Calderwood, traveller/hawker, born Ireland 1805, married Agnes HODGE 1829. Margaret's father was David Henderson, joiner. Elizabeth Dixon's parents were George Andrew Dixon, blacksmith, and Mary Ann DAVISON, died age 31 in 1878. George Andrew re-married Elizabeth STOKER in 1882 and had more children. George Andrew's parents were George Dixon and Mary MIDDLETON married 1841. His father was Andrew Dixon, her parents were George Middleton and Margaret COLLINGWOOD married 1796 Stanhope. Mary Ann Davison's parents were George Davison and Elizabeth TAYLOR married 1826. Keen to contact descendants of any of these families, also HOWSON, BROWN BUDD, OLIVER, ROBINSON, COLLINS, HEPPER and BRUCE.

4025 Mrs JOY LLOYD, 68 St Mary's Walk, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS5 7SD ([email: john.lloyd2Qdtn.nrl](mailto:john.lloyd2Qdtn.nrl))

Seeking information on descendants of John DICK, born 1817 Dalkeith, Scotland, policeman, died 1865. He lived and worked in Newcastle and married Elizabeth BLACKLOCK, born 1814 Chollerton. They had four known children: John Thomas 1849; Agnes 1853-1896, married John James ELDER; Joseph 1855; and,

Luke 1865. In 1881, Joseph and his wife Annie were living in Prudhoe Street, Newcastle. There were five families at this address; were these large houses tenements? Where could I get a copy of a photograph of Prudhoe Street? [Newcastle Central Library has a large collection of street photographs of Newcastle - Ed]

4237 IAN MATHER, 7 Abbotts Close, Stakeford, Choppington, Northumberland NE62 5BE

Would be interested in hearing from anyone descended from, or related to, Mansfield RICHARDSON, I have found over 20 instances of this unusual name between 1748 and 1909 in Northumberland and Co Durham.

4903 PATRICIA SCOTT, 27 Shaftesbury Avenue, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE26 3TD

Seeking information on Charles William BOWES, born 1894 Gateshead, son of William and Mary Elizabeth Bowes nee GIBSON.

5012 Mr NORMAN COLEMAN, Linwood, Coast View, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9JG

Seeking any information about a walking race known as The Exchange Walk which was held annually in the early 1900s. The competitors are believed to have been men employed as shipping clerks, etc, at Exchange Building, Quayside, Newcastle and the route included the West Road, now the A69.

NE29 6SH (email: peter@sapp88.freemove.co.uk)

Has anyone information on the SAPP/SAP family of North Shields? By the 1871 Census of North Shields, Eppo Jans and Alida Sapp, lived at Toll Square, North Shields with their seven children: John Robert, William, Edward, Alida, Geziona, Gritz Harmine and Jatiene Francesca. Eppo and his wife and four of the children were born in Holland the other three were born in North Shields. Looking for any information on family if possible what part of Holland.

5222 Mrs P GIBSON, 8 Brunton Avenue, Fawdon, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2PT

John HUTTON and Isabella PENMAN, daughter of William Penman, were married at Tynemouth Parish Church in 1855; she was a minor. Their son George Hutton was born at Broadgates, Hexham in 1857. They later moved to Westgate, Newcastle. Has anyone any information of Isabella's date and place of birth.

5403 PETER MORTON, 8 The Haywain, Stanway, Colchester, Essex C035 5YG (email: peter_morton@talk21.com)

Researching descendants of John and Mary MORTON, initially at Moor Pit, Harelaw from 1856. Would welcome any information from the 1891 Census or electoral rolls on location/family of their eldest son James Thomas Morton, miner, born Ireland or Ashton under Lyne who, at that time, would have been about 37 years. His mother Mary Morton born Ireland, aged about 60, may be with him as she was at Chester Moor in 1881; she died at Lanchester in 1900. Also seeking information on Lanchester Workhouse c1900.

5479 Mrs J JACKMAN, 7 Warrington Road, Fawdon, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2PU

Researching: 1) William TAYLOR, born Scotland 1850/1, son of William Taylor, married Isabella Mellenby 1881, died 1910 Stanhope Street, Newcastle. Children: James (1882) married Annie BARCLAY 1912 and emigrated to the USA in 1923; Isabella (1884) didn't marry; Elizabeth (1887); Hunter, last address in Wideopen; William (1889-1889); Mary Hannah (bapt 1891); William (bapt 1893); Alice (bapt 1896) married W ENGLISH; and George (bapt 1898). 2) MELLEBY 18th and 19th C of Newcastle, Sedgfield, Billingham, Stockton and Thornaby. 3) George and Margery CARR, formerly JOBLING, married Stamfordham 1823. On 1841 Census aged about 35 and 35, occupation innkeeper. 4) James THOMPSON, native of Sedgfield, who married Jane TAIT, resided at Grindon late 18th C. 5) Ralph Taylor, cartwright, born Hexham 1773, married Elizabeth FORSTER at Hexham. When Elizabeth died in 1841 she was described as "wife or widow of Ralph Taylor, cartwright".

5510 Mrs C KENDALL, 1 Glan-Yr-Afon, Gladestry, Kington, Herefordshire HR5 3NX

Researching STEPHENS/STEVENS/GIBBS families in Earsdon and Seaton Delaval from 1870 onwards, originally from Rye, Sussex.

5973 JOHN E. HECKELS, 6 Arun Way, West Wellow, Romsey, Hampshire SO51 6GT (email: john@magpie60.freemove.co.uk)

Researching the families of James ARCHBOLD (c1749) and Ann BROWN (c1749) married 1807 in Chatton. James was the son of George Archbold and Elizabeth Brown, the Browns and Archbolds appear to have come from Berwick and to have intermarried in previous generations. Isabella (1786) the daughter of James and Ann married George BEATTIE (1788) c1810, place unknown. The family lived in Chatton, their son Richard (1820) married Isabella MARSHALL (c1815) and a son George (1847) married Isabella Dixon MORTON (1856) the daughter of Robert Morton and Elizabeth DIXON from Chillingham. Any information on these families in the Chatton, Chillingham and Berwick areas would be very welcome. Also researching HECKELS anywhere, anytime.

6046 CYNTHIA WILSON, 11 Camira Close, Port Macquarie, NSW 2444, Australia (email: cynwils@felglo.com.au)

Seeking any information on 'The Mallaby Hotel', a temperance hotel in High Street, Stockton-on-Tees. Believed to have been in the MALLABY family for 200 years. Last owner may have been John Mallaby. Any information on the hotel or family name appreciated.

6081 KEN PUNSHON, 24 Newcombe Road, Holcombe Brook, Burv, Lancashire BL9 9JT (email: ken.punshon@compaq.com)

Looking for any and all information on PUNSHON/PUNCHEON and related spellings anywhere, anytime, together with spouses. In particular William (1713-93), made sexton Chester-le-Street parish church 1753, in 1753 married Frances FENWICK (1718-1804); Thomas (1754-1804), in 1778 married Jane SURTEES (1755-1809); Robert (1796-1848) and Mary BAINES born 1799 Lanchester.

6213 EDITH MILLER, "Ardleigh", 7 Richmond Avenue, Washington, Tyne & Wear NE38 7JG

Looking for descendants of the RAYNER and MILLER families who came to the north east from Essex looking for employment in the 1800s. Also the HAILS family who were porters in Newbottle and Newcastle.

