Batley St. Mary of the Angels, photo taken by Marcia Kemp

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Please note that queries regarding non-arrival of Journals should be sent by email to membership@hdfhs.org.uk or by post to the Root Cellar at Meltham.

Journal Submissions: Please send items for publication to the Editor by email or post, and include your membership number, name and postal address. Items sent by post can only be returned or acknowledged if a SAE is included. Please state if an article has been printed in, or submitted to another publication. Items should be clearly handwritten, or typed in Microsoft Word with a file name ending either .doc or .docx. Please do not send any attachments in Word formats which are pre-1997. The Editor welcomes letters and articles on any aspect of family or local history. Items with relevance to the Kirklees area are of particular interest; as are cuttings, hints and tips. Editing of articles may be necessary, depending on available space.

Deadline for inclusion in the next Journal: 1st June 2015
Contents

The Society

Editorial Janet Le Billon 3
Programme and Forthcoming Events 4
Talk Review Maureen Wheeler 11 – 12
New Publications Steve Wayne 14
January Sale Keith & Margaret Woodcock 18
New Members and Members’ Interests Alan Starkey 22
Pop Up Shop Susan Hutson 33

Members’ Correspondence

Letters to the Editor 6 – 8
Calling all Sheards Sue Carson 13
Unusual Forenames John Wheeler 18
Responses from Broadbent Members 19 – 20
Help Wanted 34 – 38

General Interest

News from the Federation 5
Churchyards of the Huddersfield District David & Vicky Furness 9
The King’s Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in Norway Mike Gammon 15 - 16
Belgian Refugee Janet Green 17
Curious Case of Mr Hellawell Janet Le Billon 21
My Grandfather’s Clock Elizabeth Green 24 – 25
Divorce in Huddersfield in the mid 19th Century Janet Le Billon 26 – 28
Research Corner 29 – 30
Benjamin Woodcock Margaret Woodcock 31
Thomas Bell Croft Pat Williams 32 – 33
2nd Lt Albert Scholes Susan Hutson 38
Dropping into Lindley’s History Janet Le Billon 39
Editorial

As technology moves forward it seems an age since the sound of the wireless crackled and then faded, or the ‘horizontal hold’ was the answer to a disappearing picture on a television. When the computer goes down it affects so many people, even those who don’t possess one, but when it is yours it is like a black cloud descending.

Fortunately for the Society the Secretary, Susan Hutson, was at hand recently to compile the Journal via lots of emails from all the collated stories I have received this quarter. I would like to say that ‘Normal Service will be resumed as soon as possible’ although my computer was telling me it was more about ‘normal.dotm’, whatever that is.

Following this situation, emails to the Editor, with or without attachments, will now remain with the Society at the Root Cellar and not on my computer at home, so the replies may be a little slower as I will not be receiving them daily.

The upside of the computer, however, is the website created by Roger Gill, which has increased awareness of the Society’s activities resulting in a wider audience at the recent speaker’s meeting which was also open to non-members who contributed to the Society’s funds through a small cover charge.

Information also appeared on the website about our second ‘January Sale’ which gave all members the opportunity to stock up with CDs or booklets at a reduced price; although causing extra work for Keith and Margaret Woodcock in organising the postage and packing. Following the end of the sale, the Librarian, Maureen Wheeler has been beavering away doing a much needed audit of the stock left. These are jobs, which go unnoticed to the casual visitor but are needed in order to keep the Society ticking over.

Thanks to all concerned but not forgetting you, the members, who have taken the time to answer the queries or submit articles. This Journal would not be the same without some input from you.

Finally, the U3A Family History courses are now completed for this year and again thanks to all the volunteers who took part and which during some weeks allowed for one-to-one guidance following the lesson. The feedback from each group has been encouraging and some have joined the Society knowing that further help is always here at the Root Cellar.

Janet Le Billon

Family History in your Local Library

Many libraries in Kirklees offer family history sessions, often supported by members of our Society. Please visit the Kirkles website:
for more information about family history related events at your local libraries throughout the Kirklees area.


**Programme of Speakers 2015**

**Tuesday 8 May 2015** at Huddersfield Town Hall – 7.30 pm
‘England’s Green and Pleasant Land’ - Social History and Customs, Paul and Sheila Kenny. All welcome. Cover charge £1.00 for non members.

**Tuesday 8 September 2015** at Huddersfield Town Hall – ‘Coaching Memories, Coaching Roads and Inns’, Eric Houlder. All welcome. Cover charge £1.00 for non members.

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**Forthcoming Events**

**25 April 2015**  Family History & Local History Fair and Lectures – Pudsey Civic Hall, Dawson’s Corner, Leeds, LS28 5TA (H&D FHS attending)

**24 and 25 April 2015** Lindley History Exhibition Weekend (see page 39)

**27 April 2015**  Huddersfield Local History Society
Professor Brendan Evans talk on JPW Mallalieu, M.P.
Archive Centre, University of Huddersfield, 7.30 pm, cover charge for non members £2

**18 May 2015**  Huddersfield Local History Society
Robert A McMillan, talk on Teazles and Teazlemen, Archive Centre, University of Huddersfield, 7.30 pm, cover charge for non members £2.00

**20 May 2015**  Huddersfield Library, Princess Alexandra Walk, HD1 2SU
‘Richard Oastler and Yorkshire Slavery’ by John Hargreaves of Huddersfield University. Huddersfield Library in the Light Reading Room 1.00 pm

**27 June 2015**  The 20th Yorkshire Family History Fair at the Knavesmire Exhibition Centre, The Racecourse, York, YO23 1EX 10.00 am – 4.30 pm. (H&D FHS attending)

**15 July 2015**  Huddersfield Library, Princess Alexandra Walk, ‘Mining Disasters: Rescue and Recovery’. Anne Bradley of the National Coal Mining Museum discusses five disasters and their consequences at the Huddersfield Library in the Light Reading Room at 1.00 pm


*For more details of family history fairs and events see: www.geneva.weald.org.uk*
Trade Union Records  If your ancestor worked in the retail trade they may well have belonged to the ‘The National Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks’, which was formed in 1898 by the amalgamation of the National Union of Shop Assistants and the United Shop Assistants’ Union. In 1920 it absorbed the National Association of Grocers. In 1947 The Union was merged with the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers to form the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers (USDAW), which today is one of Britain’s largest trade unions.

The Archive of the National Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers and its predecessors remains at the union’s headquarters in Manchester. In the main, the archives hold information of national significance rather than the day to day local union activities of members and reps. It is not possible for members of the public to visit and early records have not been digitised, however, letters of enquiry may be sent to: The Administrative Services Office, USDAW, 188 Wilmslow Road, Fallowfield, Manchester M14 6LJ. Telephone enquiries: 0161 249 2400. When making an enquiry it is essential to give as much information about an individual as possible and there is no guarantee that a record will be found.

The Society of Genealogists is delighted to announce that the Government has accepted an amendment to the Deregulation Bill currently going before the House of Lords that allows for the publication of information from Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates in England and Wales to be issued otherwise than in the form of a certified copy. This is something the SoG has long campaigned for and is grateful to Baroness Scott of Needham Market, herself an enthusiastic genealogist, who suggested to Government that this deregulation is possible.

More information can be found on their website
www.sog.org.uk
(with thanks to Malcolm Austen, Oxfordshire FHS)
Beryl Evans
FFHS Archives Liaison Officer
mailto:archives.liaison@ffhs.org.uk

Thursday Evening Opening Times
The Root Cellar is open from 7.00 pm until 9.30 pm on the following dates.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2 April 2015</th>
<th>14 May 2015</th>
<th>11 June 2015</th>
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<td>30 April 2015</td>
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At the Fair back in November, visitors were invited to leave details of their brick wall to see if anyone could resolve the problem. We managed to solve half the queries and David Smith was one of those lucky enough to get an answer. Here he writes an email of appreciation about the Fair together with a good moral to family history…never presume…

Good morning Janet

Thank you so much for the information. I did intend contacting you before your email to say what a fruitful Fair it was for me. I have been, for a long time, trying to find my paternal great great grandmother's birth details but without success. I know she was born in Netherton and I always assumed it was the one near Holmfirth. This year I thought I would have one last go at trying to find her.

I had a look, with the help of the volunteer selling the booklets, at various booklets in the Huddersfield area without success. I went into the room where the laptops were and the lady on the laptop had a search for me, again without success. The lady advised I go back and look at the Huddersfield books.

Whilst I was talking to the volunteer the lady I had just finished talking to came up to us and, almost simultaneously, they said that I ought to try on the Wakefield FHS stand. We went over to the stand and the man from the Huddersfield books explained what I was looking for. Between them they agreed on the parish and looked in the book for the name and, lo and behold, there she was (in Netherton in Wakefield).

I purchased the book on baptisms and then went to tell the other lady of my success. Whilst talking to her the Wakefield volunteer came up to us and advised me that he had also found the marriage of the parents of my great great grandmother. Again I purchased the book.

All in all we had a lovely weekend and I found out a lot more and your email was the icing on the cake!

I would like to thank all the volunteers who man/woman the stalls, especially those who went out of their way that day, they are always so helpful. Nothing seems to be too much trouble.

And thank you again for your help.

David Smith (S302)

Dear Editor

The photograph and notes on Oakwell Hall in the January issue of the Journal aroused many memories of the delightful manor house, a house that has remained unaltered since it was built in 1583. I visited it often and was fascinated by the many stories told to me about the House by my late uncle, Horace R White of Birstall. I recall one, of the ghost of a lady in a costume of bygone days, who walked from the gate into the entrance porch and disappeared. Perhaps she was a member of the Batt family or connected with the Misses
Cockill who ran a school there in the mid 19th Century. Certainly Charlotte Bronte knew the House, visiting when she stayed with her friend, Ellen Nussey.

Charlotte used the house as ‘Fieldhead’ in her novel ‘Shirley’, wherein many descriptions tally with the house and its gardens.

I do not know what furniture can be seen in the house today - but there was a massive Victorian sideboard in the Entrance Hall, which came from the home of the late Mrs Ackroyd of Southport, her husband was at one time Mayor of Batley. In the Drawing Room were pieces from the estate of the late Miss Mary Smith of Purwell, Batley a much-loved teacher at the school there. Also there were some fine pieces of furniture - painted tables and chairs – the work of the late Daniel Calvert who taught painting and was a picture framer in Commercial Street, Batley. His daughter was an artist also – one commission was to paint Harewood House for Princess Mary, the Princess Royal.

The Hall was saved from demolition and transportation to the USA by Sir Norman Rae and Mr John Sharman. They bought it and then presented it to the Birstall Urban District Council for the benefit of the public.

Yes, it is well worth a visit. There can be seen the panelled rooms, the dog grates, mullioned windows and the old ‘DIRY’.

