

# THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Vol. 6 No. 4

July, 1981

## CONTENTS

Editorial .....	80
The Annual General Meeting .....	80
Treasurer's Report and Accounts .....	81
Membership Renewal 1981/82 .....	82
Future Programme .....	83
Letters to the Editor .....	83
A Dutch Link with Northumberland ..... <i>Mrs. V. A. Corno</i>	84
The Society of Genealogists ..... <i>S. G. Smith</i>	85
When the Fog Lifts ..... <i>Alan Wright</i>	88
Strays in Canterbury Diocese .....	89
Northumbrians in Garrigill - 1851 .....	90
Parish Registers and Genetics in Coquetdale .....	91
The Catchside Connection ..... <i>William Lamb</i>	92
Looking Back ..... <i>David J. Anderson</i>	93
Darlington Evening Classes .....	93
Border Descent ..... <i>Alfred J. Coulthard</i>	94
Cumberland and Westmorland Strays .....	95
My Elusive Great-Grandfather ..... <i>Jean Lambert</i>	96
Book Review: A Guide to Wills .....	98
Know Your Parish: VIII: Heworth, County Durham ..... <i>John Turnbull</i>	99
Members and their Interests .....	99
Second Time Around .....	102
Offers of Help .....	102
Changes of Address .....	102

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OR ITS CONTRIBUTORS

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

# EDITORIAL

Once again your Journal was late, this time because of a very big delay in the delivery of those plastic envelopes in which it arrives on your doorstep. As this is the last edition of the present Volume, I should like to thank all those concerned in the production of the Journal, and especially our typists who must have one of the most thankless tasks in the Society. Pat Storey and Hazel McAlwane have now been joined by Yvonne Armstrong, and with John Turnbull taking over the posting job, and John Scott helping with layout and detailed editing, I hope that we shall be able to continue to produce a high-quality Journal, capable of catering to all the needs of its readership.

Next, one or two pieces of [news: Newcastle](#) Central Library has acquired a copy of the 1978 'edition' of the CFI Microfiche, mainly of baptisms, for Durham and Northumberland. Members will **appreciate the big saving in time that can be made using this valuable genealogical tool, but do** remember that it is not a complete list of all baptisms, nor does it contain all the information contained in the original entries.

The second piece of news is less welcome. St. Catherine's House has raised its prices once again and the new rates are as follows:

Full Certificates (personal application) (BMD)	£4.00
Short Certificates (Birth only)	£2.00
'Checks'	£2.00
Postal application for full certificate	£8.50
Postal application for short certificates	£6.50

Late census search (1881; 1891; 1901) increase to £14.95 per address. Remember, entries from as long ago as 1837 cost £8.50; it is surely time to make access to all records over 100 years old free for researchers. The situation at St. Catherine's House is a disgraceful anomaly that must be abolished as soon as is humanly possible.

Finally, a word on copy dates: in order to standardise procedure, I should like to ask all contributors to have their typed copy sent to me so as to arrive no later than the first day of the month before publication of the Journal. Manuscript submissions should be with me roughly a fortnight before that date. Copy dates will therefore be as follows:

January Journal: 1st December  
April Journal: 1st March

July Journal: 1st June  
October Journal: 1st September

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Only twenty-four members were present at the Y.M.C.A. on 13th May to hear the reports from committee members, and to accept the annual accounts. After the Chairman's opening remarks, John Scott presented the balance-sheet, which showed that an increase in subscription income had been partly offset, as forecast, by an increase in postal expenses. There will, however, be no need to increase the subscription for 1982 although an increase for 1983 will almost certainly be necessary. Our membership has had a net increase of almost a hundred to 768 (as of the 2nd May). The balance-sheet was duly accepted by the meeting.

Bill Mantey then gave the Secretary's report, making a number of important points. With large increases in membership, all the committee members' tasks are becoming increasingly onerous. Bill, for instance, receives about a hundred letters per month, many containing 'impossible' requests, all of them requiring some sort of action. He said that more volunteers were needed to help spread the load, and Mrs Yvonne Armstrong kindly offered to assist with organising the work for compilation of the Directory of Interests. Ann Power has agreed to continue with the job of Membership Secretary for another year, and will hope to be 'grooming' someone for the job, to take over in May 1982.

One disappointing piece of news was that the 1881 Census will not be purchased by either Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, or Durham Record Offices, owing to lack of funds. Newcastle Central Library will be obtaining the census microfilm for the City area and its immediate surroundings, but we will have to wait until 1982 before it is available.

The meeting as a whole felt that more must be done in order to forward the aims of the Society. Following the Treasurer's and Secretary's reports, there was some discussion of the Society's

problems - lack of communication, the apparent lack of willingness to participate in projects, and so on. The Chairman welcomed the points raised by members which included a suggestion that some way be found of demonstrating the art of Monumental Inscription recording. Another point discussed was that of publications. It was agreed that we should continue to produce printed copies of records, and there was quite a lot of discussion as to just what should be published - Monumental Inscription copies, Census returns, or Parish Registers.

The meeting concluded with the feeling that more would be done to record and index records for posterity, and the Journal will play an important role in disseminating information on future activities.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

As anticipated by Don Mason when giving this report last year, the Society managed to break even for the year to 31 August 1980; the surplus of £54 shown in the accounts is entirely attributable to the fact that provisions made for taxation and audit fees in previous accounts were not in fact required.

The recent increase in subscription levels will enable us to hold our own during the current year, although the cost of producing and distributing the second edition of the Directory of Members' Interests - which we hope to publish during the Summer of 1981 - may well oblige us to dip into our reserves. The cost of production of the Journal, which is now typeset, printed and collated commercially, has increased from 30p to 33p per copy, but this increase is offset by the reduction - or more correctly the reduced increase - in postal cost made possible by condensing the Journal to 24 pages.

As the costs associated with the Directory will not recur in 1981/82, we are able to hold subscriptions at their present level for a further year, but it is anticipated that a modest increase may be necessary in 1982/83.

A total of 193 new members have been enrolled since the last Annual Meeting, and the current net total membership is 768 as against 669 at the same time last year; of the current total, 151 are overseas members.

The growth in membership is of course gratifying, but the consequent increase in the workload borne by your committee, all of whom are unpaid volunteers, is fast reaching intolerable proportions; unless more of our local members come forward to share the burden, one can foresee the necessity of seeking paid assistance which would inevitably be reflected in increased subscription rates.

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT AS AT 31 AUGUST 1980

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 1980

INCOME			1979
Subscriptions received	1628		1448
Journal & Publication Sales	472		153
Donations	-		13
Building Society Interest	19		15
Bank Interest	128		60
Provisions Not Required	54		
	<b>301</b>		<b>1689</b>
EXPENDITURE			
Journal Production	911		866
Postage	681		443
Meeting Expenses	80		48
Stationery	39		11
FFHS	35		12
Publications for Resale	312		
Library Additions	2		7
Bank Charges	6		
Provision for Taxation			27
Provision for Audit Fee			20
Publications Reserve	180	2247	180
			<b>1614</b>
SURPLUS FOR YEAR		<b>54</b>	<b>75</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 1980

CURRENT ASSETS				1979
Sundry Debtors	68			
Officers' Floats	48		39	
Building Society Account			180	
Bank Deposit Account No 1	1500		841	
Bank Deposit Account No 2	199			
Current Account	155		284	
Cash in Hand	69	2039		1344
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Sundry Creditors	11		83	
Subscriptions in Advance	1151		564	
Provision for Taxation		1162	<u>34</u>	<u>681</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		877		663
PUBLICATIONS RESERVE				
Balance Brought Forward	351		158	
Provision for Year	180		180	
Sale of Directories			13	
	<u>531</u>		<u>351</u>	
Net Publishing Costs	20	511		351
ACCUMULATED GENERAL RESERVE				
Balance Brought Forward	312		237	
Surplus for Year	54	366	75	312
NET TOTAL OF RESERVES		877		663

I have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account and consider them to be in accordance with the books and records maintained by the Northumberland & Durham Family History Society.

10 Market Place  
HEXHAM  
Northumberland NE461XF

D Mason  
Hon. Auditor

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 1981/82

Subscriptions for 1981/82 are due on or before 1 September 1981, and as in previous years the October issue of the Journal will be despatched only to those members whose subscriptions have been renewed; to save expense no other receipt will be issued. The renewal form is enclosed with this Journal - libraries and institutions will receive an invoice instead - and this year the form is printed on thin card and will be stored in a card index; this card therefore should not be folded.

The processing of last year's renewals was the first task undertaken by your present Treasurer; he is now an older man and wiser, and to preserve his sanity in the coming months members are asked to bear in mind the following fervent pleas!

Firstly, when should you pay your subscription? Last year, less than half of our members had paid by 1 September, although many late renewers enclosed notes expressing the hope that the delay would not cause inconvenience. The answer, we regret to say, is that late renewals do cause a great deal of inconvenience, particularly those received after the October Journal has been distributed, so please don't delay - renew today!

Secondly, what about other enquiries and correspondence? We realise that the renewal letter is the only direct contact between many of our members and the Society, and that it may well be convenient to enclose other correspondence with the renewal form. The Treasurer would be happy to pass on such correspondence, but members are asked to check the first page of this Journal to identify the officer to whom their correspondence should be directed, and to write to each such officer on a separate sheet of paper clearly headed with the name and address of the officer concerned. Your assistance in this respect will be very much appreciated, and will help us to help you.

And finally, how should you pay your subscription? United Kingdom members are asked to pay by cheque or postal order payable to "NDFHS". Overseas members should also pay in Sterling currency wherever possible; Sterling postal orders are available in Canada, Australia and New Zealand and elsewhere most banks will be able to supply Banker's Drafts redeemable in Sterling at a United Kingdom bank. Again, the postal orders or drafts should be made payable to -ND FHS".

If it is impossible to pay in Sterling, cheques in local currency will be accepted, but these should be made payable to "Northumberland & Durham Family History Society", and this title should not be abbreviated in any way. It costs the Society an average of 60p each to convert such cheques, and members paying in local currency for Surface Mail or Airmail membership should accordingly pay the local equivalent of £4.60 or £8.60 respectively.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES 1981/82

United Kingdom & BFPC	£3.00
Overseas (Surface Mail) and Europe	£4.00
Overseas (Airmail)	£8.00
Family Membership (Additional to above)	£1.00

Family Membership entitles additional members of the same family living at the same address to full membership if the Society, including the right to have interests or requests for assistance published in the Journal, but only one copy of the Journal will be sent to each family.

## FUTURE PROGRAMME

*Thursday, September 17th*

Mr A. Buchanan will talk on his researches into his family tree.  
Y.M.C.A. Building, Ellison Place, Newcastle, 7.15 p.m.

*Wednesday, October 14th*

Mr Stan Beckensall will talk on 'Place Names in North-East England'.  
Y.M.C.A. Building, Ellison Place, Newcastle, 7.15 p.m.

*Wednesday, November 11th*

Speaker to be announced.  
Y.M.C.A. Building, Ellison Place, Newcastle, 7.15 p.m.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### *Go to Biddick!*

*Mrs Jean Lambert*, of 141 Brodie Avenue, Liverpool L18 4RG, whose article "My *Elusive Great-grandfather*" appears elsewhere in this Journal, writes: "I was very interested in the article about the October meeting (Journal, Vol 6, No. 2, p. 33), which mentioned Biddick.

My grand-mother, when she wished to consign someone to an unpleasant place, always said "Oh, go to Biddick!". For many years I thought that Biddick didn't exist, was only a euphemism, until I found it one day on a map when I was looking for something else. Now I realise that the expression had some foundation in fact!"

### *Dulcibella*

*Mrs J. Comyn* of 15 St. John's Mansions, Clapton Square, London E.5, writes: "I wonder whether it would be possible for me to enquire of your members, through the medium of your Journal, whether any of them have any knowledge of the use of the Christian name Dulcibella, now most unusual but at one time apparently quite common in certain families. It had descended through the female line in my husband's family since the beginning of the 17th Century, and its use has been very helpful to me, as a searcher, in linking various branches of the family together.

I would be most interested if members could let me have details of any incidences they find (postage refunded) so that I can try to trace some of the early holders."