6226 Mrs PAMELA WYATT, 52 High Street, Tadlow, Nr Royston, Cambridgeshire SG8 OEX.

Would welcome any information about the LAWRENCE, GARDNER and BARLETT families of Sunderland. William (Edmund) Lawrence, sweetmaker of Monkwearmouth Shore, married Jane Gardner at Monkwearmouth 1837. He was son of John Lawrence, shoemaker and she, daughter of Michael Gardener, shipwright. Their son William 1845-1911 married Ellen SENNET and they had a son Charles Robert born Southampton. He and his sister Clara were orphaned in 1887. Clara later lived in Sunderland and married (Bartlett) and had a son Edmund.

6358 Mr ALAN KEITH, 96 Avonmouth Road, Farringdon, Sunderland SR3 3HB

Researching the family of his wife Doreen nee STEWART, daughter of Catherine TATE and grand-daughter of Mary RICHARDSON. Particularly looking for information on Mary's sisters, Sarah A born 1860, Catherine c1863 and Elizabeth c1871. There were other brothers and sisters: William aged 36, married and living in Gateshead in 1901. They were all children of Thomas Richardson and Hannah BENDIN who married 1858 Gateshead. The children were all born at Winlaton. What became of the girls? Would appreciate any information.

6438 Mr JE CALVERLEY, 2 Brookfield Road, Thornton-Cleveleys, Lancashire FY5 4DT

Trying to trace where and when the marriage took place of John BOURN, 1862 Paper Mill, Urpeth and Elizabeth ROBINSON, formerly MURRAY. Their son Thomas was born 1889 and a daughter Elsie in 1896. At this time they were living at De Grey Street, Newcastle. The 1881 Census shows John Bourn, aged 18, ships draughtsman, living at Byker Terrace, Longbenton.

6485 Mrs MARGARET ROBSON, 7 St Andrew's Way, Tilmanstone, Deal, Kent CT14 0JH.

On a photograph of Patrick and Ellen CARROLL with four young girls, Patrick looks well set-up and dignified. If anyone has come across the Carroll family in their research, I'd be most grateful for any information. Particularly looking for a clue as to where in Ireland they came from.

6687 Ms CS JOHNSON, 38 St Marys Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire NG17 2FF

Trying to locate a photograph of the 10th Battalion of the Durham Light Infantry prior to July 1915. Can anyone help please?

6975 EILEEN YORKE, 6 Oakland Terrace, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 8AZ

Information please about John and Elizabeth CHIPCHASE, parents of Jesse Chipchase who was born in Gateshead in 1831. Also Henry and Elizabeth LUKE, parents of William Gibson Luke who was born in Gateshead in 1888.

7113 Mr KEN URWIN, 27 Cheltenham Avenue, Marton, Middlesbrough TS7 8LR ([email: ken@kurwin.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:ken@kurwin.freeserve.co.uk))

Seeking details of the death of Thomas URWIN, husband of Isabella (nee ANDERSON) from Sunderland who died sometime prior to the 1851 census. Thomas' son John Jackson Urwin was teacher at the Commercial and Nautical Academy and later Wearmouth Colliery Institute and then Colliery Viewer at Wearmouth Colliery in the period 1856-1866. I would be most grateful for any information about the movements of both of the above ancestors and the schools and colliery.

7168 Mrs MARGARET KITCHEN, 103 Woodford Close, Marske by the Sea, Redcar, Cleveland TS11 6AW

Looking for information on the following: Jan (Ann) REED born c1846 Allendale. First son John A THOMPSON born Consett area c1866. Second son, William born 1870 Darlington. His birth certificate gives his parents as William Thompson and Jane Thompson formally Reed. Mother and son are on the 1871 but no father at the same address. Annie Thompson born 1876 Middlesbrough and Joseph Bowman Thompson born 1882 have certificates giving parents as William Thompson and Jane Thompson late Thompson formally Reed. The 1881 Census shows John A and William as step sons of William Thompson. Also wanting any information on William Thompson born 1851 Middleton in Teesdale, son of John Thompson, miller born 1824 **Middleham, Yorkshire and Ann BOWMAN, born 1821 Hamsterley**. They married 1848 at Hamsterley. Ann was the daughter of Joseph Bowman of Hexhamshire and Isabella LANGSTAFF of Bishop Auckland.

7264 COLIN GELSON-JACKSON, 133 Shackleton Close, Old Hall, Warrington WA5 5QG ([email: c.e.gelson-jackson@dl.ac.uk](mailto:c.e.gelson-jackson@dl.ac.uk))

Can any member offer help or guidance in locating information on executions in the Northumberland area. Family legend has it that an ancestor was executed for cattle or sheep stealing and his body hung on the Elsdon gibbet, it would have been circa 1845.

7401 PAMELA TATE, 47 Beaconsfield Place, Aberdeen AB15 4AB

Could the gentleman who wrote regarding the TATS/TAIT families of Holy Island c1816 please make contact again. His letter was misplaced before replying.

7450 LEN MOODY, 13 Richardson Terrace, Concord, Washington, Tyne & Wear NE37 2QJ

Seeking baptisms naming the parents of John MOODY, born c1816, who married Margaret WARDROPPER 1842. John's father was given as William and may have been married to Sarah MORLAND 1814 at St Nicholas, Newcastle. William, son of John, was baptised 1788 at All Saints, Newcastle and may have married Jane GIBB 1764 at All Saints. Also looking for information on Joseph PHILLIPSON who married Jane c1877 Hexham and had a son Robert. Jane died 1879 and Joseph married Elizabeth and had a son James William. Also looking for the baptism of Jonathan TROTTER born 1832 at Alnwick, father Robert, possibly married Margaret baptised 1827 Cornhill.

7502 Mrs JG BEADHAM, Fairmount Bungalow, Wakefield Road, Pontefract, West Yorkshire WF8 4HB

Looking for descendants of Michael RIDDLE/RIDDELL killed in a mining accident at Tanfield Lea 9th Feb 1859; his widow, Mary Ann, formerly DOWSON, nee WRIGHT. The inquest date 10th Feb was adjourned to 16th Feb 1859 but unable to find in the local press. Michael was great grandfather and when grandmother Elizabeth was born in 1850, the family lived at Quarrington.

7603 HARRY BURROW, "Cairn Ryan", Westburn, Crawcrook, Ryton, Tyne & Wear NE40 4EU

Were Thomas BURT, born West Moor c1814, and daughter Hannah, born Seghill 1841, related to Peter Burt, Methodist preacher and hewer at Backworth, and his son Thomas, born 1837, later Member of Parliament? Thomas left Seghill and moved to South Hetton in 1843, Peter and family were evicted in the 1844 strike and forced to seek work in the Durham coalfield. Did Tom get Peter work at Haswell in 1847? Also interested in the descendants of Joseph BURROW, born 1796 Kendal who raised two families at Appleby; first marriage to Sarah RICHARDSON in 1820.

7680 MALCOLM REAY, 20 Rosebery Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 7JR ([email: reaym@fdrc.co.uk](mailto:reaym@fdrc.co.uk))

Seeking help from members with non-conformist ancestors not recorded on the IGI or in parish registers. Mary HEDLEY, born c1832/3 at Hindridge Farm, Shittlington near Wark on Tyne, daughter of John Hedley, farmer, and Elizabeth NIXON, who were married 1822 at Chollerton. Also, Robert REAY, born Whittingham Lane, Whittingham c1830, son of William Reay, labourer, and Elizabeth, who, on later censuses, said she was born at Wooler. Seeking any descendants of Alethea COOPER nee DAMS, said to be of Paddington, born c1847/8 but died Gateshead 1922, hardware dealer of Sunderland Road.