Yours sincerely

Brian Arundel (A037)

Siegen
Germany

Thanks Brian for the extra interesting information - Ed.

Hi Janet

Response to ‘Help Wanted - Walker family’

I’ve just read the January 2015 Journal from cover to cover this morning, thanks for producing, as always, an interesting read and mix of family history stories, much appreciated.

I read the plea on page 37 regarding Walker research, I’ve been tracing this family for 20 years and have a great deal of information, including a copy of the will of Samuel Walker.

Might you have Tessa Baker's email address or telephone number?

Keep up the great work.

Best regards

Steve Whitwam (W001)

Golcar
Huddersfield

http://www.whitwam.co.uk

Hello Janet

I enjoy reading every issue of The Huddersfield and District Family History Society Journal. It gives me insights into a region I do not know at all although some of my ancestors came from West Yorkshire.
Thank you for including my request for help in the January 2015 issue.
As a result I very quickly received a response from Steve. Thank you, Steve, for sharing so much of your knowledge about my Walker family and also the Ashworths. I would never have been able to gain such detailed information from a distance without your help.

Being a member of your Society has helped me so much that I would encourage those researching family history from a distance to join a local society. It has been a great benefit to me.

Tessa Baker (B551)

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Hello

I am writing in response to the item on Page 36 of the January 2015 issue of the Journal. Member John Stewart writes about a car owned by Mr Hubert Webb, headmaster of Netherthong School until 1962. I was a pupil there 1955-61 and remember Mr Webb and his car very well.

I'm pleased to have read the article because I had never known what Mr H Webb's Christian name was and had been wanting to do a bit of research into him. All I recall is that he came from the South of England, possibly Kent where, as he often told us, "they had real winters with far more snow than in Yorkshire"!!

I don't even know if he stayed in our area upon retirement or moved away. If Mr Stewart could tell me where and when the car was sold, it might be a bit of a clue. Also, if he was just Hubert Webb or if he had a middle name or initial.

Any info would be gratefully received. Thanks in advance.

S. West (W275)

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Dear Janet

When Peter Higginbotham referred to the workhouse at Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, in his talk to the Society recently, my mind went back to visiting my grandmother in the early sixties in that same building that had become St Luke's Hospital. She had several long term spells in the hospital, and we would visit each Saturday afternoon, walking up Blackmoorfoot Road, along the drive to the building at the far end of the complex, up to the first floor, along the corridor past several wards, waiting for the doors to be opened punctually for the short visiting period.

Prior to admittance, a sort of hush would descend over the adults in the family, but as a young child I did not understand its significance. It wasn't until much later that I realised that my grandmother associated St Luke's with the workhouse and was frightened and ashamed of going there. I do not know if any of her friends or family were ever in the workhouse, but when she was near the end, she refused to leave her home to go into hospital, and died in her own bed with her family around her.

Memories of the workhouse were embedded in the minds of people of my grandmother's generation. Peter's talk filled in a lot of gaps in my knowledge and helped me understand their fear of being in dire straits and how something must always be 'put by' for a rainy day.

Maureen Wheeler (W137)

(See Talk Review on pages 10 & 11 – Ed.)
Following on from the letter about visits to a local graveyard in the last journal – Ed....

Churchyards of the Huddersfield District

Our first glimpse of Paddock Church was disheartening. The clock on the tower told us it was a quarter to two, though it wasn’t. Trees and tall laurels shrouded the building from view. Reaching the gateway we could see the South door, the partial roof and the unkempt churchyard. The gate itself was well locked, with pictures of fierce dogs and notices threatening the consequences if we attempted to enter. What a welcome! My three times great grandmother, Mary Reeder, was buried here in 1854. She probably did not have a gravestone, but she’s part of me.

As David, my husband and I tried to come to terms with the situation, a sports car screamed into the entrance and screeched to a halt. The driver leapt out and looked at us menacingly. We asked whether he was connected to the church. He said he was the owner and planned to make it into a small hotel. We asked where the gravestones are, and were told, “They’ll be fireplaces now, but the bodies are still down there”.

We have asked at West Yorkshire Archives whether there are lists of Monumental inscriptions and a graveyard plan, but they have no record. For some reason Paddock Churchyard ceased to be used before it was full, and other members of our family were buried at Lindley.

Another churchyard, which we visit, is the Wesleyan Methodist at Birstall. The church is now offices and the gravestones are displayed around the walls on the roadside. Also there is a tiny building, the study of John Nelson, the preacher. It was restored in 1985, but seems neglected again. We are particularly interested as there is a tenuous link with John Nelson’s wife through the Oddys of Tong Village, from whom David is descended.

In general, around the country, churchyards are being better kept, because war graves are being highlighted, and the results of the wildlife friendly fashion have been realised. But we do wonder what will happen where churches are closed, such as Milnsbridge in Huddersfield. Then there are several churches where the large gravestones have been used as paving. Will they wear away? What happened to the smaller stones? Was a plan made and the inscriptions recorded? It would seem that with the large Internet companies publishing official recorded data, memorial inscriptions could be a niche market project for family and local history societies. Some stones reveal unique family or local history. In areas of soft stone the writing becomes illegible as the weather attacks the stone. When head stones fall over, they will not be lifted and if face down the information is lost.

So, in reply to Dawn Stancliffe, January 2015 Journal - the information on graveyards is variable!

David and Vicky Furness (F117)
Kelland Genealogy, by David Ross Kelland

In late October 2014, Dr and Mrs Kelland called into the Root Cellar and donated the above book, the culmination of a great deal of research. The Kellands live in Massachusetts, USA.

Dr Kelland has family connections with Parkgate, Berry Brow, Huddersfield, and this branch of the family left Yorkshire for the USA in the 1850s. On one side of his family he has ancestors going back to the Mayflower settlers and beyond, to year A.D. 80. The Huddersfield family are a small part of the book, much of it being taken up with the US ancestors. Dr Kelland is also a proud member of the Clan Ross.

The Kelland Genealogy is a well-researched, scholarly, yet readable book, well illustrated with family trees and photographs. It should be of interest to those who may have a connection to the Family and also to a wider audience, those interested in family history writing, or who, like many of us, enjoy reading family histories.

Margaret Woodcock, Publicity Officer

Huddersfield in the Great War by Vivien Teasdale

Vivien Teasdale is a retired teacher who lives in Huddersfield and has a great interest in local and family history.

This study looks at how the Great War affected Huddersfield and its inhabitants. It shows how the town contributed to financing the war, how employment changed, particularly textiles and the chemical industry, the changing role of women, the development of recreation including the growth of local cinemas and the Original Opera Company, and how the local tribunals dealt with those who did not want to fight.

The book illustrates some of the stories of life in Huddersfield through a selection of sources and contemporary photographs. For example the chapter on Employment includes a poster advertisement, by Carmichaels of Lord St, Huddersfield for equipping a lodger’s room with folding bedstead, pallet and bolster at a cost of 19s 11d. A second illustration shows a Private Gordon Donaldson, of Spring St, Greenhead, in hospital in a wicker bed.

Each chapter is sub-divided for easy reference and the Bibliography includes many local sources. The Index is divided into sections for Country, People and Local Areas. The latter two are of particular interest to the family historian with over 200 names from Allen to Wrigley referenced, and localities from Armitage Bridge to Slaithwaite. For anyone wanting to get into the heart of a town in war time - this is the book for you.

ISBN 978 1 78346 356 5 Published by Pen & Sword Military 2014
Paperback 128 pages £9.99

Vivien has produced a number of books investigating Huddersfield's textile heritage. These together with the book above can be borrowed from the Society Library – a full list can be found on our website.

Maureen Wheeler
Librarian
Peter began his talk by outlining a brief history of Poor Law legislation. The 1601 Poor Law Relief Act established the parish as the administrative unit responsible for poor relief, with churchwardens or parish overseers collecting poor-rates and allocating relief. It empowered parish overseers to raise money for poor relief from the inhabitants of the parish, according to their ability to pay. The poor-rates were dispensed to the needy of the parish as ‘out-relief’, usually in the form of bread, clothing, fuel, the payment of rent, or money. It wasn’t until after Knatchbull’s Act (The Workhouse Test Act) of 1722-3 that workhouses began to be established, following the workhouse ‘test’. This stated that the workhouse should act as a deterrent and that relief should only be available to those who were desperate enough to accept its regime.

Peter showed photographs of several original West Riding workhouses, many of which still exist today as private houses.

The system of ‘Outdoor’ relief ended with the passing of the New Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 which grouped parishes for the purpose of establishing a workhouse to be managed by a Board of Guardians elected from the rate payers. Conditions were to be ‘less eligible’ than those of an independent labourer of the lowest class.

Having summarised the legislation at national level, Peter continued his talk with particular reference the Huddersfield and Dewsbury areas. Whilst the workhouse system seems to have been implemented in the south without too much difficulty, in the north of England it was a different matter. He gave the example of Richard Oastler from Huddersfield who was active in the Anti Poor Law movement. Oastler’s supporters even included members of the Board of Guardians who refused to elect a Union Clerk, without whom no business could take place.

Peter then went on to describe conditions in the early workhouses. In Huddersfield, for example in 1848, where five old workhouses were still in use, the conditions of the town workhouse were particularly cramped and unhygienic. There was no clothing, 65 blankets and 108 sheets for 79 beds, whilst a living patient in the infirmary had shared a bed with a corpse.

As the title of Peter’s talk suggested, life in the workhouse may have been a ‘gruelling’ experience. An illustration of a weekly menu, one of six sample menus issued in 1835 by the Poor Law Commissioners for use in union workhouses, listed a diet of gruel, bread and cheese, with meat and vegetables on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Children and the aged or infirm had a slightly different diet, usually with more meat-based meals, and with inclusion of milk or tea.

Peter then went on to point out the gradual improvement in diet, medical facilities, and general conditions that occurred in workhouses, the transition of some into Public Assistance Institutions or hospitals, and their absorption into the NHS in 1948.
One local example of this was the Crosland Moor Workhouse, Huddersfield, which later became St Luke’s Hospital. After 1904, no mention was made of the workhouse on a birth certificate and Crosland Moor Workhouse was referred to as 291A Blackmoorfoot Road, Crosland Moor. The abolition of the Boards of Guardians did not take place until April 1930, much to the surprise of the audience.

Included in Peter’s illustrations were pictures of local workhouses at Deanhouse near Holmfirth, Halifax, Wakefield, Penistone, Dewsbury, Huddersfield and Bradford. Many of these were built to a symmetrical design, with segregated areas for men, women, children, the old and infirm. These, and the maps and plans he included, were of particular interest to the audience who had travelled from throughout the area for the evening.

