



MECCA NEWS

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EDITORIAL

The briefest of editorials for this issue. Once again I find myself with too much to publish and so will not take up valuable space with my "waffle".

There are one or two articles of a different nature in this issue, following April's request. Thank you to all those who responded. Also, this issue includes a new set of articles on some of our hard working committee members and officials. The idea is to tell all our members a little bit about ourselves in the hope that you will find this interesting.

I said in my last editorial that I hoped to include some photographs in future issues. Thanks in particular to Sara Illingworth for a particularly interesting photograph from The Sedbergh Historian. I am grateful to the Sedbergh and District History Society for permission to reproduce this. The original was in Volume 2, No 6, Spring 1991 of The Sedbergh Historian. More next edition!

I also have in my "in tray" a further instalment of the diary of William Metcalfe of Sessay Parks from Denny Gibson plus many others.

Finally you will read elsewhere in this issue that our Society is now a member of the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS). As a member we are able to sell their excellent publications. Details of some of these are included elsewhere in this issue and plans are in hand to include reviews of more of them in future editions. Should you wish to buy any of these then please do so through our Sales Department - that way the Society gets to keep a percentage of the price! Should you wish to simply borrow them then the Society now has copies of four of these publications - details on the back of the AGM map insert accompanying this issue.

I hope to see many of you at the Muster. Nina has once again been working extremely hard organising this highlight of the Society's year. Please get there if you can. For those of you who live too far away, a full report will be in the next edition of the News.

Stuart Metcalfe

August 1992

The Mecca News is the official journal of the Metcalfe Society. This is a family history society dedicated to encouraging research into the family name of Metcalfe in all its derivations. The Journal is distributed three times a year (January, April and August) and is free to members.

Annual subscriptions to the Society are:

UK membership £5.00

Overseas (Surface mail) £5.00 (Airmail) £6.00

Family membership is £1.00 extra in each category.

SECRETARY'S NOTES. 8th June 1992.

It has recently been my great pleasure to greet two of our overseas members visiting this area. Firstly, there was David Davis of Austin, Texas, then Dorothy Deane of Toronto, Canada. I trust they both enjoyed their trip and hope new discoveries were made.

At the end of May I drove over the hills to the Lake District going one way and coming back another, through Metcalfe lands in both directions. Travelling is so much more interesting when I pass farms, villages, towns where some of our members' Metcalfes lived. On this recent trip I went through Grayrigg and saw the signpost for Lambrigg, thinking of Members 316/351, sorry no time to stop! Garsdale, Sedbergh, Mallerstang & all down Wensleydale will never be the same again.

MUSTER 1993 in Birmingham area. We thank Member Wilf Medcalf for working hard to find some suitable premises for the above. However by judging the response from members the Committee came to the reluctant conclusion that this idea must be left in abeyance for the time being. Our thanks have been expressed to Wilf.

MEMBERSHIP : The loss of so many members this year is tragic - (60 members did not renew their subscriptions) - taken together with the fact that NEW members are down so far this year, you will realise that we are losing ground. DANGEROUS. If anyone has any promotional ideas, please let me know.

AGM/MUSTER - 10th October 1992

Another booking form is enclosed. please return as soon as possible. **RAFFLE PRIZES WELCOME !!**

We plan a Question & Answer session following the AGM when we will all try to solve your problems. If you are shy, hand your written query to me, or place in the BOX on the front table. If there is a demand we can hold small groups for Beginners or Advanced "classes".

AFTER LUNCH. We have requested Ripon college to find different ways of serving our lunch to avoid the long queues. Something fresh for this muster is our publication of the post 1858 Wills in the National Index. Do make the effort to come along and join in the fun. I look forward to meeting new & old members.

Are you short tempered? This question only applies to those of Metcalfe blood. It was sent in by a relatively new member who (surprisingly!) wishes to remain anonymous. He/She says that their own branch is well known for this, and wonders if perhaps this was the reason their ancestors were notable for their frequent moving to new horizons. Personally it takes a great deal for me to lose my temper - but watch out when I do, it usually results in devastating mayhem !!

HELP - HELP - HELP - HELP

I'm sorry to be crying out for more assistance YET AGAIN but it really does get desperate at times. Most of the present committee also take on special tasks which is a great relief but as with me, their spare time is limited. Have we anyone who is a good organiser? Could YOU organise the MUSTER each year? - or have you any other skill to offer? Contact me AT ANY TIME or at the Muster in October, I'll be delighted to hear from you and be willing to discuss the work involved.

NEB

BIRTH BRIEFS

Up-dated :-

M77....Basil Kearton, 40 Hospital Rd, Te Kuiti, North Island, NEW ZEALAND 2500.

Descendant of Thomas Kearton and his wife Mary Medcalf who m 9 Nov 1868 at the Independent Chapel, Longsight-Gordon in district of Chorlton, Lancs. Mary spr aged 20 dau of William Medcalf an architectural carver. James and Annie Medcalf amongst the witnesses. Mary died aged 66yrs on 29 June 1914 at Southport - her brother C. Medcalf of 15 Church Rd, Lytham registered her death. Mary born c1848 ??? bpt 5 Nov 1848 d.o William & Mary Medcalf at the Cathedral, Manchester. (IGI - Sec).

M147...Miss Mary Morris, 3/36 Roxburgh St, Mt Victoria, Wellington 1. NEW ZEALAND.

Was stuck on Edmund Mt who appears in the 1851 in Skipton, Yks aged 54 born "Snagholme, Yks". It seems that Snagholme MAY be SNAIZEHOLME in the parish of Hawes as these registers reveal Edmund bpt 7th June 1800 son of John & Margaret (Wilson) Mte who married 27th Dec 1786.

M197...Miss Eunice Metcalfe, 27 Kirkgate, Pocklington, York, YO4 2BD. NEW ADDRESS.

M255...Miss Elizabeth Morey, 2/9 Fairleigh Avenue, Mt Albert, NEW ZEALAND.

Leonard Mte bpt 8th July 1759 at Richmond, Yorks son of Richard and Monica (Sunter) Mte who married 15th Jan 1750, Grinton in Swaledale. ALSO Isabel Airey (who married Henry Mte) bpt 10.05.1849 Brough under Stainmore, Westmorland dau of Francis & Sarah (Metcalfe) Airey who married 15th May 1837 at Brough.

M271...Mrs L. Meaden, Springfield Cottage, Morleys Road, Weald, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 6QY.

Members will want to join with me to offer Linda and her family our sincere condolences on the recent death of her husband.