8061 Mrs H GRAM, 39 Orchard Close, Eaton Ford, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 3AW ([email: helen@oramwt.demon.co.uk](mailto:helen@oramwt.demon.co.uk))

Interests: 1) Ancestors and descendants of Michael BULMAN/BULMER, bapt 1734 Auckland St Helens. 2) William BELL who had children baptised at Escomb, including William 1730, Elizabeth 1731, Sarah 1734 and twins Magdalen and Mary 1737. 3) Any descendants of Charles THOMPSON and Isabella Bulman who married at Auckland St Andrew in 1787. Where was Charles from? 4) Descendants of James HOPPS and Elizabeth HEDLEY of Barton, Yorkshire. Most of the family moved to the Shildon and Sedgfield areas of Co Durham. 5) Ancestors and descendants of George HOW(E) of Toft Hill, born c1770. He married Hannah SEWELL of Denton in 1797. Later generations lived in West Auckland, Shildon and South Shields.

8381 Mrs F STOPPARD, 12 Kellsway, Rowlands Gill, Tyne & Wear NE39 1LD

Would like any information on William FENWICK and Ann Fenwick nee COXON from Heddon-on-the-Wall, 1712 onwards.

8384 VERA THOMSON, 41 The Firs, Alston, Cumbria CA9 3RW

Seeking any information relating to Richard Henry SANDERS and wife Sarah, daughter of Henry MASON and Sarah of Hayton, Carlisle. Children: Frances M born 1890 married Tom, lived Jarrow; Lilliam born 1894 married Robert W HYMERS, lived Alston; Florence Ethel born 1912/4 married Percy BEADLE, lived Alston; Herbert married Violet, lived Pentre, Wales; Jack.

8484 JOHN SKELDON, 2 Sherborne Grove, York YO32 5BG

Looking for any information on: 1) RITSON families in the Gateshead, Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Sunderland areas, especially Joseph Ritson born c1857 Birtley and his forebears and descendants. Joseph married Isabella HILLS 1878 at Gateshead. His parents were George Ritson born c1836 (Gosforth/Kenton) and Ann THYNN (born c1836 Gateshead). George and siblings appear to have lived variously in the areas mentioned above with forebears possibly in Teesdale around 1800 or earlier. 2) Hills family around Gateshead, Chester-le-Street including Octavia Hills born c1871, married and later emigrated to USA. 3) James Allan FAIRLEY/FAIRLIE/FARLEY born Coldingham, Berwickshire 1855, wife Margaret (formerly HOGG),

born 6857 Lowick, and family who moved from Berwick possibly about 1900. He was a tailor and thought to have worked at Pelaw Co-op (Factory?). Lived initially at Spencer Terrace, Gateshead then Wharnccliffe Street, Newcastle.

8485 ALAN SMAILES, South View, Barnard Castle, Co Durham DL12 0JF

Seeking information on the SMAILES/SMAILS family. Catherine born 1840 Kirknewton, mother of: 1) Edward born 1865 Chillingham; 2) Hannah Jane born 1872 Eglington; and 3) Eliza Ellen (Catherine) born 1876 Causey Park, Morpeth, whose married name was SMITH and resided in the Warkworth area.

8487 JEAN YOUNG, 50 Winden Avenue, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 2JZ

Researching the ancestors of John George DONNELLY (1882-1940), son of Andrew Donnelly, postmaster at Dunston, who died at Dunston in 1913. Andrew had three other children, Winifred, Jenny and Andrew. Andrew's wife died in 1906 aged 54 years. Andrew and his wife were buried at Benwell where there was a 'cousin', Sampson Donnelly. He was buried at Whickham when he died in 1926 aged 66 years, as was his wife Hannah in 1904.

8588 Mrs M ANDERSON, 33 Archer Square, Farringdon, Sunderland SR3-3J Y

Researching the following: MILBURN and O'BRIEN/O'BRIAN of Gateshead and Newcastle 1800; and KIRTON of Ebchester 1900.

8607 Miss LAVINIA DOWN, 23 Longhirst Drive, Woodlands Park, Wideopen, Newcastle upon Tyne NE13 6JW

Researching the descendants of Mary Ann DOWN and Frederick GOERD who married 1893 at Seghill; Louisa Down and James LASHLEY who married 1898 in the Cramlington/Seghill area; and, Albert Down and Mary Lizzie BROWN who married at Cramlington in 1902.

8603 PATRICIA PENROD GEORGE, PO Box 34, Cedars, PA 19424-0034, USA

Would like to contact descendants of: 1) George LEE and Ann **BELL(E)** believed to have married c1850. There was a Sheil Bell Lee in the family, also a nephew who emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1904. Last known address was 3 High Street, Brandon Colliery. There was a Thomas Lee living at Woodbine Terrace, New Kyo, Annfield Plain, believed to be the son of the above Sheil. 2) Thomas **MEWS** and Elizabeth Mary Lee or **STOREY**, both of Co Durham but moved to Pennsylvania. Elizabeth is thought to have died during WWII while visiting England. 3) Anyone researching the name DANSKIN or DUNSHIN. Margaret Danskin died in 1926 in Pennsylvania but her parents were listed as Joseph Danskin and Mary BINNIUS or BUNUS (spelling difficult to decipher).

8621 JANE JONES, 12 Randle Drive, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 5LH

Is anyone researching the HAVELOCK family of Bishopwearmouth? Thomas BAXTER married Margaret Havelock in 1835 at Bishopwearmouth. He had been born 1810 Jarrow and was a publican and coal trimmer. Thomas and Margaret Baxter had two children, John Havelock Baxter born 1835 and Margaret Eleanor Baxter born 1839. They were living at Monkwearmouth on the 1841 and 1851 Census.

8624 ROSEMARY CRUMP, 42 Willmott Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 5NS

Has anyone got a Jonathan BIRBECK or BIRKBECK 1806-1891 in their family tree? Seeking his marriage to Ann c1830, probably in either North or South Shields. On the 1841-91 Censuses they are living in Cumberland and Ann gives her place of birth as North or South Shields.

8672 Mrs J COULSON, 62 Titian Avenue, South Shields, NE34 8SB
Seeking information on ROBERTS family. Thomas (miner) born Truro c1840 - married Elizabeth Ann DAGGER born c1843 in Wales. 1881 Census shows them in Coundon Grange, Bishop Auckland. Family consists of Emily 1861, John 1862, Jabez 1865, William 1867, Elizabeth 1871, Caroline 1873, Samuel 1877, James

1879, and Mary Ann 1881; cannot find them on the 1891 Census. Later they moved to South Shields. Thomas WARNE of Truro lived with them and seems to have stayed with, or near, them.

