

MECCA NEWS

No. 24

April 1988

Bishop Gore once wrote that he was increasingly convinced that the " Church Times " was edited by the devil in person.

I do hope that none of you are beginning to harbour similar misgivings about " Mecca News ", even though I must confess to having been accused of committing at least one diabolical act in changing the style of the front page of the newsletter. However, since I have also, somewhat surprisingly, received a number of letters of a complimentary nature on exactly the same topic, I have decided to persevere with the new style, for the time being, at least.

Whilst writing on the subject of change, I would draw your attention to the fact that, in future, the newsletter will carry a table of contents on page two, in an attempt to make life easier for you, the reader and I hope that you will find this useful.

In my last editorial, I welcomed your thoughts on the future style and content of " Mecca News " and this prompted a number of interesting replies. The two most popular suggestions were the introduction of a ' Helpful hints ' column, where members could pass on items that they felt might be of use to others and a ' Readers' Queries ' section, where members could air their problems when they found that they were at a loss where to look next. Naturally, however, the introduction and also the continuance of these and other features depends entirely upon the contributions that are received from you, the members - including the up until now silent majority. With this thought in mind, I will end, as I began, with a quotation; this time from Sir Thomas Beecham, the conductor, who told an unfortunate orchestral player who was having problems keeping up with the tempo: " We cannot expect you to be with us all the time, but perhaps you would be kind enough to keep in touch now and again. "

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SUDDEN DEATH IN THE DALES

Nina Benson spotted this item in an article in ' The Dalesman ' for November 1987, by W.R. Meyer, entitled " Sudden Death in the Yorkshire Dales ", regarding the Coroner, Thomas Parkinson, of Bingley, Yorkshire, notes for March - July 1787 :- " 1st Sunday in July - Alexander Metcalf drowned himself in drink and then set off to ride from Grassington to Conistone on his grey Galloway. He fell off, struck his head against a stone and instantly expired. "

* * * * *

CHANCE IN A MILLION

Alison Rogers, M.N. 48, of 9 Foreshore Parade, Bargara, 4670, Queensland, Australia, writes to say that she has an index of Queensland Cemeteries information which she is willing to research for members.

Alison says that it is very likely that anyone requiring information relating to ancestors from Queensland can be helped from this index, which currently numbers about one million entries. However, she adds the cautionary note that, unfortunately, a number of the early pioneers lie in unmarked graves, for which no information has been recorded.

* * * * *

SOMETHING TO SAY ?

Terry Allinson and Paul Metcalfe have - watch out for Terry's article and Paul's list of Metcalfe casualties in the Boer War, in the next issue of the newsletter. If you would like your article published in the next issue, please make sure that it reaches the Editor's desk by not later than the beginning of June.

* * * * *

Even if you want a quiet Christmas DON'T break a leg ! I did this on 3rd Dec: but thankfully I'm out of 'pot' and exercising like mad to get it back to normal. SO - if you wrote to me in this period, you can now understand why there has been little, if any, response. Hopefully, by the time you read this, everything will be sorted out, but if you still await news (as my temporary filing system was NOT ideal) please accept my apologies and do write again.

My thanks to all of you who sent greetings over the festive season, it is gratifying to hear from so many of you - and I love it !

From the subscription forms returned so far (approx: 2/3rds) we have topped the £300 mark for the Computer Fund, many thanks for the generous contributions. We have a steady flow of provisional bookings for the Muster/AGM - full booking forms are enclosed and their early return to me would be a tremendous help. For those who queried their membership numbers :- Peter A. Metcalfe, Feizor, is 31 ; Margaret Mann, Alberta, is 156 ; Judith Tattersfield, Ashford, is 162 .

Sales of the Birth Brief booklet have reached 40 and still increasing, which is a very satisfying figure and a credit to all the hard work put into it by Dorothy Pope.

Kay Davey has also worked very hard for us this winter and has typed out a completely new 'LIST of LISTS' - this is an alphabetical index to all the various records collected by members and sent to the General Index. Too large now to reproduce in our newsletters, plans are in hand to print it in the same format as the Birth Brief booklet and we hope it will be available for sale at the Muster in October - more news in August. Thank you Kay.

Sad news has arrived via Marion Collins mb 9, regarding Miss Flora Metcalfe, mb 26, of St Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. After an illness last Spring she became muddled in her mind and her genealogy days are over. Her family intend to preserve all her work for future generations.

My thanks to everyone who has helped me to pin-point most of the missing towns/villages in Australia. I am thoroughly enjoying most of the TV programmes on Australia which show us various aspects of your life, BUT did you have to send us 'Neighbours' ?!

I hope you all find your elusive Metcalf(e) in the coming hunting season and hope to meet many of you at the Muster or whenever you pass through Yorkshire, you're always welcome but I'd appreciate a telephone call as you set off. Our home telephone number did eventually alter and is now 0423 - 324018.

- - - - -
NEW ADDRESSES ETC:

Officials please amend all your records.

Mb 11. David Lambert to 22 Lime Grove, Timperley, Altonham, WA15 6PJ, Cheshire.

Mb 47. Alan S. Cookson of San Jose, California USA. was born STUART METCALFE and now wishes to be known by that name.

Mbs 137. Mr & Mrs Paul Metcalfe, to 19 Favenfield Road, Hambleton Park, Thirsk, YO7 1FY, North Yorkshire. + congratulations on the birth of dau Stacey.

Mb 149. Mrs Pearl Tedds, to PO Box 197, Riverstone 2765, New South Wales, Australia.

Mb 173. Miss Margaret Pelmar, to 5 Dedication Court, G.K. Tucker Retirement Village, Carrum Downs, Victoria 3201, Australia.

Mb 198. Hon: Ian Metcalfe E.D., Q.C. to 42 Gallop Road, Nedlands 6009 Western Australia.

Mb 202. Mrs Enid McHugh has LEFT.

Mb 237. J.H. Birkett has LEFT. He discovered that the Metcalfes were not related, only family friends.

....continuation of NEW ADDRESSES ETC:.....

Mb 247. Mrs Alison Kidson to 7 Fourie Road, Westgate, Pietermaritzburg 3201, South Africa.

* * * * *

Marriage Certificate sent to Sec:

10th July 1889 at Fitzroy, Victoria, Australia.

John MTE bach.23 of Cubit St. Richmond, painter. born Leeds, England son of William and Maria (nee Reynart) Metcalfe. William an engineer.

Frances GAZE spr 21. servant of South Gassa, born Victoria dau of John & Mary nee Marshall, GAZE. John a farmer.

