

# THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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ALL ITEMS IN THIS JOURNAL C 1983 NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY  
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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

Adam Bunting has sadly had to retire as Editor. He is about to undertake a course of study and on behalf of the Society I wish him every success. He did a marvellous job coping with all the many problems involved in the production of the Journal and we are all very grateful to him.

I would like to take this opportunity as your new Editor, to ask you all if there is anything in particular that you would like to see in the next volume of the Journal, as discussions are being held on a new format and we would welcome any new innovations. We hope to introduce a couple of changes including the use of more illustrations and for the benefit of our away members we will publish a regular information section to help strangers to the area with very limited time for research.

I humbly ask you all to keep the letters and articles flowing in. We are desperately short of articles for the Journal. Do not worry about spelling or layout, (although it does help enormously if they are typed - double spacing please!). Just jot down any item that you think might interest our members and I will try my best to publish it.

Has anyone an interesting holiday story, perhaps where they have combined a holiday with family history research? - as I myself have done for the last three years. I recently returned from such a trip to Devon, where I was shocked to find a churchyard that I hoped to research covered in brambles and nettles six feet high! Determined to find the inscription required, I had to resort to issuing my husband's golf clubs to each member of the family in an effort to find the missing stone. The experience was very painful, but with flesh stinging and arms scratched we finally found what we were looking for. Everyone agreed as we limped back to our car that the Amazon jungle had nothing on that churchyard!

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### *Federation News*

A new guide entitled '*Land Tax Assessments 1690-1950*' has recently been published and is particularly useful for the fifty years preceding general registration. The Federation also announces the publication of a new edition of '*Census Indexes and Indexing*', which replaces the 1981 edition. This very useful publication has four extra pages (though remaining the same price of £1.00 plus p & p) and is not just a reprint. It has two new articles on transcriptions and indexing methods. The list of indexes and index projects has been completely updated, and now extends to six pages. Both of these guides are now in our Library.

Future projects include Guides to the Protestation Returns; Hearth Tax and other Stuart tax lists and petitions; a Guide to be called '*Where to find the I.G.I.*'; and the '*Guide to Local newspapers before 1900*' which is scheduled for publication in 1984.

If anyone in the Society has specialist knowledge of Public Record Office or local holdings of these classes of material (including the I.G.I.) Jeremy Gibson of the F. F.H. S. would be happy to hear from you; if you feel you can help, drop him a line at: Harts Cottage, Church Hanborough, OXFORD OX7 2AB.

### *Probate Records*

The Newcastle-upon-Tyne Principal Probate Registry, Plummer House, Market Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, has disposed of its indexes of Grants of Probate and Letters of Administration for the period 1857-1928. This source, invaluable for identifying lateral connections, family relationships and dates of death, is a serious loss to researchers in this area. Our information at the time of going to press is somewhat sketchy; we understand that Tyne and Wear Record Office declined an offer to deposit the indexes, and that in consequence, on the advice of the Public Record Office, the indexes from Newcastle Probate Registry are now housed at the Clwyd County Record Office, Rectory Drive, DEESIDE, Clwyd CH5 3NR.

### *1984 London Research Visit*

Provided that we can put together a party of at least 29, we hope to arrange a group visit to London during the early or late Summer of 1984. We would arrange coach travel and two nights' accommodation in Central London, leaving members free to pursue their researches at any of the London repositories. Husbands, wives and friends would be welcome to join the party and spend the

day in London as they wish. The charge will depend upon the number taking part and the precise date of the trip, but is expected to be very reasonable. If you are interested, please contact Greta Varty (2S Tyneside 410 2285) as soon as possible, so that we can decide whether the response will be sufficient to warrant further organisation.

### *Membership Renewal 1983/84*

This is the last issue of the Journal to be covered by your 1982/83 subscription; unless you had previously arranged to subscribe by standing order, renewal forms would be sent to you with the July Journal. If you have not already renewed your subscription, please do so as soon as possible; late renewals do cause a good deal of extra work! If however you have decided not to continue your membership, the Treasurer would very much appreciate a brief note of your reason for leaving the Society. This information is most useful in planning the future development of the Society.

## THE INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX

The Society has recently acquired a copy of the International Genealogical Index for the British Isles. This contains well over 40 million entries, with separate listings for England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands. The English listing only is subdivided by pre-1974 counties. The Welsh list is indexed by Christian name, so that it is virtually impossible to identify a marriage without the full Christian name of at least one partner. The Irish list is very sparse, containing fewer names than the average English county; most of the entries are of relatively recent date.

The microfiche is now available for use by our members, either by postal enquiry or by personal search. Before using the microfiche, however, it is essential that members should be aware of what it can, and can not, achieve. A good general article appeared in the January 1983 issue of this Journal (Volume 8 Number 1, pages 8-10) and the index is fully described in most basic books on Family History. It is important to remember that almost all entries are for the period before civil registration (1837 in England) and of these the vast majority - particularly for Northumberland and Durham - are for years up to 1812. By no means all parishes are included, though the coverage for Northumberland and Durham is better than average; some exceptions are listed at the end of this article.

Full directions for postal applications are printed on the back of the vouchers enclosed with this Journal; the fee is 50p per search. We stress that postal applications must be made on the vouchers; we expect demand to be fairly heavy and as the searches are made by unpaid volunteers we simply do not have the resources to deal with letters, or to undertake blanket searches for particular surnames.

Personal searches can be arranged by telephoning Don Mason (IR Hexham 606982). The Microfiche is located at 10 Market Place, Hexham; if in doubt, Don will give you directions when you make your booking. The telephone number quoted is for booking personal searches only; we cannot in any circumstances deal with telephone queries. The fee for personal searches is £2, which entitles you to two and a half hours of exclusive use.

Fees for personal and postal searches will be held separately from the Society's general funds, and will be applied to keep the microfiche up-to-date; if sufficient income is generated we hope in due course to acquire a positive copier so that we will be able to supply printouts in response to postal enquiries.

No doubt we will have teething troubles; please be patient if difficulties arise - we promise to do our best to iron out any problems as quickly as we can!

In the coming year we intend to publish in the Journal a full list of the Northumberland and Durham sources included in the microfiche; in the meantime, it should be noted that the records of the following Church of England parishes or chapelries which were in existence by about 1820 are not included.

### **NORTHUMBERLAND**

Byrness; Cornhill; Greystead; Kirkheaton; Kyloe; Newbrough; Thorneyburn; Warden. (*Warden is included for 1695-1724 only*)

### **DURHAM**

Bishopston; Croxdale; Darlington St Cuthbert; Eggleston; Elwick Hall; Hart; Hartlepool St Hilda; Heighington; Kelloe; Lamesley; Penshaw; Sadberge; St John's Chapel; Satley; Stockton St Thomas; Stranton; Whitworth; Wolviston.

## THE JUNE MEETING

Mr Alan Robinson of Cramlington gave an interesting talk to a well-attended meeting, describing the migration of Cornish miners to Northumberland in the last century.

Largely Chapel folk, the miners were brought North unknowingly as strikebreakers following widespread mine closures in Cornwall. Naturally, their arrival was not welcomed, and resentment was violently expressed in many communities, but acceptance came gradually and today their descendants are fully accepted as Northumbrians.

## SOUTH TYNESIDE LOCAL GROUP

Another very interesting meeting took place at the 'White Ensign' Hotel, Sunderland Road, South Shields, on 7 September last. Eleven members attended the meeting and enthusiastically discussed ways of furthering the many projects which could benefit our members.

Especially welcome was the news the Central Library, South Shields has purchased films of 17 parish registers of the area.

It was generally agreed to proceed to index the marriages at St. Hilda's for the period 1837 - 1966. Prior to 1837 has already been completed. Five volunteers agreed to do most of the work between them. Any further volunteers willing to assist in indexing other parishes should contact: W E Rounce, 40 Salcombe Avenue, JARROW, Tyne and Wear NE32 3SY.

The registers purchased by South Shields library are:

CHURCH		PERIOD	
Hebburn St John	1887 - 1940	South Shields St Hilda	1600 - 1966
Heworth St Mary	1898 - 1966	South Shields St Jude	1884 - 1959
Heworth St Alban	1843 - 1977	South Shields St Mark	1870 - 1960
Jarrow St Paul	1813 - 1944	South Shields St Oswin	1904 - 1968
Jarrow St Peter	1881 - 1966	South Shields St Simon	1887 - 1970
Jarrow Dock	1862 - 1966	South Shields St Stephen	1846 - 1955
Jarrow Grange Christ Church	1889 - 1940	South Shields Holy Trinity	1839 - 1961
Jarrow Good Shepherd	1889 - 1940	South Shields St Francis	1911-1976
Jarrow St Aidan	1889 - 1927		

The next South Tyneside group meeting will take place at the 'White Ensign' on Wednesday 7 December; Committee members living in the area will be available at these meetings we hope that the friendly, informal atmosphere will encourage many more members to attend. Anyone wishing to obtain further information can contact Bill Butterley, 51 Ashley Road, SOUTH SHIELDS, Tyne & Wear NE34 OPD. (IS South Shields 550430.)

## CENTRAL DURHAM LOCAL GROUP

On Monday, 19th September, the first local group meeting took place at the "Salutation Inn", Framwellgate Moor, Durham. Twenty members arrived for the get-together along with members from our Committee and after a friendly introduction by our Membership Secretary, Greta Varty, a discussion took place to determine the aims of the group.

Many of the members offered to help in some way. It was refreshing indeed to see such a combined interest in family history. Everyone agreed that the location was very central for all concerned and the enthusiasm for the group was such that a second meeting was arranged for Tuesday, 18th October, at 8.00 p.m.

If you find difficulty in travelling to Newcastle for our meetings, why not come along and become a member of the Durham Group? Please ring Greta Varty (IS Tyneside 410 2285) for further details of the meetings listed in the Future Programme section of this Journal.

## FUTURE PROGRAMME

*Wednesday, 16 November 1983*

7.15. p. m., YMCA, Ellison Place, Newcastle.

Talk: "Legal Records and the Family Historian". Speaker: Mr N.A. Punshon.

*Monday, 21 November 1983*

7.30. p.m., Salutation Inn, Framwellgate Moor, Durham.

Central Durham Local Group Meeting. For details of this and the subsequent Group meetings detailed below, contact Mrs. Greta Varty (8 Tyneside 410 2285)

*Monday, 5 December 1983*

7.30. p. m., YMCA, Ellison Place, Newcastle.

Committee Meeting.

*Wednesday, 7 December 1983*

8. 00. p. m., *White Ensign*, King George Road, South Shields.

South Tyneside Local Group Meeting. For details, and dates of subsequent meetings of the Group, contact Bill Butterley (\$ South Shields 550430)

*Monday, 12 December 1983 7.30. -10.30. p. m., University Employees' Club, 33/35 Jesmond Road, Newcastle.*

Christmas Social Evening, with buffet supper. There is a limit of 75 for this event; members wishing to attend should give names and numbers to Rona Dove (W Hebburn 832009) not later than 1st December. Friends, husbands and wives who are not members are welcome to come along; there will be a charge of £2 per head to cover the buffet and incidental expenses.

*Wednesday, 11 January 1984*

7.15. p. m., University Employees' Club, 33/35 Jesmond Road,

Talk: "Family Roots". Speaker: Mr Edward Atkinson.