Descendant of Mary Metcalfe & her husband William Crooks Goodall who m 18 Sep 1862 at Leeds, Yks. Mary bpt 11.09.1829 Richmond, Yks d.o Joseph (plumber & glazier) & Ann (?) Mte. Another of their daus used Patrickson as her second Christian name. Joseph bpt 14 Nov 1807 Richmond s.o Thomas & Sarah (Clark) Mte who m 17 Sep 1805 Richmond. Thomas bur 02.04.1815 aged 48 yrs ...b circa 1767 and known to have been son of another THOMAS but the only bpt at Richmond of children of Thomas plumber & glazier begin with John in 1775. However there is the burial of Thomas senior on 17 Jun 1816 aged 74 hence b 1742. On 14 Jun 1742 Thomas s.o Mr John Mte was bpt at Richmond but no positive proof is available.

M316...Ms Jean Metcalfe, 40 Royal Oak Rd, Baguley, Manchester M23 8BD.

James Mte married Fanny Shaw 26 Aug 1818 at Garsdale, Yks. Fanny dau of Thomas & Mary (Metcalfe) Shaw who married 12 Jan 1799. It is possible that JAMES is son of John & Emma (Sedgewick) Mte bpt 14.04.1792 - John & Emma married 11 May 1773 - both at Garsdale.

M331...Ernest Dodding, 19 Outwood Walk, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4JG.

also see M553.

Maternal grandfather was James Mte who with his wife Hagar (Longmire) lived at Hellifield, and Airton. James bpt 22.09.1869 at Kirby Malham is 13th child of William & Isabella (Metcalfe) Metcalfe who had children baptised at Long Preston and Kirby Malham. William gives his place of birth on the 1871 census as Kirby Stephen, in 1881 as Sedbergh. William & Isabella are known to have been married pre May 1855 and there are Banns published 27th March, 3rd & 10th April 1853 at Chapel le Dale of William Mte of Winterscales and Isabella Mte of Hodge Hole...no marriage traced YET. The 1851 Census folio 163 at Winterscales has an Isabella aged 24 dau of Widow Isabella Mte - then at folio 164 (also Winterscales) there is a William Metcalfe, (servant to Samuel Downham) aged 26 born at Lunds. With a little more research the mystery may be resolved.

M457...Mrs Elsie Kriesch, 111 Manley St, Caboolture, Queensland 4510. AUSTRALIA.

With a lot of help from Mrs Audrey Letts of Watford the break through has been achieved! No, we haven't traced Richard yet but (in the 1851 census return) his widow Mary (nee Sharpe) aged 70 born St Georges in the East, Middlesex, with her married dau Margaret Ashbee 26 (born Lambeth, Surrey and wife of Richard Ashbee) & grandson Richard John aged 3 - were all living at 135 Jamaica Road, Stepney, St Thomas, Towers Hamlet. The above Richard Ashbee was bpt the same day and place (29.09.1850 St George in East, Middlesex) as his cousin William Richard NASH who was the son of William Ormiston & Rosetta (Metcalfe) Nash m 1848. Rosetta was sister to Margaret (Ashbee) and dau therefore of Richard & Mary. William/Rosetta NASH & family must therefore have left London for New Zealand after Sep 1850 and before the census 1851 date which was held on the night of 30th March.

ANYONE ANY CLUES OF THE AVAILABLE SHIPS?

M480...Mrs Jane Metcalfe, West View, Cravengate, Richmond, Yorks. DL10 4ED See Member 545.

M487...Mrs J. Dickie, 17 Lodges Grove, Bare, Morecambe, Lancs LA4 6HE. See Mecca News 34. August 1991

Joan does not wish to CLAIM with certainty the George Taylor Metcalfe b 8th Feb 1846 at Knottingley, until further proof is traced.

M497...Mrs D. McDonnell, RMB H839, Dawes Rd, Invermay Victoria 3352. AUSTRALIA

John Mte the tinner of Beverley, Yks was b 26.06.1844 at Beverley s.o John & Elizabeth (Hall) Mte m 11.02.1840. John b 1818 Wilton Hill nr Coxwold s.o Prince & Ann (Wood) Mte m 17.02.1806 Coxwold. Prince bpt 22.04.1780 Coxwold s.o John & Isabella (Prince) Mte m 19.04.1767 at Topcliffe, Yks when John was "of Coxwold parish".

M513...Mrs C. Surfleet, 4 Gordon Lane, Backford, Chester, CH2 4 DG.

Confirmation has been received that Christine's great grandfather was George Mte born at Sawley nr Ripon, Yorks son of Thomas & Eliz (Smith) Mte m 17.01.1831 at Ripon. Thomas b 1811 son of Peter & Mary (no marriage traced YET). Peter bpt 7th Jan 1770 son of Peter Mte of Collarstoops near Fellbeck and see.....

M514...Mrs Mary Greensil, Stoneleigh, Kirkby Malzeard, Ripon, HG4 3SD

whose EDWIN Mte was bpt 1840 at Pateley Bridge Methodist Church, the natural son of Rebecca Mte. Rebecca b c 1826 dau of Peter & Mary (?) Mte. Peter bpt 7.01.1770 son of Peter Mte of Collarstoops.

M526...David A. Davis, 2401 Lacosta Court, Onion Creek, Austin, Texas, 78747 USA.

It was my pleasure to meet David on his recent trip to his roots in Wensleydale and to hear that he had a third line of Metcalfes to his name! John Pratt married Rosamund Metcalfe 26 Apr or 7th May 1709 at Askrigg...maybe the first date is the last date the Banns were published hence the error.

NEW MEMBERS

To whom we extend our sincere welcome.

M537...Mrs Marjorie Edgley, 7 Richard Terr, Leyburn, Nth Yks DL8 5DW.

Born in West Auckland, Co Dur dau of Edward Finn Mte and his wife nee Miss Vickers who married at Bishop Auckland. Edward Finn son of Walter and Catherine (Finn) Mte m 1891 at Ulshaw Bridge Church, Wensleydale. Walter b 1867 son of Joseph & Elizabeth (Skelton) Mte who m Dec 1854 at Wensley. Joseph bpt Dec 1830 at Wensley son of James & Ann (Leyburn) Mte who m 23.07.1810 at Wensley.

M538...Christopher Wm Metcalfe, The Gables, Sketchley Lane, Burbage, Leics, LE10 2NG.