Mb 182. Colin Metcalf, 54 Marine Parade, Shoreham, Victoria 3916. Australia. sends me the following snippets of information :-

Re 'Convict Ships 1788 - 1868' by Charles Bateson :throughout the 'Burnells' voyage in 1832 the crew was insubordinate, threatening the master, JOHN METCALF, with violence and breaking into the spirit room, but they did not refuse duty until after the ships arrival at Port Jackson. Seven of the seamen were charged in the Police Court, but faced with the certainty of punishment, agreed to return to their duty. Three however, were sent for trial and ultimately convicted and sentenced for having broken into the spirit room. This was the second voyage of the 'Burnell' with John Metcalf as master, he sailed from London on 21.1.1832 taking 129 days - with 101 female convicts on board - maybe they were the reason some of the crew decided now was the time for a party and broke into the spirit locker !!

The first 'Fleet' sailed from England in May 1787 - were there any Metcalfes on board ?

Re the ship 'Surprise' (see Apl 1987 issue 21 p 13)...this was the first steam ship to be built in Sidney, approximately 1826.

Mb 50. Mrs Eunice Herring, 40 Park Way, Etwall, Derby, DE6 6HU. has two wills which may be of interest to other members :- SAE please.

Thomas WHALEY probate 1839 - mentions JAMES METCALFE as living in a Whaley house.

Isabel METCALFE probate 1805 - dau of Henry MTE of Fossdale (Wensleydale).

Mb 137 Paul Metcalfe, 19 Favenfield Rd. Hambleton Park, Thirsk. YO7 1FY. North YKS.

Has a complete list of all (not only Metcalfes) the casualties in the South Africa Field Force 1899 - 1902, and is willing to help any members - SAE please.

Mb 113. Dianne Fox, 'Harrow', 622 Warrandyte Road, North Ringwood, Victoria 3134, Australia, would be happy to do any searches for members whose relatives ventured to the colony of Victoria, Australia. IRCs please. Dianne is also beginning a most useful task for us, in collecting all the Metcalfe entries in the B.D.M. indexes of Australia and New Zealand. If anyone thinks they would like to help with this work, please contact Dianne direct.

Mrs Dorothy Pope sends the following information from the 'Gores', Liverpool Directory for 1805. :-

METCALFE, Christopher, Shoemaker, 7 James Street.
" Frances (Mrs), - 31 George Street.
" Francis (Capt), shopkeeper, 7 Frederick Street.
" Jane (Mrs) - 53 Byrom Street.
" Lister Washington, Cheesemonger, 19 Lord St.

BIRTH BRIEFS.

UP-DATING :-

mb 109. Mrs Patricia Wood, 'Kviabol', Sheep Pen Lane, Seaford, Sussex.BN25 4QR.

Desc: of Francis Blake MTE bpt 1831 Kirby Malham,Yks. son of Thomas & Jane (Blake) Mte who mar: Oct 1816 at Rylstone Yks but who both died in Derbyshire. Thomas bpt 21.06.1793 at Gargrave Yks son of Thomas & Ellen (Edmondson) Mte who married 04.03.1790 at Marton in Craven,Yks, when Thomas is said to be of Stainton in the parish of Gargrave.

Patricia writes :- "can anyone offer any advice as to how I can ascertain the parentage of Thomas of Stainton ?. Has any member knowledge of a book published in 1881 called 'Chronicles and Stories of the Craven Dales' by J.H. Dixon ?. Can anyone recommend a book that would give me information about Gisburn, Stainton, Marton in Craven, Airton & Kirkby Malham areas ?." (Sec: - Have you traced the burials of Thomas/Ellen ? Do you know when Ellen was born ? Did they have any other children - when/where? If you let me know these details plus SAE, I will endeavour to search some more).

Mb 178. Mrs Vicky Young. 18 Elstree Rd. Fairfield,Liverpool, L6 8NU.

Gt x 3 Grandfather William bpt 13.05.1759 - should read - WILLIAM bpt 13.09.1757 Stalling Busk Yks, 1st child of 7, of John & Barbara (Nee MTE) Mte of Busk who mar: 12.05.1756 Hawes. Barbara bpt 31.07.1729 Hawes, 3rd child of 9, of Anthony & Alice (also nee Mte) Mte who mar 18.08.1724 Chapel le Dale. Anthony, 1st child of 4, of Cuthbert & Barbara Mte who mar c 1697 at Hawes.

Vicky now joins members 6, 50, 55, 63, 69 & 256 who are also descended from Anthony & Alice.

Parentage of Gt x 2 Grandfather, CHRISTOPHER now traced - bpt 02.11.1823 Askrigg, 1st child of 4, of George & Elizabeth (Chapman) Mte who mar 28.04.1823 Askrigg. They are at Borwings House, Bainbridge on the 1851 Census aged 52 & 50 respectively. Further info sought on the above and on John of Busk who married Barbara 1756 Hawes.

Mb 214. Miss Anne Austin, 338 Westerton Rd.Tingley,Wakefield, WF3 1AF. Yks.

Gt x 3 Grandfather George bpt 09.11.1800 Newton on Ouse,Yks son of Ann Mte. George named one of his sons George Bucher/Blucher Metcalfe and Anne has now traced the fact that the BOURCHIER family were squires of Benningborough from 1556 and that SAMUEL BOUCHER 1743-1816 is listed as yeoman farmer of 235 acres at Linton on Ouse plus 40-50 acres at Newton on Ouse. Could he, or one of his sons be the father of George 1800 ???

Mb 236. Mrs Margaret Hamilton, 17 Wingate Rd.Woodley, Reading RG5 4JU.

Great grand-daughter of Edward & Emma (Mt) Sadler who mar 15.08.1891 Bedale,Yks. Emma b 24.04.1869 Leeming Yks, dau of Matthew & his 2nd wife Ann Whitfield who mar 29.02.1864 Richmond,Yks. Matthew bpt 18.11.1832 Bedale Yks 2nd child of 10 or 11, of Thomas & Ann (Simpson) Mt who mar 10.07.1830 Bedale. This family were in Aiskew near Bedale on the 1841 & 1851 census and included Edward who is an ancestor of Mb 35 Derek Metcalfe of Heckmondwike. Ancestry of Thomas awaits confirmation.

Mb 239. Mrs Nellie Keens, Box 364, Merbein, Victoria 3505, Australia.

See August 1987 Mecca News. Nellie has discovered the birth and bpt of Christopher Hoggart Metcalfe - b 25.08.1808 bpt 02.10.1808 at Halton, Lancs, England, 5th child of 7 of George & Margaret (Hoggart)Mt who mar 02.01.1799 Halton, Lancs.

Can anyone check two burials for Nellie ? 10 Apr 1832 George of Skerton aged 65 and 21 Sep 1856 Margaret of Caton aged 66. Could these be related to the above ?

Continued.....

Birth Briefs - Updating continued.....

Mb 242. Miss Sara Illingworth, 14 Ghesham Rd. Colliers Wood, London SW19 2AT.

See August 1987 issue.

Gt x 3 Grandfather JAMES MT appears to have been bpt 23.12.1802 Dent Yks. (and mar ? Ann Metcalf) son of William & Betty. William ? bpt 10.10.1780 Dent son of John & Alice. Any further news Sara ?

