

CONTENTS

Vol 25, No 3

Autumn 2000

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Editorial | 70 |
| 1891 Census Project | <i>by Moira Furness</i> 70 |
| Letters to the Editor | 71 |
| News | 73 |
| An Early 19th Century Name-List | <i>by Rob Wallace</i> 74 |
| Untapped Sources | <i>by Sandra Robinson</i> 75 |
| Is There Anybody There? | 75 |
| A Look at the NDFHS Library | 76 |
| A Name and a Date | 77 |
| Marriages from the 'Berwick Advertiser' | 77 |
| Tracing Your Family History in Northumberland and County Durham | <i>by Geoff Nicholson</i> 78 |
| Book Reviews | <i>by Pat Swanston</i> 80 |
| North-East Prisoners in Kent | <i>by Stephen W Maddison</i> 81 |
| Weddings as Entertainment | <i>by Keith Armstrong</i> 83 |
| Durham - A 19th Century Shamrock County | <i>by John P Eyre</i> 84 |
| Subscription Renewals | 86 |
| Tricycles and Steamers | <i>by Susan Watson</i> 87 |
| Burradon Colliery Disaster | 87 |
| Oxfordshire Family History Society Open Day 2000 | 88 |
| Ephemera | <i>by Pearl McAlderson</i> 89 |
| Electoral Registers - More Good News | <i>by William Neil</i> 89 |
| NDFHS Checklist (2): 1851 Census Durham | 90 |
| Members' Interests and Queries | 94 |
| Advertisements | 102 |
| Diary | 104 |

Please note any advertisements have been accepted by the Northumberland and Durham FHS, as a service to members, and in good faith. The Society is in no way responsible for any services performed and cannot become involved in any way, or in any disputes which may arise. The Society reserves the right to refuse any advertisements, without giving reasons.

ALL ITEMS IN THIS JOURNAL © 2000 NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY AND ITS CONTRIBUTORS.

• POSTAL •

LIBRARY SERVICE

To those members living out of the area may I draw your attention to the above scheme run by our Society to help those members who cannot visit Bolbec Hall.

The catalogue is £1.50 post free and can be obtained from:

Mrs D Tait, Postal Librarian,
Bolbec Hall, Westgate Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE11SE

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-1 pm and 1 pm-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

I have had more messages about the Census Checklists than about any other topic, and should like to thank all those who wrote. As I had not one unfavourable comment, I have gone ahead with the Durham 1851 Census Checklist, which is published in this *Journal*. Readers may make photocopies for their own research, as required.

The question now arises as to what other lists might prove useful. I would welcome all suggestions. I am not at present in favour of doing checklists for other census years. So few of the 1861 and 1871 Census pieces have been indexed that any checklist would say more about what has not yet been indexed than what has. Perhaps you disagree, or have other ideas.

I have thought about the possibility of a guide to the churches licensed for marriages from 1837. If one found that a marriage took place in Hexham District, for example, a search of all the churches in the Hexham section of the Guide might reveal the marriage without the recourse to the expense of a certificate. The excellent genealogical gazetteer published by Durham Record Office already does this to a certain extent, by providing lists of Anglican churches within each registration district. But in Northumberland County there is as yet no equivalent of the Durham gazetteer, and a checklist would provide, of course, the names of any Nonconformist chapels or churches as well as Anglican ones. Such an idea might help speed up searches at Morpeth Record Centre, where time is at a premium. Large districts such as Newcastle might particularly benefit from having their churches listed. I would welcome suggestions from readers who have experienced hold-ups in their work because they lacked a checklist.

The NDFHS Council has changed somewhat since the June AGM. We welcome the newcomers, and thank outgoing Council members who have given so much of their spare time to the Society's work. It is with considerable regret that I have to record that there seems still to be a number, thankfully small, of our members who seem not to appreciate that all the Society's workers, including the Bolbec Hall volunteers who man the desk and help our visitors, give of their time freely and out of their goodwill. They are motivated by a desire to help, and to forward the Society's aims. What are we to make of this small minority who try to cajole our volunteers into doing their research for them; who regard the small fee for postal research as 'carte blanche' for open-ended requests for work that could take hours to complete; and who can occasionally become abusive when the Society is unable to comply with their requests.

I had such an experience recently, in an editorial way, following an oversight on my part in a recent *journal*. This may seem small beer in comparison to what may follow, however! I have had to survive this past month without e-mail. My usual Tesco connection has worked well in the past from my French summer base, but some unexplainable glitch has now stopped me from making contact for over a month. The Tesco Online Help is, amazingly, unobtainable from outside the UK. So much for the international application of E-mail. On my return to the UK I shall be bidding a not-very-fond farewell to my erstwhile service provider, but meanwhile, it may well be that certain news items and a few shorter articles may lie undetected in the electronic embrace of the Tesco server. I hope this explains any rough edges and omissions in this *journal*, for which I take full responsibility, and for which you have my apologies.

1891 CENSUS PROJECT

by Moira Furness

Readers may like to know we have started a project to index the 1891 Census for Northumberland & Durham. A small band of willing helpers meet at Bolbec Hall every Monday at 4.00pm to transcribe the Census Fiche on to sheets. Eventually these will be entered on to computer, checked and made into alphabetical indexes. We also have a few volunteers from further away who have made their own arrangements to gain access to the Census. In the dim and distant future all the small indexes will be joined to make one large index.

Could you help? If you feel you would like to help but can not visit Bolbec Hall you could investigate your local library or Record Office. Many of them have parts of the 1891 for their area, and you can transcribe there. Libraries at North Shields, South Shields, Hexham, Alnwick, Gateshead and Durham all have some. We have agreed to provide our own fiche reader at Northumberland Record Office, specifically for our members to use for transcribing, so they do not obstruct the public who wish to use the machines.

Each volunteer is given a specific fiche to write out by hand and we have put together packs containing sheets for transcriptions, instructions, abbreviations and examples. We can not at present send out photocopies to work from as our machine is not suitable and a replacement would be too expensive. In about six months time we will need people with Excel or Lotus (spreadsheets) or Access to input the material, but first we must have the transcriptions to enter. Further into the future we will need people to check the work before we make fiche or books to sell for the society. I'm sure that sometime there will be a job you can do, so please think about it.

Cleveland Family History Society has indexed many parts of South Durham and we do not want to duplicate their work. I am also aware that Berwick Record Office has several indexes. If you know of any other work which has already been done please let me know. Please do **not** start without contacting me first, as it would be a tragedy if two people did the same thing or if your work did not fit in with our scheme. I am available at Bolbec Hall on Thursday afternoon, and Monday after 4.00pm (Tel: 0191 2612159) or by letter at 8 Shadfen Park Road, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3JD.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STANDARDS IN GENEALOGY

Paul Wrightson, e-mail paul@wrightson4.freemove.co.uk writes:

I hope you have had some deserved response to your item relating, basically, to the amount of evidence we should have before including individuals as part of our family tree.

A scientist's response to criticisms of the teaching of the theory of evolution has played a major part in developing my thoughts on the subject. His point was that if further research showed errors in established thinking/belief, this would be acknowledged and the scientific records would be updated in line with the new evidence. I believe this is exactly the right attitude for the genealogist to have. It should always be recognised that any family tree is subject to some degree of error, which the researcher would quickly correct when a more concrete alternative comes to light.

Let's face it, if we waited for 100% proof, none of us would ever draw up a tree, let alone present it to others. For a start, there is the very good argument of hardly anybody in the past being able to prove fatherhood. Many women could have had extra-marital affairs or a single woman could have married, after becoming pregnant, a man who was not the father of the child! Another example I can give relates to one of my own ancestors, a John Fawcett. In 1939, he gave the name of Michael *Fawcett* as being his father (this being recorded on the marriage certificate). However, his baptismal record shows him to be the illegitimate son of Elizabeth Fawcett, who married a Michael *Coates* a few months later. I have assumed Michael Coates was not John Fawcett's father, as I would have thought he would have adopted the surname Coates after the marriage if this were the case. However, is it a fact that at that time all children adopted their father's name if their parents married after their birth/baptism?

(Incidentally, that last example raised an interesting dilemma for me, at the time. John Fawcett was the first illegitimate ancestor I had come across and I thought, "What do I do now? Do I continue researching my paternal grandmother's family name of Fawcett or do I try to discover who John's father might have been - through surviving bastardy records, for example - and continue researching through that male line?" I have in fact continued my searches of the Fawcett line, but it does seem strange having one female name, Elizabeth on what was expected - beyond my grandmother - to be an all-male, Fawcett direct line of descent!)

But, to revert to the main point you were making in your article regarding lack of evidence through missing records: the point of a record on a tree being deemed as unreliable because of missing records of parishes in a

"five-mile radius" is a good one but this is only one of so many factors in establishing "proof" of an ancestor.

With regard to the "distance factor" I would like to give another example of my own. When searching for the birth of an Isabel Mabel Lauder in the Sunderland area around 1870, the nearest match I could find in the GRO indexes was an Isabel Lauder who was born in Durham (city) in 1870. However, in my application for the certificate I specified the father's name must be shown as "James". I received the standard refund without the certificate, as there was not a match. Later, I found Isabel was actually registered Isabella Mabon Lauder - on her *Scottish* birth certificate!

So, the point I am trying to make is, although some evidence makes it far more likely than not that an individual belongs in your family tree, how many genealogists can truly say "hand on heart" that they can vouch 100% for every name in their tree? Given that, one idea of mine was to have one database on my computer only containing the "almost-certain" and another which included those for which there was quite a bit of evidence of relationship but for whom there was still some lingering doubts. But I think you make a good point about it being primarily a hobby for most of us. Therefore, we do have a right as individuals to choose whom we wish to include. However, I believe we should be a little more careful when it comes to handing out this information to others. Although, even then, if we do so with the warning that there might be certain errors in our work, our fellow genealogist might be able to come up with something which either presents further evidence for an individual being included or shows he/she should be excluded from our tree, after all. So perhaps this last point shows it is not always best to keep doubtful information to yourself!

I would be very grateful for your readers' comments on one point: has anyone any knowledge of whether, in earlier times, a child born illegitimately to parents who later married, would adopt the father's surname following the marriage? Articles/books on genealogy often advise a marriage sometimes took place up to a year after a child's birth, but seem to omit the answer my question!

In closing this, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you and your colleagues for your efforts on behalf of members of the NDFHS.

TYPHUS IN WESTGATE

Mr David Beattie, of 4 Arlington Park Mansions, Sutton Lane North, Chiswick, London W4 4HE, writes:

I read Mr David Morris's article about cholera in the Journal's Summer number with much interest. This

was not the only killer disease spread by poor sanitation, as is shown by a disaster which struck a part of my family.

My great-great grandfather George Wardhaugh, a whitesmith, died on 13 April 1848 at 3 Blandford Street, Westgate, aged 38. The cause of death was "Continued Fever, Typhus, 20 days". His six year old son Thomas died on the same day and at the same address of "Fever, 6 days". His three week old daughter Catherine had died there on 6 April, of "Weakness".

One Mary Wardhaugh, 46, the wife of Thomas Wardhaugh, whitesmith, died at Temple Street, Westgate, on 6 April 1848, of "Typhus Fever, 12 days". Wardhaugh is not a common name, and I suspect that Mary was related by marriage to George's family. However this may be, it certainly seems that typhus was raging in Westgate at the time.

How did George's widow, Mary Ann (daughter of James Dunn, mariner), cope with her triple bereavement including the loss of the family breadwinner? She was left with at least three daughters aged 10, 8 and 4 and, probably, a young son. She next appears in the 1851 census at 12 Ouse Burn, Byker with the three daughters, two lodgers and the young son of one of the lodgers. Later that year she married one of the lodgers, a man younger than herself who could not sign his name. She had at least two children by him and died in 1888.

GENEALOGY AND LLOYD'S INDEXES FOR MASTER MARINERS

Mr Peter Hull, of 49 North Grange Road, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3AG, writes:

My original list of Master Mariners of Sunderland for 1851, in *journal* NDFHS 1994 (No 1, p24), resulted in a generous offer by: Mrs Janet Robinson, 34 Hampden Avenue, Wahroonga 2076 Australia, to look through her complete lists of all 60,000 Masters of this period.

The lists of Masters that I made for Sunderland only, for 1869 (Journal NDFHS 1997 No 2) and 1901 (Journal NDFHS 1999, No 2) seemed to be of interest to a number of members, so I have extended these to give an alphabetical list of Masters from all Northeast ports (Newcastle, North and South Shields, Hartlepool, Stockton, etc), in addition to Sunderland, for these dates. There are now about five times as many Masters in each of the lists (1869 and 1901), and I would be glad to look through them for any names of interest.

GRAY OF DURHAM CITY

Mr Brian Cheeseman, of 6 Pimlico, Durham DH1 4QW, writes:

An archeological rescue dig at the foot of Claypath in the centre of Durham City last summer uncovered a prestigious bottle engraved *John Gray in Durham 1718*.

In the course of investigating him, and also as part of an unrelated project on the history of South Street in Durham, I have amassed particulars from parish registers, wills, guild records, etc of two Durham GRAY/GREY families who held property in Claypath. The bottle belonged to the grandson of a John Gray, dyer, listed in the Claypath Hearth Tax return in 1666 and buried at St Nicholas 1669. His son Robert, 1643-99, dyer and Alderman, bequeathed a stock of dyed cloth to his son John, 1674-1750, who rose to become Warden of the guild in 1708 and then Mayor four times between then and 1735. He married three times, firstly Rebecca CHIPCHASE by whom he had seven children between 1701 and 1715, including a third John and a Chipchase, next in 1718 Mary BOWES of Bradley; and after her death her cousin Elizabeth BOWES of Quarry Hill who bore him Bowes Gray in 1725 and Sarah in 1729. From John III are descended the SCURFIELD family of Hurworth listed in Burke's *Landed Gentry*.

A separate group of 12 Grays were ropemakers, belonging to their guild between 1620 and 1826. The chances are that all were related to each other, but it has not been possible to discover any link with the Gray dyers. In 1804 John II was apprenticed to Ralph V, probably his brother, but quickly ran away to sea. He married Rachel HOLT, and after he went down as captain of his ship *Thames* in the Bosphorus in 1837, she emigrated with their son Robert to Canada where a descendant, Michael Gray of Toronto, whose address I have, is working on the family history. Robert's grandmother Caroline Gray, a widow for 59 years, lived in one of several family properties in South Street, where ropes had been made, dying there in 1854 aged 96. Subsequent Gray owners included Robert and Ralph, both curriers, the latter in business in Claypath 1884.

I hope to publish in the *Bulletin of the Durham County Local History Society* accounts both of the Gray dyers (with their link to minor branches of the Bowes gentry) and of the ropemaking industry of Durham City. I should be delighted if I could find some connection between the two sets of Grays.

HENRY HIRD FORSTER

Mr DJ Baker of Afryn, Rhydlewis, Llandysul, Ceredigion SA44 5SA, writes:

I am researching the late Henry Hird Forster, 1831-1905. He was the only son of "William John Forster of Northumberland" and married a lady called Mary Scott, maiden name unknown.

HH Forster died 1 April 1905 at Leamington Spa and left a fortune of £27,795 and, since I have yet to find any reference to him following any trade or profession, my assumption is that this was old money.

Henry and Mary had no children, so the money went to a vicar called Hardwick, whose connection with the family is, at present, open to speculation.

The reason for my interest in this man is that I own one of his guns, which is interesting from a general point of view because, inlaid in gold on the lockplate, is the monogram "HHF" in a very fanciful design.

I am writing to you in the hope that HHF features in one of your members' family trees. If this is the case, I would be happy to supply a photograph of the monogram, and indeed the whole gun, plus such other details as I have gleaned.

VICTORIAN PHOTO ALBUM

WG Storey, of 33 Cambridge Avenue, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE261BB, writes:

I have in my possession a Victorian photograph album found in the roof void of my home in Cambridge Avenue, Whitley Bay. It is leather bound, was made in Germany and purchased from Mawson, Swan and Morgan, Booksellers, Newcastle upon Tyne. On the flyleaf there is a watercolour painting depicting an English Lake or a Scottish Loch. The painting bears the name JT BROWN and is dated 1893. On the first page is a name and date BESSIE OCTOBER 12/1891. One of the photographs bears the name BESSIE LITTLEJOHN; another has the name BEADLE pencilled on the back. The album contains sixty photographs all portraits taken by various photographic studios throughout the UK. If anyone is interested in the album and can prove a relationship to the BROWN or LITTLEJOHN families they are welcome to the album.

NEWS

NDFHS ADVANCED NOTICE CONFERENCE SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2001

We are in the process of organising next year's conference which will take a similar format to the one held at Gosforth in January.

The venue is
ST PETER'S CAMPUS,
UNIVERSITY OF SUNDERLAND

Speakers will include
MIKE GANDY
who gave a splendid talk this year.

In order to accommodate members who do not live within easy travelling distance of Bolbec Hall, and who will be visiting the area in order to attend the Saturday conference, we shall host a cheese and wine reception at Bolbec Hall on the Friday evening, when all members are invited. Research facilities could be made available if requested.

Bolbec Hall will be opened again on Sunday, for research or perusal of the excellent facilities.

Please note your diary now for the weekend Friday 23 to 25 February 2001, and look out for the booking form in the next issue of this magazine.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

The NDFHS Council is happy to announce the following changes, following the June AGM.

Chairman: Derek Cuthbert

Treasurer: Mrs Valerie Robson
Assistant Treasurer: Phil Thirkell
Vice-Chairman: Gerry Langley
South Tyneside Branch Secretary: Margaret Stafford

Would readers always refer to the latest *journal* where Council members' addresses are constantly updated.

NEWS FROM DURHAM COUNTY RECORD OFFICE

Meeting for 'Friends of Durham Record Office'

In common with a number of other record offices in the region, the Durham County Record Office is considering whether it would be possible to set up a Friends of the Durham Record Office organisation. We are not sure how much interest there would be in such an organisation, so we have decided to hold an exploratory meeting in County Hall, Durham, on Tuesday, 17 October 2000 at 7.00pm.

We hope that everybody interested will come along and look forward to seeing as many people as possible.

A First for the Durham Record Office

From 21 August 2000 the Durham Record Office's database has been available on its website, www.durham.gov.uk/recordoffice

Anybody with access to the internet anywhere in the world, is now able to consult all of the Office's detailed catalogues and to search the catalogues for the material of interest. The Office is the first record office in this country to provide such a service.

UNTAPPED SOURCES

by Sandra Robinson

I don't know about you, but I love looking around second hand book shops. You just never know what little gem you may find which may help in "putting the meat on the bones" of your family history. Therefore, last Easter Bank holiday while trying to avoid the usual bank holiday downpour in my favourite second home, Seahouses, I saw that they now had a Barter Book shop just off the High Street, so in we went. My niece Jenny saw this huge book on one of the shelves, which she immediately wanted to buy. The book was titled "The Scots Worthies: Their Lives and Testimonies", I tried to dissuade her but I think she was more impressed with the size of it rather than the contents. When we got back to the caravan I had a look through the book and to my delight noticed that inside the cover someone had hand-written all their family's births, and deaths from 1801-1946.

