

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY

www.metcalfe.org.uk



THE METCALFE SOCIETY

Established 1980

Registered Charity No. 1000879

ISSN 0952-7354

35th Anniversary Issue

December 2015

Issue No 107

Welcome to The Mecca News

Editor
Peter Dobson

Your Society has had an exciting and successful Muster at the new location at Tennants in Leyburn where over 80 members and guests attended The following pages give a flavour of the day's events.



253.

No not a police number or an identity requirement
but an indication of success.

Over the last seven years I have (with my son) been climbing the English Mountains. There are a number of lists identifying the peaks including Hewitts and Nuttalls. The largest list is that of the Nuttalls which identifies a mountain as being "at least 2000ft (610 metres) with a relative height drop of at least 50 feet (15m)." Hewitts must be 2000 feet with a drop of 100 feet. I prefer to work in feet it seems more!

This challenge saw me in some strange locations; in rough conditions, in sometimes variable weather and on occasions on disappointing peaks but overall it was a satisfying adventure. The last two peaks climbed were in Devon and as a result my son and I join a list of some 200 who have achieved (and recorded) the fact.

I am sure there are many of you who have undertaken tasks that have been unusual and challenging which provided you with a feeling of success so why not let me know? Now for those 190 Welsh mountains!

As the festive season approaches I wish you and yours the
Compliments of the Season.



Subscriptions 2016

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UK & Europe	10					
Overseas via Air Mail.....	14	21	23	30	31	34
+ One Time Registration Fee	15	22	24	31	33	36

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THE MECCA NEWS

EDITOR: PETER DOBSON

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

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DECEMBER 2015 ISSUE No 107

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



Pictures of the first
Muster and the 25th
may bring back
memories.



Mecca Muster 2015

Here are some
more to add to your
memory store.



Mecca Muster 2015

The 35th Anniversary AGM & Muster was a success.

Feedback was highly positive with a score of nearly 4.7 from the responses received. Without exception members and their guests liked and enjoyed the Tennants building on the edge of Leyburn. Built at a cost of some £7m it is reminiscent of earlier palladian structures it must be unique in the Dales and one of the better looking modern buildings.

The day itself was crammed full of events from start to finish. Around 70 members and their guests were present when we got underway. We were roundly and enthusiastically welcomed by Rodney Tennant the owner of Tennants. He has a natural charm and was keen to encourage Dales orientated organisations like ourselves as he saw that they were the link between the past and the future. A brief resume of the growth of the auction house business was given with an expectation that sales in the future would tend to be done on line! His vision was one of Commerce and Community together. Margaret Hodgson our Archivist made a stirring presentation to Rodney of his family tree (*See page 7*).

The AGM was efficiently dealt with by Chairman David Lambert with our new President Nina Benson being presented to the meeting.

The Muster then got down to the launching of our new projects.

Diane Howarth who had spent many months in designing and liaising with Carol Herbert our webmaster introduced the new website (*See page 16*).

It is visually pleasing and the content is second to none. During the day members were given a walk through of the new site and the response was all positive.

The Society also launched its new Legacy membership for younger aspiring genealogists and Samuel Benson was present to receive his membership certificate (*See page 33*). Ex-President Charles Metcalfe had also enrolled his grandchildren prior to the Muster and a further six enrolments/enquiries were made at Leyburn.

Late morning and early afternoon saw Mr Tennant take parties behind the scenes of the auction house whilst later he gave an amusing valuation session for members who had brought artifacts (*See page 7*).

Our main speaker was the well known historian Dr George Redmonds who gave a challenging talk on Dales surnames (*See page 21*) and the Metcalfe tartan was displayed by Graeme Metcalf (*See page 35*).

The day sped by and whilst there was a short overrun most members and guests stayed to the end to enjoy and in some instances win prizes from the raffle.

All in all an enjoyable Muster. Roll on 2016!



Mecca Muster 2015

Some of your comments.

I'VE ENJOYED IT ALL. VERY WELL ORGANISED,
REALLY GOOD VENUE.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE ORGANISERS

*It was nice to be brought up to date with the
activities of The Metcalfe Society.*

*The tour by Rodney Tennant was
most interesting and the venue excellent.*

*Tour of building, Yorkshire name.
Both really interesting.
Venue - pleasant, comfortable,
lots of things going on, displays, auctions etc.*

Pleasant welcome.

Paperwork well prepared.

Friendly atmosphere.

Research resources laid out well.

Interesting displays.

Fantastic venue.

Talk on placenames/surnames.

Opportunity to mingle over refreshments.

Dr George Redmonds gave us cause for thought

*New website launch looks to be
very user friendly.*

*The valuation session was very
informative and entertaining a
great end to a super day.*

Rodney Tennants input - very entertaining

Legacy Membership - excellent idea!

Refreshments &

food - good standard

*Excellent welcome.
Excellent facilities.
Tour. Valuations interesting.
Displays readable in
spare moments.
Raffle fun.*

EXCELLENT DAY.

INTERESTING IN ALL ASPECTS.

THANK YOU

Mecca Muster 2015

Mr Rodney Tennant gave a lot of his time to the Muster.

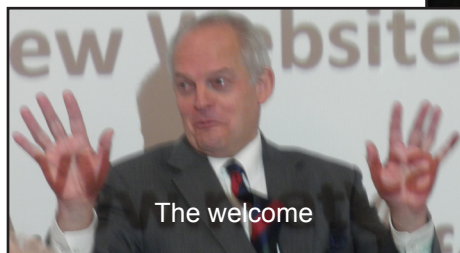
His welcome was followed by the presentation of his family tree by Margaret Hodgson.

Later he hosted three behind the scene tours for members and an impromptu valuation of members artifacts at the end of the day.

His efforts and entertaining anecdotes were well received by the membership and added to the enjoyable day.



The presentation



The welcome

The valuation.

Members learnt that not all that is old is valuable and none of our items were about to make a fortune!



Metcalfe Society co-founder Mrs Mary Metcalfe, her husband Alan and Chairman David Lambert greet Rodney Tennant

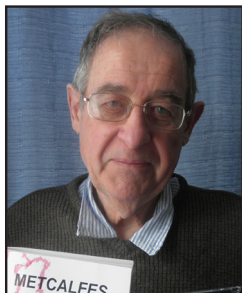


A behind the scenes members group

GEORGE BUXTON

George was one of the early members of the Society. He was always interested in family history and genealogy and was a resolute researcher. As a result of his research over many years the society has a wealth of knowledge and information especially regarding the Metcalfes in India and their families back in Britain. His research was the basis of the *Metcalfes in India* booklet of which he was co-author.

George Died on 31 August 2015.



I got to know George after I took over as editor in 1994. He was already a prolific contributor to the Society's Mecca News having provided an article as early as Issue 4. He was always keen to provide items and articles for our magazine especially on India which was his favourite area of research.

George would finish his shift and regularly go off to the British Library and delve into the India Office records. He did this for over a decade resulting in hundreds of pages of information and over a thousand Mecca entries. His interest was not solely with the sub-continent as he researched his family in the Dales which resulted in a semi-permanent display at the Swaledale Museum.

I became friendly with George and his wife as a result of his magazine contributions and my wife and I visited George and his wife when they moved to the Midlands. The sudden and unexpected death of Janet last Autumn affected him badly and earlier this year he went into a nursing home where he died peacefully.

Peter Dobson

**Building on this year's amazing and successful AGM & Muster
your committee have arranged the 2016 AGM & Muster
at the same venue - Tennants in Leyburn.**

So if you missed it the first time don't miss it again!

Note your dairies now.

The date:

Saturday 8th October 2016.

**DEADLINE for the April Mecca News
is 6 February 2016.**

Articles comments or snippets to the Editor.



WELCOME

To our new president.

The AGM endorsed the Committee's recommendation that our new President should be **Nina Benson**.

Nina is well known to many in the Society having been our Secretary for many years.



Welcomes are also in order to

Michael Pope

(son of Dorothy Pope) who has volunteered for the committee.

Here's wishing you both well in your new roles.