Mb 244. Gary & Christopher Metcalf, 66 The Strand, Newport 3015, Victoria.AUS:

See August & Dec 1987 issues.

EDWARD appears to have been born 16.08.1793 at Rothwell, Yks Eng: son of Samuel & Nancy (Davey/Davy) MT who mar 11.07.1790 Rothwell. Samuel b 15.09.1766 Rothwell, 5th child of 7, of John & Ann (Hey) Mt who mar 23.06.1756 Rothwell. Their son George b 1769 is ancestor to mb 15 Robert Metcalf of Thorpe, Wakefield, Yks. JOHN bpt 22.05.1731 Rothwell son of William, linen weaver of Oulton and his wife Martha Deyson who mar 05.05.1730 Rothwell. William b c 1701 ?.

Mb 246. Mrs Rosemary Metcalfe, East Farm, Little Smeaton, Northallerton. DL6 2HD.
North Yks.

See Dec 1987 issue. Line Two - Rose Emma Mte who mar Richard Fawcett 1884 appears to have been dau of Richard & Elizabeth (Prest) Mte of Bainbridge.

Mb 252. Michael J. Hutchinson, 27 Ironside St. Weston. ACT 2611. Australia.

See Dec 1987 issue.

Elizabeth bpt 30.10.1825 Kirby in Cleveland, ENG:, 1st child of John & Jane (Hutchinson) Mte who mar 23.07.1825 K in C. This family later appear to be in Marske by Redcar & Upleatham, Yks now Cleveland, where John died 26.06.1860 age 73. John bpt 24.05.1789 son of Thomas & Elizabeth Mte. Thomas bpt 13.07.1752 K in C, son of Thomas & Jane Mte.

BIRTH BRIEFS - NEW MEMBERS.

Mb 255. Miss Elizabeth Morey, 2/9, Fairleigh Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland,
New Zealand.

Related to mb 119 Mrs Vi Simpson.

Maternal Grandmother Elizabeth Metcalfe mar Leonard Wilson at Coundon, Co. Durham, ENG: in 1919. Elizabeth b 1897 Riseburn, Middridge, Co. Durham dau of James and Mary Jane (Morrell) Mte who mar 1895 Auckland Co. Durham. James b c1866-8 ?Yks, son of Henry & Isabella (Harry) Mte. Mge not yet traced. Henry b c1837 ?Yks.

Mb 256. Mr. J.P. Warwick Metcalfe, Tudor House, 6 High St. West, Uppingham,
Leics: LE15 9QG.

Thanks are due to Mb Mrs Carole Topham for spreading news of our Society, as Dorothy Pope has now traced a decendant of Booth Hay Metcalfe.

J.P.W Metcalfe son of John Frederick Mte, son of Booth Hay Mte and his wife Jane Searle. Booth Hay b 1843 son of Lister Washington Mte & his wife Margaret Williamson. Lister Washington b 1777 Muker, Yks. son of Rev Lister & Isabella (Simm) Mte who mar 1764 Sedbergh. Lister b 1740 son of Anthony & Alice, yeoman of Gayle, Hawes. Anthony son of Cuthbert & Barbary Mte of Gayle.

Continued.....

Birth Briefs - NEW MEMBERS - continued.....

Mb 257. Mr Terry Allinson, 'Bramlea' Wetherby Rd. Bardsey. LS17 9BB. West Yorks:.

Gt grandson of Robert Allinson & his wife Jane Metcalfe who mar 01.06.1876 at Masham North Yks. Jane b c1855 dau of George & Elizabeth (Foster) Mte who mar 15.05.1844 Middleton Tyas, Yks. George bpt 16.08.1812 Easby near Richmond, natural son of Sarah Mte of Easby Mill and Robert Harrison.

Mb 258. Mr Anthony A. Pearson, 435 Norton Road, Norton on Tees, TS20 2QQ. Cleveland.

Gt grandson of Robert Goulden-Pearson & his wife Rachel Elizabeth Wilson, widow, nee Metcalfe, widow of George Wilson whom she mar 17.05.1880 at St Pauls, South Stockton (now Thornaby on Tees). Rachel Elizabeth b 1863 Stockton on Tees dau of Christopher & Mary Ann (Ryder) Mte who mar 1856 Marrick, Yks. and moved to Stranton (West Hartlepool) and then to Stockton. Christopher b 1832 Askrigg Yks son of James & Betty Mte. (? nee Whitfield mge 13.12.1831 Hubberholme ?) Chris may have a brother Matthew b 1838 Askrigg. James was a corndealer.

Mb 259. Mrs Thelma M. Edgar, 141 Waihi Road, Hawera, New Zealand.

Gt grand-daughter of John Greenbank Parker b 1829 Horton Yks. Eng: and his wife Hannah Mte who was b 26.01.1836 Benthams Yks. dau of George (? of Ivescar) and Elizabeth ? who mar Cartmel Fell prior to Sep 1825. (Can anyone check this ??)

A large question mark hangs over George ! Is he bpt 1793 at Thornton in Lonsdale son of Simeon & Margaret (Windle) Mte, certainly 'Simeon' is retained as a family name through two generations. OR is he bpt 1791 son of George of Hodge Hole and his 2nd wife Agnes Burkitt who mar 1785 Inlghton Fells. ??

Mb 260. Mr Eric E.G. Davy, 54 Bek Rd, Newton Hall. DH1 5LD. Co. Durham.

Gt x 4 grandson of John & Ann (Metcalf) Davy who mar 07.11.1732, Skipton Yks.

Mb 261. Capt & Mrs John Coulthard, Millbrook, Station Road, Verwood, Wimborne, Dorset. BH21 6PU.

John is son of Frank Outram & Elizabeth (Metcalf) Coulthard. Elizabeth b 1910 dau of George Robert & Elizabeth (Williams) Mte who mar 1905 Liverpool. George Robert b 28.09.1870 Helmsley, Yks is the Commodore of the White Star Line and relation of our member and ex editor Valerie Metcalfe. George Robert son of William & Elizabeth (? Monnell) Mte. William b 1831, son of Thomas & Ann (Moorhouse) Mte who mar 1818 Helmsley. Thomas b 1797 Helmsley son of Richard & Ann (Megginson) Mte. Richard b 1756 Whorlton nr Stokesley son of James & Margaret (Waddy) Mte who mar 1755. James b 1730 Whorlton son of Richard & Mary (Sweet) Mte who mar 1723 Whorlton.

Mb 262. Dr Carol Metcalf, 5 Melbourne Rd. Woodstock 7925. South Africa.

