

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY

www.metcalfe.org.uk



THE METCALFE SOCIETY

Established 1950

Registered Charity No. 1000879

ISSN 0952-7354

August 2013

100

NOT OUT

RIPON LOWER WENSLEYDALE



Home of Metcalfes over the centuries Ripon still has a Mecca presence in the Market Place in the form of local accountants

FE Metcalfe & Co

Located close to the 7th century cathedral the firm is stated on its website www.femetcalfe.co.uk to be : *"a long established firm of Chartered Accountants based in Ripon, North Yorkshire. We have been offering advice and support on accounting, taxation, audit and support services to a wide range of businesses and individuals since 1946. Our experienced team of four Directors and thirteen support staff provide a professional, personal, effective solution to all of your day-to-day accounting, taxation and auditing needs, at a competitive fee."*



Partner
Fred Metcalfe
FCCA
Fred joined his father in the practice where he trained as an articled clerk, before qualifying in 1972. He took over the practice in 1985.

THE MECCA NEWS

EDITOR: PETER DOBSON

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY
PRODUCED THREE TIMES A YEAR
IN APRIL, AUGUST AND DECEMBER

CONTENTS

Regulators

Society News

page 10

Chairman's Jottings

page 16

Metcalfe in the First World War

Page 28

Archivist Report & Membership Details

page 29

Wills

page 43

From the Editor

page 46

Features

73 inches of rain

page 5

Living Tally in the Classic Slum?

page 14

Jose Hopper *Page 19*

The Sheffield Flood

page 21

Keld Swaledale

Page 24

Is it a conundrum or a conunbell?

page 33

Liberty Ship Jesse H Metcalf

page 39

AUGUST 2013 ISSUE No 100

Member of the Guild of One Name Studies
Member of the Federation of Family History Societies
Registered Charity 1000879 Data Protection Act M0031084
<http://www.metcalfe.org.uk>

*The views and material published in the Mecca News do not necessarily
represent the views of the Editor or the Metcalfe Society*

100 NOT OUT

The first edition of your magazine was distributed in 1980 compiled by Vera Adams and Mary Metcalfe giving a resume of the history of the Clan and a list of those providing information. We have come a long way since then.

I became Editor of Mecca News in 1985 and loved every minute. It was a wonderful way to keep in touch with the most lovely group of people making the Metcalfe Society work.

Secretary's Notes and Society matters included 'its about time a committee was formed' and 'we need a computer' and Dorothy Pope's suggestion for a separate Birth Brief booklet.

All things part of the fabric of the Society now.

It was good to get to know new members through their listings in each issue and as I love all family history I always enjoyed reading the fascinating articles sent in by members. Dorothy Pope discovered 'Murders Most Foul' (Issue 23). Denise Smith's wonderful tale 'From Hawnbly to Nova Scotia' (Issue 20), is still one of my all time favourites.

I'm so pleased that 28 years ago, when I was asked to be Editor, I said 'Yes'.

I handed over to David Urwin in December 1987 who, on the occasions I met him, made me laugh about his take on Family History. I knew he'd continue the tradition of Mecca News being a really good read and he did, his editions were full of interest and humour too.

Valerie Metcalfe (M61)

From Issue 30

More than two years have finally taken their toll. Although I shall miss hearing from you, my public, pressures of work prevent me from pushing my publishing career further. Sitting here in the home for the impoverished and bewildered and secure in the knowledge that "Mecca News" is safe in the hands of Stuart Metcalfe its new editor; it is comforting to see familiar faces around me, including Valerie Metcalfe and Vera Adams, my predecessors as editor...sleep easy Stuart we are saving a straight-jacket for you.

David Urwin (M193)

Magazine Editors: Compiled by **Lesley Longworth M68**

- 1) **Vera Adams (M2)** - editor 1 to 16 - 16 editions
- 2) **Valerie Metcalfe (M61)** - editor 17 to 22 - 6 editions
- 2) **David Urwin (M193)** - editor 23 - 30 - 8 editions
- 3) **Stuart Metcalfe (M47)** - editor 31 - 40 - 10 editions
- 4) **Richard Medcalf (M563)** - editor 41- 43 - 3 editions
- 5) **Peter Dobson (M69)** - editor 44 (Dec '94) - 100 - 57 editions

73 inches of rain in Wensleydale!

WEATHER. There is a lot of it about! We either tend to ignore it or as Samuel Johnson said "when two Englishmen meet the first thing they talk about is the weather".¹

If the weather is benign - not too hot, not too cold, not too wet, not too dry we have to find other topics to discuss. However the British Isles being located on the edge of a continent surrounded by water and influenced by the Gulf Stream is subject to weather vagaries and so we never tend to be lost for words.

In some other parts of the world the weather person has an easy life. Every morning they stand in front of a map and generally repeat the report they gave the day before. A bit like the comedy sketch from "The Fast Show" where the weatherman puts a sun symbol all over the map and says "Scorchio"!

Benign doesn't tend to be the norm for the UK but neither are extremes of weather. However extremes are nothing new and happen from time to time. The fifteen month period from early 2012 to 2013 saw the British Isles encounter a drought, severe rain during the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the coldest weather in fifty years (since 1963). These vagaries have always been with us and have affected life styles perhaps more so in the past than now.

It tends to be that the further north in the UK you live the colder it can be and the higher you are the wetter and colder you are. So our Metcalfe ancestors living in the north of England in the high dales encountered more weather than southern inhabitants. Pictures of snow ploughs clearing the Butter Tubs pass (between Wensleydale and Swaledale) in late March of this year may be picturesque but pose major difficulties for hill farmers and their pregnant sheep flocks.

The weather has affected the development of civilisations and even caused their demise. The atmospheric changes caused by natural phenomenon such as volcanic eruptions may have been responsible for the 6th century famine and pestilence which weakened the British tribes at a critical time in British History. The Romano-Britons had managed to halt the conquest of Britain by the Saxons at the battle of Badon bringing stability for over a quarter of a century but the weather problems by the early 540's weakened the indigenous defenders more than their foes. By the end of the century much of present day England was in the hands of the Saxons and their allies. This eventually led to the lower Dales being invested by Angles and Danes with, later the upper Dales taken over by Vikings.

A volcanic eruption in the Philippines in 1816 caused a summer without sun and led to the failure of crops leading to food riots in England (See MN90 RIOT! page9). William Turner undertaking a painting/drawing tour of Swaledale/Wensleydale and Teesdale during that summer suffered three weeks of miserable wet weather and said "I shall be web footed like a drake".³ He nonetheless completed some 400 drawings of the Dales.

The Krakatoa eruption of 1883 also had an effect reducing temperatures by 2°F with the lasting legacy in the quote "Once in a blue moon" caused by volcanic ash obscuring the sky.

In 1607 a possible storm surge off Southern Ireland led to a tidal wave racing up the Bristol Channel inundating thousands of acres, killing hundreds of people and devastating livestock. Without the instant communication of today news took many days to reach the seat of power and generally survivors were left to their own devices or the charity of others. (Some church records show collections for similar catastrophes.) A pamphlet of the time shows drawings of churches with only their spires showing and survivors clinging to tree tops.

Ninfield East Sussex January 15th 1776

"During the severity of the present weather when no work can be done abroad, the Earl of Ashburnham made a payment of 5 guineas to the poor of the parish.

May the affluent in their several stations imitate so noble an example

The above sum with the appropriation of the Church Wardens was distributed."

Violent storms occur infrequently but have devastating consequences. The Dales are always subject to flooding. The topography encourages higher rainfall and on a number of occasions with disastrous results. In 1771 the north of England suffered severe rain and nearly all of the bridges, many

hundreds of years old, were destroyed disrupting trade / commerce and undoubtedly causing personal misery.

There are instances of local deluges. In July 1899 a rainstorm hit upper Wensleydale causing the small



beck feeding Hardraw Falls to overflow and carry away part of the graveyard of Hardraw church. Coffins were broken open and their contents washed downstream to the Ure. Whilst on 3 June 1908 Askrigg was flooded with



most houses affected some up to the first floor and three bridges destroyed between the village and Aysgarth downstream. Nappa Hall only a mile from Askrigg also suffered in the torrent.

Hailstorms tend to be less frequent and therefore more noticeable when they are severe. At the end of April 1697 a particularly violent hailstorm was noted passing across Chester by Edmund Halley (he of the comet fame) and had a devastating effect on people property and livestock as it spread north eastwards across Lancashire and into the southern Dales. There were many injuries with damage to buildings severe and even animal deaths in Lancashire. A report in the royal Society's papers paints a vivid picture of the destruction.^{5/6}

In 2012 Hawes in Wensleydale had 1851mm (or 73 inches) of rain (hence the headline) - not unexpected given the number of wet days during the year. However this was not the wettest year of the last decade for the upper dale, as there were higher rainfalls in 2004 (1920mm/75.6ins) 2006 (2077mm/81.2ins) and 2008 (2122mm/ 83.5ins).²

The effect rain may be a problem but Dales folk have lived with the condition for centuries and apart from the violent extremes generally cope with it. Likewise warm weather. A sunny dry August was necessary to allow the gathering of feed for the winter for the animals but sometimes instead of gentle warming the sun excelled itself.

In 1818 in Ripon it was reported that the temperature reached an Arabian type high of 118°F (48°C)! Hot enough for steaks to be cooked on metal trays.³

Drought was a problem in 1666 (adding to the problems of the plague the previous year in London) and more recently in 1976 when temperatures were regularly over 70°F for many weeks until the appointment of a Minister of Drought, after which it rained for some time.

The longest reported drought was in 1893 when no rain was reported for some three months from the February. Conditions were bad with *".. only exceedingly low prices for stock can be obtained owing to the scarcity of fodder."*⁶ The dry weather also produced frosty nights which had an effect on crops. It was one of the warmest summers on record until the 1990's.

It is not just the sun and heat that cause difficulties although many hot summers created the conditions for disputes that can escalate into major disputes and riots. Combined with rain the dampness can have an effect on crops and insects. The potato famine in Ireland was a result of warm damp conditions which encouraged the blight whilst outbreaks of malaria were seen in England in the 1840's and 50's before improved health measures curtailed and finally eradicated the problem.

*1783. Intensely hot summer with "intolerable" plague of caterpillars.
Tonbridge Weather notes 1692-1800*

The battle of Towton on 29 March 1461 was affected by the weather with the snow and high winds causing the Lancastrian forces to shoot and fight into the conditions. The Yorkists (with suitable reinforcements) won the day with a huge slaughter reckoned to as great as the first day on the Somme in 1916 (when 60,000 were killed injured or missing). This had a direct affect on the population of the Dales as many of those fighting were from the

area. The loss of so many able bodied men meant hardships for those left behind.

The cold is also a killer as experienced in the last winter but there were other bad years, 1963 was reported as the worst for 200 years but the late 1500's for a century saw a mini ice age when fairs were held on the Thames and ice skating occurred on many big rivers. The cold was noticeable between the late 1500's and early 1800's with frequent cold winters; 1662, 1674, 1684, 1740 and 1814 mentioned amongst others. In March 1674 there were some 13 days of blizzards which hit Yorkshire and the Scottish Borders quite badly



resulting in many pregnant ewes perishing (not dissimilar a situation to this last winter). The coldest day in winter was stated to be in 1684 with Yorkshire badly affected. More modern times saw a temperature of -13⁰c at Garforth near Leeds in April 1908 with skating on Windermere in 1895.⁴

Many Christmases were white and it was a feature of paintings of the time. However a change in the climate and a move to the Gregorian Calendar meant that white Christmases were less of a feature. The change in September 1752 from the Julian calendar which was out of step with its Gregorian counterpart by 13 days resulted in Christmas being moved forward from what had been 12th of December.