Son of William Christopher Mte who was born in Liverpool 09.02.1913 and died at Tadcaster, Yks 1.01.1992. Wm Chris married at Maghull Gwendoline Silkstone Griffiths. Wm Chris son of Christopher (William?) who is believed to have left the family farm at Low Blean, Bainbridge to join the Liverpool Police. Members 178 & 419 please cross check.

M539...Mrs Abigail Wynn, 15 Rivington Ave, Bispham, Blackpool FY2 9ER

Dau of Thomas & Alice (Townsend) Mte. Thomas b 14.06.1879 9th child of William & Jane (Metcalfe) Mte who m 15 Dec 1862 at Hawes, Yks. William b 18.10.1843 bpt 30.10.1843 Hawes son of William & Sarah (formerly Mte, formerly Bushby) m not yet traced - ?? there is a marriage at Wensley on 11 Dec 1832 between a Sarah Bushby and a Richard Mte...no issue bpt at Wensley...then there is a burial at Wensley on 15.09.1836 of Richard Mte of Preston aged 47 years.

*JANE b 26.11.1837 bpt 29 Nov 1837 at Stalling Busk dau of Thomas & Elizabeth (Armstrong) Mte who m 26 Dec 1830 at Pauli in Holderness. Thomas (a blacksmith) thought to be bpt 07.04.1805 at Leconfield son of Thomas & Mary (?) Mte. Jane's brother John m Betsy Proud and became the ancestors of M439 George Barry Metcalfe.

Abigail reports that she has Metcalfe details from several funeral cards but has no knowledge of any connection, CAN ANYONE IDENTIFY any of the following BRIEF details? :-

Mgt (d 16.7.1872 25yrs) d Wm & Betsy Mte, Burtersett bur Stalling Busk

Wm (d 11.2.1888 94yrs) of Wood End, Raydaleside &

Betsy (d 2.2.1879 76yrs) his wife.

Alice (d 20.04.1873 13yrs) d Tho & Mgt Mte of Burtersett

Elizabeth of Burtersett d 2.07.1879 76yrs.

Margaret wife of Tho Mte of Burtersett d 11.01.1882 54yrs.

Thomas Mte of Burtersett d 07.10.1885 57yrs.

Esther wife of John Mte, Countersett (late Wood End) d 23.06.1907 24yrs.

John Mte of Burtersett d 02.08.1920 75yrs.

M540...Kenneth A. Metcalf, 16 Lome Ave, Shirley, Croydon, CRO 7RQ.

Born Catford son of Arthur & Irene Gertrude (Denyer) Md who m 1917 at Lewisham. Arthur (had sister Ada & bro Tom) b 21.02.1891 Tower of London son of Tom & Mary Ann (Ayling) Md who m 19.04.1881 at Greenwich Registry Office. Tom b 1837-1840 ? Kingston upon Hull, son of John Md who was listed as a blacksmith on his son's marriage.

M541...Mrs Sandi Lee Walton, 14530 82nd Ave Surrey, British Columbia V3R 7L2 CANADA.

Grand-dau of Benjamin & Bertha (Overgard) Metcalfe who m 14.01.1909 at Vancouver, BC. Benjamin (had bro Walter 1874 & sis Maud 1875) was born 13.04.1877 at Hunslet, Leeds, Yks. son of Benjamin & Anna Lousia (Westerman) Mte who m 1873 at Holbeck, Leeds. This Benjamin owned & managed the Royal Hotel in Dewsbury before emigrating to Canada c1907. Their eldest son Walter m Florence Lee who was dau of Edward Lee an illegitimate son of George IV. The Metcalfe Block in Lethbridge, Alberta, on Third and Fifth Street is named after Sandi's grandfather.

M542...Philip van Dael, Teldersweg 42, 3911 PX RHENEN, NEDERLAND.

Has NO Metcalfe antecedents at all! He has, however, a very interesting tale to tell :-

Philip's hobby is genealogy & heraldry and he recently acquired an old genealogical chart showing the descent of the Yorkshire Metcalfe family which was made by John Henry Metcalfe who was born on 23 Aug 1830, he married in 1863 Alice Grahame of Glasgow and they went on to live in London, in Wensleydale and then to Crayke Castle near Easingwold. The chart may have been made circa 1871 - it states Brompton, Christmas 1871, printed by "John B. Day, Lithographer, Savoy Street, Strand" and "Compiled, written and emblazoned by John Henry Metcalfe, 12 Alfred Place, Thurloe Square, South Kensington, London, from whom copies can be obtained". In a pencil handwritten note, "now 1885.....(probably a placename but now almost faded away)...Wensleydale". In the same handwriting, on different locations on the chart, there are a few genealogical notes. Most of the coats of arms are handcoloured in a very fine way. The chart itself is backed on linen with a piece of wood at the top and bottom, the general condition is not too bad. Philip would like to know more about the history of this or similar charts. Does anyone know the biography of John Henry Metcalfe? Any help would be appreciated. Please write direct to Philip.

Sec: JHM was the grandson of Rev Francis Mte of Kirkbride in Cumberland who m there on 12.11.1785 to Harriet Clough (dau of John of York & Newbald Hall, Beverley, Yks, by Rebecca dau of Jacob Costabadie whose son Jacob was Rector of Wensley in Wensleydale). Rev Francis was son of Rev Thomas Mte of Kirby Overblow & his wife Ann nee Small. Rev Thomas as son of Chancellor Thomas Mte of Nappa Hall.

M543...Mrs Judy Gadsby, 35 Redway Drive, Twickenham Middlesex TW2 7NT.

Grand-dau of Enos Metcalfe who became a Congregational Minister in Lincoln, born circa 1814 son of Cornelius & Martha (Raiton) Mte who m 31.07.1813 at Barnard Castle, Co Durham. Cornelius b 19.04.1789 at Danby Wiske near Northallerton, Yorks, son of Enos and Elizabeth (Nelson) Mte who m 11 Jan 1773 at Pickhill with Roxby near Thirsk, Yorks. Enos MAY be the one shown on the IGI bpt 3rd July 1745 at Ebenezer or Ryton Woodside, Presbyterian, Swakwell (?Durham or Northumberland)...son of Enos Metcalfe...then more ?? is this Enos the one bpt 10 Jan 1699 at Kirby Hill near Boroughbridge (the Secretary's parish church) son of Enos Mte.

M544...Mrs P.A. Cook, 42 Littlefield Lane, Grimsby Lincs DN34 4PL.