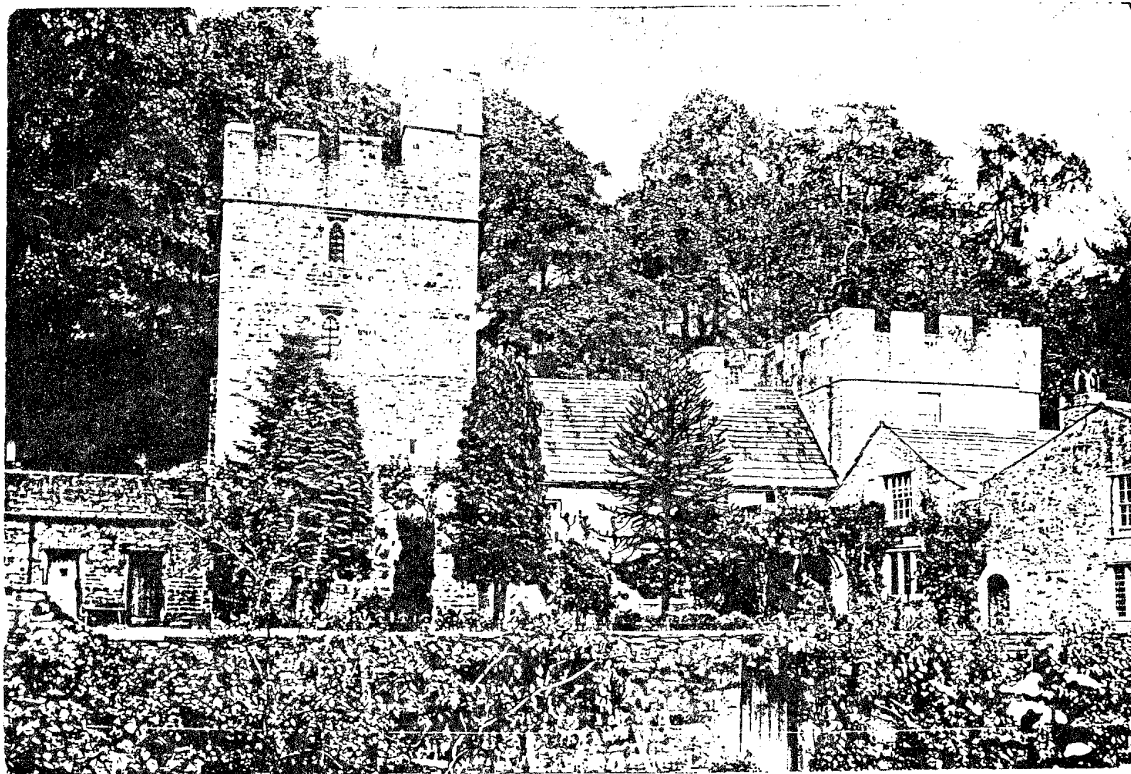
Related to mb 247 Mrs Alison Kidson.

Carol is

Dau of Douglas Joseph & Rosemary Ann (Johnson) Mt who mar 1960. Douglas b 1933 son of Edgar Stanley & Ethel Martin (Harris) Mt who mar 1929. Edgar b 1900 son of Joseph & Ann (Oates) Mt who mar 1885. Joseph b 1856 Stickney Lincs, ENG. son of Samuel & Damaris (Graves) Mt who mar 1849 Lincs. Samuel b 1819 Stickney, son of Thomas & Mary ? Mt. Gt grandfather Rev: Joseph b 1856 Stickney went out to South Africa c 1882. Anyone able to help trace the mge of Thomas & Mary ? circa 1815 in or around Stickney - the family is thought to have been Methodist.

- - - - -
Can any member(s) volunteer to do the occasional search at St Catherine House in London ? Naturally enquirers would pay out of pocket expenses. If you think you could help to provide this valuable service please contact the secretary, giving her an idea what the charge would be.

Nina E. Benson,



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RAFFLE

Mrs Lillah Chapman, member 218, has most generously given to the Society a 'Pen and Wash' picture of Nappa Hall, in Wensleydale, executed by herself last year. The above picture is not of the real painting and therefore does NOT compare favourably with it. First sketched in pen and ink and then enhanced by water colours, it is also very tastefully glazed and framed, the finished size is 17" x 20". It is very difficult to give you an adequate description but I can truthfully say it is a beautiful picture and one that anyone would be proud to own.

Lillah has given us a free hand to dispose of this picture in aid of the Computer Fund and we therefore plan to raffle it at the Mecca Muster on 8th October 1988. Tickets costing £1 each will be available at this meeting. I'm sorry to report that owing to the law on raffles we cannot sell any tickets through the post, which seems a great pity but we must abide by the rules. If you are prevented from attending and still want a chance of owning this delightful picture you could, perhaps, pass your ticket money to a friend, neighbour or even relation - whomever you trust the most! They can then buy tickets on the day.

Nina E. Benson.

From Mrs Vicky Young, mb 178. 18 Elstree Rd, Fairfield, Liverpool, L6 8NU.

Stray - Liverpool Record Office.

Burials in Necropolis, Low Hill, Liverpool. Grave No: 7157.

Horace Metcalfe died 04.04.1880 aged 12 months. son of William & Jilla.

From Non Member Mr L.F.C. Brook, 107 Coventry Rd. Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 9BX.

Will sell you full details of the following entries in the Parish Reg: of St. Helens, Churchtown, Lancs. cost £1 for one & .25p for each subsequent entry, payment & SAE in advance. Bpt - Alice 1837. Betty 1793. James 1791. Bur John 1795 Mag: Ellen 1832. Grace 1800. Thomas 1788.

WILL PROJECTSPROGRESS REPORTVera Adams.

The project is now being masterminded by Mrs Vera Adams, 2 Moorland Terrace, Garforth, Leeds, LS25 1EJ, West Yorkshire, who writes :-

YORK.....Borthwick Institute.

1389 - 1688 Completed.

1735 - 1800 Completed West & North Ridings (List no: 299)

1801 - 1837 Completed.

Work continues, thanks to Jean & Frank Bradley and Lillah Chapman who hopes to join them soon.

LEEDS.....Sheepscar Archives.

1540 - 1858 Completed - except for a very few.

CHESTER...Held at Preston.

1546 - 1837 Lancs: South of the Ribble. Completed.

1838 - 1858 " " Completed.

1457 - 1858 Western Deaneries of the Archdeaconry of Richmond (pre 1974).
Completed.

LONDON...PRO

George Buxton (address elsewhere) has offered to extract these Will records and has had only one offer of help so far - PLEASE - if you can offer only short periods of help, spread out over months or even years, it is better than nothing.

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PROJECTS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED OVERNIGHT.

MANCHESTER Record Office.

Joseph Metcalfe, 7 Roundcroft, Romiley, Stockport, SK6 4LL, Cheshire, is willing to begin on these records. If anyone can help, contact Joe direct or myself.

Please let me know if you are willing to visit your own local Record Office and tell me :-

- 1) Which Record Office you are willing to visit.
- 2) How many years you can 'cover'. ie extract details covering, say, five years, ten years or whatever.

The details we require are only those readily available :-

- a) Name.
- b) Address - which may be just the name of Town or Village.
- c) Date - either of death or probate, sometimes the date on the will is given.
- d) Reference number, if the record office has given it one.