..... JUNE 1891
 : Cold weather and east winds have marked the month of May this year, and even the :
 : close of the month showered hail and snow upon us, freezing the early potatoes, and :
 : blighting the blossom of much of our stone fruit and some of our pear trees, while :
 : sickness of various kinds has been more prevalent than in winter. :
 : From The Parish Church of HOLY TRINITY, TARLETON Parish "Webzine" June 2006 :
 :

Severe weather tends to affect communities, areas, regions and even countries however one type of bad weather can have a particularly individual effect. Lightning. Often accompanied by heavy rain, which can do heavy damage, the strike is localised and its effect often unnoticed. However this report indicates otherwise. 19 Jul 1729 *Daily Journal*. "We have an Account from Midlam in Yorkshire that the Thunder and Lightning that happened there on Tuesday last, has done considerable Damage; Several Persons were struck blind with the Lightning, among whom, Solomon Debdale, a Wheelwright, a young Man of about 25 Years of Age, who is so afflicted with his Misfortune, that 'tis fear'd he will go distracted." ⁷

We all experience weather to a greater or lesser degree although I would suggest for the majority in our modern insulated centrally heated premises we acknowledge the effect of the weather a great deal less than our antecedents of previous centuries or even merely sixty years ago did. The movement from country to towns and from agriculture to now more non manual work means that many work inside or are less worried about the vagaries of the weather. The severity of weather in the past was a life or death condition for our ancestors and this may have resulted in moves from the land to new areas or even new countries. Weather has had an effect and may be of relevance to your family's history. There are many potential sources of weather information such as newspapers, individual diaries, church records, estate/landowners records and even state records. It is useful to consult these sources they just might give a wider perspective on your forebears lives.

Peter Dobson M69

¹Campbells Weather Compendium - Harry Campbell

²Upper Wensleydale Newsletter - March 2013

³New York Times

⁴The Wrong Kind of Snow - Antony Woodward & Robert Penn

⁵rsl.royalsocietypublications.org

⁶Since Records Began - Paul Simons

⁷<http://www.dalesgenealogy.com/>

DEADLINE for the December Mecca News is 24th October 2013.

Articles comments or snippets to the Editor.

I have heard from York Glaziers Trust that the Metcalfe Window panel work has been completed.

It is hoped to formally hand over the panel at the Muster to the church representatives
Vivienne Metcalf M1147



YORKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY FAIR 2013

On Saturday 29th June
David Metcalfe, Margaret
Hodgson and Jo Heron
represented the Society at
this, the major family history
fair held in the North
of England.

(See opposite.)

As ever, it was an interesting
day but the whole event did seem
quieter than in former years.
However it was pleasant to meet
the Members who visited our stand:

Linda Cunningham; Maureen
Heseltine; Mary Irving; Robert
Metcalf; Rosemary Netzel.

We were kept fairly busy with
general enquiries and hopefully
some of these will lead to new
members.

Margaret Hodgson M515

Muster 2013

**Saturday 12 October at the Dales
Countryside Museum Hawes
Wensleydale from 10am.**

***For full details see enclosed
booking form.***

***Please contact Lesley Longworth
asap to book your place.***

**Committee Meeting at Dales
Countryside Museum
20 July 2013 L-R:**

Standing:

**Lesley Longworth,
Vivienne Metcalf,
Jo Heron, David
Metcalf, Diane
Howarth, Peter
Dobson. Front:
Marsden Holden
David Lambert,
Margaret Hodgson.**



DNA project

There have been a couple more people joined the Project recently, whose results have not yet received.

Martin Metcalfe M772



Contact Details

President: Charles S. Metcalfe (M305) e-mail : president@metcalfe.org.uk

Chairman: David Lambert, 22 Lime Grove, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 6PJ.
email: chairman@metcalfe.org.uk

Editor: Peter Dobson, 143 Vernon Road, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1YS.
email: editor@metcalfe.org.uk

Treasurer: Marsden P Holden. email: treasurer@metcalfe.org.uk;
giftaid@metcalfe.org.uk

Archivist: Miss Margaret Hodgson, 27 Middlethorpe Drive, Dringhouses, York YO24 1NG
email: archivist@metcalfe.org.uk

Webmaster: Ms Carol Herbert. email: webadmin@metcalfe.org.uk

Despatch/New Members: Mrs Elizabeth Waller, Chesney Villa, Thornton le Street, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 4DS email: despatch@metcalfe.org.uk;
memberinfo@metcalfe.org.uk; newmembers@metcalfe.org.uk

DNA Project: Martin Metcalfe, 10 Swinnate Road, Arnside, Carnforth LA5 0HR
email dna@metcalfe.org.uk

AGM & Muster Secretary: Mrs Lesley Longworth, 57 Westbourne Avenue, Hull HU5 3HW
email muster@metcalfe.org.uk

Committee Members: Jo Heron (M1042) e-mail : committee2@metcalfe.org.uk
Diane Howarth (M409) committee3@metcalfe.org.uk
Vivienne Metcalf (M1147) committee1@metcalfe.org.uk

Overseas Agents: **Australia** Miss Dianne Fox, 75 Rosehill Road, Lower Plenty, Victoria 3093, Australia email agentaus@metcalfe.org.uk

Canada: Miss Susan C.M.Harper, 4318 Emily Carr Drive, Unit 25, Victoria BC, Canada V8X 5E7 email: agentcdn@metcalfe.org.uk

New Zealand: Mrs Alison Hutton, 197 Highsted Road, Christchurch 8051, South Island, New Zealand email: agentnz@metcalfe.org.uk

METCALFE ROOTS

On a recent visit to the Laurel & Hardy Museum in Ulverston I noticed the name of Stan's mother - **Margaret Metcalfe**. On further reading I found Margaret was born in Hawes in 1861, eldest daughter of **George and Sarah Metcalfe**, Boot & shoe maker. The family moved to Ulverston by 1871 when her sister Sarah Ann was 8 years old, living at 13, Oxford St.

Margaret met Arthur Jefferson who had come to Ulverston to manage a theatre there. They married and their first son George was born and cared for by his Grand parents when they moved to Bishop Auckland, living in a boarding house in 1891. Later that year Margaret returned home to give birth to Stanley and he too was cared for by his grandparents.

By 1901 Arthur Jefferson had bought his own theatre and house in North Shields so the family was united along with a third son Joseph (7). Granny Sarah was also visiting at that time.

Stanley was always interested in acting and his father built him a stage in the attic where he invited his friends to put on productions.

When he left school his parents tried to persuade him to choose another career but after only 1 year he gave up his job and went to work for another theatre company. He

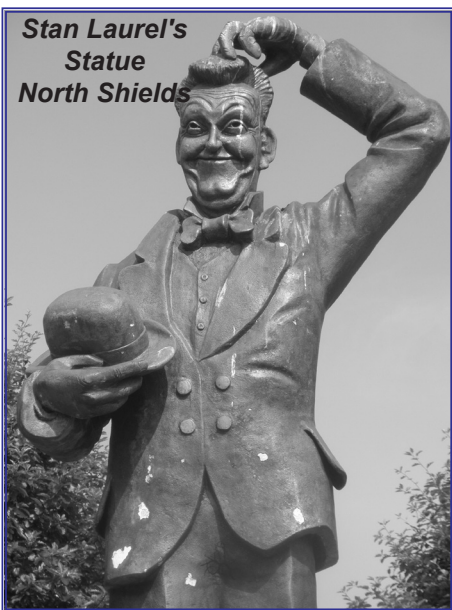
persevered for many years, working with Charlie Chaplin and tours of America. He changed his name to Stan Laurel to give more impact on posters. His break through came when he met Oliver Hardy making many silent films together.

No doubt he inherited his love of theatre from his father but perhaps the tenacity and determination came from his Metcalfe roots.

Shirley Pate M1877

Members may be interested to know that Stan visited Britain in 1932 with Oliver Hardy and paid a visit to North Shields Northumberland where he started his career (or it could have been Ulverston or Bishop Auckland!). A video of the event can be seen on www.youtube.com/watch?V=614Pb1UsxhA - Editor.

**Stan Laurel's
Statue
North Shields**



Member 1596 Patricia M Pearson writes from South Australia:

"An Article from the State's daily newspaper "The Advertiser"

13.5.13 issue concerning **Ken Metcalfe**.

I have spoken to the feature writer Julian Swallow and asked his permission to send his article to you for publishing in the Mecca News as you wish.

He has put me in touch with Heather Manfield - Ken's daughter - who is agreeable too; will be in touch with her brother in the USA and may join the Metcalfe Society to research their lineage."

The article headed

SA INVENTOR DIES AT 97 AN UNSUNG HERO

is reproduced below.

JULIAN SWALLOW

ANYBODY who knows what it's like to waste valuable time typing out documents in triplicate owes a debt of gratitude to Ken Metcalfe.

In 1952, the industrial radiologist and his Adelaide Defence Standards Laboratories co-worker Bob Wright invented and refined the modern liquid development process of photocopying.

It built on an earlier method they had developed utilising talcum powder, petrol siphoned from Wright's car, an X-ray photograph and a photo-conducting selenium plate charged with electricity.

Their discovery gave birth to one of the world's most ubiquitous pieces of office machinery: the humble photocopier.

Yet, despite the work leading to more than 200 patents worldwide, it was an invention that netted Mr Metcalfe, who died last month at the age of 97, nothing more than scientific recognition.

Because the pair were working for the government, they were unable to profit from their discovery.

It was, instead, American and Japanese companies, such as Xerox who ultimately gained with the first commercial photocopier developed towards the end of the 1950s.

"It was the Americans and the Japanese who put money into photocopying because the Australian Government weren't prepared to put the funds into it," Mr Metcalfe's daughter Heather Manfield said. "It was such a terrible waste for Australia."

While the photocopier was Mr Metcalfe's most famous invention, colleague Peter Hastwell said Mr Metcalfe was a man who had a "massive influence" on the lives of many scientists.

And he added Mr Metcalfe was always working on new ideas.

Despite his influence, Ms Manfield said her father's achievements remained relatively unknown among South Australians.

"It wasn't until he got his MBE (in 1978) that he was finally recognised for it," she said. "But many people still don't realise."

Grinton Bridge *"found to be in decaie"* 4 October 1631

Reeth Bridge *"Condition such that fowar score pounds will not amend the decaie thereof"*. 7 October 1623

Bridge Accounts 1635. Nth Yorkshire Quarter Session Records

'Living tally' in the Classic Slum?

The Classic Slum is what Salford-born author Robert Roberts - borrowing from Engels - chose to call his memoir of working-class life at the start of the twentieth century. The book provides a rich store of anecdotes and insights, but for those tracing their family tree perhaps the most intriguing aspect is Roberts' comment on marital status. He wrote how "those who dwelt together unmarried "livin' tally" or "over t' brush," as the sayings went came in for little criticism, though naturally everybody knew who was or was not legitimate.ⁱ Historians have tended to cite this passage as evidence that cohabitation was common. But just how common was unmarried cohabitation in this location or, to put it in practical terms, how quickly should the family historian abandon the search for a marriage on the assumption that the couple were probably cohabiting?