Then this got me thinking. Obviously not all past budding family historians possessed family bibles to record their family's history in, so they used the next best thing which was an old book with plenty of space on the inside cover to keep their records. Therefore, the next time you have access to any old books, check the front and back covers. Someone, somewhere will be very grateful and you will have done your bit towards preserving family history records, which can get lost in the mists of time.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Easton Scott | Born 8 September 1802 | Died at Stotfordhead 8 August 1858* |
| Margaret Scott | Born 1 October 1811 | Died at Stotfordhead 30 April 1873* |
| Jane Scott | Born at Twizel on 3 January 1826 | |
| Elenour Scott | Born at Twizel on 26 March 1828 | |
| George Scott | Born at Twizel on 22 May 1830 | Died 23 August 1853 |
| Mary Ann Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 11 June 1832 | Died Stotfordhead 19 February 1842 |
| Margaret Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 12 April 1835 | |
| Thomas Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 11 June 1837 | Died Middle Ord 3 October 1906** |
| Stephen Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 27 October 1832 | Died at Stotfordhead 8 August 1858 |
| William Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 17 March 1842 | Died at sea 14 January 1863 |
| Mary Ann Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 2 December 1844 | Died 6 May 1853 |
| Isabella Swan | Born at Donaldsons Lodge 22 October 1840 | Died Middle Ord 28 September 1918** |
| Easton Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 21 September 1865 | Died Royalty Hall 30 March 1934 |
| Agnes Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 24 March 1867 | Died at Royalty Hall 12 July aged 65 |
| Frances Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 30 October 1868 | Died at Monkton Lodge October 1942 |
| George Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 4 September 1870 | Died October 1947 |
| Margaret Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 1 November 1872 | Died at Duddo 9 May 1946 |
| Isabella Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 15 October 1874 | |
| Thomas Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 30 October 1876 | Died 30 March 1919 |
| Mary Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 22 February 1879 | Died Newcastle 3 March 1924 |
| Jane Scott | Born at Stotfordhead 4 September 1882 | Died 6 November 1941 |

* Easton Scott married Margaret Briggs

** Thomas Scott married Isabella Swan

Editor's note: Mrs Robinson's address: 38 Weldon Crescent, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7HY

IS THERE ANYBODY THERE?

This tombstone was spotted by Mrs Julia Say (Membership No 8713) whilst visiting Blyth Cemetery. It is an excellent example of how the persons named on a gravestone may not necessarily be buried beneath it.

*"George Wilson HOPE, Master Mariner, who was drowned in St. Katherine's Dock, March 16th, 1859,
aged 41 years, interred Bow Cemetery, London.*

John, his son, left San Francisco for Queenstown in the barque Roddell Bay of Glasgow Dec 30th 1880 and was never heard of, aged 29 years.

*George Richardson, his son, left Shields for Valparaiso in the barque Adelaide of Shields, May 4th,
spoken May 20th 1884, and never more heard of, aged 36 years.*

William, his son, was accidentally killed at Elswick Ordnance Works, Jan 27th 1888 aged 33 years. Interred at Elswick cemetery.

William his son died in infancy.

Ann his wife, died Nov ?? aged ?61 years."

Editor's Note: Only the last two named persons are buried there.

A LOOK AT THE NDFHS LIBRARY

SOME WILL ITEMS AND SOME MILITARY

Wills are a fascinating source of information, and if you are lucky they can provide a great deal of genealogical information.

Thanks to the good offices of our Durham branch, the NDFHS Library at Bolbec Hall has recently acquired five microfilms of the indexes to Durham Wills. They cover the period from about 1540 to 1857. The state, through Probate Registries, took over responsibility for proving wills and other probate matters on 12 January 1858 but before then they were administered by the Church of England, and these films are of the indexes to those pre-1858 wills for the Diocese of Durham. The Diocese covered the whole of County Durham and Northumberland (except for Hexham and the area known as Hexhamshire, and the parish of Thockrington, all of which were administered from York) and the wills themselves are held by Durham University Archives and Special Collections at Palace Green, Durham.

What the Society has now obtained are film copies of the indexes to those wills. There is not just one overall index to the 350-odd years; at Durham there are five stout volumes - which are not modern - which are arranged chronologically within each letter of the alphabet. For example, testators with a surname beginning with the letter "A" in 1741 are followed by those for 1742, and then those for 1743 and so on. The names are not in strict alphabetical order within each letter, and they are arranged by the year in which probate was granted and not by the year of death. If you find a will which might interest you, you can view it (free of charge) at Durham, or obtain a copy of it from there. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also has film of the will indexes, as well as over 250 reels of the wills themselves, and these are available via local Family History Centres of the Church.

We have recently obtained a copy of the will - not proved at Durham! - of a man we might almost call local. He was, after all, born at Marton, just out of our area - *Captain James Cook*, "Commander of HM Sloop Resolution" who died in 1779 at the hands of the Hawaii mafia, having gone to that island after a business trip to Australia and New Zealand. He was the second of eight children of James and Grace Cook and if you think you might be descended from him, think again! His own six children all died without issue, so there are no direct descendants. The NDFHS Library (ref FH14) has "*A Comprehensive Study of the Family of Captain James Cook RN FRS 1728-1779*", compiled by Ada Burnicle in 1985, which looks at Cook's brother John (1727-1749), and his sister Christiana (1731-1795) (who married a Mr Cocker and

had daughters who wed a Mr Ashdown and an Essex "ag.lab" called Tree). It is mainly concerned, however, with the numerous descendants, many in the Sunderland area, of Cook's sister Margaret, who married James Fleck at Great Ayton in 1764. I noted the name Carter in Sunderland (descending from John Carter who married Margaret's daughter Grace Fleck) and Slaughter in South Shields, including Todd Slaughter who played the role of Sweeney Todd, the demon barber of Fleet Street. The name Fleck, too, appears of course. Many of the trees in this book extend down to the 1980's, appropriately including descendants in New South Wales and Tasmania. The book does not have an index, but if some family tale suggests you have a link with the famous mariner, perusal of its many "trees" may be worthwhile.

If you are on line, what is claimed to be the "entire family tree" is available at:

<http://winthrop.webjump.com/cooktree.html>

The point is made that, since the explorer has no direct descendants, the presence of the Cook surname "tends to invalidate a family relationship rather than sustaining it".

On matters military, *All These Fine Fellows, Hawick and District and the Great War 1914-1918* is "not a comprehensive history of Hawick and District during the Great War" according to the author Derek Robertson, but it "highlights some of the principal episodes during the time using, where possible, the actual words, written or spoken, of those locals who were touched by it". This Scottish Border town is, of course, outside our area but the Roll of Honour, listing 693 men, in alphabetical order with their home addresses, dates of death, and a note of where they are commemorated, might prove useful to some of our members, as may the list of other Hawick men culled from *Soldiers Died in the Great War*. There are also listings of the names on memorials at Ashkirk, Bedrule, Bonchester Bridge, Cavers, Denholm, Liddlesdale, Lilliesleaf, Newmill, Robertson Southdean, Stobs and Teviothead.

Still on war matters, we have *The Fiftieth Division 1914-1919* by Everard Wyrall, a recent reprint of a 1939 book by a prolific military historian. The 50th (Northumbrian) Division recruited from Durham, Northumberland and North an East Yorkshire. Its infantry battalions were from the Northumberland Fusiliers, East Yorks, Green Howards and Durham Light Infantry and it crossed to France on 16 April 1915 and suffered no less than 34,000 casualties. There are few if any names of "other ranks" and not too many

officers named either, but if you know that an ancestor served with this Division you could well find details of actions and battles in which he took part.

World War II naval medal recipients are the subject of *The Distinguished Service Medal 1939-1946*. This is a useful list of all DSM recipients, easily searchable via a complete name index. Details of the circumstances of the award are outlined, and service numbers and

sometimes places of origin are given. For example, Temporary Acting Leading Seaman Edward Glasper P/JX 382339, of Sunderland, was one of eight recipients who were rewarded for "gallantry, daring and marked devotion to duty in Commando operations on the Dutch Coast during the invasion of North West Europe" as detailed in the *London Gazette* of 19 June 1945, information which could lead to further productive research.

A NAME AND A DATE

North Sunderland Petitioners, 1832

The important Bamburgh Estate archive at Northumberland Record Office (Ref NRO 452) is a valuable potential aid to researchers with families in the Bamburgh area, including the Castle and Borough manor court books.

The collection includes a number of lists of petitioners dated from before 1760 to 1885. With grateful acknowledgement to the Bamburgh Estate and to Northumberland Record Office, we publish below an example of one such petition, consisting of the signatures of the inhabitants of North Sunderland who desired the Trustees of the late Lord Crewe's Charities to erect a Pump or Reservoir in North Sunderland. Sometimes a name and a date alone can be invaluable in helping us decide whether or not a person we are interested in was, or was not, present in a particular parish at a given time. The petition bears a date of September 1832.

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Arkle, John | Downey, Margaret | Hall, Robert | Murrey, Ann | Thew, William |
| Armstrong, Alex | Eadington, Thomas | Hamilton, William | Nelson, Thomas [jun] | Thompson, Alexander |
| Armstrong, John | Eadington, Thomas | Hastings, Margaret | Ogilvie, Isabella | Thompson, John |
| Bell, Joseph | Edward, Stephen | Hogg, John | Ogilvie, N | Thompson, John |
| Bell, Joseph | Edwards, Daniel | Hollon, Robert | Patterson, Edward | Thompson, William |
| Bowey, Thomas | Edwards, John | Hope, Peter | Perrow, William | Treasurer, Alexander |
| Bowmaker, Robert | Edwards, Stephen | Humbley, John | Purves, Anthony | Treasurer, Isabella |
| Bradford, Thomas | Edwards, Thomas | Hutterson, Richard | Purves, John | Turner, Ann |
| Christian, Elizabeth | Ferguson, John | Jobson, Thomas | Richardson, Andrew | Turner, George |
| Christian, George | Farrow, J.R | Jobson, William | Robertson, Robert | Wake, George |
| Clark, William | Fender, George | Jobson, William | Robinson, Robert | Watson, Ann |
| Clegon, Ralph | Fender, John | Jobson, William | Robson, John | Watson, Sam |
| Corbit, Henry | Ferraw, George | Kirkup, James | Rochester, Jane | Watson, William |
| Craggs, George | Gibson, Andrew | Kirkup, John | Sample, John | Watt, James |
| Craggs, John | Gibson, Robert | Kirkup, Robert | Seaton, John | Whelis, James |
| Croggs, John | Gordon, Andrew | Lewis, Robert | Smith, Isabella | Wilson, Arthur |
| Dixon, Ann | Graham, William | Lobeson, Robert | Straker, Richard | Wilson, Jas |
| Dixon, George | Green, John | Logan, Francis | Tait, Andrew | Wilson, Margaret |
| Dixon, Ralph | Green, John | Mare, Ralph | Tait, Andrew | Wilson, Richard |
| Dixon, Robert | Hair, Joseph | McDougle, James | Tait, George | Wilson, Thomas |
| Dixon, Thomas | Hall, George | McDougle, John | Taylor, Robert | Wilson, William |
| Dixon, Thomas | Hall, John | Melvin, John | Taylor, James | Wright, William |
| Donaldson, Walter | Hall, Richard | Melvin, Thomas | Taylor, Richard | |

MARRIAGES FROM THE "BERWICK ADVERTISER"

JANUARY 1854

The 'Births, Deaths and Marriages' column of the 'Berwick Advertiser' in the 19th century included details of many marriages at Lamberton Toll. Here are some of them for the year 1854. The date at the start of each entry is the date of the newspaper, a weekly published on Saturdays.

January 7th At Lamberton Toll on 24th ult John Hutson, Haggerston to Isabella Robson, Fairlee Flat; same day Richard Lowrie of Middleton by Belford to Isabella Hutson, Christon Hill near Bamburgh; also William Drysdale, Greenlawwalls to Jane Stephenson, Seaton Burn; On 31st John Seltar of Newton Low Steads to Ann Gower, same place; On 1st inst James Young Stephenson of Newham Barns to Martha Cobb of Newham; On 24th ult Mr John Purvis, moulder to Margaret Hall, both of East Ord.

January 14th At Lamberton Toll 6th instant James Nesbitt, cabinetmaker to Margaret Alderdice, both of this town; On 9th inst Mr James Riddell, tobacconist, Alnwick to Miss Jane Glen youngest daughter of Mr John Glen, cloth-lapper, Glasgow.

January 21st At Lamberton Toll, 10th ult, Mr John Fortune, forester of Monkridge, Co E Lothian to Miss Agnes Renton, Cockburnspath.

January 28th At Lamberton Toll, 21st inst Mr John Spence Clark of The Band of Her Majesty's 42nd Royal Highlanders to Miss Isabella Blackwood, eldest daughter of Mr James Blackwood, builder, Stirling; On 23rd Mr John Brodie, watchmaker, Wooler to Rachel eldest daughter of Mr John Currie, Hide Hill, Berwick; On 14th James Dryden junr, labourer to Mrs Temple, both of Tweedmouth.

TRACING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY IN NORTHUMBERLAND AND COUNTY DURHAM

by Geoff Nicholson

WAS IT IN THE PAPERS? - USING LOCAL NEWSPAPERS FOR FAMILY HISTORY

Newspapers have been around for many years and although we may tend to think of them as ephemeral - tomorrow's fish and chip wrappings, as they say - nevertheless a tremendous amount of interesting and useful material has been published in them over the years.

Readers will no doubt have seen "souvenir facsimile" copies of the first editions of many newspapers, often produced to commemorate the paper's centenary or some milestone in their sequence of numbering their issues. It is easy to be put off by their contents - a front page given over entirely to advertisements and the rest of the paper, which may be only two pages (one sheet) or four (one large sheet, folded), containing nothing but very "heavy" material - long reports of speeches in Parliament, the progress of what are nowadays quite obscure foreign wars and the prices of commodities in markets around the world and, of course, no photographs. Hardly the place, one might think, to discover interesting gossip about one's own family or about the village in which they lived, even if the newspaper purported to be a "local" one. Nevertheless, one could be wrong!

Being very general, local newspapers, from the point of view of a family historian, have gone through four phases. First there was their early beginning, where the sort of thing described in the previous paragraph was the universal case. That developed into a period during which more and more local material began to be included. At first it would only be the local shipping movements but then local Assize Courts began to be reported, together with small paragraphs of local news of a more general nature, including "family notices" from the more prominent families. The third phase was the "glory days" of the local newspaper, when trials in various Courts, and inquests in Coroner's Courts were reported in great and, when appropriate, gory, detail, when "family notices" were being placed by an ever-increasing sector of society who wanted the public to know about their births, marriages and, especially, deaths and when local-interest stories began to appear in greater and greater numbers. This phase corresponds in general terms, to the latter half of the 19th century and the early parts of the twentieth - up to, say the First World War. After that War there began the slow decline, which still continues, where newspapers contain less and less news, words being replaced by photographs in many cases, and hard facts by their reporter's opinions (the writer is constantly

amazed at the gullibility of a public who seem to think that just because a newspaper reporter decides to call himself a journalist, his opinions are suddenly worth reading: objective reporting seems to have all but disappeared. (However, that itself is, of course only this author's own opinion!) Nowadays there is also the swamping of serious news by non-news - the doings of various media or "sporting" characters, unimportant in themselves, whose affairs (often literally so) are of no real interest to anyone other than themselves. The semi-literate modern tabloid is surely the pits in this respect: yet they have large readerships so no doubt they fulfill a demand.

The key to the rise and fall of the newspaper lies no doubt in the expansion of their readership. Papers of the first and second phase were expensive, and so could only be bought by the comparatively well-off. At the time that was also the only sector of society with the necessary literacy and time for reading them anyway. The sort of thing they would be interested in was indeed matters affecting their own businesses, such as commodity prices and foreign wars, so that is what they were provided with. The gradual spread of literacy downwards through society coincided with the abolition of the three taxes to which newspapers were subjected: an advertisement tax, a stamp duty and a tax on paper. They were gradually reduced in the mid-nineteenth century and by 1861 they had all gone, allowing papers printed on the new rotary presses to compete on grounds of price for the mass market. However, the advent of compulsory education for all in 1870, followed in the next generation by the First World War, after which "Jack" not only thought himself "as good as his master", but wanted to read about his own interests and not those of his boss, all contributed to the present-day decline.

Family historians will therefore be most interested in newspapers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, though of course ones of all periods could possibly prove useful. All sorts of matters may be mentioned in a newspaper. I have already mentioned, in the first article of this series, that in many families there is one person who has kept a scrap-book of newspaper cuttings about the family, and I have cautioned against regarding it as necessarily complete: those which show the family in a good, or even a neutral light being always included while those which do the opposite are frequently omitted.

The first things to be searched for are family notices of births, deaths and marriages. The earliest to be found locally are those in the Newcastle Courant, which

began publishing them from 1723. A (mainly) typed transcript of those from that year to 1820 was made and indexed about a century ago and is now published in two sets of microfiche by this Society. It is potentially a very useful source, not least because it frequently refers to local people who have died or married well out of this region. However, the notices to 1820 still cover only the "top" end of society, and the "ordinary" families of the mass of the population are not usually mentioned.

One place where ordinary families may get a mention, is in the reports of trials. It was not necessary to be a criminal to be mentioned: anyone could be the victim of a crime, or be called as a witness. If you do have a criminal in the family - and let's face it, many of us do! - then you will get a great deal of interesting information about him, and the more serious his crime the more background will be given. If a family member was a policeman then he may have been required to give evidence on many occasions and it may be possible to get a cross-section of the more serious sort of cases he was involved in. I once saw where two men were convicted of stealing some hay from a field. The judge said he had had a mind to sentence them to transportation but as one of them had already had that sentence and had returned from it, it obviously didn't work in his case and so they were both given prison sentences. To have a return from transportation referred to so lightly, and in Court too, he must have worked off his first sentence completely and returned as a free man, otherwise he would have been dealt with much more harshly. Any descendant might have not known about his ancestor's "Australian period" were it not for that remark. Sometimes one can feel sorry for those given harsh sentences. One of the author's own relatives was convicted in the mid-nineteenth century, when in his early teens, of stealing a very small sum, and the judge began his sentence by appearing very lenient, saying that as the lad had already spent some time in prison awaiting trial, he would not sentence him to any more. Then, however, he went on to say that although the prisoner should be released, he sentenced him to be whipped first and then added (and one can imagine the reporter scribbling it down) "and by that I mean that it should hurt". Was he being over-sadistic? By the standards of his time, and they were the standards by which the boy himself no doubt lived, he was not. However, one can imagine the outcry if a judge were to be reported in a newspaper today as uttering such words. The leader writers would have a field day and the letters page would need to be expanded for the next ten issues! The point here is that we would be unlikely to know about that incident if it were not for the newspaper which reported it verbatim.

Newspapers can be particularly useful when following up a death. The author once researched a man who had committed suicide in the early twentieth century. First there was a story about how he had gone missing, only

to be found dead "in suspicious circumstances". Then there was a report of the inquest (it was a daily paper), giving the story details about how his housemaid had found him lying in a pool of blood (he had cut his throat), and how it was thought that his business affairs had not been going well for him. The next issue carried a family notice about the funeral arrangements, the next but one after that reporting in great detail the funeral itself, with a long list of the persons who attended, their relationship to the deceased, or the many organisations that they represented. Finally, the next issue carried an obituary giving a summary of the man's career. The moral here is not to stop once you have found one story about a death. Search the next or previous few issues to find whether anything else was published, either about the death itself, about the funeral or by way of an obituary. The only thing to be cautious of is that if the person concerned was involved in public (political) life, in a town with more than one newspaper, it would be as well to read the stories in all the current papers, as newspapers, then as now, had political views and would give a quite different account of the life of a supporter to what they would say about a political opponent.