*Monday, 16 January 1984*

7.30. p. m., Salutation Inn, Framwellgate Moor, Durham.

Central Durham Local Group Meeting.

*Wednesday, 15 February 1984*

7.15. p.m., University Employees' Club, 33/35 Jesmond Road,

Newcastle.

Talk: "Across the Cumberland Border". Speaker: Mrs A. Rossiter.

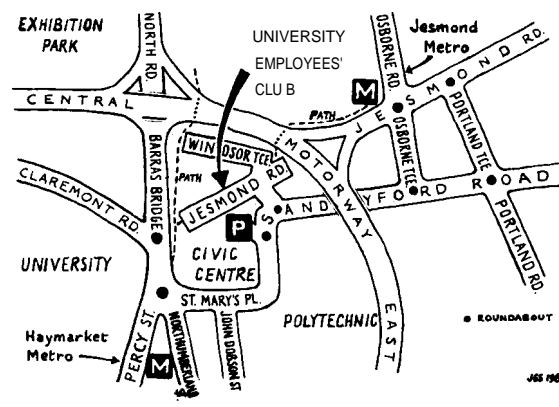
*Monday, 20 February 1984*

7.30. p.m., *Salutation Inn, Framwellgate Moor, Durham.*

Central Durham Local Group Meeting.

*We're Moving!*

Please note that as from December 1983, our regular monthly meetings in Newcastle will be held at the University Employees' Club, 33/35 Jesmond Road - the exact location is shown on the sketch map. The Club remains open until 10.30 p.m., so that members will be able to enjoy a drink and a chat after our meetings as a pleasant alternative to the chaos and hurried evacuation forced upon us by the early closing time at the YMCA. We hope to have tea and coffee available, as well as stronger refreshment! There is plenty of on-street parking in Jesmond Road or Windsor Terrace, as well as a public car park beside the Civic Centre; Haymarket and Jesmond Metro Stations are well within a five-minute walk.



## CALLING TODD RESEARCHERS

A certificate has come to light relating to James Todd, of Brinkburn Farm, South Shields, County Durham, who was born c. 1885. and was a member of the Army Reserve. Any interested descendants should contact Mr R. Drysdale, 4 Gosforth Park Villas, North Gosforth, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE316PP.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### *The General Registration Act of 1836*

*Mr Augustus Minns*, a Civil Servant of the (very!) old school - who assures us that he remains, still, our Obedient Servant - writes to share the benefit of his experience as a Somerset House clerk a few (score) years ago:

"In view of the comments being passed by your readers on the deficiencies in the above Act, would you please allow a Civil Servant of the old school to make some comments. The youngsters of today have absolutely no idea of the problems that we had to face in the early years of registration. It has to be remembered that in 1837 many people distrusted "registration"; in fact many did not understand what the word meant. Before anyone begins to laugh, let me inform you that in 1847 a rumour was found to be prevalent among the poor in the area around Hethersett, in Norfolk, that the Queen had ordered all children under five years of age to be put to death. Investigations revealed that the rumour originated from an order of The Poor Law Commissioners that all children under five should be vaccinated!

How many of your readers are aware how unruly certain sections of the population could be in the old Queen's reign? The shanty towns, occupied by hard drinking navvies engaged by the Railway Companies, for example. Older readers may recollect the serious riot at Childer Thornton in Cheshire in 1839. The Irish navvies seized all the beerhouses and the place was put in a state of seige. It was not until a detachment of soldiers was sent in four days later that order could be restored. I, for one, would not fancy having to call at the house of one of the participants to ascertain why he had not registered the birth of baby Bridget within the statutory forty two days.

Some allegations have been made by experienced genealogists that Marriage Indexes are incomplete due to the failure of Incumbents to submit their quarterly returns.

Allow me to put to you a hypothetical case. The Reverend Doctor Vesey Stanhope, Canon of Barchester, has resided for the past twelve years on the banks of Lake Como, adding to his wonderful butterfly collection. No quarterly returns have been received for his parish of Crabtree Canonicorum for some years. Investigations by the registrar reveal that Archdeacon Grantlly takes the morning service there, Rev Mr Harding the evening services, while Mr Slope superintends the Sabbatical school. The Marriage services are divided between them. Against whom does the Registrar - General take action?

The Civil Servant's lot has never been an easy one."

### *Thanks to Robson Researchers*

*Mrs J. Ross*, of 10 Penlee Road, Stoke, PLYMOUTH PL3 4AU writes:

"Through your column may I please thank all the members who have sent me their records of Robsons in response to my letter published in the July 1983 Journal. I have been completely inundated with literally dozens of letters and it will be quite impossible to reply to everyone. However, all the information sent has been recorded in my indexes, and I guarantee to let anyone know should a further member be researching the same names. As my indexes progress I also hope to help with the next step."

### *Is your Christian name Selby?*

*Mr Selby Angus*, of 2 Royle Crescent, Ealing, LONDON W13 0BH writes:

"Your Journal deals with many requests for help in tracing surnames: have you had a request for help in tracing a Christian name before?

In my case, my Christian name seems to be considerably less common than my surname, and I would welcome information on its history. I initially assumed that Selby would prove to be the maiden surname of one of my ancestors, but this is not so: the earliest example I as yet have of this name is SELBY LAMB (b. 1796 in Roxburghshire). He had ten children, one of whom he called SELBY (b. 1836, Sunderland), while his eldest son Alexander called one of his sons SELBY (b. 1850,

Sunderland). His second son John did not call any of his children by this name, but his daughter Jane, married to THOMAS ANGUS, called her eldest son (my Father) THOMAS SELBY (b. 1893, West Hartlepool). Both my sons have SELBY as one of their Christian names, as have my grandsons, so that this name now spans seven generations at least.

The few other Selbys I have met, who are all unrelated, all received the name from their mother's maiden name. Are there any other SELBYS in the Society who can throw any light on its use as a pure forename?"

### *The Axfords*

*Douglas Burdon*, of 186 Rosemary Hill Road, SUTTON COLDFIELD, West Midlands B74 4HP, writes:

"I was most intrigued by the interesting article from Mr. Pears on the Axford family (July 1983), but am reluctant to accept his conclusion that they were such inveterate liars. In my experience, ancestors sometimes understated their age, but they were otherwise mostly truthful. I would like therefore, to propose an alternative interpretation of the data which he has found, the effect of which is to eliminate most of the apparently false statements.

Firstly, I suggest that the William Axford - Hannah Curnow marriage was not that of William (b), but that of his widowed father, William (c), whose only lie was to reduce his age by five or more years - and who can blame him with a bride of 19. Hannah Curnow was probably a relative of Susannah, and perhaps a sister who had been away from home on census night in 1861. The main finding which conflicts with this is the presence of a William T. Oxford aged 9, living in an orphanage in 1851. I wonder whether he was actually described as an orphan? Perhaps his mother had died and his father had been unable to care for him. Poor Law records might throw some light on this. Alternatively, this child might not have belonged to the Axford family, and the absence of a brother Richard in the orphanage is consistent with this. It would be useful to check this further by looking for William T. Oxford in the St. Catherine's House birth indexes for 1842, since we know that William Axford was born in 1840.

Next, I suggest that William (b) was married only once, and that his bride Susannah was a widow at that time, having previously been married to someone named Stephens. The name Stephens on the birth certificate could easily have been given in error if the registrar asked Susannah for her previous name instead of asking for her maiden name. A single marriage for William (b) would also reduce to one the number of missing marriage records at St. Catherine's House. Marriage registration is reasonably complete because it was the responsibility of the clergyman to notify all marriages to the registrar. Birth and death registration was more commonly neglected because it was the responsibility of the family and was not compulsory until 1875. I assume that the searches made by Mr. Pears would not have revealed a Stephens - Curnow marriage in 1858 or earlier, but would have discovered an Axford - Stephens marriage if it were registered. If the latter marriage did take place, a record of it might be found in one of the Plymouth parish registers. Parish burial registers and cemetery records from Plymouth might also contain the missing death records.

The remaining puzzles are the curious statements on the Axford-Voysey marriage certificate, and whether or not this marriage was bigamous. Against the bigamy theory is the fact that this marriage took place only about two miles from Cramlington where Susannah's family were living. Surely they and their neighbours would not have remained silent on such a matter. It would be interesting in this connection to know whether any of Susannah's relatives are named as witnesses on the marriage certificate. Perhaps then, if William Axford were not dead, he and Susannah were never legally married and this would explain the missing marriage certificate. It might also explain the origin of the family suspicions that there had been some irregularity in Susannah's marital status. But what of the false information on the marriage certificate? In the first instance this should *be* verified by examining the original record in the Seghill parish registers, because the registered copy at St. Catherine's House is a copy of a copy sent by the incumbent of Seghill to the local registrar. There is therefore a small chance that the registered information is incorrect because of a copying error. If the marriage took place by licence, the marriage bond should also be checked. Only when the statements on Susannah's certificate have been confirmed will it be right to conclude that she gave false information.

I hope Mr. Pears will keep readers informed of any new developments in his research on this family which illustrates so well some of the problems encountered in family history. Perhaps members living in Exeter and Plymouth may be able to offer help in their local Record Offices."

## *The Stroughair Tree*

*Ms. M. Foy* of 12 Loring Road, Sharnbrook, BEDFORD MK441JT writes:

"I found, recently, a page from a small book entitled 'Family Record' kept by my grandmother Mary Ann Shotton, nee STROUGHAIR. It paints a picture which was sadly all too frequent in Victorian Times.

Henry STROUGHAIR  
Born June 23, 1834

Mary Ann THOMPSON  
Born October 28, 1837

Married March 23, 1856; Bishopwearmouth Church

Mary Ann STROUGHAIR, daughter, born April 2, 1857.

Margaret Jane STROUGHAIR, daughter, born October 29, 1858.

Elizabeth STROUGHAIR, twin daughter, born September 30, 1860 at 4 o'clock a.m.

Caroline STROUGHAIR, twin daughter, born September 30, 1860 at 5 o'clock a.m.

Mary Ann STROUGHAIR, Mother to the above daughters, died October 14, and buried October 17, 1860 at Bishopwearmouth Cemetery.

Elizabeth STROUGHAIR, twin daughter, died March 26, 1862.

Henry STROUGHAIR = Esther (name indecipherable)

Married September 16, 1862; Sunderland Church

Henry STROUGHAIR died September 13, 1864.

Henry Robert, son of Henry and Esther STROUGHAIR, born February 4, 1865.

Mary Ann STROUGHAIR  
Born June 23, 1834

= Thomas SHOTTON, Master Mariner  
of 19 Randolph Street, Sunderland

Married 1884; St. George's Church, Sunderland

Wilfred SHOTTON, born February, 1886 (My Father)

I wonder if there are any other descendents of these families still in Sunderland or in touch with you?"

## *Great Aunt Allie*

*Mrs. R. Hunter* of Flat 3, 32 Edward Ave, St Albans, CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND, writes:

"I have been searching for a long time for my great Aunt "ALLIE" ALLISON, who was either Mary Anne b. 1853 or Emma b. 1859 - the daughter of Edward Allison (master watchmaker) and his wife Jane, forwardly ALLEN who lived at Alnwick. No trace of them can be found after 1861, nor are there any family headstones in the Public Cemetery or the graveyard of the Church of St. Michael.