Great grand-dau of Mary Elizabeth nee Metcalfe b 13 Apr 1858 Broughton, Lincs dau of George & Ann (Ston) Mte who m 1st May 1855 Broughton. George bpt 12 Apr 1829 Brocklesby, Lincs, son of Joseph & Elizabeth (Raby) Mte who m 7th May 1827 Grasby, Lincs. Joseph bpt 21 Apr 1805 Brocklesby, son of William & Frances (Markham) Mte who m 5th May 1783 Great Limber, Lincs. William bpt 11 June 1757 Gt Limber son of William & Mary (Button) Mte who m 3rd June 1748 Great Limber, Lincs.

M545...Mr & Mrs Paul & Tracey Metcalfe, 50 Ceme Close, West End, Southampton, Hants SO3 1NG. And:-

M480... Mrs Jane Metcalfe, mother of Paul.

Paul born at Richmond, Yorks. Son of... & Jane (-) Mte.... bm May 1916 Richmond son of Walter & (-) Mte.

M546...Mrs Elizabeth Lee, 2 Moor Close, Killinghall, Harrogate, HG3 2DZ. and her brother :-

M547...John C Metcalfe Rayson, 14 St Peter's Grove, Clifton, York, YO3 6AQ

Children of William Dewse Rayson and his wife Helen Mary nee Metcalfe who m 5th June 1915 at York. Helen Mary was the eldest child of Christopher & Mary Isabella (Stoker) Mte who m 18.04.1888 at York and the sister of William Edward (father of M13 Ronald Mte) Christopher b 20.01.1861 at Hipswell, Yks son of Robert & Elizabeth (Frankland) Mte who m 28 Dec 1841, Hipswell. Robert b c1821 son of Robert & Elizabeth (King) Mte who m 3.3.1818 at Richmond Yks. Robert son of George & Elizabeth (Robinson) Mte who ? m High Coniscliffe near Darlington. Hence Elizabeth and John are "cousins" in varying degrees to members 29, 66, 70, 132, 133, 246, 292 and 458, welcome to the family!

M548...Douglas F Metcalfe, 21 Rover Road, Rondebosch 7700, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa.

Douglas met Member Carol Metcalfe on top of a mountain - how's that for originality - can anyone better it? Douglas son of Frank and Aletta (Brandt) Mte. Frank known to have had a bro Harry whose last known address was "Lydford Lodge, Totteridge Lane, London ?NW2" who was the owner of a shoe factory and had a dau Freda who circa 1950 lived on a farm near Penryn, Cornwall called "Tregarthen". Freda and her husband had a dau called Deidre.

Is anyone able to help PLEASE?

M549...Mr & Mrs Raymond & Margaret E. Condon, 5 Nursery Walk, Brampton, Huntingdon, PE18 8UU.

Margaret is a descendant of Rev Thomas Metcalfe writer of the "Medecall" book.

M550...Mrs Madelaine Jackson, 4 Lark's Hill, Pontefract, West Yorks. WF8 4NE.

Her great-grandfather was born in Stalling Busk. Madelaine wishes to "go it alone".

M551...Mrs Eileen Burgess, Greystones, Pateley Bridge, Harrogate, Yorkshire. HG3 5AY.

Is interested in the Pateley/Glasshouses branch of the Metcalfe family as part of an MA dissertation.

M552...Miss Maureen Porter, 10 Nithdale Gardens, Exchange St, Hull, North Humberside, HU15 1HP.

Born in Hull, dau of Kenneth Geo & Constance (Medcalf) Porter who m at Brunswick Chapel in 1948.
Constance b 20 Sep 1921 Hull, dau of Herbert & Beatrice (Gardham) Md who m 4 Dec 1920 at Hull.
Herbert b 15 Apr 1898 at 70 Buckingham St, Hull son of William & Ann Elizabeth (Spavin) Md m 1st July 1888 at Great Driffield. William b c1867 son of John Medcalf.

M553...Clive Thompson, 64 Northfield Lane, Horbury, Wakefield, WF4 5JL.

Complicated one! Born Gargrave, Yks grandson of William & Harriet (Metcalf) Gamett. Harriet bpt 14 Jan 1883 at Gargrave dau of William & Ellen (Bradley) Mte who m 10 Oct 1874 Gargrave. William bpt 17 Dec 1853 at Stalling Busk natural son of Hannah Mte who later married (Dec 1874) George Clarke. Hannah b 31 Aug 1834 Stalling Busk dau of James & Margery (Whaley) Mte - that's the main line. Clive's mother Margaret Gamett - had an elder brother James Metcalfe Gamett and he married Isabel Metcalfe d.o Michael & Lilian (?) Mte. Michael b 25 May 1856 Ingleton Fells son of William & Isabella* (Mte) Metcalfe whose marriage is also sought by M331 see above. That's the second line.
*Isabella bpt 16 Sep 1828 d.o John & Isabella** (Mte) Metcalfe - was this the pair married 13 May 1816 at Hawes (both of Hawes)? John son of George & Isabel (?) Mte. That's the third line.
**Isabella dau of Richard & Agnes (Shepherd) Mte who married 17 Nov 1788 Chapel le Dale/Ingleton Fells when Richard was described as husbandman, bach with George Mte as a witness. That's the fourth line. What is the betting that it is NOT the last?

M554...Miss Josephine J.P. Metcalfe, 10 Albert Rd, Hale, Cheshire, WA15 9AN

Dau of M305 Charles S. Metcalfe. Charles b Ripon Yks s.o Charles Herbert & Martha (Preston) Mte m 1927 Richmond Yks. Charles H. b Sep 1899 Scorton, Yks son of William & Mary (Blackburn) Mte m May 1884 at Sandhutton nr Thirsk, Yks. William b July 1859 Thornton le Moor, Yks s.o Robert & Hannah (Parvin) Mte m Nov 1849 North Otterington, Yks. Robert b 1823 Langton on Swale, Yks s.o George & Susannah (Gibson) Mte. George bpt Aug 1795 Langton on Swale son of Christopher & Hannah (Brown) Mte who m July 1781 at Langton on Swale. Christopher b 1751.

M555...Miss Alison Hill & Mr Colin McMullan, 5/81 Tennyson Street, Christchurch 2, NEW ZEALAND.

Descendants of Ethel Geraldine Tyres nee Medcalf dau of Gervase Albert & Clarissa Patience (Forward) Medcalf may have married in New Zealand. Gervase A. b circa 1840 came from Market Deeping and may be the one in St Catherine's Index recorded in the March quarter of 1840 at Bourne. Confirmation awaited.