Do not forget the advertisement columns of newspapers, whether on the front page or elsewhere. It is sometimes possible to follow one business through various changes of name and address and to find announcements of changes of address and of ownership, sometimes consequent on the death of the proprietor, the rough date of which can be deduced from the announcement. The same also applies to announcements about the sale of land and the letting of farms.

Where can we find such newspapers? The British Library has a newspaper library at Colindale, North London, and they receive copies of all newspapers published in the UK. Some early newspapers may be quite rare and in some cases even Colindale has only a microfilm copy of a newspaper held elsewhere. Local reference libraries are good sources for newspapers and some produce leaflets, usually free, listing their holdings. The best overall collection in the NE of England is undoubtedly that of Newcastle Public Library, which has an excellent collection of Tyneside papers, some of them short-lived nineteenth century ones. Other places in this region with good collections for their own districts are the major Reference Libraries of Gateshead, Sunderland, North and South Tyneside, and the Record Offices of Northumberland, Co Durham and Tyne and Wear. As newsprint is only intended to last for a few days, it is usually the cheapest kind of paper available, especially if it is modern, and so old newspapers can be extremely fragile. For that reason it is becoming more and more likely that on asking for a newspaper of any great age you will be given a reel of microfilm. Microfilm is not as convenient to use as is the original but at least you have

the knowledge that you are helping to preserve what may well be a unique copy of the original newspaper.

It is necessary before closing this topic to give the most serious "health warning" about using old newspapers. If you have a definite date, on which you are certain that a particular item will be in the newspaper, all well and good. If you are unsure of the date, then by all means begin a search through a range of papers, remembering that a search of, say, an eight page daily newspaper means looking at 48 pages for each week, and there will be some fascinating story or other on each page. Those stories will have nothing at all to do with what you are seeking and at first you will simply ignore them, but sooner or later you are bound to get "hooked" by one of them and you will begin to read it. You will find it so interesting that you will read right to the end of a long, wordy account, and then look at the next issue of the paper, first and foremost to see whether there is any "follow-up" story about the same matter. To keep rigidly to the subject you were initially looking for will take an iron will indeed. Don't think "Oh, I wouldn't fall for that: I'd not be interested in anything other than what I was looking for". It happens to everyone, including the author, and it would certainly happen to you. Old newspapers are a very interesting way of passing a few hours but not necessarily in any way helpful to your research!

It would help if newspapers were indexed, but very few are. The Times has an index (available in Newcastle Library, which also has microfilm copies of all issues of The Times), but that is a national newspaper. If you seek the local angle on a story which may well have made the nationals, it might help to look it up in The Times index first, just to see when it was reported. You could then look at the local papers for a similar date. Sunderland Library has a partial index to the Sunderland Echo but they do impose a qualification that for a person to be mentioned, they must have been given a certain minimum number of column inches, so only major stories about a person, and no passing mentions, are indexed. That index only applies to comparatively recent years anyway.

These days one hears of another use of newspapers by family historians. That is their use by those living overseas, including many NDFHS members, to keep in touch with current affairs in this region. Current editions of both the Newcastle Evening Chronicle and the Sunderland Echo are available on the internet, so you all have access to what is going on in the North-East. Both newspapers publish the occasional "old photo" of places, people and events in the region and both also have occasional columns and articles looking back to some aspect of local history.

BOOK REVIEWS

HIDDEN LIVES BY MARGARET FORSTER

by Pat Swanston

I have just re-read this thoroughly enjoyable book. Admittedly it is written by a woman, about women, and as such will perhaps not hold the same interest for our male colleagues. Nonetheless, it is an inspiration for any family historian wanting to put his or her findings into a written format which would hold the attention of those reading it. Margaret Forster may have used a little of the novelist's licence in writing this account of the women in her family, which begins with her search for the truth as to why the first 23 years of her grandmother's life were never spoken of - but then perhaps not. All dates and facts are included, but in such a way that the history unfolds naturally and enjoyably - as any good read should. Never is one lost in a sea of dates and relationships.

As *Hidden Lives* was first published in 1995 many members may already be aware of it. However, there must be many with a new interest in genealogy considering writing their story, and for this reason I thought the book worth a mention.

In another book of interest to those thinking of writing their family history - *Writing and Publishing your Family History* by John Titford, the author says:-

One of the most enthralling aspects of writing a family history is the way in which it's possible to breathe new life back into your ancestors ... Put your imaginative picture into words in a family history, and you've given your ancestors that most precious of gifts, the one that men and women have sought for thousands of years - a touch of immortality.

Perhaps we owe it to our ancestors to do just this. *Hidden Lives* has certainly given me the necessary inspiration.

Hidden Lives is written by Margaret Forster and published by Penguin Books. ISBN: 0-14-023982-0

Writing and Publishing Your Family History written by John Titford and published by Countryside Books. ISBN: 1-85306-384-3

NORTH-EAST PRISONERS IN KENT

FROM THE MEDWAY HULKS TO CHATHAM CONVICT PRISON AND BORSTAL PRISON 1871-1891

by Stephen W Maddison

With the ending of the wars in the colonies being closely followed by the Napoleonic wars, many prisoners were held on English men-of-war before being brought back to be held on the prison hulks on the Medway in Kent. These were decommissioned naval ships, including for a time HMS *Victory*.

Many on board the men-of-war contracted typhus fever and other contagious diseases, and preferred to end their lives with these complaints rather than remain being held as prisoners on the hulks. On the HS (Hulk Ship) *Argonaut* there were as many deaths among the English sailors as among the Dutch and French prisoners, and also a number of Russian sailors, not prisoners but victims of an outbreak of disease among their squadron which was visiting the Medway.

The epidemic was much worse on the *Bahamas* where an additional 160 Americans were put on board. By the time of their arrival on the Medway there were also a number of Danish sailors sick with typhus. Within three months 84 of the Americans had died and they were buried in the surrounding marshland which became known as Prisoners Bank. Much later in 1868 The Gillingham Gas Company had called the attention of the Secretary of State for Home Affairs to a number of exposed coffins and skeletons that were showing at Prisoner's Bank. In the following year 711 skeletons and coffins were removed and re-interred on St Mary's Island. The removal of bodies continued with the dockyard extension programme, resulting in between 1000-2000 being moved. Later in 1904 they were again moved from St Mary's Island and re-interred near St George's Church in the Dockyard. Even as late as the present day, with the redevelopment of this area, occasional skeletons are uncovered.

In 1816 a Captain Dupin of the Corps of Naval Engineers of France re-visited England and he recorded that, *'In going up the Medway from Sheerness to Chatham, that river is seen covered with Men of War, dismantled and lying in ordinary ... It is in these floating tombs that are buried alive prisoners of war, Danes, Swedes, Frenchmen, Americans, no matter. They are lodged in the lower deck, on the upper deck and even the orlop deck... Four hundred malefactors are the maximum on a ship appropriated to English convicts. From 800 to 1200 is the ordinary number for prisoners of war'*.

Epidemics were not the only cause of death on board the hulks, as men were often killed in fights over trivial matters such as theft of personal belongings, for instance another prisoner's tobacco issue. Life was

violent and brutal. Fights and duels resulted in so many deaths that the Coroner at Rochester applied for special fees to accommodate his increased duties.

Hulks accommodated ordinary convicts as well as prisoners of war. The 1597 Act for punishment of rogues, vagabonds and beggars included provision for transportation. Loss of this facility after the American War of Independence and the severity of the penal system gave rise to overcrowding in prisons, so many convicts were transferred to the hulks. From them they were transported to New South Wales, Tasmania, Western Australia, Gibraltar and Bermuda, where most of them were employed on government works.

A Rev T Price who tended to the sick aboard the Hospital ship *Canada* and was chaplain to the *Retribution* was largely responsible for the *Euryalus* being allocated to house young boys separately. The *Euryalus* was added in 1829 along with the *Dolphin* and the *Cumberland*, then making a total of 14 hulks on the Medway. The eldest boy prisoner in the *Euryalus* was 17 years of age, and the youngest six years and seven months. This young lad had been found guilty of robbery, and been sentenced to transportation. He never served this sentence as he died on the prison hulk.

By the 1840-1850's political circumstances in New South Wales and Tasmania meant that they rejected further transportations of convicts, leaving only Western Australia, which went the same way when the Penal Servitude Act was passed in 1855 to be replaced by hard labour at home. Already a new convict prison was being built in 1854 on St Mary's Island at Chatham. This whole area was nothing more than an area of swampland and stagnant pools of water. Chatham Convict Prison was opened in 1856 with its first prisoners being transferred from the hulks *Warrior* and *Defence*. It was separated from the adjacent dockyard by a creek over which visitors had to be ferried. It was a large brick-built building with the interior principally composed of iron, and lighted both from side windows and from glass in the roof. The arrangement consisted of three spacious galleries or wings to the east, north and south, with each wing containing four tiers of cells each of which was lighted by its own rough glass window. There was a kitchen, workshops, an infirmary and a chapel within the walls and a large exercise yard and a messhouse (where a prison revolt took place on 8 February 1861). Each cell was well ventilated with whitewashed walls, a hammock, bench and tin water jug and basin. Each week a prisoner had to make use of

one of the 90 baths an attended chapel on the Sunday. By 1872 there were 117 armed warders and a total of 232 staff in all.

Previously land had been purchased in the surrounding area of Gillingham in the years 1820, 1847 and 1854 in readiness for the 1862 scheme to expand and modernise the Royal Dockyard. This would ultimately expand the site from its existing 97 acres to a 380 acre site. Initially the convicts were put to work on constructing a retaining river wall of solid masonry around the Island for the purpose of improving navigation of the River Medway. Also in 1855 a second dock was completely rebuilt with increased length to accommodate larger warships and also a mast house and mast slip were constructed. Considerable utilisation of convict labour was used in an attempt to reduce building costs. 1860's work concentrated on the reclamation of St Mary's Island which started life as a tidal swept marshland of unsuitable disposition. This was completely drained and built up an extra eight feet, with sure foundations being dug for the numerous proposed buildings. This work employed well over 1000 convicts on site.

Included in the modernisation plans in the 1862 scheme were the construction of three basins for refitting and repair of ships, large numbers of machine shops and four graving docks. The total expenditure amounted to some three million pounds and the building work was not completed until 1885. Chatham Dockyard took on renewed national importance at this time, and the yards at Woolwich and Deptford were closed.

Another task for convicts was that of preparing and then operating a 21 acre brickfield to the North of St Mary's Island which came into operation from 1866. This produced the vast majority of the bricks used in the Dockyard extension works and was said to have manufactured 110 million bricks by March 1875.

By 1871 the first phase was complete which was an initial two dry docks and the repairing basin which was officially opened in June of 1871. By November 1872 the No 8 dock was completed. The No 9 dock was completed in 1873 and next the Factory Basin. Finally the Fitting Out Basin was completed in 1883.

Convict labour was expected not to exceed 25% of labour costs but the use of some 1,100 convicts rather than local men became something of a local political issue. Doubt was cast on their efficiency, and they were only allowed to do all the unskilled work and a small amount of skilled work to a value of 20 pounds per annum per convict. The prisoners had shorter working hours and better pay than the dockyard labourers, even though the amount of work they performed was less as evidenced by research carried out at Plumstead which showed that a navvy could excavate eight cubic yards, a sapper would excavate five cubic yards and a convict only two cubic yards. Local opposition to the use of

convicts as cheap labour increased further still when details of their rations became public knowledge. These were seen to be more than for a soldier or a dock labourer with a family. It could be said that convicts preferred prison to the Union Workhouse, as they were undoubtedly better fed and finished their work at 4.00pm whilst the dockyard workers had to continue until 6.00pm.

An 1861 report showed that the prisoners received the following daily:-

27oz of bread
1 pint of tea
1 pint of soup
1 pint of cocoa or gruel
1lb of vegetables (probably potatoes)
6oz cooked meat - free from bone

On outside work convicts were identified by the colour of their uniforms. If they were of good conduct they wore an all blue uniform, whilst those with a less favourable reputation or inclined to dissent had one blue sleeve and trouser leg in an otherwise grey uniform.

Punishment varied from bread and water and incarceration in darkened punishment cells to flogging and the 'cat'. The cat was given to 32 backs in 1871 and was administered by the prison staff. But after the mutinous outbreak in 1861 the floggings were carried out by some of the strongest farriers of the Royal Engineers and drummers from the garrison, and each man was paid shillings.

In the year 1871 numbers of the convicts were transported to the nearby Fort Clarence in Rochester for the express purpose of constructing the new general prison at Borstal. They were transported in carefully curtained vans belonging to a local gentleman called Mr Pilcher. His vehicles were normally for the use of the local population for more pleasurable trips and excursions.

Chatham Convict Prison was eventually closed down in 1894 once the redevelopment scheme for the dockyard had been successfully completed. By 1898 it had been pulled down entirely and the site was redeveloped as the Naval Barracks, HMS *Pembroke*.

Editor's Note: Following this article, we will publish, in later journals, listings of all those convicted felons held at Chatham Convict Prison and featuring on the 1871, 1881 and 1891 Censuses and who were born in the counties of Northumberland and Durham, as well as convicts from the North-East held at Borstal Prison on the 1881 and 1891 census. For a number of the men further details have been obtained from the Gaol Books held at the Public Record Office.

Mrs Maddison's address is: 52b Boundary Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 6TU.

WEDDINGS AS ENTERTAINMENT

by Keith Armstrong

I had been looking through the *Newcastle Courant*, *Newcastle Daily Journal* and the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* for September, 1869, in the hope of finding a report concerning a great grandfather, Adam Allan, butcher, who had apparently drowned in the River Tyne at the Quayside.

My attention was caught by the heading of an article of the 10 September, 1869 which said, *Another "Fashionable" Marriage in Newcastle.*

Having read that account, I worked back, to find the first "fashionable" marriage, an account of which appeared in the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* of the 7 September 1869. The newspaper article described the proceedings thus:-

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE AT A WEDDING IN NEWCASTLE

Yesterday morning, a most unusual and exciting scene was witnessed in St John's Church, Westgate Street, Newcastle on the occasion of the marriage of Mr John Gibson, Master Chimney Sweep, and Miss Eliza Sherwood.

Mr Gibson whose popular qualities are generally acknowledged, is better known in sporting circles as "Mooney", and the young lady whom he has "wooed and won" has for some few weeks been occupied as a barmaid at a sporting house in this town.

Mr "Mooney" is a well known supporter of James Renforth, the champion sculler of England, and when the latter rowed Harry Kelley for the championship the young lady who is now Mrs Gibson was placed in the position of a "marriage to nothing", on the result of the match - not a matrimonial match, but that between the famous scullers.

Renforth won the championship, and the young lady won the promise of a husband. Preparations were then made for the "tying of the nuptial knot", and some of the bridegroom's friends having been apprised of the coming event, engaged the Town Crier to make the following announcement on Sunday night:- "This is to give notice that John Mooney, Sweep, Black Knight of the Garter, is going to be married to a very respectable young lady, at St John's Church, at eleven tomorrow. All friends, neighbours and acquaintances are requested to attend the marriage festival".

This announcement was also repeated, with slight alteration, early yesterday morning, and in the consequence, by nine o'clock some hundreds of persons mustered near the gates in Westgate Street, anxious to obtain admittance to the church, with the view of witnessing the interesting ceremony. The numbers were considerably augmented every minute, and as soon as the church doors were opened, a rush was made for the best possible places, and in a very short space of time the sacred edifice was crowded to overflowing by a peculiarly rough a congregation as ever assembled in the venerable church of St John.

Mr Bennett the beadle was assisted by a single policeman, but the former, finding that a disturbance was probable, at once went to

Westgate Police Station and obtained further aid. The outer gates of the premises were closed, but the would-be spectators were not be so deterred, and at once made their way - men, women and children - over the iron palisading which enclosed the churchyard, in spite of the threats of two labourers, who, armed with reaping hook with which they had been cutting grass, presented a formidable front.

They were soon overcome by combined numbers, and when the bridal party - a numerous and very respectable one - arrived, they were greeted by loud cheers. The Rev HW Wright was in attendance to perform the ceremony, and after the bride had been given away by Mr James Renforth, the Service was commenced but had not proceeded far, before the continual talking, cursing and shouting, compelled the reverend gentleman to come to a standstill. Fully a score of times, Mr Wright was thus interrupted in his duties, and after closing his book on many occasions, and declining to proceed further with the service, he reminded those present that they assembled in the House of God. The bridal party it must be said, conducted themselves with proper decorum and with a due regard of the solemnity of the occasion.

The remarks of the reverend gentleman had the desired effect of silencing a few of the turbulent spectators, but many others were so unruly that Mr Wright introduced an inspector of police within the altar rails. The presence of this functionary had a beneficial result, and the service, after extending over an hour was brought to a conclusion.

In the meantime, the numbers outside had so increased that the traffic of Westgate was almost completely, stopped, and it was with difficulty that the bridal party made their way to the four cabs which were in readiness to convey them to the breakfast. At length, however, they got seated and a procession was formed, the rear being brought up by a cart full of sweeps begrimed with soot and attired in white hats and gloves. The extraordinary proceedings created considerable sensation throughout the town.

This report was also given word for word in the *Newcastle Courant* of 10 September 1869.

Then, on the 17 September, 1869, the *Newcastle Courant* reported:-

ANOTHER "FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE" IN NEWCASTLE

A Porter, named Mr Robert George Waugh, having set his affections upon a lady named Miss Margaret Campbell, who is the proprietress of a small tea and coffee shop in the Green Market, screwed his courage up, proposed to the fair one, and was accepted. The preliminaries thus having been duly arranged nothing was left to complete their happiness but the tying of the nuptial knot. This ceremony was fixed for Monday forenoon, and in order that it might pass off with all the eclat becoming such an important occasion the following public announcement was made:- "This is to give notice that The Black Knight of the Bottle is going to be married to the Tea and Coffee Duchess in the Market, at St Andrews Church at eleven o'clock this forenoon. All friends, neighbours and acquaintances are requested to attend the marriage festival". The news of the event spread like wildfire, and speedily a dense crowd gathered in front of the church, and on the gates being opened, the building was crowded

to the doors by an audience not usually seen within its walls. The uproar was very great, the language being employed being generally more forcible than polite. The bridal party, occupying four cabs, arrived at the appointed time, but before admission could be gained to the church, a party of policemen had to clear a passage. The officiating clergyman was the Rev J Hunter, MA, and silence having been partially restored, the happy couple were made one. In the meantime, the crowd in Newgate Street had assumed gigantic proportions, the gateway leading to the church being completely blocked up. In order to clear off the crowd as much as possible, two of the cabs were sent round to Dam Crook, and numbers thinking that the bridal party were going to leave by the side door, there was an immediate rush after them. The newly-wedded pair then left the church by the front gateway, and amidst the cheers and laughter of those of the crowd who had remained, drove off. The bride's shop in the market was decorated with flags, in addition to a cradle containing a large doll.