Our thanks go to

Viv Metcalf

for all her work on the Committee. Viv is stepping down after some five years and we wish her well in the future.

Our former President **Charles Metcalfe** stood down at the recent AGM after many years in the post.

In recognition of Charles's service Chairman David Lambert recently visited Charles and presented him with a memento of his time in office.



Subscriptions held at 2002 levels - again!

The Committee recommended and the AGM agreed not to increase membership subscriptions for 2016.

So renew your membership today!

Send renewals to Liz Waller the Membership Secretary. Details page 34.

Can any of your readers help?

Abraham Medcallffe born about 1500 and Branch 59 from History of the Clan

From the "Oxford Church Courts Depositions 1570-1574" No.10 26 May 1570 we read of Master Abraham Medcallffe of Woodstock Oxfordshire resident 42 years, aged 70. This is recorded in a Case of Defamation brought by John Haynes of Bladon against John Fletcher of Woodstock. Medcallffe was brought on as a witness for Haynes, and things got a bit messy when Fletcher decided to bring into doubt the character of Haynes' witnesses:

Witnesses for Fletcher attacked the character of Haynes' witnesses in some detail saying, inter alia, that Medcallffe was an habitual drunk, denying when sober what he agreed to when drunk, often making outrageous remarks about the Mayors of Woodstock, at odds with Fletcher when Fletcher was Mayor about putting a pair of butts on the common ground, for which he was put out of the aldermanship; and that he had violently attacked a little girl who had taken a small piece of cloth in his shop 'to make his daughter a baby'. [I think that should read "who had taken a small piece of cloth from his shop intending to make clothes for her dolly" or something like that]. Haynes witnesses testified at length about the honesty, sobriety and good name of his witnesses referring to the number of times Medcallffe and Cresseley had been mayor, and to Medcallffe being reinstated after having been disenfranchised by Fletcher for disobedience etc etc".

I am convinced that this Abraham holds the clue as to why one branch of the family became the Abraham alias Metcalfes (see Branch 59 in the History of the Clan). Metcalfes were mayors of New Woodstock Oxfordshire in the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This Metcalfe family was strongly rooted in Woodstock, Bicester and Banbury but it was the Banbury branch where the Abraham alias Metcalfes flourished. I am still working on this genealogy and would be happy to share my findings with the society when my research is complete.

In the meantime the reason that I am writing to you is to enquire whether you or any of your readers can shed any light on where Abraham Medcallffe born about 1500 may have been baptised. We know from the above that he only moved to Woodstock in around 1528 so where did he move from?

There were Metcalfes at that time in Henley on Thames and also in London, but I am wondering did he come down from Yorkshire perhaps to study at the University at Oxford and settled in Oxon instead of returning. Abraham Metcalfe seems to have been a popular name in the Askrigg area. Can anyone identify an Abraham Metcalfe perhaps from a family of drapers who travelled south to study or trade and did not return? I would be pleased to hear from you.

Andrew Metcalfe
M1915

I saw a TV programme this week about the compensation (billions in today's money) to UK residents for loss of their slaves when slavery was abolished.

Looking on the internet on www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/search the entry of 'Metcalf' brings up the Metcalf & Metcalfe recipients.

The first one I looked at (Elizabeth) was born in Yorkshire! (See page 28.)

The June edition of 'Suffolk Roots' of the Suffolk Family History Society had an article about men from Long Melford, Suffolk who were involved in the Peninsular War and/or the Battle of Waterloo. One of these men was **James Medcalf (born c1789 at Long Melford)**. There seems to be good research and more and or different data to what we have on our database.

Edwin Metcalf M980

From the internet these Metcalfe businesses were spotted by

M854 Richard Metcalfe-Gibson.

Metcalfe Bros Ltd Cautley, Sedbergh www.metcalfebrosLtd.co.uk and

Metcalfe Plant Hire Ltd Penrith www.metcalfe-plant-hire.co.uk

Richard comments:

"The two Metcalfe firms are not connected as far as I know, are both family owned and based in Cumbria. Both started in the 1970's and are involved in the same type of business (Plant Hire). If you travel north into Cumbria on the M6 it is quite possible you will see the yellow logo of the Metcalfe Plant Hire Ltd on vehicles on the roadside. Makes you feel proud!"

[your emails and letters]

Just had a talk about deceasedonline.com which has lists of buried and cremated individuals, earliest 13th century to about 15 years ago. It also has location maps, transcriptions and scans of records - not everything for each cemetery. A lot of the material is on other sites, but there is a free search available, for some information, but payment/subscription for more detailed records. Some members will know of the site, but many may be like me and ignorant of it.

Jo Heron M1042

From Joan Grundy M630

Kirkheaton Bishops Transcripts

A true copie drawne out of the Register booke of all the weddings christenings and Burialls that was in the yeare 1611 as followeth

May 12 1611 Marjerye the daughter of John Medcalf baptized

First a sad note. I was very sorry to learn a few days ago that our Vice President George Buxton passed away recently. He was one of our first members with a membership number with two 00s in front of it to prove it! During the society's existence he spent hours on Metcalfe research. He will particularly be remembered for his research on the Metcalfes in India. He amassed thousands of references to the family in India, some of which you can find in our society's publications of that name. George was generous with his time and the Society would be much the poorer if he had not voluntarily carried out, often in his lunch hour, so much research on our behalf. I was indebted to him for all the references he found in the Indian archives on Lambert. As he put it, since he was looking for Ms he could very easily look at the Ls too! Tributes are paid to him elsewhere. Regrettably his last few years have not been easy or free from ill health. He will be missed by us.

Our Metcalfe 35th anniversary muster and AGM was duly held at Tenants Garden Suite, Leyburn. You will be able to read about the day and see photographs in this Mecca News. It is our Society's main event of the year, made special this time as we celebrated our 35th anniversary, by a change in location from previous years. The venue was superb-brand new state of the art premises with spacious and comfortable rooms and a good cafe and restaurant downstairs. We were made most welcome by Rodney Tennant, who not only made a few introductory words of welcome but personally led conducted tours of the Tenants buildings during the day and held an 'antiques roadshow' style valuation for members, who had brought items for his appraisal. No hidden valuable antiques I am afraid but some interesting items and comments from Rodney. Our enjoyment of the day was undoubtedly enhanced by Rodney who made everyone feel most welcome to the Garden Suite of which he is justifiably proud and to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude.

Chairman's Jottings

I also want to thank Diane Howarth for introducing us to the premises and then organizing the Muster so thoroughly and meticulously, as well as for her presentations during the day. We increased our number of attendees up to 87 and interestingly of these approximately 50% had not been to our meeting for some time, if at all. It was particularly pleasant and appropriate to welcome Vice President and Member no 1 – Jean Metcalfe and her husband Alan. We would not exist if it had not been for her and the late Vera Adams who founded the Society.

Dr George Redmonds gave an excellent thought provoking talk after lunch which was well received. He is an excellent speaker and we were very fortunate that he agreed to come. Stephen Benson the chairman of the Federation of Family History Societies visited us too and stayed throughout the day, which was an honour for us.

At the AGM I am pleased to say Dr. Michael Pope, the son of Dorothy Pope one of our earlier members, was elected onto the committee. He is most welcome. The rest of the committee were re-elected for another year. No one was appointed though as a replacement treasurer for Marsden Holden who stepped from that post. Vivienne Metcalf also retired. I would like to thank them both for the time and effort they gave whilst on the committee.

We also elected a new President Nina Benson who took over from Charles Metcalfe who had held the post since 1997. My renewed thanks to him for serving as our President so well and for so long! I congratulate Nina upon her election as President. She was accompanied to the muster by her grandson, who said he would like to return next year as he had enjoyed his day so much! We have just agreed to hold our next Muster at Tennants once more, on Saturday 8 October 2016, so he will be able to do so!