M556...Miss B. Shirley Pile, 122 Lawton Moor Road, Manchester, M23 0PG

Great grand-dau of Joseph & Amelia Haigh (Metcalf) Cusworth who m 21.07.1844 at Wakefield, Yks. Amelia Haigh bpt 26.05.1823 at Rothwell dau of Joseph & Elizabeth (Haigh) Mte who m 20 Sep 1814 at Rothwell. Joseph bpt 31 Jul 1791 Rothwell s.o George & Mary (Hirst) Mte who m 27 Dec 1790 Rothwell. George bpt 26 Nov 1769 Rothwell son of John & Ann (Hey) Mte who m 23 Jun 1756 Rothwell.

M557...Mrs Christine Crossley, 16 Keswick Close Todmorden Lancs OL14 8EJ

Great, great, great grand-dau of Robert Ro(d)gers & his wife Margaret nee Metcalfe. Margaret bpt 30.03.1834 at Amcliffe Yks (tho' born at Buckden) dau of John & Betty (Ryder) Mte who m 13 Apr 1831 at Hubberholme, Yks. their Banns also read at Horsehouse in Coverdale when John was "of Buckden". John bpt 22 Nov 1801 Hubberholme - again born at Buckden - s.o John Mte of Buckden.

and as at 8th June 1982...

NEB

NINA E BENSON.

When our Editor announced that he wanted all the "officers" to write up a profile on themselves my first thoughts were along the lines of "who wants to read those" - but then I realised that to many of our members we are, in fact, just names on paper - so here goes!

Personal facts first. Married to Michael, we have three children, Christine married with Rebecca 11yrs and Emily 18mths living in West Yorkshire, Joanna married with Benn 7yrs and Hannah 1yr living in North Yorkshire, and Steven married and living in Ayrshire. 1932 saw me born in Darlington, Co Durham and therefore I am a newly qualified OAP - revelling in a pension and free medical prescriptions! I was married from the house where I was born and since then Michael and I have lived at Bingley; then near Bolton By Bowland; after that, at Wetherby - all in West Yorkshire and in 1986 we came here to Langthorpe.

Interest in family history research was sparked off through my Christian name - Nina - usually pronounced "nee na", my father's family had always pronounced it as "nigh na". The first to bear the name, though christened Hannah was always called Nina - and this name is used in the newspaper reports of the arrival home of her coffin by rail at Waberthwaite, Cumbria in January 1895 after she had died of typhoid fever whilst nursing soldiers near Liverpool. Her surname was Postlethwaite and her sister Edith Mary married James Metcalfe (he was from Darlington and they met whilst he was working locally as accountant clerk to a quarry company) and their son Edmund Postlethwaite Metcalfe was my father.

So it was the unusual names that set me

off in the early 1970s on this hobby that has since grown into an obsession. I am still no nearer discovering *WHY* my family chose to pronounce Nina differently - like many others, I had left it too late, all those who knew had died years before. However, I have been able to discover so many other things that I am not disappointed in any way - I'll ask them when I arrive in the afterworld... and then I'll ask them *WHERE* was great, great grandfather George Metcalfe born; and what about Richard Postlethwaite and then.....

From Lillah Chapman mn 218

Dear Mr. Metcalfe,

Names are very interesting to me, and the reasons our ancestors could have acquired them. I do not mean given names, according to where people lived or their occupations - neither do I mean nicknames or shortened names such as Tom when one was christened Thomas or Rob which is a shortened form of Robert.

The names I am talking about, are entirely different and can cause confusion when trying to trace an ancestor.

When I was at school, anyone christened Elizabeth was always called "Betty". John was always called "Jack". Mary got called "Polly" in the Dales very frequently but why I do not know. Margaret's were usually called "Peggy", Richard would always be "Dick". Hewy or Harold got called "Harry".

These are but a few from our tree, But there must be many more.

Mrs. Lillah M (Metcalf) Chapman, mem no 218



CONFERENCE REPORT

Nina E. Benson.

As your representative I attended the Spring Conference and AGM of the Federation of FHS held this year at Humberside Polytechnic, Hull; hosted by the East Yorkshire FHS whose organisation appeared to run on well oiled wheels. My one and only criticism being something that I have always thought spoiled most conferences - too many lectures - leaving only very short periods free for socialising. It seems such a shame to gather people from all over the UK only to keep them pinned to their chairs and silent for 90% of the time!

Lectures included Geoffrey Robinson's "East Yks Dialect & Verse"; interesting and enjoyable. Dr David Neave - "East Yks for Family Historians" which gave us an insight into how the land had mainly been held by 12 families in 1780s - the halls they built and how the estates changed hands over the years with some going to wealthy industrialists. Dr George Redmonds - "Uses of Aliases in Surnames" - these could be because of illegitimacy or adopted because of an inheritance. He gave us amusing examples of others - Ann wife of Wm Parkin of Sheffield was alias Nanny Mangle, as she had the mangle for the village! Be aware of which PET NAMES were prevalent at certain periods - Richardson is not given to all sons of Richard, it could be Dixon, Dickonson.

The lecture by the GOONS was this year given by Elisabeth McDougall on "George Lidgett, Humber pilot and his descendants". Richard Ratcliffe spoke to us on the "Records of the Methodists" and the last lecture was John Markham's "Family History through East Yks Newspapers".

The Federation AGM got through the business at a spanking pace. The only contentious point was a proposal that the larger (circa 2000+) membership societies should have a reduction in their capitation fees. Your secretary was amongst the majority "NAY" voters. This was followed by a Council Meeting which is open to all member societies. John Perkins proposed a new national family interest Directory which would be run through each County FHS who would supply the forms to their members. Each person would then pay £1 when submitting the form - this would fund the costs including a new large capacity computer. Each county would receive back either a laser printed hard copy or a disk holding all the interests listed for that county, they would then be free to publish the results for sale. Your secretary asked the question "what would a One Name Group receive back?" and the reply was - that though they had not thought about it, we should get back a list of everyone with Metcalf/Metcalf etc interests, wherever situated. There was a very long discussion over this proposal and nothing was resolved, it is to be on the agenda for the autumn meeting.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time thank you, it was lovely to put faces to the names I had read about for so long and to begin to understand how the Federation works.

PORCH HOUSE, NORTHALLERTON

by Nina E. Benson

It seems incredible that it is almost twelve months since I promised I was going to write this article on my first visit to the Porch House but yes, it is. Although I will admit that the writing up was badly delayed, the proposed article has always been at the back of my mind then when I saw the "Oldest House in Northallerton" published in our December '91 Mecca News it served as a severe kick to get moving.