The Courant, being a weekly news sheet was slightly late with the news, as, in the Newcastle Daily Journal dated 14 September, 1869, was printed the final chapter:

ACCIDENT TO A WEDDING PARTY

Yesterday, an unusual number of people assembled at St Andrew's Church, Newgate Street, this town, to witness the nuptials of two persons named George Waugh and Margaret Campbell. After the ceremony the party entered a cab which was awaiting them at the

church gates. As soon as they entered the vehicle the crowd cheered and shouted in a most uproarious manner which occasioned the horses to become restive, and the party had not proceeded far, when the cab was overthrown and the Bride and Groom was precipitated on the paving stones. The Bride fainted from fright, but sustained no serious accident.

The leg of one of the horses was broken and it was deemed advisable to have the animal destroyed, which was done shortly after it fell.

I suppose as there were no cinemas nor television one had to get one's entertainment where one could, and if it was free, then all the better.

My search for the report of the death of Adam Allan led to a headline *Melancholy Case of Drowning*. Adam had been found at seven in the morning hung by the leg on the screw of a steamer moored near the 60-ton crane. He had apparently spent some time in Beldon's Public House in the cloth market.

Editor's note: M Armstrong's address is: 71 Brantworth Avenue, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE25 5NL. We would be interested to hear from any reader who is descended from the offspring of either of these colourful marriages.

DURHAM - A 19TH CENTURY SHAMROCK COUNTY

by John P Eyre

1. INTRODUCTION

As I hope to demonstrate in the following paragraphs, many Durham researchers will share a strong 'Hibernian dimension' in their family backgrounds. The purpose of this article is to provide a broader picture to this dimension by seeking answers to the following questions.

what was the overall position of Irish immigrants in mainland Britain in 1881
how important was Durham in the overall position
where and in what numbers did the immigrants settle in Durham
from where in Ireland had the immigrants come from

The main source used was the (CD set) 1881 census.

2. THE NATIONAL POSITION

In 1841 Ireland had a population of about 8 million but subsequent famines and large scale emigration saw the population fall below 6 million. On mainland Britain in 1881 there were about three quarters of a million Irish-born persons and whilst England was the main destination in terms of absolute numbers, Scotland was relative more important:

Irish born persons in Britain 1881

| | '000 | as % population |
|----------|------|-----------------|
| England | 524 | 2.1% |
| Scotland | 221 | 6.0% |
| Wales | 21 | 1.3% |
| Total | 766 | 2.6% |

3. THE POSITION OF DURHAM IN THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

County Durham merits the title of this article as a 'shamrock county', both in absolute numbers and relative terms.

On a county by county basis Durham came 5th in terms of the number of Irish immigrants in 1881, the 'top 10' were:

Irish born immigrants by county 1881

| County | '000 Irish born |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Lancashire | 207 |
| Lanarkshire | 115 |
| London | 57 |
| Yorkshire | 56 |
| Durham | 37 |
| Renfrewshire | 30 |
| Cheshire | 23 |
| Surrey | 20 |
| Midlothian | 14 |
| Ayrshire | 14 |

As a proportion of the total census population, in seven Scottish counties Irishborn persons accounted for more than 6% (in Renfrew, Lanark and Dumbarton over 10%).

Durham came third amongst English/Welsh counties, the 'top 5' being:

Irish born as % population, England/Wales 1881

| <i>County</i> | <i>% Irish born</i> |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Lancashire | 6.0% |
| Cumberland | 5.2% |
| Durham | 4.2% |
| Cheshire | 3.6% |
| Northumberland | 2.8% |

The geographical spread of Irish immigrants amongst England counties was very 'skewed' and whereas the overall average was 2.1% only six counties had a proportion above the average (the five in the table above plus Isle of Man). In over half the English counties the Irish proportion was below 1%. Excluding the greater London area, the large scale Irish immigration was essentially a north-west and north-east phenomena.

4. WHERE DID THE IRISH SETTLE IN DURHAM

In my own searches over the years (24 of my 32 g/g/grand parents were born in Ireland). I had come across a number of references and studies highlighting the 'Irishness' of Jarrow and Consett and both those census areas feature in the 'top 10' census areas of Irish born residents:

Irish born residents in Durham 1881

| <i>Census area</i> | <i>Irish born, number</i> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hedworth, Monkton & Jarrow | 4359 |
| Gateshead | 3129 |
| Stockton | 2078 |
| Bishopwearmouth | 1931 |
| Heworth | 1679 |
| Darlington | 1306 |
| Conside (Consett) | 1294 |
| Westoe | 1217 |
| Stranton (West Hartlepool) | 1030 |
| Sunderland | 1010 |

The importance of the south bank of the Tyne and the wider Consett area is very apparent in the 'top 10' census areas ranked by their Irish-born proportions, although the two highest proportion census locations (Cowpen Bewley and Barmston) were outside those areas:

Irish born proportions, Durham 1881

| <i>Census area</i> | <i>Population</i> | <i>Irish born</i> | <i>Irish</i> |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Cowpen Bewley | 1008 | 318 | 31.5% |
| Barmston | 650 | 128 | 19.7% |
| Conside (Consett) | 6758 | 1294 | 19.1% |
| Iveston (Leadgate) | 4004 | 538 | 13.4% |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Hedworth, Monkton & Jarrow | 37671 | 4359 | 11.6% |
| Escomb | 3994 | 426 | 10.7% |
| Cornsay | 2341 | 242 | 10.3% |
| Heworth | 17126 | 1679 | 9.8% |
| Birtley | 3548 | 330 | 9.3% |
| Benfieldside | 5717 | 509 | 8.9% |

5. WHERE DID THE IRISH COME FROM

For the vast majority of the 37,000 Irish born immigrants in Durham in 1881 their place of birth was simply stated as 'Ireland' but for 11% their county of birth was given and the 'top 10' counties of origin were:

County of birth of Irish Immigrants, Durham 1881

| <i>County of birth</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Tyrone | 658 |
| Down | 418 |
| Sligo | 412 |
| Armagh | 360 |
| Mayo | 276 |
| Monaghan | 252 |
| Galway | 246 |
| Dublin | 212 |
| Roscommon | 173 |
| Antrim | 152 |

There was considerable variation between census areas in terms of the propensity of enumerators to record county of birth; for example in Cowpen Bewley 100 out of 318 (31%) were recorded but in Barmston, 0 out of 128. For reasons to do with possible bias in the census areas in which county of birth was recorded, it is probably not reasonable to assume the persons for which the county of birth was stated were representative of the places of birth of the whole Irish born population in Durham of 37,000.

Only two Irish counties (Offaly, Laois) were not represented in Durham (amongst those for whom county of birth was recorded).

6. FURTHER ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH RESULTS TO DATE

The author intends, in due course, to undertake further analysis which should be of more direct use to family researchers, by:

- identifying (any) relationship between place of birth in Ireland and place of settlement in Durham
- identifying (any) relationship between Irish surname and place of settlement in Durham

Meanwhile the author is willing to provide (by E-mail only) full details (in Excel Version 7 format) of the research results underlying the tables in this article. E-mail requests to be addressed to:

johneyre@eyre41.freemove.co.uk

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

This is the edition of the journal when we invite you to renew your NDFHS membership for 2001. Although the year runs from 1st January to 31st December 2001, for administrative purposes, renewals fall due on 1st November 2000 and we would ask that they should reach the Membership Secretary certainly no later than 31st December 2000. This subscription will enable you to use all the facilities of the Society and to receive Volume 26 of the journal, that is Spring to Winter 2001.

The subscription for the NDFHS has been unchanged since 1992, when it was increased from £8 to £10 for UK members, and the Society has held it at that level for the last eight years. Unfortunately, as I'm sure you are aware, costs have increased dramatically over that period and the Society has found it necessary to increase the UK subscription, this year, by £2 to £12. I hope that you will agree that the subscription is still good value and that you will continue to support the NDFHS.

The good news for our overseas and family members is that we have decided to leave their subscriptions unchanged for the moment.

At the Annual General Meeting in June, it was proposed, and unanimously agreed, that the subscription rates should be as follows:-

| | |
|--|-----|
| UK, including all BFPOs | £12 |
| Overseas, if paid in sterling | £12 |
| Each additional member at the same address | £1 |
| Institutions in Northumberland & Durham | £12 |
| Other UK institutional members | £24 |
| Overseas institutional members | £24 |

If overseas members are unable to pay their subscription by sterling cheques, money orders or by credit card, they may pay by cheque in one of the following currencies at the rate shown:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| US personal members | US \$28.00 |
| Australian personal members | Aus \$45.00 |
| Canadian members | Can \$42.00 |

These amounts included a sum to cover the very high cost of converting non-sterling cheques.

PAYMENT INSTRUCTION

1. Complete the renewal form enclosed as part of the centrefold supplement.
2. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to NDFHS and write your name, address and membership number on the back of it.
3. Send the renewal form and payment to John Gordon, Membership Secretary, c/o 2nd Floor, Bolbec Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1SE.

Please help by paying promptly using the renewal form enclosed with this journal and following the instructions on the form.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR UK MEMBERS

Many UK members have paid previous subscriptions under Deeds of Covenant. The law has changed; these Deeds are not effective after 5th April 2000. A new, very simple, and very flexible process, Gift Aid, now applies. You can pay your subscription under Gift Aid and make a once-and-for-all declaration. The only other requirement is that you pay UK Income Tax (or Capital Gains Tax) of at least £3.36 in a year. This is the amount appropriate to a £12 subscription and if 2,000 members "join up", your Society can recover over £6,600 tax from the Inland Revenue this year and in future years. What a difference this could make!

Signing up costs you your £12 subscription and NOTHING extra (provided that you have paid at least £3.36 tax). You will NOT have to sign again in the future. You can cancel Gift Aid at any time. You are NOT committed to rejoining NDFHS again.

Please note that no part of the renewal form is a subscription standing order or direct debit and subscriptions still need to be renewed annually. Unfortunately, this has not always been made clear in the past and in some cases has led to late renewals by some members who thought that their subscription was automatically renewed.

TRICYCLES AND STEAMERS

by Susan Watson

My great great grandfather, Robert Stenton Hill, was born in North Shields on 26 November 1816. He was the first photographer in Northumberland, starting his business in 1844, only three years after William Henry Fox-Talbot had improved the process discovered by Frenchman Louis Daguerre. His son James, my great grandfather had joined him in the business by 1867.

Robert appears to be a man with many interests in his old age. He belonged to the Old Tynemouth Tricycle Club and remained a member up to his death in February 1901, aged 84 years. In July 1885 he wrote a letter to his nephew, Bob and his wife Ella living in Bristol. He told them that in the previous sixteen months he had ridden 26791/4 miles, 1215 miles in the seven months of that year alone. Not bad for a man of 70. Maybe that was the reason for his longevity.

He tells in the letter of the simple pleasures he experienced through his riding:

I see the wild roses in all their glory, I hear the cheeping of the birds in the lanes, and smell the new hay in the fields. I can sit at Whitley links and see the beautiful blue sea with the ships and steamers floating along. And have many a crack with the people I meet in the various villages etc.

He goes on to say that, just for a bit of fun, in one day he did 50 miles and he thought that the rest of the members of the club were quite jealous of him as none of them (and there were 53 members) had done anything like the miles he did.

He went on to say how he wished that his nephew ~~so that would have ride with I, set them, but~~ ~~was as bit too far, he said. "Id like you"~~ he went on, "I could do it but it would take a lot of money for I would have to do it by short stages". This lack of money seemed to have been caused by investments he had made in a shipping company which was in

trouble. Replying to a query from his nephew in a previous letter he says "you trust I have better news of the steamers", and tells him he has:

gone through and am still going through all these heavy trials without losing my Reason. It has thrown me into a lot of Debt because I have had to borrow money, for there has been 2 calls from the Maritance Sunderland boat. I have forgotten exactly the sum but I know it is about £10 each time and to make matters worse the Liverpool ones called up the 1/6 to the £ which was not paid up when the shares were bought, this has cost me £8.5.0 which I have had to pay and had to borrow to do so.

Strangely the Revd Herries, the Baptist Minister, called just a day or two after I had paid, telling me not to pay it. He has lost a lot of money with this Liverpool firm, the name Maritance but not same boat. These Managers or miss Managers they call (at Liverpool) Thomlinson Thomson & Co, no doubt Robert will have seen in He daily papers of them having been put off till assizes, that is an account of the steamer Castle Crag this is the boat ? has lost his money with. The boats I have my money in are the Castlegate and Castle-eden. I am not sure but I shall be losers of all that lot. Then there is the City of Newcastle and the City of Truro I have not had one farthing for I should say nearly 2 years for the Truro owes the builders 23 or 24 thousands of pounds. I might say by the by that the Maritance that is the one where most of the cash is, near £500, lay in dock 15 months and she has just finished a 2 months voyage that is her first voyage after lying up 15 months and I am frightened they are going to lay her up again, she is only insured for about 2/3ds of her value and should she be lost there would of course be 2/3ds of my money gone.

I would be very interested if anyone can explain what all this is about or if anyone has any information on the ~~Old Tynemouth Tricycle Club, or indeed of his photographic business. I know he had premises in~~ North Shields, in Tyne Street, in 1844, which was also where he lived and both there and at the railway station by 1858. In 1868 he held a fire sale and shortly afterwards he moved his business to 179 Stephenson Street, where incidentally he had been baptised at the Particular Baptist Church.

Editor's note: Mrs Watson's address is: 10 Meadow Close, Spondon, Derby DE217GS.

BURRADON COLLIERY DISASTER

The June 2000 meeting of the Newcastle group heard a talk by Alan Fryer about the Burradon Colliery Disaster of 1860 in which 76 lives were lost. Alan has carried out detailed research into the circumstances of the disaster and the subsequent inquest, using mainly contemporary reports published in local newspapers between February and July 1860. He outlined for us the efforts of the miners in the area in 1859/60, including William Urwin, George Maddox and William Alderson

who later died in the disaster, to form a Miners' Provident Association for the relief of sufferers in colliery accidents. They were supported by Baxter Langley, the Editor of the recently formed "Daily Chronicle", which was at the time owned by Joseph Cowen, and was allied with the working man. Baxter Langley had visited Burradon Pit and was impressed by the "integrity, generosity and general intelligence" of the men employed there. Alan described, with the help

of illustrations, the workings and ventilation system at the colliery, the roles and responsibilities of the various workers, and the events during the disaster. Although Burradon at the time was considered gas free enough in some areas for the use of a naked flame, the amount of explosive gas gave the men cause for concern and a few had complained to their superiors, but their concerns were largely ignored. On Friday 2 March 1860 a small explosion occurred, followed about 20 minutes later by a massive explosion. Many of the 76 who died were suffocated by "afterdamp", including some men who had gone down after the explosions to attempt rescue. The dead included six members of the Maddox family. Most of the dead were buried at Longbenton.

Alan's talk further illustrated the problems and the tensions of the time. After the disaster there were disagreements about how the money donated by the public and the Coal Trade for the support of the widows, orphans and other sufferers should be administered. The miners sought more involvement in the process and roles for Baxter Langley and Joseph Cowen. A Miners' Defence Fund was set up to arrange representation for the mineworkers at the inquest, at which some conflicting evidence was given about questions such as the amount of ventilation, the use of trapdoors, whether naked flame or Davy lamps should have been used, whether a fall of stone had been a contributory cause, whether the miners had adequately expressed concern about the pit's condition and

whether there had been neglect or oversight by officials connected with the colliery. The conduct and the verdict of the inquest were subsequently criticised. A Mines Inspection Bill had been brought before Parliament in 1859 but its passage was being resisted and changes were coming only slowly. The Bill was eventually passed in 1861.

Alan Fryer gave us lists of the mineworkers killed and their dependants, and of miners rescued. One of his ancestors was named. Anyone interested in looking up information about the disaster, including names, roles and activities before, during and after the event and at the inquest could consult his book "The Burradon Colliery Disaster 1860 - A Detailed Account", a copy of which is in NDFHS library.

The site of the colliery has been landscaped and is now inhabited by wild flowers, sky-larks, water birds and local residents walking with their children and dogs. On a prominent site beside the main street in the village an eye-catching memorial has recently been erected, incorporating a colliery wheel and a coal tub. This memorial was dedicated on 10 June 2000 by Stephen Byers MP and the inscribed tablet reads:

THE BURRADON COLLIERY MEMORIAL
*Erected in memory of the men and boys
who worked and lost their lives at*
BURRADON COLLIERY
1820-1975

OXFORDSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY OPEN DAY 2000

Please note that the Oxfordshire Family History Society's Open Day 2000 is to take place on Saturday 21 October, commencing at 10.00am and finishing at 4.00pm. As in previous years, the venue will be Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxford.

The Open Day will feature the usual assortment of visiting Society stalls, dealers in second hand books and postcards, sales of microfiche readers and the like. The Oxfordshire Society's own library and search services will be available for consultation, whilst there will also be a beginners' helpdesk. Additionally, there will be a computing corner, which will be able to give advice on such things as which genealogical software package to choose, and the use of the **internet in family history**.

It is not yet known which Societies will be visiting, but last year over a dozen Societies from as far afield as Manchester and Dorset were in attendance. It is hoped that the Oxfordshire Health Archives, Centre for Oxfordshire Studies and Oxfordshire Archives will again be present.

Admission to the Open Day is free, whilst light refreshment will be on sale at reasonable prices throughout the day. The venue is situated on the main Oxford to Banbury road (A4260) some five miles north of Oxford city centre. It is served by a frequent bus service, whilst those travelling by car will find adequate free car parking on the Exeter Hall site.

All in all, the Oxfordshire Open Day should be of interest to all family historians. The organisers hope that many members of other societies will be in attendance at the Open Day, whilst prospective members of the Oxfordshire FHS will be made most welcome.

Any queries surrounding the Open Day should be addressed to the Organiser, Tony Chalkly. He can be contacted by telephone or fax on 01993 850685, or by E-mail on tonychalkly@compuserve.com.

EPHEMERA

'TO THROW AWAY OR NOT TO THROW AWAY?'

by Pearl McAlderson

In the 'throw away society' in which many of us have grown up, we have no doubt, been critical of the 'never throw anything away' habit of our parents or grandparents.

A few years ago old age and ill health forced my parents to move into a small bungalow, from a house, which my mother had lived in since 1928. Her family's habit of hoarding has proved invaluable in my family history research. There was a box of books that she really did not have room for but did not wish to get rid of that took up temporary residence at my sisters. It wasn't until after my mother died that an interesting discovery was made.

A small leaflet that could so easily have been thrown away years ago had survived since 1917. On close examination we realised that it was a memento of a 'Memorial Service' held at Blyth Central Primitive Methodist Church on the 29 December 1917.

The service held 'In Loving Remembrance of our Brave CE Members who have fallen in the European War 1914-17' remembered the fallen and missing from the following churches in the Blyth and Wansbeck CE Union:

Ashington PM, Blyth Central PM, Blyth Beaconsfield St, Blyth Bower St, Cambois PM, Stakeford PM, Hirst UM Church, New Delaval PM, New Delaval IM, Seghill PM, New Hartley PM, Seaton Hirst Wesleyan, West Sleekburn PM, Seaton Hirst PM, Guidepost PM,

Choppington PM, North Seaton Wesleyan, Blyth Zion church, Dudley PM and Bedlington PM.