According to family tradition Great Aunt had a Degree and was a lecturer at Durham University but no trace can be found of her there. I have also made enquiries at Newcastle and London Universities as well as Bedford College, without success.

On a visit to my Aunt in Ashburton, New Zealand about 45 years ago I was shown a photograph of my Great Aunt wearing a mortar board and gown. There was also several letters written to my Aunt, but unfortunately when she died her sons burnt everything!

Great Aunt had a companion living with her and they both visited New Zealand sometime between 1906 - 1912. I have searched the Ashburton newspapers to see if there was anything in the Personal Columns without success. No one can remember just where or when Great Aunt died, but it was possibly between 1928 and 1933 according to small clues from cousins. I have obtained several death certificates but to no avail. As Great Aunt never married it cuts down the possibilities.



I believe that ALLISON is a common name in the North and that my ancestors were related to an Allison who was a member of the House of Commons, and also the Allisons who were Piano Manufacturers in London.

It is a mystery just where Edward Allison and his family moved to. I understand that there is a new Directory (Walker's), but a friend of mine is unable to locate it.

If anyone can send me any information whatsoever, I would be very grateful, and would re-imburse the cost of postage."

### *The Silvertons of Morpeth & Tynemouth*

*Mr B. O. Silverton* of 55 Windermere Road, COULSDON, Surrey CR3 2JE writes:

"I am a member of East Surrey Family History Society and I have forwarded to Mr J K Brown (NDFHS Secretary) a pedigree chart of the SILVERTONS of Morpeth and Tynemouth parishes.

I would be interested to hear from anyone with similar interests or from anyone whose ancestors married into the Silverton family."

## ANCESTRAL STARDOM

*C. R. Humphery - Smith F. S. A.*

Not all of us, in tracing our ancestral roots, have come across connections with historical events, but each one of our forebears in his or her own way, made history even in his limited locality.

I am engaged, in a consultant capacity, upon another television series and I hope that members of the Society will be able to assist, and perhaps get involved in these programmes. The ingredients that I have prescribed are as follows:

1. A proven family tree.
2. At least two ancestors (preferably on different lines) associated with an international, national or prominent local historical event.
3. At least one ancestor engaged in an interesting trade or occupation.
4. At least one interesting artefact or heirloom in the family with a story attached to it.
5. A connection, preferably not too remote, with a contemporary famous personality of sport, show business, radio, television etc.
6. A contemporary related family containing at least one child in the age bracket 9 - 16 years of age.

Films and live studio recordings have already been made of several programmes based upon these elements and the show, while popularly presented, clearly illustrates the historical value of genealogical studies.

I would very much appreciate it if members having family trees already compiled which contain most, if not all, of these ingredients would kindly communicate with me as soon as possible, [enclosing a copy of the appropriate documentation] at The Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, Northgate, CANTERBURY, Kent CT1 1BA.

## A NEW ZEALAND STRAY

*Found in Addington Cemetery, Christchurch, New Zealand, and forwarded by Mrs J. Crooks, of 17 Searells Road, Christchurch:*

"Peter Cummings, born Tement, Northumberland, 5th January 1836, died Selwyn Street, Christchurch, New Zealand, 2nd May 1890, aged 54. Also in memory of children buried in Mere Knolls Cemetery, Sunderland. Jemonia Broad Died 1890."

# THE LONDON CENSUS OFFICE

## A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

*Selby Angus*

No doubt readers have promised themselves that, some time when they are in London, they will pop in to the Public Records Office to consult census returns which are not easily available in their part of the world. All the books for beginners explain how to do this, and it sounds quite simple. It is quite simple - if you know how; but literally hours can be wasted if you do not know the system, and it seems worth while giving it in some detail - a child's guide, in fact.

The first problem is to find the place. Many books still give the address as the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, which is no longer correct: the census returns are now housed in the Land Registry building, whose postal address is Lincoln's Inn Fields, but the Public Census Office has its own entrance in Portugal Street.

I would not advise strangers to reach it by car, since it is part of a complicated one-way system and the parking meters around are all occupied from an early hour. If you go by taxi, be sure to ask for Portugal Street; if you merely ask for the Public Record Office the driver will probably assume that you are just another tourist anxious to look at Magna Carta, and will deposit you in Chancery Lane! The simplest way is to go by underground to Holborn. Emerging from the station, turn left and left again into Kingsway. At the next set of traffic lights, turn left into Remnant Street. This ends on one corner of a square, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and you need to get to the diagonally opposite corner. I leave this as an exercise to the student, noting only that if you go left-about, you will pass Sir John Soane's Museum, if you go right-about, you will catch a glimpse of the Old Curiosity Shop, and if you plunge straight into the square and it is lunch-time, you must beware of stray netball players. Once across the square, you are faced with a rather forbidding Victorian building, which is the Land Registry. Walk round this, and you are in Portugal Street, and there is a small entrance labelled "Public Census Office".

Many books explain how to apply for a reader's ticket, and warn that it should be done well in advance; in fact, a one-day pass can be obtained from the porter at the door without any ceremony. So you are in ... or are you? You may be faced with a notice saying "Census Room Full". This means that not only are all the readers' positions taken, but inside, there is also a queue of ten people waiting for vacancies. Surprisingly enough, there is a vacancy about every five minutes, but even so, ten people mean a wait of fifty minutes. The porter allows a subsidiary queue to form outside his office, but every person there means another five minutes to wait. Since it takes about twenty minutes to get started after finding a place, you may prefer to ask the porter to direct you to St. Catharine's House (Births and Marriages Index), Alexandra House (Deaths Index) or Somerset House (Wills), all of which are within easy walking distance.

Queues are likely to be found not long after opening time, and again at lunch-time, when those who live nearby pop in. From about 2 p.m. onwards, the queues usually vanish, and you can often get more working time by going *on* two afternoons than on a single day. Bad weather does not help, because unless it is very bad, some tourists choose the Census Office in preference to the Tower or the Zoo.

Having secured a place, you will find that from now on you are virtually on your own. The Census Office has met the rising interest in family history by increasing the number of reading places, but has been unable to increase the staff, so that they only have time to help with out-to-the-way problems. They have tried to compensate for this with plenty of placards - read them! Start by reading those on how to consult the index. This is simple if you are looking for somewhere in a town with a street index, but for a country place, you need to consult a preliminary index to find where it is in a second index. Fill in a form, hand it in and immediately come back to the index to locate the next place you want to look at. The rule is that you are allowed only one reel at a time, but they will find the next reel for you while you are looking at the first. As well as the indexes, there are various useful street maps, atlases and other reference works about; but it is up to you to find what is available.

You know how to lace up a microfilm reader? Fine, but if you are unsure, use the instructions. The instruments have a turret of three lenses, giving various magnifications, and a revolving stage. Photocopies can be made of any given entry, but this uses up valuable time, so leave this until you are finished with the reel.

Presumably you have already had some experience with the census returns, but if not, note that

the instructions on finding your place in the 1841 census refer to the "book number", and this is not a printed number, but a handwritten number scrawled anywhere on the title page of each book; while the instructions for the 1851 census will repay reading several times.

The restricted space between you and the next reader can be very irritating if you have brought your best foolscap or A4 file. A small notebook is essential. If you intend to use any maps to check the enumerator's walk, they are much easier to handle if they are on a number of separate photocopies.

After two or three reels, you may feel the need for a rest. There is a room nearby set aside for readers, and mainly occupied by people munching sandwiches. Enquiry will reveal that, though there are several eating places nearby, they are very popular and it is impossible to use them in the twenty minutes you are allowed to be away from your reader before the place is given to someone else, so that, if you propose to work a full day, a packed lunch is essential.

The hours of opening are from 9 a.m. to 4.50 p.m., and the latest time for issuing microfilms is 4.15 p.m. The office is not open at weekends or on public holidays. Children under 14 are not admitted.

Much of the above is obvious, even trivial, to those who use the Census Office frequently; but if you only have a few precious hours, nothing is worse than to battle through these trivial obstacles and at last sit down with the precious microfilm just as the lights go up and you hear the dreaded cry, "Return all films, please!"

## SOUTH SHIELDS 'COLOR WORKS'

In the former goldfield town of Bendigo in the state of Victoria, Australia, a local historian has discovered the following inscription on a tombstone in the local White Hills cemetery:-

Sacred  
to the memory of  
GUSTAVE ALPHONSE  
EUGENE VAZIE  
Born April 7th 1852, Died November 1854  
second son of  
WILLIAM VAZIE SIMONS  
late of South Shields Color Works

Unfortunately the tombstone is badly marked and impossible to photograph, but the historian would be willing to exchange such details as he has regarding the family for information about the 'Color Works'. Anyone interested in pursuing the matter further can write to Mrs H.R. HARRIS, 20 Abelia Street, NUNAWADING, VICTORIA 3131, AUSTRALIA, who will pass on your letters.

## AUSTRALIAN GEORDIES

Jane Thompson, one of our Australian readers, has sent the following details of some 19th Century immigrants to Australia through the port of Sydney, New South Wales:

Ship "*Thetis*"; arrived 20 May 1850:

Jane FLYNN, 25 years, Schoolmistress, born Sunderland, Durham. Parents Patrick and Sarah, living at Kilrush Coe. Reads and Writes. No relative in the colony. Paid £5.

Ship "*Emperor*"; arrived 6 June 1851:

Alexander FRATER, 22 years, Shepherd, born Kirknewton, Northumberland. Parents John and Elizabeth; father dead. Presbyterian. Read and Writes. Wife Penelope, 17 years. Parents Peter and Mary HAY, living.

Ship "*Kate*"; arrived 8 October 1851:

Mary PATTERSON, 35 years, Wife of Thomas, Stonecutter of Sutherland, Scotland. Mary born Northumberland. Parents John and Margaret (no surname given), mother living at Newcastle -on-Tyne. Children Anthony (9 years), John (9 years) and Margaret Jane (4 years), all born Scotland.

Jonathon RYLE or KYLE, 21 years, Farm Labourer, born Hutkera Shank (?), Northumberland. Parents William and Barbara, both living, Newcastle. Presbyterian. Reads and writes.

## THE TREWICK TREE

*Dave Neville*

I was at this friend's party a few years ago. Usual style - plenty of food, booze, plus quite a few attractive young ladies from the locality. One girl took my eye, so I came out with those time honoured romantic words so well known in the North East: "Do you fancy a dance then pet?". Through the cacophony of disco music we attempted the semblance of a conversation. "What's your name and where are you from?", said I, with my usual amazing originality. She told me her name was Christine Trewick and she lived in Cramlington. "Ah", I said, "You'll be descended from the Cornish miners who came to that area in the last century. 'Tre' at the start of a name is Cornish, isn't it?" Christine certainly knew the story of the Cramlington miners who went on strike in 1865, only to be thrown out of their houses and replaced by hundreds of 'blacklegs' from Devon and Cornwall. It had been suggested to the family before that this was indeed its ancestry. Not to bore you with more of my banal chatting-up style at the party, the upshot was that we started 'going out' together and we decided to do something positive towards discovering Christine's family history.