My visit to the Porch House came about because our Australian member 115, Nancy Metcalfe was staying there with her husband Ron and they invited me to join them for dinner one evening - so my job does have some perks! We had a delicious meal and it was grand to meet Nancy and Ron, we talked almost non stop all evening.

Peter & Shirley Thompson came to the Porch House nearly five years ago and their love of the old place truly does shine through, the restorations they have made have been very carefully planned and they have kept everything as near to the original as possible. I was given a guided tour of all the rooms and saw how their kitchen had a special glass ceiling panel in place so that a 15ft section of a wattle and daub facade can be displayed. There is a special feeling as you enter the bedroom where Charles 1st stayed, I can't describe it, you must go for yourselves ...but I'd like to bet he would have appreciated an en suite shower room!!

The dining room is also very unusual. It had been two rooms high; a legacy of the days when men wore steeple hats and

didn't take them off. Now, after the Thompsons have put in a lower ceiling, it drops half way down the tall, shuttered Georgian window adding a uniqueness to the room.

Then there is the tale of a secret passage going from the safe in the dining room across to the nearby church but sadly no trace can be found.

The most amazing and puzzling feature is the carved beam in the ceiling of the sitting room (one feels inclined to call it the "withdrawing room"!). Bear in mind that the house was built for/by Richard Metcalfe in the year 1584. Saywell's "Annals of Northallerton" tell us that this is confirmed by the discovery in 1844 (during alterations) of the initials and date R.M. 1584 M.M. and that this stood for Richard Metcalfe and his wife Margaret Metcalfe (she was the dau of Roger Wilson of Danby Wiske). Mrs Thompson has puzzled over these initials for hours; there is now no sign of the M and what remains is quite clear:-

R M E S 8 Δ

Please forgive my poor reproduction, I don't claim to be an artist! If anyone can shed any light on the curious reversal of the letter "R", Mrs Thompson will be delighted to hear from you.

The Porch House now offers five twin-bedded rooms all with en-suite facilities, what could be handier when visiting Northallerton CRO or the Reference Library, though watch out for King Charles 1st on the staircase!



Computer Notes

CSM

Since the last report in the December 1991 issue we (Helen, David & I) have added over 2,000 ancestors to our computer files which now contain over 8 million characters of information to give some of the detail for 27,000 individuals.

Also, as you can see perhaps, from this layout, I've personally just taken delivery of a new computer, so I'm now working on the Mecca data on an IBM PS/2.

The point of mentioning it is that I can now get all our system and the IGI 1988 data, onto my hard disk, so that access and searches are at the speed of light - or so it seems.

Queries from members are much easier to handle now because of this, but they seem to have dried up a little over the past few months, - don't forget the stamped addressed envelope. Or - bring your enquiries to the *Muster in Ripon on the 10th October!*

It would be helpful if those submitting queries and also those who send data to the Society could avoid the abbreviation B: and use instead brn, bpt, or brd so as to avoid confusion.

As data is entered, more is being sent in by members so that the large backlog of data to be entered still exists, and members with access to an IBM compatible PC and having a wish to

help, are still required - please write to me at the address on the back of this issue. I did in May write to about a dozen of those who gave details of personal computers to Nina and have as I write had some very pleasant answers but only positive answers from four. Hopefully I covered all who have IBM compatible machines, but if anyone has been missed please let me know.

As a result of a letter to the Society of Genealogists 'Computers in Genealogy' in December, I have had a visit from John Alderson to look at our system to assess its potential relevance to the Alderson Society. A David Whaley has also been interested in what we do on our computers and how we do it; as have individuals involved in the Farthing and Bardsley single name societies. It would be most useful if one or two other Societies were to pick up our system, the benefits of data exchange and cross society help would be enormous.

Back to the Lists !!

From the editor....

As well as being a computer expert and extremely hard working Chairman Charles is also noted for his wry sense of humour....it was his idea to include the "birth brief" of Harvey David Metcalfe on the next page. Any reader of Jeffrey Archer's novels will immediately recognise the character.

Quite co-incidentally I am at present reading a novel based on the British political scene in a frightening but all too believable fictional 1990's. One of the main characters in this book ('Elite' by Helen Liddell) is the newly elected Labour Prime Minister, Tony Metcall. He is portrayed as ambitious, ineffective and alcoholic, a man who has gone too far, too fast and now totally reliant on his wife. I wonder how many other Metcalfes there are in popular literature?

Synopsis

I was born in the far northeast, just below the tundra in Yorkshire, in the same year of our Lord as Arnold Palmer and today can play the violin just as sweetly as he.

The first eighteen years of my life were spent in the North Riding latterly at Richmond School, learning how to read, rite, and apply woad in the time honoured Yorkshire manner. This Richmond of course is the traditional home of the 'Sweet Lass of Richmond Hill' who was looked for but not found for at this time I met and subsequently married, a tolerant lass from County Durham.

Two years in the Royal Artillery were spent mainly in Egypt trying to avoid injury from our 3.7 guns - we did on one memorable occasion hit the aircraft that was towing a target. The pilot later expressed his biased opinion that we should have been more careful!

This life of Riley was followed by three unbearably hard years on £250 a year as a student in Durham University, residing first in Lumley Castle and then in Durham Castle - a strange experience after spending eighteen months under canvas in Egypt. I struggled in Durham to prevent a course in Physics from interfering with the serious side of life on the river, where five hours a day of application eventually produced colours, a few pots and a place in the county eight.

After being given a B.Sc. and getting married I began to earn my living with Mullards in Mitcham. Mullards I subsequently left for De Havilland Propellers and Blue Streak; and at this

time - over a period of two years - we were, through the good offices of the National Health, presented first with a boy, Steven, and then a girl, Josephine. This was in 1958/9 so both are expecting to become self supporting at any moment - having been away from home for some ten years.

Over 30 years ago I joined IBM in the Hursley Development Laboratory as a programmer and was with them in various posts and locations for some 27 years. Still happily married and retired my main pastimes are the PC of course, gardening, bridge and golf, when the housework on Hayling Island allows!

C S Metcalfe.

Harvey David Mte

Born 17/5/1909 Lower East Side, N Y
as Henryh Metelski
s of Metelski baker, Warsaw, Poland
Married 1951 Arlene Hunter

Financier in 'Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less' by Jeffrey Archer. Changed name 5/1930. President of Sharpley & Son 10/1930; of Lincoln Trust Bank 5/1934. Created Prospecta Oil 1964. Swindled of \$455,000 by Jean-Pierre Lamanns 6/1974. Swindled of \$80,000 by Dr Robin Oakley 7/1974. Swindled of \$250,000 by Stephen Bradby. Lord James Clarence Spencer Briggsley misappropriated a wedding gift of \$250,000 1974. Robbed of prize orchids value \$100 by Stephen Bradby 1974. A much misunderstood gentleman and thus Hon Member of Mte Society 1992.