One of the highlights at the Muster was the launching of our new website. Diane Howarth demonstrated how it worked and showed us how to use it. It has a new design, layout, clearer navigation and more useful information. Do look at it if you have not done so recently. Thanks to Carol Herbert, our webmaster, who dealt with the technical side of setting up the new site. It was good to see her too at the Muster. Earlier in the year Diane encouraged us to look at our society's Facebook page which is regularly updated by her. At the point of writing we had 337 'likes' and 300 'post reaches' according to google analytics. I was delighted to see on it that member no. 1369 Fred (William) Parker in Minnesota had been the guest of honour (should that perhaps be spelt honor?) at a Veterans Commemoration event and sat next the State Governor. He will be remembered by several of you from previous Musters when he visited with members of his family.

George Redmond's in his talk challenged researchers generally to find evidence for what they believe and state to be true. Where is the written evidence? Can we prove in records rather than hearsay that William de Dent's progeny became known as Medecalf / Metcalf(e)? There should be records if they did so. I cannot answer that point but given the recent anniversary of the battle of Agincourt I wondered about the Agincourt rolls and searched those online to see if our Metcalf was named in the retinue of Lord Scrope. He was not listed in the muster rolls I was able to check online. That is not to say he was not there. The rolls are not I believe complete. I started also on a red herring having seen that Lord Scrope was, before the battle, arrested with others and executed for treason by the King when he was in the south of England preparing for the voyage to France. Did that explain why there is no Metcalfe? Would he have served if his lord had been guilty of treason? Our editor pointed out quite rightly that the traitor was the 3rd Baron Scrope of Masham and that he was not one and same as Lord Scrope of Bolton Castle. I have found an article by the College of Arms which explains all at <http://www.college-of-arms.gov.uk/news-grants/news/item/119-the-battle-of-agincourt>

I see that a firm in Cumbria- Atlantic Geomatics - has been working on a project to record burial grounds by taking aerial photographs using an unmanned aerial vehicle, which flies about 40 to 50 metres high. Images are also taken at ground level. By combining the photographs a 3D map is prepared. They also scan burial registers and photograph stones so that a complete digital record is created. A number of churches in Cumbria are on the system. The group is keen to encourage more churches to become involved. I wonder if they would be able to work in the Dales? Is this the way ahead? [I saw this on pp32-34 of Cumbria November 2015 issue]

*I hope you have all enjoyed being members in 2015 and that you will continue in 2016.
May I end by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and successful 2016.*

Edgar Metcalfe, The Theatre, Emmotts, Lee Ingleby

The item in August's Mecca News (page 21) about the death in Australia of Edgar Metcalfe, known as 'Mr Playhouse' and a 'Legend of Theatre', interested me because of the details of his early life in Blacko, near Nelson in Lancashire. The information that he was adopted by Tom and Mary Emmott of Stone Edge Farm led me to look further into Tom's background, as I felt that there would be a link between him and a George Emmott who married my fatherinlaw's sister. He (my fatherinlaw) was Frank Metcalfe, born in 1896, his eldest sister being Mary Ellen, always known as Nellie, born in 1893.

In the 1891 census I found a large Emmott family living at a farm, Blears Side, near Thornton, Skipton. William Emmott, a farmer and mason, and his wife Martha had eight children, the youngest of which was Thomas, a baby under 12 months old. The next youngest son was George aged five. Among the three girls in the family was Esther Jane, then aged 14.

Moving through to the 1911 census William and Martha were by then at a farm called Higher Gills, Rimington (not far from Blacko), with one daughter and two of their sons, including George. Esther Jane was married to Ernest Hargreaves, had five children, and was living at Little Stone Edge Farm, Blacko. Thomas Emmott, Ernest's brotherinlaw, was also there, aged 20, working on the farm. So this establishes Thomas in Blacko, clearly he was still there when Edgar was adopted. George married Nellie Metcalfe in 1917; they had a son and two daughters, one of whom, Mary Emmott, married Christopher Ingleby in 1937.

From this marriage there is another association with the theatre. Mary and Chris's grandson is the now well established actor Lee Ingleby, who has played in many television dramas. Perhaps his best known role is that of John Bacchus in George Gently, with Martin Shaw as the title character. Most recently he took the lead as George Mottershead in Our Zoo, the story of the establishment of Chester Zoo, and he also had a small part in the film Mr Turner. I remember going to Chris's funeral in 1997, when Lee was about 20, and being so impressed when he movingly read "a poem for Grandad". I'm sure that Edgar Metcalfe would have welcomed this other Emmott connection with the theatre.

I do brag a bit when a series of George Gently is being shown, on the lines of Lee's grandma being my husband's cousin. A tenuous link to fame. In the Mecca News context it can equally proudly be claimed that Lee Ingleby's greatgrandmother was a Metcalfe.

Joan Metcalfe M63

Mecca Bits & Bobs

Alexandra Metcalfe gave a prayer at the National Arboretum for VJ Day celebrations. *BBC Radio 4 Sunday Service 16 August 2015 8.40am.*

Whites Directory of Leeds 1867 (Pages 170 & 171)

Mr **David Metcalf**, 26 Grove Ter

Edward Metcalf, traveller, 17 Darley St

Mrs Emma Metcalf, shopkeeper, 36 St Paul's Street

Eli Metcalf, butcher, 12 Kirkstall Road

Elizabeth Metcalf, dressmaker, Mill Street, Marsh Lane

George Thompson Metcalf, tailor, Ingram Street

James Metcalf, gear and slay maker, 81 Wellington Street

John Metcalf, cowkeeper, 36 Willow Rd,

John Metcalf, shopr., 110 York Rd

John Crowther Metcalf, druggist, 12 Lady Lane

Joseph Bussey Metcalf, butcher, 17 Cheapside; h yard 110 Brigg

Mrs Margaret Metcalf, Pawnbroker and Vict.

Royal George, 32 & 34 Hunslet Road

Wm. Metcalf, shopkeeper, 25 York Rd

Saml. Metcalf, shoemaker, Holbeck.

James Methold Noble moved from Sussex to Tynemouth Northumberland to marry **Dorothy Metcalfe** on 1 September 1807. The couple had some 12 children. *Northumberland & Durham FHS Journal Spring 2015, page 16.*

Those of you interested in a Metcalf tartan (see earlier Muster report) should go along to SHOPWINDOW.ONLINE.CO.UK and view the

METCALFE TARTAN CHAIR.

Priced at £599 (just before the Muster).

*Supplied by **Graeme Metcalf M1745.***

Darren Metcalfe "Your promise on student loans has destroyed your reputation. Why would we ever believe anything else you say?"
Question to Nick Clegg the then Deputy PM and Leader of the Lib Dems.
Special edition of Question Time on BBCTV on 2 May 2015

"It used to be a luxury - it was an extravagance - but now wine is very much part of the weekly shop."

Charles Metcalfe, co-chairman of the International Wine Challenge.
(Competition for own-brand supermarket wines.)

The Times May 14, 2015.

Both supplied by David Lambert M11

WEBSITE LIVE!

- At the Leyburn Muster the long anticipated Metcalfe Society website was launched.
- The consensus was the wait was worthwhile.
- The new website is eye catching full of information and has an easy access to all parts of the site.
- If you haven't tried it already have a go today at **www.metcalfe.org.uk**
- Members should find the site easy to use and with new information being promised it should be well worth accessing on a regular basis.
- If you have forgotten or mislaid your access password contact the Membership Secretary by email for a replacement. (See Contact details on page 34.)



**Diane Howarth - Designer and Carol Herbert - WebMaster
& Advisor
at the Metcalfe Society website launch.**

VOLUNTARY AID DETACHMENT



1914. It took up to 5 days on average for seriously wounded soldiers to reach a UK hospital from the front line in France.

Getting of the battlefield itself could take hours - in some instances days - especially those who were unable to move and had to wait for stretcher bearers.

Once removed from the conflict zone the wounded were taken to a Regimental Aid Post and then depending on the severity of their injuries to a mobile Advanced Dressing

Station (still within a few miles of the battlefield). Those needing more intensive treatment went to a Casualty Clearing Station with the most serious cases transferred to larger hospitals on the French Coast or shipped back to England for longer term treatment and/or convalescence.

Where they were sent back to in 'Blighty' was a matter of chance dependant upon the vagaries of transport and hospital availability.