One of the soldiers listed was Lance Corporal Thomas Tyrell. Internet Access to the 'Debt of Honour Register' confirmed that he was indeed the son of Thomas James and Elizabeth Jane Tyrell (nee Youngs) of 28th Fifth Row, Ashington, Northumberland. Lance Corporal Thomas Mowatt Tyrell who served with the 8th Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders now at rest in the *Tyne Cot. Cemetery, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium*. Thomas was my mother's cousin hence the reason for the documents survival.

Among those who attended the service were perhaps relatives of Pte John Nunn (Ashington PM), Pte Thomas Rowentree (Hirst UM Church), Pte M Timlin (Hirst PM Church), who had been posted as missing.

How long did they have to wait with hope, before they learnt that their loved ones had died for their country?

The order of service which lists those who died and the **hymns sung in their honour, is now at** Northumberland Record Office.

Editor's note: The Order of Service lists 80 forces' personnel who had died or were missing up to the date of the service, 29 December 1917.

Mrs Alderson's address is: 10 Morven Terrace, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 8HN.

ELECTORAL REGISTERS - MORE GOOD NEWS

by William Neil

Following the publication in the *journal* (Vol 25, No 2, Summer 2000) of my article on Electoral Registers (ER's) I received an e-mail pointing out that women had appeared in ER's before they were allowed the vote in 1918. This was puzzling, since all of the books which I consulted mentioned only the victories of 1918 and 1928, and of course the long fight leading up to them.

I was to discover that the "votes" to which histories of women's suffrage referred was the *parliamentary* vote. In fact I have since learned to my astonishment that some women had another vote since 1869. After more research I found a reference that does mention, albeit briefly, this other vote (*Votes for Women 1860-1928* by Paula Hartley, Hodder & Stoughton, Abingdon, Oxon, 1998).

On page 6 she writes: "It is sometimes forgotten that some women achieved the, vote in local government long before they won the right to vote in national elections. In 1869 single or widowed rate-paying women were given the right to vote for municipal councils and later county councils. In 1907 all women rate-payers were allowed to vote in local government elections".

This is good news, since those women would have been entered on the ER and thus we have an even larger census. Of course how many such women there were in the population is another question.

NDFHS CHECKLIST (2):1851 CENSUS DURHAM

Introduction

County Durham still remains partly uncovered by indexes for the 1851 Census. For the rest, the Cleveland Family History Society (CFHS) and the NDFHS covered the bulk of the indexing work. In addition, there are some sections which were indexed and published by individuals. Some of these are unpublished, including an important section of Lanchester sub-district by a Consett school. The best way to search the entire set of 1851 census indexes is to visit Durham Record Office, which has the only complete collection that we know of.

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. This 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 normally used in the 1851 indexes, although one or two in this series do, rather confusingly, instead of folio numbers. The Piece numbers follow the pattern of Sub-districts, starting in Darlington and zigzagging across the county gradually northwards until they finish at Winlaton. The area covered by each Piece number is contiguous with the area covered by the preceding and following numbers. Piece 2387 borders on the areas covered by 2386 and 2388, for example.

Fol. Start: 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. Some Districts covered considerable areas of North Yorkshire bordering the river Tees, most of which in 1974 were subsumed into County Durham, and these are included in this list. We may have committed a few errors in placing some of the Teesside villages in the wrong county.

Sub-District: Registrar's District, known also as Sub-district. Very many of the sub-districts are covered by a multitude of indexes, each delineating perhaps just one township or village.

Place: If '(all)', then all places within that Sub-district are included. Otherwise, the first couple of place-names in the booklet are given as a guide. It should be noted that the ordering of the places within a booklet can be quite haphazard. For example, CFHS Vol 73 covers seven villages. For these there are four indexes. None of the indexes is headed by the name(s) of the village(s), and to confuse things further, the four indexes are not ordered numerically one after another. It is best to work through any booklet page-by-page to ensure that no index has been missed. Some indexes are tiny, e.g. Port Clarence is covered by its own index, even though it is only one folio in length. NB: NDFHS Vol D3/CD43 purports to cover all places in Piece No 2394, but omits Great Lumley.

Pub: Shows the name of the publisher or, if the index is unpublished, the compiler. Abbreviations: BS: Blackfyne School, Consett; CFHS: Cleveland Family History Society; DJB: David J Butler; NDFHS: Northumberland and Durham Family History Society; Or Ind: Original Indexes; W & T: T Whitehead and G Turns. All compilers except Whitehead & Turns have indexed their work at least by surname, age and folio number, or enumeration district and page. Whitehead & Turns' indexes of the Seaham area are by surname only, but refer the reader to a full transcript of the census.

Vol.Fiche: Shows the official NDFHS (fiche/booklet) and CFHS numbers (booklet), to be used when ordering copies. Wherever an older or smaller index has been superseded by a newer or larger, the new reference is shown and the old ignored. The CFHS has combined some of its older indexes into larger ones, for example. Please refer to NDFHS price lists, published twice a year, and available on the Society's Website. The CFHS publications list can at the time of writing be obtained from: David Taylor, 106 The Avenue, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS7 0AH.

Finally, we must apologise for any errors which may have crept into compiling this list, and would be grateful if readers would point them out.

| Piece | Fol. Start | Fol. End | District | Sub-District | Place | Pub | V°1J Fiche |
|-------|------------|----------|------------|--------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------|
| 2382 | 1 | 14 | Darlington | Darlington | Manfield (Yorks.) | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 14 | 16 | Darlington | Darlington | Cliffe (Yorks.) | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 17 | 25 | Darlington | Darlington | Cleasby (Yorks.) | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 26 | 29 | Darlington | Darlington | Stapleton (Yorks.) | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 30 | 46 | Darlington | Darlington | Barton (Yorks.) | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 47 | 47 | Darlington | Darlington | Newton Morrell (Yorks.) | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 48 | 62 | Darlington | Darlington | Croft (Yorks.) | CFHS | 47 |
| 2382 | 63 | 72 | Darlington | Darlington | Dalton (Yorks.) | CFHS | 47 |
| 2382 | 73 | 81 | Darlington | Darlington | Eryholme (Yorks.) | CFHS | 47 |
| 2382 | 82 | 86 | Darlington | Darlington | Sockburn (Yorks. & Durham) | CFHS | 47 |
| 2382 | 87 | 89 | Darlington | Darlington | Girsby (Yorks.) | CFHS | 47 |
| 2382 | 90 | 91 | Darlington | Darlington | Over Dinsdale (Yorks.) | CFHS | 47 |
| 2382 | 92 | 102 | Darlington | Darlington | Neasham | CFHS | 50 |
| 2382 | 103 | 106 | Darlington | Darlington | Dinsdale | CFHS | 47 |
| 2382 | 107 | 121 | Darlington | Darlington | Middleton St George &c | CFHS | 50 |
| 2382 | 122 | 160 | Darlington | Darlington | Hurworth | CFHS | 50 |
| 2382 | 161 | 267 | Darlington | Darlington | Darlington St John | CFHS | 41a |
| 2382 | 268 | 427 | Darlington | Darlington | Darlington St Cuthbert | CFHS | 41b |
| 2382 | 428 | 438 | Darlington | Darlington | Blackwell | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 439 | 439 | Darlington | Darlington | Oxneyfield | CFHS | 48 |
| 2382 | 440 | 533 | Darlington | Darlington | Darlington Holy Trinity | CFHS | 41c |
| 2382 | 534 | 543 | Darlington | Darlington | High Coniscliffe | CFHS | 69 |
| 2382 | 544 | 559 | Darlington | Darlington | Low Coniscliffe, Piercebridge &c | CFHS | 69 |
| 2382 | 560 | 577 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Cockerton | CFHS | 69 |
| 2382 | 580 | 587 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Houghton-le-Side | CFHS | 69 |
| 2382 | 587 | 591 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Summerhouses | CFHS | 69 |
| 2382 | 592 | 595 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Denton | CFHS | 69 |
| 2382 | 596 | 617 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Heighington | CFHS | 53 |
| 2382 | 618 | 623 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Killerby | CFHS | 49 |
| 2382 | 624 | 627 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Walworth | CFHS | 49 |
| 2382 | 628 | 632 | Darlington | Aycliffe | School Aycliffe | CFHS | 49 |
| 2382 | 632 | 633 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Coatsaw Moor | CFHS | 49 |
| 2382 | 633 | 642 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Redworth | CFHS | 49 |
| 2382 | 643 | 667 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Aycliffe (Great) | CFHS | 49 |
| 2382 | 668 | 677 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Brafferton | CFHS | 49 |
| 2382 | 678 | 684 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Barmpton (pt) | CFHS | 53 |
| 2382 | 685 | 687 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Whessoe, Barmpton (pt) | CFHS | 53 |
| 2382 | 688 | 691 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Coatham, Mundeville | CFHS | 53 |
| 2382 | 692 | 708 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Haughton-le-Skerne | CFHS | 53 |
| 2382 | 708 | 710 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Morton Palms | CFHS | 53 |
| 2382 | 711 | 723 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Sadberge | CFHS | 53 |
| 2382 | 724 | 726 | Darlington | Aycliffe | Great Burdon | CFHS | 53 |
| 2383 | 1 | 16 | Stockton | Yarm | Long Newton & Elton | CFHS | 1 |
| 2383 | 17 | 27 | Stockton | Yarm | Redmarshall, Carlton | CFHS | 1 |
| 2383 | 28 | 43 | Stockton | Yarm | Grindon, Whitton | CFHS | 1 |
| 2383 | 44 | 70 | Stockton | Yarm | Egglescliffe, Aislaby &c | CFHS | 1 |
| 2383 | 71 | 82 | Stockton | Yarm | Low & High Worsall (Yorks.) | CFHS | 2 |
| 2383 | 83 | 96 | Stockton | Yarm | Kirklevington &c (Yorks.) | CFHS | 2 |
| 2383 | 97 | 146 | Stockton | Yarm | Yarm (Yorks.) | CFHS | 3 |
| 2383 | 147 | 172 | Stockton | Yarm | Stainton, Maltby &c (Yorks.) | CFHS | 2 |
| 2383 | 173 | 183 | Stockton | Yarm | Linthorpe (Yorks.) | CFHS | 2 |
| 2383 | 183 | 186 | Stockton | Yarm | Acklam (Yorks.) | CFHS | 2 |
| 2383 | 187 | 412 | Stockton | Yarm | Middlesbrough (Yorks.) A-J, K-Z | CFHS | 14a, <u>14b</u> |
| 2383 | 413 | 471 | Stockton | Stockton | Thornaby (Yorks.) | CFHS | 4 |
| 2383 | 472 | 797 | Stockton | Stockton | Stockton A-K, L-Z | CFHS | 12a, 12b |
| 2383 | 798 | 806 | Stockton | Stockton | East Hartburn | CFHS | 12b |
| 2383 | 07 | 810 | Stockton | Stockton | Preston-on-Tees | CFHS | 12b |
| 2383 | 811 | 871 | Stockton | Stockton | Norton | CFHS | 16 |
| 2384 | 1 | 17 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Billingham | CFHS | 11 |
| 2384 | 17 | 23 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Haverton Hill | CFHS | 11 |
| 2384 | 24 | 24 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Port Clarence | CFHS | 11 |

| Piece | Fol. Start | Fol. End | District | Sub-District | Place | Pub | Vol./ Fiche |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 2384 | 25 | 34 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Cowpen Bewley | CFHS | 11 |
| 2384 | 35 | 39 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Claxton | CFHS | 11 |
| 2384 | 40 | 43 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Newton Bewley | CFHS | 11 |
| 2384 | 44 | 70 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Wolviston | CFHS | 11 |
| 2384 | 71 | 91 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Greatham | CFHS | 11 |
| 2384 | 92 | 201 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Stranton, West Hartlepool | CFHS | 20 |
| 2384 | 202 | 224 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Seaton Carew | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 225 | 508 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Hartlepool A-L, M-Z | CFHS | 17a, 17b |
| 2384 | 509 | 520 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Hart | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 521 | 522 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Thorp Bulmer | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 523 | 532 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Elwick | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 532 | 535 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Throston | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 536 | 542 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Dalton Piercey | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 542 | 543 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Brierton | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 544 | 553 | Stockton | Hartlepool | Elwick Hall | CFHS | 22 |
| 2384 | 554 | 618 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Trimdon, Butterwick &c | CFHS | 30 |
| 2384 | 619 | 662 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Sedgefield | CFHS | 44 |
| 2384 | 663 | 670 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Mordon | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 671 | 675 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Bradbury | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 675 | 689 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Woodham | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 681 | 693 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Bishopton | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 694 | 695 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Stillington | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 696 | 697 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Foxton & Shotton | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 698 | 702 | Stockton | Sedgefield | E & W Newbigin | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 702 | 707 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Great & Little Stainton | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 708 | 712 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Elstob & Preston-le-Skerne | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 713 | 726 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Bishop Middleham | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 727 | 737 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Thrislington, Garmondsway | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 738 | 739 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Mainsforth | CFHS | 32 |
| 2384 | 740 | 770 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Cornforth | CFHS | 33 |
| 2384 | 771 | 800 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Ferryhill | CFHS | 43 |
| 2384 | 800 | 830 | Stockton | Sedgefield | Great Chilton | CFHS | 33 |
| 2385 | 1 | 93 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Merrington, Middlestone &c | CFHS | 120 |
| 2385 | 94 | 160 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Byers Green, Hunwick &c | CFHS | 80 |
| 2385 | 161 | 325 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Bishop Auckland | CFHS | 79 |
| 2385 | 326 | 368 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Auckland St Andrew | CFHS | 82 |
| 2385 | 369 | 400 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Coundon | CFHS | 83 |
| 2385 | 401 | 472 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | St Helen Auckland, Middridge &c | CFHS | 113 |
| 2385 | 473 | 531 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Escomb, Coundon Grange | CFHS | 114 |
| 2385 | 532 | 570 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Eldon, Windleston, E Thickley | CFHS | 115 |
| 2385 | 571 | 637 | Auckland | Bishop Auckland | Sildon | CFHS | 111 |
| 2386 | 1 | 119 | Auckland | Hamsterley | Bolam, W. Auckland &c | CFHS | 119 |
| 2386 | 120 | 216 | Auckland | Hamsterley | Lynesack, Hamsterley &c | CFHS | 121 |
| 2386 | 217 | 325 | Auckland | Hamsterley | Crook, Billy Row, Witton &c | CFHS | 122 |
| 2387 | 1 | 25 | Teesdale | Staindrop | Cockfield | CFHS | 60 |
| 2387 | 26 | 35 | Teesdale | Staindrop | Woodland | CFHS | 60 |
| 2387 | 36 | 43 | Teesdale | Staindrop | Langley Dale & Shotton | CFHS | 60 |
| 2387 | 44 | 55 | Teesdale | Staindrop | Raby & Keverstone | CFHS | 60 |
| 2387 | 56 | 107 | Teesdale | Staindrop | Staindrop, Walkerfield | CFHS | 58 |
| 2387 | 108 | 163 | Teesdale | Staindrop | Hilton, Morton Tinmouth &c | CFHS | 61 |
| 2387 | 164 | 231 | Teesdale | Staindrop | Cleatlam, Winston &c | CFHS | 66 |
| 2387 | 232 | 252 | Teesdale | Barnard Castle | Brignall, Rokeby (Yorks.) | CFHS | 73 |
| 2387 | 253 | 273 | Teesdale | Barnard Castle | Bowes (Yorks.) | CFHS | 73 |
| 2387 | 274 | 320 | Teesdale | Barnard Castle | Gilmonby (Yorks.), Whorlton | CFHS | 74 |
| 2387 | 321 | 461 | Teesdale | Barnard Castle | Barnard Castle A-L, M-Z | CFHS | 52a, 52b |
| 2387 | 462 | 474 | Teesdale | Barnard Castle | Streatlam, Stainton | CFHS | 73 |
| 2387 | 475 | 484 | Teesdale | Barnard Castle | Marwood | CFHS | 73 |
| 2387 | 488 | 591 | Teesdale | Middleton | Lartington &c (Yorks.) A-J, K-Z | CFHS | 84a, 84b |
| 2387 | 592 | 651 | Teesdale | Middleton | Middleton-in-Teesdale | CFHS | 51 |
| 2387 | 652 | 731 | Teesdale | Middleton | Egglestone, Newbiggin &c | CFHS | 75 |
| 2388 | 1 | 88 | Weardale | St John's | Burnfoot, Daddry Shield &c | NDFHS | D10/CD50 |

