

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY

www.metcalfe.org.uk



THE METCALFE SOCIETY

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Omnia Mutantur, Nos Et Mutamur In Illis*

Times Change And We Change With Them

We have all seen changes in our lifetime with our children and grandchildren probably seeing the fastest rate of change; they seemingly adjust to the new quite effortlessly!

As family historians we have seen changes from the restricted access of centralised BMD's/record offices/parish records and national archives to the now almost unbounded access by many providers via the internet and other social media communications. We also see the changes perhaps more subtly over the decades for our ancestors and recognise nothing ever stays the same.

Your Society is no different. We have moved forward in many ways particularly in the way we keep and dispense our information. From a small card based system in our early days to gathering and providing information on line. We may have lagged behind in certain respects but we are always seeking to improve and some of you may have discerned "*a waking light*" via our recent Facebook entries, with our web page almost ready for re-launch.

Changes can only be implemented by people and in Society terms that means you the members. With the forthcoming changes to the way we operate and changes in and around the committee further volunteers are needed. If you feel you can provide the necessary expertise then contact the Chairman David Lambert (*contact details page 9*).

'William Harrison - Description of England 1577



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UK & Europe	10					
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THE MECCA NEWS

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

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represent the views of the Editor or the Metcalfe Society*

The Best Largest 100 Sites (and Others)

David Lambert writes:

"I have been referred to this site which evaluates the best largest 100 sites interested in genealogy world wide. It makes interesting reading!!

I had not realised how many European sites there are.

Give it a try! About 8 pages of analysis."

<http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/>

top-100-genealogy-websites-of-2015-page02.html

I have also come across sites set up in the Dales which contain serious amounts of Metcalfe information. Here are a couple well worth a look .

Peter Dobson

www.garsdaleparishcouncil.com/history/

This site has details of properties in Garsdale with some details back to the 16th century. One in particular - Bellow End has a long history of Metcalfe ownership.

Bellow End sits on its own track leading off the main road at Longholme but adjoins the old back road near to Lindsey Fold.

To the north there is the original Bell Haw, Bell shaped hill, a glacial drumlin.

1781 John METCALFE was owner and Thomas METCALFE was occupier of Bella End

1783 to 1789 Thomas METCALFE was owner and occupier of Bella End

22 June 1791 Mary, wife of Thomas METCALFE of Bellow End burd. aged 86

1794 to 1804 John METCALFE was owner and occupier of Bella End

25 June 1794 Thomas METCALFE, Yeoman of Longholme alias Bellow End and John METCALFE, eldest son of Thomas and his wife Mary mortgaged the property to Leonard

HAYGARTH of Newhouse to secure £250 and £50 interest

31 January 1798 Thomas METCALFE of Bellow End burd. aged 77

1805 to 1807 William METCALFE was owner and occupier of Bella End

1809 to 1814 John METCALFE's Trustees were owners of Bella End

1809 John METCALFE was occupier of Bella End

1810 to 1814 Richard METCALFE was occupier of Bella End

1815 to 1823 Richard METCALFE was owner and occupier of Bella End

1824 Peter BOWNESS was owner and occupier of Bella End .

Plus other Metcalfe entries which imply family connections.

Another interesting site with over 100 Metcalfe names is

www.grewelthorpe.org.uk/Family-History/Metcalfe-family

Details are mainly 19th century but do include earlier ones for the area around Masham.

Matthew Metcalfe bap June 1788 son of George Metcalfe.

A FRENCH CONNECTION

Rosemary Brown. M756

This story concerns some of my Metcalfe ancestors who lived in Ravenstonedale, Westmorland in the 18th Century; (we are Branch 36 in the Metcalfe History of the Clan). We can trace our ancestry back to 1733 when the Register of baptisms at Saint Oswald's Church showed three baptisms that appeared to be linked. On the 12th of August 1733 a boy called Thomas was baptised, he was the son of Thomas and Margaret Metcalfe of Brounber. Two months later on the 8th October was baptised Anne who was the daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth Robinson also of Brounber. Five days later on the 13th October was baptised **Anthony, the illegitimate son to Agnes Meckow**, Bishop's Transcripts add that she was 'of Brackenber' which was a farm close to Brownber, Subsequent records relating to **Agnes always showed her surname as Metcalfe**.

Although there had been some isolated recordings of the name of Metcalfe it was certainly not one of the established names that appeared and reappeared in the parish registers. The fact that Thomas and Agnes appeared in the registers so close together suggested to me that they were related, possibly even brother and sister. Sadly I have never been able to find this connection, although I am still convinced that it exists. The link between the Robinsons and Agnes is more definite and more intriguing. Anthony Robinson, who was a blacksmith and Elizabeth Wharton were married on the 19th February 1732. However on the 3rd September 1733, according to the Records of the Westmorland Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, Anthony Robinson appeared, accompanied by John Robinson of Dovengill, who was his great uncle, and George Jackson who also lived at Dovengill. They were there to act as surety for Anthony who was accused of *"having carnal knowledge of Agnes Metcalfe's body at several times, and that the said Agnes Metcalfe was now with child by him."* It appears that Anthony was having a relationship with Agnes whilst being newly married to Elizabeth. It must have been an uncomfortable situation for their families living in such close proximity in the village.

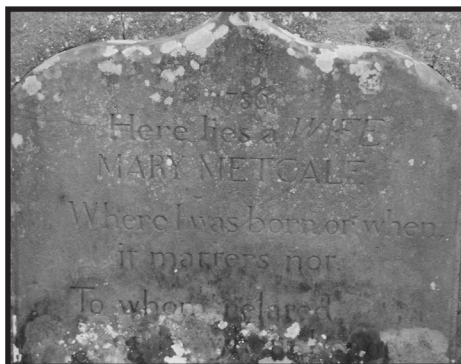
Anthony Metcalfe must have had something about him because on the 16th February 1757 he married Mary Fothergill the youngest daughter of Anthony Fothergill of Brownber, The Fothergills were one of the most prominent families in the dale. A letter written much later, dated January 20th 1921, by M. Fothergill (possibly Mary) indicated that Anthony Fothergill was not best pleased with the marriage. Somewhat sniffily this is what was written –

"My mother knew nothing of Anthony Metcalfe beyond his coming from Yorkshire and being educated at the R'dale Grammar School and marrying Mary Fothergill, youngest daughter of Anthony the Author who was not suited with the wedding as he had intended her to take a wealthy, blind doctor of Newcastle who had made her an offer, but she preferred the handsome, impecunious young militia man."

It sounds as though Mary had had a lucky escape! She died in 1786 but it seems that the breach with her family was never healed. The headstone on her grave has this poignant memorial:



1786
 Here lies a wife
 Mary Metcalf
 Where I was born or when
 It matters not
 To whom related
 Or by whom begot.



Anthony and Mary had four sons and a daughter, the eldest son was called Fothergill, he was baptised at St. Oswald's church in 1758, sadly he died aged only 25. James came next, baptised in 1759. He eventually went to live in Liverpool and worked in the Customs Service as a tide waiter. It is probable that William, the mystery son, was born sometime after this. Then there was Anthony, who was baptised in 1765. He remained in the Dale all his life and his descendants live there yet.

To return to William, thanks to the archivist at Kendal Record Office the vague information that had been handed down through the Metcalfe family that William had married a Miss Fisher of Kendal has been verified. She discovered a marriage record in the registers of Selside which was a Chapelry of Holy Trinity Kendal. "*William Metcalf aged 21, Bachelor of Kendal and Elizabeth Fisher, aged 21 and upwards were married by license on 17th January 1788 in the presence of Thomas Fisher, Bridget Monkhouse and Joseph Airer.*" If William was really aged 21 in 1788 his birth is likely to have been around 1767, which makes him the youngest son. The absence of family witnesses might suggest that he was estranged from his family. He then went to France where he became the agent for the Duc de Lioncourt in Chantilly. His son Sharnall married Mademoiselle Ursule Denisa de Genies who was the daughter of one of Napoleon's generals.

By this time I think perhaps some of you are thinking that this is all a bit far fetched.. But bear with me. Someone in the Metcalfe Family took the trouble to keep some of the letters relating to the Metcalfes. These letters eventually passed to Miss Joan Gribbon who was a keen genealogist, a member of the Metcalfe Society, a very nice lady and my second cousin once removed. She very kindly gave me copies of these interesting letters, the originals of which I hope are now residing in Kendal Record Office, together with other family history records which she and other members of the family had the perspicacity to pass on to the Archives so that they can be available to all. These records are classified as Metcalf WDX 1599.