Editor's Note: Mrs Comyn included a pedigree of the families of MORTON, EDEN, BURNEY, and COMYN, mostly of County Durham, which unfortunately we have no room to print. They are descended from Richard BADDELEY, Esq., whose daughter, the 'original' Dulcibella, married the Revd. Joseph NAYLOR of Sedgfield (d. 1677) and whose daughter Dulcibella married the Revd. Dr. John MORTON? 1644-1722. The name Dulcibella has been tamed down to modern times through many branches of the family.

### *The Burnicles*

*Mrs Ada Burnicle*, (Member No. 1050), of 28 The Avenue, Nunthorpe Station, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS7 0AR, writes: "My husband and I have been researching the name of

BURNICLEBURNIKELL for over a year now. We have been studying our local records (mainly Marske and Redcar) and have quite a big family tree to date. How we started might make interesting reading.

For years I have heard my husband's family saying with conviction, "Yes, the Burnicles are related to Captain James Cook." An old Middlesbrough doctor had told Grandma Burnicle years ago. It wasn't until we went to look in Captain Cook's Museum at Stewart Park, Marton, and picked up a Genealogy Book of the Cook family, that our curiosity was aroused. In this book there is a large family of Burnicles listed. Even then we didn't know how or where to begin to trace back to our namesakes, but I joined a course on Family History at Redcar.

My husband only knew that his grand-father married the blacksmith's daughter from Piercebridge but he didn't know when.

A visit to Durham Record Office located his marriage and we were surprised to see that his great-grand-father was called Edward and classed as a fitter. My husband always thought his great-grand-father was John, and a sea-captain.

It seems our ancestors all originated from Marske-by-Sea and there are records back to 1684 and odd ones back to 1570.

But what about the Captain Cook connection?

A certain John Burnicle, (son of Robert and Sarah married at Upleatham) married Ann Carter, the grand-daughter of Captain Cook's sister Margaret. John and Ann married in 1814 and had a large family at Bishopwearmouth. The only link with my husband is that he and John share the same ancestor, William of 1864.

However I am convinced that, in the County of Durham today, there are descendants of this Burnicle (Burnikell) family who are unaware of their connection with the Cook family - for instance, James Fleck Burnicle, a Solicitor from Sunderland, (died 1930), certainly was.

I would like to be able to link the Burnicles of today with that distant family. There is a big gap to bridge, but I think I can do it."

## A DUTCH LINK WITH NORTHUMBERLAND

*Mrs V. A. Corno*

My English ancestors, Armstrongs and Bells of Northumberland, seem to present for me far more problems than my ancestors from overseas! My mother died when I was quite small, also all of her family during the last war, and I am left with a few faded photographs.

I knew my grandmother Cornelia Alberdina Pluis was Dutch, and that she married my grandfather John James Bell in Jesmond, Newcastle in 1884; I traced her death at St. Catherine's House, and then knew the year of her birth. A cousin remembered her birthplace, Groningen, in northern Holland. I wrote to enquire, and in return received a request from the Rijksarchief in de Provincie Groningen for f-2.; a week later I received a letter containing details of Cornelia's birth, also her ancestors, their ages when they died, their occupations - corn measurer, cheese maturer, butcher, etc. - and the village where they lived. One of the families named van Bolhuis, the Rijksarchief tells me, was a famous family in the provincie, and can be traced back some hundreds of years. A few weeks later I received a photostat extract from the Births book, showing the entry of Cornelia's birth, and it was signed by my great-grandfather, Popko Rabbes Pluis.

My family are suspicious when I suggest an unusual destination for a holiday, in case we have ancestors that originate there; but a few years ago we spent an enjoyable holiday camping in Holland, and we visited Groningen, where I checked the telephone directories for the surname Pluis. There were four, so plucking up courage, I tried the phone numbers, and the second was successful. I spoke to a lady who asked if I would talk to her daughter, who spoke English very well. I told her about my grandmother and her name, Cornelia Alberdina Pluis. Imagine my surprise when she told me her grandmother was Cornelia Alberdina Annette Pluis, (grandmother named her eldest daughter Annette)! We visited the family, and spent an interesting time talking to them. We also visited their uncle aged eighty-two, the eldest member of their family. Unfortunately we had language difficulties, but he explained that his father told him of his sister Cornelia, who went to live in England: this gentleman and my mother were first cousins!

We still correspond with our Dutch cousins, and my family tree now has quite a collection of interesting names added to it. The Dutch branch dates back to 1752, a bargain for £2. !

# THE SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

*Sidney. G. Smith*

First time visitors to the library of the Society of Genealogists in London are normally overwhelmed by the mass of genealogical reference books, indexes, micro-films and parish register transcripts with which they are confronted as they walk through the entrance. So much so that my impression, at least, is that much time and energy is wasted in simply finding one's way about, and little benefit is derived from their first visit. This article is therefore designed for just such a visitor, who perhaps has only a single day - or even a few hours - in which to take advantage of this unique library.

Founded in 1911, the Society was the forerunner of all the modern family history societies which have sprouted up in the last ten years. It has of course its shortcomings, and the cramped conditions in which the searcher finds himself can be rather off-putting, especially if he has been used to a modern provincial county record office. Indeed, many would argue that it was the failure of the Society in the 1970's to cope with the massive rise in interest in family history that gave impetus to the growth of local societies, and to a certain extent, this is probably true. The premises remain very unsatisfactory, and lack of seating is a problem, especially in the busy months of the summer. The staff will help by directing you to your place of search, but you cannot expect them to spend a great deal of time showing you around. If you feel that they do not seem too concerned with your particular problem, remember that this tiny staff has to cope with hundreds of letters and telephone calls each week, as well as the thousands of personal callers during the year. How often they must tire of that perennial question: "Where do I go from here?"

Having said all that, do not let me put you off. The library is after all unique! In no other library or record office can the searcher freely pick and choose parish register transcripts for all parts of the country from the open shelves. The entrance fees for non-members are still very reasonable when you consider that not only are there about 6000 parish registers available, but also numerous indexes, poll books, directories, and a vast amount of source material covering every subject from the records of professions to heraldry and the peerage. The current search fees for non-members are £2 for one hour, £4 for 3 1/2 hours or £6 for a day. On Wednesdays and Thursdays the library stays open till 8 p.m., but it is closed all day on Mondays, and of course on bank holidays. It does however have the advantage of being open on Saturdays for the weekend visitor to London. If you feel that you may visit the library more than once, it may pay you to join the Society itself, when of course entrance is free, and you also have the benefit of receiving their quarterly magazine. At present the annual subscription for members living in London is £15., whilst for others it is £10.

However, I shall assume that our visitor is on an infrequent trip to London, and is aiming to take advantage of the Society's collection in the shortest possible time. The library is housed on three levels, a basement, ground floor, and first floor, at 37, Harrington Gardens, South Kensington, London SW7, a Victorian house not far from Gloucester Road Tube Station. Durham and Northumberland are quite well served as far as parish register transcripts are concerned, but first I will deal with some of the major indexes and collections, which all visitors will wish to examine.

Boyd's Marriage Index: Perhaps the most famous of all genealogical indexes, this was initiated by Percival Boyd in 1925, and compiled over a period of 30 years. It is a typewritten index of marriages from English parish registers arranged largely by county, and in '25-year' periods, though there are two series of miscellaneous volumes. The index is housed in Room Raglan, on the first floor. The 531 volumes virtually fill one wall, -cad. contain about six to seven million marriages. The volumes for Durham cover parts of 71 76% of the county, whilst 84 parishes in Northumberland are covered, approximately 84% of the county. It is worth noting, however, that these indexes were based on the work of H. M. Wood, and cover the parishes, in the main, to 1812. Only Lanchester and Whickham are covered up to 1837. There are standard abbreviations for names, and only the barest details are given, but it is obviously an invaluable device for locating a marriage. A typical entry shows one of my ancestors in Houghton-le-Spring:

1801 PLACE Jas                      An Wrigglesworth                      Houghton

The actual entry in the Houghton register reads as follows:

1801, 2nd Aug. James Place of this parish and Ann Wrigglesworth of Appleton Wisk (Yorks.) married by banns.

A detailed list of all the parishes and periods covered by the index, can be found in "A list of *Parishes in Boyd's Marriage Index*" (1981), published for the Society by Phillimore.

Apprentices of Great Britain: Next to Boyd's Marriage Index in Room Raglan is another invaluable collection. In 1710, Parliament enacted that a small tax should be paid on apprenticeship indentures, and this index covers those apprentices on which the tax was paid between 1710 and 1774. It is a very useful tool for solving 18th century problems, especially prior to 1750, when the father of the apprentice was named. As in Boyds, there are standard abbreviations, and a particular format for each entry, but again, it is simple to follow. The following entry, for example, solved a problem concerning one of my 'Smith' ancestors in Billingham:

SMITH 1722/47/161 Fran Geo of Cowpen, Durham, to Tho Reed of Yarme, Yk, saddler, £10.

The entry reveals that Francis, the son of George Smith of Cowpen Bewley (in the parish of Billingham) was apprenticed in 1722 to one Thomas Reed of Yarme, as a saddler, and that f-10 tax was paid. The reference number 47/161 refers simply to the volume and folio number of the original register at the Public Record Office. I would certainly advise any visitor to check the two dozen or so volumes which make up this index.

The Documents Collection: This is housed in Room Tweeddale, next door to Room Raglan, still upstairs. These are family histories and documents deposited by members during the 70 years existence of the Society. It is always worth checking just in case work has already been done on the family you are tracing. The thousands of pedigrees are arranged alphabetically by surname in 800 boxes, and do not take long to check.

\*The Computer File Index: On the ground floor, in the members' room, is housed one of the more recent acquisitions, the invaluable micro-fiche indexes compiled by the Mormon Church. Acquired in late 1977, it has been in constant use ever since, and visitors are advised to telephone the Society and book one of the readers in advance. One is allowed one hour on the machines, and there is also a reader-printer, which will copy complete pages from the fiche for 20 pence. Hence, if researching a particular surname, one need not copy by hand all the baptism and marriage entries which appear, but a photocopy will record up to seventy entries in a matter of seconds - very useful if you are in a hurry. Again, Durham and Northumberland are well covered by these indexes, with perhaps as many as 70% of known baptisms in the two counties recorded.

Here too, in the members' room, you can relax, have a cup of tea, and browse through the journals of all the different family history societies.

The Great Card Index: Down in the basement is housed a huge card index containing about three million names. It is a miscellaneous index containing references from parish registers, wills, and monumental inscriptions, and is especially strong on 18th century references. To some extent, the CFI has now superseded this index, but nevertheless, it is perhaps worth a quick check just in case something turns up, and again takes only a matter of minutes.

These then are the major collections well worth checking. There are of course others, not least the micro-film indexes of the Scottish civil registration records (1855-1920). I have chosen the above, however, for they can all be consulted in a very short time, and can sometimes quickly solve long-standing problems.

Our visitor of course will then wish to check the actual county shelves, where the many parish register transcripts are kept. I have listed below the parishes in Durham and Northumberland for which there is a copy of the register, though of course on the same shelves the searcher will find many other reference books on the two counties, such as copies of monumental inscriptions and poll books. The Durham collection is housed upstairs in Room Raglan, close to Boyd's Marriage Index, whilst the Northumberland collection is to be found downstairs in Room Farrer. Here too, will be found the complete card catalogue of all the transcripts [etc. at](#) the Society, and you will need to consult this catalogue to discover on which shelf you will find the volume you are seeking. For example, if you wish to check the transcript of St. Hilda's, Hartlepool 1566-1837, you would first go to the catalogue drawer marked 'Durham', and check the card marked 'Hartlepool'. This indicates

#### HARTLEPOOL DU 10

This shows that you will find the transcript on the 10th Durham shelf. (All the Durham shelves, for instance, are marked DU 1 to DU 10) Be prepared to check one or two shelves however, for often books are returned to the wrong shelf by users. When I was at the Society last, I found the above transcript on the 9th shelf! (DU 9)

(\*Note: At the time of writing, there are plans to reorganise the Member's room (recently renamed ~~Room Mounthatten~~, after the former Patron of the Society) by moving the micro-fiche readers to a newly acquired room on the second floor of the building later this year.)