In order to answer this question the marital status of all couples living in the area at the time of the 1901 census was investigated. Rather than relying on the way in which they were described in the census, evidence of their actual marriage was sought. The area examined consisted of Enumeration Districts 5 to 10 of the area designated as Salford's Regent Road Sub-Registration District. This corresponded almost precisely to the streets in Roberts' description: these six districts together cover the area bounded by the Manchester, Bolton & Bury Canal to the north (the canal ran alongside the line of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway), Oldfield Road to the east, the London & North Western Railway to the south, and Cross Lane to the west.ⁱⁱ

In this area, 1,124 couples were identified. For the purposes of the study, a 'couple' was understood as either (i) a man and woman who were explicitly recorded as married and listed as 'head' and 'wife', or (ii) an unrelated man and woman who shared a home with or without children. Lodgers and boarders in more complex multi-adult households were excluded, since the aim of the survey was not to investigate all sexual relationships outside marriage (a near impossible task) but to test the extent to which men and women set up home together unmarried.

Of these 1,124 couples, a number had to be excluded on the basis that the marriage was effectively untraceable, either because it took place outside the jurisdiction or because the recording of the names was poor. On this basis the 13 couples whose first child had been born overseas or who were both recent immigrants from overseas were excluded from the sample. A further 7 couples were excluded as being too unreliably recorded to trace. Charles and Annie Halford, for example, appear in official records different times as Clifford Augustus Halford and Amelia or Charlotte Amelia, while Angus Brown's wife was recorded merely as 'G.A.' And three couples combined both problems: J.M. Connors, born in Ireland, was recorded as married to 'Leva', born in China. The diligent descendant might be able to invest the time to discover the situation, but the researcher looking at a cohort of over 1,000 has to draw the somewhere.

Of the remaining cohort, marriages were traced for 96%.ⁱⁱⁱ Most had married locally

(64% within Salford Registration District itself), the distances travelled by the 9% who had married outside Lancashire were quite considerable, with weddings having taken place as far afield as Cardiff, County Durham, Glasgow, Medway, Plymouth, and even Toronto.^{iv}

Possible matches were found for another 2%. The latter were ones where the marriage took place outside Salford, and could not be confirmed as the correct match, but where there were a number of factors that meant that it was at least plausible in terms of timing and location.

Within the handful of remaining cases, four (0.4%) were definitely cohabiting in 1901, and we know this because a later marriage was traced for them. William and Mary Elizabeth Davies, both 22 at the time of the census, married later in 1901, but the three other couples delayed their marriages until 1902, 1903 and 1909 respectively. In the 1911 census, however, all three claimed to have been married for somewhat longer 15 years in the first case and 14 years in the other two cases - suggesting that couples were not eager to advertise the fact that they had lived together unmarried.

Conversely, on occasion a couple who were not explicitly described as married turned out to be so. George Stokes, 45, was listed as the married head of a household but the entry for 46-year-old Mary H. Stokes did not record her marital status, leaving the box blank, while the two children living with them were not recorded as George's son and daughter, as was normal practice in the 1901 census. This might raise suspicions of a non-marital relationship, but in fact they had wed in Manchester in 1877. The reason for the omission of certain details in their 1901 Census entry is simply a mystery.

As for the small number for whom no marriage has yet been traced - there is, of course, no reason to assume that they were cohabiting unmarried, since there will always be marriages that remain untraced for reasons well known to genealogists. Overall, it seems likely that under 1% of those living as couples in Salford had not gone through a formal ceremony of marriage.

All this suggests that if, as Roberls suggested, the community did tolerate the occasional cohabiting relationship, this was because there were very few of them, and that it is worthwhile persevering when looking for an elusive marriage.

Professor Rebecca Probert, University of Warwick

Professor Probert is the author of a number of books on the history of marriage and cohabitation. Her most recent book is Marriage Law for Genealogists; The definitive Guide (Takeaway, 2012).

i R. Roberts, *The Classic slum; Salford Li/b in the First quarter of the Century* (London: Penguin, 1990; original edition 1971), p.47. ii RG13/3732-3.

iii This is higher than the proportion that I reported for this study in *The Legal Regulation of Cohabitation: From Fornicators to Family, 1600-2010* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), p. 113 due to the simple fact that as more resources became searchable, more matches were found.

iv On which see further *Marriage Law for Genealogists: The Definitive Guide (Takeaway, 2012)*, chapter 6.

This article first appeared in The Manchester Genealogist Vol 49, No1, 2013 and is reproduced by kind permission of the author Professor Probert and the editor of the The Manchester Genealogist.

I start with two apologies.

The first is for the length of my previous offering! I will try to keep these as jottings rather than an essay! I was horrified when I read the April Mecca News by the number of pages I had taken up.

The second is to give my apologies for absence at this year's Muster. A holiday arranged and booked last year which would have avoided the Muster weekend has had to be postponed by a week by the organisers with the consequence that I will be unable to attend.

Chairman's Jottings

For very many years one of the stalwarts at the Muster was Jose Hopper, who served on our committee virtually from the time we started to use the museum in Hawes as our venue. The committee were shocked to learn of her sudden and unexpected death in May ,

Those who attended the Musters will remember as do we with affection at the Musters. Her cheese sales table was always sold out within minutes and very popular. She was great at organising matters for the Musters as she lived locally and knew everyone from the museum staff to the café proprietors! Nothing was

too much trouble and her wise words at committee meetings were always worth listening to. She stepped down from the committee in 2011. An appreciation is contained elsewhere.

Talking of the Muster means we will soon be due to hold our AGM and elect committee members. I have indicated to the Committee that I will offer to serve for one more year as your chairman. I will be 65 next year and would like to retire in 2014 as chairman, assuming that you re-elect me as chairman this year. As I won't be there you can be rude! The minutes will not name names!

We will, as ever, be glad to hear from you if you think you can volunteer either to serve on the Committee or in some other way. Why not offer to do some project work for us?

I am hoping that at our Committee meeting in a few days time, we will discuss ways to encourage you all to help us collect more data and add it to the wealth of information we already hold about our clan.

I am keen to persuade the Committee that we should promote a number of in effect 'mini projects' under the Committee's direction

and guidance. If you are looking, say, at Manorial Court Records, Apprenticeship Stamp Duty lists, Military records of any kind, Land Tax Returns, Electoral rolls-the list is unending- make a note of Metcalf(e)s!

There is so much more we can research without leaving home by going online and we ought, I think, to be doing just that. Look at the National Archives (TNA) and Archives to Archives (A2A) sites for example. The possibilities are boundless and that is why we do, I consider, need to set some parameters and co-ordinate what is being done or else we could be overwhelmed by too much data.

Finally, continuing my theme from April, I have endlessly, it seems, been checking and discarding papers and files not just at home and also at work, since my colleagues have moved me to a new office - pastures new, rather like a retired pit pony or Army horse!

Those things I could not bear to be parted from but in reality when faced with 'scrap or save', have mostly found their way to be shredded. Being a hoarder is fine if you have space and if you do look at the items retained but when you don't, I have come to realise 60 odd years too late there is not very much point in retaining them! A hard lesson to learn! I had assumed that by ridding myself of surplus I would have more space! The trouble is the space provided by disposing of the 'surplus' is soon filled unfortunately- both at the office and home for some unaccountable reason!

Hopefully the editor will find it possible to fill the space provided by my shorter jottings!

David Lambert M11

Will Rodgers sayings ABOUT GROWING OLDER...

from Lesley Longworth M68

Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth,
think of Algebra.

Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

On Thursday 15 August 2013 I and my wife Elsie together with our two children and seven grandchildren will celebrate our Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

We were married in Newcastle upon Tyne and for our honeymoon flew/train to Lugano which in those days took a whole day of travel. When we arrived at our Pension we discovered that our room was still occupied by people who had decided to stay another night. We were eventually given a room on an upper floor which they moved in two single beds as a temporary measure. The only problem was there was a 10" difference in the height of the mattresses of the two beds - so we began married life separated on the first night!

On the third day we went to the top of a nearby mountain San Salvatone and underestimated the sun and my wife got sunstroke so was bed bound for the next three days, an exciting start for the next 60 years.

In May this year I have been driving since 1943 - 70 years and because a lady wrote off my car in April I had to decide whether to continue driving or not. Because of its convenience I have bought another car but will see how long I can put up with the poor standard of today's road users!

Walter H Metcalf M655

Editor: On behalf of the Society and its members I offer Walter and Elsie our congratulations on reaching the marriage milestone after an interesting beginning!

your letters and emails

John Metcalfe M1888

supplied the following from the Glasgow Herald of 26 October 1957.

Train Driver Acquitted.

Jury at Carlisle Quarter Sessions found **Richard Ralph Metcalfe** (63) of Winlaton, Blaydon-on-Tyne not guilty of being drunk on duty as the driver of a diesel train.

Police and passengers said Metcalfe was drunk when the train stopped after a woman pulled the communication cord.

Other railwaymen said Metcalfe was not drunk and in evidence

he said he had only one pint of beer and was perfectly fit.

Dr Henry Millar a Newcastle neurological specialist said Metcalfe suffered from a medical condition that made him unsteady when he walked. He had pale eyes with small pupils and his speech was rather indistinct. The recorder said Dr Millar impressed me because he was calm and his evidence was obviously carefully considered. He further said it was disconcerting state of affairs that the police were unable to get a doctor to examine the defendant.

Jose Hopper

Jose was for some eleven years our committee member with local Wensleydale liaising responsibilities. Accommodation for our biannual committee meetings and annual Muster in Hawes were organised by Jose together with arrangements on Muster day for providing local produce including the famous Wensleydale cheese.

Joining the committee in late 2000 Jose quietly and unassumingly contributed to the various discussions at the meetings until in 2011 she decided it was time for her to step down and concentrate more on family matters.

Family was always an important aspect of her life and this was demonstrated by her article in the Society's magazine of December 2007 (Mecca News issue 83) when she described her family Christmas and New Year celebrations of her teenage years.

Born near Bainbridge in Wensleydale Jose went to college in Liverpool before taking up a catering career. Firstly at an upmarket girls boarding school in High Wycombe and then at various school catering establishments primarily in Northamptonshire.* She retired in 1992 and made her way back to the Dales taking up roles in a variety of local societies including the Upper Dales FHS, Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum and of course our own Society.



Jose died on 28 May shortly after her 79th birthday. She had been out with family members for the day and was found the next morning. Her service of thanksgiving at St Andrew's Church Aysgarth close to her home on 6 June was well-attended including Society representatives Diane Howarth and Vivienne Metcalf. The theme throughout the service picked up on her love of family and its importance in her life. It also brought out her innate acts of kindness shown by little packets of sweets left by her as a thank you. Society members will particularly remember her for her unfailing positiveness at the annual Muster.

**A more detailed history of Jose's career can be found in an Upper Wensleydale Newsletter article from 2007 on the internet. See www.wensleydale.org/newsletters/issue122.pdf*

MECCA MISCELLANEOUS

WHARFEDALE FAMILY GROUP:

Issue 86 Sept 2012 page 24 Photo of WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL WORKERS FROM GRASSINGTON 2ND JUNE 1961 –

HERBERT METCALFE

ISSUE 87 DECEMBER 2012 page 25 transcribed scroll (photo too) overseers waywardens guardians and parish councillors in ADDINGHAM PARISH READING ROOM ONE OF THE parish councillors was **JOHN METCALFE** who succeeded FRED SMITH IN 1899.

ALTRINCHAM AND SALE MESSENGER

13TH JUNE 2013 HAS AN ADVERT FOR LADYZONE AND IN PARTICULAR HAS A QUOTE FROM **JAYNE METCALF** 'I'M READY FOR SUMMER AFTER LOSING 2 STONE AT LADYZONE'.

She is further quoted as feeling better after joining the women only exercise circuit.

THE TIMES

4TH JULY 2010 CONTAINED ON PAGE 22 AN APPRECIATION BY **HARRY METCALFE** (TIMES JOURNALIST) OF HIS 50 BEST SUPERCARS-THIS EDITION WAS ON THE ALFA ROMEO 8C.