As an example of how census records can provide useful information for the family historian, Peter used the 1881 Census for Dewsbury Workhouse. 310 inmates and 10 staff were listed. The latter included Master and Matron (a married couple), School Master and Mistress, Porter and Porteress, Male and Female Nurse, Female Infections Nurse and Cook. Of the inmates, 28 were over 70 years of age (19 men and 9 women), with the eldest being aged 83. Other inmates included widows and unmarried women with children.

Peter concluded by suggesting a list of records where information on workhouses could be found.

At the National Archives:
- Poor Law Commission correspondence between over twenty Boards
- Staff lists
- Large Scale workhouse plans – 1861-1918

Local Workhouse Union records at WYAS including:
- Board of Guardian Minutes – sometimes mention individuals
- Admission and Discharge Book – with details of each inmate
- Indoor Relief List – parish by parish list of inmates’ stays
- Creed Register (from 1869) religion, admission and discharge
- Punishment book

(Other areas of the country will have similar records in local archives)

Local newspapers – incidents, trials etc

Thanks were expressed to Peter for a fascinating talk, by Margaret Woodcock the Society’s Publicity Officer, on behalf of an appreciative audience of 76 members and friends of the Society.

Further information on workhouses can be found at www.workhouse.org.uk. A copy of Peter’s book, The Workhouse Encyclopaedia, is available from the Society Library

Maureen Wheeler
Librarian

Late News
One Name Studies Seminar: ‘Hatches Matches and Despatches’
St. Leonard’s Church Hall, Marshall’s Brow, Penwortham, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 9JA
9.30 am for 10.00 am on Saturday 16 May 2015
Calling all Sheards

On April 28th 1864 Richard Arthur Sheard the son of Michael Sheard, gentleman of Staincliffe and Ellen Whitworth spinster of Earlsheaton the daughter of Charles Whitworth, also gentleman, married at St Peters Church, Earlsheaton.

They had several children over the years including:

- Herbert Emil Sheard, baptised 25 Jan 1869 Staincliffe
- Sarah Marie Sheard, baptised 11 Dec 1870 Birstall
- Annie Sheard, baptised Anne 31 Aug 1872 Birstall
- Gertrude Sheard, baptised 30 April 1874 Birstall

With this information in mind please read the following letter from one of our members in Canada. Do any of these names appear on your family tree? Sue Carson is available to contact via email or post but please let us know if you or someone you know may appreciate the kind offer of original photographs - Ed.

Dear Janet

I have 4 delightful photos of children in the SHEARD family - three girls and a boy - Herbert Emil, Gertrude, Sarah Marie and Annie Sheard. The photographer was R. Armitage, Wakefield Road, Dewsbury. If anyone thinks they belong to their family I'd be happy to pass on the originals. I have no knowledge that they are my relatives so would rather they found a good home.

Sue Carson (C151)

1184 Mineral Springs Road, RR3, Dundas, Ontario, L9H 5E3, Canada
d.carson@sympatico.ca

Did this book belong to your relative?

An email from North of the border asks for our help in finding a descendant in the Mallinson family of Holmfirth. No dates are available nor does the location of Newburn Cottage, Holmfirth readily come to mind – Ed.

I have had in my possession for a good few years a small cloth bound book by Ella Mary Wilcox. The inscription on the inside reads May Winifred Mallinson, Newburn Cottage, Holmfirth. I very much doubt that it has any value, but perhaps there is a relative or descendant who would like the book for sentimental reasons.

Sandra

Contact available via email only or via the Editor
info@seabankbandb.co.uk
Unusual Forenames

We cannot choose our families, or our families’ surname, but we do choose our children’s forenames. Many occur with great regularity through the generations, for instance Charles, Harry, James and William in my father’s family - Church of England. Many non-conformists chose biblical names, usually from the Old Testament. My wife’s father’s family, who lived in Meltham, were of such persuasion, and her great great grandparents Luke and Martha Moorhouse produced Mary, Hannah, Leah and Enoch, but also Charlotte and Tedbar, my wife’s great grandfather. “Who?” I hear you ask. “A Tedbar? What sort of a name is that?”

Unlike the rest of her ancestors with names common in Huddersfield, it has its compensation – rarity. Looking on the nineteenth century newspaper website she has been able to follow his career - eyewitness of a drowning in a millpond and leader of the Band of Hope singers who gave frequent concerts in the local Methodist chapels.

We have mentioned this name to friends and acquaintances. A friend mentioned that there had been a Tedbar Court in Skelmanthorpe. Janet, this magazine’s editor, told me that she had come across the name and thought it might be a corruption of Zebedee. We would be very interested to hear of other families or places where this name occurs. Tedbar himself continued the biblical name practice with children called Amos and Hannah. However, he had a younger sister whose name appears unique – Levina. Again we would welcome any information on its occurrence in other families.

On the subject of unusual forenames my mother’s grandmother, born in 1855 in Thorpe Hesley near Rotherham was called Cevila on the 1881 Census. In 1891 she was Syvila and in 1901 and 1911 Sevilla. In the West Riding there were other spellings – Cevilla, Sevella, Savilla and Savillia, all born around that time. Is the range of spelling indicative of the limited education of the time? And why Sevilla? Is it related to a person, event or place in the news around that time?

Any thoughts would be welcome.

(Dr) John Wheeler (W315)

The only reason I made the passing remark that Tedbar might be a corruption of Zebedee was that Arthur Jessop, in his diary, spells the name as Zedbar, so I presumed that is how it was pronounced in the 18th century – Ed.

New Publications

Lepton St. John, Baptisms 1862-1936
Ravensthorpe St. Saviours, Baptisms 1864-1910
Huddersfield St Pauls, Baptisms 1831-1894 and 1895-1956, two volumes
Milnsbridge St Luke, Baptisms 1845-1906 and 1907-1981, two volumes
Linthwaite Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Burials, 1838-2003

Steve Wayne
The King’s Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in Norway 1940

This year is the 75th anniversary of the WW2 Norwegian campaign. Germany invaded on April 7th 1940. Britain and France responded by sending troops to Narvik and the Trondheim area. Elements of the KOYLI (the 1/4th) were involved in the latter landings. The whole operation was hastily planned resulting in serious supply problems, the German intelligence had broken codes so were expecting activity in the Namsos area and there was little or no RAF presence.

One of the KOYLI officers was Captain George W Hirst (1901 - 63) from Upper Batley and a director of George Hirst and Son, Britannia Mill, Birstall (pictured). This article is based on his personal memories.

Leaving a Scottish port on the SS Empress of Australia our battalion, all territorials with no Arctic training, got to Namsos on the evening of April 18th without loss despite many attacks by German planes including Stuka dive bombers. In the confusion of landing under air attacks some of our stores weren't put ashore. The next day after a 60 mile train journey to Steinkjer we pushed forward on foot with some Norwegian troops until we were about 30 miles from Trondheim, where we split into companies and took up defensive positions facing west. My company was the most southerly so we'd be poorly placed if there was a breakthrough above us. With air support we might have been able to hold the line but there was none. Our first enemy contact was on the 21st April when the Germans attacked at Verdalsora on Trondheim Fiord where we were helping some Royal Engineers to blow up bridges. Under pressure from the Germans we withdrew about a mile and took up new positions. I found out afterwards that Namsos had been bombed the day after we landed and our leader General Wiart signalled that, “Enemy aircraft have almost completely destroyed Namsos. At present impossible to land more men or supplies, I see little chance of carrying out decisive or, indeed any operations, unless enemy air activity is considerably restricted.”

Our situation was nerve-wracking as we expected to be attacked that night, but then came the order to withdraw. Now life became very difficult. Our lines had been cut behind us and Steinkjer was under constant bombing attacks so instead of retracing our steps we had to go east to Stiklestad and then round a large lake before turning north aiming to pass east of Steinkjer. It was hard going across mountainous country through deep snow, and we were absolutely dependent on our wonderful Norwegian guides who led us through mountain passes and along forest tracks. We marched until we met up with our other KOYLI companies 7 miles south of Steinkjer. We'd already covered over 25 miles and although very tired I was very impressed with the way our men stayed cheerful through a pretty dreadful ordeal. Our aim now was to reach our landing port of Namsos, over 50 miles away through more mountains and thick snow.

We could only march by night to avoid being bombed by day. We skirted Steinkjer and that first night we covered 20 miles. We rested through the day and set off late afternoon and marched until 4 a.m.
Any hopes of a decent rest were dashed when we were told the Germans were close behind us. After a few hours' anxious rest we set off again and did ten more miles.

Then we started again at eight that night, and marched the remaining 25 miles. A total march of fifty-eight miles in about forty-two hours. Those last miles were terrible, as much of the terrain was very hard going with deep snow in places, but our men stuck it like heroes, and there were few stragglers. When we were bombed, we just fell out and found what shelter we could. We had very few supplies, some were never landed and much of the rest was lost in the bombing. Most of us had also lost a lot of weight! About 20 miles from Namsos we met two or three thousand French troops marching towards the enemy with the aim of pushing him back. But then the word came through that the whole expedition was off and we were all to be evacuated including the French.

In a letter written home dated 25th April, just a week after landing in Norway, he wrote -

"Since I wrote you last time (never received) we have had a strenuous time and I think it is more by good luck than judgement that I am here to tell the tale. In the last few days, or, I should say, nights we have been marching, marching, marching. Four hours sleep if lucky. We have been put now for two days and are just eating and sleeping. I'm afraid I have become both a gunman and a thief. Food is obtained by force if necessary. I took my tunic and trousers off last night for the first time for four days. The only clothes I possess are the ones I stand up in, everything else has been lost ............"

We were told to prepare for embarkation at Namsos on the night of May 1st, but things were delayed 24 hours by fog. Conditions improved and on that night of 2/3rd May over 5000 British and French troops were embarked from the battered port. The navy, both French and British, were marvellous. At dawn, it was a lovely morning, and it was not until we were 70 or so miles out that the peace was broken as about 40 German planes suddenly appeared attacking in twos or threes. The raids seemed to go on all day and it seemed a miracle that no troopships were hit, though two destroyers were sunk. Two days later we landed at Scapa Flow.

In retrospect the whole operation was a military disaster. Although we, with the French and Norwegian troops, outnumbered the Germans from the first contact we were in retreat. We had shortcomings in supplies, mobility and experience compared with the enemy but the main factor against us was the overwhelming German air superiority. The silver lining was that Chamberlain resigned as Prime Minister and was replaced by Winston Churchill. From the point of view of the KOYLI battalion we were undoubtedly exceedingly fortunate. Considering the amount of bombing we experienced, both at sea and on land, casualties could have been much worse. Our troops, mostly Territorials with no battle experience, were marvellous. The way they coped with hardships, even laughing at them, was typically British.