First trip was to see her grandad, Michael, and get as much information as we could from him. It turned out that both his father, John, and his grandfather also John, were miners at Seaton Delaval, but there were apparently some links with the Cramlington area. (As this tale unfolds you will undoubtedly be confused by the surfeit of John Trewicks. To attempt to clarify matters in the faint hope that you will not give this up as boring drivel and turn over the page - it is this latter John, Michael's grandfather, whom I will identify as "Grandfather John" throughout this story. Now read on!)

Our next stop was Northumberland Record Office, where we began the task of going through census returns for our area. Now how many of you have done you courting over a microfiche reader at Melton Park? I'm sure Robin Gard won't mind me saying that it is not a patch on the back row of the Roxy. The tedium of searching the records evaporated as soon as we found families of Trewicks. It wasn't long before we disposed of the Cornish theory as we traced the family from another John, a farmer who came from Hartburn to work in the Cramlington mines early last century, right down to a John whom we were convinced was our "Grandfather John". This was based somewhat on a circumstantial evidence; for instance the various Christian names in the family had remained the same. The problem was that "Grandfather John" wasn't where he should have been on the 1871 census - he had disappeared into thin air.

Stuck for the time being, we decided to attack the other end. Study of parish registers at Hartburn gave us a direct link back to one Thomas Trewick. Now he was obviously quite a character. A farmer at North Middleton, he married Rebecca Arthur by special licence in 1763 - the reason being she was five months pregnant at the time. Rebecca died in 1774. In 1777 Thomas remarried, taking Esther Dobson as his bride, but only after she had presented him with a son one month previously! Although we've been unable to establish any earlier proven direct lineage, related Trewicks had been in the Hartburn area at least a century before. Now Hartburn is just a good shout from a place called Trewick, and we discovered that an important and well-to-do family of that name had a seat there in the middle ages. With eyes lit up by pound signs we decided to research further. The lineage of the ancient Trewicks is chronicled from 1298 to 1448. They had their own distinctive coat of arms, which at some time was quartered with that of the Fenwicks of Wallington Hall. Coincidentally, the family at one time owned half the lands of Cramlington, but over the years the family fortune was frittered away, much to our disappointment! It would be really something if we could establish a link from 1448 to our Trewicks in the seventeenth century.

Now we return to the puzzle of "Granfather John". Visits to St. Catherine's House revealed that many of his children were not born in Northumberland. However, births coincided with a Trewick family living in Co. Durham. With the release of the 1881 census all was revealed: "Grandfather John" had left Cramlington in 1865 to work in the Durham pits, returning after eight years. But why did he move away? The answer was staring us in the face, but it didn't dawn on us until we became involved with the 'Cramlington Yesterday' society, a group of enthusiasts who do a great job researching and recording Cramlington's own history. Local historian Alan Robinson gave an illustrated talk to the society on the 1865 Cramlington miners strike. One slide showed the local miners union subscription book and third name down was "Grandfather John". Far from being a Cornish blackleg, he was on the other side, losing his home and job and forced to seek employment elsewhere. This was where we came in!

All our information was carefully arranged on a mammoth family tree and at Christine's grandparents' 65th wedding anniversary party, the Trewick tree covered most of a wall and was quite

a talking point. By this time, yours truly had managed to get his name on it, as Christine and I had by now tied the knot. There's still lots more to find out, but to be perfectly honest we haven't done much research on the family tree of late. We've been too busy adding to it. He's called Keith, and he's two years old!

## CANADIAN LINKS

*Bill Rounce*

Some time ago, in correspondence with Anthea Ashfield of Weston, Ontario, Canada, I enquired how I could obtain details of emigrants from Northumberland and Durham to Canada before 1900. She publicised my request in Ontario Genealogical Society Newsletter and it was subsequently repeated by the British Columbia Genealogical Society.

There has been a considerable response from Canada by folk descended from immigrants from our area, who would like to make contact with their relatives. If, therefore, you happen to be researching one of the following names I should be pleased to help you to establish a Canadian link.

JOHN BELL, born 4 March 1791 at Alston who married, in Canada, Sarah daughter of John Walton, baptised 25 February 1791, also at Alston.

WALTER G DODDS, born Newcastle upon Tyne, left England between 1889 and 1893 and married in Ontario in 1894.

ROBERT DOUGLAS, born 16 June 1849, son of Robert and Jane nee ROBSON, of High Cross, Benwell, Newcastle.

GEORGE DUNN, and daughter Elizabeth Jane born September 1870 at Barnard Castle. Mother's name METCALF. Left for Canada in 1884.

JOHN HENDERSON, a Presbyterian, born in Northumberland c. 1790, lived at Cornhill, Hebron, left England before 1813.

WILLIAM HENDERSON and Frances his wife, nee MARTIN, who left Ninebanks, Allendale with their children c. 1841.

THOMAS HEWSON born 1812 in Yorkshire who married Jane Hunter born at Merrington, County Durham, in 1813. They moved to Canada before 1837.

JOHN HIND born c. 1836, who married Ann Sayer born c. 1846 at Barnard Castle; they had nine children, born in Westmorland, Barnard Castle and Middleton in Teesdale, and left for Canada in 1890.

JAMES KIRKUP, baptised 2 July 1820 at Ulgham, son of John. Religion said to be Wesleyan Methodist.

ROBERT LANGSTAFF, born County Durham c. 1795, married Sarah(?) who left England with three children in 1830.

RICHARD MYERS, born 30 May 1773 at Barnard Castle, who married Mary Close, baptised 4 June 1775, Bishopwearmouth, at Bowes 9 October 1797.

EDWARD RICHARDSON, born 1801 in Northumberland, who left to be apprenticed to an uncle in Canada in 1861

WILFRED SADLER, of Stockton-on-Tees, who emigrated in 1833 with three sons and two daughters, born 1802 - 1820.

JOHN SELBY, brother of Sir George Selby who died 1625 and who was four times Mayor of Newcastle. John's descendants still live in Sharon, Ontario.

WILLIAM STONEHOUSE, and his wife Catherine, nee LONG, of Coxlodge, Durham (in the 1871 census), who left for Canada shortly after.

WILLIAM BOLTON SUTCLIFFE, born at Blyth, child of John Thomas Sutcliffe (aged 40) and Jane Ann TEASDALE (aged 25) who were married 12 June 1883 at St. Johns, Darlington.

# WILLIAM CALVERT, 1807-1878: AN EMIGRANT'S TALE

*Shirley Foster*

William Calvert arrived in New Zealand on the ailing ship "*Zealandia*" on 12th November 1859. He and his wife Elizabeth Pickering Calvert, with their family of three boys and five girls, had left their home in Bishopwearmouth, Durham, to undertake the long journey to the promised land on the other side of the world. No doubt the middle-age couple had seen the posters and heard lectures being given in England at that time, recruiting people in order to establish a new society on the Canterbury Plains, New Zealand.

The promoters of the scheme, The Canterbury Association, were anxious to put into practice Edward Gibbon Wakefield's ideas of an ideal colony. Sponsored by the Church of England, the most influential church dignitaries supported the venture. Land had been bought from the Maoris, surveyors had done their work; now all that was required was an influx of sober, industrious and healthy Church members to populate the chosen land and to create the perfect society which the promoters envisaged.

William Calvert met all the requirements except one: he was a staunch Wesleyan Methodist. Other members of the Methodist community including his wife's half-sister Mary Pickering and her husband Joseph John Smith had sailed to Australia earlier on the "*Emigrant*". Methodists were on the move. The Canterbury Association, finding it difficult to recruit enough people, changed their requirements and began accepting any colonist who could provide a certificate from a minister indicating they were honest and respectable.

The Calverts were gentle-folk. Elizabeth claimed kinship with the Northumberland Collingwood family through her mother Mary Collingwood Pickering. She started the tradition of perpetuating the Collingwood name in every generation, a custom which is still kept today with both New Zealand and Australian descendants.

There were forty gentle-folk on the "*Zealandia*" together with 316 assisted passengers. The 94 day journey was very pleasant, the three-masted ship having been expressly adapted for the passenger trade.

The immigrants disembarked at Lyttelton, and after leaving the ship, tramped or rode on horse-back up over the bridle path which led them through the high hills separating the port village and the flat feature-less Canterbury Plain, making their way to Christchurch. An oral tradition is that the Calverts had among their possessions a chair which the great evangelist John Wesley had sat in; a table-cloth he had signed and silver cuff-links or spoons bearing the Collingwood crest. The story is also told that William was so busy talking to other business men that when he enquired where Christchurch was to be found he was told, to his amusement, "It's back there by the pump." They had passed it!

The first task for the immigrants was to provide a shelter for themselves. Land was not granted but could be bought for three pounds per acre. William Calvert bought land in Durham Street, where he lived for the rest of his life. His wife bought acres at New Brighton. William Calvert's father, who was also called William Calvert, had a wholesale and retail business in Sunderland and, like his father, the younger William established an iron-mongering and tin-smithing business in Victoria Street, Christchurch. He later moved his business to the Triangle, High Street, the heart of the growing town, close to Cathedral Square.

Christchurch soon established itself as the most important city in the Province of Canterbury. Though planned as a Church of England settlement, within a decade the Methodists were the fastest growing sect. These industrious and devout people set about building churches and chapels throughout the province. William Calvert served as a lay-preacher, travelling widely.

The colony had got off to a slow start but by 1864, gold having been found in New Zealand, immigrant ships were arriving in great numbers. Ten arrived in that year, bringing another 2,500 people to Christchurch. The growing city held its first City Council elections on 23rd March 1867 and William Calvert, being well known and highly respected, topped the poll.

When William retired from the Council after serving for eight years, the Mayor and his fellow

Councillors presented the old gentleman with an inscribed silver tea urn. He died three years later at the age of 71. All the Councillors attended his funeral and one said, "Calvert was one of those men who did good by stealth and blushed to find fame. " In the nineteen years he had lived in New Zealand he had become widely known and respected for his work for the City Council and for the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

His sons carried on the business he had established in 1859. All his family married and descendants can now be found throughout New Zealand and Australia.