# PARISH REGISTER TRANSCRIPTS AT THE SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS LIBRARY FOR DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND

*C - Christenings or births*  
*M - Marriages*

*B - Burials*  
*D - Deaths*

## DURHAM

Aycliffe, CMB 1560-1812  
Bishop Auckland & Witton Gilbert, R.C., C 1768-1794  
Bishop Middleham, CMB 1559-1812  
Bishopwearmouth, M 1568-1837  
Boldon, M 1579-1837  
Brancepeth, M 1599-1837  
Castle Eden, CMB 1661-1812; M 1698-1837  
Chester-le-Street, M 1582-1837  
Cockfield, CMB 1807-1840  
Coniscliffe, CMB 1590-1812  
Croxdale, M 1732-1837  
**Dalton-le-Dale, CMB 1653-1837**  
Dinsdale, CMB 1556-1813  
Durham Cathedral, CMB 1609-1896  
Durham St. Margaret's, M 1558-1812  
Durham St. Mary-le-Bow, M 1571-1812  
Durham St. Mary-the-Less, CMB 1559-1812  
Durham St. Nicholas, CMB 1540-1812  
Durham St. Oswald, CMB 1538-1751  
Durham Secular & Jesuit Mission, CM 1739-1839  
Easington, M 1570-1837  
Ebchester, CMB 1618-1812  
Edmundbyers, M 1746-1840  
Egglesstone, CB 1795-1840  
Elwick Hall, CMB 1592-1900  
Embleton, M 1650-1760  
Esh, CMB 1567-1812  
Gainford, CMB 1560-1784  
Gateshead, St. Mary, CMB 1559-1587, 1608-1960; M 1559-1837  
Gateshead Fell, M 1825-1837  
Harnsterley Baptist, C 1729-1765; CD 1771-1848  
Hardwick, Catholic, C 1743-7  
Hartlepool, CMB 1566-1837  
Heatherlycleugh, M 1828-1837  
**Hetton-le-Hole, M 1832-1837**  
Heworth, M 1696-1837  
**Houghton-le-Spring, M 1653-1812; Extracts 1581-1812**

**Hurworth-on-Tees, CMB 1559-1799**  
Ireshopeburn, C 1766-1822  
Jarrow, CMB, 1813-1837; M 1568-1812  
Kelloe, M 1693-1837  
**Lamesley, M 1603-98 (with gaps); 1702-1837**  
Lanchester, CMB 1560-1603  
**Middleton-in-Teesdale, CMB 1753-1837**  
Middleton St. George, CMB 1616-1812  
Monkwearmouth, M 1790-1837, plus Licences pre 1790  
Monk Hesledon, M 1592-1837  
Muggleswick, M 1755-1846; CMB 1784-1812  
Penshaw, M 1754-1837  
Pittington, M 1575-1837  
Rainton, West, M 1827-1837  
Ryton, M 1581-1812  
Satley, M 1560-1837; CMB 1560-1812  
Seaham, M 1652-1837; CMB 1646-1812  
**Sherburn Hospital, CB 1678-1812; M 1695-1763**  
Shildon, M 1834-1837  
South Shields, M 1653-1837  
Staindrop, CMB 1807-1840  
Stanhope, M 1613-1837  
Stranton, CMB 1580-1837  
Stella, Catholic, 1775-1797  
Sunderland, M 1719-1837  
Sunderland R.C., CMB 1809-1837  
Trimdon, M 1721-1837  
Washington, M 1603-1837  
Weardale, St. John's Chapel, M 1828-1837  
Whickham, M 1579-1812; C 1576-1756  
Whitburn, M 1579-1837; CMB 1611-1812  
Whorlton, CB 1626-1840; M 1713-1837  
Winston, CMB 1572-1840  
Witton Gilbert, M 1568-1837  
**Witton-le-Wear, CMB 1559-1734; M 1558-1837**  
Wolsingham, M 1655-1837

*This list has grown substantially in the past couple of years, mainly due to the marriage transcripts of our member, W. E. Rounce.*

## NORTHUMBERLAND

Alnham, CMB 1688-1812  
Alnwick, C 1645-1669  
Alwinton, Holystone Chapelry, B 1816-1842  
Alwinton, CMB 1719-1812  
Ancroft, M 1813-1837; B 1813-1840  
Bambrough, CM 1653-1762; B 1652-1809  
Belford, CMB 1701-1812  
Bellingham, St. Oswald R.C., C1794-1837; B 1775-1790  
Berwick, Dissenting Protestant Relief, C 1778-1791, 1810  
Berwick, United Presbyterian, M 1782-1812  
Berwick, CM 1574-1700  
Bothal with Hebburn, CMB 1680-1812  
Branton Presbyterian, C 1785-1837  
Branxton, CMB 1736-1812  
Bymess, CB 1797-1812  
Callaly R.C., CMB 1796-1839, B 1797-1881  
Carham, M 1813-1837  
Chatton, CMB 1712-1812  
Cockshaw Catholic, CM 1753-1831  
Corbridge, CMB 1654-1812  
Crookham Presbyterian, C 1732-1833  
Doddington, CMB 1697-1812  
Edlingham, CMB 1658-1812  
Eglingham, CMB 1662-1812  
Ellingham, CMB 1695-1814  
Etal Presbyterian, C 1751-1828  
Felton R.C., CMB 1792-1858  
Ford, CMB 1683-1812  
Glanton, C 1784-1837  
Haggerston R.C., D 1790-1856  
Halton, CMB 1654-1812  
**Haltwhistle, C 1691-1750, MB 1691-1723**  
Haydon Bridge, CMB 1654-1812  
**Hebburn - see Bothal**  
Hexham Baptist, C 1651-1680  
Hexham Wesleyan, C 1797-1836  
Hexham Ebenezer Independent, C 1787-1837

Holy Island, CMB 1578-1958  
Iderton, CMB 1724-1812  
Ingram, M 1813-1837; CMB 1682-1812  
Kirknewton, B.T.s, CM 1770-1788; B 1762-1788  
Kyloe, M 1813-1836  
Lesbury, CMB 1690-1812  
LongBenton, CMB 1653-1812  
Long Houghton, CMB 1646-1812  
Lowick, CMB 1716-1812  
Ministeracres Catholic, C 1795-1840  
Meldon, CMB 1706-1812  
Morpeth, CMB 1719-1812  
Netherwitton, CMB 1696-1812  
Netherwitton Catholic, C 1790-1803  
Newbiggin, CMB 1662-1812  
Newbrough, CMB 1695-1725  
Newbum, CM 1660-1739; B 1660-1688  
Newcastle, All Saints, C 1713-1830; M 1600-1830  
Newcastle, St. Andrew R.C., C 1765-1825; B 1765-1806  
Newcastle Courant, CMB Extracts, 1748-1781  
Newcastle, Hanover Square Unitarian Chapel, 1779-1899  
Newcastle, St. Nicholas, M 1574-1812  
Newcastle, Ballast Hill Cemetery, 1719-1801  
Norham Presbyterian, C 1753-1818, 1848-54; M 1779-1805  
Ovingham, CMB 1679-1812  
Rennington, CB 1769-1812; M 1769-79  
Rothbury, CMB 1653-1816  
Rock, CB, 1768-1812; M 1771-80  
Shotley, CMB 1670-1812  
**Stonecroft Catholic, CM 1737-1821**  
Swinburne Castle Catholic 1828-1859  
Warden, CMB 1695-1724  
Warkworth, CMB 1672-1812  
Whalton, CMB 1661-1812  
Whitfield, CM 1605-1812; B 1754-1812  
Wood Head Chapel Catholic, 1774-1796  
Wooler West Presbyterian, C 1749-1783

*Plus an index of marriages 1813-1837 covering many parishes in the north of the county, compiled by J.A. Readdie.*

# WHEN THE FOG LIFTS

*Alan Wright*

An earlier article that I wrote for the NDFHS Journal carried the title "Family Mysteries or Fog in the Dales" and related some of the difficulties faced in sorting out two particular families from Weardale, County Durham. The article produced a minor deluge of letters and I would like to thank members who wrote to me for their interest and suggestions.

Whilst I am no further forward with the two families discussed in the above article, here is a tale of recent success with another family to show that on occasions the fog does lift in Weardale.

My interest in the Bainbridges of Weardale, as with my other Weardale families, derives from my wife, formerly Margaret Bainbridge. There was a tradition linking my wife's family with the Bainbridge family who owned the large Newcastle departmental store. This store was founded by Emerson Muschamp Bainbridge and his cousin, John Bell Muschamp, in 1850 and was the first departmental store in Europe.

Emerson Muschamp Bainbridge (EMB) and my wife's paternal grandfather Emerson Bainbridge were both born in Weardale, although two generations apart, and were both life-long Methodists. The sharing of a common birthplace, the same religious denomination and an "uncommon" Christian name is not an infallible guide to propinquity, but it did hold out some promise of a connection. This possibility was an added spur to the pursuit of the Bainbridge family tree.

The surname Bainbridge crops up regularly throughout the Stanhope registers from the earliest times. In the first half of the 17th century for example, a Henry, a Robert and five or six John Bainbridges can be identified living at various habitations such as Hillhouse, Westgate, Fieldstyle, Newlandside, Brotherlee and Fieldhead. Later in the same century families crop up at Snapeclose (Snowshopeclose), Lindwell, Swinhopeburn, Saugh Sheels, Hawkwellhead, Windyside, East Blackdean and Ridding House.

Incidentally, the farms and houses in Weardale possess a fascinating range of names and I can recommend, if you have not already read it, "Weardale Names of Field and Fell" by W.M. Egglestone, published in 1886 which discusses them in detail.

A numerical assessment from the registers and Census Returns shows that the Bainbridge clan were extremely numerous in the dales;

Year	Baptisms	Marriages	Deaths
1601-1700	100	39	91
1701-1800	141	91	98

  

Census	Nº. of Bainbridges
1841	72
1851	96
1861	75
1871	112

With the aid of Parish Register Transcripts upto 1812 and the Census Returns, a family line stretching back to the eldest son, John, of a marriage between Cuthbert Bainbridge and Mary Carr in 1759, was established. However, the birth of Cuthbert was nowhere to be found in the Stanhope Registers and further no Emerson Muschamp Bainbridge turned up.

A day spent in the vestry of the Parish Church at St. Johns Chapel with the post-1812 registers filled in a few gaps. I had heard of the unhelpfulness of some Church of England incumbents but in this instance the Rev. C. Smith of Cowshill allowed me unhindered access to the documents. It was a different story at Stanhope which had no incumbent at the time, where my charm(?) did not work with the Church warden and I came away empty-handed.

Lady Luck then played her part in the unlikely guise of a garden fete organised on behalf of Whickham Methodist Church. As I was involved in the fete organisation I was prevented from dabbling in the delights of the second-hand bookstall. After the fete was long finished I came across a box of unsold books and among them found "Reminiscences" by one Thomas Hudson Bainbridge, who turned out to be a son of EMB.

Inquiries showed the book to have been given by the wife of the local Methodist minister and she turned out to be related to the Muschamp side of EMB's family. She also had in her possession another book, this time on EMB himself, which she promptly gave me on learning of my interest.

Both books, although essentially pious tributes to eminent North Country Methodists, containing sufficient family detail to link EMB through the youngest son, Cuthbert, to the Cuthbert Bainbridge/Mary Carr marriage.

EMB had left Weardale in 1830 at the age of 13 to work in Newcastle, stayed there, married and had 15 children. I was attempting recently to use the detailed list of mourners from Thomas Hudson Bainbridge's book to reconstruct EMB's family when the Newcastle Evening Chronicle came to my assistance.

A news item stated that a Mr. and Mrs. Airey of Newcastle were compiling a history of the Bainbridges of Newcastle. A telephone call was all that was needed and before long we were swapping family trees - Mrs. Airey turned out to be the eldest daughter of George V. Bainbridge, the last Bainbridge to be Managing Director at Bainbridges Store.

As it happened, the only branch of the Cuthbert/Mary Carr family that Mr. and Mrs. Airey had not traced was that of the eldest son John. They had however managed to take the family line back one further generation to Cuthbert's father Ralph, born in Weardale in 1679.

The book entitled, "The Bainbridges of Newcastle - a family history 1679-1976", came out just before Christmas 1979. It is a mine of information about the Bainbridge family with lots of photographs and family trees. My one regret is that I arrived too late to get my information into the book but if the demand is sufficiently great I should get into the second edition!