RUGBY FHS MAGAZINE 'KITH & KIN'

SPRING 2013 pp22-27 on the **METCALFE FAMILY**.

It refers to the LIBRARY room called the **METCALFE ROOM** in the basement of the PERCIVAL GUILDHOUSE

Primarily concerns

HARRY METCALFE (1924-2012) WHO WORKED AT ELECTRONICS DEPT. OF BTH RUGBY FROM 1946 -1954 WITH PHOTOS

FRANK WALKER METCALFE (Harry's father)1890-1929 ELDER OF 2 BROTHERS BORN IN MANNINGHAM 1st JUNE 1890

BENJAMIN METCALFE (Harry's grandfather) a cabinet maker whose wife was named ANNIE ELIZABETH.

(All from **David Lambert M11**)

Northumberland & Durham FHS Journal

Summer 2013 Volume 38 No2

George Stephenson , stonemason born in Haltwhistle Northumberland in 1799 married (second wife) **Ann Medcalf** (of Alston Cumberland) in Newcastle uponTyne in 1834. Family emigrated to Melbourne Australia in 1852.

The Sheffield Flood 1864

With a mighty roar the huge embankment collapsed sending a tidal wave of water, rocks and debris hurtling towards the unsuspecting towns and villages downstream.



Floods are not uncommon but the Sheffield flood of 1864 was avoidable. The great cities of the north of England were expanding rapidly throughout the mid 19th century amongst them Sheffield a long time centre of cutlery production. By the 1740's Sheffield manufacturers had also developed the crucible steel and silver plating processes which required ever growing numbers of workers. The 1860's saw the city as a powerhouse of industrial production requiring more and more housing and infrastructure to accommodate its expanding workforce.

The water supply was insufficient for both people and manufacturing so in the late 1850's an ambitious scheme for four reservoirs in the nearby Peak District north west of the city was launched. Sheffield Waterworks Company looked to place the first reservoir in the Bradfield Valley close to Loxley (*the alleged home of Robin Hood*). Work started in 1859 and was nearing final completion in March 1864. The huge reservoir known as Dale Dyke Dam began to be filled with water in late 1863.

*On the 11th March on a stormy day the workmen carrying out work on the dam
downed tools and made their way home down the valley.
The wind was so strong that one workman decided to avoid
the windswept edge of the dam and cut off across
the large dam embankment.
What he saw shocked and terrified him.
The earth embankment wall had a crack from which water was leaking!*

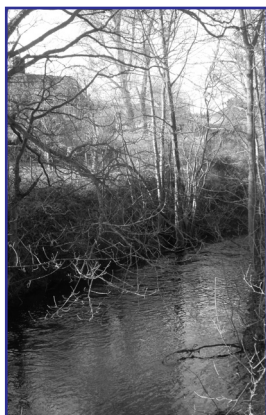
Running down the valley he contacted the waterworks chief engineer John Gunson in Sheffield some 8 miles away. It took nearly four hours from the first alarm before the chief engineer and his colleagues arrived on site. By now it was 10pm and the storm had not abated. Initial surveys led the engineering team to conclude the crack was due to settlement and not a problem. However they decided to reduce the level of the reservoir. The drain valves started to reduce the level but to help increase the flow a hole was to be blown in a side channel by the embankment. All attempts to set off the gunpowder were thwarted by the weather and water blown by the strong wind was seen to be cascading over the dam wall and down the embankment into the crack. As the chief engineer looked up from the bottom of the dam to see the earth embankment beginning to disintegrate!

At 11.30pm the dam collapsed into the small Bradfield valley.

SEVEN HUNDRED million gallons of water were unleashed and thundered down the valley towards a sleeping Sheffield. The village of Bradfield less than a mile from the reservoir was first in its path. Fortunately the workman's concerns had alerted the villagers to a possible threat and most had moved to higher ground. The torrent eradicated all the buildings along the river bank and took the life of a small child but the remaining population were mainly unhurt. The wall of water swept downstream into the River Loxley and towards the city. It smashed its way through twenty bridges and joined the river Don the main waterway through the city centre.



Centre line of the original reservoir

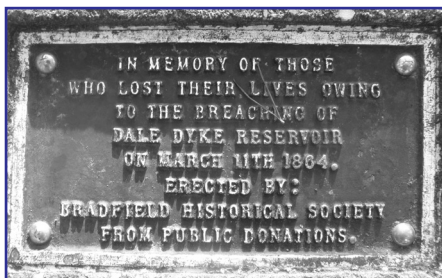


The usually benign Bradfield Valley stream

The wall of water initially estimated up to 100 foot high destroyed houses on the outskirts of Sheffield forcing those awake or quick witted to upper floors and roofs but some 270 people were drowned. The surge demolished nearly six hundred buildings inundated over 4000 gardens and allotments before expiring in Rotherham another six miles further downstream.

The subsequent enquiry found that the dam construction was defective and that the crack in the embankment expanded through water invasion forcing the dam to collapse.

The disaster led to the largest litigation action of the 19th century with thousands of claims made against the Sheffield Waterworks Company. The company was financially crippled by the disaster but it managed to struggle on until taken over by Sheffield Corporation in 1888.



Sheffield Archives hold the Register of claims relating to the catastrophe which provides an interesting snapshot of the time listing the goods and chattels of those affected by the flood.

*In amongst the claims are two from Metcalfs.
The first is from ***Michael Metcalf** a tailor of Johnson Street/Norway Street Sheffield who was awarded £3-10s for the loss of effects.
Whilst **W Metcalf** worked 4^{3/4} days in the clear up and "removal of stone" from Hillsboro' Weir; being paid £1-13s-8d.
Total compensation amounted to almost £1¹/₂ million (£51.5m - 2012).*

** Michael Metcalf son of Joseph and Ann Metcalf was born in Keelby Lincolnshire in 1821. He was recorded as living at Court 2, 3 Joiner Street, Sheffield in the 1861 Census with a son George born c1849 and a wife Eliza.*

The tranquil scene at the present day reservoir a great deal smaller than its 1864 predecessor.



Bits & Bobs

Less than half the population are married.

New census figures from the 2011 survey showed only 42% were married with a further 12% as part of a couple. Nationally some 6.6% are divorced. Cultural diversity accounts for 4m people in England & Wales not having English as a first language with Polish as the second most spoken language after English. **Manchester Evening News 31 January 2013.**

Greater Manchester County Archives online.

Nine million BMD's from parish records in the GMC have been made available in conjunction with Ancestry.co.uk and are free to Manchester residents at the city's libraries from 14 February 2013. **MEN 14.2.13.**

Manchester Metro 26.6.12 Sky Atlantic Comedy. Kathy Burke's Walking & Talking featured "star in the making" **Ami Metcalf** as the teenage Burke.

All from David Lambert M11

KELD



Keld is a long established village probably founded by the Vikings.

The last and highest village in Swaledale it has always been a farming community.

In a 1574 survey it was reported that three quarters of the population were Aldersons but by the 18th century Metcalfes were also present.

From the road to Kirkby Stephen you only see the old YHA building - now a cafe/hotel and the old methodist church (recently sold) and it by passes the main village which is accessed by two small lanes signposted "Keld only".

Efforts have been made in the last few years to bring life back to the village and the Keld Resource Centre charity has brought a number of buildings back into use and provided a well being garden attached to the URC chapel.

The view (above left) is from the garden site.

There are many Metcalfe gravestones and a few examples are shown.



SWALEDALE



The Keld United Reformed Church in its present guise dates from the late 1700's although there was a chapel reported on the site in the 1540's.



Derelict in the 1790's an independent preacher Edward Stillman evangelising in Swaledale came across the ruined chapel and reportedly said "Here I will have my chapel built and here I will preach the gospel" . He then went on to raise the money to do so. Edward died in 1837 after spending nearly half a century at Keld. His successor only lasted a short time before the next major influence James Wilkinson took over for the next 38 years. It was he who organised the day and Sunday school overseeing the building erection in 1842. Information panel The United Reformed Church Keld

The Chapel School (right) was founded by James Wilkinson, minister of the chapel, who was also involved in the building of the adjacent Literary Institute. The windows at the front have simple stone surrounds. A chimney caps the south gable and an interesting little bellcote the north one made of two slabs with heart-shaped panels cut out, bearing the inscription

‘W.METCALFE AD 1847’.

www.outofoblivion.org.uk.

None of the websites identify W Metcalfe but it appears that the perpetrator of the unusual chimney is **William Metcalfe** a stonemason who married Isabella Alderson in 1833. He is linked to our ex-Treasurer **Margaret Metcalfe** and of course our database index wizard **David Metcalfe (M46)**. - Editor



Metcalfes

in the Wars of the Roses

(For those of you following Phillipa Gregory's The White Queen on BBC Television here is background on how the Metcalfes were embroiled in the "Cousins War".)

Nappa was originally a portion of the lordship of Middleham, and had been exchanged for Fitz Hugh lands, at Coverham, and James Medecalf's ancestors had long been associated with Middleham, and James himself held leases of wide Middleham lands. The combination quite naturally led James to look to the lord of Middleham as his chief lord.

Ralph de Neville, fourth baron and first Earl of Westmorland, died in 1425. He was succeeded in the lordship of Middleham by his son Richard, the eldest son of his second wife, Joan, daughter of John of Gaunt. Richard Neville married Lady Anne Montacute, daughter and heiress of Thomas, Earl of Salisbury, and was summoned to Parliament in right of his wife by that title.

Richard Neville's (the Earl of Salisbury's) sister Cecily married Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York. He was a descendant from Edward III by his second son, whereas the Lancastrian kings were descendants of his third son, John of Gaunt.



Towton Memorial Cross

Commemorates the decisive Yorkist victory in 1461 which led to the crowning of Edward Duke of York as Edward IV.

The incompetency of Henry VI led to losses in France and discontent in England, and Richard, Duke of York, claimed the throne by right of birth. It was arranged that he should be Regent of the kingdom during Henry's life and succeed him after his death. The Queen, Margaret of Anjou, saw that her son would thus be disinherited. She therefore gathered an army in the north and defeated the Duke of York at Wakefield, in the battle in which he was slain (1460). Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury and Lord of Middleham, was wounded at the Battle of Wakefield and taken prisoner. He was taken to Pontefract and beheaded, and his head was fixed upon a pole over one of the gates of York.

In his disputes with the Lancastrians, the Duke of York was supported by Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury and Lord of Middleham, and the Lord of Middle-

ham was supported by James Medecalf of Nappa, and by James's two sons, Thomas and Miles, and by many other Medecalfs.

James Medecalf's continued affection for Richard, Earl of Salisbury, found illustration in 1467 in his foundation of a Chantry in Askrigg Church in which, among others, he arranged that masses might be said for the souls of Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury, of King Edward IV, and of all the faithful departed.

Two sons of James Medecalf, Thomas and Miles, were loyal and able supporters of Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, the "king-maker," and Lord of Middleham. Both Thomas and Miles were amongst the most prominent men in England - between 1460 and 1504 in the case of Thomas, and between 1460 and 1485 in that of Miles. Thomas was Councillor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Chancellor of the County Palatine, and held many important offices in most parts of England. Miles was Attorney-General for the lordship of Middleham from 1465, M.P. for the city of York 1477, and Recorder, Deputy Steward, and King's Deputy at the Council of the Duchy of Lancaster, a Justice of Assize at Lancaster, J.P. for the North Riding of York, Recorder of York, etc.