One of those letters pertains to William. It was written by Anthony Metcalfe in Ravenstonedale to his brother James in Liverpool and is dated February 26th 1817.

Brother James

At last I have made out that my br. William is dead. Ld. Lowther has taken a deal of trouble, I suppose he has made a demand from the French Government. In his letter to me are the following words. {I find about two years ago that your Brother died at Chantilly – he left a son who is a cotton manufacturer – and whom sometime since married the daughter of a French General, he still lives in Chantilly.}

Since the above I have recd a letter from Sharnal, not knowing whether we were living or dead, he says nothing of the death of his father – I suppose he will have informed me of it in some former letter, as he says he has wrote to me several times but recd no answer. His whole letter is full of his great wedding – and great it appears to me to be {her name is Mademoiselle Ursule Denisa de Geney} older daughter of Baron de Geney Lieut. General in his Majesty's Army, Knight of the Royal Order of St Louis, Knight Commander of the Royal Order of the Legion of Honr. I shall give you directions to Sharnal, who says he will be at Brownber this summer – perhaps he may – he is br William in all respects - and may wish to show himself a great man amongst some persons in this Neighbourhood that trod a little upon his toes he always tauld them when 10 years old – you will not behave so bad to me when I come from France as I am sirtion I shall be a gentleman.

*Monsieur S. Metcalfe de Geney
Chantilly,
Dept. d'Oise. France.*

It appears that Sharnall has taken the name of De Geney.

The letter continues with family news but ends –

*I have wrote to Sharnall and expect his answer in a few days. He says nothing about the
Box you have.
Am your well wishing
Brother A. Metcalfe*

If he wants it let him get it.

I have copies of the letter as it was written, any spelling mistakes are his!

Unfortunately we have no further letters concerning Brother William and Sharnall,
but this one letter must be considered a primary source,
and justifies the title of 'A French Connection'.

*Google has provided further information concerning Sharnall's father in law.
A book by Edward A. Foord entitled Napoleon's Russian Campaign of 1812 provides a brief
biography of his service. It appeared that as Jean Delisle Falcon
he assumed the name of Saint – Genies when he volunteered for service with the
First Chasseurs Company of Haute Garonne Department.
He rose rapidly through the ranks and ended up in 1835 as a Major General.
His name is written on the South Side of the Arc – de - Triomphe in Paris!*

A Message from the President

During the year end, 2014, which has just passed, and while I was listening to the farewell song to "The Sound of Music" for the one hundredth time, I was reminded of my first encounter with the Metcalfe Society in bulk, (after joining in 1988 as M305) in October 1989 at the Muster which took place in the Tarn House Hotel, Skipton.

It was at this meeting when Mrs. Helen Offer, [M4 & "The Keeper of the Index" and in 1987 our first President; who luckily lived in Sussex while I lived in Hampshire - just next door!] demonstrated the use of our society's record keeping which involved 4x5 inch cards; kept in one shoe box since 1980 when 175 individuals were entered. This was 10,000 in 1984; 40,000 in 1988. *(See the Mecca News No:2 of December 1980 which should be compulsory reading for all members.)*



It was there and then that I made the fatal mistake of asking why on earth did we not computerise??? As I had retired from IBM some three years earlier, as a few members knew, I had truly put my foot in it and I was volunteered, by the meeting, together with my IBM PC, to work with Helen, now in charge of "The General Index Lists" and George Buxton "The Keeper of the General Index" and, as the saying goes, put my money where - whatever.

From there to Chairman in 1990, to filling John Holden's shoes as the third President in 1997 I was employed in some very important tasks such as giving the Society the ability to automatically print address labels for the Mecca News, and for a column "Computer News".

Bliss ! But now - in 2015 and at the age of 86 or thereabouts [chorus from members "You don't look it."] with travel becoming more and more difficult - I feel that the time to really retire is upon me, and thus the reason for this note - I am giving up the post of President this year with heartfelt thanks for many years of enjoyment.

My working life was marked by a few other 'mile posts' such as graduation from the Army Middle Eastern College in 1949; college life in both Lumley and Durham Castles; a Div. I BSc at Durham in 1953; followed by a happy marriage for 55 years; membership of MENSA; Fellow of the Institute of Physics and pensioned retirement from the daily grind in 1986 - a long, long time ago !

Again in the words of the song 'Adieu' -- disappear stage left.. **C S Metcalfe.**

**DEADLINE for the August Mecca News
is 6 June 2015.**

Articles comments or snippets to the Editor.

NEW DATE-NEW VENUE

Your Society's 35th Celebration

Mecca Muster 2015 & AGM

will now take place on

Saturday 3 October 2015

at

The Garden Rooms at Tennants

a new unique 5 star location in Leyburn North Yorks

See www.tennantsgardenrooms.com.

New and exciting reasons for members and guests to join us.

Further details to follow via email, newsletter, Facebook with full information
plus the reservation form appearing in the August Mecca News

NEW DATE-NEW VENUE

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As a postscript to my 4th cousin Trish Craig's piece on page 33 of the current Mecca News (*December 2014*). I can add to the 2nd paragraph that Annie Isabella (Metcalf) Morphet had staying with her family at Nether Lodge in Ribblesdale for more than 10 years her aunt Jane Metcalfe, who just happens to be 6th child down on the sampler and David Lambert's great great grandmother. Not only that but Annie Isabella also

had a daughter called Alice Jackson Morphet who married in 1925 in Horton in Ribblesdale (*see record 8652*) John Ralph "Jack" Fawcett of Pry House, Hawes. They had a daughter called Rosemary Fawcett (*deceased M246 & record 85152*) who married Duncan James Metcalfe of Hipswell (I think - Nina Benson's 4th cousin once removed) - thus linking two great (allegedly !) Metcalfe families. **David Metcalfe M46**

Death of **Professor Donald Metcalf** reported in the Daily Telegraph 6 January 2015.

The report was picked up by **Chris Metcalfe M590** and **Robert F Mills M1002**. Professor Metcalf (85) was a leading cell biologist who discovered colony stimulating factors - substances which control how white blood cells form and resist infections. A research which led to the survival of many cancer sufferers. See Mecca News 104 page 31.

The attached may be of interest to our society. The article appeared in the July (2014) issue of Usk & Raglan "The Diary".

Ernie Metcalf (*mentioned in the article*) was my father.

An Ebook or PDF edition are available online as is my response in the September edition.

Gerry Metcalf M1743

Raglan Fallen

The Military Metcalfes

The twelve stories of the men from Raglan, who died in WWII, as told by Dr Brinley Morgan, have now been published but we continue to tell part of their individual stories in our magazine. However, he adds a twist to the story by describing one remarkable family, seven members of whom joined up in defence of their country.

"An extract from a local paper recently might be of interest."

Richard Metcalfe-Gibson M854

"In the early 1900's Burton-in-Kendal's 'seasonal activities'.... were marred by sad events. In 1901 celebrations postponed due to death of the vicar...1902 when the Archbishop of Canterbury died

.....1904 it got even worse- ...

*one month old **Sarah Metcalf** was found dead, all the children's events were cancelled because of an outbreak of mumps. A chapter of accidents greeted the New Year when....., a youth **T Metcalf** fell through a plate glass window.....*

Happily it was soon reported that 'all sufferers are making satisfactory progress'."

Ebenezer Baptist Chapel Registers Bedale

Baptism 9th Aug 1818 at SNAPE.

Elizabeth wife of **Stephen Metcalfe** husbandman of Masham.

Snape - Members were baptised in the rivulet near the Mill until the Chapel and Baptistry were made in the year 1798.

In the years 1815 - 1817 in the lists of "Monies Given"
Jno Metcalf and Miss Metcalf were included.

Quaker Registers Sedbergh

Marriage 2nd January 1788

William Robinson of Cowpergill in Garsdale, yeoman, son of John Robinson late of Dent & Isabel his wife, both deceased.

And **Ann Metcalfe** dau of **George Metcalfe** late of Dent and Ann his wife, both deceased.

On the 2nd of the first month called January 1788.

Among the signatures there was **John Metcalfe**.

Nina Benson M29

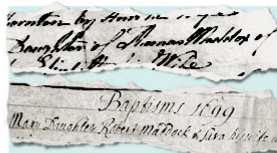
your emails & letters

**Lesley Longworth
M68**

Was sent this item recently by Genes Reunited and thought it contained some suggestions which members might find useful.