So many ended up well away from their base/home.

The Government was prepared for casualties having worked on plans for dealing with the wounded since 1909. By the commencement of hostilities they had some 7000 hospital beds plus a further 12000 beds at Territorial Force General Hospitals. Casualties overwhelmed these facilities.

An expansion of existing hospitals, establishment of special military hospitals and the setting up of auxiliary and convalescent facilities by voluntary organisations increased the beds available to some 360,000 by the end of WWI.

Auxiliary hospitals were mainly set up by the British Red Cross and the Order of St John and known as the

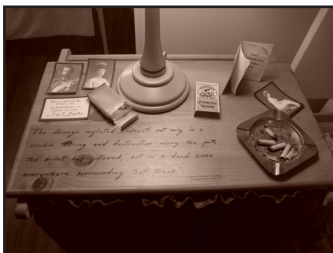
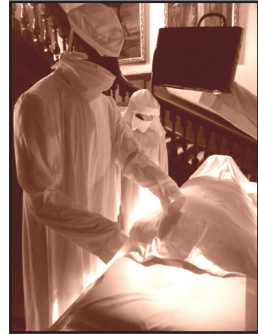
Voluntary Aid Detachment.



Initially wounded and convalescing soldiers were put up anywhere where they could be housed - civic buildings, ordinary houses, church halls and the like. This position rapidly changed and large private family houses were volunteered. These premises whilst not ideal for major surgeries were right for minor operations and those recovering and convalescing.

The VAD's offered professional nursing care and were run along military lines. The detachments were either run by men with over 50 volunteers or by women who ran VAD's with smaller numbers (around 24). With many of the men on war service it was difficult to staff these larger establishments, so a majority were female run.

They were controlled by a commandant (often the female owner of the house) and a trained nurse. The remainder of the staff tended to be volunteers with up to 10 in a section including a least four good cooks. These volunteers were mainly married women or young girls often from domestic service working part time without pay although they were often paid expenses.



Some 3000 large houses (often stately homes) were used and whilst not ideal for surgery provided space for beds and outside facilities for recovering combatants.

The beds were regularly changed and the soldiers were allowed a few creature comforts both on a personal and on a group basis.

The large halls were ideal for a soldier's mess and rest area.





By the time hostilities ceased in 1918 some 70,000 volunteers (two thirds of them women and girls) were recruited across the country and given specialist training.

The cost was covered by the voluntary organisations under the auspices of the Joint War Committee.

Between the Red Cross and the St John's Ambulance Service over £21m was raised which covered the major funding requirement.



Some of the recovering soldiers had major disfigurements or suffered serious traumas due to their experiences. Many of the younger women found their VAD service harrowing having to deal with these cases and on occasion assist with surgery.

They were in close proximity to the injured throughout their shifts and the nurses station was often only a curtain covered space in a corner of a large room off the main ward.

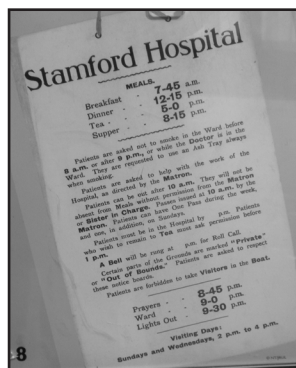


Run along military and hospital lines the VAD had strict times for meals, recreation and any visitors. When the Medical Officer (MO) made his rounds those able to stand to attention were expected to do so whilst those bed bound were expected to lie at attention.

The VAD's began closing after the 1918 Armistice although many were still operational for twelve months or more afterwards. Some 1.2m patients were handled by these hospitals.

In 1920 the British Red Cross and the Order of St John recognised the efforts of their volunteers (who were not eligible for any military awards) with a medallion.

Sources: *National Trust -Dunham Massey;*
Family Tree - October 2011; the internet.



VAD Meccas

From the British Red Cross site

(www.redcross.org.uk/About-us/Who-we-are/History-and-origin/First-world-war)

there are listed some 104 Metcalfe variants

(67 Mte/27Mt/9Md/1Mde/ no Mid(e) or Mit(e)).

The records vary in information and position
from commandants to cleaning staff.

The individual records come with an index card which provides
some background .

You may find some of your own family in the list.

A couple of examples:

Mrs Minnie Medcalfe, Roos, Hull

Service 1915-1917. Roos Red Cross Working Party

Sewing and Knitting



Miss Judith Mary Metcalfe, Ipswich

Service 1917-1919 Commandant. Hastings, Peterborough, Eastbourne.

1915 Caen France

1916 Guidford VAD

The International Red Cross site (grandeguerre.icrc.org)
lists POW's of WWI (and WW2) of whom over 50 are Meccas.

Dr George Edmonds was the guest speaker at this years Muster.

Dr Edmonds a well known historian has a life-long interest in name studies and has a number of books to his credit including *Christian Names in Local and Family History* and *The Yorkshire Dales Local and Family History*.

Dr George Edmonds
with
Chairman David Lambert

Mecca Muster 2015



To a packed audience Dr Redmonds opened his talk by challenging information available in current publications!

His talk was on the sources of surnames. Most surnames originate between 1250 and 1550 and whilst many are personal names others relate to places, trades, and nick-names. Often those with place sounding names are not necessarily the source.

The assertion made at the beginning of the talk was that as genealogists/historians we should investigate and test the sources we use. Whilst many of the publications are by learned researchers we should ask what their expertise is. Many of them approach the investigation of surnames from a certain point of view which is coloured by their own area of interest. We should use a number of sources. We should also be aware of the style of language of the time as meanings change over the passage of time distorting the original meaning.

As family historians we should investigate the documentary evidence from the time under review. That might include rent records, tithe and land grants for example. *Subsidy Rolls 1510-1547 (Yorkshire Records - Vol 145 by Professor Hoyle)* were considered a useful source (although he suggested we ignore the index and concentrate upon the content!) as well as *Hearth tax Records* from the 1660's. Other sources included *Richmondshire Wills*, *North Riding Quarter Session records* and *Ribblesdale by Chris Spencer* amongst others.

All in all a thought provoking talk and one for those seeking answers to pursue

Peter Dobson

PUBLIC EXECUTIONS

Richard Metcalfe 12/8/1805 Durham - Dryburn. Murder of son in law.

Charles Metcalfe 20/3/1807 Lincoln. Burglary.

www.capitalpunishment.org



Books



The Interior of Bethlehem Hospital: Humbly Addressed to His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex and to the Other Governors.
Author Urban Metcalf. Published 1818. 16 pages.

Extract:

Bethlem Hospital.

1804-1806 **Urbane Metcalf** a patient for the first time. His case note on his second stay (1817-1818) says "He is frequently engaged in the occupation of a tailor...but I am informed that he gets his living out of doors as a hawker and pedlar."

In 1817 he considered himself heir to the throne of Denmark and was suffering as much from depression as delusions. He was discharged cured.

From http://studymore.org.uk/4_13_ta.htm#H

Supplied by Edwin Metcalf M980

The Tears of the Rajas. Mutiny Money and Marriage in India 1805-1905
by Ferdinand Mount. Simon & Schuster £25.

Extract:

In the aftermath of the Mutiny Theo Metcalfe built a gallows of timbers retrieved from his burnt out home in Delhi and "strung up any Indian he suspected of having taken part".

Sunday Times supplied by **David Lambert M11**.

More Mecca Bits & Bobs

Buckingham Palace 26 March 2015.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Folkestone Kent and after attending the National Memorial to the Few "met Trustees, donors and volunteers before meeting

Mr **David Metcalf**, (Headteacher of Capel-le-Fern Primary School) and viewing schoolchildren completing museum worksheets.

The Times 27 March 2015.

Supplied by **David Lambert M11**

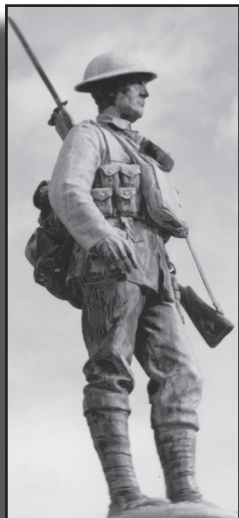
Cornet **Henry Medcalfe/Metcalfe**. 'Forty Nine' Officer.