Mike Gammon (G152)
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This article was edited by Mike Gammon, Capt. Hirst’s son-in-law. If you want further information on the Norwegian Campaign there are many articles, even videos, to be found on the internet – Ed.
Belgian Refugee married woman from Milnsbridge

Albert Oyen was born in Borgerhout, Antwerp, Belgium in 1889. On 8th August 1914, aged 25, he volunteered for military service in Charleroi-1st regiment Chasseurs a Pied. He was sent to Kontich to receive instructions. At the end of August he was sent to different locations, Kieldrecht, Lokeren and Herzele, to assist the local Gendarmerie. In Herzele he was in a fight with a German scout and was seriously wounded, he was then taken to the military hospital in Ghent, however, during that night the hospital had to be evacuated and everyone was taken to Dunkirk. They were then transported by ship to Cardiff and were the first Belgians wounded to arrive in the UK. On October 19th 1914 he was transferred to Swansea where he stayed for a long time. Following his recovery he went to London to be examined by the Belgian Army and was found to be unfit for further military service. He worked in an ammunition factory until the end of the war.

Where the factory was I haven’t been able to discover but I think it may have been in the Huddersfield area as the story is that he met my great aunt, Lilian Whitwam, where they were working.

In November 1919 Albert and Lilian got married at Huddersfield Register Office. The marriage certificate identifies Albert as 30 and living on Longwood Road, near Milnsbridge and working as a metal turner. It identifies Lilian as 22 and living at Dowker Street in Milnsbridge and working as a woollen weaver. So if they did meet at work, did Lilian also work in an ammunition factory during the war or did Albert, at some time or other work in the woollen mill? I’m having difficulty finding out!

Lilian Whitwam was born in 1897 in Slaithwaite to parents Charles Whitwam and Sarah nee Taylor. She had a sister, Gladys, born in 1900 in Linthwaite and an older brother, Fred, born in 1894 in Slaithwaite. Fred, my granddad was a Bandsman in 2/4th Duke of Wellington West Riding Regiment. I have a picture of a group of musicians - dated on the back August 1916 - of the 34th battalion Northumberland Fusiliers with a line presumably pointing to Fred on the back row second from left. He also survived the war.

When Albert and Lilian’s first child, Eddy, was born in October 1920 they were living at Lockwood but in 1925 Albert, Lilian and Eddy moved to Belgium and in October 1926 Charles was born.

Unfortunately at the start of WW2 the Oyen family were just too late to catch the last boat to England and were then captured by German soldiers. Eddy and Charles were forced to work at I.G.Farben until the Russians arrived to free them in May 1945. Albert had to work as a toolmaker at the railway factory in Potsdam, where he died. One story is that he died in a bombardment and another is that he was shot for refusing to go to the shelters during an air raid. I do not know where Lilian was during this time but she survived and later she was living in Borgerhout with Eddy and Charles. The three of them visited family in Milnsbridge on a few occasions and I am still in touch with Eddy’s son.
I have more pictures of Fred with other soldiers in uniform so if anyone thinks someone in their family served with Fred and is interested in seeing them please get in touch. Also if anyone knows how to find out where people were working during WW1, particularly in ammunition factories I’d be very pleased to hear from them as it would be interesting to know where Albert and Lilian met.

Janet Green (G132)
54stroslla@madasafish.com

A bit of a coincidence…

Whilst attempting to get the photographs into my ‘Documents’ I had to call on the help of our Webmaster, Roger Gill. As he looked at the photograph of the Northumberland Fusiliers he admitted that it appeared familiar. His father in law is sat on the front row, next to the big tuba. Whilst he has a fair bit of his WW1 history, the link with the Fusiliers seemed a bit vague at first but it seems it was a training battalion, which included men who had enlisted in the West Riding Regiments. His name was Herbert Charlesworth of Scholes, Holmfirth.

Roger concluded that the world gets smaller every day! – Ed.

The January Sale

Our first order arrived on January 1st 2015, the last one in the early hours of February 1st, the latter order being allowed, due to time differences. Thank you for all your orders, we thought last year’s sale was good, but this year it was even better.

We received orders for 650 Parish Booklets, 63 CDs and 86 Census Booklets - the demand was unprecedented. What may not be widely known, and perhaps we should have made clear, is that if we sell out of Parish Booklets and CDs, we reprint them. With the exception of Census Booklets, our sale items are not old stock; hence there may be a delay in filling orders. This delay was exacerbated by the heavy snowfalls we had in January, albeit for only a few days, however, we were prevented from putting in our envisaged “overtime”.

We would also like to thank our print finishers: Enterprise Print of Honley, they are extremely supportive throughout the year and have been especially so during the last six weeks. Without them the delays would have been longer and we are grateful for their input.

So, thank you once again for your support, orders and patience. The last few weeks have been hectic to say the least, we may be ‘bloody’, but are ‘unbowed’ and hopefully will be ready to do it all again in January 2016.

Keith and Margaret Woodcock
Positive response from Broadbent member...

In the January 2015 Journal we had an article written by our Vice Chairman, Ian Stevenson about two successful bids made by him at a recent auction, that consisted of books and other contents. The article named Walter Edward Broadbent as one of the previous owners and he asked if this man was related to anyone belonging to the Society? Ian was pleased to forward the following response from one of our members: - Ed

Dear Ian

The H&D FHS Journal arrived this morning and I'm so glad I sat down to read it straight away! Walter was my great uncle; I am the granddaughter of George Alexander, his next eldest brother, by HIS son George Stephen. I have Walter's death certificate for which my grandfather was the informant - cause of death was heart disease/pulmonary TB.

I've been researching my family history for about eight years and started out knowing very little about the Broadbent side but, mainly because they stayed put in Huddersfield, I have acquired a lot of information and have made contact with some second cousins, although none of them live locally. You probably already know that Walter's uncle Thomas was the founder of Thomas Broadbent's the engineering firm and his younger brother Thomas William was the electrical engineer. Walter was the unlucky one as his siblings all lived to a reasonable age and were quite prosperous and active in local affairs. Given that the other side of my family was mostly living in humble housing and working in the mills and dye works at this time, I now have quite a rounded view of Huddersfield's industrial history!

Anyway, I don't have anything in the way of physical memorabilia and would be thrilled to have the book but, should you be deluged with applications, I'd also just be happy to be put in touch with other researchers.

Regards,

Anne Gollop (nee Broadbent) (B437)

The information provided by Anne added to Ian’s knowledge of the Broadbent family

Hello Anne

I was very pleased to receive your email about the Broadbent family and your work on their family tree. I was also pleased to have been able to rescue the book from the skip! This story gets even more interesting since you have told me that your Broadbent family are the descendants of the founder of Thomas Broadbent’s Central Ironworks in Huddersfield. I did not connect my book with this line of Broadbents because I had not had chance to do any further research but an amazing coincidence has occurred! At the tender age of 15, having left school to join my uncle’s building company (Law Stead and Sons Ltd) I started work for Law Steads on September 1st 1959 at Thomas Broadbent’s in Queen Street!! For many years after that I worked on various Broadbent jobs including laundry equipment pits etc., relining work in the foundry and even working on a new house for Ernest Broadbent at South Crosland – it is still there! As I am sure you know the company is still in the Broadbent family and Simon Broadbent (Ernest’s grandson I think) is the MD/Chairman? I would be delighted to send you the book so if you let me have your postal address I will post it off straight away. Thanks also for the Needham family information. I will do some more research. This family history stuff gets quite addictive doesn’t it? - Kind Regards,

Ian Stevenson
Vice Chairman
A further response to Ian’s request was received from another member of the Broadbent family with more information on this influential family from Kirkheaton – Ed.

I was interested to read your article, on page 12 of the January 2015 Huddersfield & District FH Society journal, about Walter Edward Broadbent. I know very little about him, however, I do know about the rest of the family. I have written my family history. As you say, Walter lived with his brothers and sisters - Robert, John, George, James, Thomas, Ann, Florence and Laura at Hillside House in Kirkheaton. The house was built by their grandfather, Walter's brother; James was my grandfather. Thomas lived at Hillside all his life and so did his son Maurice. I visited Hillside often until the 1980s when the house was sold out of the family. The children's father was a woollen manufacturer and the Broadbents were a prominent family in Kirkheaton.

John became Postmaster in Huddersfield, Robert was the secretary at Vickerman and Sons, Worsted Manufacturers; a J.P., and at one time, Chairman of Kirkheaton Urban District Council. George became manager of the Kirkheaton Branch of the Yorkshire Penny Bank. James, my grandfather, was the secretary of Washpit Mills in Holmfirth. Thomas founded the firm of T W Broadbents, Electrical Installation Engineers in Huddersfield. During the 20th century T W Broadbents Ltd had a Scottish branch at Grangemouth, a southern one in Reigate and one in Australia, and later the Newlands branch in Kirkheaton.

In the previous generation one uncle went to America and one to Australia. Beverley Broadbent has written about the family in Australia and Helen Broadbent has researched and written about the American branch. The American descendants are now wealthy farmers in Kentucky and Kansas and own a school in Chicago. The Australians became stationmasters in Melbourne.

What a pity Walter Edward didn’t know all this!

Frances Davis (D007)

Correction to website address

We wish to amend an incorrect website from our article on the research done by David Griffiths on page 17 of the January 2015 Journal. The website for West Yorkshire Archives should have read www.archives.wyjs.org.uk and not www.wyas.org.uk which apparently is the WY Astronomical Society. Sorry for any confusion.
The Curious Case of Mr Hellawell

Whilst browsing the 19th century newspapers an unusual case of bigamy, here in Huddersfield, interested the ‘lovers of the scandalous’ and became news as far away as the Aberdeen Journal on 27th October 1847.

**BIGAMY AND THE SCOTCH LAW OF MARRIAGE** - a curious case of bigamy came before the Huddersfield magistrates on Thursday. Mr Jonas Hellawell, the son of a respectable tradesman in Huddersfield, was sent in his youth to study medicine in Glasgow. He completed his studies there in 1833. During the latter part of the time he was residing in Glasgow, he lodged at the house of a Mr Nicol, who had two daughters, the eldest of whom proved ‘enceinte’, and Mr Hellawell was the reputed father of the child.

When this circumstance was discovered, Mr Hellawell removed to other apartments, but continued to visit Miss Nicol regularly afterwards. A consultation was held by the family, to know what must be done with respect to Miss Nicol’s situation, when it was decided that her brother John should invite Mr Hellawell to take coffee with him one evening; which he did. This was in 1833.

At this meeting there were present Mr and Mrs Nicol, their two daughters, their son John and Mr Hellawell. The old gentleman began to speak of Margaret’s being likely soon to become a mother, when it is alleged, Mr Hellawell remarked ‘O Mr Nicol, we are married’ are we not Margaret?’ to which she replied ‘Yes’ ‘Then’ said Mr Nicol, ‘we will say no more about it’. It is said he neither asked when, nor where, nor how.