Hi Lesley,

If you've started researching your family history, you'll probably have come across scans - or even originals - of old handwritten documents. [All the records](#) on Genes Reunited have been transcribed for you, saving you the work of deciphering old handwriting, but when you research further you may not always have that luxury.



When you're looking at unfamiliar or old-fashioned handwriting styles, what tricks can you rely on to help you read them?

- Invest in a high quality magnifying glass! Sometimes it's easier to see the way the letters were constructed when you see them enlarged.
- Look for reliable examples elsewhere on the document. If you can't tell whether that's an 'r' or an 's' in a name, try looking for the date. When you find a letter you can definitely make out - like an 'r' in 'January' or an 's' in 'Wednesday' - then compare it to the letters you can't.
- Remember names and places weren't always spelled correctly. Maddock might also appear as Maddocks, Maddox, Maddick, Mattack etc. Don't assume that what you expected to see is actually what's written.
- Are you looking at an abbreviation? Wm for William, Chas for Charles, or Thos for Thomas are all common.

If you'd like to practice and hone your skills, The National Archives offer a great free [online tutorial](#) - you can even test yourself in a fun ['ducking stool' game](#)!

End of an era! You will see that our president at the youthful age of 86 has decided it might be time to retire from this post. It goes without saying that we will miss him and that we can never repay the debt of gratitude we owe him for the effort he has put into running the Society as chairman and then President. Thanks Charles!

His retirement also highlights the fact that anno domini creeps up on all of us! More than half the committee have been members of the committee for over 10 years – in some cases 20 years. Whilst I am very grateful to them all for the excellent job that they are doing we would like new members of the committee to join and support us! New blood is a good thing for any Society: new ideas and enthusiasm keep a Society on its toes and fresh!

It is with regret I am afraid that I have to report that Marsden Holden has decided for personal reasons that he should resign as our treasurer in April. His recent removal down to deepest Kent means that it is not as easy for him to reach committee meetings twice a year in Hawes. He has also taken on more committee roles, locally, which means he has less time to devote to the Treasurer's role. He will however attend the Muster in October and continue, along with his wife, to transcribe Wills for the Society. I am very grateful to him for acting as our treasurer and am sorry that he has decided to retire from the post.

Peter Dobson and I have appreciated for some time that the membership of this Society (and other Family History Societies, including One Name Societies) and the needs of members has changed in the 50 years since Family History Societies were first founded. A large number are now 40 years old (we are not far behind at 35 years) and the hobby of Family History has moved on too.

No internet or mobile phones to keep in instant contact or to take photographs if you wished to do that when such societies were established. Access to records meant contacting the vicar to see if you could look at the parish registers and going to the vicarage or church vestry to see the originals. Some were indexed by earlier genealogists from the 16th or 17th Centuries, often up to 1813. That probably meant going to a large reference library or contacting the transcribers and possibly buying their published work.

You needed to go to Somerset House, later Kingsway in London for the GRO National Indexes of Births Marriages and Deaths, or visit the local superintendent registrar for the similar purpose of consulting the local indexes and then ordering a certificate. Alternatively you could (as now)

make a postal search and wait! It has always frustratingly been necessary to purchase a full certificate duly accredited by the Registrar. The law on this, as some of you will have read in the press or online in various places, is going to change, provided the election in May does not preclude it, as happened in 1983 when Lord Teviot first introduced a similar measure.

Thanks to an amendment to the Deregulation Bill, introduced in the House of Lords by Baroness Scott, the Registrar General will in due course be able to issue details from Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates in England and Wales, other than in the form of a certified copy.

Regulations will have to be approved and these will cover the fee to be charged, how a request for a search or a record may be made, the forms in which a record may be provided, including provision for a record to be provided in a form that does not include all of the information contained in an entry on a certificate. Good news! I do not know how long it will take though for the regulations to be introduced.

It certainly is the obvious case that there is far more data available for researchers to access from the comfort of their own home / computer, although that should not preclude visits to see the actual records themselves or the location where one's ancestors lived. When they lived overseas this of course provided further problems if you were in the UK, before the internet and the provision of online data. Now you can search census indexes and transcriptions plus digital copies of the actual archives. For example via Ancestry you can search the USA censuses which have been taken every 10 years since 1791. I see that in 1791 there were 79 Metcalf(e) residents (in all variations of the name). In 1910 there were 12,561!

Today we may refer disparaging to the forenames adopted by modern parents, names of all the members of football teams or TV characters perhaps, but the 1791 census shows some imaginative names, possibly due to the shortening of the full names. If you have lost ZATTER METCALF look no further, he was in New Hampshire then. Also the USA census includes TIMO METCALF, SAVEL METCALF and STEP METCALFE.

The 1880 census is free to look up and here you will find OREN, LANTA, LETTA, SIMPSON and VOLNEY just on the first 2 pages of the indexes. Have a look yourselves! We do not have USA censuses in our databases to the extent that we have UK entries. Any volunteers? You could do it from home especially if you are a subscriber to Ancestry. Do let us know though if you intend to do this to avoid duplication of effort.

The use of social media (not necessarily comfortably, enthusiasti-



cally or efficiently used by me I confess - I need some lessons!) is something the Society is addressing. On 21 February those of you with Facebook will have seen the change to the Society's page and the fact that we will be posting to it more regularly. We are indebted to Lesley Longworth in particular and Diane Howarth for keeping this interesting and up to date. See what winter in the Dales looked like in December - floods and snow! The shot of Nappa Hall from the air is very impressive too on the front page.

We intend as was stated at the Muster last year by Diane to make more use of technology in the hope that you can derive more from your membership and to encourage new members to visit the site and use our information as members. This might well require some changes to the way in which we charge for the data or membership generally. We will be discussing this at our forthcoming committee meeting.

I intend to be at The Federation of Family History Societies AGM in March at Portsmouth. In April I am hoping to be on the FFHS and National West Group tables at the 2015 Who Do You Think You Are-Live show at the National Exhibition Centre Birmingham. If you are at either event do please make yourself known to me. Jo Heron might be attending the WDYTIA event with the Yorkshire Group.

I hope you will have an enjoyable spring and summer and be especially successful in your research! Do let us know how you get on!

David Lambert

Historic British Portrait Silhouette Project

With the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund The Regency Town House Heritage Centre in Brighton & Hove is currently developing a project about historic British portrait silhouettes. As a part of this, they are attempting to assess the prevalence of silhouettes within the general population and within groups that have a self-declared interest in history. To this end, they would like to survey the prevalence of such works among the membership of family history societies.

If you would like to participate in their survey please email nick@rth.org.uk with the following entry in the 'subject title': 'The Name of the FHS' and the word 'Silhouette'.

The team does not need details of the work/s held, as they are just trying to assess the percentage of members within your society who have silhouettes. Should your society decide to assist by taking part and circulating your members, please note that they will not pass on email details to others as a result of participation in the survey but they will reply to emails to provide information about the silhouette website they are building.

*Philippa McCray, Administrator, Federation of Family History Societies
Email: admin@ffhs.org.uk Tel: 01455 203133 www.ffhs.org.uk*

*Births, marriages and deaths at sea on British registered ships
(1854-1891)*

*Births, marriages and deaths on Royal Navy and merchant ships
(1794-1972)*

*Consult records of inquiries into deaths at sea in BT 341 which
include passengers of all nationalities on merchant ships.*

BT Series - Registry of Shipping and Seamen, 1854-1908:

*BT158 Registry of Shipping and Seamen: Registers of Births, Deaths and
Marriages of Passengers at Sea. Covering dates 1854-1908.*

*BT159 Registry of Shipping and Seamen: Registers of Deaths at Sea of
British Nationals. Covering dates 1875-1888*

*BT160 Registry of Shipping and Seamen: Registers of Births at Sea of Brit-
ish Nationals. Covering dates 1875-1891*

*No merchant ship has ever been approved for marriages, although
from 1854 any which took place had to be reported in the ship's log. Any mar-
riage which took place on board a merchant vessel was not legally valid.*

***So if you are "missing" an elusive ancestor who could have travelled
overseas why not have a look at the Marine register?***

***If you find any further Mecca entries don't forget to send them
into the Archivist.***



Books



A History of Yorkshire : County of Broad Acres

David Hey

Carnegie Publishers

*A single volume describes the broad sweep of Yorkshire's history from the
end of the last Ice age up to the present day.*

Waterstones £14.99.

**On May 7, 2006, Harper Lee (To kill a Mockingbird)
wrote a letter to Oprah Winfrey**

(published in O, The Oprah Magazine in July 2006).