## STRAYS IN CANTERBURY DIOCESE

### Marriages

*From the Volumes of Canterbury Diocese Marriage Licences 1751-1837 by A.J. Willis*

- William BOWDEN of Newcastle, Northumberland, Mariner of HMS Greyhound, age 21, and Mary WILSON of Deal, age 21, 23 November 1759. (*Deal*)
- Thomas CUSTT of Sunderland, County Durham, Mariner, and Ann HAMBROOK of St. Mary, Dover, age 21, 1759 (No date) (*St. Mary, Dover*)
- John GASKIN of Bockingfold, Kent, age 33, and Ann BODKIN of Marden, 23 April 1763. (There is no such place as Bockingfold in Kent but there is a Bockenfield in Northumberland) (*Marden*)
- Thomas INNES of Gateshead, County Durham, and Judith SAVER of Deal, 12 January 1800 (*Deal*)
- Knowles KELL of Sunderland, County Durham, and Ann KEDMAN, Widow, of, St Mary, Dover, 4 October 1776. (*St Mary, Dover*)
- Vincent LAMBERT and Eliz DUNLOP of Berwick-on-Tweed, 24 November 1800. (*St. Paul Deptford*)
- William LEE of South Shields, County Durham, and Sarah GORDON, 9 October 1799. (*St Paul, Deptford*)
- John PEARSON of Gateshead, County Durham, Gentleman, and Margaret ANDERSON of Minster, age 22, 22 November 1799. (*Minster*)
- John RICHARDSON of Sunderland, County Durham, and Sarah WOOD of Herne, 6 March 1779. (*Herne*)
- Robert RICHARDSON of Sunderland, County Durham, Mariner, Widower, and Sarah SAXBY of St. Mary, Sandwich, 5 April 1792. *St. Mary, Sandwich*)
- George ROSEDON of Gateshead, County Durham, and Mary ANDERSON of St. Mary, Dover, 30 September 1796. (*St. Mary, Dover*)
- William ROUTLEDGE of Sunderland, County Durham, age 24, and Sarah WELLARD of St. Mary, Sandwich, age 22, 2 October 1778. (*St. Mary, Sandwich*)
- Robert SABRON of Sunderland, County Durham, age 30, and Sarah BROOMFIELD of Maidstone, daughter of John BROOMFIELDS, Bargeman, 6 December 1756. (*Maidstone*)
- James SMITH of Monk Vermer, County Durham, - (Monkwearmouth!) - age 23, and Ann CRISP (in affidavit, Mary) of Whitstable, age 20, daughter of Samuel CRISP, 16 October 1760. (*Whitstable*)
- George WALKER of Newcastle-on-Tyne and Helen WALKER, 3 February 1802. (*St. Paul, Deptford*)
- Gavin WALLACE of Lowick, Northumberland, and Ann BRADSHAW of Deal, 4 September 1781. (*Deal*)

## NORTHUMBRIANS IN GARRIGILL - 1851

Mr John Perkins, of 35 Standon Crescent, Wincobank, SHEFFIELD, South Yorkshire S9 1PN, has completed a transcript of the 1851 Census returns of the Chapelry of Garrigill in the Cumberland parish of Alston. This relatively remote corner of the North Pennines lies on the borders of both Northumberland and Durham and was an important lead-mining area in the 19th century.

We publish below a complete list, extracted by Mr Perkins, of all entries concerning people who were born in County Durham or Northumberland; the list has been slightly rationalised to improve the clarity of presentation, but all place and personal names are shown in the original spelling. In the table below, the first column shows the place of abode and is repeated where necessary to distinguish individual households. The second and third columns give names and relationships to the head of the household; where the relationship is other than that of servant to master and the head of the household does not appear in the list, his or her name is given in bracketed italics, the surname being shown only when this differs from the first listed surname in the household. The fourth and fifth columns give marital status and age; the sixth gives details - where shown - of occupation, and the final column shows the place of birth.

Low Silly Hall	Mathew COUSING	Head	Mar	47	Lead Ore Miner	Northd
Battle Green	Francis PHILIPSON	Head	Widr	70	Lead Miner	Northd
	Ann PHILIPSON	Daughter	U	33		Northd
Rise View	Ann SMITH ( <i>David</i> )	Wife	Mar	27		Northd Allendale
West Natrass	Adam HERDMAN	Head	Mar	43	Blacksmith & Farmer	Northd Falestone
Flat	Humphrea MORISON	Head	Mar	64	Land Proprietor & Farmer	Northd Emerston
Middle Craig	Jane CLEMETSON	Head	Wid	43	Farmer	Northd Stanerton
	Robert CLEMETSON	Son	U	25	Lead Ore Miner	Northd Stanerton
Middle Craig	Hannah HODGSON	Head	Wid	53	Farmer	Northd
Middle Houses	George SWINDLE	Head	Mar	45	Flour & Bacon Dealer	Northd
Middle Houses	William HIRDMAN	Head	Mar	54	Lead Ore Miner	Northd Allendale
Middle Houses	James TEASDALE	Head	Mar	62	Formerly a Lead Ore Miner	Northd Kirkhaugh
Low Shield Hill	William COATES	Brother-				
	( <i>Robert RICHARDSON</i> )	-in-Law	U	22	School Master	Northd Allendale
High Shield Hill	George ASLEBANK	Head	Mar	44	Servant Cartman	Northd
ill Top	Sarah TEASDALE	Head	Wid	45	Domestic Duties	Northd Allendale
fewsteads	Ruth TEASDALE ( <i>James</i> )	Wife	Mar	38		Northd Hartly Burn
Fewsteads	Ann BROWN ( <i>Sarah ELLIOT</i> )	Visitor	U	25		Northd Newcastle
High Nest	Betsy KINDRED ( <i>Thomas</i> )	Wife	Mar	33		Northd Allendale
Red Brow	Rachel WALTON ( <i>Joseph</i> )	Wife	Mar	33	Agent's Wife	Durham Middleton
Red Brow	Mary PARKER ( <i>William</i> )	Wife	Mar	40	Domestic	Northd Allendale
Red Brow	George EMMERSON	Head	Mar	44	Mine Agent	Durham Stanhope
	Elizabeth CRAIG	Servant	U	17	House Servant	Northd
Red Brow	William LITTLE	Head	Widr	52	Lead Miner	Durham Shotley
Force Green	Sibel STOUT ( <i>John</i> )	Wife	Mar	29		Northd Knarsdale
Force Green	Elizabeth MORROW	Head	U	64	Domestic	Northd West Allendale
	Robert MORROW	Son	U	33	Lead Miner	Northd Hexhamshire
Beldy Mill	Thomas HUTCHINSON	Head	Mar	29	Lead Miner	Northd Allendale
Beldy Mill	Elizabeth LANCASTER	Head	Wid	69	Domestic	Northd Whitfield
Beldy Mill	James HUTCHINSON	Head	Mar	61	Miller	Northd Allendale
	Isabella HUTCHINSON	Wife	Mar	68	Domestic	Northd Allendale
	Elizabeth COATS	Wife's Sister	U	75	Annuitant	Northd Allendale
	Mary KEENLEYSIDE	G-daughter	U	11		Northd Whitfield
Bridge End	Ralph EMERSON	Head	Mar	26	Lead Miner	Durham Stanhope
Bridge End	John FOSTER ( <i>John PARMLEY</i> )	Visitor	Mar	28	Lead Miner	Northd Allendale
Lane Head	John NIXON ( <i>Eliz DAWSON</i> )	Son-in-Law		19		Durham Middleton
Lane Head	William HUTCHINSON	Head	Mar	31	Carrier & Bookseller	Northd Allendale
Lane Head	William WATSON	Lodger	U	35	Lead Miner	Durham Weardale
Bunkers Hill	Robert NIXON	Head	Mar	27	Lead Miner	Durham Harwood
	Mary NIXON	Daughter		5	Scholar	Durham Harwood
Windy Hall	Mary STEPHENSON ( <i>Jasen</i> )	Wife	Mar	43		Northd Ayles
Windy Hall	Ann HALL ( <i>Charlton</i> )	Mother	Wid	71	Annuitant	Northd Henshaw
Snappergill	Mary COUSIN	Servant	U	18	House Servant	Durham Harwood
Ashgillside	Isabella WATSON ( <i>Matthew</i> )	Wife	Mar	68		Northd Knarsdale
	Jane WATSON	Son's Wife	Mar	26		Northd Allendale
Ashgill	John GRAHAM	Head	Mar	50	Forester	Durham Chester le St
	Mary GRAHAM	Wife	Mar	50		Durham Great Lumley
	Mary LEA	Niece	U	25		Durham New Leambton
	Edward GRAY	Nephew		8	Scholar	Durham Trapping?
Ashgill	Elizabeth SIDDLE	Head	Wid	65	Farmer of 9 Acres	Durham Stanhope
	John SIDDLE	Son	U	32	Gamekeeper	Durham Stanhope
Ashgill	Mary ELLIOT	Head	Wid	69	Farmer of 8 Acres	Northd Allendale

<b>Growgill</b>	<b>Esther ARMSTRONG</b> ( <i>George</i> )	Wife	Mar	43		Durham Weardale
Growgill	Hannah HENDERSON	Head	Wid	47	Domestic	Northd West Allen
Growgill	John MARTIN ( <i>Henry CRAIG</i> )	Nephew	U	23	Lead Miner	Northd West Allen
<b>Growgill</b>	Mary MARTIN	Servant	U	17		Northd West Allen
Buck Hall	Matthew FENWICK	Head	Mar	22	Shepherd	Northd Graystead
Hole Farm	John FENWICK	Head	Mar	22	Shepherd	Northd Simonburn
	Jane FENWICK	Wife	Mar	64		Northd Simonburn
	Jane FENWICK	Daughter		16		Northd Bellingham
	Jane FENWICK	Niece		14		Northd Bellingham
	W J BURNITT	Visitor	U	17	Yeoman	Northd Ovingham
Townmeadowhead	Elizabeth ANDERSON ( <i>head not at home</i> )	Dau.		20	Farmer's Daughter	Durham Middleton
	William ANDERSON	Son		15	Lead Miner	Durham Middleton
Calvert	Mary STEPHENSON ( <i>Henry</i> )	Wife	Mar	32		Northd Allendale
Cocklake	Molly ALLISON (Joseph RENWICK)	Relation	Wid	82	House Keeper	Durham Middleton
Hill	Hannah HOLEM	Servant	U	21	General Servant	Durham Weardale
High Pasture House	Sarah MILLICAN ( <i>Wallace</i> )	Wife	Mar	41		Northd Knaresdale
	Henry MILLICAN	Son	U	17	Lead Vre Miner	Northd Knaresdale
Weast Ashgif	Elizabeth CURRA14 (Isaac)	Wife	Mar	33		Northd Allendale
High Crossgill	Elizabeth ALINSON	Head	Wid	47	Farmer of 50 Acres	Durham Middleton
	William ALINSON	Son	U	23	Lead Ore Miner	Durham Middleton
Prye Head	Mary SMITH (Thomas)	Wife	Mar	37		Northd Kirkhaugh
Far Turnings	Margaret COULTHARD ( <i>Joseph</i> )	Wife	Mar	37		Northd Haltwhistle
Littlegill	Elizabeth PARMLEY	Head	Wid	61	Farmer of 30 Acres	Durham Stanhope
Roderupside	William COATES	Head	Mar	51	Lead Miner and Farmer	Northd Allendale
High Roderup	Frances WATSON ( <i>Joseph</i> )	Wife	Mar	44	Land Proprietor's Wife	Durham Stanhope
Gatefoot	John COUSIN	Head	Mar	42	Lead Miner and Farmer	Durham Teesdale
	Mary COUSIN	Wife	Mar	40		Durham Teesdale
	Matthew COUSIN	Son	U	14	AtHome	Durham Teesdale
	Ann COUSIN	Daughter	U	13	AtHome	Durham Teesdale
	Elizabeth COUSIN	Daughter	U	11	Scholar	Durham Teesdale
Gatefoot	George BELL	Head	Mar	34	Lead Miner and Farmer	Northd Hexham
Gate	Mary ARMSTRONG (Thomas)	Wife	Mar	34	Lead Miner's Wife	Durham Weardale
Gate	Nancy WATSON (William)	Wife	Mar	63	Innkeeper's Wife	Durham Stanop
Gate	Thomas GREENWELL	Head	Widr	60	Blacksmith	Durham Stanop
Gate	John BRIGHT ( <i>John COOPER</i> )	Visitor	U	31	Servant Man	Northd Allendale
Gate	Hannah RICHARDSON ( <i>Joseph</i> )	Son's Wife	Mar	22	Lead Miner's Wife	Durham Teesdale
Gate	Isabella WALTON (Mary ERWIN)	Niece	U	7	Scholar	Durham South Shields
Gate	Isabella KINLYSIDE	Servant	U	13	House Servant	Northd Allendale
Clarkhall	Edward GILLHESBY	Servant	U	22	Shoemaker	Northd Hexham
Gatehead	Mary PEART (Isaac)	Wife	Mar	56	Lead Miner's Wife	Northd Allendale
	Joseph MORROW	Wife's Son	U	26	Lead Miner	Northd Allendale
Gatehead	Robert DENT	Head	Mar	27	School Master	Northd Haltwhistle
	Jane DENT	Wife	Mar	25	School Master's Wife	Northd Lambly
	Mary DENT	Daughter	U	5	Scholar	Northd Lambly
	Mary TEASDALE	Visitor	U	23	Farmer's Daughter	Northd Lambly
Gatehead	Dorothy HETHERINGTON ( <i>John</i> )	Wife	Mar	41	Lead Miner's Wife	Northd Kirkhaugh
	Ann VIPOND	Mother-in-law	Wid	75	Farmer's Widow	Northd Haltwhistle
Gatehead	Robert HETHERINGTON ( <i>Hannah</i> )	Son	U	20	Lead Miner	Durham Teesdale
	Richard HETHERINGTON	Son	U	15	Lead Miner	Durham Teesdale