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO READ THROUGH THE WILL BUT IF NAMES OF BENEFICIARIES ARE GIVEN, PLEASE RECORD THEM. Any questions please contact me.

Does this help anyone ?

GREATHAM Co. Durham. 1851 Census.

George MTE 47 landed prop. farming 342 acres. born Marrick, Yks.
Mary MTE 48 wife. born Barningham Yks.

Sec: - No trace on Marrick I.G.I.

The Metcalfe Society. Income & Expenditure Account. 1.11.1986 to 31.10.1987.

<u>Expenditure.</u>	£	£	<u>Income.</u>	£	£
Newsletters 20,21,22.			Subscriptions		
Printing	92.50		1986	51.00	
Distribution	160.91		1987	<u>774.00</u>	825.00
Address labels	11.34		Interest NS Bank		
Editor's Expenses	<u>11.38</u>	276.13	(closed)		7.49
Expenses.					
Secretary		178.40	Sales		
Asst: Editor (Back Copies)		50.08	Back Numbers	98.47	
List Keeper (Helen Offer)		54.22	Lists	2.00	
Index Keeper (Geo Buxton)		20.00	Notelets/cards	10.45	
Treasurer		4.04	Birth Briefs	<u>2.50</u>	113.42
Committee (Travelling Exp)		11.20			
Subscription (Guild of One Name Studies)		5.00	Donations		
			(Other than Computer Fund)		62.64
Depreciation - Typewriter		16.00			
Total		<u>615.07</u>			
Surplus for year		<u>393.48</u>			
		<u>1008.55</u>			<u>1008.55</u>

Balance Sheet at 31st October 1987.

Balances brought forward at 1.11.86			Typewriter		
Bank	290.62		At cost	50.00	
Cash	<u>1.46</u>	292.08	Less depreciation	<u>16.00</u>	34.00
Surplus on year's working		393.48	Balance at Bank		683.11
Creditors					
Expenses not paid					
at 31.10.87	5.55				
Subs paid in					
advance for 1988	<u>16.00</u>	21.55			
Computer Fund Donation		<u>10.00</u>			
		<u>717.11</u>			<u>717.11</u>

Signed by Margaret Metcalfe, Treasurer.

Auditor's Comments.

- 1) The change to a more formal Income/Expenditure basis (and the production of a formal Balance Sheet) does not significantly affect the continuity from the previous accounts.
- 2) All records and supporting documents have been examined and all the transactions were properly recorded and vouched for.
- 3) There is a significant, but hidden, contribution to the Society's financial health by virtue of the waiving of claims for some of the expenses incurred by your officers and committee. I note particularly that your Secretary does not claim any telephone expenses - for this the Society must be very grateful.

Signed Frank Bradley 5th Dec 1987.

STARS OF THE SILVER SCREEN

Members of the Society will be well aware that star quality is no stranger to the Metcalfe family. It is therefore hardly surprising to find a number of Metcalfes listed in ' Who was Who on the Screen ? ' by Evelyn Mack Truitt. These include: James S. Metcalfe:

Born 1901 and died on the 2 April 1960 of a heart attack at Northridge, in California.

A stage actor, he also appeared in the films ' The Iron Claw ' (1941), ' The Hardway ', ' Who is Hope Schuyler ? ' and ' A Gentleman at Heart ' in 1942.

None of his films, unfortunately, seem to have featured amongst the cinema's classics, although some of our members may well remember having seen them.

Edward Metcalf:

Born 1867 and died on the 2 April 1951 at Brentwood, New York.

A stage, screen and vaudeville actor, he appeared in both the stage production and the Paramount Pictures screen version of ' Animal Crackers ', the latter of which starred the Marx Brothers and is still remembered for many of its classic dialogue exchanges.

Earl Metcalf:

Born 1889 in Newport, Kentucky and died on the 27 January 1928 at Burbank, in California.

Probably the most intrepid, as well as the most prolific of the family's film stars, his screen appearances spanned the period from 1915, when he moved on from his stage roles into a career in films with Vitagraph, (a very successful early U.S. production company which was taken over by Warner Bros. in the twenties), until his death in 1928.

His career included no less than forty three films, beginning with ' The Insurrection ' in 1915, quickly followed by ' Perils of Our Girl Reporters ' in 1916. The latter, no doubt a classic, now unfortunately lost to us, was followed by a number of other films in what we might refer to as his ' romantic ' period, culminating in his appearance in ' Silk Stocking Sal ', in 1924.

Unfortunately, 1925 marked a turning point in his career, which was ultimately to lead to his untimely death. This was the year in which he turned to more adventurous roles, with ' Kit Carson and the Great Divide ' (1925) and ' The Call of the Klondike ' (1926). After this, a fatal fascination with flying began to manifest itself, with his appearances in ' The High Flyer ', followed by ' The Airmail Pilot ' and ' Eagle of the Night ', a serial.

Sadly, the serial was cut short at the beginning of 1928, as was his life, when he was killed in a flying accident.

The official cause of his death was reported as " falling off a plane " thus earning him the distinction of being the only Metcalf(e) in history believed to have perished in this fashion.

THE CARIBBEAN CONNECTION

In the last issue of " Mecca News ", Dorothy Pope M.N. 55, related two legends which she had unearthed relating to certain ghostly goings on involving members of the Metcalfe family.

Dorothy ended her article wondering if either of the Metcalfes mentioned in these stories were related to any of our members. This brought the following intriguing reply from Shirley Withers, M.N. 33, of West Perth, Western Australia.

" I was interested in Dorothy Pope's story about the ghost of Rigg House, as for several years I have suspected that one of the Metcalfes mentioned in these two stories may be related to me.

In 1981, I wrote to ' The Dalesman ', asking for information about my great, great, grandfather, John Wilson Metcalfe, who was born in Hawes in 1802 and who had a connection with Birkrigg. Birkrigg consists of two farms across the road from Rigg House. I received a reply from a Miss Snowden, who was, at that time, researching the history of Rigg House for the owner, who was a friend of hers. However, she was mainly interested in the Hillary family who had owned it at various times. Through Miss Snowden, I was eventually able to contact Miles Metcalfe, M.N. 141, who kindly sent me a copy of his family tree going back to the early 1600's. Imagine my delight at finding that a sketched in branch of his tree corresponded with mine. Only a fellow addict could understand the joy of finding oneself being suddenly transported back to the 1600's, after having been hopelessly stuck at 1800.

Before this contact with Miles, however, Miss Snowden had sent me an extract from ' Haunted England ' by Christina Hole, which told the story described in Dorothy's article, adding that the problem of the old woman's ghost was solved by ' pulling down the middle portion of the house and destroying the rooms where the ghost walked. Rigg House was thus reduced in size and the smaller cut off section of the building was renamed Rigg Cottage. This rather drastic form of exorcism seems to have been effective, for the old woman's spirit has not been seen or heard of since. '

Miss Snowden was dismissive about this story, saying that the house was divided in the early part of the nineteenth century, sometime between 1807 and 1841 and that there is a local story of two sisters who quarrelled and divided the house by pulling down the centre part.