## NORFOLK STRAYS

### Marriages

Thomas GAINÉ, widower, of Bishop Wearmouth, Durham, and Elizabeth SHERWOOD, single woman, of St Nicholas, King's Lynn, by Licence, 24 January 1828. Both Signed. Witnesses Roger SHERWOOD and Charlotte MARSHALL. (*St Nicholas, King's Lynn*)

John GROOM, single man, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Mary MUNSEY, single woman, of St. Nicholas, King's Lynn, by Licence, 24 February 1813. She signed; he marked X. Witnesses Ann CARET and William BARRETT. (*St Nicholas, King's Lynn*)

Thomas HAINDON, widower, of St Mary Magdalen, Bermondsea, Surrey, and Priscilla WATSON, single woman, late of Newcastle, 26 October 1674. (*Great Yarmouth*)

Joshua HEWITSON, widower, of Alnwick, Northumberland, and Ann CRAW FORTH, single woman, of St Nicholas, King's Lynn, by Licence, 9 January 1807. Both signed. Witnesses Hugh CRAWFORTH, Louisa BRETT and Ann MACLAIN. (*St Nicholas, King's Lynn*)

William MASON, single man, of Sunderland, Durham, and Hannah LOMBE, single woman, of Great Yarmouth, 10 March 1679. (*Great Yarmouth*)

Mathew MOODY, single man, of Sunderland, Durham, and Lucie HETCHER, single woman, of Yarmouth, 21 September 1712. (*Great Yarmouth*)

Richard MOORE, widower, of Stockton upon Tees, Durham, and Ann RAWLING, single woman, of St Nicholas, King's Lynn, by Licence, 9 September 1793. Both signed. Witnesses John GREEVES and Hannah MASON. (*St Nicholas, Kings Lynn*)

Alexander MURRAY, single man, of Newcastle, Northumberland, and Eliza SMITH, widow, of St Margaret, King's Lynn, 18 September 1744. (*St Margaret, King's Lynn*)

Samuel SHERWIN, single man, of St Mary, Gateshead, Durham, and Ann DIX, single woman, of St Nicholas, King's Lynn, by Licence, 3 August 1789. Both signed. Witnesses Martha RICHES and William WHITTINGHAM. (*St Nicholas, King's Lynn*)

### Burials

Thomas STOCKS of Sunderland, 14 October 1680. (*Great Yarmouth*)

John MORRAR of North Shields, belonging to Her Majesty's Ship 'Fox', Captain, 26 May 1709. (*Great Yarmouth*)

John FORGE, Single man, of North Shields, belonging to Her Majesty's Ship 'Pearle'. 30 September 1712. (*Great Yarmouth*)

## A KNOT TIED IN BROKEN HILL

*From The Register of Broken Hill Presbyterian Church, United Church Archives, Sydney, Australia:*

James MacFARLANE, bachelor, born Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, England, trolleyman, 29 years, lived Broken Hill, son of James Tate MacFARLANE, draper, and Annie Rose HEANAN; married 15 January 1902 to Lydia JOHNS, spinster, born Moonta, South Australia, domestic duties, 19 years, lived Broken Hill, daughter of Barzillia JOHNS, silver miner, and Elizabeth Ann PAUL. Witnesses A.W. MacFARLANE and Janet MacFARLANE. Minister William Rose Milne.

*NOTE:* James' sister Janet Tate Clarke MacFARLANE married on October 8th, 1902, when she was recorded as age 20, born Clare, South Australia, so the MacFarlanes presumably arrived in Australia between 1873 and 1882.

# FEMALE LINES

*Brian Robinson*

It was late in the year 1973 that I decided to attempt the impossible - that is to trace my Robinson ancestors. A common surname, a grandfather who was known to have 'moved around a bit' but, fortunately, a great - great - uncle who was locally famous, the woodcarver Gerrard Robinson. I learned that the latter was born in Forth Banks, Newcastle in 1834.

Therefore a search of St John's Baptisms was a starting point. Over the years I have managed to trace the line back to a marriage in 1660 and by sheer determination and hard work I have managed to trace a few generations of nearly all the females who married my male ancestors in the various lines. But what does one do if all the paths become cul - de - sacs and one is keen to continue one's hobby? Which brings me to the point. "Has anyone traced a truly female line?". This question was asked by an anonymous female member of Society on Page 51 of the July 1983 Journal.

As a pastime (some pastime), I decided that instead of tracing ancestors I would trace relatives, concentrating on the descendants of my great - grandfather John Ewbank Robinson (1829 -1871) and his two brothers Robert (1832 - 98) and Gerrard (1834 - 91). The male descent has proved to be reasonably easy to trace but what of my great - aunts and their female cousins? As everyone knows, women change their surname on marriage, generally. In the first generation this meant that I had to trace:- REED, LEISTER, WOOD, HASTINGS, GEE, FOSTER, KING, LOGAN, BLACK, **WINTER, TATE and one as yet unknown** (no one can remember my great - aunt Ellen's surname and I have not traced a marriage entry). Consider the changes in surname in the next generation, too numerous to mention here and many unknown to me anyway.

The longest line I have to date is as follows:-

1. Mary Millar (c 1800- ?) = 1829 George Peaps (? - ?)
2. Elizabeth Peaps (c 1831- ?) = 1852 John Ewbank Robinson (1829 -1871)
3. Elizabeth Anna Robinson (1853 -1877) = 1877 Edward Taylor Reed (1854 - 98)
4. Elizabeth Anna Robinson Reed (1877 -1952) = 1898 James Craggs (1875 -1960)
5. Edith Maud Craggs (1903 - 46) = 1928 William Ewbank Robinson (1902 - 63)
6. Joyce Robinson (b 1929) = 1948 James Fife Lowery (b 1926)
7. Hazel Lowery (b 1949) = 1969 Brian Anthony Sillitoe (b 1944)
8. Joanne Sillitoe (b 1974)

N.B. The re-emergence of the Robinson name is due to my father marrying his cousin's daughter (5).

This 'all female' line can be extended if I could trace the birth of Mary Millar. Is anyone interested in the surname? She was born in 'Northumberland Preston' aged 51 in 1851 and 63 in 1861. The Preston is probably the one in the North Shields as she married at Wallsend and her two children were born in 'Northumberland Shields'.

There may be of course longer lines which I have not yet traced but I shall continue to delve through the Church records and the indexes at the N.R.O. Other members of the Society may have traced longer lines. Who holds the record? Shall we hold a competition to see if anyone can break the record? I find tracing female lines very interesting but very hard work.

**Editor's Note:** *Anyone interested in the surnames listed is welcome to contact Brian. His telephone number is 0325 - 461422.*

## LOCAL SOURCES FOR RESEARCH

Since the Society was formed in 1975, we have published a comprehensive selection of articles and lists describing the various kinds of genealogical records available to researchers in Northumberland and Durham. With the exception of a few categories of records which have been, or are being, transferred to Tyne and Wear Record Office, most of the location information remains as shown in those articles: a full review of the genealogical records now in Tyne and Wear Record Office will be published in the Journal in the coming year.

Our more recent members may find the following list useful in choosing early back numbers of the Journal. All back issues are still available; most issues prior to Volume 7 are photographic reprints, and it should be borne in mind that issue up to and including Volume 6 Number 1 were



originally published in typescript. Back numbers are obtainable from the Membership Secretary at the address shown on the Contents page at 75p each including UK postage; the cost to overseas members is £1 per copy Surface Mail, or £1.75 per copy Airmail, and a further 75p should be added to the total remittance if payment is made in dollars.

- Vol. 1, No. 1      Presbyterian Records; Principal Genealogical Sources in Durham County Record Office; Church of England Parish Registers in Durham County Record Office.
- Vol. 1, No. 2      Tracing our Catholic Forefathers; Church of England Parish Registers in Northumberland County Record Office.
- Vol. 1, No. 3      Bishop's Transcripts at Durham University, Part I.
- Vol. 1, No. 4      Bishop's Transcripts at Durham University, Part II; Genealogical Manuscripts in Newcastle-upon-Tyne Central Library; Using Local Records; Nineteenth Century Rating Records of South Shields.
  
- Vol. 2, No. 1      Nineteenth Century Education Records of South Shields; Index to Northumberland Monumental Inscriptions; Genealogical Sources in Gateshead Central Library.
- Vol. 2, No. 2      Methodist Records and the Genealogist; Genealogical Sources in Sunderland Public Library; Index to Durham Monumental Inscriptions; Scottish Records.
- Vol. 2, No. 3      The Durham Protestation of 1642 (Surtees Society); Genealogical Material in Tyne and Wear County Record Office; Some Notes on Wills; Catholics in Hexham in 1687; Palaeography and Genealogical Research.
- Vol. 2, No. 4      Boyd's Marriage Index; Deaths at Sea; Records of the Merchant Adventurers of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Surtees Society); Tithes and Tithe Maps; Anglican Records of North Tyneside.
  
- Vol. 3, No. 1      Parliamentary Survey of County Durham, 1647 (Surtees Society); Lesser-known Records in Northumberland County Record Office.
- Vol. 3, No. 2      North Country Diaries (Surtees Society); Catholics at Callaly, Cartington and Swinburne, 1687; Military Records and Family History.
- Vol. 3, No. 3      Muster Rolls of the Northumberland Volunteers; County Durham Marriage Indexes 1813-1837; The Hearth Tax.
- Vol. 3, No. 4      Catholics at Newcastle and Netherwitton, 1687; The Poor of Bishopton, 1842; Records of Ryton.
  
- Vol. 4, No. 1      Durham Catholic Parish Registers before 1900.
- Vol. 4, No. 2      Locally held copies of Census Returns.
- Vol. 4, No. 3      Black Sheep - 1851 Census of Durham Gaol; Estate Records of Durham Cathedral.
- Vol. 4, No. 4      More' about the Black Sheep - Newspaper Reports, Quarter Sessions and allied records.
  
- Vol. 5, No. 1      Know Your Parish I - Medomsley, County Durham.
- Vol. 5, No. 2      Know Your Parish II - Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland.
- Vol. 5, No. 3      Know Your Parish III - Thockrington, Northumberland.
- Vol. 5, No. 4      Know Your Parish IV - Chollerton, Northumberland; Transcripts in Durham County Record Office; Corder Manuscripts in Sunderland Library; Transcript of Holy Island Register in Newcastle Central Library.
  
- Vol. 6, No. 1      Know your Parish V - Cramlington, Northumberland.
- Vol. 6, No. 2      Know Your Parish VI - Simonburn, Northumberland; Hexhamshire Wills; Felling Colliery Disaster 1812, with list of victims; Revised Index to Northumberland Monumental Inscriptions.
- Vol. 6, No. 3      Know Your Parish VII - Gosforth, Northumberland; Records of Newcastle Freeman; Quaker Burial Grounds.
- Vol. 6, No. 4      Know Your Parish VIII - Heworth, County Durham.
  
- Vol. 7, No. 1      Know Your Parish IX - Hexham, Northumberland.
- Vol. 7, No. 2**      Know Your Parish X - Elsdon, Northumberland.
- Vol. 7, No. 3      Know Your Parish XI - Ovingham, Northumberland.
- Vol. 7, No. 4      Hartley Colliery Disaster 1862, with detailed list of 204 victims and their dependents.

# THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

Doug Smith, our Librarian, wishes to stress the importance of returning items borrowed from the Library within a reasonable period. Unfortunately, quite a number of publications are presently missing from our shelves; if any items included in the list below are in your possession, would you please return them to Doug as soon as possible?

Full details of the arrangements for borrowing books are given in the April 1983 issue of the Journal (Vol 8, No. 2, Page 30). We are at present printing a comprehensive list of the library's holdings; this will be available free of charge on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, and details will be given in the next issue of the Journal.

## ITEMS MISSING FROM THE LIBRARY

3-010	Strother, A P. <i>The Strother Family</i>	3-032	Strother, A. <i>The Strothers of Alnwick</i> . Photocopy. 1891.
3-018	Milbourne/Milburn Family Newsletter. Nos. 2 & 4	3-033	<i>The Strothers Family of Scotland</i> Photocopy.
3-031	Caine, C. (Ed.) <i>Strothers Journal</i> . Photocopy. 1912.		