8687 Mrs MARGARET FROGGATT, Woodlands, Garras, Helstori, Cornwall TR12 6LN ([email: dacre@froggie.force9.net](mailto:dacre@froggie.force9.net))

Researching John LIGHTL(E)Y and, Elizabeth STRAUGHAN, married probably c1822, place unknown. Elizabeth was born in Belford in 1805 (parents Edward Straughan and Margaret ANDERSON). John's birthplace and date and parents are unknown. John and Elizabeth lived at Outchester, Ebchester, and Warden, the latter place having a number of Lightl(e)y families in the area. I think that John died at Warden in 1847, aged 58, which makes his date of birth c1789 but I can find no baptism for him. A complicating factor is that some members of the family in Warden were baptised "Lightly" but buried "GOLIGHTLY". Would appreciate help from anyone knowing of this family, and also for ideas on how to trace John's origins.

8729 FELICITY WILLIAMS, 74 Gwyn Street, Alltwen, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 3AN

Seeking information on the family of John and Sarah TENNET, recorded on the 1851 Census of South Shields, with children Jane, Robert, John, Joseph, Thomas and Ben, followed by Sarah born 1852. Also researching LACKLANDS living in South Shields 1850-70s. Sarah Lackland was married to John PARKIN by 1878 but on the 1871 Census John is recorded as living with Sarah Parkin; her children are recorded as illegitimate. John was a 22 year old shipwright. In the family, John Henry WICKHAM of Gateshead is said to be the first to install electricity on a ship on the Tyne. Can anyone confirm or deny?

8749 ISABEL LOVE, 145 Clifton Road, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 6TJ

Looking for information on: Sarah JOHNSON, daughter of Edward Johnson, sailmaker of North Shields. Sarah married Andrew HODGSON 1858 at St Stephen's, South Shields. Jane SWINBURN born c1812 at Cowdon. Ishmael Hodgson had a son Andrew born c1880. On 1891 Census, Andrew, Ann and Sarah Hodgson were living with a Mrs MOUAT at Thomas Street, South Shields. Elizabeth HUGHES born 1840 Durham, daughter of Patrick, married 1861 at the RC Chapel, Bedford Street, North Shields to James COMMERFORD, son of Patrick. James and Patrick recorded at St Wilfred's, Blyth as COMISKEY.

8769 RON O'CONNOR, 16 The Strand, Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire LN12 1BQ

Looking for any information on the following: William NICHOLSON, born 1826 Newbury, Berkshire, married Miss ROWNTREE. Son George, born 1854 Battersea, London married Elizabeth SMALL and they had over twenty children. Both were cork manufacturers in Everton, Liverpool in 1860. John PARKER (1840 Cheddington, Kent) married 1864 Ann STOKES (1844 Whisentine, Rutland). Both were itinerant railway construction workers. Henry SWIFT married Faith Ella PARKER in 1905 at Keyworth, Nottinghamshire.

9004 Mrs CM EVANS, "Merton", 21 Bristol Road, Wavertree, Liverpool L15 9HH

Seeking descendants of Henry SLIGH(T), son of John Sligh and Isabella THOMSON, born 1808 Edrom, Berwickshire, died 1895 Liverpool. He married Ann HALLIDAY, 7th daughter of Alexander Halliday and Janet SMITH, at Golden Square Baptist Church, Berwick. Children: Janet (1839 Newlands, Foulden parish) married Peter HAWKINS of Wigtownshire; John (1840) married Agnes VOY, lived Ancroft in 1881; Isabella (1842) married Thomas SANDERSON, lived Cocklaw, Berwick in 1881; Alexander Henry (1844), emigrated to Virginia. Isabella's eldest son Ninian Sanderson emigrated to the US in 1889 and lived with his uncle and his family. Henry lived at Clappers, Mordington, Berwickshire until 1883 when he moved to Liverpool to his daughter Janet and died in 1895.

9061 DAVID LLOYD, 67 Priory Wharf, Birkenhead CH41 5LD ([email: davelloydl@hotmail.com](mailto:davelloydl@hotmail.com))

Has anyone any information, records, prints, photographs, etc of Hebburn Colliery and Cross Rwo in the 1850s and later, or know

where they might be found? My great great grandfather John CHAPMAN was a miner there for many years and he and his family lived in Cross Row, which was still shown on **the Godfrey** map of 1912. Any help greatly appreciated.

9147 DORIS C SHUMWAY, 2501 North Bell Avenue, #116, Denton, Texas, 76201, USA ([email: doriss shumway@msn.com](mailto:email:doriss shumway@msn.com))

Robert John MILLER born Sterling or Loch Lomond, Scotland. Moved to England and had four children: William, Robert James, Robert John and Eliza. Have been told that Robert James Miller was born 1851, Peckwick, Jamaica and died 1926. Believe all children could have been born in Jamaica. Also told Robert John (the father) was married first to a Florence NEWMAN and their only child was born dead. Would appreciate any information. Also, still researching John, William and Henry CASS.

9266 MARTIN F DOWSE, 15 Peak Lane, Fareham, Hampshire PO14 1RP

Researching: 1) Henry BOWMAKER born c1620 Norham. It is believed his son Henry, born c1655 Norham, married Margaret DENIE, when/where is unknown. Their son James, born c1695 Bamburgh, married Margaret MARCHEWMARSHALL. Son Humphrey, born c1726 Embleton, married Eleanor PRINGEL/PRINGLE, born c1741 Embleton. They died in 1783 and 1801 respectively, at Shoreston. Their son William, born c1764 Newham, married Elizabeth BELL at Shilbottle in 1796. Son John, born c1804 Shilbottle, married Elizabeth GRAY. 2) Matthew BOWEY, innkeeper, born c1805, married Mary GRABHAM in 1825 at Stockton. Their children were: Elizabeth, Jane, Matthew, Richard, Wilson, William and Matthew Wardle. Matthew Wardle was born 1843 Houghton-le-Spring and married Elizabeth Ann DANBY, in 1864 at Wallsend, daughter of Benjamin Danby, butcher, and Ann COOPER. Son John Wilson Bowey married Elizabeth Ann BRAGAZZI, daughter of Julio/Julino Bragazzi, cabinet-maker, and Elizabeth HOWE(S).

9269 Mrs JE HAMSON, 5 Foster Street, McKinnon, Victoria 3204, Australia

Seeking the marriage of William HUNTER c1800,. Swan Hill area. He had a daughter Sarah born c1810 who married John SCOTT, mariner, c1835. Both Sarah and John were born at South Shields.

9305 Mrs V SCOTT, 5B Chaucer Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 2QU

Researching the following: 1) Family of Richard STRAUGHAN, born c1835, and his wife Ann THANE nee PIERCY, born 1841 at Kirk Newton. In 1881 they were living at Dorset Street, Heworth. 2) Eliza CUMMINGS unmarried mother of Elizabeth Cummings who was born at Seaham Harbour in 1840. 3) Family of Dickinson SANKEY, born 1840 at Hartley, Earsdon parish.

9327 Mrs KATEY GILLINDER, 82 Pheasant Rise, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB3 8SB ([email: kg2@eng.cam.ac.uk](mailto:email:kg2@eng.cam.ac.uk))

Researching the GILLINDER/GILLENDER family. George Gillender was born in 1734 in Ryton but I can find no mention of George's birth in the Ryton registers. He married Elizabeth Mather in 1759 and they had eleven children, one of whom was George Gillender who married Elizabeth TURNBULL in 1790. They in turn had ten children, William Gillinder was born to George and Elizabeth in 1797 in Whickham, Durham. He married Hannah THYNN in 1816 and they had ten children: Mary, Thomas, Ann, William Thynn, Jane Anne, Ramsey, Francis, George, Hannah and Samuel. William Gillinder and his son William Thynn were both glassmakers. In 1860 William Thynn Gillinder emigrated with his wife Elizabeth Emery and their family to America and started a glassmaking factory which still exists today in Port Jervis, New York. Samuel moved to Poplar, London from whom my husband is descended. Would love to hear from any other descendants of William and Hannah, any other Gillinders or any kind offers of advice.