Fighting for Charles I/II before 5/6/1649.

Henry Medcalfe/Metcalfe named in the Grants under the Acts of Settlement & Explanation 1661-65. (Pages 398/463/612.)

Edward Clibborn, Secretary of the Royal Irish Academy married **Sarah Metcalf** (mid 1700's?).

From Irish Landed Gentry 1884.



World War 1 Sightings

Richard Metcalf - Master at Arms (Record no 2436)
RN 159487. Died 22/9/1914.

On Chatham Naval Memorial

Home: Station Street, Gillingham.

Photograph: Chatham News 17 Oct 1914

on HMS Aboukir

Walter Metcalf - CPO (Record 2437) Age 44.

Died 15/2/1919.

Home: 210 Luton Road / 45 Henry Street Chatham.

Born 14/5/1897 Norwich Son of Walter of Norwich

Wife Emma. HMS Courageous

National Archives ADM 188/223.

From *www.foma-lsc.org*

World War 1 Crew Lists for 1915.

At *www.1915crewlists.rmg.co.uk*

175 Metcalf/e and 14 Medcalf names listed.

(No Mde-Mid/e-Mit/e's.)

One of the records lists a **George Edward Metcalf** (record No 36609).

On a whim I followed George up and found the following:

He was a member of the crew of the Georgic (Official no 105326)

and his details from the list gave his age as 51,

First Engineer born in Liverpool.

The Georgic of the White Star Line of Liverpool (owners of the Titanic)

had a short history. In early 1916 whilst on passage from the USA with

supplies and 900 horses it was intercepted by the German raider

(Auxiliary Cruiser) Moewe and sunk. The crew were taken prisoner and

spent the rest of the war as POW's in Brandenburg.

George was not one of them having left the ship earlier.

Film of the sinking can be seen on *Youtube.com/watch?v=dp9XTZcNMjE*.

From our own records I found that George had been baptised in early 1864

in Liverpool, married Agnes H McBride in 1884 (who died in 1906 aged 47)

had a daughter Agnes Hood in 1889 and seemingly died in 1933.

(Mecca Record No 36594.) **Peter Dobson**

Lt Wilfred Charles Metcalfe of 9th East Surrey.

Joined 17/5/1916. dow (died of wounds) Somme 19/8/1916.

From *The Journeys End Battalion. 9th East Surrey in the Great War*

by Michael Lucas.(Pages 114/212.)

ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

Many thanks to new members who have responded to my requests for details of their 'trees'. Not all the Birth Briefs appear in this edition of the Mecca News as, in some cases, there are details still to resolve. In many ways this is as it should be, reflecting the uncertainties inherent in family history 'detective' work. How many there were with the same popular names, such as Thomas, George and Elizabeth, who were born or baptised tantalisingly close together so that it makes differentiating between them a difficult task today!

Thanks too to those established members who continue to update me on their ongoing research. This has been most interesting, especially where there have been unexpected breakthroughs. I am sure we all remember the 'eureka' moments on our individual family history trails and it is good to share these. I look forward to hearing from more of you I hope.

Margaret Hodgson M515 archivist@metcalfe.org.uk

Postal address at page 34 of this magazine

**BIRTH BRIEFS FROM EXISTING MEMBERS
(INCLUDING UPDATES – shown in bold)**
M1314 Mr Peter Metcalfe

16 The Fairway, Saltburn by the Sea, North Yorkshire TS12 1NH

petermet@hotmail.com S

.o. Reginald & Margaret (Smith) Mte m 3 July 1926 Wesleyan Chapel, Park Street, Masham. Reginald b 22 Nov 1895 Kirkstall, Leeds s.o. Thomas & Emma (Broad-bent) Mte m 4 Mar 1891 New Wortley Wesleyan Chapel, Leeds. Thomas b 7 Sept 1868 New Wortley s.o. William & Maria (Reynard) Mte m 31 Mar 1866 Kirkby Malzeard. William bpt 6 Jan 1843 Sessay s.o. John & Jane (Walker) Mte m 17 Jan 1842 Ripon Cathedral. John b c1811 Galphay s.o. Thomas & Jane Mte of Galphay. Thomas bpt 21 Aug 1774 Kirkby Malzeard s.o. William & Margaret (Kearton) Mte m 9 Nov 1767 Kirkby Malzeard.

Conn. M429 M1252
M1991 Mr Gary Metcalfe

21 Hawk House, Sullivan Close, Battersea, London SW11 2NN

theoneandonlygary@hotmail.com

S.o. Ronald & Denise Margaret (Brown) Mte m 4 June 1971 Bootle, Lancs. Ronald b 1949 Liverpool s.o. Robert & Joan Evelyn (Musker) Mte m 1948 Crosby. Robert b 1924 West Derby district s.o. John Kendall & Elizabeth (Valentine) Mte m 1919 West Derby district. John Kendall b 4 Jun 1886 Liverpool s.o. John & Annie Eliza (Monck) Mte m 6 Aug 1885 Liverpool. John b 8 Jan 1858 Lancaster s.o. Robert & Agnes (Kendall) m 12 Feb 1856 Lancaster. Robert bpt 2 Jun 1833 Ingleton s.o. Thomas & Elizabeth ((a) Metcalfe) Mte m 8 Jun 1824 Low Bentham. Thomas bpt 1801 Ingleton s.o. John & Alice (Calvert) Mte m 22 Jun 1799 Hawes. John bpt 1776 Ingleton s.o. William & Alice (Thompson) Mte m 28 Mar 1774 Hawes.

Conn. M267 M549 M783 M1043

(a) Elizabeth b c1796 Yks

NEW MEMBERS

M1994 Mr Thomas Lewis 28 Caldý Road, Handforth, Cheshire. SK9 3BY
Lawslewis@gmail.com

M1996 Mr James Metcalf 377 Branham Cir, Social Circle, Georgia 30025, USA
ginnymetcalf@bellsouth.net S.o. James Edwin & Mary (Martin) Mt m 22 Jun 1941 Atlanta,
Georgia, US. James Edwin b 16 Sept 1916 s.o. James Otis & Ethel (Dixon) Mt m 9 Apr 1911
Knoxville, Tennessee. James Otis b 20 Dec 1881 Madison County, North Carolina s.o. James
Henry & Mary (Ramsey) Mt m 1875 North Carolina. James b Oct 1850 North Carolina s.o.
Levi & 1st wf Drucilla (Hunt) Mt m 1847. Levi b c1820 s.o. James & 1st wf Mary Ann (Oxford)
Mt. James b c1777 Virginia s.o. James. James b c1750.

M1997 Mrs Frances Metcalfe-Billingsley 4094 Buck Brush Lane, Lake Oswego,
Oregon 97035-1849. USA fbilling@comcast.net D.o. Robert D & Helen (Carlson) Mte m
c1944 Turner, Oregon. Robert b1925 s.o. Finis Bryan & Stella (Williams) Mte m c1922. Finis
Bryan b 3 Aug 1899 Illinois s.o. Zachariah & Mabel (Boaz) Mte m 8 Sept 1897 Edgar, Illinois.
Zachariah b 27 Apr 1870 s.o. John Simpson & Isabelle (Mainard) Mte m 8 Nov 1868 Edgar,
Illinois. John Simpson b c1842 Edgar, Illinois s.o. Simpson Redmon & Gabriella (Adams) Mte
m 20 Sept 1834 Edgar Co., Illinois. Simpson Redmon b c1812 Shelby Co., Kentucky s.o. Wil-
liam & Jemima (Redmon) Mte m 13 Apr 1809 Shelby Co., Kentucky. William b 6 Jan 1789 s.o.
John & Prudence (Clark) Mt m 25 Dec 1788 Madison, Kentucky. John b 19 Jun 1767 Guilford,
North Carolina s.o. William & Hester (Braselton) Mt m 1766 North Carolina. William b 17 Jan
1745 Baltimore Co., Maryland s.o. John & Mary (Norris) Mt m 6 Aug 1735 Ann Arundel Co.,
Maryland. **Conn. M110 M524**