Issue-Rosalie Arlene Mte 1952

DENNY GIBSON: Publicity Officer and Committee Member

Became a member 4 years ago by reading a copy of MECCA NEWS left in Northallerton C.R.O. We really ought to scatter more copies around! Any members who do not make a habit of saving their MECCA NEWS, don't put it in the bin - leave it your local library, hospital or doctor's waiting room - anywhere where someone might pick it up and become interested!

I am the wife of a dairy farmer, living somewhat off the beaten track in Wensleydale. Born in October 1945 in Coverdale, I can claim to be almost 'pure dale's bred'. All my paternal ancestors, most so far traced back to the 1600's, were natives of Niddale/Coverdale and Wensleydale and my maternal grandfather's family all appear to have been equally well rooted in upper Teesdale. My maternal grand-mother did introduce a bit of 'foreign blood', in that she was a native of the Darlington area and all her forebears came from that district and slightly further north into Co. Durham. I have come to the conclusion that I come from stock not inclined to venture from their native patch - perhaps the reason I have only moved 15 miles from my birthplace!

My first visit to a Records Office was in 1971 and I've been dabbling in genealogy ever since, although my research was very much curtailed whilst my daughter and son were small. In addition to being Publicity Officer / Minutes Recorder for the Metcalfe Society, I am also a committee member of the Cleveland, N. Yks & S. Durham Family History Society, whose minutes I also record and help organise their Northallerton branch meetings. I have also become a non-active member of the recently formed Ripon and Harrogate Family History Group.

My Metcalfe link is rather remote! One of my gr x3 grandmothers, on my father's side, was a Mary Metcalfe, who married Thomas Siddall, of Preston in the parish of Wensley, on the 20th June, 1779 at Wensley. They were married by licence and the witnesses were Elizabeth Whaley and Thomas Metcalfe & Samuel Peacock. Thomas Siddall was born in 1747, but I do not know Mary's age when they were married or her age at death. She may have been the daughter of a Francis Metcalfe of Leyburn, but I need definite proof. If Thomas and Mary called their eldest sons and daughters after their grandparents, as so many families did at that time, it would suggest that Mary's parents could have been a Thomas & Jane Metcalfe. There were so many Mary Metcalfes, in that vicinity, who could have been in the right age group, it is difficult to verify which one is 'my' Mary.

My husband is a joint member as one of his gr. gr. grandmothers was ISABELLA METCALFE, born at Bowes 25th Sept. 1811, who married a JOHN TIPLADY. Isabella's parents were ROBERT METCALF, native of Reeth and his wife Ann Alderson, native of Muker. Going back another generation, Robert Metcalfe's parents were Thomas and Annas (née Binks), who lived in Bowes parish for several years and are the forebears of several other members of the Metcalfe Society.

More from the Richmond Quarter Sessions.

20th January 1820 the following were registered as Dissenting Preachers:

James Metcalfe, Leonard Metcalfe

No doubt early Wesleyan and non-conformist preachers, unfortunately no indication is given as to residence, presumably all in the Richmond area.....Denny Gibson

A DELVE IN THE DALES

PART THREE BY DENNY GIBSON

It was in 1812 that Wesley's followers split into "Wesleyans" and "Primitive Methodists". The two had similar ideals but the P.M.s were more radical in pressing for social reform and consisted more of the 'labouring classes', whereas many Wesleyans were tradesmen, farmers and small landowners. Between them, the two groups had chapels not only at Gunnerside but also at Low Row, Arkle Town (in Arkengarthdale), Reeth, Seal Houses, Hurst, Healaugh, Hudswell, Langthwaite, Whaw, Keld, Marrick, Muker, Skelton-near-Marske, Calvert Houses, Low Whita, Ellerton and Grinton. At this time, in the more sparsely-populated region of the upper Dale, some more obscure break-away sects gained a 'toehold' from time to time. A small building at Ravenseat (once a hamlet of 11 families) was a chapel of the Inghamite sect - followers of Benjamin Ingham, once a disciple of Wesley who left the latter's influence to form his own sect. In 1797, a similar dissenter was Alexander Kilham of Leeds, and at one time a Kilhamite Chapel was commenced at the hamlet of Eskeleth in Arkengarthdale. It was never completed.

Yet another was Joseph Barker of Newcastle who founded a sect known initially as Barkerites, later known as Christian Brethren. A group of his followers started meetings in Arkengarthdale and did open a chapel at Eskeleth where there were approximately 16 worshippers in 1851. However, by 1865 their chapel was disused.

In spite of these groups of 'dissenters', a

very ecumenical atmosphere prevailed in the Dale. No doubt, if the established Church only tolerated them initially, they soon gained acceptance. Their beliefs and manner of worship were so similar that many families attended both Church and Chapel regularly.

Perhaps, in a different mould were the comparatively small numbers of Roman Catholics. In the early days, there were a few known Roman Catholic recusant families, e.g., FRANKLAND, MOLLINEUX, SAYERS, KEARTONS, BARNINGHAMS (of Arkengarthdale), and the BECKWITHs. By the 1770's, there were a few isolated enclaves of Roman Catholics but their numbers were negligible. However, a small Catholic chapel was maintained at Clints Hall, near Marske, until 1829. The Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829 did help their cause somewhat. In 1855, the Duchess of Leeds, an American Roman Catholic by birth, whose husband held the office of 'Crown Ranger' in Swaledale, built a small Roman Catholic Church at Thistlebought, near Gunnerside. This church was attended by some of the KEARTONS, one of the very few old families of the Dale to adhere to the 'old faith' (Catholicism). The Duchess also instigated a Catholic school in the local market town of Richmond.

I have dealt at some length with the various religious groups associated with the Dale as anyone tracing their ancestry may well have the only too familiar problem of a missing baptism, and it could be worth trying to track

down the few surviving non-conformist registers. I note that the Public Records Office has the following non-parochial registers:-

GUNNERSIDE, Wesleyan includes baptism 1802 to 1837 and burials 1812 to 1837.

LOW ROW, Wesleyan includes baptism 1800 to 1837 and burials 1828 to 1837.

REETH, Independent - baptisms 1787 to 1837.

These are obviously only a few of the many records which must have existed and there could well be others still in existence, but of which I am unaware.