**Harper wrote about her love of books as a child and
her dedication to the written-word:**

***"Now, 75 years later in an abundant society
where people have laptops, cell phones, iPods and
minds like empty rooms,
I still plod along with books."***

WILLS PROJECT

I am sure that you will notice that this is a shorter list than usual!
 This is no reflection whatsoever on the dedicated group of will transcribers which the Society is so fortunate to have.
 Rather, it indicates a shortage of material provided for them to transcribe.
 My visiting of record offices has been on hold for the last few months following my unexpected admission to hospital in the later autumn and the consequent need for recuperation after two operations.
 I am now much better and hope to find more resources in the near future.
 As ever, donations of wills from members' own researches would be gratefully received.

Margaret Hodgson
 (Project Coordinator)

*Wills newly transcribed and 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.

- 1611 Raphe & Catherine Metcalfe of Barwick on Tees, Yorks**
- 1635 Marie Metcalfe of Doncaster, Yorks**
- 1637 John Metcalfe alias Gill of Menwith Hill, Yorks**
- 1637 John Metcalfe of Hunslet, Leeds**
- 1646 Francis Metcalfe of Holbeck, Yorks**
- 1694/5 Mary Medcalfe alias Cooper of Wadesmill, Herts**
- 1791 George Metcalfe of Armley, Yorks**
- 1793 Michael Metcalfe of Theakstone, Yorks**
- 1833 Cuthbert Metcalfe of Keighley**
 – additional documentation (Cuthbert died in 1826)

Who Do You Think You are? Live. NEC Birmingham
 16-18 April 2015
 Full details
www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com

For other fairs etc go to
<http://geneva.weald.org.uk>

Meccas on Convict Ships (From the National Archives)

ADM 101/42/8B Medical and surgical journal of Her Majesty's hired convict ship the *Layton* for 9 March to 6 September 1841 by Dr Alexander McKechnie, Surgeon, during which time the said ship was employed in conveying prisoners to Van Dieman's Land. A copy of the daily sick book of Her Majesty's chartered convict ship *Layton* employed in conveying prisoners from England to Hobart Town between the 9th March and the 6th September

1841. Alexander McKechnie MD Surgeon Superintendent.

Folios 7-8: **Simon Metcalf**, aged 25, Convict; disease or hurt, catarrh. Put on sick list, 11 April 1841, at sea. Discharged, 19 April 1841.

Folio 28: **Simon Metcalf**, aged 24, Convict; disease or hurt, rheumatismus. Put on sick list, 30 August 1841, at sea. Sent to the Colonial Hospital, 2 September 1841.

He had been on the sick list virtually the whole voyage with a variety of ailments, including both primary and secondary syphilis, haemorrhoids, pneumonia, cough, dyspnoea, dyspepsia, acute and chronic rheumatism, 'appearing subject to almost every disease that flesh is heir to'. By his own statement his treatment on the Fortitude hulk was 'infamous' and the medical officers must have known he was unfit for the voyage. The syphilitic complaints were cured but some of the others only 'palliated' when he was sent to the hospital.

ADM 101/44/4 Medical journal of the Lord Lyndoch, convict ship, from 14 March to 6 September 1838 by O Pineo, Surgeon and Superintendent, during which time the said ship was employed in transporting prisoners to Sydney, New South Wales.

Folio 12: the following is the list of prisoners who were sent to the Colonial hospital at Sydney on the 8 August 1838, afflicted with scurvy: **John Metcalf**;

ADM 101/64/5 Medical and surgical journal of His Majesty's convict Ship *Roslin Castle* for 12 December 1829 to 15 July 1830 by William C Watt MD, Surgeon, during which time the said ship was employed on a voyage from England to Sydney, New South Wales.

Folios 1-2: Copy of the daily sick list book female convict ship the *Roslin Castle*. Folio 2: **Martha Metcalfe**, aged 27, fever, 14 April to 20 April, cured.



Friendly Societies

Addingham Friendly Society 1798-1845

1 September 1800

Committee member - **James Medcalf**.

Supplied by **David Lambert**

Silver War Badge

The Silver War Badge was issued in the United Kingdom to service personnel who had been honourably discharged due to wounds or sickness during World War I.

The badge, sometimes known as the Discharge Badge, Wound Badge or Services Rendered Badge, was first issued in September 1916, along with an official certificate of entitlement.



The sterling silver lapel badge was intended to be worn in civilian clothes.

The badge was to be worn on the right breast while in civilian dress, it was forbidden to wear on a military uniform.

The badge bears the royal cipher of GRI (for Georgius Rex Imperator; George, King and Emperor) and around the rim "For King and Empire; Services Rendered".

Each badge was uniquely numbered on the reverse.

The National Archives Medal Cards and Rolls

The 'SWB List' when mentioned on a medal card refers to a list that is now kept in The National Archives (WO372).

There are two different types of cards on which the List can be mentioned.

- A normal medal card index
- On a new medal card issued for the purpose, called a Silver War Badge Card.

If there is no Silver War Badge Card, then the details of the soldier's discharge can be found out by a visit to the National Archives at Kew.

There should be a reference to a Silver War Badge Roll.

On the Silver War Badge roll it should mention at the very least the number of the badge, the official reason and date of his discharge.

A silver war badge card, can be accessed online via the National Archives, Documents Online.

On the card it should mention the date of discharge, the cause and the number of the badge (in many ways just like a Silver War Badge Roll but online, and therefore easier to access).

From Wikipedia

The badge whilst issued in 1916 was awarded retrospectively back to the beginning of WW1. There are some 374 Meccas mentioned on the list.

Which can also be accessed at Ancestry.com.

See also www.1914-1918.net/soldiers/swbrecords.html

Dover War Memorial Project

<http://www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk/Casualties/Casualties/WWI/SurnamesMcP.htm>

It includes the following:

METCALFE, JOHN WILLIAM Age 19.

Born Abt. 1896. 2, Alexander Place, Dover.

Regt. Buffs. Regt No. 9031.

Short Service. For the duration of the War.

Attestation of G/9031 – Metcalfe John William - The Buffs.

Age. 19 years - 250 days. Trade – Hotel Porter.

Enlisted 11, December 1915 at Dover.

Next of kin – Mary Elizabeth Metcalfe 2, Alexander Place, London Road,
Dover – Mother.

Home - 11/12/15 to 18/5/16.

BEF France – 19/5/16 to 3/5/17.

Casualty Form.

Wounded 5/12/16.

Rejoined unit 20/12/16.

Killed in action 3/5/17.

6th Bn. The Buffs East Kent Regt.

G/ 9031- Pte. Metcalfe John William Deceased.

Father of soldier – Deceased.

Mother of soldier – **Mrs. E. Metcalfe** now Maxted, 2, Alexander Place, Dover.
Brothers.

Pte. P. Metcalfe – age 19. Att. 2nd Inf. Bde. Hqrs Eastern Div. Army of Rhine.

James Metcalfe - age 17 – 2, Alexander Place, London Road, Dover.

Sisters.

Lilian Metcalfe – age 21. 192, Snargate Street, Dover.

David Lambert M11

Mrs Jane Annie Metcalfe

Born Steyning Sussex, 4 February 1887 Aged 31

of 52 Orme Rd, Worthing

No. 39234, Queen Marys Auxilliary Army Corp, working as Cook/housemaid.

She left the unit at the Connaught Club, Seymour Street, W2

on 24.05.18 for the MT Dept, RJSC, Sydenham, 01.01.19

Jo Heron M1042

National Archives Series WO161

Interview re Prisoner of war

Arthur Metcalf,

Page No. 3244-3234

Corps, 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers Reg. No, 7761, rank Private,
Others mentioned A Kuster; Private Jeavons RMF; T Byard, examiner

*Arthur was a policeman before the war, he was wounded in head & leg
and captured September 28th 1914 near Oisy, France.*

*Held at: Sennelager Sept 1914-May 1915; Hervest Dorsten May 1915;
Mark May 1915-August 1918; Gladbeck – Aug – Sept 1918.*

*Description of the camp – prisoners were housed in a saw mill.
There was no room for exercise, and the men were put to work in saw
mill. They were unable to survive on food supplied by the Germans
without food parcels from Red Cross.*

*He had spoken to men who had been captured at Cambrai and they
were put to work in mines under very bad conditions, any injuries not
attended to. He also talked to some of the German guards who
complained about the war and spoke of revolutions,
but did nothing about it.*

*He escaped from the prison camp on September 11th
and arrived in Holland on 17th September.*

Interviewed on 8th October 1918, by T Byard.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/prisoner-of-war-ww1.