M1998 details private

M1999 Mr Pete Metcalfe The Bungalow, Manor Farm, Full Sutton, York, East Yorkshire,
YO41 1HW pete@petemetcalfe.com S.o. Norman & 2nd wife Dorothy Jean (Harriman) Mte
m 1960 Bulmer district, Yorks. Norman b 19 Feb 1924 York s.o. Richard Sydney & Harriet
Louisa (Floyd) Mte m 1922 Woolwich district, Kent. Richard Sydney b 5 Oct 1898 Osbaldwick,
York s.o. Francis & Maria (Hick) Mte m 24 Dec 1894 Osbaldwick. Francis bpt 11 Apr 1872
Wistow s.o. William & Ann Mte. William bpt 20 Dec 1842 Langton, Yorks s.o. John & Jane
(Hyde) Mte m 10 Nov 1842 Langton. John 29 Nov 1812 Langton s.o. William & Jane (Dale)
Mte m 24 Nov 1804 Rillington. William b 24 Mar 1781 Farlington s.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 Middlesmoor 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 M1518**

M2000 Mr Charles S & Steven J Metcalfe 187 Ludlow Road, Woolston, Southampton,
Hampshire SO19 2EL Grt grt grd s.o. & grt grd s.o. Charles Herbert & Martha (Preston) Mte m
5 Jan 1927 Richmond. Charles Herbert b 5 Sep 1899 Scorton s.o. William & Mary (Blackburn)

Mte m 22 May 1884 Sandhutton. William b 20 Jul 1859 Thornton le Moor s.o. Robert & Hannah (Parvin) Mte m 24 Nov 1849 North Otterington. Robert bpt 27 Apr 1823 Great Langton s.o. George & Susannah (Gibson) Mte m 6 Mar 1819 Ripon Cathedral. George bpt 20 Aug 1795 Great Langton s.o. Christopher & Hannah (Brown) Mte m 17 Jul 1781 Great Langton. Christopher bpt 16 Mar 1756 South Cowton s.o. Christopher & Mackstone/Martha (Vitty) Mte m 27 Jul 1751 South Cowton. Christopher b c1712.

Conn. M108 M142 M180 M280 M305 M337 M397 M398 M428 M554 M594 M601 M670 M1042

M2001 Mr Samuel W.Benson 4 Coxwold View, Wetherby, Yorks. LS22 7PU sam.w.benson@btinternet.com S.o Steven M.M. & Angela (Marshall) Benson m 5 Apr 1986 Wetherby. Steven b 1962 s.o J.Michael & Nina E, (Metcalfe) Benson m 21 Nov 1958 Darlington Dur. Nina E. b 14 Mar 1932 Darlington d.o Edmund P (Ted) & Lily (Carter) Mte m 8 Aug 1925 Haughton le Skerne Dur. Edmund b 18 Nov 1901 Darlington s.o James & Edith Mary (Postlethwaite) Mte m 20 May 1895 Waberthwaite Cul. James b 19 Sep 1864 Colburn Yks s.o Edmund Wm & Mary (Webster) Mte m 21 May 1861 Hipswell. Edmund Wm bpt 20 Sep 1825 Hipswell s.o James & Mary Barbara (Binks) Mte m 28 Mar 1825 Easingwold Yks. James bpt 13 Jan 1793 Hipswell s.o George & Elizabeth (Robinson) Mte m 17 Nov 1768 Coniscliffe Dur. George b c1733. **Conn M13 et al.**

M2002 Mrs Shirley Metcalfe 55 Roberta Crescent, Orewa, Auckland 0931 New Zealand s.p.metcalfe@gmail.com

M2003 Mrs Patricia Dennis 6 Brockenhurst Close, Woking, Surrey GU21 4DS trisha.dennis1@gmail.com

M2004 Mrs Elizabeth Metcalfe Myers 3765 O'Connell Road, Bathurst, NSW 2795, Australia libby_myers@bigpond.com

M2005 Mr Nigel Metcalf 3/215 Spit Road, Mosman, Sydney, NSW 2088, Australia judithandnigel01@aapt.net.au

M2006 Mrs Rachel Copeland Plaisance, Les Merriennes, St. Martin, Guernsey CI, GY4 6NW copeland@cwgsy.net Grt grd d.o. Thomas & Alice (Hibbert) Dover m 7 Feb 1880 Bolton, Lancs. Thomas b 1857 Turton, Bolton s.o. George & Mary (Tennant) Dover m 20 Jul 1835 Sedbergh. Mary b 1814 Beck Bitts, Askrigg d.o. Christopher & Alice (Metcalfe) Tennant m 23 Nov 1813 Stalling Busk. Alice b 2 Oct 1791 Stalling Busk d.o. Joseph & Mary (Hebden) Mte m 28 Mar 1786 Stalling Busk. Joseph bpt 10 Nov 1765 Stalling Busk s.o. George & Margaret (Moor) Mte m 14 Jun 1759 Ingleton. George bpt 27 Jan 1733 Bentham s.o. Thomas & Jane Mte of Bentham. **Conn. M881 M1268**

It is with regret we inform members of the death of members

M003 George Buxton

and

M153 William Metcalfe

We extend our condolences to family and friends.

As you can see, the list of wills and administrations newly transcribed has grown for this issue, thanks especially to the continued resolve of Edwin Metcalf, Jennifer and Trevor Metcalf and Margaret Medcalfe. Joan Metcalfe has also become a most valuable member of the team, bringing to the tasks the good practice in transcription which she learned from a course at Lancashire Archives.

I have found that checking each transcription against the Society database and other sources, such as Ancestry and Family Search has generally proved fruitful, allowing more connections to be made in the Society's records.

If only all will makers did as George Metcalfe of Stainton in 1724! He named his sons and daughters clearly, giving their order of birth – most useful.

Please do keep sending any Metcalfe wills from your own researches which could supplement what the Society currently holds.

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.

WILLS PROJECT

- 1574 **Oliver Metcalfe** of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
- 1677 **David Medcalfe** of Earsham, Norfolk
- 1682 **Frances Medcalfe** of Rollesby, Norfolk (administration)
- 1682 **Peter Medcalfe** of Harpley, Norfolk
- 1704 **Thomas Metcalfe** of Acomb, Yorks
- 1704 **Thomas Metcalfe** of Bridlington, Yorks (administration)
- 1724 **George Metcalfe** of Boudlehouse, Stainton, Yorks
- 1724 **William Medcalf** of Rimington, near Gisburn, Lancs
- 1732 **Elizabeth Metcalfe** of Great Yarmouth
- 1739 **Sarah Metcalfe** of Hunslet, Yorkshire (administration)
- 1749 **Robert Metcalfe** of Leeds (administration)
- 1752 **John Metcalf** of Leeds (administration)
- 1777 **Mary Metcalf** of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
- 1809 **Christopher Metcalfe** of Barker, Aysgarth
- 1809 **Bryan Metcalfe** of Carperby
- 1810 **George Metcalfe** of Worton
- 1814 **William Metcalf** of Norwich
- 1817 **Mary Metcalf** of Trimmingham, Norfolk
- 1837 **Anne Medcalf** of Wiggenshall, Norfolk (administration)
- 1846 **William Medcalf** of Tilney St Lawrence, Norfolk
- 1847 **Elizabeth Metcalf** Locke of Norwich
- 1850 **Joseph Metcalf** of Great Yarmouth
- 1853 **Robert Metcalf** of Burnham Overy, Norfolk
- 1855 **Reuben Metcalfe** of Bradford (administration)
- 1856 **Mary Metcalfe** of Ravenstonedale, Westmoreland (administration)
- 1856 **Martha Metcalfe** of Grinton (administration)
- 1856 **Anthony Metcalfe** of Ripon (administration)
- 1856 **Richard Metcalfe** of Gilmonby, near Bowes (administration)
- 1874 **Thomas Metcalf** of Fishtoft, Lincs

Mecca Plantation Owners and Slave Masters

The enslavement of nations/families/individuals has been a feature of human development throughout the ages. It is mentioned in the books of The Bible (Genesis/Exodus) when the Egyptians kept the Israelites captive. There are many more examples:- from the Romans - whose economy depended upon slaves - to the Celts/ Saxons/ Danes/ Norsemen through the Norman Conquest - where England was enslaved - right down to modern times, when the practice is often more subtle but still undertaken.