9371 Mr JVR CAIRNS, 26 Roman Way, St Margarets at Cliffe, Dover, Kent CT15 6AH

I am interested in hearing from any descendants of the CAIRNS and ROBINSON families: Matthew Cairns born 1861, Nixon Street, Jarrow, married to Florence Mary Robinson, born 1862, The Stables, Wallsend. Parents of Matthew were John Cairns and Martha

Robinson, both born c1835. Florence Mary Robinson's parents were James Robinson and Mary Ann BECK, both born mid 1820's. Florence had an older sister, Georgiana M Robinson, born 1856.

9458 STEPHANIE DEW, 5/1A Girvan Grove, Point Lonsdale, Victoria 3225, Australia

Seeking information about Joseph ROBSON who married Jane HUDSON at Heworth in 1820. When a son was baptised there in 1826, Joseph Robson was described as "a merchant of High Heworth". What kind of merchant was he, and where did he come from? Was it Hebron?

9467 SUE MILNE, 98 Margaret Street, Orange, NSW 2800, Australia

Seeking information on William Hall BURT (mother Margaret Foster Burt, father unknown), born 1912 Hartley, died 1984 Blyth, and his wife Martha Ellen COLLINS (daughter of Phillip Collins and Margaret FORBES), born 1911 Blyth, remarried 1952 to James Donohue JONES. William remarried in 1950 to Catherine RYAN. Margaret Foster Burt later married Joseph INGLEDEW and they had several children. William Hall Burt served with the Merchant Navy sometime in the 1930-40s. **Also seeking details** of the Northumberland Division of The Fairbridge Farm Child Immigration Scheme, especially between 1938 and 1950. Mother June Burt was sent to Australia in 1948 through this scheme.

9486 HAROLD SHARPE, 9 Charlton Court Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 6JB ([email: haroldqjsharprefreeserve.co.uk](mailto:email:haroldqjsharprefreeserve.co.uk))

Seeking ancestors of Andrew HALL, baptised Branton 1793, son of Robert and Mary Hall. Andrew married Ann FORSTER at Branton in 1819 and they had a son Robert Thomas Hall, baptised Branton 1833. In 1881, Robert Thomas was living at Moor Lodge, Alnwick with his wife Jane CARSE/CARSS.

9539 Mrs V LAMB-BROWN, Flat 4, Kingswater Court, Nelson Road, Brixham, Devon TQ5 8BH

Seeking any information on Margaret LAMB. Where was she born (1780-1794)? Where did she die? She had an illegitimate son called **John by Thomas BROWN who was born 1814 in Bishopwearmouth**. He must have moved to Easington with Thomas as he was baptised there in 1819.

9607 CHRISTOPHER BERRY, 98 Isis Avenue, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX6 8GS

Seeking any information on the GALBRAITH family who may have lived in or near Wooler. It is thought that a daughter of the family married William MASON and had a son Charles Mason who married Margaret SCOTT from the Wooler area. Children - John (Jack) (1894), Charles, Dora, James, Edith, George and Elizabeth. Would welcome any further information.

9626 JAMES N ALNWICK, 154 Brook Street, Garden City, New York 11530, USA ([email: jalnwick@aol.com](mailto:email:jalnwick@aol.com))

Seeking ancestors and descendants of William H ALNWICK and his wife Josephine WELLS. Any information would be welcome.

9694 Mrs BERYL DRURY, 125 Murchison Avenue, Bexley, Kent DA5 3LW

Trying to find out how long George ALLAN, with wife and family, lived at Cornish Street, New Seaham. They had a daughter c1900/7. George was a miner and shot firer. I have a photograph of him at Saltburn Convalescent Home but no date.

9721 SALLY GOULDTHORPE, 26 Kensington Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire DN15 8BQ

Information sought on forebears, siblings and descendants of John ATKINSON, forgerman, and his wife, Elizabeth GARDNER. Their son, also John Atkinson was born 1841, Pemberton's Row, Bishopwearmouth; he was also a forgerman and went on to marry Thomason Margaret SMITH at Hartlepool in 1863. Thomason Margaret Smith was the daughter of Thomas and Jane Smith (nee HENDERSON), also of Sunderland. John and Thomason had two children, John Thomas and Jane Elizabeth, both born Haverton Hill near Billingham, Co Durham.

9722 PAUL HUNTER, 1 Verbena Way, Hedge End, Southampton, Hampshire SO30 0GW

Would be interested in hearing from anyone with family connections, or interest in, Walker [sic] HUNTER and Florence CROUDACE who married at West Hartlepool in 1911. Walker was born Jarrow in 1888 and Florence West Hartlepool in 1890. Particularly interested in tracing any descendants of their brothers and sisters.

9723 Mrs ELAINE PHILLIPS, 8 Lanark Street, Kenmore, Brisbane, Queensland 4069, Australia (email-lanie@gil.com.au)

Seeking descendants and forebears of James SCOTT and Mary BRABAN who married 1837 at St Mary, Heworth. Their children were Isabella born Longbenton, Ellen born Jarrow, George, Mary and Maria all born Easington. James' parents were George Scott and Eleanor ROBINSON who were married at Longbenton in 1810. James was a miner (viewer) and the family was listed in the 1851 census at Coundon - Canny Hill, Co Durham. The next I know of them is the death of James, aged 48, and the marriages of his daughters Mary and Ellen in Nova Scotia in 1865. Ellen married and stayed in Nova Scotia and Mary married and moved to Australia. Unable to find a death for Mary Scott (Braban) in Nova Scotia, and wonder if she returned to Northumberland, perhaps with some of the other children. Any information relating to the family would be gladly received.

9727 DEREK STIRLING, Braewood, The Croft, Bishopstone, Salisbury, Wilts SP5 4DF (email-dstirling@compuserve.com)

Seeking any information on the STIRLING families who lived and worked in the Eglington area in the 1700-1800s. In particular the forebears and descendants of William Stirling, weaver of Old Bewick, who married Ann HALL in 1763 at Eglington Church.

9736 SUE McFADYEN, 2 Nuthurst Grove, Dorridge, Solihull, West Midlands B93 8PD

Seeking TAYLOR family members of Embleton/Howick, especially descendants of Richard Taylor, *stonemason*, born c1780 Howick(?) and Margaret PURVIS of Ellingham, born c1783-5. Children: Maria (1803), Jane (1804), John (1807), Mary (1808), James (1810), John (1813), Margaret (1816), Richard (1819) and Mary Ann (1821). Also, LANDRETH: Richard Taylor (born 1819) married Catherine Landreth "of Ord", born c1817/8, "dau Of Wm Landreth, farmer". Can't trace any Landreths in that area.