## PARISH REGISTERS AND GENETICS IN COQUETDALE

Nearly four years ago the Society was addressed by Dr. D.F. Roberts on "The Use Of Parish Registers to Resolve Genetical Problems" (Journal Volume II No. 2 page 56-7). An extended article re-iterating Dr. Roberts' researches was published last year in "Family History". (The Journal of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies), Volume 11 Nos 77/88, New Series Nos. 53/54, (August 1980). This article may be of interest to members researching Coquetdale families from the parishes of Alwinton, Rothbury, Felton, and Warkworth, dealing as it does with such matters as population movement, surname frequency, birth-rate and family size from the early 18th-early 19th centuries and more particularly the 'golden age' of parish registers 1798-1812. Among the articles mentioned in Dr. Roberts' bibliography, the following may be of interest:

DOBSON, T. (1973) "Historical population structure in Northumberland", in D. F. ROBERTS and E. SUNDERLAND (Eds.) *"Genetic Variation in Britain"*. Taylor and Francis, London; pp 67-82.

DOBSON, T. and ROBERTS, D. F. (1971). "Historical population movement and gene flow in Northumberland parishes", in: *Journal of Biosociological Sciences*, 3; pp 193-208.

ROBERTS, D. F. and RAWLING, C. P. (1974). "Secular trends in genetic structure: an isonymic analysis of Northumberland parish records", in: *Annals of Human Biology*. 1; pp 393-410.

## THE CATCHSIDE CONNECTION

*William Lamb*

This story will not in itself be useful to members who have been searching for some time and are now more or less experts in the field, but it may give some encouragement to those just starting out on the genealogical trail.

When I first began my own research I was a complete novice, so I started with my father as I knew he had been born at Wallhouses. I obtained a birth certificate from the Registrar which showed my grandfather's name and that of my grandmother. Although my family included several teachers and my parents were from farming stock, I had rarely heard our family history being discussed, probably because I was the baby of a family of ten, both grandparents having died before I was born.

I next traced my grandparents in the 1851 census, which showed my grandfather's birthplace as Bedlington, where I duly traced his birth and so found the names of my great-grandparents. The Bedlington registers gave details of their marriage in 1810, describing my great-grandfather as 'of North Shields' and my great-grandmother as 'of this Parish'. I also found the deaths of both great-grandparents at Bedlington, one in 1825 and the other in 1848. As both died before the 1851 Census and both had been born before the introduction of Civil Registration in 1837, I knew that further research would not be easy!

The 1810 marriage record gave only the simple facts, that Elizabeth Thompson of Bedlington Parish married James Lamb of the Parish of North Shields. The witnesses were Matthew Catchside and Hannah Bates, but as in those days many witnesses to the marriages of ordinary folk were supplied by the Church, I attached little importance to this information. I searched the Bedlington registers for the birth of Elizabeth Thompson, but although I found a birth registered in that name at Sleekburn in Bedlington parish, the date did not reconcile with my great-grandmother's age. For a while I gave up through sheer frustration, but some time later when searching for Lamb wills at Durham University I decided on impulse to look for Matthew Catchside, and luckily found a will which showed that he had left a portion of his farm - Redhouse Farm, Bedlington - to Elizabeth Lamb nee Thompson or her heirs. Several Thompson names were mentioned in the will, but no indication was given of the relationship of Elizabeth Thompson to Matthew Catchside or to the other Thompsons named.

With regard to my great-grandfather, my son and I have covered nearly all the parishes in Northumberland but have been unable to establish his birth. We have however traced the baptism of a James Lamb at Howick in 1778. This James was the son of Luke Lamb, and had a brother William, who occupied an adjacent farm while my great-grandfather was at Redhouse and who succeeded my great-grandfather when he left Redhouse in 1836. We think that James of Howick and James of North Shields are one and the same person, but cannot be sure - which is very frustrating since I have traced back to the birth of the wife of Luke Lamb in 1736!

I travel around Northumberland whenever I have an opportunity to do so, and on passing the road to Bedlington one day I turned in, and on the outskirts noticed the Red House Farm Club. Nearby was a cemetery, which I searched without result. It was over a year before I returned to Bedlington, but this time I went into the town centre and was delighted to find that the small churchyard was uncleared. I wandered around, and almost immediately found the headstone of the Catchside family, which read as follows, the names being fairly easily legible -

HANNAH, wife of MATTHEW CATCHSIDE, died 7 November 1810 aged 79  
 MATTHEW CATCHSIDE, died 15 June 1818, aged 83  
 WILLIAM CATCHSIDE, brother of Matthew, died 8 November 1820 aged 85  
 ELIZABETH, niece of Matthew and wife of James LAMB, died 8 March 1825 aged 44  
 JAMES THOMPSON, father of Elizabeth, died 12 May 1825, aged??  
 JAMES LAMB, died 22 December 1848 aged 73

From these inscriptions I found the relationship of my great-grandmother to Matthew Catchside, and also the Christian name of her father, which is a great help as I have traced Matthew to Bolam, where a fair number of Thompsons lived at that time. The headstone also showed that Matthew's brother, who was also living at Redhouse in 1818, seems from the dates given to have been a twin. If so, they were long-living twins!



Readers will see from the foregoing that I now have new lines of enquiry to follow as a result of the wealth of information given on the headstone, so if your own researches run into difficulty, do not despair!

Should any other member be researching the Lamb family in Northumberland, I have a bookful of names and places covering nearly every parish in the County, and would be pleased to help anyone sending the usual s. a. e. to 20 Thorpe Road, Easington Village, PETERLEE, County Durham.

## LOOKING BACK

*David J. Anderson*

I have been taking a light hearted look at my first year in genealogical research, and in particular comparing contrasting experiences during that period. Some of these situations may bring a knowing smile or nod from "Old campaigners" of the society, while others may have yet to be experienced by even newer members of the society than I.

Genealogical research brings one into contact with numerous professions and people from all walks of life, but there is perhaps one group whose attitude to the genealogists varies to the extreme - the Clergy. There is on one hand those who could be described as 'swingers', who sway at the vestry door, with your coat in one hand and your hat in the other, while they reluctantly grant you ten minutes to search through twenty years of baptisms, marriages, and burials. At the other extreme there are the Canon O'Donnellys (Hartburn) and the Father Lennons (Felton) of this world, who insist on carrying out the research for you and refuse to take a penny in return.

Then there are our fellow genealogists, who vary from the downright• rude and often bloody minded "professionals" of St Catherine's House (during the lunch ho.~i) whose sole aim is to decapitate you with the registers, or to force you off the end of the reading desk, in the hope that you will disappear, to the helpful and courteous types of Melton Park on a Monday night, resolving the perennial problem of over-subscribed NCR readers in an amicable manner.

As for the extremes of the technological hardware available to the genealogists compare, if you will, the broken handled NCR reader on the second floor of the city library (which requires the patience of Job and the dexterity of a juggler to spin the film reel by hand) with the computerised equipment at Kew, where one calls up documents required on a visual display unit (a T. V. screen with a keyboard) which also advises you of the room and time that documents will be ready. When they are ready the teletracer "bleeper" tucked in ones backpocket emits an audible alarm, no matter where one is in the building.

Finally, consider the contrasting environmental conditions which the researcher has to endure; one day freezing in a damp and musty old church searching for that elusive marriage, the next sweating in the sauna-like atmosphere of the reading rooms of the Central Library.

This first year has been a fascinating and absorbing one for me. I have travelled many a false trail, been led up, many blind alleys, discovered one ancestor committed for trial and another three committed to mental institutions, but I remain undaunted. I have never been upset at missing Coronation Street or Blankety Blank, and quite frankly I just cannot understand all this fuss over a tall stetson-bedecked Texan named J. R.! I just hope that the next years are as enjoyable and rewarding as the first.

## DARLINGTON EVENING CLASSES

A course of six meetings on Thursdays from 1st October 1981, from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., will be held at Bennet House, 14, Horsemarket, Darlington, the subject being 'Tracing Your Family Tree', and the lecturer [Dr. C.W. Gibby](#). This course, sponsored by the W.E.A., could be very popular. To reserve a place, call, write or telephone after 6th September to:

Valerie Portass, Bennet House, 14, Horsemarket, Darlington, Telephone: Darlington 57801. Fee: £3.60 (students and retired people £1.80).

# BORDER DESCENT

*Alfred J Coulthard*

The proud possession of Border blood is commonplace among the inhabitants of Northumberland and Durham, but one wonders how many have successfully proved their Border descent in detailed steps. It should of course be remembered that "the Border" was a territory rather than a divisive frontier; "Borderers", whether English or Scots, were Borderers first and foremost, as they repeatedly showed when confronted one against the other in battle, quite apart from their total disregard of the laws prohibiting inter-marriage. London and Edinburgh were a long way away, as the College of Heralds was to find in another field.

In this article, the word "Border" refers mainly to Tweeddale, the Merse, Northumberland, Glendale and Berwickshire; one would like to exclude Redesdale and North Tynedale for the purpose of this discussion because migration from these dales was relatively straightforward and probably often traceable - for example, according to Nef, the coal mines near Newcastle employed 5800 men in 1637/38 "of whom the majority were from Tynedale and Redesdale".

It has often been written that Weardale had its influx from the Border and the Debateable Land, and that Tyneside recruited its keelmen from the Scottish Eastern March; in the former case the appearance of such surnames as Armstrong, Elliot, English, Graham, Home, Milburn, Oliver, Pattinson, Robson, and Scott serve to confirm this assumption. If more positive evidence is scanty, one can at least accept this explanation in general, but it would be nice to prove these migrations from actual records.

Where exactly did the Weardale surnames come from? There is some sort of feeling that many were miners of Covenant persuasion seeking escape from Claverhouse and the real serfdom of the Scottish mines at Wanlockhead and Leadhills; this seems to be supported by the early construction in upper Weardale of a Scottish place of worship. It is only when one examines the Christian names of these early arrivals that this explanation fails to satisfy; instead of Alexander, Andrew, Dougal, James and Malcolm we find Ralph - quite common - George, Henry and John: hardly Scottish and not even convincingly Cumbrian.

Convincing step-by-step migrations across the Solway and Esk have been given chapter and verse,<sup>2</sup> but it is a different matter on the Eastern March. Many surnames which existed in some numbers in Berwickshire, East Lothian and Renfrewshire - for example in the parishes of Stichwell, Hume and Greenlaw - down to, say, the mid-sixteen hundreds had largely disappeared within the next 150 years, and although these names can now be picked up on this side of the Border proof of descent is very, very difficult to obtain.

One who has succeeded in obtaining such proof is Sir Hugo Marshall, whose ancestor George Marshall married Helen Coulthard. In 1690 their descendants moved progressively to Alnwick, Berwick and, eventually, London, but although Berwick was not an uncommon move most seem to have gravitated across the Tweed to Norham, Carham, Coldstream and Cornhill, later moving on to Newcastle and also, notably, South Shields, but as has been said, "linking-up" is a major problem.