However, a copy of a map sent to me by Miles Metcalfe, dated 1807, shows that the house had already been divided into two parts before that time.

Now back to Miles' tree. This showed that my great, great, great, great, great, grandfather, Isaac Metcalfe, who was born in 1725, had a brother, Robert, who had two sons, George and Robert, both of whom had lived in Dominica.

George returned to England where he married Elizabeth Davis of Gangrave in 1812, when she was 26 and he was 55. They both lived at Rigg House until he died in 1821 and she died in 1846.

Nina Benson very kindly let me have details of the inscription on George's tomb stone, which is as follows:

' For many years President of Council of Dominica,
Colonel of the St. George's Militia in that Island. '

Miss Snowden has also advised me that he was appointed one of the Lands Trustees of the Manor of Bainbridge in 1816. He left quite a lot of property, with a life interest to his wife, Elizabeth, but specifies that ' I further will that my dear wife shall not marry again ', otherwise she would lose the entire estate. His will also refers to his ' estates, negroes and houses in the Island of Dominica ' and one of his heirs is described as ' of Dominica ' as if he were out there managing the estate.

I have explained all this as George Metcalfe fitted the description of the slave owner from the West Indies insofar as he had property and ' negroes ' in Dominica and lived at Rigg House from 1812 until he died in 1821. However, as he appears to have led a public and exemplary life he apparently was not the slave owner in the story and, in any event, it would seem that the house had been divided into two before he lived there.

His brother, Robert, however, is a much more shadowy figure. In fact I have been able to discover nothing at all about Robert, except that Miles Metcalfe's map of 1807 shows a large area of land surrounding the houses of Birkrigg as being ' Mr. Robert Metcalfe's land '.

As Robert was not mentioned in his brother, George's will, in 1821, I think that he must have died before 1821, unless, of course, he was the notorious slave owner who had been forced to leave the area because of the gossip and dark suspicions of his neighbours, as described in Dorothy's article and had been cut out of his brother's will.

There is a little more to the story. Last year, a Jane Metcalfe sent me, through Margaret Metcalfe, a cutting dated 1982, from the ' Northern Echo '.

' The sale of a strange house has re-opened the intriguing mystery of a bickering Dales family who literally divided their home. Details of the ancient family feud have vanished into the mists of time and all that remains are the two houses - separated by a tiny gap. Yesterday the owner of Rigg House, of Hawes, Mrs. Mgt. Haighton, said the house is up for sale as a whole. ' It's terribly sad as it's the nicest house in Wensleydale, ' she said. The forgotten quarrelsome family is believed to have demolished a music room and dining room to end a war of words between two sisters and today the historic house is still in two pieces. In nearby Hawes, Rigg Lane is known as ' the haunted house ' and local legend tells of how part of the house was knocked down to force out a ghost. '

These stories were dismissed by Mrs. Haighton, who said that during the twenty

years that she had lived in the house there had been no trace of ghosts. The paper went on, however, to quote Hawes Primary School teacher, Roger Stott, who said

' I know a number of people who have lived there and all swear that it is haunted. '

He added that there were even stories that the house was haunted by the ghosts of slaves who died there when it was owned by the Governor of Dominica.

I promptly wrote to Roger Stott, but his reply merely said:

' I think the haunting story comes from local folklore concerning the Governor of Dominica who according to legend employed black slaves at Rigg House. Legend has it that several of these poor creatures died there and were buried round about which is not impossible given the era and the rules about consecrated ground. '

Shirley says that she has visited Hawes twice and visited the Birkrigg farms, but, unfortunately, not Rigg House, as she did not know much about the haunting story at that time. Her theory is that the story could well be an amalgam of happenings, a sort of composite formed over the years, bringing together several different people and happenings to form one story, when there might have been several. She adds that if it is true that the two sisters divided the house, then where did the ghost come from ?

Shirley makes the point that it is extremely difficult trying to track down the truth of the matter from Western Australia. I wonder if any of our members can help her ?

* * * * *

NECESSITY'S CHILDREN

Sal Illingworth, M.N. 242, of Colliers Wood, London, has painstakingly extracted all of the Metcalfe entries between 1617 and 1867 from the list of Patentees of Inventions housed at the Scientific Research Library, Southampton Buildings, in London. (The list continues to date for those of you interested in tracing any patentees after 1867.)

Sal deserves our thanks, not only for extracting all of this information, but also for bringing to our attention a source of which I am sure many of our members were unaware.

Alongside the names of the inventors listed below are given the date the invention was patented, a brief description of the invention in question and its Progressive Number. This number refers to a file which includes the specification and other facts relating to the invention, including the address of the patentee.

Metcalfe, Thomas	7 Dec 1814	P.N. 10,422
Manufacture of brooms, brushes or similar articles.		
Metcalf, Jacob	30 Sep 1816	P.N. 4,065
Tapered hair or head brush.		

Metcalfe, David	21 Nov 1844	P.N. 10,398
Manufacturing or preparing of vegetable preparation appliances to dyeing blue and other colours.		
Metcalfe, John	8 Aug 1848	P.N. 12,232
Machinery for preparing and spinning cotton and other fibrous substances.		
Metcalfe, Thomas	5 Oct 1848	P.N. 10,595
Construction of chairs, sofas and other articles of furniture for sitting upon.		
Metcalfe, Thomas	10 Sep 1853	P.N. 2,098
Portable chairs and tables.		
Metcalfe, Thomas	1 Mar 1854	P.N. 506
Manufacture of portable and folding bedsteads, chairs, tables and cots.		
Metcalfe, Thomas	7 Nov 1854	P.N. 2,357
Construction of portable carriages, chairs and other articles for sitting or reclining upon.		
Metcalf, John	3 Sep 1856	P.N. 2,043
Manufacture and treatment of tar oil for dissolving india rubber, gutta percha, gums and gum resins and also in deodorising all fabrics, wood or any article impregnated with tar oil or coal tar products.		
Metcalf, John	13 Dec 1856	P.N. 2,965
Manufacture of alum - sulphate of alumina.		
Metcalf, Tho.	20 Feb 1858	P.N. 328
Purification of crude tar oil, rendering the same suitable for lubricating machinery and other similar purposes.		
Metcalf, Henry and Thos.	19 Jul 1865	P.N. 1,875
An improved apparatus for cooling liquids and cooling or condensing vapours or gases.		
Metcalf, John	10 Apr 1867	P.N. 1,065
An improved pressing iron and appliance thereto, for use of tailors, hatters, laundresses and also for domestic use.		
Metcalf, Thos.	20 May 1867	P.N. 1,487
Burning all hydrocarbon oils, such as creosote, petroleum, paraffin oil, shale oil, gas tar and other similar products capable of being used as fuel.		