David Lambert M11/Jo Heron M1042

You may be interested in this news item from Trove, the digital newspaper record sponsored out of the Aust. National Library in Canberra. I know this man's name from the list of WWI soldiers that I compiled and sent to the Society some years ago. As you may be aware, a good many soldiers of the 1st AIF, like this man, were actually born in England, not Australia. It would have been a total culture shock to move from Paris to Bourke, but he was

PRIVATE ALFRED SARGISON METCALF
(killed in action) was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf, of Rose Bay, and was 32 years of age. He was educated at Newcastle-on-Tyne, afterwards going to Bureau Vinta's office, in Paris. He was appointed to the Paris staff of the London "Daily Chronicle," and represented that paper there on the occasion of the Czar's visit. It was he who exposed De Rougemont, whose real name was Henri Louis Grin, of Greasy. He was at that time acting as Paris correspondent for the "Sydney Morning Herald." Some years ago he came out to Australia and started wool-classing, at which work he was engaged at Bourke when the war broke out.

clearly a man of some skill who sought adventure, and his parents must have emigrated too. (Rose Bay is now a very select suburb of Sydney, overlooking the harbour, and it was probably a very desirable area even 100 years ago.)

Bernard Metcalfe M221

Recollections of the Home Postal Centre, Royal Engineers Nottingham 1943 - 1946

This article is a recollection of my experiences as a member of the Auxiliary Territorial Service [ATS], and of working alongside the men of the Royal Engineers Postal Section [REPS] at the Home Postal Centre, Royal Engineers [HPCRE] in Nottingham during the period 1943 to 1946. The experience saw me grow from a very naive young woman into a more mature confident person. It was also a time of which I can say that I enjoyed 'almost' every minute, and a time where I met a lot of friends, some of whom I still remain in contact with today, 60 years later.

I would like to give special thanks to Captain Simon Fenwick who encouraged me to write this article.

Dorothy Pope M55

The Army Postal Service (APS) played a very vital role in the war, helping to keep up the morale of the servicemen who were fighting in all parts of the globe. I feel it has never been given the credit due to it, even though its service personnel, both men and women, lost their lives in the course of their duties, due to enemy action. It is said that General Montgomery once remarked that his soldiers could march for 3 or 4 days without food, on the strength of one letter from home. During 1941 - 1947 over 3,000 men and women, consisting of REPS and 5 companies of ATS worked in various offices and buildings in Nottingham, and even though the fact that it was supposed to be highly secret, I am sure everyone in the City knew what we were doing. Many of the good people of Nottingham welcomed us into their homes for a little TLC for which we were very grateful.

Women of the 10th Berkshire Company of ATS were the first to be drafted to work with the APS in the days just before the war broke out. Eventually they were joined by conscripted and volunteer girls from all over the UK, including some from the Channel Islands and other parts of what was then our Empire! By the end of the war over 1,400 ATS women were employed by the APS. In my case I, along with 4 other girls from the ATS Training Centre in Lancaster, arrived in Nottingham in January 1943. We were met by an ATS Corporal and taken to a billet in Elm St. one of many empty houses in various parts of the city, which had been requisitioned by the Army. We were in the attic where the fireplace was open to the sky. Thankfully we were soon moved with our section, to Musters Road in the area of West Bridgford, near to the Trent Bridge Cricket Ground. Our Mess was in the Cricket Pavilion, our Medical room in the commentator's box, and worst sacrilege of all, we drilled on the hallowed turf. What would Denis Compton et al have thought about that?

After 6 weeks training, we were put to work in different offices, factories and buildings requisitioned for the HPC to sort and process the millions of letters and parcels destined for the Army and RAF overseas. I went to work in what had been Hickings Lace Factory, which still had some of its original occupants employed in the basement making camouflage nets for the Russians. The smell issuing through the floorboards was dreadful, particularly in warm weather. The REPS occupied the ground and 2 upper floors in what could only be called a tinderbox; because the wooden floors and staircases were so illy and in poor

condition. Hickings was as busy as a beehive, and closely resembled a honeycomb, with hundreds of pigeon holes stacked with letters instead of honey.

During training, each of us was responsible for one sorting frame. We new girls started quite slowly, until we were able to hit the right 'hole' practically blindfolded. As our confidence and skill increased so did our speed - increasing from about 200 letters to the desired 1,000 letters an hour, with an individual target of 8,000 per shift. As we became proficient and passed the test to become postal workers first class, our pay was raised from the basic shilling [5p] a day to 14 shillings [70p] a week. Sometimes we worked on the airmail roads and at other times the surface mail. Mail from all over the UK was collected several times a day from the two railway stations; the LNER Victoria station, now a shopping mall, and the LMS Midland in Carrington St. The postbags were delivered to the appropriate offices; the surface and airmail bags to Hickings, and the parcels bags going to their appropriate offices around the city. In Hickings, after the mail bags had arrived and had been opened, their contents consisting of bundles of letters were sorted into skips. The skips were then taken to the 'roads' as the sorting aisles were called. Each road was made up of about 10 frames on either side, each frame consisting of 48 pigeonholes. Within the frames, the pigeonholes were labelled with the various regiments, unit and squadrons in that particular battle zone, or the many training centres abroad, especially the RAF. Wherever there was a service man there would be a Field Post Office close by. The mail for both the Royal, and Merchant Navy was dealt with by their own Post Offices; the responsibility for their mail not falling to the Royal Engineers until 1962.

While we were sorting, every so often there would be a shout from either Sgt Major Sam Sewell or RSM Cooley, "*MEF mail going out, get moving!*". This meant that cut off time for the dispatch of surface or airmail for that Zone was approaching and we would have to work at top speed to ensure that all the mail was sorted, tied into bundles, labelled and placed into skips for the men to collect. We girls were continually harassed by the male NCOs to work even faster; and woe betide any slackers. I learned a lot of words I had previously never known!

Sorters took the skips to the ground floor and sorted the bundles into the relevant mailbags, which were then tied down and sealed with lead seals. These bags would not be opened until they arrived at the Field Post Offices overseas. The bags were then put onto trucks and taken to one of the 2 railway stations in the city. At the stations the men had to wait for a specific train and load the sacks into the parcels van, and pick up any incoming mail from the civil post offices around the country, and so it started all over again. Airmail in those days went down to an airfield in Eastleigh, Hampshire, and from there was flown to its destination. The surface mail went either to the ports of Liverpool or Glasgow, depending on the destination overseas.

In the office we were under the command of the REPS officers and NCOs, but out of the office our own ATS Admin Officers were responsible for dealing with our well being and meting out punishment to those who offended, such as not wearing our caps outside, or



failing to salute an officer. We were under the same regulations as the men, no relaxing of the rules because we were the fairer sex! Sometimes there would be a conflict of opinion between the male and female officers, but generally it worked well.

Some of my colleagues worked in the parcels offices dotted around the city, and like us they worked day and night. Initially some girls found it difficult to flick the parcels into the correct gaping open mouths of the mailbags, which were hung on huge frames, and they had to spend some time learning the technique, but as usual, in the end they were more dexterous than the men. There were also some specialised smaller offices dealing with registered mail, and parcels not properly packed. The latter would be repacked and sent on their way. However, the saddest job we did, was returning mail to the next of kin of servicemen who had lost their lives in the fighting, or on troop ships lost at sea, in particular after the debacle in Malaya and Singapore in early 1942. Mail that had already been on its way by ship, had to be returned to Nottingham and we had the sad task of sending it back to the next of kin with covering letters. It was a particularly harrowing job.

Another office where the ATS worked with the REPS was the Locations section, which was highly secret. This was where details of the movement and whereabouts of every unit in the British Army were kept, and only a few people worked there. Information came in from the War Office, the Air Ministry and the Postal Section HQ of the various expeditionary forces. To ensure that such important details were not lost, a duplicate set of the locations was kept elsewhere in Nottingham. When a draft was about to be sent overseas, the men were given a code known as the 'Draft Indices' which was printed on their kit bags, and only the War Office and those personnel in Locations knew for which theatre of war the code stood. Until the troops landed they could only guess at where they were going, but thanks to the work of the Locations Section their mail arrived at the same place with them. The job was voluntary as the work carried great responsibility, and took place in a small windowless office that was secured by a heavily locked door - it was like Colditz to get in and out, and even when you needed to relieve yourself, you had to first seek permission to do so before the door would be unlocked! I was offered work there but turned it down, as although it carried Sergeant's rank, I thought it would be too claustrophobic to work in such an environment.