## MISSING JOURNALS

(Volume numbers are shown in bold type; issue number in light type)

Birmingham & Midland	5-10; 6-4	Lincolnshire	2-3
<b>Cambridgeshire</b>	1-2; 1-3; 3-9	Manchester & Lancashire	42; 18-4; 19-2; 19-3
Cleveland	3-4	North Cheshire	2-1
Cumbria	13; 14; 25; 26	Nottinghamshire	42
East Surrey	2-3	Scottish Genealogy Society	30-1
East Yorkshire	2	South Wales	42; 43
Essex	15; 29	Suffolk	8-2; 8-3
FFHS News & Digest	<b>2-4; 3-1; 3-2; 3-4; 4-1; 4-4; 5-1</b>	Sussex	5-5
Leicester	21	West Surrey	6-3; 9-2
		Wiltshire	1: 2: 3: 4: 5

We would be most grateful to any member who is willing to donate the relevant copies of any of the above Journals, and in particular we would greatly appreciate donations of the following issues of Genealogists Magazine, the Journal of the Society of Genealogists, which would complete our set. The missing issues are 16-11; 17-4; 19-1 and 19-11.

## RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

1-079	Sunderland Apprenticeships List at Tyne and Wear Record Office.	2-144	Tuesday Club. Tynemouth, Seaton Sluice, Bedlington, Wallington Plessey Woods, Jarrow St. Paul, Mining Memories.
1-080	<b>Gibson, J S W &amp; D. Mills:</b> <i>Land Tax Assessments 1690-1950</i> .	2-145	Tuesday Club. The <i>Wansbeck</i> Valley Railway.
1-081	Gibson, J S W & C. Chapman: <i>Census Indexes and Indexing</i> .	*2-146	University of Durham Department of Palaeography and Diplomatic. <b>Handlist of Surrenders of Habnate Court and Bishopric</b> Estates at the Prior's Kitchen, <i>Durham</i> . Covers Lanchester, Stockton and <b>Wolsingham. 1956</b> .
1-082	Cleveland & Teesside Local History Society Bulletin.	*2-147	UDDPD. <b>Handlist of Rentals of Bishopric</b> Estates.
1-083	Guide to Parochial Measures on Records. 1978.	*2-148	UDDPD. List of Tithe Apportionments and Plans for County <i>Durham</i> . 1971.
1-084	Ireshopeburn Presbyterian Chapel - Baptisms 1794/95.	2-149	UDDPD. List of <b>Inclosures in Halmote Records</b> for the <b>Bishopric</b> Estates. 1957.
2-073	Ordnance Survey. First Edition Maps: Berwick; Durham; Haltwhistle; Newcastle; Wooler. (Donated by Mr R. Scott)	2-150	Durham Local History Bulletins. Issues 8-9.
2-142	Tuesday Club. (Papers by Tyneside Teachers Group). <i>Earsdon Village, Monkseaton, Backworth, Jarrow and Wearmouth Churches</i> .	2-151	Northern Catholic History Bulletins. Issues 1-2.
2-143a	Tuesday Club. Tynemouth Priory and its monks.	3-037	<i>The Ibelin Family</i> . Medieval French.
2-143b	Tuesday Club. St. Robert and Newminster Abbey.		

## HE MARRIED A BUTTON

From "*Winchester Settlement Papers, 1667-1842*"; Transcript, page 29.

*St Mary Kalendar, Examinations of the Poor Book, 28 July 1787:*

William SPILLER, labourer, born Dorchester, Dorset, age 38, father labourer. At age 12 hired to George CHIRES, who kept a Public House in the Parish of All Saints, Dorchester, at £2:12s:0d per annum and for another year at £3:0s:0d per annum. Lived with him for three years then enlisted in 13th Foot and after fifteen years was drafted to 28th Foot in the West Indies. Now a pensioner of Chelsea Hospital. Since discharge has worked for Mr Kernott as labourer. About four-and-a-half years ago married Elizabeth BUTTON at Sunderland, County Durham. Has one child, John, age 2 years 8 months".

# A RESEARCH ANALYSIS PLAN

June Watson

To help our beginners who desperately request ways in which they can get their family history started I have drawn up the following eight steps which might prevent them wandering from one source to another without achieving results. This step by step system outlines a possible 'plan of campaign'. Good luck and *have patience!*

1. Undertake a preliminary survey of what is known.
2. Define your objective.
3. Are all possible research sources of your objective known?  
If yes - proceed to 4.  
If no - define all possible sources from relevant reference books, or consult those with more experience.
4. Do you know all the surname variants?  
If yes - proceed to 5.  
If no - define the surname variants from reference books, or consult those with more experience.
5. Is the period of years to be searched known?  
If yes - proceed to 6.  
If no - define the period to be searched. If the age of the person is known at any given date, the following formula could be used:
  - a. To find a birth or baptism entry subtract the age from the given date, allow 5 years each side of the resultant date and search this period.
  - b. To find a first marriage entry calculate the date when 15 years of age and search the following 25 years.
  - c. To find a death or burial entry calculate the year of birth, add 90 years and search the period between the year when last known alive and the 90th year, although in certain cases the number of years to be searched may have to be extended.
6. Undertake searches in the defined sources.
7. Make a post-search analysis of the results.
8. Is your objective now known?  
If yes - return to 1 for your next objective.  
If no - seek expert advice.

## MOUNT ROYAL: AN AUSTRALIAN SOURCE

Gold was discovered in Victoria, Australia in 1851 and the Immigrants Aid Society was founded in 1853 as a refuge for the destitute - those for whom gold had proved elusive, those who had been deserted by goldseekers and those too old or feeble to take care of themselves.

Its first location was a collection of shanty-like wooden structures in St. Kilda Road, Melbourne. It later evolved to become Mount Royal, a leading geriatric hospital.

The social historian Jean Uhl has thoroughly researched the struggles, both financial and personal, of the early Committees and inmates of the Home, the Night Refuge, the TB Ward and the School for Children. Histories of some of the inmates are given in her book, together with a brief history of nursing, both in the Home - where the early nurses were the inmates - and in the State. The treatment and frequency of disease is shown and details of the life and labour of the inmates are discussed.

The Appendix contains a listing of staff over the years, while the Chapter Notes are useful for gaining further insights and possible research sources. There is also a bibliography and an excellent index.

The author has compiled an index of deaths in the Home from 1869-1890, and details relating to those people born overseas have been extracted and sent to the relevant Family History Society by the Australian Institute of General Studies which typed the index. The relevant entries for Northumberland and Durham are listed below:-

JAMES HARLEY	- died Sept. 1877 aged 76; Origin: Newcastle
ALEXANDER NEWHAM	- died Aug. 1881 aged 62; Origin: South Shields
THOMAS ROBINSON	- died May 1880 aged 77; Origin: Stockton on Tees
ARMSTRONG WILSON	- died Feb. 1889 aged 75; Origin: Newcastle

Anyone wishing to purchase a copy of the book can do so from The Secretary, Mount Royal Hospital, PARKVILLE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, at a cost of A\$13.95 plus postage and packing charge of A\$3.25, surface mail.

# THE GELLEYS

*William Gelley*

Although my family name is "ancient Icelandic-Norse" and the family apparently came over from Norway to Aberdeen many centuries ago, some of them went to Poland as merchants and years later emerged as iron-workers from the Low Countries. They settled on Tyneside in the village of Newburn, the leading town on Tyneside and a Royal Borough at the time of the Norman Conquest.

My grandfather wrote in his 'Journal', which he kept over a number of years, "there is an old family tradition that we came over from Germany as iron-workers" although we were not of German blood. I have been able to trace ancestors back to the early sixteen-hundreds when they lived and worked at Derwent Cote alongside the Oleys, and other families of the famous German Hollow **Blade Sword Makers of Shotley Bridge**.

For some years I could not locate Derwent Cote, it having almost disappeared over the years. Writing to the Newcastle Evening Chronicle failed to enlighten me, but eventually Miss Thompson, the local historian at Newcastle Central Reference Library was able to produce a section of Ordinance Map NZ 15 showing Derwent Cote House, Derwent Cote Quarry, Derwent Cote Lodge, Derwent Cote Woods, and also Derwent Cote Forge and Forge Lane. These were on the estate of the late Lord Gort of Hamsterley Hall, close by the River Derwent, and near to Shotley Bridge. All that remains today are the crumbled remains of a short row of red brick terrace houses, now overgrown with tall grass and weeds. That is where several of the forgemasters and their families lived nearly 300 years ago, including some of the Gelleys.

A little distance away stands the remains of the Blast Furnace, a red brick beehive shaped tower about 30 feet in height, still standing on its original site. This is where the Oley and the Gelley families made the steel for the exclusive German swords. The Blast Furnace is fenced around and bears a Ministry of Works Protection Order. It attracts coach loads of students of archaeology as it is the last such construction in England. Mr Frank Atkinson of the Beamish Open Air Museum is immensely interested in the old Blast Furnace and would like to have it dismantled and rebuilt, brick by brick, at the Museum, when funds will permit. It was built about 1687 to 1689, long before the Consett Iron Works commenced about three miles to the East. The County Durham volume of the Penguin "*Buildings of England*" series describes this Blast Furnace as the earliest surviving steel furnace in England. David Richardson, in his book on the German Hollow-Blade Sword Makers states that they came here in 1687. Records show that the Gelleys were friends of the leading German family, the Oleys, and worked with them at Derwent Cote Forge. From this I assume that my ancestors were engaged in that secret craft.

Richard Gelley was married in Medomsley Parish Church in 1681 and John Gelley, who was also married in the same church to Abigail (surname not recorded), both lived in the area and worked at the Forge. Medomsley and Ebehester are both villages within easy walking distance from the Forge, and both came under the same church officiate. Sometimes, baptisms or burials of one church were entered in the register of the other church. As there were few houses at the Forge, some of the family (especially newly-weds) would live in one or other of these villages. Certainly several of these parish register entries carry our name. It is recorded that Joseph Gelley married Elizabeth Brown in Medomsley Parish Church on 8th January 1803 and that one witness was Christopher Oley. Medomsley registers are housed in Durham County Archives. When I visited Ebehester parish church with a request to see the old registers, I was informed that most of them had been destroyed by fire many years ago, but some transcripts are to be found. I was fortunate to discover no less than forty-eight different ancestors of the Gelley family. They appear to have had connections with the forge for 150 or 160 years, and grandfather records, "staying at the Forge with uncle Richard and going to school there", which school would be in Ebehester, I think. Another Richard, father of the above John, was born circa 1636 and would most likely be the one to have come over to England. An article on the subject was printed in the old "*Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*". Their remaining in this part of England for so many years, together with our very uncommon name, facilitated my research in no small degree.

However, Joseph Gelley, born 17th June 1784, left the area to live and work in Chester-le-Street, probably because of the Whitehill Steel Works which was making guns for the British timber ships of war during the Napoleonic wars. It is on record that some of the steel workers had come across from the Low Countries to Chester-le-Street. Joseph's sister, Ruth Gelley, was married in Chester-le-Street parish church, on 29th August 1802 so it would seem that Joseph lived there then.

At work in the steel industry was plentiful and well paid in those days, Joseph soon moved on

and I found him at Bedlington Iron works as the Foreman to the famous iron-master, engineer and philanthropist, Michael Longridge. It is interesting to note that Bedlington, now in Northumberland, was part of Durham in those days. Longridge was a Quaker friend of Mr Joseph Pease of Darlington who was in turn a friend and a part financier to George Stephenson, the king of the railways. Consequently, Joseph gained great experience at the Bedlington Iron Works, where a waggon-way was an important factor in the evolution of railways. Its total cost in 1819 was only 75p per yard. While Joseph was there, Bedlington Iron Works received a massive contract from George Stephenson as chief engineer of the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company, and this was the company's first step in what was to be the international world of railways. They built the first locomotive for the Stanhope and Tyne Railway. The local press said: "This is one of the most powerful engines of this description manufactured, having six wheels all coupled and will actually draw a load of 300 tons. It is allowed by several eminent engineers and other competent judges that these engines are upon the best construction and that the workmanship reflects the greatest credit upon the manufacturers."