Since that period Mr Nicol and his son are dead: and now, after a period of fifteen years, a charge of bigamy is brought against Mr Hellawell because he has refused to advance money for the maintenance and education of the child, now nearly fifteen years of age.

In 1838 Mr Hellawell established himself as a practising surgeon in Huddersfield; in 1841 he married a lady of some fortune in that town, and which marriage took place openly and publicly in the parish church, and was proclaimed to the world in all the local newspapers. By this marriage Mr Hellawell has a boy about four years old, but his wife died in March 1845. The prosecutrix states that she had no idea that he had got married till about eight months since; she states that during this long period she never received a letter from Mr Hellawell but had herself frequently written to him.

A professional gentleman from Glasgow appeared before the bench to expound the Scotch law of marriage, which he divided into regular and irregular marriages. This, he stated, was an irregular marriage, but according to the laws of Scotland stood good. When the whole evidence had been summed up, and the defence made, the bench stated that their decision was to hold Mr Hellawell, to bail, himself in a surety of £50, and two others of £25, to answer the charge of the York Assizes.

His trial went ahead on December 11th 1847 and he was acquitted. Mr Hellawell continued to have a successful profession as a surgeon here whilst living in Buxton Road in the town centre. During the trial he denied any child with Miss Nicol. What is interesting with the benefit of hindsight is that on the 1841 census for Scotland, six years before this case came to court, there appears to be only one person living in Scotland with the spelling of the surname of Hellawell, a boy of eight years born 1833 together with a family including a Miss Margaret Nicol.

Janet Le Billon
### New Members

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### Members' Interests

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Submitted By:

W422  Mr John Whitehead  Les Lannes, 65220 Vidou, France  john@thewhitehead.net
Web Site Update for www.hdfhs.org.uk

Society Email Messages

The web site includes a facility to send occasional emails, on behalf of the Society, to circulate news and events of interest to family historians. These may be about once a month, never more than one per week.

The initial postings have been based on email addresses held in the Society Membership records. However, statistics generated by the email system indicate that only about half of the emails posted are actually opened by a recipient. A proportion of messages were returned as 'undeliverable', since the email address apparently doesn't exist anymore.

If you wish to receive occasional Society emails there are a number of steps you can take:

- Ensure the message does not get misdirected into spam/junk folders by putting an entry into your contact list for: 'Huddersfield & District Family History Society' with an email address of 'webmaster@hdfhs.org.uk'

- Update your membership details by using the 'Change of address or email' link on the Membership page of the web site.

- Sign up for emails by using the short form included in the right hand sidebar of the web site.

The web site is not static. There are frequent updates to show new publications and news of forthcoming Family History events. It also includes a page to 'Have your say' where you have the opportunity to say what you might like to see on the web site or some aspect that you might like the Society to include in activities.

Roger Gill
Webmaster
webmaster@hdfhs.org.uk

News from the National Archives

The National Archives are pleased to announce that their partners at Findmypast have published the Poverty Relief Loans records (series T91) from their collection online for the first time.

The Irish Reproductive Loan Fund was a privately funded micro credit scheme set up in 1824 to provide small loans to the 'industrious poor' - those most affected by poverty and famine. This collection of almost 700,000 records, which spans the period of the Irish Potato Famine, provides unique insight into the lives of those living in Ireland during the time. The handwritten ledgers and account books reveal the changing fortunes of Irish ancestors and their subsequent movements in Ireland and across the world.

These records are now available to search and download online giving everyone the opportunity to research individuals and families and to find out more about where they lived, their financial situation, their social status, and more.

You may also be interested in their research guide, which includes information on how to trace Irish ancestors in birth, marriage and death records.
My Grandfather’s Clock

From 1910 to 1944 my Moorhouse family; grandfather and unmarried aunts, lived in the bottom three stories of a four storey clothier’s house on Old Road in Hinchliff Mill. The top story was used by the Liberal Club with access from the New Road behind.

The lowest storey, the stone flagged ‘t’cellar-oile’, had access down steps from Old Road to ‘t’ front-back’ door for the wet and dirty. This room was divided, the front with window had a slop/stone sink and running water. A set pot built into the fireplace was fired up twice a week, Mondays for clothes washing, Saturdays to fill the tin bath! The back of ‘t’ cellar-oile, dark and damp, had many storage purposes.

Stone steps, with inset shelves all the way up, led from ‘t’cellar-oile’ through a door into ‘thowsebody’, the heart of family life. Here was the large coal fired range with two ovens, trivets, bars, rakes, pokers and other mysteries for cooking plus a side hot water boiler with tap and necessary piggin.

It was possible to get into this room in two other ways, up the steps from the pavement in Old Road to the front door for the clean/dry or special visitor; through the door at the rear of the room to the ‘back-back’ door giving access to a yard with a water closet and ‘t’coal’oile’. From this door it was possible to climb a set of steep stone steps, not often used, to the New Road which had been built behind the house.

The furnishings of ‘thowsebody’ were simple; a ‘langsettle’, a white scrubbed kitchen table under the window with bench, an additional table swathed in layers of napery with Windsor type chairs. A door led to ‘t’best room’ with a ‘pianner’, gramophone, sideboard, sofa and easy chairs and another table with chairs. The family bible on a lectern, used daily for ‘prayers’, was kept there. Two surprising pieces of furniture were owned by this family of mill workers; an early Georgian mahogany corner cupboard used to store the dried herbs and simples used as medicines and a fine eight and a half foot tall, veneered, chiming, 8-day grandfather clock, both kept in ‘thowsebody’.

When I was old enough to take notice of ‘mi grate granfeyther’s clock’, my grandfather had died and his second son had taken responsibility for keeping it wound up and running on time. Every Sunday at about 11.30 my rather stout uncle arrived, puffing up the steps to wind the clock. First he would have a mug of Collinson’s coffee, which had been simmering on the hob, and then he would look at his sisters’ brown envelope correspondence kept on the clock, while two of them attacked it with feather dusters often arousing strong protests from uncle.

Twice a year it was time for Stephenson’s furniture polish, a process that turned said uncle pale. Everyone understood that this clock was extremely temperamental, was not to be touched, was very difficult to keep running on time and most certainly did not like women!

Once the dusting was finished, correspondence dealt with, coffee consumed, the drama could begin. First, uncle took the key to the clock door from his watch chain, and then small niece was carefully positioned for action.
The clock always ran late because it was home to a mouse and if he only knew which way it jumped when he opened the door, he might have a chance of catching the danged thing!

Now fast forward before your patience runs out. After the last pair of sisters left Old Road, Uncle took the clock home and in turn, two of his sons were inducted into the mysteries of keeping it running nearly on time until it was the turn of a grandson to inherit. But eight foot clocks, temperamental or not, are not easily accommodated in modern houses and I was asked if I would have it. It duly arrived in three sections; needing restoration work on both clock and case. Once this was done I took a good look at the Moorhouse clock, made in Huddersfield by Bates, with ‘second’ and ‘day’ dials oddly turning anti-clockwise. The case is finely veneered in rose wood, flamed mahogany, satin wood and walnut with ebony stringing. It still has the original bevelled handmade glass door and a pastoral painting on the face of a bonneted lad in dancing slippers playing an instrument to sheep and an attentive dog. To my great delight the tick and chime were just as musical as I remembered.

I am hoping that someone in the HDFHS will be able to tell me more about the Huddersfield makers of this clock. How my family came to own it I expect will remain a mystery; a very unlikely possession for a family who called themselves ‘better end o’t poor’ and, in spite of expensive restoration, is still a little eccentric in keeping accurate time albeit with careful male hand winding!

Elizabeth Green, nee Moorhouse, (GO11)
e-mail: ssuc@f2s.com
Heathview, Meerut Road, Brockenhurst, Hants. SO42 7TD

Do you know anything about the family of Joshua Bates, a watch and clock maker, who carried on his business here in Huddersfield at King Street, or his family? Are you related to him? Please send us/or Elizabeth your findings – Ed.

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Unwanted Certificates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livesey</th>
<th>Enoch</th>
<th>Birth</th>
<th>1845</th>
<th>Huddersfield</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whiteley</td>
<td>George</td>
<td>Marriage</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>Bradford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holdsworth</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Many thanks for the donated certificates. If anyone would like either of these certificates please contact me directly.

Margaret Woodcock
Publicity Officer – publicity@hdfhs.org.uk
Divorce in Huddersfield in the mid 19th Century

In July of 1856 the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill was read a third time and passed in the House of Lords. After much debate, amendments and time the new Matrimonial Causes Act allowed couples to obtain a divorce through civil proceedings. Prior to this date the only way to obtain a full divorce that allowed a further marriage was a Private Act of Parliament. The local newspaper the Huddersfield Chronicle shared the information about the unfortunate couples….

In the Guildhall Huddersfield on Saturday February 13 1858 the first application under the New Divorce Act was made. On the bench T P Crosland and T Mallinson Esq’s. Mr Batley applied on behalf of a married woman for an order under the recent Divorce Act, to protect her earnings and property from her husband and his creditors, he having deserted her. Evidence on oath fully established the facts of the case, from which it appeared that the desertion took place in 1852, since which time the wife had maintained herself and family by her own industry. The magistrates at once granted the order.

This being the first application of its kind may be the reason for not giving the married woman’s name. This would not be the case in later accounts.

On April 3rd 1858, Emma Wilson applied for the protection of the court under the New Divorce Act. Her husband had repeatedly deserted her, and at the present time he had been absent more than a month. In case the protection was granted, her friends would establish her in business, and thus give her the means of obtaining a livelihood. Protection was granted.

By September 24th 1858 Eliza, wife of Thomas Rawlinson, green grocer of Beast Market, applied for the protection of the court under the new Divorce Act. She stated that her husband had deserted her for twelve months, and was now undergoing a term of imprisonment for an assault upon her. She had to maintain a family of four children and by her exertions had obtained certain household furniture and other property. Protection was granted.

Swift on the heels a week later came …

Martha Raynes, of this town, applied to the bench for protection under the New Divorce Act. She stated that she had been deserted by her husband for a year and a half and had to maintain three children herself. Protection was granted.

On December 4th 1858 the Huddersfield Chronicle stated that Betty Hollingsworth, *higgler, sought the protection of the court under the new Divorce Act. She stated that her husband deserted her on the 9th May last, and she had heard that he had enlisted into some regiment. He promised to send her part of the bounty money but had not done so. On a former occasion he deserted her for a period of three years. She had to maintain herself and three children, and obtained a living by higgling. The protection of the court was granted.