It is to be hoped that all of the above inventors were more successful than Arthur Pedrick of Selsey, Sussex, arguably the world's worst inventor, who patented more than 150 inventions, not one of which was a success. Whilst one cannot help but admire his enthusiasm, one has the feeling that his efforts were somewhat misdirected, as illustrated by his plan to irrigate the world's deserts by sending a continuous supply of snowballs from the polar regions. The nearest he ever came to success was

inventing a golf ball that could be steered in flight, an achievement that despite its obvious attractions was, unfortunately, totally unacceptable to the governing body of the game.

* * * * *

WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY

Dale Piercey M.N. 227, of Esperance, Western Australia, has been good enough to send us the following precis of three wills and what she assumes to be a declaration of administration relating to the Metcalfe family of Spennithorne.

Although Dale has been unable to trace any connection between the Metcalfes named and her own family, she hopes that the information may be of assistance to other members.

WILL OF JOHN CLARKSON

1724

Left everything to Christopher and Elizabeth Metcalfe, the children of Anthony Metcalfe, late of Spennithorne.

Witnesses: Mary Metcalfe and R. Fleming

MARY METCALFE OF SPENNITHORNE (This appears to be a declaration of administration)

" The condition of this obligation is such that if the abovebound Mary Metcalfe administratrix of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of Anthony Metcalfe late of Spennithorne "

Witnesses: R. Fleming and Christopher Metcalfe

Followed by an inventory dated 30 September 1724

WILL OF JOHN METCALFE OF BELLERBY (SPENNITHORNE)

2 July 1788

Left his housekeeper Mary Brown his linen and plate and gave Mary and her son, John Brown, the right to live in his house, plus an annuity.

Others mentioned were his youngest son Thomas Metcalfe, eldest son John Metcalfe, Matthew Brown of Bellerby, Christopher Theakstone of Constable Burton and Mr. Tamar Williamson of Bedale.

He expressed a wish to be interred at St. Martin's, Outwich, London.

Witnesses: Charles Lonsdale, George Blackburn and Francis Janson

WILL OF JOHN METCALFE OF BELLERBY, SPENNITHORNE (Blacksmith)

5 July 1797

Mentions his wife, although her name is not given and sons, Thomas, Timothy, William and James.

His sons Thomas and John were executors.

Witnesses: John Walker, Mary Metcalfe, George Blackburn

Dale finds the will of John Metcalfe dated 2 July 1788 particularly interesting in view of his express wish to be buried in London. Does anyone know why ?

The wills precised above are from the West Yorkshire Archives Service in Leeds.

* * * * *

OVERSEAS PAYMENTS

Our Secretary would welcome ideas of LEGAL ways to avoid heavy exchange rates for overseas payments. If you have any bright ideas, please contact Nina Benson direct.

* * * * *

HELP PLEASE !

A number of our members have sent in pleas for help, in the hope that other members may be able to come to their aid. Can anyone put them out of their misery ?

* Angela S. Baker, M.N. 230, of ' The Ferrars ', 5 Manor Orchard, Harbury, Leamington Spa, CV3 39LZ, Warwickshire, is looking for the baptism of Anthony Metcalfe, born 1766/67 near Richmond, Yorkshire. He was buried on the 24 October 1816, aged 50, at St. Andrew's, Newcastle upon Tyne. It is possible that his father may have been Bernard, born c. 1726/27, near Richmond, who was buried on the 20 February 1817 at St. Andrew's, Newcastle upon Tyne.

* Jean Forrester, M.N. 96, of 199 Kingsway, Ossett, West Yorkshire, WF5 8ED, is seeking the will of Thomas Metcalfe of Marske, who was buried on the 11 February 1862, aged 88.

* Sal Illingworth, M.N. 247, of 14 Chesham Road, Colliers Wood, London SW19 2AT, is looking for any information regarding James Metcalf (farmer) and Ann Metcalf, nee Metcalf, who lived at Cowgill, Stone House and Rigg End, Dent, around the 1830's to the 1860's.

* Dale Piercey, M.N. 227, of P.O. Box 198, Esperance, 6450, Western Australia, is hoping that someone will be able to help her trace the birth of Cordelia Metcalfe, who married Thomas Dodsworth at Spannithorne, on the 5 July 1768 and had children, John, George, William, Anthony, Robert and Sally, who married Leonard Galloway in 1794. She would also like to hear from anyone who has found a marriage of a Metcalfe to someone called Cordelia, prior to 1768.

* Shirley Withers, M.N. 33, of 23 Malcolm Street, West Perth, 6005, Western Australia, would be grateful for information relating to Agnes of the Ashes, born 1651, daughter of Thomas Metcalfe of the Ashes, Hawes, born between 1600 and 1620, who may have been married to Robert Metcalfe of Mossdale. She is also hoping to trace the descendants of Thomas Gibson Metcalfe, in Settle or Long Preston.

* * * * *

FREEMASON'S RECORDS

In the last newsletter, we gave details of how to obtain information relating to any ancestors who were freemasons. We now learn from Jean Forrester, M.N. 96, of Ossett, West Yorkshire, that heavy search fees have been introduced for what was, until recently, a free service. As the information contained in these records is only limited, we can no longer recommend this source as being good value.

MISSING ! ANTHONY METCALFE of MARTON, YORKSHIRE. POST 1755.

Anyone seeing mention of the above, please contact Eunice Herring, address p 4.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

1 Timothy 1:4 " Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies "

* * * * *

MORE TALES OF DERRING DO

In our last issue, we featured the story of Lance Corporal William Henry Metcalfe, V.C., whom we subsequently learn was promoted after the end of the First World War to the rank of Lieut. in the York Regiment, C. Comp., St. Stephen, New Brunswick and retired in 1936 to live in his home State of Maine, in the U.S.A.

News of yet another Metcalfe decorated for bravery during the First World War comes from Paul Metcalfe, M.N. 137, of Thirsk, Yorkshire.

This concerns Private A. A. Metcalfe, No. 2016, who was a member of the 1st Battalion, the Manchester Regiment. His battalion arrived in France in October 1914 and formed part of the 3rd Lahore Division; Jullunder Brigade, under Major General P.M. Carnegie, which was part of the Indian Expeditionary Force.

Soon after their arrival in France, the 1st Manchesters were placed at the southern end of the British line, in the Guinchy - Givenchy area.

During the fighting at Guinchy, on the 11 December 1914, Private Metcalfe crept out, under fire, to the body of a dead German officer, lying some eighty yards in front of the British trenches, to obtain his papers, which he managed to bring safely back to his own lines.

Two days later, on the 13 December, he again showed both coolness and courage under fire, when he insisted upon remaining at his observation post after the British trenches had been vacated and he, himself, had been wounded.