Prominently displayed on the front page of the "*Newcastle Courant*" of 27th September 1828 appeared two advertisements. The first stated that Thos. Waters of Tynemouth had sold his Iron Manufactory and Machines at Heworth Shore, Gateshead to Mr Joseph Gelley. The second advised that Joseph Gelley has purchased the whole of the above business "and begs to inform his friends and the public that he intends to carry on the same in all its branches, and from long experience as foreman to the Bedlington Iron Works...." etc. He adds, "J. G. further begs to state that nothing shall be wanting on his part to give general satisfaction".

The business became known as Joseph Gelley and Company. The archives officer at Gateshead Central Reference Library was very helpful in finding for me an old advertisement by the company dated 1848 and valuer's plans of the business property and dwelling houses and gardens which went with the transaction. Several of my ancestors found work in the business and my grandfather, who left in his 18th year, told us that he was earning twenty pounds per week in those days, 1861.

Unfortunately for Joseph and his family, it turned out to be a very bad move from a health point of view, and ended in almost the whole family being wiped out prematurely. But that is another story.

## MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

Items for this and the "Second Time Around" column should be sent to Mrs Y. Armstrong, 2 Grasmere Gardens, SOUTH SHIELDS, Tyne and Wear NE34 0DZ. It is essential that you include your membership number when writing. Any inaccuracies in the addresses shown in these columns should be notified at once to the Treasurer at the address shown on the Contents page. Members are also urged to print relevant names carefully to ensure accuracy. Welcome to all our new members.

- 1180 Mrs E. ELDRIDGE, 3338 East Mescal Street, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85028, UNITED STATES.  
Seeking information on wife of William Graham Baillie Alder, born at Bristol either 5 Nov. 1828 or July 1829. Her name may have been Mary Reid. Also seeking information of Mary Ann Hanson Alder, daughter of John Hanson of Bloomsbury Place, London and wife of, firstly, John Charles Wallop, 3rd Earl of Portsmouth, and secondly, wife of William Rowland Alder, whom she married on 10 Oct. 1828. Would like to correspond with any descendants from the Alder of Horncliffe or Hobberlaw. Will share any information.
- 1362 Mrs W.R. ROSE, 126 Longford Road West, Reddish, STOCKPORT, Cheshire SK5 6HY.  
Seeking information/ancestors of Ann and Jacob Douglas(s), Steward of Needlers Hall Farm, Meldon, 1875. Areas - Netherwitton, Thornton Moor (Hartburn). Also Jackson of Jedburgh.
- 1413 Mr M.O. COOMBS, 18 Tudor Court, Castle Way, Hanworth, FELTHAM, Middlesex TW 13 7QQ.  
(☎ 01-890-3222) Researching: Coombs, Oliver, Henderson, Colling, Wilson, Hardy, Blakey, Stephenson, Calvert, Dean, Moore, Welch.
- 1414 Mrs J.E. HONEYBALL, 102 Chestnut Drive, Marton-in-Cleveland, MIDDLESBROUGH, Cleveland TS7 8BY.  
Interests: 18th Century in Stanley/Lanchester area - Watchman, Kendall, Curry/Currie, Heppell, Breaks, Bell; 18th C. in Gateshead area - Waters, Bussell, Leighlor; 18th C. in Chester-le-Street area - Drummond, Patterson, Culbertson/Cuthbertson, Brown.
- 1478 Mrs M.M. WISDOM, 31 Grange Lane, Bromham, BEDFORD MK43 8NR.  
Seeking information on David Sinclair, mariner of South Shields and Mary Spence of South Shields. They were married 27/11/1879 at Holy Trinity, South Shields. Also of Thomas Sinclair, Farmer, father of David, and John Spence, Mariner, father of Mary.
- 1521 Mr D. OYSTON, 13 Monks Road, Earls Colne, COLCHESTER, Essex C06 2RY.  
(☎ Earls Colne 3541) Researching the Oyston family in Evenwood district prior to and including John Watson Oyston, born circa 1820, married Mary Ewbank in 1848 at Evenwood.

- 1522 Mrs N.A. MOLDRICH, 67-69 Williams Road, RINGWOOD NORTH, VICTORIA 3134, AUSTRALIA.  
Researching: Catterson - Cuthbert, b. 19.1.1839, christened 10.2.1839 at Church of St. Peter, Bishopton, Co. Durham, son of Elizabeth Catterson (unmarried), servant, of Bishopton. On 11.6.1859, Cuthbert married at Witton-le-Wear, Co. Durham Mary Jane Bell b. 30.12.1841, Isle of Man, daughter of Matthew and Mary (nee Dowson) Bell of Crook, Co. Durham. Marriage extract gives both residences at Beechburn. However, family journal states that he was a pitman at Love's Bitchburn Colliery. They emigrated to Daylesford, Victoria, Australia and had 13 children. Have details of these and most descendants. There was a William Catterson, tailor, living in Bishopton in 1879. No known connection. Would appreciate any information on Catterson family, dates meaning or origin of name; also anything of early Bishopton. Did the National School exist there c. 1845? Is it possible to check rolls to see who paid fees? Anything known of Love's Bitchburn Colliery? One of Cuthbert Catterson's granddaughter's married into Ridgway family of Thornborough, Bucks, if anyone interested.
- 1531 Mr B. GIBBON, 117 Meadway, Bramhall, STOCKPORT, Cheshire SK71NL.  
(☎ 061-439-2722) Is researching Gibbon. Joseph Gibbon Married Francis Ann Clish on 15.7.1861 at St. Paul's, Hunwick. Francis Ann Clish was baptised 13.1.1839 in Biggon, near Esh. 1871 Census Return for Hunwick and Newton Cap shows Joseph Gibbon was 46 years old and born in Lampton. Joseph's marriage record shows his father as William, occupation Miner. Any assistance welcomed.
- 1533 Mrs A.F. ROSSITER, 11 The Pastures, STOCKSFIELD, Northumberland NE43 7NG.  
(☎ Stocksfield 843076)
- 1534 Mrs. H. HARRIS, 20 Abelia Street, NUNAWADING, VICTORIA 3131, AUSTRALIA.
- 1535 Mr. G. JORDAN, 3639 Hermes Circle, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84117, UNITED STATES.
- 1536 Dr. I.H. SHAW, 121 Hamilton Place, ABERDEEN AB2 4BD.
- 1537 Miss W.G. ORMOND, Dyke Farm Cottage, Symington, KILMARNOCK, Ayrshire KA15PN.  
(☎ Symington 830178)
- 1538 Mrs G.M.A. WALKER, Burnt Walls, Greenhead, CARLISLE, Cumbria CA6 7HX.  
(☎ Gilsland 272)
- 1539 Mrs B. WALDOCK, 343 Beechgrove Drive, WEST HILL, ONTARIO M1E 4A2, CANADA.
- 1540 Mr G.R. GILLON, 8 Galsworthy Road, TILBURY, Essex RM18 8JS.  
(☎ Tilbury 70595) Main interest is Gillon and has a considerable amount of data he can share with other Gillon researchers. New information is always sought.
- 1541 Mrs R.E. TUDDIN, 14 Yarra Avenue, RESERVOIR, VICTORIA 3073, AUSTRALIA.  
Mrs Tuddin is a descendant of Thomas Eltringham, b.1827 at Wallsend, N/land. (Parents: John and Isabella Eltringham, nee Potts) and Margaret Gray b. 1834 at Doddington, N/land. (Parents: Ralph and Elizabeth Gray, nee Whiteman). Thomas and Margaret were married in Morpeth, N/land in 1852 and emigrated to Victoria, Australia later that year. Other interests; Laverick, Watson, Potts and W hiteman.
- 1542 Mrs J.M. SMITH, 27 Canberra Crescent, West Bridgford, NOTTINGHAM NG2 7FL.  
(☎ Nottingham 233208) Researching: Hume and Coxon, (Nedderton. N/land).
- 1543 Mr H.M. THOMPSON, 12 Charter Drive, East Herrington, SUNDERLAND, Tyne and Wear SR3 3PG.  
(☎ Sunderland 287648)
- 1544 Mr D.W. MARTIN, 14 Sevenoaks Avenue, CROYDON, VICTORIA 3136, AUSTRALIA  
Interests in Northumberland are: Brown, Davison, Elliott, Harbit(t), Harrison, Robson, Telford, Turnbull, Wallace, Young, Green, Lowes, Beard, Spoor, Dodds. In Durham: Elliott, Harbit(t), Proud, Wallace, Kemp. Also Harbit(t) and Telford of Yorkshire. In N/land and Durham: Hall, Windham, Fairhurst, Jackson, Madden. Seeking marriages with Wallace connection late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- 1545 Miss E.A. STALCUP, 4933 Rector, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76133, UNITED STATES.
- 1546 Mrs K.A. WOOD, Black Bull House, Dassels, Braughing, WARE, Hertfordshire SG112RP.  
(☎ Great Hormead 308)
- 1547 Mrs. G. BURNS, 30 King Street, Waratah, NEWCASTLE, NEW SOUTH WALES 2298, AUSTRALIA.  
Interests: **Donnison - Thomas & Elizabeth (Jackson). Son Ralph Gray b. 30.11.1875, 3 Ropery Row, Monkwearmouth, Dur.** Two older children, Thomas (9), Ann (7) when family migrated to Australia, Thomas before rest of family who sailed from Plymouth on 'Northampton' 1880 as assisted Immigrants. Jackson - Elizabeth's parents were Thomas and Isabella, also from Durham. Summers - John married Mary Graham, Durham, and migrated to Australia c.1876. Graham - Mary as shown. Pilling - Thomas, b. c.1836 Lancashire. Father Thomas, mother Nancy. Married in Victoria, Australia in 1862 to Margaret Craig, who was born 1843, Newtown, Midlothian, Scotland. Father James, mother Agnes Brown. Married Soctland.
- 1548 Miss G. RICKARD, Orchard View, Marshborough, SANDWICH, Kent CT 13 OPH.
- 1549 Mr B.G. BROWN, 65 Radnor Street, CRAMBERWELL, VICTORIA 3124, AUSTRALIA.
- 1550 Maj. W.A. SHEPHERD TD, 9 Chesterfield Way, Barwell, LEICESTER LE9 8BH.  
(☎ Earl Shilton 42688) Would like to correspond with anyone who has information/interests in the following: Wingrove and Shrimpton - any records in North of England. Shepherds of Newcastle - family moved from Buckinghamshire to Tyneside c. 1790's, papermakers and brushmakers; details of deaths of John and Elizabeth Shepherd after 1793. Bell of W inlaton - Elizabeth b.1821/2; d. of Mary Bell. Jami(e)son of Newcastle - Thomas Scott b. 1831 (painter), lived in Buckingham St. 1856/62 near Shepherd family; families united with a marriage 1926. Charltons of Newcastle - Ann b. 1832. Hall of Tynemouth - Adam (collier), daughter Margaret b. 1857; Adam was son of George Thomas Dunn of Newcastle -Eleanor b. 1850. Chapman of Gateshead - Isabella b. 1794. Chapelow of Co. Durham - Samuel b. 1775/80, farmer of Westshaw Farm, Barnard Castle; Wife Ann Brown; married possibly at Easington c. 1800. Briggs of

Newcastle and Cumberland - Richard, Husbandman of Dean (Workington) married Mary White 1815 Workington. Millen of N. Yorks and Co. Durham - Joseph, farmer of Lunedale, N, Yks. and Westwick Farm, Barnard Castle b. 1981.