How did these migrations come about? Sir Hugo thinks that the 17th-century migration was triggered by the disappearance of the run-rig system of agriculture and the advent of the enclosure movement with the consequent reduction in the number of tenant farmers. This is undoubtedly true, but even before that time the large numbers who had been maintained by "Border service" and castle service around such strongholds as the castles of Berwick, Dirliton, Hume, Norham and Tantallon had been thrown out of employment partly by the union of the Crowns in 1603, leading to the creation of the "Middle Shires", and partly by the Cromwellian campaigns which destroyed many of these strongholds. Hume Castle, for example, where both Marshall and Coulthard families had probably long resided, was completely destroyed.

Some of these displaced families would move to Edinburgh in the usual urban drift, but religious intolerance and the prospect of reasonable agricultural land across the Border played a bigger part. A far from negligible factor in the depopulation hereabouts - although not a factor in cross-Border migration to England - was the intensive recruitment of the tenantry and the landless to sail from Leith to the bloody wars of the Baltic rulers, from which very few returned.

As has already been mentioned, the "Pacification of the Border" following the Union in 1603 meant that quite a lot of skills were suddenly in much reduced demand; one such was that of armourer or blacksmith, and these can sometimes be traced moving gradually further South, perhaps as village blacksmiths, until their skills were translated into other fields - no doubt with profit to all - on Tyneside.



A mixture of the above factors would have seen a steady stream of Scottish Borderers crossing into England - despite severe penalties threatened by legislation - even before the Union. Thus in 1569 Lord Hunsdon reported that in his English Wardenry of about 24 miles by 16 miles there were 2500 Scots<sup>3</sup>. In 1586 Lord Randolph reported that "every third man within ten miles of the frontier was a Scot, either a tenant or a servant of the English", and in 1646 Viscount Conway observed that several hundred Scots were living on Lord Grey's land, "who frequently crossed the Border to attend Church services"<sup>5</sup>.

This latter practice is an important pointer. There were by now sufficient nonconformist Scots in Northumberland to form a formidable Fifth Column to the Covenanting army which was shortly to occupy a large part of the North of England including much of Northumberland and Durham. In 1640/41, for instance, "the Minister at Cornhill was himself a notorious (or notable!) Covenanter." He was Henry Erskine of Shielfield, who was not ejected until 1662.

At Easington the Covenanting army of occupation collected signatures to the Covenant, and the surviving record includes such names as Burdon, Fargison, Grame, Harrison, Hunter, Nixon, Paxton, Simpson, Unthank, Watson and Wilson, as well as numerous Robinsons. Undoubtedly some of this army of occupation - recruited largely from Galloway, Dumfriesshire and perhaps Lanarkshire - would stay behind, introducing their own surnames to the area.

Part of the difficulty in tracing links lies in this general adherence to the nonconformist churches, whose ministers never adopted the attitude to registration which was usual in the Church of England; in Kirkcudbrightshire, for example, a fee was charged for making the entry, if any was to be made. Even when registers were written up their subsequent preservation was somewhat haphazard. Apart from this, a few of the migrants were Roman Catholics, some were Scottish Episcopalians, and even "The Kirk" had its offshoots such as Erskineites who again had their own ministers. Although all such baptisms were supposed to be entered in the Parish Registers as "irregular baptisms" it is fairly evident that this was often not done, and the same applies to baptisms at the parental home. Altogether it is very much a matter of luck!

Even the coming of the Census is not a great deal of help to the genealogist; if parents or grandparents born North of the Border are living with their English-born descendants the only indication of birthplace will be "Scotland" - unless you are luckier than I have been! Not only is this a trifle vague, but it was often in fact untrue; possibly due to error on the part of the enumerator.

With regard to the Keelmen, I have not had much luck in my investigations as I have not had access to the lists compiled around 1740 which I am assured do exist, giving surnames and places of origin. The few records which I have examined suggest Edinburgh and the Firth of Forth rather than the Scottish Eastern March, but I should be grateful to anyone who has access to these records for details of their contents.

In summary, I have sought to give some indication of the possible factors in the drift of surnames from the Scottish Border to Northumberland and Durham whilst stressing the difficulty of tracing continuity of relationship. A report on the Keelmen's Rolls of 1740 would be a most useful contribution in this field.

#### REFERENCES

1. Nef; *"The Rise of the Coal Industry"*
2. A.J.C; *"One family's 700 years of Border history"*
3. H M C; Hatfield Mss., 1597
4. *Calendar of Border Papers, 1586*
5. Cal. S.P. Dom, 1640
6. Original in Durham County Record Office
7. *NDFHS Journal*, Vol 11, pp 74/5, 1977

## CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND STRAYS

### *Marriages*

John EMERSON, Stanhope Parish, a Durham miner, and Sarah WINSKEL, 26 November 1799. (*Registers of Milburn, Westmorland*)

Christopher FARROW, Hexham Parish, aged 38, and Sarah WELLS, aged 26, by licence, 21 September 1803. (*Registers of Skelton, Cumberland*)

Johseph JOHNSTONE of Norton, County Durham Widower, and Mary SCOLLICK, by licence, 5 November 1766. (*Registers of Barton, Westmorland*)

James SHAFTO, Gentleman, from the Bishoprick of Durham, and Mrs Eliz SANDFORD of Howgill Castle, 30 December 1684. (*Registers of Milburn, Westmorland*)

William TROUTBECK of Bishop Auckland and Mary WELLS, by licences, 26 June 1770. (*Registers of Skelton, Cumberland*)

## MY ELUSIVE GREAT-GRANDFATHER.

Jean Lambert

Oh, that I had begun to be interested in my family tree while my Granny and father were still alive! Then I would not still be engaged in the tantalising hunt for my great-grandfather Bell, my father's grandfather.

When I started my search, I only knew what my mother was able to tell me. He was called Bell; she thought John, but wasn't sure. He was a miller, had lived at Fishburn, and came from Northumberland. Granny had talked of Cherry Knowle, and Paradise, but Mother had no idea where these were. With this knowledge as a basis, we began the hunt. (Before I start the saga, I should mention that, living in Liverpool, our search is limited to a few days a year, either up in the North-East or, more rarely, in London, so search has been protracted and has been less methodical than we should have liked).

Our first real information about Great-grandfather was from Granny's marriage certificate, which we got from Somerset House. Incidentally, the man who said that to search in Somerset House you needed to be clad in running shorts and sandals and to have uncommonly strong arms was quite right! The indexes were very heavy, located on high shelves, and were quite an effort to lift up; I felt the effects on my arms for weeks. St. Catherine's isn't much better! On this certificate, Granny's father was given as John Bell, flour dealer. Her address was given as Herd's House, near Croxdale, which later led us astray a little; and she was married in a Presbyterian church in Durham. Here was confirmation that Great-grandfather's name was John, and that he was connected with flour, and probably with milling. So far so good.

We also obtained granny's birth certificate, easily looked up at Somerset House as we knew the exact date, although not the place. There were three Isabella Bells listed in that quarter; one in Hexham, one in South Shields, and one in Easington. We chose the one in Easington as being the least unlikely, and it turned out to be the right one. From this certificate we learnt that Granny had been born at Paradise, Easington, in 1861, and her mother's maiden name was Margaret Blackett. Well, Paradise certainly fitted in with the places she had talked about. Being in London still, we went to the Public Record Office, having previously obtained Readers' tickets, and consulted the Census for Easington, 1861. There we found

John	BELL	Head	M.	50	Farmer of 88 acres	N'land, Lowick
Margaret	"	Wife		44	Farmer's Wife	Durham Sedgfield
John	"	Son	U.	20	Farmer's son	Durham Washington
Mina	"	Dau		14	Farmer's dau.	Durham Washington
George B.	"	Son		12	Farmer's son	Durham Easington
William A.	"	Son		8	Farmer's son	Durham Easington
Ann	"	Dau		6	Farmer's dau.	Durham Easington
Isabella	"	Dau		1	Farmer's dau.	Durham Easington

At that time we still believed in the accuracy of information given on the Census — we've learnt better since — and thought all we had to do was to get the Parish Register or Transcript for Lowick for 1810/11, and there we would find him. How wrong we were! We noted that John's eldest son, John, was 20, born in Washington. With any luck, we thought, we'd find the marriage of John and his wife Margaret Blackett in the indexes at Somerset House. Full of hope we set off. Time was getting very short; it was already nearly 4 o'clock, and our last day, so we looked up Margaret Blackett — there were far too many John Bells. But although we found some Margaret Blacketts, there was no John Bell to correspond. Reluctantly we gave up; the Somerset House staff were standing over us, eager to get the building clear by 4.30.

Our next step was to search Wood's Transcript of Lowick at Newcastle Central Library — what a great debt we owe to Wood! Confidently we started the search, but alas there was no John Bell in 1810/11 — or in the years around that date. In fact there were very few Bell baptisms, although there were quite a lot of burials; the significance of this did not occur to us at the time. We extended our range to the surrounding parishes, then further afield, until we had covered practically all the parishes in North Northumberland. No John. We questioned our reading of Lowick — could it have been Howick? — it had been very faint. Since we had no means of checking at the time, we extended the search to parishes around Howick, and at last we found a John, baptised in Shilbottle in 1811, but with a note to say he'd been born in December 1810. Surely this must be the right one? He fitted, but we had some doubts, and did not continue our search for his parents.

Because of our doubts we looked up the family in the 1851 Census, at Easington, since on the 1861 Census children were given as having been born there before that date. The information we found there did nothing to reassure us. We now had:

John      BELL      *Head*      35      *Farmer 80 acres*      Birthplace illegible

So he had aged 15 years between 1851 and 1861, had he? Which age was correct? Was he born in 1810/11, or in 1815/16? We had found a John in a Bishop's Transcript of Longhorsley-while we were looking for something else - baptised in 1816; was this our John? The place of birth on the Census was quite illegible; the film was faint and scratched, and the writing all squashed together. For what it was worth we thought we'd look at the 1841 Census. At that time, according to the place of birth of his eldest son John, the family had been at Washington. So we searched the 1841 Census, and found the family living at Washington Mill.

John      BELL      *Miller*      *N.*

At least this confirmed that he had been a miller, and not born in Durham, but of course did not help much about his age except that it would be the earlier date, ages being given to the nearest five years below. We would have to wait until the 1871 census was available for more information or confirmation, so we turned our attention to his marriage. We searched Sedgefield, where Margaret Blackett came from, but it wasn't there, neither was it in the Banns book. We searched Washington, but it wasn't there either.

When the 1871 Census was released, we hoped we'd find the answers. How old would he be? Where had he been born? We looked at Easington, but the family was no longer there. We looked at Croxdale, at the Herd's house, but they weren't there. So where were they? Cherry Knowle? And where was Cherry Knowle? We searched the 1" Ordnance maps, and found East and West Cherry Knowle near Ryhope. But they weren't there. We looked at the Durham Electoral Roll for 1874, and among the many John Bells there was one in Fishburn, occupier of house and land. Had Mother not said that Great-grandfather had lived at Fishburn? In due course we managed to see that census. Surprises awaited us, and we laughed all the way home from the Record Office.

Fishburn Mill it said:

John	BELL	65	<i>Miller.</i>	Durham, Sedgefield.
Margaret		55		Durham, Fishburn
John		30		Durham, Fishburn
Eleanor		23		Durham, Fishburn
Ann		15		Durham, Fishburn
Isabella		11		Durham, Easington.

So the wretched man has now aged another 15 years, between 1861 and 1871 - or was he really born in 1805/6? Did any of his family know how old he really was? When Granny was asked her age, she always used to say "As old as my little finger and a little bit older than my teeth". Perhaps John used to say that! The birth place information we discounted; most of it was haywire anyway. We wondered who had given the information-Granny, aged 11?

To check, we had another look at the other censuses to make sure we hadn't made any mistakes. All was as we had previously found, but we were better able to read John's birthplace on the 1851 census. Although very faint and cramped, it seemed to say Northd. North Sunderland - not so very far from Lowick. At this point we definitely discarded the John Bell we'd found in Shilbottle and the one we'd found in Longhorsley; the search moved up to North Northumberland again.

We therefore went to the Northumberland Record Office, where many original Parish Registers have been deposited or microfilmed, so that we could search both sides of 1812 -it was August, so we could not go to Durham University to see the Bishop's Transcripts. We also tried the census of 1841 for Bamburgh, Seahouses, and Lowick to see if any Bells were still around who might have seen John's parents. This did not yield much as it was mostly too faint to read, so we tried the 1851 census - a long shot, but we found one or two hopeful Bells. We also looked at the Militia records, and found two more Bells who also seemed hopeful; John of Bamburgh and Andrew of Chatton. Both were millers. One of Granny's brothers was called William Andrew; is there a connection?