The ' London Gazette ' of the 14 January 1915 shows that, for this, he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Are there any more heroic Metcalfes that you know of ? If so, why not write and let us know, particularly if they were in the navy or the airforce - why let the army have all the glory ?

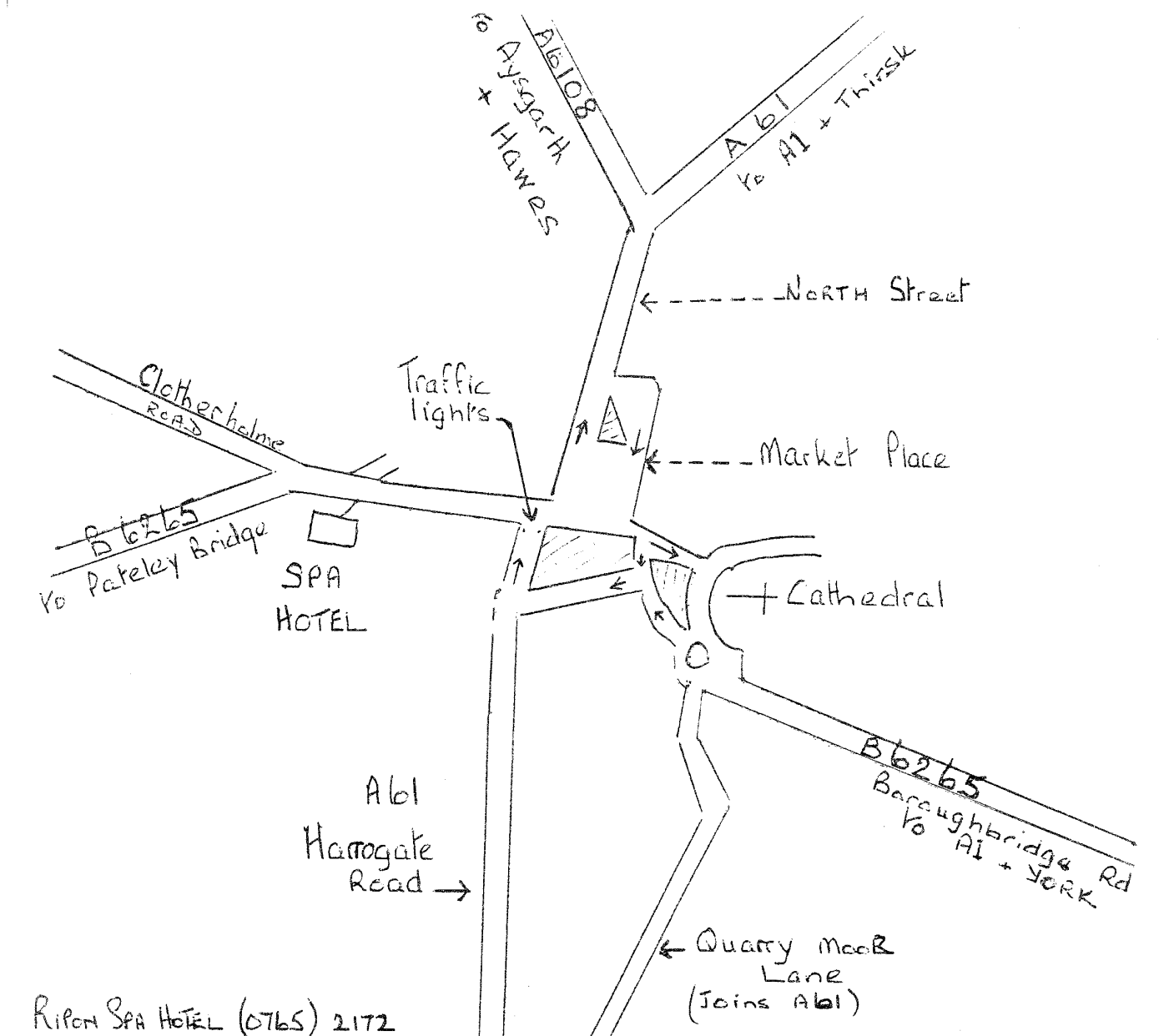
* * * * *

BUXTON'S BRIEFING

George Buxton, the Keeper of the General Index, writes " Those of you who would like to come and ' RUMMAGE AN ANCESTOR ' at the Buxton residence on the 24 April 1988 (See details in Newsletter No. 23) are reminded that time is becoming short. Please write to me at 128 Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 3QH and let me know, as soon as possible, if you are intending to come. It would be appreciated if, when writing, you could remember to enclose your cheque for £4 per head to cover the cost of the buffet lunch which will be provided. Don't forget - all profits from this venture go to the Society ! "

George has also kindly sent details of a number of Wisconsin M.I.s, which, alas, limitations on space prevent us from including in this issue of the newsletter but which, hopefully, will be published at a later date.

* * * * *



RIPON SPA HOTEL (0765) 2172

The 1988 Mecca Muster & AGM is on Saturday 8th October at RIPON SPA HOTEL, RIPON, North Yorkshire. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.

Please reserve.....places @ £ 6.00p per person = £.....enclosed.

Cheques to be made out to 'The Metcalfe Society'.

Name(s).....

Membership No:

.....

Please give full names of each person (for badges) and state if a family membership.

I enclose SAE for - Acknowledgement

☐

Brief Accomodation List

☐

Please return before 1st SEPTEMBER 1988 to the secretary :- Mrs Nina Benson, 29 Skelton Road, Langthorpe, Boroughbridge, York. YO5 9GD. North Yorkshire.

If you would like any points raised at the meeting please include with this form.

PLEASE BOOK EARLY

This will be held at the SPA HOTEL, RIPON, NORTH YORKSHIRE, 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Coffee on arrival, light luncheon, afternoon cup of tea £6 per person.

Plenty of car parking spaces in hotel grounds. Why not stay awhile and visit the Cathedral in Ripon, Fountains Abbey just a few miles away and not, of course, forgetting the historic City of York. Send for the brief accomodation list.

Registration from 9 a.m., please register on arrival. Business meeting will begin promptly at 10 a.m. There will be a complete list of those attending at, or near to the Secretary's table. There will also be a photocopier available for the afternoon session and we also plan to have a Sales Table.

George Buxton will be bringing all the General Index and records. Nina Benson will be bringing the Spouse Index and all the Society's records.

If any local members can offer bed & breakfast for the night before OR the night after, please contact the Secretary immediately.

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SEE ' THE WORKS ' AND TO MEET MEMBERS FROM FAR & WIDE

A NOTE OF THANKS

Margaret Metcalfe, M.N. 52, has asked me to thank, on her behalf, all those of you who have so generously made donations to the Computer Fund.

She also reminds me that our thanks are due, once again, to Nina, our Secretary, for all of the hard work that she has put in during the course of the past twelve months to ensure yet another successful year for the Society.

So, on behalf of all of us, Nina, may I express our thanks for everything that you have done - we can assure you that it is greatly appreciated !

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