By January 1859 there is an application for protection under the New Divorce Act from Martha Bottomley of Almondbury, who applied to the bench for protection. She stated that her husband left her in 1851, and that she had not heard of him or seen him since. She was now maintaining herself and family, and was possessed of certain property, which she wished to retain, should her husband make his appearance. She believed he went to America. The bench granted her protection.
Application under the Divorce Act. **Sarah Ann Whiteley**, the wife of **Joseph Whiteley**, a green grocer carrying on business in Huddersfield, applied to the magistrates for protection against the interference of her husband. According to her statement they were married at Kirkburton on the 21st December 1851 and lived together until June 1856 when her husband deserted her. She had not lived with him or received any support from him since that time. She had maintained herself by her own industry, and had acquired sufficient property to commence housekeeping with, but, fearing he might make a claim upon it, she asked the magistrate for protection against his interference. The magistrates asked her why she did not live with him. She replied that he was living with another woman; besides, she did not wish to live with him. After remarking that it seemed almost like offering inducements to women to leave their husbands, they accorded her the desired protection. Mr Leadbeater supported the application, March 10th 1860.

**Divorce case Horsfall v Horsfall.** In the Divorce Court on Thursday, this case came on for hearing, when Dr Pinks and Mr G H Cooper were counsel for the petitioner. Mrs Horsfall charged her husband with adultery and cruelty, and prayed for a decree of dissolution. The marriage was in 1840, the cohabitation continued from that time until 1848, and there were three children. Mrs Horsfall described her husband’s occupation as that of a ‘commercial merchant’. He lived at a small farm at Dalton, near Huddersfield. Soon after the marriage he took to drinking, and between 1843 and 1848, he was guilty of several acts of great violence and brutality towards her. In 1848 she was obliged to leave him, and she has since supported herself and her children by her own industry. She had also for some time allowed the respondent four shilling a week, but he had latterly become rather exorbitant in his demands and she had been obliged to present this petition. Her evidence as to his cruelty was corroborated by other witnesses and it was also proved that since the separation he had frequently been guilty of adultery. Decree nisi granted, with costs.

The Huddersfield Chronicle printed the report from the **Times** of Thursday 7 February 1863 in a case of **Monk v Monk**. This was a petition by a wife for adultery and cruelty. The respondent has a silk mill in Huddersfield. He married the petitioner in February 1847 and they had children. The petitioner described several violent assaults that he had committed upon her, and said that he was in the constant habit of beating her until June 1862, when she was obliged to leave him. In October 1862 he had committed adultery with a woman at a hotel in Manchester, decree nisi granted with costs.

**Local Divorce case Willey v Willey.** In the Divorce Court, yesterday week, before Sir J P Wilde, judge, a divorce case, in which the parties interested resided at Huddersfield and Bradford came on for hearing. Dr Swabey (instructed by Messrs’ Floyd and Learoyd, of this town) appeared for the petitioner; and Sergeant O’Brien appeared for the respondent.

The petitioner, Mrs **Sarah Willey** at present residing at Commercial Street Huddersfield is the daughter of the late Mr Jonathan Quarmby of Scarr House Golcar. On the 20th November 1861, she was married at the Parish Church, Huddersfield to the respondent, **Godfrey Willey**, warehouseman of Dudley Hill Bradford where after their marriage the parties went to reside. For a short time the parties appear to have lived happily together; but in the month of May 1862 the respondent began to treat her unkindly. On the occasion when he first struck her, they had been entertaining company in the house, and about eleven o’clock at night, Mrs Willey said something to the servant, which excited his anger. He instantly knocked her down with his fist, and her servant Alice Scott went into the room and picked her up.

In October 1862 petitioner was confined of a son - the only issue of the marriage - but this did not change the conduct of the respondent towards his wife - on the contrary, he treated her subsequently with still great cruelty, sometime running after her with a poker, at other
times following her about the house with a carving knife, and on other occasions striking and kicking her when she had the child in her arms and dragging her on the floor by the hair of the head.

He said repeatedly that he had married her for her money, that she had lived long enough, and that “to kill her would be a mere trifle”.

Respondent was also very intemperate and irregular in his habits. He stayed out at very late hours at nights, and occasionally left the house for weeks together, without giving any previous intimation of his intention; and it was shown by the evidence that he had been away in the company of women of bad character and that when away he had represented himself as a single man. The petitioner left the respondent on the 1st December 1864; but there had been no cohabitation for six months previously and the petition in the interval had been confined to her room by illness cause by the respondent’s cruelty. The evidence was very conclusive and the Judge in summing up, said the case against the respondent was one of a very bad character indeed. His conduct toward his wife was of the most cruel and heartless character, and he should grant the order for a decree nisi, with costs, against the husband.

Whilst the examples of unkindness shown may have resulted in the desired outcome for the local women who came to the Divorce Courts, here was one example where the new bride didn’t get her way…

A Divorce Wanted by a Newly Married Couple. Martha Makin summoned her husband, John Makin, for having ill-used her. Mr Dransfield defended. This couple plighted their troths so recently as last Christmas and the complainant alleged that the defendant, since the auspicious event, had behaved most disrespectfully towards her, arriving home at two and three o’clock in the morning, and sometimes absenting himself all night. Matters came to a crisis on Saturday, when he hit her, threw a coffee-pot at her, in cross examination, complainant added that when they were married both had furniture. They had six lodgers, but she denied having formed an improper acquaintanceship with them; of having spat in his face; of having given him ‘dry crusts’ whilst she and the lodgers were faring sumptuously. Complainant, who admitted that she was booked as tenant of the house, said, prior to marrying the defendant, she had been a widow six years, and had six children. She had been to the Argyle singing-room, but only on occasions when she had been called there. In reply to the Bench, complainant stated that she would separate from the defendant and maintain herself, if he would pay the three months’ rent which was owing – The case was adjourned for a fortnight in order to give this unhappy pair an opportunity of arranging the matter without further interference of the court.

Whilst some women received protection on their property others actually got their divorce. As these reports cover a ten-year period in Huddersfield in the mid nineteenth century it shows the unlikely situation of any regular reader of the Huddersfield Chronicle ever getting a divorce.

*Higgler – a hawker

Janet Le Billon
In the article sent by member Elizabeth Green the question is posed about the name written on the Grandfather clock. The name in question is Bates of Huddersfield. Initially this doesn’t seem too much to go on until we consider what means of information is available to most of us, to pursue some background.

The easiest and quickest is available on-line which is so much less time-consuming than visiting the local library to seek out their trade directories. However, not everyone has the facility of Ancestry at home, nor does everyone want to use the computer to further their research.

The Trade Directories are an invaluable source of information if we know our ancestors had a particular trade or position in the town. It is a while since I used the facility of Ancestry at the Library in Huddersfield but I think I was allowed one hour to search. However, going to the library is a much better option to seek out all Trade Directories available on the shelves of the Reference library. The staff will help if guidance is needed, just as our volunteers are available to help with a search via the computer at the Root Cellar.

The earliest Directory I found available was from 1822. Whilst this was too early for my own research a quick look will show where the information on Bates of Huddersfield appears. The extra information given was the first name of Joshua, together with an address in King Street, Huddersfield and under the heading of Clock and Watchmaker, giving the clue as to where to start searching.

Back to my own research, and I wanted to confirm some of the locations where my relatives carried on their basket making business. My great grandfather x 2 stated that his business started in 1829 and I think this was stretching it a bit far as I haven’t found anything to prove or disprove the story.

The first mention of John Haigh, basket maker is recorded as Rosemary Lane, which is still there just about, near to the Huddersfield Hotel. The date is 1834. In the Whites Directory shown on Ancestry it states that in 1837 the business had moved premises to 35 New Street, Huddersfield.

There were no more references on-line to John Haigh for another twenty years, in 1857 and by this time the Post Office directory had John back at Horbury Bridge, which I know to be correct. However, his son, Charles Haigh, continued his basket making business in the Brighouse and Huddersfield area. In 1893 the Kelly’s Trade directory in Ancestry states that his business was Basket and Skep maker at Canal Bank in Brighouse but his home is registered at 42 Bankfield Road, Longroyd Bridge as a Willow Merchant. The business moved later to Longroyd Bridge, then to Milnsbridge.

In the beginning of the twentieth century there was a family fall out and my grandfather started his own Basket making business. At the moment I am still vague about the dates. However, finding an old postcard sent to my grandfather Walter W. Haigh at Abb Street Basket Works, Marsh from my grandmother, I am guessing this may have been c.1905. If a certain person, who shall be nameless, hadn’t torn off the original postage stamp, together with the date mark in order to have some ‘swaps’ c.1956 I would have been able to date this postcard exactly.
The 1927 Directory has Walter W. Haigh registered as a Basket maker at 12 Trinity Street, formerly West Parade, whilst his brother John Edward Haigh who then inherited the original Haigh’s Basket Company in 1916, is not on the website but from my own information I know that it was at Whiteley Bottom in Milnsbridge. This and much more information is available at the Huddersfield Library and probably other libraries in the area.

When John Edward Haigh died in December of 1958 without issue, the firm was sold I believe to an employee and the name of Haigh’s Basket Company was somewhat compressed and the new name of Habasco was born. I have reason to believe, according to the Internet that the business is still alive and well, after all these years of trading.

…. Hmmmm if grandfather, being the eldest son, hadn’t fallen out with great grandfather and the second son hadn’t inherited the business I wonder what difference that might have made? ...We will never know.

Janet Le Billon

In the January 2015 Journal Research Corner I mentioned about the booklets available for the Hearth Tax, but I should have also mentioned about it been online. Thanks to Andy Micklethwaite and Roger Bellingham for reminding me.

There is a full transcript of the West Riding Hearth Tax on Hearth Tax online at http://www.hearthtax.org.uk/. The website is maintained by the Centre for Hearth Tax Research based at Roehampton University, London. Other counties listed include the North and West Ridings of Yorkshire, County Durham and a searchable database for London and Middlesex.

Best Wishes

Roger Bellingham (B102)

…Thanks Janet for another interesting read. There are a couple of things to comment briefly on:

**Getting the best from Family Search:**

Those of us who have been on the Internet for a while will remember Hugh Wallis’ list of places and batch numbers. This has not been updated for some considerable time. However, Stephen Archer has produced an updated list that not everyone may be aware of at http://www.archersoftware.co.uk/igi/

**Hearth Tax:**

The HearthTax.org site has many of the records online for certain counties, including the West Riding: http://www.hearthtax.org.uk/communities/westriding

This is of particular interest to those of us who can’t get to The Root Cellar or who have interests in Staincross wapentake.

Best Wishes

Andy Micklethwaite (M170)
Reading about Divorce in Huddersfield it would appear that there were some disreputable spouses about in this area. Here we have two stories from members about dubious characters in their family trees – Ed.