When girls were eventually issued with battle dress top and trousers, which were much more comfortable to work in than the regular service dress. To show our affiliation with the Sappers we proudly wore a RE Grenade on our tunics. After some weeks I was transferred from general sorting, to Miscellaneous Section on a specialised job, on what was called the Civil Road, to replace a sapper who was going overseas. He was not particularly enthusiastic about teaching me the work he had been doing, but some months later I received a pair of wooden soled sandals sent from him out in Egypt! I did feel sorry for him as he probably had family, but that was how it had to be.

My job entailed sorting mail for some of the more obscure places in the world, as well as civil and naval mail that had been mis-sorted to the HPO. It was a day job so I did not have to work nights. Early in 1944 we ATS girls were given the opportunity to

serve abroad, and were medically examined for overseas duties. I passed A1 but because I was my widowed Mother's only support, I was not allowed to go - much to my disappointment.

The first draft of girls was sent to the Base Army Post Offices in Italy and Egypt. It was only after the Base Army Post Office No 8 was established in Belgium that they were also sent there. It was a great adventure for them, and we back in Nottingham were filled with envy. A friend of mine sent me a letter from the Middle East in which she described that "the work out here is entirely different my duty covers all the mail leaving the base and we do 2 shifts only, from 8 am to 6 pm one day, then 1.30 pm to 11 pm next day." She was quite happy out there but suffered from the heat, although she saw it as ample compensation for the fact that it caused her to lose weight Those girls did a grand job miles away from home and deserve special mention.

Christmas time was always terribly busy, and our shift hours were extended. To help us through we sang as we worked, and were fortified by the knowledge in spite of our long hours standing sorting letters in cold and poorly lit rooms, that what we were doing would be appreciated by the thousands of men and women overseas, who were unable to share the holiday with their families.

Some weeks before 'D' Day all leave was cancelled and we knew something big was going to happen. A few days before 6th June 1944 some of us were transferred to the Vyella factory, [I am sure all our older male members will remember buying their Vyella shirts with the latest style of fixed collars that did not have to be starched] where all the British Liberation Army [BLA] mail for Europe was to be sorted. We girls worked shifts of between 8 and 13 hours sorting millions of pieces of mail. It seemed like a never-ending task as the piles of letters in front of us never seemed to get any smaller. As one got through a row, another 2 would be piled on top, every one of which had to be cleared for an outgoing mail call. As I was only just over 5 feet tall it took me all my time to see over the top of the pile!

In 1944, 3,000 men and women despatched 340 million letters, 95 million packets and newspapers and 13 million parcels, in two and a half million bags, to the troops overseas. To help raise our morale the BBC Worker's Playtime programme, Radio Luxembourg and later the American forces Radio Networks [AFN Munich and Stuttgart] was relayed through the offices and sorting areas by Rediffusion, so we knew all the latest pop songs and sang along with such people as Vera Lynn, Anne Shelton, Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra and all the other pop singers of the day. It certainly helped to relieve a rather monotonous job.

As things settled down after the initial heavy mails, we from Hickings returned to our own jobs and in my case, the familiar routine of working with mail going out to unfamiliar places. Even now I can remember some of the destinations. Some were obscure islands out in the Atlantic or Pacific; names of which previously I had only heard in geography lessons at school. At this time, for reasons unknown to me, I was promoted to the dizzy rank of Lance Corporal and put in charge of the Miscellaneous Section. The promotion caused all 20 of us some amusement as we were friends, and I was given no training for command.



The morning parade in the office was like something out of Dad's Army. I never knew what reply I would get from some of the girls. It certainly would not have gone down well with our female officers, had they been there. As for our male officers, they mostly ignored us so long as we did the work: only the NCOs treated us the same as the men, and could be terrifying! We hated 'em!

Our off duty hours were well catered for. We had our own ATS Fife and drum Band who marched with us on special parades. They did a good job and were always smartly turned out. We also had a very good dance band formed by a few men who had played in dance bands pre-war. Some of the girls were very good singers and dancers, and along with some of the sapper's put on really professional concerts for us. There were also Sports Clubs for the men and women, and football and cricket teams. Nottingham had plenty of cinemas and a good theatre to visit, as well as the dance halls, and as two of my friends and I had our bicycles with us, we often went for cycle rides out into the lovely Nottinghamshire countryside.

In 1945 we were moved out to a deserted Ack Ack camp at nearby Clifton Village. We were housed in prefabricated huts, with outside showers, wash basins and toilet facilities. Heating was from a coke stove in the centre of each hut, which filled the place with smoke. Sometimes we had no fuel to keep it going, and so we were forced to pile greatcoats onto our wooden beds to keep warm at night. This was quite a shock as previously we were in requisitioned houses built just before the war. In each of our huts there was a Rediffusion loudspeaker and we were lulled to sleep by the velvety tones of a man's voice from AFN Munich, Stuttgart, singing "Out of your Dreams" from the musical Oklahoma. Then an unseen hand would switch it off at about 11pm.

After Germany surrendered in 1945 some of the Postal Service personnel there were sent back to England and were transferred to Nottingham. They worked beside us filling the places of other postal workers going abroad. The largest contingent was sent out to the Far East to join the Forces being assembled to recapture Burma, Malaya and our Far East possessions. As demobilisation got under way after the end of the war, the married girls and older men, some of whom were 60 year-old volunteers, began to leave, and National Service men arrived to carry on the good work. I was demobilised on March 1st 1946 after over 3 years in the Army Post Office and went back to my civilian job. Looking back I can say that all in all it was a satisfying job, perhaps not as dangerous as that carried out by the brave Ack Ack [Anti Aircraft] girls.

We have had a thriving Army Post Office Association since 1985 and though the numbers are diminishing, it is still going strong. In June 2004 we celebrated the 60th anniversary of 'D' Day and the Normandy landings, and in 2005, the end of the war in Europe and Far East, with several ceremonies in Llandudno where our APOA reunions are now held. We ladies and gentlemen may be old in age, but still young at heart, and cherish our comradeship of those sometimes sad, but mostly happy years. I still have friends from those days with whom I correspond, and we sometimes visit each other. Happy memories.

ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

I hope recent new members will respond to my invitations to share details of their 'trees' as, as shown in Kate Wiggins' case, it does produce a very useful dialogue which is not only hopefully useful to the individual member but is also most informative for the Society as a whole. Kate's early lines are examples of the complexity of Metcalfe relationships in the small communities of the upper Dales. We are continuing to work on her 'tree' and more is emerging! Interestingly, she has shared the Methodist 'testimony' of William Metcalfe, born May 7th 1786 at Whitaside. So far that does not seem to directly link to her family but we would both be very interested to hear from any member who can cast more light on such a writing or on William's family.

Peter Cossins' researches have now shown clear evidence for a link long suspected by Nina Benson and David Metcalfe and, as you will see, these details have then become a breakthrough for a long list of other members to whom his line is connected. Thus please do continue to send in any updates to your family trees.

Margaret Hodgson M515
archivist@metcalfe.org.uk

Postal address on page 9 of this magazine

BIRTH BRIEFS FROM EXISTING MEMBERS (INCLUDING UPDATES – shown in bold)

M581 Gary Smith – updated Birth Brief – update in bold

Grt grd s.o. John Thomas & Maud (Mte) Bendelow m 28 Apr 1895 Thirsk district. Maud b 29 Nov 1877 Sowerby nr Thirsk d.o. Thomas Thompson & Mary (Thompson) Mte m 14 Feb 1852 Sowerby. Thomas Thompson bpt 9 Aug 1829 Kirby Wiske natural s.o. Ann Mte. Ann bpt 29 Sep 1805 Kirby Wiske d.o. John & Catherine (Hornby) Mte m 29 Sep 1803 Kirby Wiske. John bpt 17 Jan 1776 Topcliffe s.o. Alexander & Hannah (Wilkinson) Mte m 31 May 1773 Topcliffe. **Conn M199 et al**

Also 6 x Grt grd s.o. Robert & Martha (Mte) Walker m 15 May 1780 South Kilvington. Martha b c1759 Thornton le Street.