Both brothers supported Richard, Duke of Gloucester, in the pacification of the northern counties. They also raised such a large body of men, armed and clothed them in their own liveries, and led them at the Battle of Bosworth in support of Richard III with such effect that when the victor, the Lancastrian Henry Tudor, visited York in 1488, they were the only two to be exempted from the pardon granted to the northern nobility and gentry; but they were fortunate in their collateral and friend, Richard, sixth Baron Fitz Hugh of Ravensworth, at whose intercession they were afterwards pardoned.

In the rally of Medecalfs for Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth, Thomas Medecalf of Nappa was recognised by all branches of the family on Wether Fell, Swaledale, and elsewhere as "the head of the Medecalf kin."

From **MEDECALF** by Thomas Metcalfe,
Vicar of Mytholmroyd, Yorks 1906-1924.

Medecalf is available from your Society see details at Metcalfes-online.org.uk

Metcalfes in the First World War

The project was launched at the Muster in October 2012
and has produced some surprising results.

Initial work done by myself demonstrated the amount of information there is out there on the internet. This work covered basic lists of the soldiers who fought for all the Allied forces, those who died or were awarded medals during the conflict, but especially concentrating on those with connections to our Metcalfe database. Other information appeared, including two Meccas who underwent plastic surgery in 1918 to repair damage caused by their injuries. At the Muster, another of our members mentioned that her father had also undergone surgery with the same surgeon but the family had little information about his treatment.

Subsequently, several members sent in information regarding their family members who were involved, mainly soldiers, but occasionally information has come through regarding non-combatants – if only by association with their soldier relative.

However, we are still very short of information about non-combatants, and hope that even more information will be coming through for the soldiers, sailors and early airmen. Metcalfes were involved in farming, engineering and other trades prior to the war, so may have continued farming, gone into munitions or other roles in restricted occupations equally as important as the actual fighting. Were your relatives working to keep the home fires burning – we must all have someone that can illuminate the work done at home to support the war effort.

Do you have a conscientious objector in your family – what were his experiences – as some Metcalfes have Quaker links, there must be some somewhere. What were their stories?

What about the women left behind, who had to take over the mens work?
What were they doing? How did they cope?
What did they do when the men returned?

If you do have any information that will help us to build up a fuller picture of what our ancestors were doing 100 years ago?

Please contact me at the address below. Looking forward to a new batch of information from you, every best wish with your research.

Jo Heron/Margaret Hodgson
firstworldwar@metcalfe.org.uk

ARCHIVIST COORDINATOR'S REPORT

It has been interesting to find that the new members generally connect to at least one earlier member, as shown below. The process of communication definitely provides benefits in both directions, as not only has the Society much to offer in terms of the resources it has amassed over the years, but new members contribute very useful additional or amended detail, generally about the most recent generations. The plea must therefore remain to existing members: IF YOU HAVE NOT YET SUBMITTED DETAILS FOR YOUR BIRTH BRIEF please do get in touch, even if you have only yet worked out a little. I look forward to hearing from you via archivist@metcalfe.org.uk or by post (address on front inside page of this magazine).

Margaret Hodgson M515

BIRTH BRIEFS FROM EXISTING MEMBERS (INCLUDING UPDATES)

M1845 Mr John Robert Metcalfe

1 Burrs Farm Court, Gildingwells, Worksop, S81 8BJ

johnrobertmetcalfe@yahoo.co.uk S.o. Maurice Gordon & Joan Pamela (Fogg) Mte. Maurice b 31 Oct 1925 Ripon s.o. John Robert & May (Strafford) Mte m 1920 Ripon district. John b 15 Nov 1888 Ripon s.o. Thomas & Mary Ann (Gott) Mte m 1871 Knaresborough district. Thomas bpt 3 Oct 1852 Goldsborough s.o. Thomas & Mary Ann (Collier) Mte m 20 Oct 1836 Knaresborough. Thomas bpt 7 Jan 1815 Kirk Deighton s.o. Thomas & Mary (Styan) Mte m 2 Nov 1807 Kirk Deighton. Thomas b c 1780 Yks. **Conn M786**

REJOINED MEMBERS

M978 Mr Clifford A Metcalfe

16 Pierce Street, Dover, New Hampshire, 03820 USA
cliffordmte@gmail.com

M1348 Ms Mary Lou Midkiff

Mr John Midkiff (1348)

2000 Stanolind Avenue, Midland, Texas, 79705-8657 USA
mlmidkiff@grandecom.net

M1633 Mr Andrew Metcalfe

5 Clay Drove, West Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 3NB
mettie2000@hotmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

M1950 Mrs Sue Harker,

52 Rosewood Court, Marton, Middlesbrough. TS7 8QS sue.harker@ntlworld.com

M1951 Mrs Valerie Jabir

207A Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough, Auckland 1042, New Zealand valeriejabir@gmail.com D.o. Edwin Lewis & Kathleen (Todd) Medcalf m 1933 Canterbury district, Kent. Edwin b 6 Aug 1910 Rochester, Kent s.o. Lewis Spencer & Grace Violet (Merrett) Md m 1908 Hillingbourn district, Kent. Lewis b 15 Aug 1883 Rochester s.o. Edwin Charles & Jane (Garner) Md m 1869 Medway district. Edwin bpt 15 Feb 1847 Rochester s.o. John William & Susannah (Warren) Md m 25 Nov 1842 Maldon, Essex. John bpt 6 March 1808 St Andrews, Holborn, Middlesex s.o. John & Jane Md of Holborn. **Conn M717**

M1952 Mr Laurence Metcalfe

77 Berry Street, Sherwood, Queensland 4075, Australia jill.met@gmail.com S.o. Leonard Gordon & Edith Winifred (Richards) Mte m 29 June 1935, Brisbane, Australia. Leonard b 19 Aug 1902 s.o. Thomas (2nd marriage) & Emma Jane (Bavister) Mte m 31 Dec 1889, Brisbane. Thomas (1st marriage) & Sarah Jane (Reid) Mte m 10 Sept 1870, Darlington, Co. Durham. Thomas b 1847 Barnard Castle s.o. Thomas & Ann (? Etherington) Mte. Thomas bpt 29 Dec 1817 Barnard Castle s.o. Cornelius & Martha (Railton) Mte m 31 Jul 1813 Barnard Castle. Cornelius b 19 April 1789 Danby Wiske s.o. Enos & Elizabeth (Nelson) Mte m 11 Jan 1773 Pickhill with Roxby. Enos bpt 3 Jul 1745 Swalwell, Dur s.o. Enos & Hannah Mte. Enos bpt 10 Jan 1699 Kirby on the Moor s.o. Leonard & Margaret (Weatherill) Mte m 19 Feb 1697 Kirby on the Moor. Leonard b c1666. **Conn M152 M414 M543 M695 M1113 M1697**

M1953 Mr John Metcalfe

17 Northmoor Drive, Walkeringham, Doncaster DN10 4LN johnmetcalfe1973@hotmail.co.uk Grd s.o. Thomas & Minnie (Lindley) Mte m 1908 East Retford district, Ntt. Thomas b 1877 East Retford district s.o. Thomas & Emma (Boldock) Mte m 1858 Sheffield district. Thomas bpt 18 Mar 1838 Gringley on the Hill s.o. John & Ann (Shercliffe) Mte m 21 June 1823 Bawtry. John bpt 21 Jul 1801 Gringley on the Hill s.o. George & Elizabeth (Cave) Mte m 27 Dec 1798 Gringley on the Hill. George bpt 9 Dec 1770 Everton, Ntt s.o. John & Elizabeth (Rhodes) Mte m 11 Dec 1769 Everton. John bpt 27 Dec 1737 Everton s.o. George & Mary (Crompton) Mte m 9 Jul 1731 East Retford, Ntt. George bpt 27 May 1703 Everton s.o. George & Ann (Drew) Mte m 12 Apr 1697 Everton. George bpt 10 Jun 1669 Everton s.o. Robert & Bridget (Longwith) Mte m 28 May 1665 Everton. **Conn M388 M605 M1143 M1203**

M1954 Mr Robert Owens

5912 N Navarre Chicago IL 60631 USA bingowens@yahoo.com

M1955 Mr Christopher Metcalfe

31 Newall Carr Road, Otley, West Yorks LS21 2AF cmetcalfe182@aol.com S.o. Fred & Mary (Wilkins) Mte m 1967 Wharfedale district. Fred b 1942

Knarborough district s.o. Wilfred & Emily (Tuley) Mte m 1935 Pateley Bridge district. Wilfred b 1913 North Bierley district, Bradford s.o. James & Lottie (Shepherd) Mte m 1909 North Bierley district. James b 21 Jan 1883 Warthermarske s.o. Francis & 2nd wife Mary Jane (Rayner) Mte m 7 Jul 1879 Coverham. Francis bpt 28 Aug 1824 Middlesmoor s.o. John & Ann (Wilkinson) Mte m 21 Jan 1799 Middlesmoor. John bpt 6 Jan 1773 Kirkby Malzeard s.o. John & Ann (Prest) Mte m 24 Nov 1761 Kirkby Malzeard.

Conn M10 M1428 M1497

M1956 Mr Steven Coe

17 Hibiscus Grove, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 0XA

stevecoe1955@aol.com

5 x Grt grd s.o. Henry & Mary (Mte) Parnaby m 4 Dec 1798 Thornton Steward. Mary bpt 22 Sept 1771 Garriston d.o. Thomas & 1st wf Elizabeth (Plews) Mte m 13 Nov 1757 East Hauxwell.

Conn M624 M898 M991 M1275 M1522 M1567 M1620 M1691

It is with regret we inform members of the death of

Mr J Metcalfe M194

and

Miss Joan Gribbon (ex-member 426)
who has died (aged nearly 90).

Manor of Walsoken Metcalfe

WALSOKEN is a large and pleasant village, 12 miles S.W. of Lynn, and 1 mile E. of Wisbech, adjoining to which town is the populous modern suburb of NEW WALSOKEN, in this parish, which has increased its population since the year 1801, from 705 to 2,562 souls (in 1881), and comprises about 3,000 acres of land, including a large portion of the Smeeth and Fen, and belonging to a number of freeholders and copyholders.

The Prior of Lewes, in the 3rd of Edward I., had here, among other privileges, a weekly market on Thursday, and a fair on the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. The manor of Walsoken, formerly Colville's, is now held by **Chas. Metcalfe**, Esq., of Wisbech, and was given to the abbey of Ramsey, in Huntingdonshire, by Aldwin, Duke of the East Angles, in 1009.

F.M. Metcalfe, Esq., of Inglethorpe hall, is lord of the manor of Hakbech and Inglethorpe, which anciently belonged to the Peytons, who resided at Hakbech hall, a handsome mansion, which was taken down in 1806.

From History & Antiquities of North Allerton by CJ Davidson Ingledew 1858.

1513. Bishop Lyttleton in 1766, communicated to the Society of Antiquaries, a paper, copied from a household book of Sir Richard Graham, Bart., of Norton Conyers, giving an account of HENRY JENKINS, that remarkable instance of longevity; the writer informs us, "that, upon his going to live at Bolton-upon-Swale, Jenkins was said to be about 150 years old; and he had often examined him in his sister's kitchen, where he came for alms.