| Piece | Fol. Start | Fol. End | District | Sub-District | Place | Pub | Vol./ Fiche |
|-------|------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 2388 | 89 | 160 | Weardale | St John's | Killhope, Heathe Cleu &c | NDFHS | D10/CD50 |
| 2388 | 161 | 240 | Weardale | St John's, Stanhope | Westgate, Eastgate &c | NDFHS | D10/CD50 |
| 2388 | 241 | 309 | Weardale | Stanhope | Stanhope, Newfield &c | NDFHS | D10/CD50 |
| 2388 | 310 | 492 | Weardale | Stanhope, Wolsin ham | Edmundbyers, Wolsingham &c | NDFHS | D11/CD51 |
| 2389 | 1 | 172 | Durham | Tanfield | Tanfield | No index | |
| 2389 | 173 | 199 | Durham | Lanchester | Billingside, Medomsley &c | B.S. | |
| 2389 | 200 | 219 | Durham | Lanchester | Ebchester | B.S. | |
| 2389 | 220 | 259 | Durham | Lanchester | Benfieldside, Shotley Bridge | B.S. | |
| 2389 | 260 | 291 | Durham | Lanchester | Shotley Grove, Black Hill | B.S. | |
| 2389 | 292 | 304 | Durham | Lanchester | Healyfields, Castleside | B.S. | |
| 2389 | 305 | 369 | Durham | Lanchester | Berry Edge &c | B.S. | |
| 2389 | 370 | 387 | Durham | Lanchester | High Conside, Knitsley Mill &c | B.S. | |
| 2389 | 388 | 631 | Durham | Lanchester | Iveston, Greencroft &c | No index | |
| 2390 | 1 | 112 | Durham | St Oswald | Brancepeth, Willington &c | No index | |
| 2390 | 113 | 419 | Durham | St Oswald | Durham City | D J B | |
| 2391 | 1 | 190 | Durham | St Nicholas | Durham City | D J B | |
| 2391 | 191 | 743 | Durham | St Nicholas | St Giles (t), Shincliffe &c | No index | |
| 2392 | 1 | 85 | Easington | Easington | Kelloe, Thornley &c | CFHS | 124 |
| 2392 | 86 | 156 | Easington | Easington | Wingate, Deaf Hill &c | CFHS | 126 |
| 2392 | 157 | 214 | Easington | Easington | Castle Eden, Hutton Henry &c | CFHS | 125 |
| 2392 | 215 | 258 | Easington | Easington | Monk Hesledon &c | CFHS | 123 |
| 2392 | 259 | 287 | Easington | Easington | Easington (NB: fiche only) | NDFHS | /CD53 |
| 2392 | 288 | 510 | Easington | Easington | Shotton, Haswell, Murton &c | No index | |
| 2392 | 511 | 520 | Easington | Easington | Dalton-le-Dale | W & T | Vol. 2* |
| 2392 | 521 | 523 | Easington | Easington | Cold Hesledon | No index | |
| 2392 | 524 | 623 | Easington | Easington | Seaham &c | W & T | Vol. 2* |
| 2392 | 624 | 637 | Easington | Easington | Seaham Colliery | W & T | Vol. 1 |
| 2392 | 638 | 646 | Easington | Easington | Seaham &c | W & T | Vol. 2* |
| 2392 | 647 | 653 | Easington | Easington | Old Burdon, Silksworth | No index | |
| 2393 | 1 | 610 | Houghton-le-Spring | Houghton, Hetton4e-Hole | (all) | NDFHS | D8/CD48 |
| 2394 | 1 | 13 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Cocken & Great Lumley (pt) | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 14 | 43 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Bournmoor | Or. Ind. | Fiche |
| 2394 | 44 | 49 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Lambton, South Biddick | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 50 | 63 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Little Lumley | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 63 | 110 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Great Lumley (pt) | No index | |
| 2394 | 111 | 197 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 198 | 220 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Waldridge | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 221 | 232 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Plawsworth | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 233 | 247 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Edmondsley | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 248 | 321 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Pelton | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 322 | 377 | Chester-le-Street | Chester-le-Street | Witton Gilbert | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 378 | 388 | Chester-le-Street | Harraton | Ouston | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 389 | 442 | Chester-le-Street | Harraton | Harraton | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 443 | 498 | Chester-le-Street | Harraton | Birtley | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 499 | 586 | Chester-le-Street | Harraton | Lamesley | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 587 | 662 | Chester-le-Street | Harraton | Usworth | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2394 | 663 | 707 | Chester-le-Street | Harraton | Washington | NDFHS | D3/CD43 |
| 2395 | 1 | 61 | Sunderland | Bishopwearmouth North | Ford, South Hylton | Or. Ind. | Fiche |
| 2395 | 62 | 338 | Sunderland | Bishopwearmouth North | Bishopwearmouth (pt) | NDFHS | D5/CD45 |
| 2395 | 339 | 542 | Sunderland | Bishopwearmouth North | Deptford | NDFHS | D6/CD46 |
| 2396 | 1 | 236 | Sunderland | Bishopwearmouth South | Bishopwearmouth (pt) | NDFHS | D12/CD52 |
| 2396 | 237 | 536 | Sunderland | Bishopwearmouth South | Bishopwearmouth (pt), Ryhope | No index | |
| 2397 | 1 | 299 | Sunderland | Sunderland East | (all) | No index | |
| 2397 | 300 | 556 | Sunderland | Sunderland West | (all) | No index | |
| 2398 | 1 | 511 | Sunderland | Monkwearmouth | (all) | No index | |
| 2399 | 1 | 680 | South Shields | Westoe | (all) | NDFHS | D1/CD41 |
| 2400 | 1 | 417 | South Shields | South Shields | (all) | NDFHS | D2/CD42 |
| 2401 | 1 | 278 | Gateshead | Heworth | (all) | NDFHS | D4/CD44 |
| 2403 | 1 | 742 | Gateshead | Gateshead | (all) | NDFHS | D7/CD47 |
| 2403 | 1 | 450 | Gateshead | Whickham, Winlaton | (all) | NDFHS | D9/CD49 |

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 September. 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.

1185 Ms CAROL KNAPP, PO Box 304, Peoria, Illinois 61651, USA

Researching the GRIEVES family of Co Durham. Edward, of Penshaw, Chester-le-Street, married 1808 to Elizabeth COOPER of Newburn. Children born at Wallsend and Washington. In 1850s and in 1860s the family were living at Thornley near Seaham. Children were: Edward, twins Anthony and William, Jane who married Philip HOPE of Hetton, another daughter who married Edward BEST, Robert, Mary, Margaret, Ann and Elizabeth COOK nee Grieves who married and moved to the USA c1850. The next generation lived at Seaham Harbour, South Hetton, Murton Colliery, Dawdon, Dalton-le-Dale, Hesledon and Cold Hesledon.

1223 IRENE COOPER, 44 St Clements Court, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2AZ

Seeking information of the parents and siblings of Mary Jane HALE c1845, who married James CARRICK 1864 at St John's, Newcastle; her father's profession: tide surveyor.

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

Interests: 1) John CARTER born 1821 Rotherhyde, London, son of Paul and Elizabeth, married 1848 St Hilda's, South Shields to Jane BARKER. On 1861 Census Westoe: mariner, children, Paul 1848, Edward 1851 and Elizabeth 1855. 1881 Census Boldon, railway signalman. Paul married Jane CARR 1872 at Christ Church, North Shields. Children: Edward c1875, Jane E c1877, Anne c1882, Ethel 1887 and Lily c1890. Ethel married John M LINDGREN 1906 and Albert E EVERITT 1917. 2) William MOUNSET born c1794 Walton, Cumberland, married Jane ERRINGTON 1817 Ainstable. Children: Jane 1823, John 1827, Robert 1829 and William 1830. John, cordwainer, married 1854 to Dorothy GILHESPY. They lived Nile Street, South Shields in 1889 when John was attacked and killed by second son James. Other children: William c1855, Robert c1860 and Dorothy Jane 1866 who married John Emil Lindgren 1885 and Henry SMITH 1903. 3) Thomas MOUNTAIN c1859, half brother of Matthew Henry Mountain, sons of John Mountain and Mary ROBINSON nee BURLINSON at St Thomas', Newcastle.

2045 Mr JOHN LUMSDEN, "Earlsdene", 19 Meadow Road, Pickering, North Yorkshire YO18 8NW

Thomas LUMSDEN, of North Middleton near Wooler, married 1827 at Ilderton to Ann THOMPSON, reputedly of nearby South Middleton. According to family records Ann was born 1808 and census returns give her birthplace as Ewart but have been unable to find any record of the birth. Has anyone any knowledge of this Thompson family, particularly at South Middleton or Ewart?

2218 Mrs KATHLEEN E CRAGGS (nee YOUNG), 2 Buckland Rise, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 3QR

Researching following: YOUNG; MILLS; WELCH; DAWSON; ROWELL; PEACOCK; MARTIN and HALL of Sunderland. MARTIN and DODSWORTH of Chester-le-Street. WATSON and DENT of Romaldskirk. PROUD of Edmundbyers. PARKER of Blanchland. WATSON; FLEMING and MALCOLM/McCALLUM of Allendale. STANTON of Whitby in North Yorkshire. HADDOCK; DODSWORTH; LOWTHER; CHAMBERS; THOMPSON; LEANG and OURD of the Penshaw/Houghton-le-Spring area. Would welcome further information from anyone who thinks they may be connected.

3944 Ms ANN CRICHTON-HARRIS, 295 Indian Road, Toronto, Ontario M6R 2X5, Canada
([email: jw.senders@utoronto.ca](mailto:jw.senders@utoronto.ca))

Looking for the grave (photo shows nice stone cross and a long, high stone wall behind) of two little boys, Denton Dockray CHRISTOPHERSON b1873 and Claude Christopherson b1874 who died at Newcastle Royal Grammar School of Scarlet Fever a few days one after the other in 1879.

4532 Mrs MARGUERITE HODGKINSON, 150 Addiscombe Road, Croydon, Surrey CRO 7LA
([email: JHodgkinson@compuserve.com](mailto:JHodgkinson@compuserve.com))

Would welcome any information on Sarah WAUGH, born 1826 at Esh, Co Durham, who married George ATKINSON, a joiner, at Esh in 1846. Have been unable to find them on the 1851 or later census. Only further information from the will of Ralph Waugh, Sarah's father, drawn up in 1875, which refers to his late daughter, Sarah Atkinson, and her children, but gives no names of the latter.

4537 KATHLEEN ANGELL, 6 Hallfields Lane, Rothley, Leicester LE7 7NF

Can any member help? Looking for information on the HIPSON family. William Hipson, baptised 1778 St Andrew's, Newcastle, son of William Hipson. Where did the family originate?

4769 Mrs B TWEDDLE, 36 Main Avenue, Shaws Trailer Park, Knarsborough Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 7NL

Does anyone have any information on TWEDDLE BLACK HALLS, Fillpoke Lane, located south of Blackhall Colliery, Co Durham.

4798 Mrs SHEILA PEARSON, Summer Lodge, Beanburn, Ayton, Eyemouth, Berwickshire TS14 5QY
([email: npearson@sol.co.uk](mailto:npearson@sol.co.uk))

Agnes RITCHIE, married John Moncrief DOUGLAS in 1862 at Jesmond Parish Church; children: Ann Isabella, Mary and John

Ritchie were baptised 1864, 1867 and 1869. The family has not been found after 1869. Family stories suggest that they may have emigrated to Australia or New Zealand. Can anyone help? Also news of any 'sightings' of MUTER and EADINGTON anywhere, anytime would be appreciated.

4851 Mrs EJ MORRIS, 32 Glanton Close, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham DH2 3SW

Seeking information on the descendants of Francis and Elizabeth MILLS of Wooler who had daughters Jane, born 1819, Barbara 1821, both baptised at Wooler United Presbyterian Church, Cheviot Street, and a son Francis born 1824, died aged 16 years. Jane moved to Sunderland and had a daughter Elizabeth Mills, born 1858 in Sunderland Work House. She married William WALTON in 1861 and they had a daughter Cordelia who later married Robert PATTISON. Jane died in 1864; what became of Elizabeth Mills?

5602 PATRICIA KING HUGHES, 9110 Bay Point Drive, Elberta, Alabama 36530, USA (email: patrex@ametro.net)

Seeking descendants of great-aunts born to Charles KING and Margaret Ann SCOTT: Isabella King born Jan 1862, Gateshead and Elizabeth Ann King born April 1867, Gateshead.

5754Mr ALAN KEITH, Bayfield, Culmstock Road, Hemyock, Devon EX15 3RJ

Researching Robert DODDS born c1852, son of John Dodds. Robert worked as a coal miner living at Elm Street, Hebburn in 1891 with wife Ann and five children: Ann, Henrietta, John, Elizabeth and William. Would welcome any information.

6256 Mrs AUDREY PYLE, Hillside, Rockwood Hill Road, Greenside, Ryton on Tyne, Tyne and Wear NE40 4AX

The records for Stella RC Church show that Edward PYLE came from Crukey Hall near Bradley but have been unable to find this place on the map and no one seems to have heard of it. Could it be Crawcrook or Bradley Hall, which are in the general area? Edward Pyle was a gardener at Stella Hall in the late 1790s.

6600 Mr E BELL, 26 Buck Stone Oval, Leeds LS17 5HG

Seeking information about Andrew BELL, soldier, whose son George was baptised 1696 at Tynemouth. What was his regiment? Was he in the garrison at Tynemouth or Newcastle? Was he married? Checks at the PRO, North Shields Library and regimental museums have drawn a blank.

6730 DAVID HOLMES, 23 Maple Grove, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL71NQ

Would welcome any information about the early years of Thomas Angus MATHER 1855 onwards in Newcastle. Also his uncle/father Thomas Mather 1840 onwards. Thomas was a senior clerk at Newcastle Post Office for many years. He married Mary Ann ANGUS in 1850.

6865 Mrs SHIRLEY WRIGHT, 8 Laughton Street, Taupo 2730, New Zealand

Great great grandfather was Matthew WHITFIELD who married Jane Whitfield from Ryton 1835. On the 1841 Census for Barlow and on 1851, 1861 and 1871 Census for Winlaton and the 1881 for Chopwell shows his place of birth as Guernsey about 1814. The story handed down was that he was born at sea in the Bay of Biscay when the family were returning from Southern States of America and as Guernsey would be the first British land fall he may have given that as his place of birth. I have checked records at Guernsey with no luck. As all the other branches seem to have lived in the North East he is the odd man out. Any advise or help would be gratefully appreciated.

7295 Mrs A HARDY, 9 Westerdale, Spennymoor, Co Durham DL16 6SD

Seeking information from descendants, or anyone researching the name WATSON of Newcastle. I am particularly interested in Richard Alexander Watson, born 1880, who married Christina CHIRNSIDE, born 1879. They married in 1901 at St Philip, High Elswick; both were living at Wellington Street at the time.

7602 Mrs MARY BARBER, 1 Warmans Close, Wantage OX12 9XS

Looking for descendants of John and Annie McINTOSH who were married at South Shields Register Office in 1889. John's father was Simon McIntosh, an angle iron smith. Also researching Alexander GRAY, living Sunderland, 1929. Alexander was born at Montgarrie, Aberdeenshire in 1880.

7682 Dr DAVID RICHARDSON, Holly Lodge, Penny Lane, Derby DE221AX

Wishing to find out more about the FAIRBAIRN family born in Berwickshire and Northumberland. Robert was born in 1870 in Coldstream and came to Newcastle, married a Margaret and lived in Grafton Street, Heaton, in the 1920's and 30's. Their children were Robert, Tommy, Christina and Margaret; they were in the Salvation Army. James, my grandfather, was born in 1874 in Coldstream and also came to Newcastle during the First World War. Christina was born in 1881 in North Northumberland and is thought to have married a BIRD. Isabella was born in 1887 in Northumberland and married a John Howey TAYLOR in Newcastle and lived in the West End of Newcastle: had daughters, Minnie and Edna.

7957 Mrs ANNETTE McNIVEN, The Bushes, Mill Lane, Barham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6QE

The 1851 Census for Swindon includes Thomas MADDISON, ages 25, engine fireman, born Co Durham. Can anyone provide further information? Also looking for information on John WEDDEL who married Isabella ANGUS at All Saints, Newcastle. Seeking descendants of James LONGHURST, born Canterbury, living Chester Street, Newcastle, aged 29, with wife Ellen, on the 1881 Census.

7974 MARGARET ROBERTS, 2 Wetheral Pasture, Carlisle, Cumbria CA4 5HU (email: mir@edencroft.demon.co.uk)

Does anyone recognise the following or know of the marriages of the two Walters that are not on IGI, GRO or Scots origins? Walter DOUGHTY(IE) born c1775 Scotland and Margaret(?) born c1796 North Sunderland had children Isabella (1821), Margaret (1823), Elizabeth Henderson (1826), Walter (1828), Margaret Ritchie (1831), all at Newton-by-the-Sea and Isall (1834). Walter Doughty(ie) married Charlotte Brown PEARSON (baptised 1824 at Alnwick) before the 1851 census. Known children are: Thomas Johnson Doughty, born 1855 Alnwick, Ann Pearson Doughty born 1858 Newcastle and George Doughty born 1863 Leeds. Thomas was a teacher at Alnmouth School from about 1880 and eventually the head teacher.

8015 VAL GARNETT, 25 Peel Street, Bingley, West Yorkshire BD16 4QJ

Any information on MULLINDER or similar who were in Gateshead around 1870-1900, especially John Mullinder, cabinet maker, and family (wife Catherine nee DAWSON or DARCY) who were at 44 Wylam Street, Gateshead shortly after (but not on) the 1891 census.

8040 BILL ERRINGTON, Preswylfa, Alexandra Park, Penmaenmawr, Gwynedd LL34 6YH (email: BillyVikki.Pen@btinternet.com)

I have tried, unsuccessfully, to find George YOUNG and his wife Sarah nee HATELEY in Ryhope in the 1891 census. Their

children were Robert, William George, Isabel, Elizabeth, Hannah, Ethel Mary and Alice. Alice was born 1889 at Ryhope Street, Ryhope. Any help would be welcomed.

8102 PAULA PRITCHARD, The Oaks, Knowle Lane, Buckley, Flintshire CH7 3JA (email: paula@moonpeople.com)

Seeking descendants of Sarah **BONE** (born 1893 in Walker) and James **MacDONALD** (born 1892) who married in Newcastle in 1914. They had several children including: Frank, Jack, William, Leo, George and Nora (born 1926). Sarah was the daughter of George Bone and Sarah (nee **LONGSTAFF**). James' father was John MacDonald. Sarah worked as a servant at Stotts House Farm in Walker a few years before her marriage. Would also like to hear from anyone with information on Stotts House Farm. Thomas and Isabella **ARMSTRONG** married 1877 in Tynemouth. Thomas was born 1851 in Ponteland, son of William and Eleanor Armstrong. Isabella, born 1856 in Wallsend was the daughter of James and Ann **DOUGLAS**. Thomas and Isabella had four daughters and one son, William (born 1884) who married Agnes Mary **McNEILL** in Walker 1906. Would like to contact anyone researching these people and to exchange information.

8193 Mr STUART CAHILL, The Eyrie, Alford, Aberdeenshire AB33 8AZ (email: stuartcahill@onetel.net.uk)

George **CAHILL** and Ellen **GIBBINS** were living at Henry Street South, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland when my grandfather, Frances Cahill, was born in 1887; they already had one son George. I believe they were Irish so they may have arrived in England around the time of Frances' birth. I would be grateful for any information on George, Ellen or Frances. Also, I could not find any reference to Henry Street South in the 1851 Census; did it exist? If not, assuming it was recently built when Frances was born was there a particular means by which new arrivals from Ireland managed to secure a newly built property? Any information gratefully received.

8450 DAVID WALTON, 3 Orchard View, Corbridge, Northumberland NE45 5BH

Information sought on the **PEEL** family of Trimdon, Co Durham, formerly of Washington, who moved to Prudhoe, Northumberland c1865. Matthew Peel, born 1827, married Sarah **CLARK** c1846; children: Thomas 1847, Matthew 1849, John 1851 and Joseph 1854. Matthew's mother Jane was still living in Trimdon in 1881, a widow born Safield c1801. All the family were coal miners. Also looking for post-1881 details of **MARTINSON** family, then of Rome Street, Gateshead, formerly of Town Head Farm, West Woodburn (1849-1870). John Martinson born Newcastle 1820, son of Robert 1773-1868, married Ann, formerly **CHARLTON**, at Simonburn 1843. Issue: Robert 1844, William 1846, Ada 1848, Elizabeth 1853, John 1855, Joseph 1858, Simon 1861, Alfred 1862, Thompson 1864 and Mary Ann 1866.

8473 Mr A EVANS, 62 Dene Road, Wylam, Northumberland NE41 8HB

Researching the **GAUL** family. Thomas Gaul, born Ovingham 1806, married Martha **HAMILTON**, born Penrith, Cumberland 1805. They had at least eight children, all born Newcastle: John, Jane, Thomas, William, Frances, Ann, Robert and George, an innkeeper, born 1830. George married Mary Ann **MAUDLEY** who was born Newcastle 1841. They had at least eleven children, all born Newcastle: Alice, John, Thomas, Martha, William, George, Robert, Frederick, Charles H, Alfred M, Matilda and Catherine Maudley, born 1881. Catherine Maudley Gaul married James **HENDERSON**, pitman, and they had five children: Mathew, Matilda, Elizabeth, Gwendoline and James.

8476 Ms DOREEN ELCOX, 56 Landsdowne Gardens, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1HH

Looking for any information on William **ABBOTT** born Lancashire c1892, son of Henry and Annie Abbot. Last heard of

in the film industry in Hollywood married to a film editor. Probably had a son.

8558 Mr W TICKNER, 230 Scalegate Road, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2 4PJ

Would like to know more about **PALLION HALL**, Sunderland, home of his **GOODCHILD** ancestors. Would welcome the loan of any photographs, newspaper cuttings, etc; all expenses would be returned.