M879 Christine Hudson – Birth Brief (revised)

D.o. James & Mavis (Nelson) Holdsworth m 16 Jan 1950 Nunthorpe.
James b 1917 s.o. Robert & Elsie (Magson) Holdsworth m 21 Jun 1915 Ha-
worth. Robert b 1887 s.o. Stephen Hey & Nancy (Mte) Holdsworth m 28 Feb
1858 Haworth. Nancy b 15 Nov 1852 Keld d.o. James & Margaret (Clarkson)
Mte m 5 Dec 1846 Muker. James b 2 May 1827 Keld s.o. John & Jane (Wil-
lan) Mte m 25 Jul 1818 Muker. John b 14 Apr 1793 Keld s.o. George & Mary
(Rukin) Mte m 18 Sept 1792 Muker

Conn. M940

M1518 Peter Cossins – updated Birth Brief (update in bold)

S.o. Arthur Edward & Gertrude Annie (Mte) Cossins m 1936 York. Gertrude
Annie b 1909 York d.o. John Henry (Jack) & Alice Wilfred (Shaw) Mte m
1906 York. John Henry b 1882 York s.o. John Henry & Diana (**Cade**) Mte m
1881 York. John Henry b 1860 York s.o. Percival & Sarah (**Hawkridge**) Mte
m 1850 York. Percival b c1827 York s.o. William & Jane (Allenby) Mte m 7
Apr 1822 Sutton on the Forest. William b 11 Aug 1802 Farlington natural s.o.
Mary Mte. Mary bpt 21 Oct 1762 Farlington d.o. **Percival & Ann (Swales)**
Mte m 29 Dec 1761 Farlington. Percival bpt 30 Apr 1735 Middlesmoor
s.o. John & Mary Mte of Sikes in Nidderdale. John bpt 14 Sept 1705 Mid-
dlesmoor s.o. John & Isabel (Atkinson) Mte m 6 Aug 1704 Middlesmoor.
Conn: M8 M64 M312 M661 M690 M706 M803 M974 M1049 M1074 M1101
M1112 M1142 M1192 M1216 M1425 M1451

M1877 Mrs Shirley Pate

(links to Birth Brief of Trish Craig which appeared in the December MN)

D.o. James Alexander & 2nd wife Alice (Butler) Morphet m 1932 Keighley.
James b 12 Feb 1894 Nether Lodge nr Horton in Ribblesdale s.o. James
William & Annie Isabella (Mte) Morphet m 25 Mar 1891 Clapham . Annie
bpt 31 May 1868 Linton natural d.o. Margaret Mte. Margaret b 20 Oct 1846
Stainforth d.o. William & Hannah (Marsden) Mte m 14 Dec 1826 Clapham.
William b 7 Oct 1801 Selside natural s.o. Jane Mte

Conn. M4 M11 M41 M46 M52 M90 M135 M195 M246 M466 M731 M790
M1827 M1879

NEW MEMBERS:

M1989 Mrs Kate Wiggins 37 New Road, Bradford on Avon Wilts

BA15 1AP k2wiggins@hotmail.co.uk

D.o. James Metcalfe & Ethel (Atkin) Dixon m 15 Aug 1929 Hull. James Met-
calfe b 1903 Darlington s.o. Ernest Thompson & Mary Hannah (Mte) Dixon
m 1901 Darlington. Mary Hannah b 14 Aug 1877 Whitaside, Grinton d.o.
Joseph & Mary (**a**). (Mte) Mte m 1876 Reeth district. Joseph bpt 7 Dec 1847
Melbecks s.o. John & Mary (Reynoldson) Mte m 30 Apr 1840 Grinton. John
bpt 15 Oct 1811 Muker s.o. George & Margaret (Calvert) Mte m 28 Dec 1807

Muker. George b 10 May 1786 Oxnop s.o. John & Mary (Whitfield) Mte m 13 Feb 1776 Muker. John b c1754.

Conn. M3 M40 M57 M220 M394 M1225 M1829

(a). Mary b 1845 Whitaside d.o. Anthony & Hannah (Spensley) Mte m 8 Feb 1840 Grinton. Anthony bpt 14 Jan 1819 Grinton s.o. George & Ann (Close) Mte m 20 Mar 1804 Grinton.

M1990 Miss Louise Metcalfe

55A Illeroy Avenue. Killara, NSW 2071. Australia lady.theowin@gmail.com

M1991 Mr Gareth Metcalfe

21 Hawk House, Sullivan Close, Battersea, London SW11 2NN
theoneandonlygary@hotmail.com

M1992 Mrs Wendy Fairhurst 82 Birkdale Road, Bedford MK41 8AX

geoffrey.fairhurst@btopenworld.com

**SHROPSHIRE FHS
JOURNAL 35 PART 1 MARCH 2014**

Contains an article about author's attempts to identify her 2x great grandmother (BETSY PALMER nee NEVEY) and in particular a photograph (undated) of a lady who might be her. The photograph on the reverse has a business stamp C MEDCALF, PHOTOGRAPHER, BRIDGNORTH.

According to the article a search of Cassey & Co.'s Directory of Shropshire 1871 revealed an entry: "CHARLES MEDCALF artist 24 East Castle Street Bridgnorth" and The 1880 Slater's Directory of N & S Wales etc listed: "Photographic Artists ...CHARLES MEDCALF and pianoforte and organ tuner of 10 Northgate Street Bridgnorth".

The writer then successfully searched the 1861 to 1891 censuses for the MEDCALF family to establish when he was in operation as a photographer.

NOTE Charles was born in about 1821 in Manchester. He was unmarried according to the Censuses.

The National Probate Registry revealed that Charles died aged 74. The entry reads: "MEDCALF Charles of Bridgnorth Salop photographer dies 31 august 1893. Probate Shrewsbury 12 October to EMMA MEDCALF spinster HENRY MATTHEWS builder and ARCHIBALD JAMES CORSER draper effects £898 6s 10d."

From this the author was able to deduce that the photograph was taken between 1861 and 1893 when Charles was operating and, from other data as well as the costume worn, to narrow the likely date of the photograph to the 1860s.

[We acknowledge the copyright of the above and thank Iain Swinnerton for drawing attention to it.] David Lambert M11

Retford Meccas

In memory of the Revd Charles Hodge M.A.
late Vicar of this parish, who was drowned in the "Royal Charter" wrecked off the Welsh Coast on the 26th October 1859, in the 53rd year of his age.

Erected by the Congregation of this Church in affectionate remembrance of their lamented Pastor, who for fifteen years ministered to them in faithfulness and love the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and him crucified I Cor. II.2

And the sea gave up its dead which were in it" Rev XIX.13

This monument featured on BBC television on 9th August 2010 - when the programme *Who do you think you are?* revealed that the Rev Charles Hodge was the great-great-grandfather of the TV Celebrity Monty Don.

Monty went on to say:

My pursuit took me to Nottingham University's archives and a small pamphlet of a sermon preached in August 1847 by my great-great grandfather, the Reverend Charles Hodge.

It was a long tirade against the poor of his parish of Clarborough near Retford in Nottinghamshire for not being sufficiently pious. It is a hellfire and damnation, melodramatic affair, and a million miles from the calm, politely Church of England world I was brought up in. This was an angry, passionate man.

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1298350/How-Monty-Don-dug-family-secrets.html#ixzz2uLF2MWda>

The TV programme showed a copy of the pamphlet and there at the bottom was the name of the printer **A METCALFE** Retford.

I wondered if we had any information concerning this A Metcalfe and on later research I found he was given as publisher, printer and bookbinder of Market Place Retford in a trade directory.

Search of our database came up with his name as Anthony Metcalfe who is part of the Metcalfe Family's Branch 51.

During this investigation I came across another famous Metcalfe from Retford one Arthur T Metcalfe a Geologist.

At first I thought he was part of Branch 51. He was born in 1855 (quarter 2) in East Retford. However on further delving I found there were **TWO** Arthur T Metcalfes born in East Retford in Q2 in 1855! The Geologist turned out to be Arthur Tom (Branch 51's was Arthur Thomas) son of George and Susanah (nee Pinning) Metcalfe who had married in Gainsborough - apparently no relation.

Arthur Tom Metcalfe was a locally and later a wider known geologist. With his papers at The University of Nottingham Dept. of Manuscripts and Special Collections comes this overview:

The papers contain very little biographical information, being concerned almost entirely with Metcalfe's geological research. There are many photographs of geological sites including ancient volcanoes in Derbyshire, the Giant's Causeway in Ireland, and sites on the west coast of Scotland.

Metcalfe's notebooks (1867-1926) contain catalogues of geological specimens, and research notes. There are a number of printed maps from the mid-nineteenth century covering South Devon and parts of Scotland and the North West of England. Further printed matter includes off-prints from geological journals from the late eighteenth to the early nineteenth century. The only correspondence in the collection relates to Metcalfe's appointment as Senior Fellow of the Geological Society.