The significance of the large numbers of burials and the small numbers of baptisms in the local Parish Registers had by now dawned on us: was John Bell a Non-Conformist? After all, Granny had been married in a Presbyterian church, even though she and the rest of the family had been baptised in the Church of England. The search widened to Non-Conformist records. Many more Bells were found, but so far no John in the registers at Northumberland Record Office, although we have not yet been able to finish this search. Time always cuts us short, and we are awaiting a chance to return.

We turned our attention once more to John's marriage, and his burial. Perhaps his burial would give us his age, and the witnesses at his marriage provide a clue? Since he had been living at Fishburn

in 1871, had he been buried at Sedgefield? Search of Sedgefield Parish Registers revealed his burial in 1889, aged 86. If this was his correct age, it meant that he would have been born in 1803! We wrote to the local Registry Office, not St. Catherine's, for the Death certificate, since we knew the exact date and place and it is much less expensive. The certificate informed us that he was a master miller, and confirmed the age. With this information we wrote to the Minister of the Scotch Church at Lowick, asking him to search his registers between 1800 and 1810. This he very kindly did, and informed us that a John Bell had been baptised in 1806, son of Joseph and Mary Bell, born in the parish of Chatton. What a pity that Chatton is one of the parishes which did not record the births of Non-Conformists! So is this our John? It seems the most likely so far, but there is still a large question mark over it. It is so tantalising to think that at that date, if the baptism had been in the Church of England, we would have been given not only his mother's maiden name, but the names of her parents, where they came from, and the position — 1st. boy, 2nd girl and so on — of the child in the family, information which has been of great use to us in other cases. Earlier search in this parish will probably be very difficult, if not impossible, as the earlier Non-Conformist records have, we understand, been lost.

John Bell's marriage also provided difficult to find. We went to Durham University to search for this in the Bishop's Transcripts, and looked in ever-widening circles round Sedgefield and Washington until our time ran out, without success.

During the year we had to wait until we could return to our quest, we remembered that a long time ago we had searched various Directories for Bells, Millers, and had found one in Gateshead in 1822.

Joseph Bell, Windmill Hill, Gateshead, Miller.

Perhaps our John was connected with him - especially since his name was Joseph. Had he perhaps been married at Gateshead? We determined to look there when we next had an opportunity, but before this we were able to see the Computer File Index. There are not many marriages on the microfiche, but to our delight this marriage was there: Gateshead, 1836. On our next visit to Durham Record Office we confirmed the marriage in Gateshead St. Mary, hoping that the witnesses' names would give us a clue, but alas no, the names were strange. Search in the Burial register showed the death of a Joseph Bell in 1830 aged 73. In 1840, no Bell was at the windmill on Windmill Hill. So was our John connected with Joseph of Gateshead? Is this Joseph the same as the one at Lowick? Have we at last found the right John? The search continues . . . can anyone help???

*Ed's note: Mrs Lambert's account is a typical example of the importance of the neglected Nonconformist records, vital to many pedigrees in North-East England. Members interested in Mrs Lambert's article are invited to write to her at 141, Brodie Avenue, LIVERPOOL, L18 4RG.*

## BOOK REVIEW: A GUIDE TO WILLS

*"A Simplified Guide to Probate Jurisdictions: Where to look for Wills".*

by J. S. W. Gibson, publisher Gulliver Press and the  
Federation of Family History Societies

As this guide to probate jurisdictions runs to only 62 pages (compared to, say, 263 pages for *"Wills and Their Whereabouts"* by A. J. Camp), it is a handy guide for the beginner, avoiding a number of complications that can make the task of searching for wills unnecessarily daunting. The post-1858 repositories are listed with their full addresses and telephone numbers. Then there follows an article on the holdings of the Public Record Office with an up-to-date list of the printed indices to P.C.C. wills (Prorogative Court of Canterbury).

The main body of the book is an alphabetical sequence of brief sections, county by county, with sketch maps that help to illumine the often complex lay-out of intra-county jurisdictions. The telephone number of every repository is given - a most helpful bonus. Finally, there are sections on Wales, The Isle of Man, Channel Islands, Scotland, and all of Ireland. This slim volume is not intended to replace the standard works on the subject, but is recommendable for anyone setting out on the arduous task of tracking down their ancestors' wills and who wishes a simple and cheap work of reference on the subject.

The book retails at £2 plus 25p. postage and is available from J. S. W. Gibson, Harts Cottage, Church Hanborough, Oxford, OX7 2AB.

# KNOW YOUR PARISH: VIII HEWORTH, CO. DURHAM

*J. Turnbull*

Various theories have been put forward as to the origin of the name, but the most popular are:  
1. Hedge-worth, i.e. the farmstead with a hedge. Hege = a hedge and Wyrth = a warded place, a farm. 2. The old English Heah + Worth = a village of a chieftain, with a high enclosure.

From the Middle Ages until the end of the 19th Century, the name applied was "The township of Upper and Nether Heworth" which took in all the present Felling Urban District and some of Gateshead at Carr Hill.

The 1125 Priory Rolls mention it as "Hewrth" and "Heworth Vill", and in Boldon book of 1185 as "Heworth".

In 1312, a marauding Scottish army under Robert the Bruce burnt the village of Heworth and in 1348, the Black Death which ravaged England killed roughly a third of Heworth's population. During the Civil War, Cromwell's forces pillaged the old chapel, and it is also said that General Leslie billeted his troops in the village.

From the Middle Ages until the end of the 18th Century the hamlets around Heworth changed very little; most of the people worked on the land and little sparkling burns flowed from the fell into the then unpolluted Tyne. Heworth was once even called the prettiest village in County Durham.

The 19th Century brought great changes, with steam power, railways and new factories springing up along the shore of the river, the main industries being mining, quarrying, chemical works, ship and boat yards, potteries, glass and farming.

Now there are no mines or quarries, and only small factory units dominate the industrial part of Heworth. In 1801 the population was 2,000 and in 1901 it had grown to 24,000 due to a large influx of Irish immigrants.

Heworth and the surrounding villages of Felling, Wardley and Bill Quay were part of the parish of Jarrow, and it was not made a separate parish until 1835. From this parish, the parishes of Windy Nook (St. Albans 1842) and Christ Church Felling 1866 were both made separate parishes in 1866, and then Heworth parish itself became part of Felling Urban District in 1896.

From the small chapel at Heworth a wooden church was built in 1710 and after falling into a state of disrepair a new parish church of the Blessed Virgin Mary was built in 1822 through the efforts of the Revd. John Hodgson.

The parish registers date from 1696 and are deposited at Durham County Record Office and Bishop's Transcripts exist from 1768. Marriages 1696-1812 are also included in Boyd's Marriage Index. Copies of Nonconformist registers, Wesleyan Methodists, and Independents can be found in Gateshead Public Library.

Other interesting documents which are held at Durham County Record Office and Gateshead Public Library are the Vestry Minute Books and the Cotesworth and Carr-Ellison papers, and the papers of the Brandlings, Lords of Felling.

## MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

Items for this and the "Second Time Around" column should be sent to Mrs A. Spendiff, 17 Augustus Drive Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 6LF. The deadline for the October Journal is 7 August 1981. It is essential that you include your membership number when writing.

0521 Mr R.C. THOMPSON, 1 Northfield Avenue, Radcliffe-on-Trent, NOTTINGHAM NG12 2HX.  
Would like any information about: (1) the parents (James & Sarah Ann) of Alfred Thompson (b. Oct. 1886, Stockton-on-Tees, although not registered); (2) Stappards, or derivations, who all appear to come from the Tyne Valley; & (3) George Hedley, b. 1704, of Lawblacklaw, Bellingham. He is thought to be the father of George (b. 1727), Elizabeth (1729), Margaret (1731) and John (1733), who married Ann Reed in 1760.

- 0607 Mr C.R. HUMPHREY, 11 Dewsgreen, Hall Close Dale, CRAMLINGTON, Northumberland NE23 6DQ.  
Seeking the forebears of Charles Butler, born Bishop Wilton, East Stamford Bridge, Pocklington, Yorkshire, 10 June 1855, son of John and Elizabeth (b. 1827, nee Musgrave). Charles' wife was Agnes Croft, born Bishop Wilton, 29 June 1858.
- 0920 Mr T. TODD. Villa Magnol, Fosse Andre, GUERNSEY, Channel Islands.  
Looking for the descendants of Anthony Todd, who was head of the Post Office in the 18th century, and the son of a Durham farmer.
- 0963 Mr S.P. COE, 9 Bunces Close, Eton Wick, WINDSOR, Berkshire SL4 6PL.  
Interests are: Coe, Newcastle, 1860 onwards (previously of Norfolk); Hunter, Bishopwearmouth, 1850s, later Gateshead; Strother, Warkworth, 1840, later Middlesbrough; Wright, Bishopwearmouth 1830, Newcastle 1850; Moffitt, Newcastle, 19th century; Sawyers, Carlisle, 19th century, Newcastle 1871.
- 0968 Mr W.D. MERCHANT, 3 Beckenham Close, EAST BOLDON, Tyne & Wear NE36 OEJ.  
Researching the following: Merchant, sailors, of Lythe (Whitby), 1600-1780; Deacon, of Reeth, 1700-1830; Bell, leadminers of Weardale, 1700-1830; Copeland, Patterson & Kirtley (Courtley), all coal-miners of Houghton, Washington, Chester-le-Street and Whickham, 1700-1825.
- 0980 Mr M.T. BANKS, 63 Grants Close, Mill Hill, LONDON NW7 1DE.  
Would like to connect his grandfather, Octavius Angelo Taylor (b. 7 Oct. 1863, Banff), son of Edward (excise officer) and Helen Forster, who married in Edinburgh, with (1) John Taylor, weaver, of Raynton Gate, Houghton-le-Spring, who married Elizabeth Pattison, 2/12/1758, and died c. March 1781; and (2) George Taylor, excise officer, who lived in Belford in 1813, and also in Raynton Gate, Newbottle and Montrose. The purpose of the search is to trace the hereditary blindness in Mr Bank's family.
- 0984 Mrs L. GRAVES, 9 Hemlock Terrace, Deep River, CONNECTICUT 06417, UNITED STATES  
Researching the Andersons of N. Shields and Lakes of S. Shields. John and Jane Anderson had a son, John, of S. Shields, who married Sarah I. Lake of N. Shields (1/1/ 1882), daughter of John Lake and Sarah Elliots.
- 0994 Mrs M.J. RENWICK, 31 Dalton Avenue, Lynemouth, MORPETH, Northumberland NE61 5TE.  
Seeks dates for Martin Crame from Gateshead, who married Alice Jane Barnfather, c. 1860. Their son, John Thomas, married Agnes Grey Cairns, 1888. Her father was Alexander. Would like to trace his wife, possibly called Gray, from Berwick-upon-Tweed, and whose parents were publicans there before 1870. Also, the parents of Anne Renwick, b. 1870?, spinster mother of James Renwick, b. 30 July 1887, Bedlington area. Also, dates for Margaret & Richard Hindhaugh, m. 1885?, Barrington or Chevington areas of Northumberland.
- 1009 Mr M.R. KIRBY, 40 Keswick Drive, Cullercoats, NORTH SHIELDS, Tyne & Wear NE30 3EW  
Researching the families of Kirby, of Nafferton & Pickering areas of N. Yorkshire, c.1870; Thomas Lovegreen of Durham, who married Margaret Binks, c.1860; also John Pearson of Thornley Gate, near Allendale, who married Marjorie Makepiece c.1860.
- 1031 Mr. J.P. WOOD, 63 Acadia Bay, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA R3T 3J1, CANADA  
Researching the Wood family of Alnwick, Amble & Rothbury, 19th century. Particularly John Wood, a slater, who married Elizabeth Scott, c.1835, and had children, James, Jock (who later lived at Rothbury), Thomas (who later raised 14? children at Lisburn Villa, Alnwick), Mary, Esther, Lizzie Ann, and Phillip Thew Scott (born North Sunderland, 1848). Mary married Jack Stevenson and had children Jack (living in Alnwick in 1929), Lottie, and possibly others. Are there any Stevenson kin now at Alnwick?
- 1033 Mrs J. DEARDEN, 1 Holly Court, Bewerley, HARROGATE, North Yorkshire HG3 5HY.  
Interested in the Robson family of Annfield Plain, from c.1870 onwards. Edward Robson and Jane Todd were married in S. Shields in 1860. There is a family tradition of a connection with William Wouldhave who designed the first lifeboat. Also, Embleton in Wearmouth in the early 1800s. This family moved to Manchester. John Taylor (died Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1905), who married Elizabeth White of Garrigill, Alston, c. 1870.
- 1036 Mrs M. GOULD, 68 Queens Drive, Walton, LIVERPOOL L4 6SJ  
Researching Makepeace and James of Slaley, Robson of Newcastle and Gibson of Hexham.
- 1041 Mrs M. COATES, 30 Gillings Court, THIRSK, North Yorkshire YO7 1SZ.  
Researching Sanderson, Milburn, Emerson & Kidd of Stanhope & Weardale, 17th & 18th cents., Garthrop c.1700, Fletcher & Cocks (Sunderland 1800), Brownlee (Durham & Northumberland, before 1850). Also, verification of the Gretna Green marriage of Emma or Emily Hutton (b. 1817) to a Mr Gregory, reputedly a "Scottish Laird". She was the daughter of James Hutton, a carpenter, and was a widow when she later married William Brownlee in 1848 at Medomsley. Were there any Gregory's with a store and property in Princes Street, Edinburgh, c.1820-40?
- 1043 Miss E.M. JONES, 72 Manor Road, RICHMOND, Surrey TW9 1YB  
Interested in George Carse, stone-mason, probably from N. Shields. His wife was Margaret Wiseman, b. N. Shields, 9 Aug. 1814.