9743 Mrs JANET GUEST, 22 Deerhill, Wilncote, Tamworth, Staffordshire B77 4PA (email-steve@deerhill.freereserve.co.uk)

Seeking anyone with knowledge of Robert Chamber THOMPSON born 1893 Monkwearmouth, Sunderland son of Atkinson Thompson, glassmaker journeyman in 1893, born 1859 Sunderland, married 1888 to Harriet BRASS. His father was also Atkinson Thompson, a shipwright, and he was married to Jane ROBSON, dates of birth and marriage unknown. She was shown as a widow on the 1881 census for Southwick, Sunderland. Harriet Brass was born 1863 in Sunderland to Jane, formerly TODD, and Thomas, a joiner journeyman, and appeared on the 1881 census living in Bishopwearmouth with her widowed father and six other children. Any leads would be gratefully appreciated.

9755 Mr RW PLOWMAN, The Coppice, Milford Road, New Milton, Hampshire BH25 5PW

Edward POOLEY born c1884, had a brother George, sons of Francis Edward Pooley, Edward married at South Shields in 1909 and later lived in North Shields. He was a coal miner who joined the 1st Battn Northumberland Fusiliers and was killed 27th March 1918 at Arras, France. Does anyone have any information about him, or able to advise how to find where he was born?

9773 ISABELLA LOVE, 311-33401 Mayfair Avenue, Abbotsford, British Columbia V2S 6Z2, Canada (email-izzy@telus.net)

Seeking information on ancestors of Patrick McDERMOTT, and wife Catherine GOODMAN, son of Michael McDermott and Maria KELLY, born c1846 Ireland. They married at the Church of Our Lady Immaculate and Saints in Auckland 1866. Known children: Peter (1868), Maria (1870), Mary (1878), Patrick (c1880) and Margaret (c1885); all born Easington Lane, Co Durham.

9779 Mrs MJ JENNINGS, 4 Winifred Road, Mooroolbark, Victoria 3138, Australia

Would appreciate any information on the following: 1) Thomas SAYBURN/SAYBOURN, born c1826, glassmaker, married Isabella STOBART, born c1828; children William c1853, Margaret 1856, Hannah c1861 (married William PREECE) and Matthew c1862, all born Newburn Hall. 2) Margaret Sayburn married Frederick T JENNINGS, stonemason, born Falmouth, Cornwall 1849, after the death of his first wife Mabel Jane HARBOTTLE whom he married at Percy Main in 1876. 1881 Census shows Fred living at Newburn with his widowed mother and Mabel at Murton with her parents and a 3 year old daughter. In 1891 they were at Newburn with children Alexander Ironsides Sayburn Jennings (colliery mason, 1876-1943), Frederick T (1883), Albert (1886, married Alice APPLEBY) and Beatrice (1886) - all born Throckley. 3) Alexander (above) married Margaret Stewart SCOTT (1882 Newcastle - 1954 Throckley) in 1907 at Newburn. Children: Frederick T (1907), Margaret (1910), Agnes (1912), William (1915), Alexander (1917), Hannah (1920), Matthew Robert and Douglas (1926).

9787 DICK SCOTT, 15 The Close, Radlett, Hertfordshire WD7 8HA (email-rscott@netmatters.co.uk)

Seeking information on the parents of Archbold (Archibald) DIXON, Elizabeth Dixon (nee CLARK), parents of Margaret Dixon born 1853 and christened at New Presbyterian Chapel, South Shields. Archbold Dixon was described as a police officer in the chapel records but as a trimmer when his daughter married. Also, Thomas SCOTT, son of Thomas Scott, who married Margaret Dixon 1876 St Mary's, South Shields.

9799 WILLIAM SNOWDON, 6 Poplar Avenue, Countesthorpe, Leicestershire LE8 5SP

Seeking information on: 1) Robert SNOWDON, farmer, born c1800. 2) James Snowdon, clockmaker, born c1817, and wife Jane SAYER, born c1825. Children: James, also a clockmaker, born 1846 North Shields; Mary Louisa, born 1847 Tynemouth; Donna Maria, born 1850 Tynemouth and her husband Olaf HEDQUIST; and, William Frederick, merchant seaman, born 1858 Tynemouth.

9815 Ms MARGARET HEGAN, 67 Chester Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG14JY

Researching the following names: SIMM of Warkworth 1848 and Gateshead from 1876; FARRELL of Heworth and Gateshead pre-1883; CHARLTON of Heworth and Gateshead; GREENER of Lanchester and Gateshead; OLIVER of Gateshead; BELL of Heworth; KIRTON of Newcastle; HOPKIRK of Dipton; and, HANN of Lanchester.

9816 Mrs PAT KINGDON, 39 Senneleys Park Road, Birmingham B31 1AG

Searching for details of William George THOMPSON, schoolmaster at Chester-le-Street, born 1750-60, married Mary. Their son William Dawson Thompson, born Chester-le-Street 1781, became vicar at Mitford, married Elizabeth SMITH. Their children Elizabeth, George, Anna, Margaret, John and Thomas Henry (1831) who marries Sarah METCALFE and became vicar at Cassop-cum-Quarrington. Their children Ethel Maud (1866), Henrietta, Emily, Robert, Arthur, John, George and Kenneth.

9845 Fr IAN GOMERSALL, 11 Mardale Avenue, Manchester M20 4TU (email-482ig9cwcom.net)

Seeking the descendants of William Henry GOMERSALL (born 1864) who married Eleanor AINSLEY (formerly MILLER) in 1888 and settled in the South Shields area. Children included Elizabeth (b1889) Robert (b1891) and Eleanor (b1895). Also the descendants of Margaret Jane Gomersall, of Eldon near Bishop Auckland who, in 1891, married John Joseph PEACOCK, and of her brother, Martin Gomersall, (b1877) who married Ada TEESDALE in 1900 and whose children included Elizabeth Jane, Cecil, Ray/Roy and Victor.

9852 Mrs JULIE JAMESON, Roseworth, Shop Lane, Goulceby, Lincolnshire LN1 19UW

Surnames being researched include: JAMIESON/JAMESON/JAMISON, WHILLIS, BRUMWELL and HOPPER.

9857 GORDON H CLARK, 46 Beatrice Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 5RJ

George SOUTER, miner, must have been born c1849 Gregson, Cumberland and possibly married Annie MALLABURN c1873 but

can find no reference to his birth or their marriage. Where is Gregson? Annie birth was registered at Houghton-le-Spring in 1853. They had nine children, all born at different places in Northumberland and Durham: Joseph, Annie, James, John, Mary, Isaac, Sarah, Ralph and George. Mary married George Fawcett CLARK in 1902. Any help on the 'much travelled' Souters and Mallaburns would be appreciated.

9869 PETER CROWTHER, Brookside Cottage, Sandfield Lane, Acton Bridge, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 2RH
([email: pete.crowther@virgin.net](mailto:pete.crowther@virgin.net))

Searching for the birth of Isaac CROWTHER c1836. The 1871 Census 1871 said born England and the 1881 born Scotland. He married Isabella CHEESEBROUGH GARTHWAITE from Northallerton. A Quaker connection suggested. Also the marriage of Thomas YOUNG to Mary CLARK. A Bible reference says 1847, probably Borders area but no success in English /Scottish records. Also researching: 1) John THOMPSON born Stannington (1835), married Gateshead to Mary Ann KENNEDY who was born South Shields (1835). 2) John COWELL born 1845 son of William of Birtley and Elizabeth AYRE of Fatles House. John married South Shields (1865) to Jane Kennedy born South Shields (1849); father Joseph Kennedy. 3) Edward MORTON born Seghill (1831) married Elizabeth WOLF born 1835. 4) Robert PRESTON born 1836 (Scotland) married Elisabeth GILLARD born 1846.