- 1551** Ms. V.E.P. SMITH, 50 Marlborough Drive, Clayhall, ILFORD, Essex IG5 OJW.  
Researching family of Stephen Hall, b. at Lanchester, Durham c. 1792. He was a parochial officer at W hickham, and farmer of 220 acres at Marley Hill. Seeking details of parents and date of death. He married Jane (surname?) 1815. They had 3 sons, Thomas 1817, George 1826 and John 1816. Were there any more? Thomas was a Registrar, Merchant and Relieving Officer and married Jane Chambers 1854. Was there a 2nd marriage? Two children were Ms. Smith's gt. grandfather Stephen b. 1857, and Thomas John b. 1859. Stephen, a ship's engineer married Elizabeth Walton from Dalton le Dale in 1881. They had 7 children and moved to Surrey c. 1890. Any information re. above or the districts from which they originated would be welcome.
- 1552** Miss L. JORDAN, 43 Sanders Street, Upper Mount Gravatt, BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND 4122, AUSTRALIA.  
Is seeking the date of birth, and marriage of John Jordan who was living in Tynemouth parish in 1884. He married Jane Leadbitter c. 1883. He married a second time, name and date unknown. Any details appreciated.
- 1553** Mr R. PURVIS, 12 Edward Street, Hetton-le-Hole, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, Tyne and Wear DH5 9EL.
- 1554** Mr D. PURVIS, 12 Edward Street, Hetton-le-Hole, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, Tyne and Wear DH5 9EL.
- 1555** Mr F.S. FRY, 47 Horwood Avenue, Westerhope, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE5 5NN.
- 1556** Mrs A. FRY, 47 Horwood Avenue, W esterhope, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE5 5NN.
- 1557** Mrs A.B. CURTIS, "Cranham", Vyse Road, Boughton, NORTHAMPTON NN2 8SE.
- 1558** Mrs C. HANLEY, Wooley House, Wooley, HEXHAM, Northumberland NE461TY.  
(☎ Slaley 328) Main line of research into Peacock family; lived in West Hartlepool since 1860's, originating from Northallerton and Thirsk areas of N. Yorkshire. Jonathan Peacock (bur. 1837 aged 83) and his wife Isabella (bur. 1850 aged 84) both in Bumeston, nr. Leeming. Their son Luke (b. Danby W iske 1807/8) mar. (1) Alice (surname?), offspring 1 daughter and 4 sons all b. in Londonderry Village, [bap.in](#) Burneston Church between 1833-39. Alice died before 1841 Census. Seeking birth, marriage and Burial. Luke mar. (2) Jane Dixon (b. Cowton) in Burneston Church, October 1842. Their 5 sons were born in Sowerby Park and South Kilvington areas of Thirsk between 1843-50. Most of the family then moved to West Hartlepool with 8 of the 10 children on 1871 Census, mostly married with families. Two not traced were Harriet bap. December 1834 and John, bap. August 1837 (both in Burneston). Other interests include Hanley, Irish Catholic immigrants to Durham City after potato famine; Hedley, pos. from Longhorsley area, N/land moving to Hetton-le-hole, Shincliffe and Brandon areas of Durham; and Walker, Methodists from Pallion area of Sunderland who moved to Middlesbrough in 1893
- 1559** Mrs E.L. MEIER, 2314 Elm Street, DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803, UNITED STATES.
- 1560** Mrs I.J.B. BOWDEN, 131 Wiltshire Close, Chelsea, LONDON SW3 2NX.  
(☎ 01-584-2878)
- 1561** Mrs B. SHERRY, 115 Ranchview Drive, Site T2, RR 1, NANAIMO, BRITISH COLUMBIA V9R 5K1, CANADA.
- 1562** Mrs J.M. McKENZIE, 33 High Street, BEACONSFIELD, TASMANIA 7251, AUSTRALIA.
- 1563** Mrs D.R. MORRIS, Penyboncyn, Pont Robert, MEIFOD, Powys SY22 6JN.  
(☎ Meifod 219)

## CORRECTIONS

- 1478** Mrs M.M. WISDOM, 31 Grange Lane, Bromham, BEDFORD MK43 8NR.  
We apologize to Mrs Wisdom for misprinting her surname as 'Wilson' in the entry at page 72 of the July 1983 Journal.
- 1500** Mr K. GAIR, 72 Coombe Avenue, BOURNEMOUTH, Dorset BH10 5AE.  
We are sorry that the house number was omitted from Mr Gair's address as shown on page 73 of the July 1983 Journal.

## SECOND TIME AROUND

- 0587** Mr W.B. TOYN, 2 The Grove, Broom Lane, W hickham, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE16 4QY.  
Seeking information on the marriage of William Reddon to Elizabeth c. 1810 - 1820 probably in Northumberland and/or any of their children; William 20.11.1815, Thomas 3.4.1819, Peter 12.3.1821, John and Eleanor 6.5.1823, George and Henry 6.3.1826.
- 0690** Mr D.H. KING, 1 Snelsmore Farm Cottages, Snelsmore, NEWBURY, Berkshire RG16 9BU.  
Is interested in any information concerning James King (b.c. 1882, possibly Newcastle area); his brothers and sister, Ellen, Michael and Thomas; and his parents Michael and Mary who may have come from Ireland.  
Also interested in any information/references to Porritt/Porrett (any spelling variation), in particular the origin of the following brothers and sisters - George, Mary, Nicholas, Robert, John and Joseph Porritt, who were probably born between 1700 and 1730 in South Durham or North Yorkshire, and the marriage of Joseph Porret and Mary Prissick c. 1750 in the same area. Looking for the marriage of Henry Porritt and Catherine Hamilton (n. of Northallerton).

- 0866 Mr P. WADE, 26 Mitchell Street, LALOR PARK, NEW SOUTH WALES 2147, AUSTRALIA.  
Seeking any descendants of John Bowey and Jane Wade who married at Croxdale in Co. Durham on 1.3.1825. Also descendants of Thomas Pyburn and Sarah Wade who married at Croxdale on 30.5.1832. Also would like to contact anyone interested in Glendenning of Chester-le-Street 1767-1837.
- 1239 Mrs D. TAIT, 26 Beechwood Avenue, Low Fell, GATESHEAD, Tyne and Wear NE9 6PP.  
Would like details of Carr family, esp. Thomas Carr, W aterman of Newcastle b. 1732. Also Margaret Reed b.c. 1859, father John of Newcastle.
- 1302 Mr A.J. SWINTON, 47 Ellershe Road, LOGANLEA, QUEENSLAND 4204, AUSTRALIA.  
Seeking the kin of Margaret Chisholm, who married James Swinton at Alnwick in 1787. Mr Swinton thinks that Margaret may have been born in Alnwick or Berwick-on-Tweed, but more probably in Berwickshire.

## OFFERS OF HELP

- 1285 Mrs J. HORSFIELD, 112 W aidshouse Road, NELSON, Lancashire BB9 0RS.  
Mrs Horsfield, has copies of baptisms and marriages for the name of PRINGLE in the County of Northumberland prior to 1870. Mrs Horsfield is willing to do any searches in her collection in return for a stamped addressed envelope.
- 1521 Mr D. OYSTON, 13 Monks Road, Earls Colne, COLCHESTER, Essex C06 2RY.  
(☎ Earls Colne 3541) Offers research in the Essex Records Office in Chelmsford in exchange for research in the Durham Records Office.
- 1545 Miss E.A. STALCUP, 4933 Rector, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76133, UNITED STATES.  
Miss Stalcup lives near to one of the regional archives which has all the census reports for the United States. Would be pleased to offer help to any member with American ancestors.

## HELP WANTED

- 1441 Mr R.M. HALL, 23 Parkland Grove, ASHFORD, Middlesex TW 15 2JB.  
Mr Hall is trying to trace a number of paintings produced by his ancestor Ralph Martin Hall, 1844-1914, who lived in Sunderland and as a hobby produced a number of paintings of scenes of the area which he then sold. Some were on canvas, but mainly he painted on to white dinner plates. Mr Hall doubts whether many of the plates have survived. He has one canvas painting in the family and would be pleased to hear from any member who possesses one of these paintings or who comes across one in a 'junk' shop in the area.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 0081 Mr J. ROBINSON, Morpeth Tower, Naworth Castle, BRAMPTON, Cumbria CA8 2HF.
- 0370 Mr K.L. BOCOCK, 112 Hampton Road, Redland, BRISTOL BS6 6JD.
- 0397 Mrs M.A. HILDREW, 21 Heber Road, LONDON NW2 6AB.
- 0483 Mr P. HENDRA, 30 Fort Crescent, MARGATE, Kent CT9 1HX.
- 0493 Mr D.J. HALL, 47 Foreland Way, Keresley, COVENTRY, West Midlands CV6 2NN.
- 0552 Mrs F.L. MOODIE, 61 Church Road, RICHMOND, Surrey TW 10 6LX.
- 0688 Mr W.A. FARQUHAR, 1 Ox Yoke Drive, SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070, UNITED STATES.
- 0728 Mrs C. McLEOD, PO Box 810, LAC LA BICHE, ALBERTA T0A 2C0, CANADA.
- 0890 Mr R.K. SCOTT, 43 Darenth Road, DARTFORD, Kent DA1 1LS.
- 0912 Mr D. BROWN, 28 Fairmile, Court, Fleet, ALDERSHOT, Hampshire GU13 9UR.
- 1095 Mr J. MILLER, 'Heworth', RD1, NGARUAWAHIA, NEW ZEALAND.
- 1159 Miss C.A. LAIDLER, 37 Linslade Walk, Beaconhill Glade, CRAMLINGTON, Northumberland NE23 8EU.
- 1165 Mrs H.M. LEIGHTON, 20 Petworth Avenue, Goring-by-Sea, WORTHING, West Sussex BN12 4QL.
- 1167 Mr G.J. GALLOWAY, 5 The Crescent, Perkinsville, CHESTER-LE-STREET; County Durham DH2 2DU.
- 1219 Mrs S.M. HARRIS, 158 Westfield Lane, Idle, BRADFORD, West Yorkshire BD10 8UB.
- 1232 Mrs M. SPRATT, 40 Portchester, Lyndhurst Road, ASCOT, Berkshire SL5 9ED.
- 1369 Mr K. ROBSON, 46 Belfast Road, Stoke Newington, LONDON N16 6UH.
- 1396 Mr P.M. WILKINSON, 63 Grosvenor Way, Chapel Park, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE5 1RU.
- 1469 Mrs B. GALLOWAY, 5 The Crescent, Perkinsville, CHESTER-LE-STREET, County Durham DH2 2DU.

We are sorry to report the death of member 1144, Mrs J. Watson of Dulwich, and we extend our sympathy to her family.