- 1044 Mr F. LEDGER, 1 Sheraton Close, SWINDON, Wiltshire SN3 4NG  
Interested in Longstaff & Wilkinson of Newcastle-upon-Tyne area and Ledger of N. Nottinghamshire, and anywhere before 1730. Would like to see a map of Jesmond, Newcastle, where his grandparents were married in 1885.
- 1046 Mr M. MURRAY, 7 Claremont Terrace, Tunstall Road, SUNDERLAND, Tyne & Wear SR2 7LB
- 1047 Mrs J. SLY, 2 Zion Terrace, Fulwell, SUNDERLAND, Tyne & Wear SR5 1NG
- 1048 Mrs J. LANGLEY, Skein Winders House, Paxhill, Lindfield, HAYWARDS HEATH, West Sussex RH16 2QX
- 1049 Mr J. HAVELOCK, 10 Elmwood Garth, Walton, WAKEFIELD, West Yorkshire WF2 6LR
- 1050 Mrs A. BURNICLE, 28 The Avenue, Nunthorpe Station, MIDDLESBROUGH, Cleveland TS7 0AR  
Researching any Burnicles/Burnikells in the Sunderland area from 1830 to the present day. In particular, interested in the descendants of John & Ann Burnicle of Bishopwearmouth.
- 1051 Mrs. C. MASON, 20 Leedam Road, Northbourne, BOURNEMOUTH, Dorset BH10 6HP
- 1052 Mr K. SHORT, 28 Ladypool Close, HALESOWEN, West Midlands B62 8SY.
- 1053 Mrs M. MARSHALL, 20 Parkside, Ladgate Lane, MIDDLESBROUGH, Cleveland TS3 0BP.  
Has researched locally: Baird (1843) and Birch (1841) of Middlesbrough & Darlington, and Johnson, Robinson & Shaw of Gilling, near Richmond, Yorkshire, since the beginning of Parish Registers. Would like to learn more of the Shuttleworth family of Weardale, particularly Samuel Shuttleworth (a miner in 1867), and the Gordon family of Newcastle: Thomas Gordon of New Road was a Tailor c. 1820.
- 1054 Dr J.O. HARLE, P.O. Box 279, VRYHEID, NATAL 3100, SOUTH AFRICA.
- 1055 Mr J.K. WATSON, "Freshfields", Station Rd., Bleasby, NOTTINGHAM NG14 7GD.
- 1056 Mr T.H.S. CURRY, 5 Cranfield Avenue, WIMBORNE, Dorset BH21 1TH.  
Researching the Curry family. John of Kirkwhelpington, was born c. 1775 at Netherwitton, a cooper by trade, as were many of the family. William, a gamekeeper, is a problem; there is no record of his birth, 1829/33, at Stamfordham, or his marriage to Margaret Johnson of Brampton, c. 1854, or his death. Family tradition has it that he was "killed by poachers" at Prudhoe.
- 1057 Mr D. OGLE, 4 Rodwell Avenue, Saltdean, BRIGHTON, East Sussex BN2 8LT.  
children were Thomas, Elizabeth, George, Fenwick and Margaret.
- 1058 Mrs J. SUDDENS, 101 Brixham Drive, Wyken, COVENTRY, West Midlands CV2 3LP.
- 1059 Mrs M. MERCER (Nee PALMER), 18 Warkworth Road, Newton Hall, DURHAM CITY DH1 5PB.
- 1060 Mrs L. KIRK, 38 Chatswoth Road, Boyatt Wood, EASTLEIGH, Hampshire S05 4PE.
- 1061 Mr S.L. LAWSON, 119 North Allegany Street, CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND 21502, UNITED STATES.  
Interested in the Lawson and Robson families of County Durham. They lived in S. Hetton in 1841.
- 1062 Miss D.L. GORMLEY, Rt. No. 1- 8080 M, DELTA, OHIO 43515, UNITED STATES.  
Interested in William Lassey, 3rd son of Lord & Lady Lassey (b. 17/5/1808, Leeds, Yorkshire). He married Mary Graham (a gipsy Queen) and they had one son, Richard, b. 13/10/1832, Leeds. They left England between 1832 and 1835 for the U.S.A., where their second son was born.
- 1063 Mrs 1. HAWKINS, 3 Vicarage Gate, Onslow Village, GUILDFORD, Surrey GU2 5QJ.  
Looking for the Heppell family, formerly of Newcastle and of Longbenton in the early 19th century. They moved to Gateshead in the middle of the 19th century, and owned an iron foundry. Eleanor Rae Henderson (b. 1836) married a Heppell c. 1850; she could be from Gateshead, as she settled there on her marriage.
- 1064 Mrs B.D. DUNN, 41 St. John's Estate, South Broomhill, MORPETH, Northumberland NE65 9RY.
- 1065 Mr R. SETTREY, 12 Maureen Avenue, Blackhall Rocks, HARTLEPOOL, Cleveland TS27 4JF.
- 1066 Mrs T. BIRKBECK, 23 Oak Drive, Denton, MANCHESTER M34 2JR.
- 1067 Mr J.O. DE RUSSETT, 5 Stratford Close, Beaconhill Green, CRAMLINGTON, Northumberland NE23 8HW.
- 1068/9 Mr & Mrs J.B. DODDS, 18 Mitford Drive, ASHINGTON, Northumberland NE63 0LR.
- 1070 Mr R. HOWE, 22 Raven Lane, BILLERICAY, Essex CM12 0JA.
- 1071 ~~Miss L.I. BRUTON, 57/2 Youngs Road, Papakura, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.~~  
Interests are Civil. Hunter., Allen., and SterlingAJenrv Givil wac,ana nrPntire,i~ir~r\_ir Hex m  
in 1861 and went to New Zealand with his wife and children in 1882. He left behind two brothers, John and William, and two sisters, Elizabeth and Margaret, whose descendants are sought.
- 1072 Miss L.C. WINTER, 40 Lyonsdown Road, BARNET, Hertfordshire EN51JG.

## SECOND TIME AROUND

- 0404** Mrs R.W. GRANT, 4250 North 350 West, OGDEN, UTAH 84404, UNITED STATES.  
Interested in Whaley, Dury, Drury, and Bowman from the early 1700s.
- 0482** Maj. L.M. KENYON-FULLER, Arlaw Banks, Winston, DARLINGTON, County Durham DL2 3PX.  
Joseph Greenwell & Ann Burnside were married at Monkwearmouth, 14 Nov. 1803, and described as "both of this Parish". Joseph is thought to have been baptised at either Pelton or Lumley, and Ann at Sunderland or Monkwearmouth. Both baptisms are sought. Elizabeth Maxwell (born Monkwearmouth, 16 July 1819) married Robert Forster at a date and place unknown. The 1851 Census for Dalton-le-Dale shows them as living at Murton Colliery, Robert being aged 38 and born at Sunderland. Would like particulars of this baptism and marriage. Also seeking the baptisms and marriage of George Blakey, a moulder, and Jane Cordner, whose son Thomas Cordner Blakey was born at Spit Head, Weardale, 9 Oct. 1853.
- 0529** Miss J. TILL, 14 Birch Avenue, Lepton, HUDDERSFIELD, West Yorkshire HD8 0HP.  
Looking for the parents of William Ridley, who married Isabel Jopling at Stanhope Parish Church, 23 May 1756. Isabel was baptised at Wolsingham in 1732, the daughter of Robert Jopling. Also interested in anything on the Stanhope and Wolsingham Ridley connections.
- 0691** Mr J. TURNBULL, 2A Stowell Terrace, Felling, GATESHEAD, Tyne & Wear NE10 ONX.  
Interested in the following: William Turnbull, born c. 1844, Gateshead; Ann Nettleship, born c. 1820, Beamish or Chester-le-Street - she married Henry Carr, a mariner, but where? and when?; Henry Clasper, b. 1775, Newcastle area, parents of Henry Clasper and Mary Nesbit, who married in 1770 at Gosforth; parents of William Crosby and Sarah Fletcher, who married in Sunderland in 1831; parents of John Milne, a mariner, who married in Sunderland in 1833, Pearson and Dickenson families from Alston. Does anyone know of Hannah Grey/Gray (nee Pearson), who emigrated to Australia at the end of the 19th Century?
- 0925** Mr I. APPEGARTH, 59 Happy Valley Caravan Park, HARTLEPOOL, Cleveland TS24 9RF.  
Would like the birth, believed to be in Sunderland, of Sarah Donald, daughter of Robert, a shipwright, c. 1821-22. Also, that of Isabella Jane Harbron, daughter of Joseph, a shoemaker, c. 1850-52.
- 0958** Mr. E.W. CORBY, 21 Durham Terrace, Framwellgate Moor, DURHAM CITY DH1 5EH.  
Interested in any reference to Corby's, and esp. those from Hett in the 16th/17th centuries. The earliest known is Ralph, of Hett near Durham City, who may have had brothers or sons other than the one Gerard, who had 7 children, but all were priests or nuns or died in infancy so he had no grandchildren.

## OFFERS O F HELP

- 1009** Mr M.R. KIRBY, 40 Keswick Drive, Cullercoats, NORTH SHIELDS, Tyne & Wear NE30 3EW.  
Will help anyone with interests in Northumberland in return for help in North Yorkshire.
- 1031** Mr J.P. WOOD, 63 Acadia Bay, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA R3T 3J1, CANADA.  
Would like some general information about the Alnwick, Amble, Rothbury and Wooler areas, and will give assistance to members interested in the Winnipeg area.
- 1044** Mr F. LEDGER, 1 Sheraton Close, SWINDON, Wiltshire SN3 4NG.  
Offers help in the Cotswolds, Oxfordshire and North Wiltshire and would like help with research in the North-East.
- 1062** Mrs D.L. GORMLEY, Rt 1- 8080M, DELTA, OHIO 43515, UNITED STATES.  
Will research in courthouses, libraries etc, in the Fulton, Lucas, and Wood counties of Ohio, and Lenawee and Monroe counties in Michigan.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 0021** Mrs M.A. COOKE, 9 Grenville Road, KINGSTON, ONTARIO K7M 2C7, CANADA.
- 0324** Mr P.J. CRAGGS, Woodford Moat House, Oak Hill, WOODFORD GREEN, Essex IG8 9NY.
- 0779** Mrs S.L. MARSHALL, 3608 Belmont Road, COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO 83814, UNITED STATES.
- 0793** Mrs D. PERLEY, "Riverlea", Teesbank Avenue, Eaglescliffe, STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Cleveland TS16 9AY.
- 0800** Mrs A.E. CRABBE, 15 Balmoral Road, DIDCOT, Oxfordshire OX11 8TY.
- 0807** Mr W.R. PARLIAMENT, 406/350 Seneca Hill Drive, WILLOWDENE, ONTARIO M2J 487, CANADA.
- 1009** Mr M.R. KIRBY, 40 Keswick Drive, Cullercoats, NORTH SHIELDS, Tyne & Wear NE30 3EW.