In the 15th and 16th centuries Spain and Portugal discovered the Americas and undertook the colonisation and development of these "new lands". The native peoples were killed or beaten into submission and as the Americas economy grew so did the need for workers. Whilst Europeans took advantage of the opportunities many were not suited to the climate or the conditions. The Iberian conquerors looked to their African colonies to satisfy the demand.

African tribes had fought each other for generations and often enslaved the beaten tribes people or sold them to other tribes or Arab traders. It was only a small step for them to supply the New World developers with these unfortunates especially as they often received guns in exchange, further enhancing their superiority over local tribes.

Spain and Portugal's influence waned as the other European maritime powers such as Holland, Denmark, France and England became more aggressive looking to take advantage of the opportunities on offer.

By the early 17th century the British were in the ascendancy in the Caribbean - they took over Bermuda in 1609 and were expanding in North America. Colonists flocked to these new territories but there were still not enough of them. Consequently the French, Dutch, Danes and British copied their Iberian cousins and sought human supplies from Africa.

Concerns around the slave trade and the moral issues were being expressed as early as the 1700's. However the supply of goods in particular sugar meant that commerce held sway. It was not until the 1780's that the anti-slavery movement which included William Wilberforce started to gain ground. However they encountered many difficulties and setbacks and it wasn't until 1807 that their campaign prevailed when the British Parliament banned the slave trade by stopping the transportation of slaves in British vessels. However they had not banned slavery. It was another 26 years before it was banished from British Territories.

Some 1 million Africans were shipped to the Caribbean and North America in the century up to the British ban. (*Altogether some 8-12m people were estimated to have been transported to the Americas between the 1500's and the mid 1800's.*)

With the banning of slavery from the British Empire (except British India) in 1833 Parliament sought to recompense those slave owners who were now making losses due to the freeing of their slaves. The 1833 Abolition of Slavery Act set aside some £20m for this purpose. Those granted compensation were listed in a Parliamentary return of 1837-8 (Volume 48) together with the sums allowed and the number of slaves affected.

The UCL (University of the City of London) has set up two projects tracing the impact of slave ownership on the formation of modern Britain - *Legacies of British Slave Ownership* and *The Structure and Significance of British Caribbean Slave Ownership 1763-1833*. Part of the work undertaken in these recently completed projects was the extraction of the lists of compensated plantation owners and amongst them were a number of Meccas.

One large plantation and slave owner on the list is **George Metcalfe** of Rigg House, Hawes and his wife **Elizabeth**.

George's involvement in the slave trade was part of a display on *Africans in the Dales* shown at the Dales Countryside Museum in 2009 and his grave lies at the front of St Margaret's Church Hawes. He died in 1821 but the beneficiaries of his will who took over his plantation on his death received compensation. They were his widow Elizabeth and relatives

Edward Metcalfe, John Wilson Metcalfe and Robert Metcalfe

who may have shared nearly £3750 for their holdings.

There were two others:

based in Kingston Jamaica

Rebecca Metcalf who received £58 12s 6d for 3 *enslaved* and

Robert Metcalfe who was granted £55 11s 4d for 5 *enslaved*.

Sources - www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/blackhistory/en.wikipedia.org/wiki/slavery and www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs

Borthwick Institute for Archives, York University

have digitised the Archbishop of York's church court records for the period 1300-1858.

Known as the *Cause Papers* these records deal with matrimonial/wills/tithe/defamation and church matters. They hold a wealth of information concerning their time and attitudes.

A fascinating social snapshot.

There are some 126 Meccas mentioned as plaintiff, defendant or witness.

Example. *Validity of Marriage 1552. John Trueman v Margaret Metcalf* of Bagby NRY.

To see this and the other records go to

www.hrionline.ac.uk/causepapers

Yorkshire Group meeting, 25th July 2015

The meeting opened with a talk by Keith Sweetmore, who is well known in the county, having worked for both West and North Yorkshire Archive Service until fairly recently. He has now been appointed the Engagement Manager, for the North of England, for the Archive Sector Development, The National Archives. Keith reported that TNA has a collection dating back to 974AD, and contains 12 million records. There are 4 Engagement areas, North, West, East and London, and they work as advocates for archives, developing networks and partnerships, as well as conducting inspection of 'places of deposit'. His job covers 450 archives in the 7 historical northern counties. TNA is responsible for accrediting all archives – not necessarily to criticize, but to suggest ways of improving the service. The Explore Your Archive event, for November 12-24 2015 will promote use of archives as well as involving media and organising special events.

Keith's 'big' project is Ancestral Tourism. Yorkshire was chosen as it has the strongest regional identity, and a unique diaspora of population over the years, with Yorkshire men and women spreading to virtually every part of the world. He would like assistance in quantifying the number of Yorkshire people who have travelled overseas, and to where, so this can be harnessed into a programme publicising this unique asset the county has. It is hoped that it could be used to boost tourism, as well as the use of archives and family history resources. Access will emphasise that although there is a tremendous amount of material online, more information is available in the archives and on the ground.

Potential Ancestral Tourists are people 45+ years old, 'empty nesters', singles or couples with a high disposable income but with time on their hands. They are often computer savvy so need to be convinced that there is more to find within the county. They will often visit frequently, possibly out of season, go to less 'popular' destinations, and they will be looking for a sense of belonging and pride in the county – all of which local family historians are very good at demonstrating. This could help to promote our Family History Societies, but we also need to do our part in producing useful and informative web sites and documents, as well as encouraging visitors to look at family history trails around the county.

The Metcalfe Society is already well on the way to doing this – with our Muster attracting both members and non-members to the Dales every year. Those from overseas or more distant parts of the country often come for days or weeks, and travel around the county, contributing to the economy as well as learning about their personal family history, so I believe we have a major contribution to make to this project.

There was a report on the Who Do You Think You Are exhibition in Birmingham and it was very successful. Plans are advancing for WDYTIA 2016, again in Birmingham, and members in the area are invited to volunteer for a short period on the Yorkshire stall to help visitors. Arrangements can be made for admission and parking concessions to all helpers – if you are interested, please let me know. Find My Past plans to release the 1939 Register are well advanced and should be released in November 2015. It was thought that for less



FROM THE FEDERATION

England Jurisdiction Maps

The London FamilySearch Centre can be found on the first floor of The National Archives at Kew. It is extensively used by family historians who consult its large stock of films of parish registers and other resources.

The Centre's recently upgraded website now includes a series of interactive maps showing the boundaries of a range of key jurisdictions in England as at 1851. The separate layers available include:

- Counties
- Civil registration districts
- Dioceses
- Poor Law Unions
- Hundreds

For each layer, you can zoom in to parish level and confirm the relevant jurisdiction. Readers can choose from three different background options:

- Map: A simple map
- Satellite: Modern aerial view
- Ordnance Survey: 19th-century Ordnance Survey map

When you find a locality of interest, you can home in on "street view" or follow up a range of options such as compiling a list of parishes within a particular district. Your search can also move on to discover associated material in the Library catalogue and Research Wiki .

Navigation is supported by a written introduction.

This facility is a major boost for anyone with English ancestry. It is particularly helpful if you do not live in the same area as your forebears and are unfamiliar with the record-keeping organisations that operated there in the past.

Posted on behalf of Francis Howcutt - FFHS Archives Liaison Officer

www.ffhs.org.uk

frequent use, members might consider the cheap offers of free weekend access rather than a full membership of FMP. Members did, however, comment that not all the transcripts on the A-Z indexes are fully transcribed, but credit is given to the original source, so if in doubt, members can always contact the Society that has uploaded the transcription.