Benjamin Woodcock
– a drinker, bad husband and father, possibly worse, was this our Ben?

Benjamin Woodcock was born at Holmfirth in 1843, one of 10 children of Richard Woodcock and Mary Haigh Goldthorpe. Richard and Mary lost two children in the Holmfirth flood of 1852. Ben was my husband’s great grandfather.

In 1864 Ben married Martha Mellor, daughter of Joseph Mellor and Rebecca Cowgill. At the time of the marriage Ben was living at Ribbleden, Cartworth and Martha at South Lane, Wooldale, Holmfirth. Their first child, Sarah, was born two days later but died aged five months. They had eight children, Sarah, Dick, Martha, Joseph Mellor, Allen, Lily, Mary Ann and Jack; of these, only four were alive in 1881, Dick, Joseph, Allen and Mary Ann.

In the 1881 census Martha is described as a widow, however, despite intensive searches, we can find no trace of Ben or his death. The last official sighting of him was of him being the informant on Jack’s birth certificate in 1879. The family were living at South Lane at that time. Martha died in 1883, at New Laithe Wooldale, her father, also of New Laithe was the informant on the death certificate. Whether she and her children were living with her parents, or nearby, I have no information. The death certificate gives her occupation as a mill hand, and the cause of death as ‘disease of the heart and general dropsy, two years’. There is no mention of Ben on the death certificate, but this may mean nothing.

Her four children, aged from six to sixteen, were presumably taken in by relatives, although we have no knowledge of this happening. By 1891 Allen was living with Martha’s brother and sister in law, Firth and Elizabeth Mellor, at Wood Top Primrose Hill; Dick was boarding with a family in Saddleworth; Mary Ann was boarding at Linthwaite. Joseph was difficult to find but I now think he was a farm servant in Leeds.

A sad, but not too unusual story of a family’s hardship in Victorian times, Martha’s life was especially hard following Ben’s disappearance. Happily all four children married and had families.

We left things at that for some years, but then a search of British Newspapers on line and West Yorkshire Criminal Records brought unsettling information.

In 1865, a Ben Woodcock was sentenced to nine months imprisonment for indecent assault, as no age for the defendant was given, it is not possible to know whether he was our Ben or not. The newspaper report reads, ‘Benjamin Woodcock of Victoria, a very uncivilised locality in the township of Fulstone, ...the brute was committed for trial at the sessions’. Census and baptismal/death records for the children show that the family were living in the South Lane/Newgate area of Holmfirth from 1864-1879, and Victoria is some distance away, so we cannot be sure if this is our Ben.

However, a report in the Huddersfield Chronicle of 8th January 1878 reports, ‘and Benjamin Woodcock, labourer of South Lane were mulcted in sums varying from 5 shillings to 10 shillings for drunkenness in the past week’. This was most probably our Ben. On October 21st 1879 the West Riding Prison Records show that ‘Benjamin Woodcock, labourer of Holmfirth’ was sentenced to one month in jail for neglect of family. The record states he was 35 years old, five feet four and three quarter inches tall and had brown hair/eyes.
In January 1881 he was given 14 days for vagrancy, the age is a couple of years out and he seems to have grown half an inch, but it seems probable it is the same man.

On the 22nd of April 1881, Ben Woodcock of Holmfirth faced three separate charges: drunk and disorderly, assaulting a policeman and damaging a pair of trousers. He was fined, but being unable to pay, was imprisoned and released on June 30th. If this is our Ben, then Martha's declaration on the 1881 census was suspect, the census being taken in early April. However, he hardly seems a husband to be proud of.

There are more questions than answers; was the rogue (and by no means a likeable one) our Ben? Most probably, at least in some of the cases. If not my apologies, Ben. What happened to him we have no idea, anyone with any information, please get in touch.

Finally, the hardships suffered by Martha and her children must have been great, most of which must be attributed to Ben.

Margaret Woodcock (W030)

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**Thomas Bell Croft - the husband who never was**

I always considered that identity theft fraud was a very modern crime, but my research into the life of my great-grandmother, Mary Ann Barras née Mitchell has made me think it was already happening in the 19th century.

My great-grandfather, Samuel Henry Barras, died of consumption at the age of 41 in January 1881. He left behind a widow, Mary Ann, and five children: William 16; Clarinda 10; Edith Ann 7; Frank 5; Alexander 3. They all appear on the census in Huddersfield in 1881. For some reason they appear twice, at two different addresses: Greenhead Road and West Parade.

On the next census, 1891, the family is torn apart. William Barras, who married Edith Oddy in 1889, was living in Keighley with his wife and son. Clarinda was working in a woollen mill and living in lodgings. Edith Ann was employed as a servant in Dewsbury. The younger boys, Frank and Alexander, were living with their deceased father's widowed sister in Huddersfield. Mary Ann Barras, their mother, was employed as housekeeper to the widowed father of eight children in Knottingley.

This might not seem too unusual except that Mary Ann Barras, my widowed great-grandmother, married for a second time in 1889 a few days before her 46th birthday. She married Thomas Bell Croft at the Register Office in Huddersfield on 4 February. Thomas gave his age as 42 and said he was a widower. His occupation was 'machine fitter' and his father, William Croft, deceased, had been an engine fitter. Mary Ann knocked a couple of years off her own age – she said she was 44. Prior to the marriage the couple were living next door to one another in Damside Road, Huddersfield. The witnesses of the marriage were Ann Greenwood and Lucy Watling.

This marriage must have been a disaster. It obviously created a rift between Mary Ann and her children – except from Edith Ann – and they all kept it a secret from their own families, always referring to Mary Ann as Grandma Barras. Perhaps they had good reason. Was Thomas Croft a bigamist perhaps – this would explain why Mary Ann reverted to the surname Barras, if her second marriage was not legitimate. I have searched the local newspapers of the period but have found nothing there to substantiate this theory.
In fact I have found very little about Thomas Bell Croft apart from the above-mentioned marriage certificate. If he was born in 1846/7 he should have been easy to find on the 1851 census index, but there was only one Thomas Croft of the right age with a father called William and he was the son of a farm labourer in Whitwell, Yorkshire. I had no luck in 1861 either. In 1871 and 1881 there was a Thomas Croft born around 1846 living with his aunt in Sheffield. In 1871 he was single but by 1881 he was a widower with a daughter. He would fit the bill - except that his job was cabinet case maker not machine fitter, and, when this Thomas Croft married his first wife in Sheffield in 1872, there was no mention on the certificate of a middle name Bell, and his father was Charles Croft, a comb maker.

When I found a marriage of an actual Thomas Bell Croft to Agnes Miller in Leeds in 1868 I sent for a copy of that certificate. Another disappointment – the bridegroom was too old at 31, and his father was George Croft, a cloth dresser. This Thomas Bell Croft has also been difficult to pin down – he doesn’t appear to be the one born in Thirsk in 1837, as his wife was Priscilla.

I have come to the conclusion that most or all of the information about Thomas Bell Croft on the certificate of his marriage to my great-grandmother in 1889 is pure fiction. He was probably using an assumed name and made up details of his and his father’s occupations as well as his father’s name. Perhaps he thought he was marrying into money, as his new wife’s brothers-in-law owned the Barras Bros Mills in Huddersfield at that time. Two of the brothers were elected members of Huddersfield Town Council and would not have welcomed any scandal concerning their sister-in-law’s unfortunate marriage – another good reason to sweep it under the carpet.

Perhaps her Barras in-laws would have taken steps to prevent Mary Ann’s disastrous marriage in normal circumstances, but their eye was off the ball. Edna Barras, her redoubtable mother-in-law, was ill with pneumonia and died three days after the marriage took place.

Pat Williams (W137)

‘Pop Up’ Shop

Margaret Woodcock, our Publicity Officer, has come up with the brilliant idea of having a Pop-Up Shop in the Pack Horse Shopping Centre in Huddersfield. As a charity, we are very pleased to have been offered a shop unit for a few days in early Summer.

It is likely to be open over three days on Thursday to Saturday, 11th to 13th June 2015 - please put it in your diary. We will welcome any interested volunteers to help us over those days.

We will have our publications and other books on sale as well as access via laptops to our databases of information and we do hope that you will be able to drop in to see us if you live near enough to visit.

Please check our website for more information nearer the time and we look forward to another opportunity to meet our members as well as people new to family history.

Susan Hutson
Secretary
secretary@hdfhs.org.uk
Have you lost the Morton Family Bible?

Recently we had a phone call from the owner of a Family Bible belonging to the Morton family of Scissett and they would like to return it to a member of that family.

The original family was Henry Morton born c. 1830 in Manchester and his father was George Morton born in Manchester c1808. Henry was the sibling to Walter Morton 1840 and to possibly Mary Morton of Manchester. Mary Roberts, his wife was born c1839 and was probably the daughter of Adam Roberts of Penistone. Henry married Mary Roberts of Cumberworth in 1856 and together they had ten children, eight of whom survived into adulthood, but where did they go?

It is known that one son George Morton had a general grocer’s store on the Wakefield Road by the time of the 1911 census and had three daughters Mary Gladys, Emily and Elsie.

Mary Hannah never married and was still at home in 1911. Morris Morton married shortly after the census was taken but died early without issue. Emma Morton married George Hinchliff but again there was no issue.

There were four more children Henry Edward, Clara, Alfred and Lewis, sometimes written Louis, born between 1867 and 1880. Are any of these children on your family tree?

Please contact me for further details – Ed.

I was recently re-reading some of the H&DFHS magazines and found something I had missed in the January 2010 edition. There was a photo of Upper Hopton St. John’s Church, Mirfield and the information that the Church had been donated in 1844 by James Micklethwaite, who lived at nearby Hopton Hall. In 1811 my great great grandfather had been born, the illegitimate son of Mary Oldroyd (Holroyd) who lived in that area. She called her son Daniel Micklethwaite Holroyd – probably not the first child born out of wedlock to aristocracy. Does anyone know anything about the owners of Hopton Hall during the 1800s and how I might find out more about them?

Thanks

Sue Carson (C151)
d.carson@sympatico.ca
1184 Mineral Springs Rd., RR3, Dundas, Ontario, L9H 5E3, Canada

Our member Andy Micklethwaite was able to help Sue with the Micklethwaites of Hopton Hall. More to follow in the next Journal – Ed.
The response I received to Sue Walker’s enquiry about the ‘Old Body’ has been encouraging and informative’, the first being from David Gill - Ed.

Hi Janet

You must have found out by now or you will get a lot of response to Sue Walker and her Methodist Chapel Old Body query. The original Methodist movement involved a group of Calvinists known as the Old Body based in Wales before Wesley united them and others Presbyterians Congregationalists etc. A lot of information is available on the internet. I presume the Old Body is the Welsh Chapel branch?