He said he was sent to North Allerton, with a horse load of arrows, for the battle of Flodden Field, with which a bigger boy went forward to the army under the Earl of Surrey, King Henry VIII being at Tournay; and he believed himself then eleven or twelve years old. He gave evidence, in a tithe cause at York, in 1667, between the vicar of Catterick, and William and Peter Mawbank: he deposed, that the tithes of wool, lamb, &c., were the vicar's, and had been paid to his knowledge 120 years and more. The writer was present at another cause, between Mr. Hawes and Mr. Wastel, of Ellerton, where Jenkins gave evidence to 120 years. The judge asking him how he lived, he said by thatching and salmon fishing; that he was thatching a house, when served with a subpoena, and would dub a hook with any man in Yorkshire; that he had been butler to Lord Coniers of Hornby castle, and that Marmaduke Brodley, abbot of Fountain's abbey, did frequently visit his lord and drink a hearty glass with him; that his lord often sent him to enquire how the abbot did, who always ordered him, besides wassail, a quarter of a yard of roast beef for refreshment; for that monasteries delivered meat by measure to their visitors, and wassail was served in a horn cup. Being further asked if he remembered the dissolution of religious houses, he said, very well, and that he was between 30 and 40 years of age when the order came to dissolve those in Yorkshire, that great lamentation was made, and the country all in a tumult when the monks were turned out."

"What a multitude of events, "says an ingenious author," has crowded into the period of this man's life. He was born when the catholic religion was established by law, he saw the supremacy of the pope overturned, the dissolution of monasteries, popery established again, and at last the protestant religion securely fixed upon a rock of adamant. In his time the invincible armada was destroyed, the republic of Holland formed, three queens beheaded - Anne Boleyn, Catharine Howard, and Mary, Queen of Scots; a king of Scotland crowned king of England at Westminster, and his son beheaded before his own palace, his family being proscribed as traitors; and last of all, the great fire in London, which happened in 1666, at the latter end of his wonderful life."

Jenkins could neither read nor write. He died at Ellerton-upon-Swale, aged 169, and was buried in Bolton churchyard, December 6, 1670, where a monument was erected to his memory.

Supplied by CSMetcalf M305

Is it Conundrum or Conunbell?

by Leon Metcalfe M320

A conundrum manifested itself to me soon after I had met up with some old and I mean old, college rowing friends and their families in the Midlands at a place called Barrow-upon-Soar in Leicestershire last September. What remains of the college's first VIII have, for the past 34 years, met up at various venues (usually family homes with, in the early days, tents and caravans as overspill accommodation) depending where individual families lived.

In latter years the old have got much older and the young have 'flown the nest' after first discarding their nappies! The numbers are now more manageable, the rowing and river less important, while the caravans have become too heavy, and the ground too hard for the camping section of the fraternity! Consequently we all now join the lucky 'er indoors' whoever's turn it might be.

We still try and build 'water activity' into our get-togethers and this year it was canoeing on the Soar. Even that sounds a bit much for a group of senior citizens when I tell you I'm one of the youngest at 73. The canoe we used was, in fact, two six-man vessels bolted together with a walkway down the centre between them (a bit like the old Roman galleys, but we had no armour-bearing Vespasian with a whip and a drum-beat emanating from the stern). No, it was enough having our wives aboard, thank you!



We try and put together a varied programme and the very interesting visit we made to Loughborough to be conducted around the John Taylor & Co. works led to the conundrum. Campanologists will know already that Taylor's Bell Foundry is the biggest in Britain and the work they do is immensely valuable to church bell towers throughout this country and abroad - not just casting and tuning, at which they are past masters and extremely innovative ensuring that every bell is right on pitch, but all types of bell work is carried out in their foundry. They have an unbroken line stretching back to the 1350's.

To begin the tour the party is assembled in the museum, and this is where my wife and I had the 'eureka moment' and the conundrum began. An intro-

ductory talk was provided to give us a limited background to the very ancient and traditional method of creating bells and tuning them. I must admit that, me for one, and my wife for two, perhaps missed some of the dialogue and facts presented, as our eyes had strayed and become transfixed on a small, discreet display to the side of the presenter. A small table supported what appeared to be an inverted bell. Not too unusual you might say in a bell foundry but the associated typed information caused our 'highly focused Metcalfe' eyes to be immediately drawn to 'Francis Metcalfe', a name positioned in the lower third of the information and which can be read in the illustration.

In fact the bronze 'bell' badly cracked, is a mortar (without its pestle) dated 1722. The Taylor Bell Foundry stated that they collected the mortar from a church in York. Unfortunately they could not remember which one and it has not been recorded in their annals. They attribute the casting, loosely, to a known York bell founder called Francis Metcalfe but there are no recorded 'birth, marriage or death' data for him. We know it would have been possible for him to have created this mortar while he was about his business in 1722 since, although the bell/mortar is silent now it bears that date.

However, Taylors of Leicester think 'cousin' Francis may have been the customer for the mortar as also moulded on this 23cm diameter bronze bell metal is the double initial letters of SS which are those of a known bell-maker Samuel Smith and Ebor - the shortened form of Eboracum the Roman (Latin) name for York. The Smiths were a noted family of bell-makers from as early as 1635 through to 1731.

Before providing even greater revelations and additions to the conundrum (perhaps that should now be written conunbell!) there are a few words of interest for our Metcalfe campanologists, of whom my father, Edward, was a keen participant.



One of the finest architectural masterpieces in Britain. if not the world, is York Minster (Hopefully the eventual resting place of Richard the Third, then he would be closer to the place he loved and the people who loved him. Furthermore, he would be a good deal nearer to his only legitimate son by Anne Neville, Edward of Middleham. Prince of Wales who died in 1484 and was laid to rest in an alabaster tomb within the church at Sheriff Hutton just to the north of York.) During his life, which ended in 1330, Richard Tunnoc presented to the great cathedral some fine medieval glass now known as 'The Bell Founders' window, depicting, as you may imagine, the work of the bell founders' craft. It can be seen in its full glory in the North aisle. You might like to count the number of bells depicted if you have plenty of time to spare!

After this diversion and while we are still toying with the conunbell of SS: Ebor and Francis Metcalfe the plot thickens! An e-mail in April 2013, from our very efficient Mecca organisation, lit up the ether in all quarters of the World alerting the Metcalfe masses to a physical recognition of the talent, ability or prominence of individuals among our great family throughout history to which we have aspired. It informed us of Lot number 217 to be sold on the 8th May at the Liverpool Auction House under the auspices, and gavel, of that very affable individual Mr Adam Partridge of TV antique programmes fame. He was offering for sale a large bronze mortar, with its pestle this time. It earned the title 'large' for it is 32.5cm in diameter, as opposed to the mere 23cm of the Taylor one. However, they both bear very similar inscriptions. The former, as we know had Francis Metcalfe (with an 'e'), SS and Ebor for Samuel Smith of York with the date 1722. The 'new' one bore the name 'William Metcalf (with no 'e') with SS Ebor, and this time the date is 1679.



Naturally with an auction lot you are provided with details of the object, photographs and a condition report. For such old timers as our two mortars, their condition reports each tell of a long hard-working life. The Taylor one which my wife and I saw obviously had been well worked for it was split and would have leaked, but molten lead had been poured into the fault and it had not been entirely successful. Much of the decorative friezes of bells and ovals are still obvious but the pestle was absent. In the case of the Sale object, it was complete with a weighty pestle (48cm long) while the rest of the internal and external surfaces showed, as would be expected,

a long, busy life with 'dinks' and 'groves' on all surfaces. However the decorative 'foliate scrolls and bells' were still very evident. Further information is provided about William in 1679 as, inscribed on the mortar he is referred to as a 'mercier in Yorke' The dictionary states that this means he was a 'dealer in textile fabrics, especially silks'.

I was quickly in contact with Mr Partridge who, despite it being a Bank Holiday weekend, was very ready to discuss and provide information for me with a view to bidding on Lot 217. When I discovered that the 'Estimate was £1,000- 1,500' I informed Adam that at that price it was a 'bit rich for my blood', but I left a bid 'on the book' for £250! I wasn't able to bid in person as I was travelling throughout the period of the Sale.

Having spent quite some time researching to find a result for my 'conundrum', I have finally deduced that, much as I would have liked to have come across bell foundry work and a date for Francis Metcalfe I am no closer to discovering dates of Francis and his work in York. Not all time has been fruitless though as we have knowledge of two mortars owned and used by early members of the Clan and personally, being a Metcalfe man of York, I know the Smiths 17th century foundry was located at Toft Green in York, close to Micklegate Bar, and that on their bells they used decorative friezes and Latin text, always in upper case, such as 'GLORIA IN ALTISSIMO DEO'. (My old Latin master would be pleased that I can still translate the text!) However, another York Bell Founder, working in Spurriergate in the mid 15th Century produced a bell for the Minister which stated, 'SUM ROSA PULSATH MUNDI MARIA VOCATA' translated and I really like this sentiment - 'I being rung am named Mary the Rose of the World'. She must have been a white rose for Yorkshire.

Enough of the history, let's now get back to the present, and did I become the owner of Lot 217 at the Liverpool Auction of the bronze mortar and pestle? Briefly the answer is 'No' as it was sold for £4,100. Somewhat above my bid! Such is the dedication of Adam that he e-mailed me with the result and later furnished me with the information that Lot 217 has not gone back into Metcalfe ownership but I was assured that it has gone to the home of a keen collector of such artefacts.

Perhaps next time one of us will be able to purchase and claim ownership of the Metcalfe mortar and pestle!

HELP

My wife has an ancestor who emigrated to Melbourne
Australia in the late 1800's

The National Archives at Kew have no record of sailings
during those years.

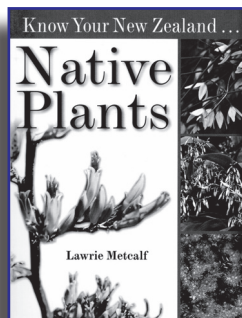
Is there someone in Melbourne who could help from there?
Agreement could be reached regarding search effort

Walter H Metcalfe M665

*Walter can be reached at Appt 22 Park Gate
Park Place Cheltenham GL50 2QE*

I was in a local bookshop looking for a book for my wife, who is a keen gardener, when I came across "Know Your New Zealand.....Native Plants by **Lawrie Metcalf**. I thought it may make an interesting note in "Mecca News". The attached is from the dust cover.

Breen & Margaret Metcalfe M1361



**From the National Archives
Bookshop
Stretcher Bearer
by Charles Horton**

Fighting for Life in the Trenches

Category: First World War

Format: Paperback

Date of publication: March 2013

Among the thousands of men who suffered in the trenches during World War I, some did not even have the protection of a weapon. Members of the Royal Army Medical Corps were there not to take lives, but to save them. Many chose this difficult and dangerous work because of their principles - including volunteer Charles Horton, who went through the horrors of Passchendaele, Ypres and the Somme.

[http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/
bookshop/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/bookshop/)

Books

From Postscript Books

Yorkshire Engine Company

Sheffield's Locomotive Manufacturer

Tony Vernon

History Press 2009

Paperback 160 pages Illustrated

Founded in 1865, the Yorkshire Engine Company outlived many of its competitors and despatched its last locomotives in 1965. Tony Vernon's illustrated history details the fortunes of this intriguing company, the locomotives it built and the men who ran it.

<http://www.psbooks.co.uk/>

NOT THE MONTY PYTHON DEAD PARROT SKETCH

One of the ten high-explosive bombs dropped on Wakefield [on 16 September 1940] destroyed 110 Barnsley Road, the home of

Mr and Mrs Metcalf,

local bakers who had their shop at Busy Corner and who would need to be re-housed quickly to continue their trade.

Wakefield & the Second World War, Peter Wood, WHS Vol. 14, 2005.

Other reports suggest that as the family were bakers, they were actually at the shop/bakehouse so the house was unoccupied at the time. The only victim of the bombing, apart from the house, was a parrot, which was found dead in the debris.

Jo Heron M1042

Mrs Metcalfe's Diary

Extracts from a typical day in a QUIET Dales village.

5am Dawn Chorus! Cockerel joins in.