The new Archive Centre in Wakefield is well on its way, with opening due in summer 2016, so members with family in West Yorkshire will have a new facility available very soon.

Jo Heron M1042

Manorial Documents Register (MDR)

We would like to update you on the search within Discovery (<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/manorsearch>), which we launched earlier this summer. The new MDR search replaces the nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr platform, which will be retired on 30 October 2015.

The MDR identifies the nature and location of manorial records. A standard Discovery search will show general information about manorial records held at The National Archives and elsewhere; the powerful new manor search tool provides information about manorial records as defined by the Manorial Documents Rules.

More and more researchers from across the UK and beyond are using Discovery to find information about records held by other archives. We hope that integrating the MDR into Discovery will increase its visibility and make the service more accessible to all users whether they are familiar with using the MDR or not.

Originally a paper based register, the MDR is gradually being updated and made available online. You can find up to date information about this work on our project page (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archivessector/manorialdocumentsregister.htm>).

We would like to say thank you to all of those who have contributed to the growth of the Register and to the generosity of the funding bodies who have supported this.

The landing page for the manor search retains the title of 'Manorial Documents Register'. This is an acknowledgment of the legal status of the MDR but also demonstrates our commitment to its delivery and presentation as a defined entity in Discovery.

We have sought extensive user feedback throughout the development process and we have already implemented a number of enhancements to ensure that this resource offers the same high level of service as its predecessor. We continue to welcome feedback on the development of Discovery, which helps inform our ongoing programme of documenting, prioritising and developing enhancements.

Please email discovery@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk or use the feedback form within Discovery.

For more information searching the Register using Discovery visit: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help/accessingrecordsofmdr.htm> or read our blog: <http://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/blog/discoveringmanorialdocumentsregister/>

Jonathan Cates Collections Knowledge Manager (Finding Archives) |
Archives Sector Development The National Archives
+44 (0) 20 8876 3444

From Beryl Evans FFHS Archives Liaison Officer archives.liaison@ffhs.org.uk

Legacy Membership Launch

Mecca Muster 2015

Many members of our Society often wish to be able to pass on their Metcalfe family history to the next generations - their children and grandchildren - for them to grow to treasure their Metcalfe name and family history. The next generations may be too young and/or too busy at the moment. So this new type of membership helps to continue the legacy for a number of years.

Members can take advantage of this legacy membership in two ways:

- They can register their adult child/grandchild as a legacy member and pay for any number of years of membership in advance at the current membership rate.
- They can register their under 18 child/grandchild as a junior legacy member in the name of their parent and pay for the number of years of membership up until the age of 18 in advance at the current membership rate.

At the age of 18 this membership will transfer into their own name at their own address.

Legacy members will receive:

An introductory letter explaining the legacy membership.

A certificate of membership which includes the name and relationship of the person who has donated the membership. A simple personal message can be included.

The Mecca News / Invitation to the annual Mecca Muster.

The Birth Brief for the legacy member at the time of becoming a legacy member /Birth Brief updates.

Full details of the Legacy Membership can be obtained from the

Membership Secretary by sending an email to

***membership@metcalfe.org.uk* or writing to**

**The Membership Secretary The Metcalfe Society Chesney Villa Thornton-le-Street,
Thirsk, North Yorks YO7 4DS. UK**

***New Legacy Member
Samuel Benson
at the Muster with his
sponsor
Nina Benson***



Contact Details

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PUNS FOR EDUCATED MINDS

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it....

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!

A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.

I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Type-O.

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

When chemists die, apparently they barium.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

Jokes about German sausages are the wurst.

Velcro - what a rip off.

Supplied by John Cooke



Not only do the Metcalfes have their own
Tartan made into a chair (See page 15)
we have a member

Graeme Metcalf M1745

who has had the tartan made
into a pair of trews!

Graeme showed them off at the Muster to a
resounding response.

*Further details from Diane Howarth
Conference Secretary*

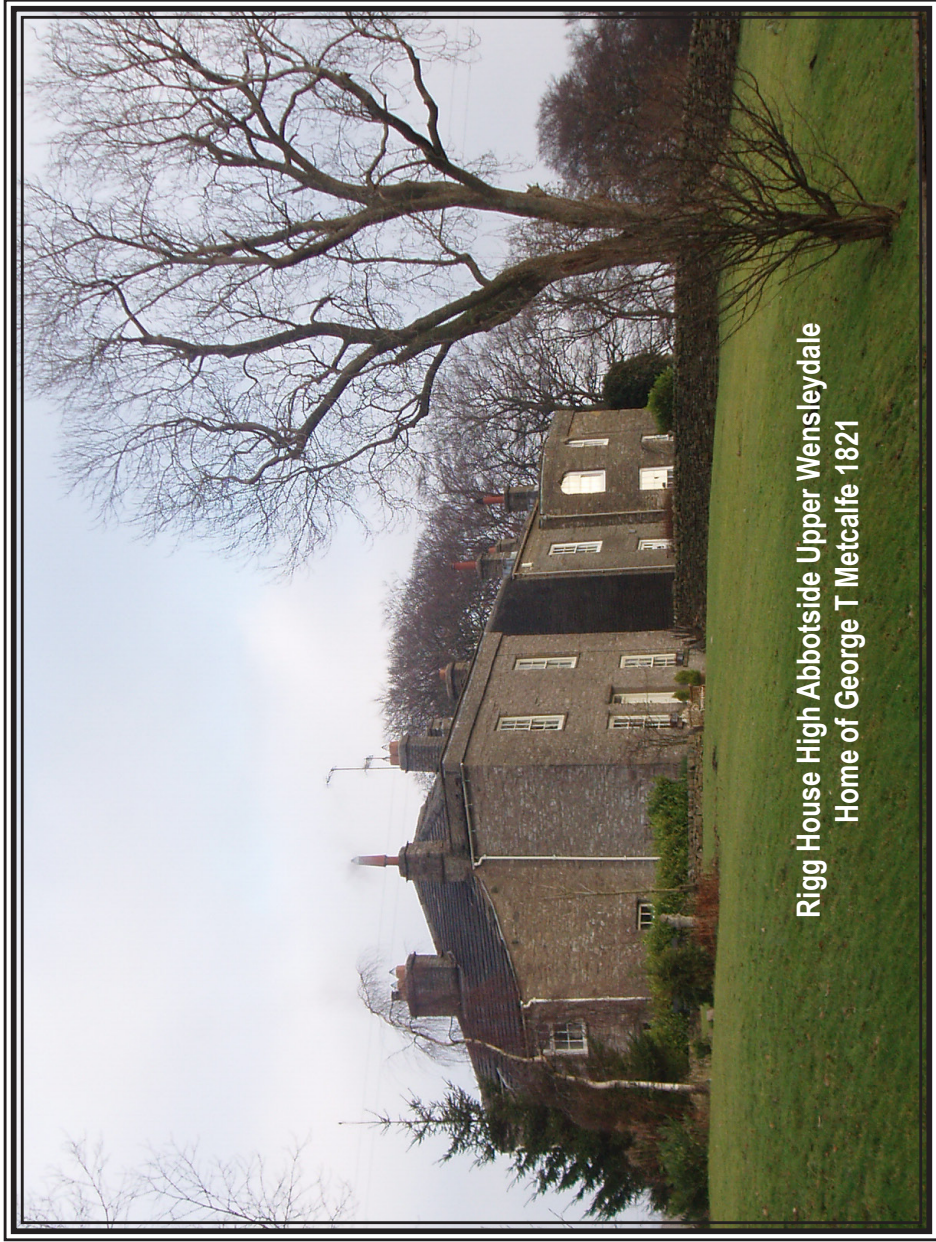
Mecca Muster 2015

Member **Philip
George** with some
interesting family
heirlooms.



The AGM & Muster was pleased to welcome overseas members
from Germany (**Gerry Metcalf** (left)) and
the USA (**Peter Metcalf and Kathryn Noyes** (centre)) as well as
the FFHS Chairman **Stephen Benson**.





Rigg House High Abbotside Upper Wensleydale
Home of George T Metcalfe 1821