Arthur Metcalfe was born in Retford, Nottinghamshire in 1857 (sic). He began studying geology as a schoolboy and became a pioneering figure in local geology. He was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society, London at the age of 23 and later became President of the Nottingham Naturalists' Society. His work received its greatest recognition when he was made a Senior Fellow of the Geological Society in 1938.

The papers passed into the care of Professor H. H. Swinnerton of University College, Nottingham, and were given to the University Library with the latter's own professional papers.

Further research uncovered the following:

*In early 1894, while researching his book *The Ancient Volcanoes of Great Britain*, Sir Archibald Geikie, then Director-General of the Geological Survey, spent a week examining the Derbyshire 'toadstones' in the company of local geologist, H.H. Arnold-Bemrose. Geikie's *Ancient Volcanoes* appeared in 1897 and seems have inspired another local amateur geologist, **A.T. Metcalfe**, to visit and photograph the visible evidence of the 'Ancient volcanoes at Grange Mill.' The resulting small, slim album of ten black and white photographs, dating from 1900, is now in the Library of the British Geological Survey at Keyworth.*

*Metcalfe was born at Retford, Nottinghamshire, in 1855, and spent his entire working life as a solicitor at Southwell, dying there in 1939. Among other things, he published a paper on the gypsum deposits of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire in the *Transactions of the Nottingham Naturalists' Society* (1894), of which he was for a time the President. He was also eventually a Senior Fellow of the Geological Society.*

The Nottinghamshire geologist Arthur T. Metcalfe made a tour of Argyll in Scotland around 1904. His trip was primarily a scientific expedition, but he took the opportunity to enjoy the scenery.

His album of photographs is mainly concerned with his geological observations, but includes typical tourist shots of the steamers, the piers, towns and villages.

www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/home.html



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Cleveland FHS
Spring Family History Day
Scotch Corner Holliday Inn
Saturday 11 April 2015. 9.45-4.30.
Three talks: *Using the British Library at Boston Spa;*
Irish Family History on the Internet and Scottish Marriage.
Talks inc lunch & refreshments £15.
Full details www.clevelandfhs.org.uk

2 for 1 Entry available on our website www.YorkshireFamilyHistoryFair.com

The Twentieth Annual Yorkshire Family History Fair

Saturday 27th June 2015
10am - 4.30pm

Free Family History Talks
with guest speakers

*Location: Knavesmire Exhibition Centre,
York Race Course
Free parking*

Entrance Only £4.50, Children free

*Over 40 Family History Societies
& County Record Offices*

See a full list of exhibitors on our website

www.YorkshireFamilyHistoryFair.com
Sponsored by



TheGenealogist.co.uk

MECCA MISCELLANY

Old Yorkshire -- 1882

Leeds

Page 79 - Farther on was the Vicarage; and at the end of Kirkgate, quite at the east end of town, was the Parish Church, a fine stone building in the form of a cross, with a central tower 97 feet high. The Moot Hall stood in the centre of Briggate, and beyond it, on the highest part of the town, a street called the Head Row ran at right angles. to the left of Briggate it was called Upperhead Row, and ended in Lydgate, opening on the high road up the Aire valley. Here was an old fashioned house, built of brick, by **Alderman Metcalfe**, called Red Hall, in which Charles I. lodged for a night when in the hands of the Scots. ----- Such was the Leeds when Sir Thomas Fairfax came to dispute its possession with the Royalists.

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p80 - Forbes dashed forward, followed by his men and the pious minister, and another verse was sung. They then proceeded forward up Briggate, captured the other demi-culverin, and met Sir William Fairfax, who had stormed the trench by **Mr. Metcalf's** [sic], Red Hall.

CS Metcalfe M305

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Northern Echo, Stockton, Darlington & Middlesbrough.

Tuesday December 3rd 1918

PUBLIC NOTICES

By Mr. **Ernest M. Metcalfe**.

19 Parliament Street, Stockton on Tees.

Ernest M. Metcalfe instructed by representatives of Capt. T. Stephenson will SELL BY AUCTION TODAY [Tuesday] the HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE & EFFECTS which include:- A Capital Piano in burr walnut case; Pair of Butcher's Tables, Chest of Drawers, 5 Antique Chairs, Bedsteads, Wire & Wool Mattresses, Overmantels & the Usual Furnishings.

Also a Full -sized Enamelled Iron Bath.

Sale at o'clock prompt.

Dorothy Pope M55

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Yorkshire Archaeological Society

Ref 135C34 - DIRECTORY OF THE CITY OF WAKEFIELD,
INCLUDING ALVERTHORPE & BELLE VUE. (1906)

Publicans

Metcalfe, Edward, Griffin Hotel, 22 & 24 Northgate

Metcalfe, James, King Edward VII, 214 Kirkgate

Rag merchants

Metcalf Tom S., 123 Westgate

Metcalfe, Thos., Thompson's Yard

Jo Heron M1042

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Metcalfe For Congress

A number of months ago I contacted the editorial department of the Metcalfe Society to inform them of my wife's interest in running for a seat in the Congress of the United States. I am writing to let you know the details of our efforts and the successes and failures we faced along the way.

First, I must offer you a quick background of the area she wished to represent and the issues facing that part of the world. My wife, Margaret Metcalfe, grew up on the island of Guam which is a United States Territory located in the Pacific and approximately three hours by commercial jet from Manila, Hong Kong or Taipei. Guam is 35 by 8 miles in area and has a population of 170,000 people. It was claimed by Spain in the 1600's and held, due to it's strategic location and deep water port, until the United States took possession of it in 1898. Except for a brief but savage takeover by the Japanese in World War II, the island has remained in the hands of the United States and it's destiny controlled by Washington lawmakers and the Military. No information is made public on what has been invested in Guam in offensive and defensive hardware but the amount is known to be in the hundreds of billions of U.S. Dollars. A few billion is currently being invested by the United States and Japan to make Guam the hub of the Western Pacific Fleet. Guam is, therefore, nicknamed the "Tip of the Spear". Much like Britain's Gibraltar, Guam is the most strategic part of United States interests abroad and will be held, controlled and defended at all cost.

My wife's grandfather, John Francis MacDonald, was one of the first Marines to come to Guam in 1889 and he elected to stay and marry a local girl. His decedents, the McDonald family (they dropped the Mac about 100 years earlier), are part of one of the largest and most powerful political families on the island. The indigenous people of Guam are called the Chamorro's and the McDonalds are considered as being part of this group which represents 34% of the population. The government operates much like a State with an elected Governor, a Legislature and one Representative to Congress. Most of these positions and their political backing continues to be held in the hands of the Chamorro people.

Guam has one representative to Congress, one chance to have their message heard. Unfortunately, this position has been held by a incumbent for twelve years who is 83 years old and currently has the worst attendance record in Congress. The reason why she continues to earn reelection is that she has been in public service her entire life and was the wife of a prior governor to the island.

Into this political scene, my wife and I decided to close up our home in California and move to Guam to run for political office. With no experience in politics and only five months until the general election, we knew we had our work cut out for us. With the help of Margaret's family, we made clear our support of improving Veteran's benefits and the negative effects of open immigration on the islands social support structure. These two points were failures of the United States Government to take care of it's obligations and we firmly told the people that we would fight for the rights that were promised and not fulfilled.

To this end, on November 4th an open election was held and my wife received 45% of the vote against 53% by the incumbent. Our failure to win was softened by the fact that Margaret had more votes than anyone had ever achieved against the incumbent and this was accomplished in only a five month campaign.

What the future holds for Margaret in the political world is uncertain. We are both in our 60's and retired and whether we are in Washington fighting the good fight or playing with our grandchildren life has been very good to us. You can view a number of the events and pictures at our web site guamtimeisnow.us or on Facebook.

Chris Metcalfe M1480



MORE
ABOUT GROWING OLDER...

By Will Rogers

(Some earlier sayings appeared in MN 100 page 17)

- ~ Some people try to turn back their odometers.
Not me; I want people to know 'why' I look this way.
I've traveled a long way, and some of the roads weren't paved.
- ~ You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.
- ~ I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.
- ~ One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it's
such a nice change from being young.
- ~ Long ago, when men cursed and beat the ground with a stick,
it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf.
And, finally ~ If you don't learn to laugh at trouble,
you won't have anything to laugh at when you're old.

(Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash,
was claimed to be of the greatest US political sages).

Supplied by Lesley Longworth M68



Taken in Fakenham, Norfolk. 2014
J Metcalf Jewellers
Tony Metcalf M1390