Regards

David Gill (G135)

Member Mary Jessop shares a similar idea about the Old Body but then poses a further question.

I was interested in the question posed by Sue Walker and decided to look into it further with an Internet search. The only use I came across for the term 'Old Body' was in the Welsh Methodist church which seemed to have had as many offshoots and breakaway groups in the nineteenth century as its English counterpart. The Old Body was the original Welsh Methodist Church. At a guess the same was true in England - the Old Body was the first Methodist church and it was called this to discriminate it from the Primitive Methodists.

It would be interesting to know whether it was only the Church of England in Cawthorne who used this term or whether it was used by the Methodists themselves in Cawthorne and throughout the country. I did notice in the older documents that the use of the word Body for the church congregation did crop up and this reminded me that this word was used more routinely than now for an organisation or group. (As in ‘The Girl Guides is a charitable body set up to provide…’ etc.)

I found a lot in the Journal that was of interest to me this quarter. Thank you for a really good issue.

Best wishes

Mary Jessop (J054)

Here Sylvia Duncan answers the question, but more in relation to Lindley.

In answer to your question about the Methodist Chapel in Lindley being called the ‘Old Body’, I am assuming that you are referring to the present Methodist Chapel on East Street (previously known as the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel). In 1797 the followers of John Wesley split into two groups: the original Wesleyan Methodists (the Old Connexion) and those who followed Alexander Kilham (the New Connexion). The New Connexion went on to build their own chapel in Lindley in 1812 which was sold and demolished in 1962.
I suppose, strictly speaking, it would have been the congregation of the Wesleyan Chapel who were referred to as ‘the Old Body’ but since your mother called the chapel itself by that name it must have been used to refer to the actual building as well over time. This split between old and new wasn’t just in Lindley. It was a nationwide split which wasn’t resolved until the various factions joined together again as the United Methodist Church.

I hope this answers your question. I am not an expert on this subject but if I can be of any further assistance please let me know.

Yours sincerely

*Sylvia Duncan (nee Moore) (D131)*

*Thank you for your all your replies – Ed.*

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**Recent purchases for the Root Cellar Library**

The following books can all be borrowed by calling in person or by post unless indicated as reference only.

- Grandad Did a Dastardly Deed - 50 more Family History Traps  
  Broad K & Neobard T., Family History Partnership 2014  
  ISBN 9781906280475

- The Yorkshire Dales Local and Family History  
  Redmonds G., Wharncliffe Books 2011  
  ISBN 9781845631406

- If Somebody Remembers Me - *Men from the Village of Shepley who served in the Great War 1914 - 1918*  
  Pool G., 2014

- Kirkburton Official Guide and Directory (Reference Only)  
  1970

- Pre 1841 Census and Population Listings in the British Isles  
  1991  
  ISBN 1873686005

- The Workhouse Encyclopaedia  
  Higginbotham P. 2012  
  The History Press  
  ISBN 9780752470122

Two new local OS maps - may be used at the Root Cellar, or loaned by special arrangement.

- **OS Survey Maps**  
  Landranger 110 Sheffield and Huddersfield

- **Old OS Survey Maps**  
  Huddersfield (Manchester, Oldham)  
  Reprint of the First Edition of the one inch Ordinance Survey of England and Wales 1843 (with railways inserted)

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Maureen Wheeler  
Librarian
2nd Lt Albert Vincent Scholes

The Chairman, Richard Brown received the following letter recently:

Dear Mr Brown, I represent an Oxford Group promoting a new WW1 memorial to 14 airmen killed at a local aerodrome (Port Meadow) in 1917/18. One of them was from Huddersfield and we are struggling to identify a living relative and photo for him - 2nd Lt Albert Vincent Scholes RAF ..... Do you think your organisation could help?

Regards
Peter Smith, Oxford

Peter already had the following details:

‘Fourteen experienced pilots and trainees were killed while training at or visiting this WW1 flying training aerodrome on the edge of Oxford in 1917/18. Albert was a technical wireless telegraphy officer, a passenger in a two-seater fighter which crashed while the pilot did some unauthorised low level stunting.

Albert’s mother, Jane, lived at 130 Bradford Road North, Huddersfield, at the time of his death and Albert is buried in Edgerton Cemetery, Huddersfield.

Peter has found several vital details about his military career. He was just 17 when he joined the Royal Flying Corps on July 6, 1915 as an Air Mechanic 2nd class. He was promoted to Air Mechanic 1st class in September 1, 1916, then corporal on December 1, 1916 and appointed sergeant mechanic on July 15, 1917. Albert was awarded the Military Medal on December 19, 1916 for “efficiency in keeping in communication with an aeroplane while under heavy shellfire” in a ground-based Royal Flying Corps forward observation/liaison role with the army.

Albert was in France as a wireless operator from October 16, 1915 to April 10, 1917 but suffered a chest wound on April 4 during the Battle of Arras. Shrapnel struck the bar of his medal and glanced off, entering his chest an inch above his heart. He was treated at Birmingham War Hospital and returned to France on September 29, 1917 to January 28, 1918. He was then discharged from non-commissioned service on June 5 having been selected for appointment to a temporary commission. He became second lieutenant on July 7, 1918, in a technical capacity in view of his telephony experience and was posted to Port Meadow in August 1918 and then to Wireless Telephony Flight 21st Wing in October which was also based at the aerodrome.

An inquest held into the tragedy heard that the pilot – Capt Lenox Stanley Arbuthnot, a 23-year-old ‘special Instructor’ with significant flying experience, undertook an unauthorised low flying ‘stunting’ display piloting a Bristol Fighter C4774. Albert was on board testing wireless apparatus. The undercarriage struck the ground hard coming out of a dive, breaking off a wheel and causing the aircraft to veer towards and hit a building, ripping off part of a wing before climbing to 100ft and then diving into ground.
Both men were killed instantly and a verdict of misadventure was recorded by the coroner, who said: “In my opinion the pilot was running considerable risk which he should not have done.”

Not being able to resist a challenge I started doing some research to find out some background details about his family and consider where his descendants might be now.

I discovered that the family were living at Bradford Road North in Huddersfield at the time of the 1911 census when his mother Jane Scholes was shown as a widow, aged 45, and working as a confectioner’s shopkeeper, on her own account.

Three sons are shown on the record as Arthur C Scholes, 22, Joiner; John S Scholes, 16, Electrical Engineer’s apprentice and Albert V Scholes, 13, who was still at school, but I believe that Arthur may have died in 1913. In 1901 the family had been living in Leicester where Albert’s father, Carpenter Scholes was employed as a Clerk of Works. Carpenter was born in Kidderminster as were the eldest sons Arthur and John; Jane his wife was born in Huddersfield, and Albert in Bucklebury, Berkshire.

I have found that Albert’s brother, John Stanley married Ella Overend at St. Philip’s, Birchencliffe, Huddersfield, on 20 September 1923. At the time of his marriage he was living at 222 Bradford Road – given possible renumbering of properties this could be the same house as Albert was living at the time of his death in 1918. John appears to have died in 1958 in Leeds. I believe that Ella Overend Scholes may have died in Bolton in the 1990s.

Are you a descendant of Albert’s family or do you know of any relatives that are still living? It would be great if we could help the group in Oxford to complete their research on Albert and possibly find a photo of him. If so, do get in touch with me at the email address below and I will put you in contact with Peter Smith.

Susan Hutson
secretary@hdfhs.org.uk

The picture on the back cover this quarter shows Lindley Clock Tower built in 1902. It was designed by architect Edgar Wood and is over 80 feet high. The story goes that the villagers were always late for work, as they didn’t possess a watch, so James Nields Sykes of Fieldhead financed this building so they had no excuse for being late.
**Dropping in to Lindley’s history**

We received this email from the Lindley History Research Group and whilst it may have been published locally there may be some members living outside of Huddersfield who may be interested in this venture – Ed.

In its search to discover what life was like in Lindley one hundred years ago, **Lindley History Research Group** has launched a series of regular drop in sessions at Lindley Library.

As part of its Heritage Lottery Fund supported World War One commemorative project, ‘Then and Now in Lindley’, the Group is putting together a major exhibition that will look at life in Lindley during World War One as well as remembering all those who died as a result of the War.

Group member Sue Probert hopes the new library drop in sessions will play an important role in finding interesting material to be included in the exhibition. She explains: ‘Part of the exhibition will focus on stories of people who lived in Lindley in 1914. If anyone has information or photographs or artefacts relating to family or friends of family who were part of the Lindley cum Quarmby community during the First World War, we’d love to meet or hear from you’.

Dave Verguson says he has found the facilities available at Lindley Library invaluable in researching the lives of the men whose names are listed on war memorials in Lindley’s churches and chapels: ‘The 1911 Census and other sources such as parish registers have enabled us to paint a picture of the lives of ordinary people – their work, their homes, their families’.

Group members are also trying to find out as much information about how the buildings in Lidget Street - now Lindley’s main shopping area - were used during World War One. It is hoped that these findings can be displayed in shop windows in the form of temporary ‘blue plaques’ to mark the event. The exhibition will also be accompanied by a published trail and there will also be guided walks along Lidget Street during the exhibition.

It is hoped that the new drop in sessions will not only provide a regular opportunity for the Group’s members to use the Library’s family history research facilities to engage in collaborative research but also to meet other people who have an interest in Lindley’s history in an informal setting.

Members of Lindley History Research Group will be at Lindley Library on the first and third Tuesdays of the month between 1.30 and 3.00 pm. And anyone interested in researching Lindley’s history is also welcome to come along to the Group’s monthly meetings which take place in Lindley Liberal Club on the second Thursday of every month at 7.30 pm, or to email: lindleyhistoryresearchgroup@gmail.com for further details.

The exhibition will depict life in Lindley 100 years ago, as well as telling the stories of some of the many men from the village who lost their lives in the Great War. It takes place at St Stephen’s Church Lindley on Saturday 25 April (10.30 am – 4.00 pm) and Sunday 26 April (1.00 pm – 4.00 pm). There will also be guided historical walks through the village.

For further information please email lindleyhistoryresearchgroup@gmail.com or check out https://lindleyhistoryresearchgroup.wordpress.com/ - Ed.
THE ROOT CELLAR
33A Greens End Road, Meltham, Holmfirth HD9 5NW
(Adjacent to Greens End Garage)

Opening Times

Monday 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm
Tuesday 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm
Wednesday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm and 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm
Thursday 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm
Thursday evenings (alternate weeks) 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm
Saturdays 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm

Why not come along and:

Carry out your research
Speak to people with similar interests
Work on our computers including using Ancestry.com Worldwide
Seek advice from our team of volunteers and explore our resources
Purchase our publications booklets and look at old maps of the area

Ring ‘The Root Cellar’ 01484 859229 for information

We operate on a voluntary basis