8606 RAYMOND COWEY, 17 Gryfebank Avenue, Houston, Renfrewshire PA6 7LZ

(email: raymond_christopher@cowey.freemove.co.uk)

Seeking information on the following: 1) Thomas **COWIN**, son of Nicholas Cowin, baptised Lamesley, Co Durham 1751 and Thomas Cowin who married Mary **CURRY** at Houghton-le-Spring 1780. Are they the same person and is he also the Thomas Cowey, later of Penshaw as described below? Believe Nicholas' wife was called Isobell or Isabella. 2) Believe Thomas and Mary had the following children: Nicholas baptised 1780 and Mary, baptised 1783; both children born Philadelphia, Co Durham. Mary died and was buried 1784. Later when living at Penshaw, Thomas and Mary had four more children: Christopher and Thomas, baptised 1788 at All Saints, Penshaw; Mary, born Wapping near Burnmoor 1791 and died in infancy, and Elizabeth, born 1794 and baptised 1796 at All Saints, Penshaw. 3) Margaret Annie Cowey, nee **GOLDING**, second wife of Robert Cowey of Rainton, County Durham who was killed in 1936 at the Meadows Pit, Rainton. I would dearly like to trace a Family Bible believed to have been in Margaret's possession following Robert's death. Family information is that Margaret went to America during the war years, taking the bible with her. Any information would be greatly appreciated.

8684 MARGARET NESBITT, 11 West Acre, Shotley Bridge, Consett, Co Durham DH8 0AY

Information welcomed on the **MILLHOUSE** family who came to Leadgate from Swineshead, Lincolnshire in the mid-19th century. Researching the **TELFORD** family of Haydon Bridge. Where did John who married in 1698 come from? Any information on Edward after 1831? Also, the **NESBITT** family of Lesbury. Who was the wife of George 1699-1786, living at Bilton? When Christopher died in 1797, and his wife in 1798, who took in the children? Thomas was born 1788, John 1791, George 1794 and Richardson in 1797. Richardson was a ward of George Nesbitt in 1809 according to the Freeman records at Alnwick; what was their relationship? Does anyone have a picture of Richardson Nesbitt's shoe shop in Fenkle Street, Alnwick, believed to have been started in the late 1810s. Thomas Bell Nesbitt was a coachmaker with the firm *North Northumberland Coach and Harness Manufactory* of Howick Street, Alnwick; any information about the firm would be welcomed.

8750 MARGARET WHITE, 5 Hambleton Road, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS7 0HL

Any information on the following would be welcome: 1) Thomas **MAVIN**, born 1822, and went to Australia on the "Red Jacket". Was this a convict ship? 2) Edward **NAITBY** lived in Coxhoe; any descendants? Also George Naitby who was killed in a quarry accident in 1898 aged 19 years and buried at West Cornforth. 3) John **COOK** who married Jane **HINDE** in Sunderland c1820/30.

8710 Mr RJ BELL, 5091 Lakeshore Road NE, Salmon Arm, British Columbia V1E 3P4, Canada

Seeking descendants of the siblings of Richard **FERGUSON**, born 1874 Morpeth. His brothers and sisters were: William T, Rachel, Kate Watt and Murray. Their father John Ferguson, born 1832 Morpeth, was a platelayer on the railway.

9019 Mrs PAM SMITH, 50b Old Road, Frinton on Sea, Essex CO13 9BZ

Currently researching the families of John **NICHOLSON**, master mariner, and wife Isabella **ARMSTRONG**, both of Cullercoats and born 1760s; alleged to have been whalers. Any information would be gratefully received.

9157 ISABEL EMPSON, 22 Hillcrest, Kirby-le-Soken, Essex CO13 0EB

Seeking descendants/ancestors of: 1) William **TODD** born Newburn 1795, married 1820 at Ponteland to Sarah **WEANS**, born Stannington 1798. William was a storekeeper at the iron works living in 1851 in Chapel Street, Walker. Known children: John born 1826, Newcastle, iron moulder, Margaret born 1833 Walker, and Fenwick born 1836 Walker, joiner's apprentice. Margaret married, firstly, Alexander **HUTCHEON**, then, Alexander **WILSON**. 2) William **CUNNINGHAM** born c1735 in Scotland and Isabella, born c1739 in Scotland, had children all born in South Shields and baptised in St Hilda's: John born 1767, Jane 1768, Francis 1772, Clara 1774, William 1778, Thomas 1781, Barbara 1782, Elizabeth 1784 and Dixon 1791. William was a glassmaker living at Cooksons Quay. Also seeking information on Black Road School, Hebburn in the 1890s and 1920s. Ancestors attending in 1890s to 1900s were Hutcheon, that is, Wilson Maggie, born 1889, William Todd 1890, James Fairweather 1892, Fred 1894, Ralph 1898, Nelly 1900, John 1897, Lily and Mary aka Olive 1902 (twins), all born in Hebburn. Also, in 1920s were Hutcheon, Isabella Todd, born 1920 Wallsend, Betty Eveline 1921 Poole, Dorset, William Harold 1923 Poole. This family, of William Todd Hutcheon above, returned to Hebburn in 1924.

9264 MARGARET HALL, 17 Stanley Street, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 7DB (email: jayone@easel.fsnet.co.uk)

Seeking information on **STOBBS** family. On the 1871/81 Census they were living in Harle Street, Gateshead. Particularly interested in a Matthew Stobbs/Ellen **RICHARDSON** marriage and their daughter Elaine Dorothy. What could be the relationship be between them and Matthew/Dorothy Ann (nee **SAUL**) and their son Matthew Howard? Would also like a photograph of (52?) Harle Street if anyone knows where I can find one.

9278 EVELYN CARROLL, 6042 Crown Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6N 2B8, Canada (email: evelyn_carroll@telus.net)

Looking for information on descendants of Peter and Margaret **WATERS**, born in Ireland and living in Newcastle in 1881 with children James, Michael, Annie and Peter. Also interested in descendants of Sophia (nee **BATHURST**) and Edward **NICHOLSON** married in South Shields in 1884; descendants of Ethel (nee Bathurst) and William **TIBBS**, married in Jesmond 1911. Would like information regarding ships on which the following may have served in the suggested time periods: James Bathurst (c1850-1872), John Bathurst (c1875-1903) and James Dennison **WILSON** (c1870-1894); and James Bathurst believed drowned at sea (c1880-1890); GRO death registration not found.

9329 Mrs BARBARA SHORT, 47 Eastern Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 1AE (email: b.short@virgin.net)

Can anyone help find information on the place/date of birth of Thomas **DONKIN(G)** who married Margaret **GRAINGER** 1837 at St Oswald's, Durham; both were 'of full age' and lived Church Street. His death certificate gives age as 59 which makes year of birth c1813. Children were: Jane Ann 1838, Margaret 1844, Elizabeth 1847, Joseph 1851. Thomas's occupation was shoemaker, but no father's name is given on marriage certificate. Also any information on William **FOWLER** who married Mary Ann, parents of Isabella born 1870. The family lived Monkwearmouth on 1881 census. William was born North Shields 1827 and worked as colliery overman.

9348 DAVID T SMALE, 1/7 Havenwood Place, Birkenhead, Auckland 1310, New Zealand

Seeking information on the family of Elizabeth Margaret (Lily) **DURRANS**, her parents Green Durrans, engineer, and Elizabeth **BROWNBRIDGE**, who married 1858 at Sedgfield. Fathers were given as Joseph Durrans, engineer, and Joseph Brownbridge, joiner and cabinet maker. Lily Durrans married Frank **SMALE**, born Devon 1839 in Wellington, New Zealand 1891. Photographs of Lily as a young woman was by a Gateshead photographer but haven't been able to trace her parents in the 1881 Census. Would be grateful for any information leading to her emigration to New Zealand probably within ten years of her marriage.

9463 Mrs DV WEATHERILL, 62 Thorangby Road, Cleethorpes, NE Lincolnshire DN35 0HH

Seeking information on John B **SCOTT**, born Hexham c1836, married Mary born Hexham c1848. Children: Jane E, Amy, Warwick, William Osborne (foreman joiner in 1901), George B and Albert E. Also interested in Dr William John **BATY**, died 1929 at Chester Crescent, Newcastle. He was a well-known surgeon and President of All Saints Working Men's Conservative Club. Also Robert Wilson **MARTIN**, born Newcastle c1871, brother of Jane Elizabeth Martin born Newcastle c1873. Robert Wilson Martin played a large part in the Newcastle railways and Masonic lodges in the area.

9713 JAMES DICKINSON, 2064 Old York Road, Burlington, New Jersey 08016, USA (email: jdickinson@pppl.gov)

Looking for information on Patrick **DICKINSON**, father of Patrick Dickinson who was christened 1764 at Belford, Northumberland. He married Martha **SCOTT** 1787 in Belford. Another known son was Robert Dickinson born 1770 in Elwick and married to Isabella **MILLER** 1789.

9719 Mr H MADDISON, 5 Ambleside Court, Marine Parade East, Clacton on Sea, Essex CO15 6JL (email: harry_maddison2000@hotmail.com)

Seeking information on William **MADDISON** and Ann **STONES**, married 1808 St Margaret's, Durham and had a son George born 1820 who married Ellen **CUMMINGS**, born 1820 Coundon, Co Durham, possibly a widow. They had three sons: Stephen 1861, Henry 1863 and Thomas 1866 who married Jessie **SLADE** who was born at sea 1867 outside Southampton on the way back from India. Thomas and Jessie had Henry (1890), Robert, Alfred, Annie, Ada and Ruth. Henry married Honor Janet **BREWERTON**, born 1895 Lanchester and had brothers John James 1890 and Walter who died in action 1916. Their father was John James Brewerton but his father was French and so the name may have been **BRERETON**. There is a connection with Tin Mill House, Consett.

9750 DOROTHY THOMPSON, 7 Wroxton, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE38 7NU

Researching **SPROXTON** of which there appears to be only one family in the North East. William Sproxtton married Mary Alice **HOGGETT** who is believed to have been related to the family owing the local firm "Herbert Hoggets Pickles". Any information would be gratefully received.

9815 MARGARET HEGAN, 67 Chester Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG1 4JY

Seeking information on following: 1) Mother of Robert **SIMM** born 1819 at Felton, son of John Simm, labourer. Robert married Catherine **ANDERSON** from Belford at St John's, Newcastle 1840. 2) His grandson, also Robert, who married Lucy **HARES** (their youngest child was born in 1910). I have been unable to trace the marriage. 3) Joseph **CHARLTON** married Sarah **KIRTON** 1830 at All Saints, Newcastle. According to the 1871 Census Joseph was born in Shelton (where is Shelton?) and Sarah was born at Black Callerton. Any information relating to the above, would be gratefully received.

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

Searching for great grandmother's ancestors. Isabella BROWN was born Northumberland c1827 and married James Alice [sic] PRESTON 1843 at St Columba Gaelic Church, Barony, Glasgow; they had a wire rope making business, also in Glasgow. Their children, born between 1845 and 1864 in Glasgow, were: John Fairley (born Fairlie, Largs in Ayrshire), Helen, Mary, James Harvey, Thomas Brown, Isabella, Frances, Alexander and Agnes.

9819 ROB TAYLOR, 20 Berwick Terrace, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE23 7AW (email: rob.taylor@bt.com)

Looking for parentage of Robert CLUFFE/CLEUGH, born c1747 Jarrow/South Shields area; married Jane HERON at Whitburn 1772, and Ann SIMPSON Jarrow 1776. Lived his life at South Shields and Earsdon. Any information gratefully received.

9826 GRAHAME HALL, 2 Christine Street, Morphett Vale, South Australia 5162, Australia
(email: hotfoot@picknowl.com.au)

Has anyone any information on Byerely HALL born c1815-1819 Houghton-le-Spring, married Elizabeth JAMES at Dalton le Dale 1838. Byerely was the son of Thomas, and both were labourers in Seaham Harbour at the time of Byerely's marriage. 1851 Census has Byerely and Elizabeth living at Hetton Street, Bishopwearmouth with children Elizabeth, Margaret, Eliza, Mary and Sarah. Byerely died at the Wear Brewery 1876. Any information that may lead me to Byerely's parents and the Wear Brewery at the end of Hetton Street would be greatly appreciated.

9852 Mrs JULIE JAMESON, Roseworth, Shop Lane, Goulceby, Louth, Lincolnshire LN119UW

Seeking the descendants of James Stirling JAMIESON (b1839) and wife Margaret BRUMWELL. Only surviving son George Brumwell Jameson b1863 believed to have migrated to Canada/New York but was married to Catherine Isabella Brodie WHILLIS in Newcastle 1890. Their issue traced but second family believed to exist elsewhere. GB Jameson had three surviving sisters. In 1911 two of these were possibly living in St Andrew's, Fife or still in Newcastle. They were Margaret Christie b1866, Jessie b1868, Margaret Oliver b1869 all three girls probably married but names unknown. Also seeking any issue of George Brumwell, sailmaker, b1802 Newcastle and wife Sarah HOPPER, married in 1828 St Nicholas'. Issue: Thomas married Ellen from Gateshead; daughter Jane b1861, and George who married Ann LAWSON and had son Thomas Brumwell b1870. Would also like to hear of any CHARLTON who is connected with family Whillis from Gloucester Street (Margaret Whillis became Margaret Charlton and had brothers Dr Samuel, and Charles who remained with family firm of credit brokers).

9859 Mr JA STEWART, 2 Holt Close, Wittering, Cambridgeshire PE8 6DD

Seeking descendants and ancestors of the following family members: 1) Robert STEWART, born c1811, listed on 1851 Census as mariner, husband of: 2) Grace CHARLTON, born 6811. Also require any detailed information, as well as social and background information, of: 3) Death of Thomas E HOLLYMAN, killed by a train 2 May 1891 on NE Railway at Scotswood. 4) Cramlington Colliery c1880-1912 where Stewart/Hollyman ancestors worked as waggonwrights.

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

Seeking information on the descendants of Samuel SIMPSON, born 1843, and wife Sarah Flanigan Simpson, born 1840 Ireland. Known children: John, born 1879 Thornley, Co Durham; Mary J, born 1872 Lancashire. John lived at Thornley before

immigrating to Pennsylvania in 1892 accompanied by a family friend Lawrence FARRELL, born 1862. Mary J remained in England and married a HIGGINS.

10054 JANICE HUNTINGTON, 97 Antoine Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116, Australia (email: huntingtonjoja@hotmail.com)

Looking for information on WALKER family of Northumberland and South Africa. Cuthbert Kendle Walker (born 1848) married Margaret Ann HERON in 1872. Grandmother Emily Elizabeth Walker (born Northumberland 1883) married Albert Ernest WOOD in Australia 1910. Family believed to be prominent in Methodist church (Rev Robert Walker died 1874 on Rydal Main SS)Wird) 'm'tY& antL Sutfn Africa. Also any of this family in the Boer War who returned home injured via hospital ship *Nubia*, date unknown. Any information on ship *Nubia* welcomed.

10067 MARGARET WAKE, 226 Yarm Road, Darlington, Co Durham DL1 1XD

Researching: 1) Andrew HALPIN born Ireland 1842, married 1859 Newcastle to Jane WILKINSON, born 1842 Seaton Burn, daughter of Thomas Wilkinson and Frances EASTON. They had five girls and two boys including Andrew Wilkinson Halpin born 1872 and lived Gateshead. 2) John LINSLEY, born c1840, married 1868 Ferryhill to Jane LOWTHER born 1845 Ferryhill, daughter of John Lowther and Ann FOSTER. They had five children including Elizabeth Ann Linsley, born 1877, married the above Andrew Wilkinson Halpin. 3) Robert DAVISON married Margaret REED. They lived Bridge Street, Gateshead in 1885 when daughter Margaret Davison was born. 4) William IONS, born 1850, married Mary ROBSON and they had six children including Thomas, born 1885, who married the above Margaret Davison at St Mary's, Gateshead 1906.

10077 PAULINE O'LOUGHLIN (nee HARVEY), 86 Boundary Road, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland 1007, New Zealand

Seeking any information on the ancestors and descendants of Edgar Meynell HARVEY, born 1896 at High Barnes Terrace, Sunderland, son of Thomas Walton Harvey, marine engineer, and Margaret Ann nee MEYNELL. Edgar is believed to be an only child and enlisted in the New Zealand Army in 1915. His army records give his next of kin as a cousin, Miss A WALTON of Edgar Street, Jarrow which probably indicates that his parents were dead by that time. Any information would be much appreciated.

10089 ELSIE JOHNSON, 21 Richmond Court, Kells Lane, Low Fell, Gateshead NE9 5JG

Searching for the birth and marriage of Robert COOK, glassmaker, possibly Portobello/Edinburgh, wife Mary. Known children: John, 1834 and Michael, 1835 (Gateshead), Richard, 1837, George 1839 and Thomas Nicholson 1841 (Portobello), Elizabeth 1843, Mary Jane 1845 and Ann

Other family names include WALKER, SHANKS, GIBSON (of Prudhoe), ATKINSON/ALLCROFT. Also researching: 1) Births/baptisms of John, James and Ann Atkinson in the Callaly/Whittingham area c1816, 6819 and c1821 - nonconformist connection suggested. 2) Robert BEIGHET c1700 of Otterburn married Elizabeth HEDLEY at Elsdon 1727.

10093 ALAN WELLS, 48 Lindisfarne Lane, Morpeth, Northumberland NE612UL

Researching the WELLS and SNOWDON families of West Hartlepool and Hartlepool. Joseph Snowdon, born 1772, a fisherman, married Elizabeth SHARP in 1797. Their children: Elizabeth 1798, Robert 1799, Joseph 1800, Eleanor 1802, William 1803, John 1806, Mary 1810, Cuthbert 1813, Ann 1815 and Hannah 1818. Cuthbert was a pilot; was he the father of Joseph 1852-1919, a fisherman, who married Sarah Elizabeth BUTCHER 1856-1916, and lived St John's Street, Hartlepool in 1894? Their children: Cuthbert 1876, Joseph 1878-1894, John

c1879, Matthew William 1880, James, Sarah Elizabeth (Sarah Ann) 1886 and Eleanor 1894. Does anyone know of a relationship between Sir Cuthbert Sharp and the above Snowdon family? Eleanor Snowdon married in 1914 to Edwin Wells 1891-1967. He was the fourth child of George William Wells and Elizabeth nee RAEBURN. The other three children were George William 1880, John Richard 1881/2 and Herbert Henry 1886. George William senior, a master mariner, died at sea c1900. His parents were Emanuel and Ann Elizabeth Purdy Wells nee CHEESENAN.

10117 Mr TE RUDD, "Grasmere", Burgh, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 6SU

Looking for information on ancestors and descendants of John CUSKERN and Julia (nee COSTIGAN) who in 1891 were resident in Longbenton. Known children: Mary (1879), John (1882), James (1883), Julia (1887) and Thomas (1890). Any leads would be very welcome.

10153 Mr WF BLACK, 32 Danby Close, Rickleton, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE38 9JB

Researching families of John and Mary SPOOR of Torrish Hill who married at Houghton in 1771; and of William LAMB and Hannah McPHERSON who married in Newcastle in 1804. Also looking for information about the history of Messrs. Gaddy & Lamb's shipyard at Tyne Main which petitioned for bankruptcy in 1882.

10168 ROY SCARR, Primrose Cottage, Murrell Hill Lane, Binfield, Bracknell RG42 4DA (email: scarr@one-name.org)

Researching the name SCARR; all references would be welcome: births, marriages, deaths or other. Especially interested in Thomas Scarr, born Bishop Auckland c1858, in Willington, Co Durham 1881.