9871 BERYL CHANDLER, 49 Station Road, Romsey, Hampshire SO51 SDP

Would welcome any information on the TAYLOR family who lived at Close, Castle Garth Stairs and, later, Ashfield Terrace, Newcastle 1847 to 1872. They were curriers and leather cutter and later, gutta percha merchants in Dean Street. Would also like to know more about William and George ANGUS who, in 1847, lived in the Close next door to the Taylors. They too were curriers and gutta percha merchants. Their business later became George Angus & Co Ltd. Were the Taylors and Angus' just neighbours, or were they related. The 1871 Census for Southwark, London shows as neighbours a Jane CHANDLER, formerly Taylor, and Henry Angus, tanner, both born St Nicholas' parish, Newcastle.

9872 BILL ARMSTRONG, 26 Trinity Place, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG13LR

Interests: 1) CARRICK of the Haltwhistle area, particularly before 1700 and any links between the Carricks and Meg MERRILIES. I have a photograph of the marriage certificate of Christopher Carrick and Ann SHARP at Gretna and a 'history of the Carricks' believed to have been written by Christopher. I will supply copies to anyone sending a SAE. 2) EDMINSON of north Northumberland, especially information on marriages, probably Presbyterian and cross-Border. 3) MILLS of Blyth, particularly those who were carpenters connected with the sea.

9876 ANNE THOMPSON, Box 309, Worsley, Alberta TOH 3WO, Canada ([email: tonnesen@telusplanet.net](mailto:tonnesen@telusplanet.net))

Seeking information about Robert ENGLISH born c1830 in Merrington and died 1906 at Whitwell House. Can not find his baptism in Kirk Merrington. He married Elizabeth LOWE, born c1834 in Trimdon; she died 1876. I do not know their marriage date, but their first child Robert Lowe English was born Oct 1858 at Whitwell House. Any information or, help on where to look, gratefully received.

10014 Mrs JOAN WALKER, 18 Mill Rise, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL61BE

Seeking information on Giles LAWSON (1778-1852) and his wife Mary YOUNG (1783/4-1860) of Ryton. On the 1851 Census they were both born at Ryton but on 1841 Giles was born in Co Durham and Mary not. Their son John (1808-1883) married Mary MOFFITT (1813/4-1872) at St Andrew's, Newcastle in 1835 and lived at Path Head, Stella. John was born Ryton and Mary at Crawcrook and they had eight sons and a daughter. Other family interests include FALDON, GILLENDER, LUMLEY, GRANT, SHIELD and ADAMSON of the Ryton, Whickham, Swalwell area.

10016 BOB SUTHREN, 8 Troon Way, Telford, Shropshire TF7 4BG
([email: bob@suthren.freemove.co.uk](mailto:bob@suthren.freemove.co.uk))

Can anyone advise how I can access/locate Passenger and Immigration Lists: Irish to America 1846-1865? The lists are of

American origin and contain details of members of my family who emigrated to America from the Longbenton area during that period.

10024 Mrs ROSEMARY McLARTY, PO Box 449, Leesburg, Ohio 45135

Family interests are: ROBSON from Blyth, and from the same area CRAWFORD and BULTITUDE; also ARCHBOLD from Embleton, and DAVIDSON from Shilbottle.

10026 CHRISTOPHER MANN, 18 Waterlow Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 7EX

Researching descendants of Jane (nee JOBSON) and Joseph OSBORNE, daughter Elizabeth Jobson, born 1881, and son Joseph, born 1883, in Elswick. Elizabeth J Osborne married William Montgomery TATE in Sunderland in 1905 and believed to remarried Edwin WOODGER in Newcastle in 1927.

10040 ROBERT DUNCAN, 11 Magdale, Honley, Huddersfield HD7 2LY

Attempting to trace the birthplace of George DUNCAN, son of Thomas Duncan and Elizabeth DAGLISH who married 1860 at St Andrew's, Newcastle. By 1881 they had seven children: George (c1861), Mary (c1863), John (c1865), Thomas (1867), Margaret (1873) and Ada (1875) and were living at Felling, Gateshead. The 1881 Census gives Heworth as the birthplace but can only trace the youngest four children who were registered at Gateshead.

10045 Mrs PATRICIA A EZZO, 124 Overlook Drive, Beaver, PA 15009, USA

Seeking information about grandmother Mary A WALSH, orphaned and sent to Tudhoe Orphanage (Roman Catholic) in Spennymoor c1875-1891 with her brothers, John, Michael and James Walsh.

10066 AMANDA BALDWIN, 12 Maes-Y-Dderwen, Monument Hill, Carmarthen SA313LX

Seeking information on the descendants of Edward WARRANT and Elizabeth GALLACHER who married 1882 at St Andrew's RC Church, Newcastle; known children: John, Edward, Daniel and Thomas. Edward had a younger sister, Elizabeth, who married a DACK. Also, any information on Chadwick Memorial Roman Catholic School for Truancy.

10080 RON THWAITES, 2 Blackhills, Esher, Surrey KT10 9JW
([email: r@rthwaites.demon.co.uk](mailto:r@rthwaites.demon.co.uk))

Interested in the family history of John THWAITES who married Isabell VASEY in 1778 at Durham St Nicholas parents of Thomas Thwaites who married Elizabeth GRIEVES at St Giles Durham in 1803, or their son Robert Grieves Thwaites who married Hannah HUTCHINSON in 1833, or of their sons and daughters including, Adam, Robert, Hannah, Thomas, Elizabeth Jane and the eldest Harriet Ann Thwaites (unmarried), mother of Charles James Thwaites who married Isabella Thompson OLLEY in 1880 (daughter of Captain Walter Olley who married Alice DAY and who drowned at sea 1867 aboard the 'Lucy' of which he was skipper) and had John, James, Walter William and Elizabeth Ann Olley, or is connected with the Thwaites brothers, Stanley, Percy, Walter Olley, John Ellicott (known as Elleck) who also had a sister Daisy who died young).

10114 Mrs FRANCES COOK, 18A-351 Manor Road, St Thomas, Ontario N5R 5Z1, Canada ([email: frances.cook@sympatico.ca](mailto:frances.cook@sympatico.ca))

Looking for information on Frank CALLAGHAN, born 1898 at the Union Workhouse, Stockton-on-Tees, son of Thomas Callaghan and Elizabeth nee TURNER. His father was injured in the Boer War and later died in 1907. Elizabeth married again in the mid-1920s and died in the 1930s. Frank was put into an orphanage c1906 at 10 Windsor Street, either Stockton or Middlesbrough and was later sent to Canada. What was the name of the orphanage, and are there any records?

10120 Mrs NM ROSE, 56 'Woodland Way', Hungtington, York YO32 9NY

Researching, the GRAYDON of Trimdon, Chester le Street and Walker. Have found Nicholas born in Cocken 1827, newly married to Jane WATSON, of Walker, living in Walker on the 1851 Census

and on the 1881 Census at Walker with his children: George 1852, Ann 1856, John 1859, Nicholas 1862, Elias 1864. Family legend has it Nicholas' had brothers who were seamen. Would welcome **information on his brothers, or from anyone who may be researching Graydon. Would also like to contact anyone researching ARMSTRONG of Bywell St Peter, and St Andrew.** This family are supposed to be connected to the ARMSTRONG-JONES family tree, but not direct descendants.