7am Farmer rattles past on a quad bike up to the fell to check the sheep

7.25 Builder starts hammering at the renovated cottage.

7.28 Builder stops hammering

8.45 Children rush on to green in high spirits to catch the bus for school

8.50 Bus arrives. Silence descends. Woodpecker starts up in wood.

10.22 Argos pantechnicon tries to deliver bed. How will he get down that narrow lane? With much noisy manoeuvring and loud instructions from the driver's mate they back down the lane. How will they open the back doors?

10.30 Walking group appear; much chatter. Study map; much discussion.

Walk off along the lower path across the fields still talking.

10.50 More walkers. Long discussion. Go up the hill towards the fell.

10.55 Walkers return. Amid loud mutterings go on the path across the fields

11.00 Holiday Cottage residents rush out to car and drive off at speed.

Noon. Car drives up to the no through road sign to the fell and executes a noisy 7 point turn. The first of the day.

Time for lunch.

2pm Coffee group arrive in cars. Slamming doors. Five or six chattering ladies off down one of the narrow lanes.

3.00 Walking group appears from the fell consult their map - argue- some go across the fields others go down the hill.

3.30 Ladies reappear amidst great laughter and chatter. Slamming doors. Cars disappear down the hill.

3.31 Silence. Cockerel crows; sheep bleat; builder starts hammering.

3.45 School bus disgorges noisy playful pupils.

4.00 Excuse me is this the way to...? Another lost motorist.

4.01 Builder drives off in his van with the blowing exhaust.

6.10 Holiday cottagers screech up and rush back indoors (after trip to Scotland).

6.30 Car stops. Two laughing and giggling short skirted young ladies go to a nearby cottage. Three laughing and giggling teenagers drive off.

7.00 Car drives up to fell road sign. Loudly revving reverses down the hill.

7.30 Farmer drives up the fell in land rover with bouncing empty trailer.

9.00 Rooks cackle; sheep bleat; cockerel accompaniment.

Rabbits play on the green.

10.50 Young lady revellers return and leave - minus one - in a flurry of laughter and giggling.

11.00 Moonlight floods the village. Dog walker whistles his way up the hill.

Dog yelps at rabbits. Lights off.

11.01 Silence. Owl hoots!

LIBERTY SHIP

JESSE H METCALF

Liberty ship was the name given to the EC2 type ship designed for "Emergency" construction by the United States Maritime Commission in World War II and nicknamed "ugly ducklings" by President Franklin D Roosevelt. However when the first of the new ships, SS Patrick Henry, was launched in 1941, the President in referring to a speech by Patrick Henry on 23 March 1775 quoted his famous phrase *"give me Liberty or give me death"*. The president went on to say that the ships would bring liberty to Europe. From then on they were known as 'Liberty Ships.'

In the autumn of 1940, Britain had placed an order for sixty tramp steamers of some 10,000 ton deadweight capacity. The original design came from Sunderland and originated from an 1879 design that had been produced until the mid-1930's and called Ocean class ships.

In September 1941, the USA launched an emergency ship construction program that would involve building, in just three years, the equivalent of more than half of the pre-war merchant shipping of the world. The U.S. Maritime Commission used the British design after making a number of alterations. The 2,751 Liberty ships were built to a standardized, mass produced plan. The 250,000 parts were pre-fabricated throughout the country in 250-ton sections and welded together in about 70 days. A Liberty cost some \$2,000,000. Any group which raised the \$2 million dollars in War Bonds could suggest a name for a Liberty ship provided they were named after a prominent (deceased) American.



The Liberty was 441 feet long and 56 feet wide. Her three-cylinder, reciprocating steam engine, fed by two oil-burning boilers produced 2,500 hp and a speed of 11 knots. Her 5 holds could carry over 9,000 tons of cargo,

plus airplanes, tanks, and locomotives lashed to its deck. They carried a crew of 44 and 12 to 25 Naval Armed Guard. Some were armed with: a 3 inch bow gun, a 4 or 5 inch stern gun, two 37mm bow guns and six 20mm machine guns

About 200 Liberty ships were lost to enemy action/accidents during WWII. Only two ships remain afloat the SS Jeremiah O'Brien in San Francisco and the SS John W. Brown in Baltimore which are open to the public for tours and occasional cruises.

Jesse H Metcalf (MC Hull no. 3122) was an EC2-S-C1 type Liberty ship being built at the Providence Rhode Island shipyard of the Walsh-Kaiser Company. The last ship of the eleven built at Providence she was launched on 3 March 1944 making her seafaring debut at the end of May that year just in time for the Allied landings in Europe.

Her first recorded journey carrying rations was with convoy HX296 which left New York on 19 June (via Halifax NS) for Liverpool arriving on 3 July.

She was evidently used as a supply ship for the Normandy campaign as she left Barry (South Wales) for Seine Bay (France) on 7 July.

Her next reported voyage was with convoy ON248F which left the USA arriving in the Clyde on 6 August. Again she is recorded departing New York on 6 September in convoy HX307 bound for Liverpool with a general cargo which included explosives. Again she appears to have been used in the European theatre being recorded sailing between Southend and Methil (Leith) in late September before departing Southend in December 1944 arriving in Milford Haven on 14 December (presumably en route to the USA). Her final trans Atlantic voyage was with convoy ON283 arriving in Barry on 6 February 1945. No further details of her war time escapades are recorded.

After the war the Jesse H Metcalf was placed in the US Reserve Fleet being used to store grain in the Hudson River before being finally scrapped in 1971.



Liberty ship 3122 was named after Jesse Houghton Metcalf (1860-1942) a United States Senator from Rhode Island. Born in Providence he was educated in private schools before studying textile manufacturing in Yorkshire. He returned to Rhode Island and worked in the textile business run by his father and a partner Henry J Steere. Steere left Jesse a bequest in 1889 and in that year he became a member of the Rhode Island House of Representatives. He held a number of public office posts over the next thirty five years including a member of the

Providence Common Council, chairman of the Metropolitan Park Commission of Rhode Island and a member of the penal and charitable board. In addition, he was president of Rhode Island Hospital, a trustee of the Rhode Island School of Design and of Brown University. He was also a part owner of The Providence Journal.

Elected as a Republican to the U.S. Senate on 4 November 1924 he was re-elected in 1930 serving until 3 January 1937. While in the Senate he was chairman of the Committee on Patents and a member of the Committee on Education and Labour. An unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1936 he served from 1935 to 1940 as a Republican National Committeeman. He died in Providence in 1942 and was buried in Swan Point Cemetery.

Sources: Wikipedia.org; www.warsailors.com/convoys; www.libertyship.com



NE Group FHS Report Saturday 13th July, held in Bradford, From Jo Heron M1042

The speaker was Lizzy Baker from the East Riding Archive at Beverley's Treasure House*.

She informed the group that the archives had moved into their new purpose built premises in 2007, with 25 years of expansion space.

The earliest record dates back to 1125, and they hold over 250,000 documents from that date to the present. These include BMD registers for the East Riding Arch-deanery which includes Hull, Scarborough, Holderness, Howdenshire as well as Beverley. Most are hand written and in Latin, but are viewable on microfiche. They also hold nonconformist records from 17th century onwards, school records from 19th & 20th centuries, some court records dating from 1647-1970, hospital and local authority records, and some workhouse and Poor Law information from 1836-1930. They also hold a number of Estate papers, maps, Registry of Deeds transactions 1708-1974, and electoral rolls from 1832. There are a large number of photographs and postcards, pamphlets and other newspapers and paper-work, Trade Directories and Victoria County Histories.

Researchers must remember that there is a closure agreement on material less than 100 years old, with more recent items only being available to the person concerned, unless you can produce evidence of affinity. The on-line catalogue is heavily name indexed.

Researchers need to book in advance and produce either a CARN or purchase a day ticket.

Photographs are unlimited on payment of £10 per day, or £45 per year, but no flash is allowed. They can provide a camera stand if necessary.

Photos and prints from fiche cost 60p per page.

The archive takes enquiries by phone, letter, email or in person. For more details: tele:

01482 392750; web site: www.eastriding.gov.uk/libraries;

email: archives.service@eastriding.gov.uk

**(EYCRO is part of a Digitisation Consortium, along with NYCRO, Sheffield, Doncaster and Teesside Archives, and the Borthwick, working with Find my Past. to digitise parish registers, marriage bans and Bishops Transcripts for their areas of Yorkshire. WYAS has done this with Ancestry. The records that will be on-line will be Births to 1912, Marriages to 1928 and Burials to 1987 - depending on access rights.)*

Member Societies were reminded that the Yorks. Federation Extravaganza will take place on Saturday 21st September at Doncaster, in conjunction with the Federation of Family History Societies nationally.

A Farmers Philosophy

As a young lad I learned three things you need to know about farmers.

They work hard, eat like kings and wont part with their brass.

They have a single philosophy: When they are selling anything it is scarce, best quality or fetching top money. When they're buying its always too dear.

From A Boy's Own Dale by Terry Wilson

WILLS PROJECT

Sincere thanks again to those volunteers in this Wills Project who have provided us all with the further valuable resources (opposite) often from photocopies of microfilmed originals, which are quite deteriorated, making the process of translation a difficult art. I continue to be most grateful for their dedication and consistency.

Margaret Hodgson
(Project Coordinator)

Wills newly transcribed are now available to view in the Members Only section of the website.

The date here is the date of probate. Wills are often earlier than the year of probate so it is best to use the search + or – 2/5/10/20 years if not found immediately by name or place.

Thanks also to those Members who have sent me transcriptions of wills which they have used in their own researches, which I have included in the list above. Further donations of this sort would be most appreciated.

wills@metcalfe.org.uk

- 1556 Ralph Medcalfe of Bulmer, Essex
- 1557 Christopher Metcalfe of Finningley
- 1558 Robert Medecalff of Boreham, Essex
- 1590 Christopher Medcalf of Great Totham, Essex
- 1601 William Metcalfe of Withersfield, Suffolk
- 1607 William Metcalfe of Withersfield, Suffolk
(son of the above William)
- 1624 Isaac Metcalf of Halstead, Essex
- 1664 John Metcalfe of Auckley (probate administration)
- 1672 Richard Metcalfe of Blaxton
- 1680 Richard Metcalfe of Blaxton (probate administration)
- 1723 John Metcalfe of Leeds
- 1725 Edward Metcalfe of Ripon
- 1725 Anne Metcalfe of Ripon
- 1726 William Metcalfe of Risplith, near Ripon
- 1726 Timothy Metcalfe of Poole, near Otley
- 1737 John Metcalfe of Wistow, Yorkshire
- 1738 Ellen Metcalfe of Ripon
- 1739 William Metcalfe of Ripon
- 1740 Christopher Metcalfe of Stainforth
- 1740 Francis Metcalfe of Spofforth, Yorkshire
- 1742 Hannah Metcalf of Kippax
- 1743 Francis Metcalfe of Northcote, Yorkshire
- 1743 Thomas Metcalfe of York
- 1744 Mabel Metcalfe of Halifax
- 1752 Jenson Metcalfe of Bursthill, Yorkshire
- 1753 Anthony Metcalf of Thorpe, Yorkshire
- 1757 Leonard Metcalfe of Preston in Holderness
- 1758 Isaac Metcalf of Bursthill, Yorkshire
- 1758 Christopher Metcalf of Scarborough
- 1761 Anthony Metcalfe of Kippax
- 1764 Jane Medcalf of Foston
- 1765 William Metcalfe of Scawton, Yorkshire
- 1770 Thomas Metcalf of Carlton Minniot
- 1770 John Metcalfe of Scarborough
- 1781 Henrietta Ann Catherine Metcalfe of York
- 1786 George Metcalf of Newstead, Kilburn
- 1786 David Metcalf of Leeds
- 1788 John Medcalf of Cowthorpe, Yorkshire
- 1790 Elizabeth Metcalfe of York
- 1879 John Metcalfe of Glassonby, Cumberland

OTHER SOURCES

Recent Additions

Durham Records Online

www.durhamrecordsonline.com

Hexham baptisms & burials 1837-1858

3,529 baptisms and 2,822 burials covering 1837-1858 at Hexham St. Andrew in Northumberland. These are from the Bishop's Transcript except for 1844, which we transcribed from the parish register. At this time, Hexham served a large area on both sides of the Northumberland-Durham border.