10213 LES FORSTER, Apt 142, Airways Hotel, PO Box 1942, Boroko, NCD, Papua New Guinea (email: les@daltrom.com.pg)

Isabella FORSTER (nee BAINBRIDGE) married Stephen Forster, supposedly 1832 in London. Stephen Forster born Ryton 1806, baptised at Ryton; his parents John Forster and Sarah (nee GLADDERS). The Forsters and Gladders were well-established names in Co Durham so I suspect Isabella Bainbridge was also from there. She died 1853, aged 43, of cholera; her father not named on her death certificate. Found her on 1841 and 1851 Census, with consistent age, suggesting birth in c1810. Baptisms of all seven children identify Stephen and Isabella as parents, with first child baptised at Gateshead 1834. Can't find birth or baptism for her, so don't know who her parents were, or where she lived before marriage.

10302 VALERIE STONES, 14 Blvd. Des Tranchees, 1206 Geneva, Switzerland

Looking for information on the parents and families of the following: 1) Hannah STEVENSON, born c1833 Egglecliffe, who had a son Alexander born c1859 Stockton. 2) William; CARRICK, born c1840 Hexham, and his wife Ann, born c1842 Hexham. 3) James GREENER born c1815 Slaley and his wife Mary born c1814 Stella, Co Durham.

10328 BETH ACTON, "Riverview", Blackwater, Queensland 4717, Australia (email: myhat@networx.com.au)

Great grandfather Robert LAWS, his wife Isabella DINNIN, and young family emigrated to Queensland in 1882 leaving behind siblings, John born c1857, William c1862, Hannah c1863 and Mary 1867 at the family farm at Eachwick, Northumberland. Their parents were William Laws born c1819 and Hannah DIXON born c1828. Any information on these families of Laws, Dixon and Dinnin from 1800 to present day would be much appreciated. Has a photograph of the "Wearside Football League Committee - 1897-8" the 15 men

portrayed are: P McGEEVER, Ryhope; W CARR, Black Watch; W GREAVES, New Herrington; L TODD, South Hylton; WT LAZENBY, Royal Rovers; J JACKSON, Chairman; T HALL; G JOHNSTON, Silksworth; CO KIRTLEY, Secretary, Selbourne; GW COTTAM, Sunderland Nomads; J YOUNG, Whitburn; RW COOK, Boldon Star; J SUMMERBELL, Treasurer, Seaham Harbour; J RANSON, Seaham Albion and GW HUNTER, Vice-President, Sunderland Nomads. Any information about the Committee or link with either the Laws or Dinnin family would be much appreciated. Would be happy to pass copies to anyone interested.

10336 Mr JOHN M SEAL, "Touchwood", Cleveley Road, Enstone, Oxfordshire OX7 4LW
(email: johnmseal@nkgateway.Net)

Researching SEAL (varied spellings: SEALE, SEALLE, SEALL, SELE, SHEALE etc). There is evidence of a grant of coat of arms to Robert Seale in the late 16th century in recognition of service and loyalty by the family, in particular Richard Sheale in the early 15th century, to the Crown. It is understood that the arms were bestowed upon Robert for his services "in guard of the Queen's person". Circa 1600 there was a migration to Leicestershire. Also, PEARSON, whom it is reputed was originally MacPHERSON, but changed name to avoid persecution and fled south from Scotland to Northumberland. Late 17th century migrated to Westmorland.

10400 MARGARET GANNON, 5 Middleton Road, Hutton Rudby, Yarm, North Yorkshire TS15 0JT

Researching: 1) James BALMAIN, born c1806 Sunderland, lived Morpeth/Ponteland area, died Milbourn, married Isabella RUTHERFORD and had 7 or 8 children. He later married Elizabeth born Colwell c1815. 2) Robert MEEK, born c1789 Marley Hill, Whickham, married Elizabeth Rutherford, born 1803 Stamfordham area and they had 8 children including Jane who married Joseph SMITH c1846/8 Ponteland area. 3) Thomas ROBSON, born 6827 Newburn, married Elizabeth and had children: Elizabeth and Thomas. They lived at Clickemin, Ponteland and East Farm, Prestwick. His mother was Mary born c1798. 4) Elizabeth NAISBITT born 6796; had daughter Jane c1819 and son John 1829. Jane's children Thomas 1843 and Charlotte 1846, both Barnard Castle. Any information welcome.

10430 REG WEBB, 7 Manoel Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5HJ (email: regwebb@compuserve.com)

Would be pleased to receive any information on HOLMES, one time owner/lease holder of Bents Farm, South Shields and several public houses including two at Cleadon. First sons of each family were alternatively named Ralph and William. In 1865 William Holmes married Sarah Ann JOHNSON whose father was a ship owner. It is thought that Sarah Ann's sister married a FOSTER-BROWN and had a dress making business in Harrogate, Yorkshire. To date, the families have been traced back to Ralph Holmes, farmer, born 1808 who married Mary, also born 1808.

10433 Mr J SIMMONDS, 29 Hall Farm Crescent, Yateley, Hampshire GU46 6HT

Looking for information on his grandmothers' families: Mary Ann MIDDLETON of Crawcrook and Ann DIXON, daughter of Robert Kyle Dixon, blacksmith of Westoe.

10464 Mrs E SAVILLE, 35 Hollingthorpe Road, Hall Green, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF4 3NH

Does anyone know the whereabouts of the family of James O'HARA, coal miner, and family on the 1871 Census? They were living at Crook when their children were born in 1866 and Sept 1871. James and Bridget Ellen O'Hara (nee KEELEY) were both born 1840s Swinford, Co Mayo. Children: Mary Ann (1861

Derry?), Margaret (1864 Crook), Winifred (1866 Crook), Sarah (1868 Crook), James (1871 Crook), Agnes (1874 Brandon) and Catherine (1877 Brandon). The family had moved to Morley, Yorkshire by 1881. The son later returned to Brandon.

10463 Mrs PENUEL ELLIS-BROWN, Rutherford House, The Street, Bolney, West Sussex RH17 5PG

Seeking information about William HUNTER and Eleanor BURDON who married 1785 at Heworth. Who were their parents? William Hunter died in 1797 in Heworth but I have no idea how old he was. Eleanor Burdon was born c1763 and she died 1835 at High Felling. The children of William and Eleanor Hunter were: Ann (1786-1835), Eleanor (1788-1832), William Burdon (1789-1859), Mary (c1791-) and Elizabeth (c1793-). The family owned properties in High Felling and family legend has it that Eleanor was from one of the wealthy Burdon families of either Bishopwearmouth, South Shields or Medomsley. Many of the descendants of this couple carried the Burdon-Hunter name. I would dearly love to trace these families further back but have hit a "brick wall".

10468 ALAN EDWARDS, 3 Duckworth Grove, Padgate, Warrington, Cheshire WA2 0QU

Seeking information on Frank JOHNSON, mariner born c1843, son of Oliver Johnson, labourer, married St Hilda's, South Shields to Mary MADDISON, born 1845, daughter of William Maddison, tailor. Frank and Mary had three children: Frank (1870 South Shields), Isabella (1872 South Shields) and Flora (1875 South Shields). They moved to Liverpool in the late 1870s.

10471 SHARON YOUNG, 1100 W Stratford, Peoria, Illinois 61614, USA ([email: rcyoung@prodigy.net](mailto:rcyoung@prodigy.net))

Searching for descendants of: John WYLAM born Sunderland 1825, son of John Wylam and Margaret HARKESS, and had two siblings, Elizabeth 1823 and Margaret 1828. He married c1850 to Eleanor BIRKETT, born Scotland 1834. They had five children: Margaret 1856-92 born Tanfield; James Birkett 1860-62, Jane 1863-80, Elizabeth 1865-65 and Robert 1866, all born Trimdon. Eleanor died 1890 and was buried Trimdon. John was a bootmaker and innkeeper at the Black Bull, Trimdon according to the 1881 Census. Their daughter Margaret married Edward MALONEY 1876 Newcastle and emigrated to the US in 1882.

10496 Mrs SH CLARK, 27 Surrey Close, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 8PG

Researching the name TWEDDLE, especially William, born Northumberland, married Elizabeth CAWTHORN in 1883 at Morpeth Register Office, both of Sleekburn. They had seven children between 1883 and 1892 and moved from Sleekburn to Pegswood where grandfather was born. Unable to find the family on the 1881 or 1891 Census.

10502 Mrs M LINDSEY, 29 Birmingham Road, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5EE

In 1856, Thomas TEMPLE married Dorothy SHIELD at Chester-le-Street shortly before they went to Russia, possibly that area that was Prussia and is now Germany. They had six children before returning by June 1878 to Craghead, Co Durham. As Thomas was later described as a colliery engineer, his trip abroad was presumably to do with mining. Does anyone have any knowledge of how this might have come about and which mines sent people abroad at this time? Are there any passenger lists available for 1856-1860?

10520 THERESE IVES, 912 Argonne Drive, North Chicago, Illinois 60064, USA.

Seeking information on great grandparents: John William BENTLEY (born 1856, Sunderland area), married to Mary Elizabeth KENYON (born 1858, Sunderland area). Her parents

were Thomas Kenyon and Elizabeth DUXPERY. They migrated to US and had a daughter Elizabeth born 1886, Boston, Mass and son Lawrence born c1888. They settled in North Chicago, Illinois by 1890's. Any help would be appreciated.

10523 Mrs HILDA JONES, 23 Boundstone Road, Farnham, Surrey GU10 4TW

Interested in hearing from anyone researching the following names in Northumberland. Jane OXLEY, eldest of ten children: Jane, William Robson, John Robson, John, Sarah, Alice, Alice, Isabella, Margaret and Elizabeth. Jane was born 1798 Tynemouth and married 1817 at Tynemouth to Joseph HILL, brazier and tinplate worker, born 1796. Their first child was born in Tynemouth but by 1822 they were living in Poplar, Middlesex where Joseph died in 1829. Was Joseph a native of Northumberland? Jane Oxley's father was John Oxley, a boat builder, born 1774 Tynemouth who married Alice ROBSON in 1797 at Tynemouth. John Oxley's (OCKSLEY) father was a waterman who married Jane HALL in 1770 at Tynemouth.

10537 Ms CHERRI NESTMAN, 133 Castillou Way, Salt Spring Island, British Columbia V8K 1A8

Looking for information regarding father, Thomas Hector WELLS, born 1903 Newcastle. In 1908 he was orphaned and went to live in Heacham, Norfolk with grandmother Edith VINCENT. Edith died in 1911 aged 59 and Thomas went to stay with a great aunt after a short spell in the Work House in Norfolk. Have been unable to find a birth certificate or any other record.

10538 DAVID THORNTON BOLT, Image House, Waskerley Road, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE38 8ET ([email: david.bolt@bun.com](mailto:david.bolt@bun.com))

Searching for any information regarding the following:

1) Archibald Barclay BOLT, christened 1841 Lerwick, Shetland. He moved to Tyneside (North Shields) c1850. Records show that AB Bolt was a Master Mariner and married Jane Ann THORNTON, North Shields in 1863. Jane was born 1840, daughter of William Thornton and died 1913. During the winter of 1918 Archibald Barclay Bolt moved to Okeford Fitzpaine in Dorset where he died 1921. 2) William Thornton, born c1806, died 1881 North Shields aged 75 years. He married Margaret Archer TODD, North Shields in 1835. Margaret was born c1814, daughter of William Todd, and died 1884 North Shields. Also interested in: WATSON 1750-1850; THORNTON 1750-1900 and YELLOWLEY 1750-1850 all of Felton and surrounding area. And, DEE, Greatham, West Hartlepool, 1700-1850; ANDERSON, Thornaby on Tees, 1700-1900. Looking for any information concerning PRESTON COTTAGE, North Road, Preston Village, North Shields and THORNTON HOUSE also of North Road, Preston Village, North Shields and in particular 1800-1900.

10576 & 10577 Mr & Mrs P KING, Ten Obelisk Rise, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 8QT

Seeking information on Sarah REYNOLDS nee FLYNN, born Dublin 1842, and William Reynolds who married Dublin 1860 whilst he was serving in the Royal Horse Artillery stationed at Portobello Barracks, Dublin. Their children: Joseph 1864 an Sarah Jane 1866 were born at Shorncliffe Camp, Kent; Henry Patrick 1868 Dublin; Frederic 1871 Woolwich; and Annie 1873, Arthur 1875, Rebecca Mary 1877 and Walter James 1879 at Newcastle. William was probably stationed at Fenham Barracks until the mid 1870s after when he was a blacksmith living in Strawberry Lane until his death in 1880 aged 43 years. He was buried at St Andrew's Cemetery. Sarah remarried to Thomas BURGUN, a miner, 1882 at Newcastle Register Office and lived Pitt Street. Thomas died 1890. Rebecca Mary married Edmund BELL 1904 Newcastle Reg Office and they had one known child: Gretta 1907. Walter James married Sarah Alice ROBINSON and had Walter and Frances Ann 1913 who married John Edwin ATKINSON, 1937 St Scotswood; known child, June born 1937.

10587 Mrs JEAN BROWN, 5 Southside, Ferryhill, Co Durham DL17 8EU ([email: sullivan@southside5.freemove.co.uk](mailto:sullivan@southside5.freemove.co.uk))

Interests: Elizabeth RAINS, born Woodhorn, Northumberland in 1796, daughter of Robert Raine and Ann MARSHALL. Siblings - Robert Marshall 1795, Mary 1801 and James 1805. Elizabeth married Thomas SMITH at Kirk Merrington in 1825. Children - Ann Marshall 1827, Elizabeth 1828, Anne-Marie 1830 and James 1832. Elizabeth 1828 married Isaac HARKER, a tailor of Hett, and James 1832 married an Elizabeth Raine from Coxhoe (cousins or coincidence?). Is anyone else researching this family?

10592 GEORGE FRASER BAIRD, 33 Willowbrae Avenue, Edinburgh EH8 7HE

Looking for any information on the family and ancestors of William Hood STOREY, believed to have been born Cullercoats c1897/8, son of Thomas Storey, fisherman, and Martha nee Storey.

10598 MARGARET SMITH, 8 Hillside Estate, Ruskington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 9TJ

Interested in the PARKIN and ARMSTRONG from the Lanchester, Witton Gilbert, Broom House, Merrington and Lower Spennymoor area. Particularly, trying to find the parents of Ann Armstrong, daughter of Joseph and born 1827 at Broom House Cottages, married Thomas Parkin 1848. Does anyone know the history of Broom House?

10619 Mrs JEAN TOWNSEND (nee BROWN) Casa Jeanarnie, Alpuvar, Caixa 182 Z, 8200-397 Albufeira, Portugal ([email: arnoldtownsend@hotmail.com](mailto:arnoldtownsend@hotmail.com))

Seeking any information on George BROWN, born 1814, died 1878. He married Isabella LAIDLER born 1812, died 1890. George was associated with the coal mining industry and lived in Easington. He left Durham and went to South Wales to work as a "Viewer" with a Mr John NIXON also a Durham man born in Barlow. Any information regarding John Nixon would also be appreciated.

10631 Ms D PEARSON, 47 Glenluce Drive, Farrington Park, Preston, Lancashire PR1. 5TD

Looking for any evidence of the birth/baptism and mother of Sarah FITZPATRICK, born 1844, possibly Durham City, daughter of James FitzPatrick. She married William PEARSON, born Vigo 1841, at Durham Register Office in 1865, and they had children: Ralph, Margaret, Robert, Sarah, Elizabeth, James and Frances. They lived and died at Waterhouses, Co Durham. Also John and Elizabeth Pearson of Cassop Moor House, Kelloe c1780, who had a son Edward who married Elizabeth SURTEES at Whickham 1809. Also interested in BRYDEN, CRAMPTON, HOLLIDAY, TURNER, TURNBULL and HARRISON - all Durham City and area.

10654 Mrs TERESA JACKSON, 72 Chipchase Court, New Hartley, Northumberland NE25 OSR ([email: mike_jackson@uk.ibm.co](mailto:mike_jackson@uk.ibm.co))

Thomas WALKER, fisherman from Holy Island born c1782 married Margaret PRINGLE, also from Holy Island; they had

12 children. Daughter Euphemia born 1817 married William BOSTON from Spittal in 1837 at Holy Island. Another daughter Elizabeth, born 1821, married John GELSON, born 1810, from Alnwick; unable to find the date of their marriage. Their son Robert Boston, born 1845, Ballast Hills, Newcastle married his cousin Mary Gelson (born 1851, Narrowgate Street, Alnwick) in 1876 at Newcastle Register Office. Their daughter Elizabeth, born 1889 Dunston, married Frederick Charles BISHOP (born 1888 Bensham) at Gateshead Register Office in 1914. Frederick's father William Pierpoint Bishop (born 1847 Abergavenny) married Charlotte SMITH, date unknown, and he was the manager of a boot factory in Bensham. Frederick's daughter Doreen Bishop born 1915 Dunston married James Armstrong JACKSON (born 1911 Byker) in 1939 at St James & St Basil's Church, Fenham. Unable to trace any information about James' father James Jackson and his mother Martha ARMSTRONG who were married in 1906 at St Joseph's RC Church, Benwell. Would appreciate any information.

10681 MARK LILBURNE, 4 Davies Close, Stafford, Staffordshire ST16 3FD ([email: debra.lilburne@tesco.net](mailto:debra.lilburne@tesco.net))

Seeking any information on the family name LILBURNE; there seems to be a lot in Northumberland area in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

10696 Ms JULIE WILD, 3 Commodore Court, Banora Point, New South Wales 2486, Australia

Would like to contact any descendants, or receive any information, of Joseph MONKHOUSE and Sarah EDWARDS of Bamard Castle in the late 1700s.

10702 ALLAN MATHER, Court Meadow, Morchard Bishop, Crediton, Devon EX17 6NZ ([email: mather@connectfree.co.uk](mailto:mather@connectfree.co.uk))

Seeking ancestors and descendants of the MATHER family. 1) John, born 1802, son of James and Mary JOBSON, possibly at Beadnell although sister Mary Ann (1808) and brother James (1810) were born at Alnwick. 2) James (1810) married Margaret JACKSON and they had four known sons: James (1837); George (1849 Thornley) married Jane CUMMINGS (1873), died or killed in pit in 1874; John born 1850 was married and in 1930 was living at Haswell; Andrew born 1852 Haswell and married 1882. His wife believed to have been at Seaham in 1930.

HELP OFFERED

9859 Mr JA STEWART, 2 Holt Close, Wittering, Cambridgeshire PE5 6DD

Willing to assist NDFHS members who want information from Peterborough and district registers. Also willing to visit churchyards and buildings within about a 10 mile radius of Stamford, Lincolnshire for research and to take photographs (small charge to cover cost of photos, etc).

FROM THE "BERWICK ADVERTISER" DEATHS COLUMN

4 May 1810 A few days ago, at Newcastle, Mrs Watkin of that place, on being informed that her son was fighting in the street, she ran to the place pointed out and seeing one of the men fall, she exclaimed "O my son" and expired immediately.

21st May 1810 On 8th May, by a grape shot, in action with the Neapolitan flotilla, Mr Wm Robson of Durham, oldest midshipman of the Spartan, frigate, aged 18 years.