10178 JANET SMITH, The Bungalow, Maywick, Bigton, Shetland ZE2 9JF ([email: janet.adair.smith@zetnet.co.uk](mailto:janet.adair.smith@zetnet.co.uk))

Looking for any information on the following: 1) James HARRISON, dogger born 1841 Newcastle, died 1881-1894, married 1871 to Annie BYERS born 1845 Newcastle. They at Whites Court Newcastle 1873, 1881, 1894 at Castle Stairs. Children from census Susannah 1867, James 1870, Margaret A 1872, Mary Elizabeth 1873, Edith 1879, all born Newcastle. James is possibly son of James Harrison, clogger born 1815 Hull and Dorothy born 1817 Barlow, in 1871 at Castle Stairs. 2) George Forbes SMITH, printer, born 1841 Aberdeen, son of William Smith, gardener, and Helen SUTHERLAND; married Elizabeth JOHNSON (born 1849/50 Spittal, Berwick on Tweed) 1872 at Gilesgate, Durham, 1881 at Albert Street, Gateshead. Children from Census: Henry born 1869 Durham, George William born 1871 Durham, Robert born 1872 Durham St Giles, Francis born 1875 Gateshead and Margaret Ellen ~~born 1879 Gateshead.~~ 3) ~~Robert Smith, printer compositor married Mary Elizabeth Harrison 1894 at St Nicholas, Newcastle and lived Gateshead.~~

10179 Mrs CAROLINE BILTON, 39 Brereton Way, Cadbury Heath, Bristol BS30 5DY

George STEPHENSON, inventor of the 'Rocket' was my husband's **2x great grandfather of his mother's side. Would like to hear from any descendants.** Grandmother was Mary Jane SMITH, daughter of Margaret Stephenson, George's daughter. Also, William McIVOR came to Newcastle in 1890, with his parents from Elgin in Scotland, aged 1 year, son of John McIvor and Isabella nee BELL. They lived in Raby Street, Byker area of Newcastle and had 21 more **children. Does anyone have details of the children or details of the family.**

10218 LAWSON SMITH, 17 Potterhill Flats, Perth, Scotland PH2 7EA ([email: lawsonhns.smith44@virgin.net](mailto:lawsonhns.smith44@virgin.net))

Seeking information on the family of William L SMITH, born c1852 in Newcastle. His parents were William and Sarah (nee LAWSON). He may have had a brother, Henry L Smith and a sister Mary EL Smith. This family was in the Newcastle (Byker) area up to and including the 1871 census. By the 1881 census, William L appears to have moved from the area. Any help would be appreciated.

10220 CAROL McGOVAN, 5 Stonechat Close, Ayton, Washington, Tyne & Wear NE38 0DF

Searching for any information on John Robinson BURNS born about 1869, his father's name William. He married Margaret McILROY at St John's Church, Hebburn in 1917 and they had one daughter, Mary. He had three daughters to a previous relationship their names were Margaret, Rachel and Elizabeth. I am to believe Elizabeth was adopted out and they lived in the Denton Bum area of Newcastle. I have his marriage and death but can find no reference to his birth. Any information would be gratefully received.

10245 Mrs WIN WALLACE, 39 Wintringham Way, Purley-on-Thames, Berkshire RG8 8BH

Trying to trace any truth in a family story. My ancestors, names INGRAM, came from Edmundbyers. The story says that there was a Marley Ingram who was burnt on Muggleswick Common for alleged being a witch. I can find no written evidence of this.

10266 Mrs K BRYCE, 15 Churchill Way, Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire NN15 5RX

Searching for the ancestors of John DODDS and Margaret (or Elizabeth) BOWER of Mares Close Farm, Seghill, Seaton Delaval. The only Margaret Bower found so far would have been at least 44 at the birth of her first child. John and Margaret had 7 children: Margaret, John, Jane Ann, Dinah, Bobbie, Florence and Violet Gertrude. John Dodds may have arrived from Tow Law. A niece,

Jane Bower, gave evidence at the inquest of John Dodds (1914) who died following an accident at Mares Close Farm where he had worked for 16 years. Also, Cuthbert and Jane Dodds of Tow Law must be related as a newspaper report of their deaths was found in a family Bible (alas no year). Cuthbert was formerly of Woodhouse Close Colliery but I have no idea where this was. Any help will be very much appreciated.

10277 Miss DOROTHY GAFF, 9 Keir Hardie Court, Woodlea, Newbiggin-by-Sea, Northumberland NE64 6LH

Grandfather Francis RAWLING, born 1858 Weetslade, Longbenton, married Dorothy Ann MAUGHAN 1891. They had one daughter, Catherine. Francis was the son of Joseph Rawling, born 1815 Houghton le Spring and Catherine VEST, born 1819. Joseph's father thought to be James. Any additional information would be appreciated.

10336 Mr JOHN M SEAL, "Touchwood", Cleveley Road, Enstone, Oxfordshire OX7 4LW ([email: johnmseal@ukgateway.net](mailto:johnmseal@ukgateway.net))

Need to find the SEAL line who migrated to Leicestershire and were sheep farmers there between c1600 and 1800 in Great Bowden. First known Seal in Great Bowden William b1612. His father also thought to be a William. Also the PEARSONS who left for Westmorland late 17th century. First known Pearson in Westmorland is Robert c1657-171112 (Fmarried LK82 to Ann-~~WILSON~~). ~~family were tailors between 1716 and 1916.~~

10338 Mrs SUSAN MILLER, 8 Mitchley Avenue, Purley, Surrey CR8 1EA ([email: susan.miller@virgin.net](mailto:susan.miller@virgin.net))

Interested in hearing from anyone searching the names SLANE/SLAIN and RAY, (originally from Maryport in Cumberland and Ireland) and DERGON or KING (of Portsea in Southampton) who lived around the Jarro area. I am looking at anything before 1901.

10385 Mrs EO HOOTON, 3 Longshaw Close, North Wingfield, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S42 5QR

My maternal ggg grandparents were Joseph BELL married Eleanor WILSON. Children: Joseph bapt 1804; Robert 1807; Patience 1809, Tweedmouth, died after 1891, New Road, Coldstream, Berwickshire. Patience married Peter MATTHEW, a carter, 1831 at Coldstream. On the following Census: 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, they lived at New Road, Coldstream, Berwickshire. Would be very grateful for any information on the Bell side. Is anyone researching the name VETTCH?

HELP OFFERED

8415 JOHN MITCHISON, 30 Woodhorn Road, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Northumberland NE64 6JA

Will be visiting the Mikra British Cemetery in Thessalonika, Greece later this year and would be happy to bring back photographs of individual graves, or of the Mikra Memorial, for any members with an interest.

9755 Mr RW PLOWMAN, The Coppice, Milford Road, New Milton, Hampshire BH25 5PW

Is a regular visitor to Hampshire Record Office and would be happy to check records for any fellow member.

. . . MORE BURIALS AT SMITHESDALE, VICTORIA

9th July 1864, Edward Hall, 26 yrs father Thomas, mother unknown, was accidently killed when earth fell on him at the Reliance Claim at Scarsdale, he came from North Shields.

5th June 1874 Burn Peart 38 yrs, son of Joseph and Ann, died at "Time Will Tell" Sluicing Company when the ground fell in on him, born Weardale, Durham, married Elizabeth Hodgson.