Longbenton St. Bartholemew in the Tynemouth district of Northumberland; Longbenton baptisms 1813-1830, marriages & burials 1813-1829

2,682 baptisms covering 1813-1830; 570 marriage covering 1813-1829; 1,621 burials covering 1813-1829.

These are from the Bishop's Transcript with some checking against the parish register.

Origins

www.origins.net

York Marriage Bonds & Allegations Index 1613-1839

Covers 150k marriage licences for the Dean & Chapter of York plus Archbishops Peculiar jurisdiction of Hexhamshire (Northumberland). Index also covers parishes in Durham/Lancs/Lincs & Notts.

Scotlands People

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

The 1895 Valuation Rolls are now live.

The new records, comprising 2,095,707 indexed names and 75,565 digital images, cover every kind of building, structure or dwelling that was assessed in 1895 as having a rateable value, and provide a fascinating picture of Scottish society during the late Victorian era.

Window Tax Rolls

Scottish window tax records from the 18th century. Historical records of the notorious window tax dating back over 250 years go online on 18 July 2013. The tax rolls in the National Records of Scotland that have been added to the Scotland'sPlaces website span fifty years and cover the whole of Scotland, listing taxpayers in the burghs and country parishes.

The National Archives

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Women at war

The First World War saw women take up crucial roles and duties in the armed forces. Search our online records for Women's Royal Air Force service records 1918-1920 (AIR 80), British Army nurses' Service Records 1914-1918 (WO 399), Women's Army Auxiliary Corps 1917-1920 (WO 398)

Dales Countryside Museum - Oral History Project

Transcribing of existing oral tapes is being carried out by Maggie Townsend and Martin Garside Friends of the Museum.

It is hoped in due course to extend the work to capture more oral memories.

Further details from Debbie Allen at the Museum (debbie.allen@yorkshiredales.org.uk).

Dalrympole Mitcalfe

Dalrympole Mitcalfe was born 21st October 1836 and baptised at St Pancras on 8th December 1836 his parents were William & Mary Mitcalfe of Fitzroy Square, his father's profession was given as Gentleman.

Dalrympole was educated at Brighton, Sydenham and Croydon; his parents were living at Coombe Lodge Croydon. On the 5th December 1851 he was accepted as a cadet at Addiscombe the East India Company Military Seminary. Two years later he passed out of Addiscombe and on 15th December 1853 he wrote to the Board of Directors informing them that he would leave Southampton and travel to India on the ship Colombo.

He arrived at Madras on 26th January 1854; on 27th January 1854 he was posted to Headquarters on the 2nd Battalion Artillery, then on the 31st January 1854 he was posted to 10th Native Infantry. Promoted to Ensign on 20th December 1855 and Lieutenant on 23rd November 1856. Later being appointed as a Captain. *(After the Mutiny in 1857 the British Government only wrote up the careers of officers & men when they returned to the United Kingdom so I was unable to find the date he obtained his Captaincy.)*

Dalrympole Mitcalfe wrote his will on 28th December 1862, he died and was buried the following day. In his will he asked that his father make good any deficit. In his will he left to his brother Stephen his pocket book to be found in his black tin box and stipulated that all his personal and professional papers were to be destroyed. The remainder of his estate including his pocket watch was left to Edward George Dixon Lieutenant in the 10th Madras Infantry.

George Buxton M3

This article was written from the records of the East India Company in the British Library.

The above is typical of the information extracted by George from the India Office records regarding Metcalfes. The full details of the extractions can be found within the data disc which accompanies the Society's publication Metcalfes in India available at £9.99.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society Family History Day Fair 2013 **"From Cradle to Grave" At King George's Hall, Northgate Blackburn BB1 2AA** **On Saturday, 14 September 2013 - 10:00 to 16:00**

A once in a lifetime opportunity to meet the experts and join in this unique event, featuring: Family History Societies, The General Register Office, Register and Record Offices, Libraries, Postcards, Presentations, Help Desks, Publications, Genealogical stationers, Railway Enthusiasts and Lectures

Admission is £3:00 on the door.

With talks by: Mark Bayley "Breaking Down Your Brick Walls" at 10:15 hrs
Michael Singleton "A Coroner's Experiences" at 11:15 hrs
Ian Hartas "BMD's on the Internet" at 12:15 hrs
Geraldine Charles "Indian Ancestors "From Boarshurst to Bangalore" at 13:15 hrs
Dr Brenda Hustler Exploring Irish Ancestry at 14:15 hrs
Bill Taylor "Starting Family History – "A Guide to Basic Sources" at 15.15hrs

MECCA MUSTER 2013

& AGM

Dales Countryside Museum Hawes Wensleydale
Saturday 12 October 2013

Speaker Dr Phil Judkins

"Tracking the Metcalfes at War" with a subtext "How to trace the military careers of Metcalfes in both World Wars, with intriguing examples"

Your chance to see your Society at work, browse computer and paper records, catch up with new relations and old friends and explore the Dales Countryside Museum including their Local History Studies Room

Also see the restored Metcalfe Window from Aysgarth Church

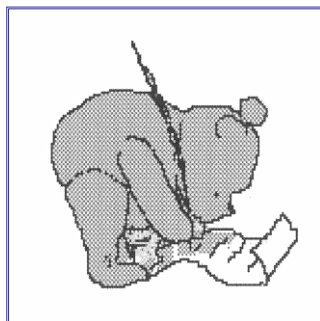
Complete and return (online or by post) the enclosed reservation form asap

Doncaster & District Family History Society **Family History Day & Fair**

Saturday 22 September 2013 at Doncaster College for the Deaf
Leger Way Doncaster DN2 6AY Admission £1
Stalls, talks and local FH Societies present
Further details from www.doncasterfhs.co.uk

LAST WORD

I do hope you have enjoyed this bumper 48 page 100th edition of the Mecca News. I have tried to make it varied but informative with perhaps some ideas of where to obtain that elusive piece of information to help with your research. Only you know if I have been successful.



When compiling the magazine the hottest period in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (Scotland tended to miss out) since 2006 occurred. As I am finalising the issue the hot spell is coming to the end with thunder lightning and heavy rain. It just highlights how inconsistent the UK (except Scottish) weather can be and some of the extremes we encounter which reinforces the difficulties our farming ancestors had to deal with.

The Muster will soon be upon us and amongst other things we have an interesting speaker talking about WWI and how to trace your soldier ancestors. There is a lot of interest in the period as the centenary approaches and your society is looking to do its part. If you haven't engaged with the **Metcalfes in World War I** project already now is your opportunity. Contact **Jo Heron or Margaret Hodgson** on **firstworldwar@metcalfe.org.uk** now. Also we are still looking for Mecca males to join the DNA project. Don't be shy contact **Martin Metcalfe** our **DNA coordinator** on **dna@metcalfe.org.uk**.

Enough of the adverts time to leave you to enjoy the last two pages.

I hope to see you at the Muster in October.

Don't forget to send in those reservation forms.

Peter Dobson M69



Subscriptions 2013

	£	Euros	\$US	\$Can	\$Aus	\$NZ
UK & Europe	10					
Overseas via Air Mail.....	14	17	22	23	24	28
+ One Time Registration Fee	15	18	24	25	26	30

If you are a UK member and wish to pay by a standing order, please contact the Treasurer for a Standing Order form to send to your bank, not the society.

August 2013: *This journal is copyright. No part of it may be reproduced or used without the express written consent of the METCALFE SOCIETY.*

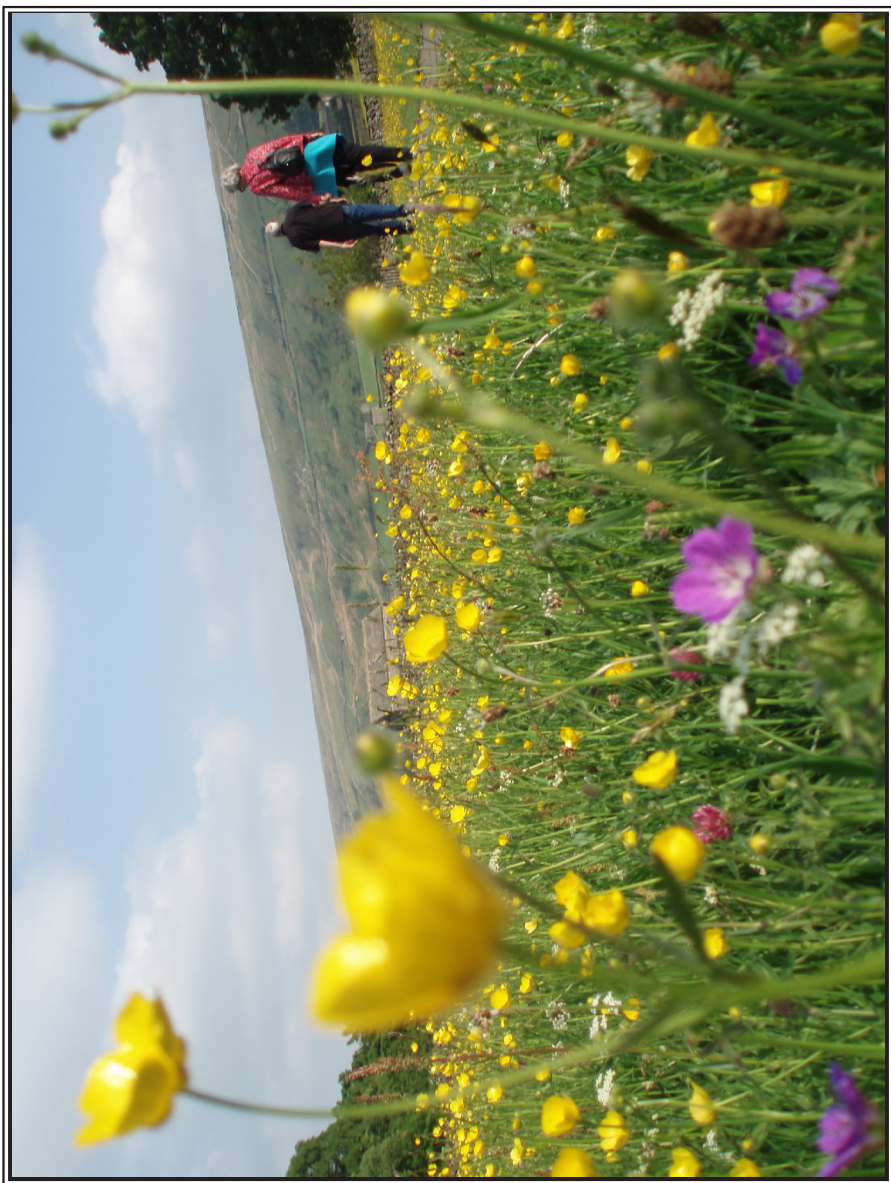


Which way are EWE going?

What were EWE expecting?
A troll?

Have EWE your own caption for
the photographs?
If so let me know at
editor@metcalfe.org.uk





Summer in Swaledale