Swaledale continued as a 'hot bed' of non-conformity as the population began to decline, and many emigrants became the founders of Methodist and Congregational chapels, not only in the new industrial towns of northern England, but world-wide, particularly in mid-west America. This faith, based very much on 'brotherhood' must have helped enormously during the bleak years of the 19th century when poverty and distress became widespread. The fact that Methodist leaders put much emphasis on education and encouraged members to educate their families and to play an active part in local affairs, probably enabled many of those who left to better themselves considerably in their new environments.

There is so much more history attached to this lovely valley of ancient, picturesque hamlets and villages. I have merely tried to outline how the lives of the people here evolved: the main factors affecting them and perhaps given some indication of 'avenues' of further research.

People with Swaledale roots are fortunate in that North Yorkshire County Records Office

in Northallerton has produced what is known as a Consolidated Index. It is a computerised, alphabetical list of every baptism, marriage and burial recorded in the parochial registers of Arkengarthdale, Grinton, Marske, Marrick and Muker. Virtually all the information appearing in the original registers is recorded in this index. It is a marvellous aid for any family historian, but there is one major draw-back - the Archivist does not allow any pages of this index to be photo-copied. Therefore researchers must visit Northallerton C.R.O. themselves and record by hand all the entries which are of interest to them. A mammoth task, if you want all the entries for a prolific family! For instance, the index contains over fifty pages for the name METCALFE and there are approximately 60 entries per page.

Almost all the M.I.s in the burial grounds of the Dale have been recorded by Mrs. Nicholson, Hallgarth Cottage, Healaugh, Swaledale. She has given Northallerton C.R.O. details of names and ages on each stone, but has more precise details on her own card index.

Most of the 1841 Census is available in transcript form at the above Record office, which also has the 1851 Census on microfilm. Both these Censuses, plus the ones for 1861, 1871 and 1881 are on microfilm in Northallerton Reference Library and Richmond Library. Both these libraries also have the 1988 I.G.I. which includes information as follows:-

Arkengarthdale 1754 - 1875, Downholme 1813 - 1848, Grinton 1640 - 1876, Hudswell 1647 - 1847, Marrick 1680 - 1846, Marske 1678 - 1848 and Muker 1638 - 1848.

There are numerous local history books about the area, often mentioning families as well as places and events. One publication is an absolute 'must' for any Swaledale

researcher - A HISTORY OF RICHMOND AND SWALEDALE by Messrs. Fieldhouse and Jennings, published by Phillimore in 1978, ISBN 0 85033 297 8. It is still available in bookshops priced £14.95p. Many of the facts in this article have been gleaned from this most comprehensive and readable publication. The well-known Dales' authoress, Marie Hartley, produced with Ella Pontefract "SWALEDALE" in 1934, reprinted in 1988, ISBN 1 870071 19 0. Marie Hartley also refers much to Swaledale in her book YORKSHIRE HERITAGE published in 1950. Further references to the area are made by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby in their LIFE AND TRADITIONS IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES published by Dent in 1968, ISBN 460 03807 9 and A DALES HERITAGE published by Dalesman in 1982, ISBN 0 85206 705 4. Also, DALES MEMORIES published by Dalesman in 1986 ISBN 0855206 888 9. In this book, they include a chapter on emigrants to the Iowa/Wisconsin/Illinois areas, and emigration to that part of the U.S.A. is also the topic of THE CHARACTER OF THE COUNTRY. This is based on the diaries kept by a Swaledale man in 1876-1877 whilst visiting Dales families in that part of America before returning to the Dale to advise his neighbours on their prospects, should they also decide to emigrate. The diaries have been edited by Loren N. Horten and published by the Iowa State Historical Department, 402 Iowa Avenue, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.

Yet another book dealing solely with this same mass migration of Dales folk is DALESMEN OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, by David Morris, ISBN 1 85072 062 2 published 1989. Mrs. M. Batty, whose husband was the Methodist Minister at Reeth, has written some extremely informative and well-researched publications including GUNNERSIDE CHAPEL AND GUNNERSIDE FOLK published in 1967, and BYGONE REETH. Edmund Cooper, another noted

local historian, produced MUKER, STORY OF A YORKSHIRE PARISH and MEN OF SWALEDALE published by Clapham in 1948 and 1960 respectively.

LEAD MINING IN SWALEDALE, edited by Brian Lee from a manuscript by Edward R. Fawcett, is a fascinating little book. Dr. Arthur Raistrick has written several books on lead mining in the northern dales and deals at length with the mines of Swaledale. One of his local history publications, OLD YORKSHIRE DALES published by David and Charles in 1967 contains much Swaledale information. There are many other books referring to this particular patch, but among the most recent is a series called THE SPIRIT SPEAKS LOUD, produced by Sandra Wood. This is a study of the Dales in reproduced old photographs, predominantly of families and events. The first two of the series are already on bookshop shelves, and more are planned. This Dale has also been the setting for several fictional works, perhaps the best known is Thomas Armstrong's ADAM BRUNSKILL. Armstrong lived in the vicinity for a time and used Swaledale for this story of a lead mining community, even using local surnames for some of his fictional characters.

An excellent local bookshop which will supply by mail order is Castle Hill Books, Castle Hill, Richmond, Yorkshire. Please enclose a s.a.e. or 2 IRCs if making enquiries.

If you have a 'root' in this Dale, I hope there is something here that will have helped and enlightened you. If you live a long way from this 'native spot', the best treat you could give yourself is a visit to the Dale, savour the atmosphere and realise what life was probably like decades ago in the days of your ancestors.

Whilst on the subject of Swaledale, may I

point out that the excellent little folk museum in the village of Reeth has a well-documented and researched 'tree' of the BUXTON family, natives of the Dale for several generations. The museum is owned and run by Mr. D. Law who would be interested in displaying further Swaledale 'pedigrees', providing they do not take up too much space and are presented in a readable form. His address is:- Mr. D. Law, Cambridge House, Reeth, RICHMOND, North Yorkshire.

D. Gibson

SMITH METCALFE

The article I have written previously, makes it clear that the name Smith Metcalfe crops up very frequently in my branch of the Metcalfes who originate in Felbeck near Pately Bridge. During my research I have met Miss Murial Swires, grand-daughter of Smith Metcalfe of Cragg Hall (and previously of Springfield Farm, Felbeck) and discovered that her mother and my grandmother were great friends. Apparently they used to gossip about a family tradition that the name Smith was given because three Metcalfe brothers married three Smith sisters. I now know that this is true of the two Metcalfe brothers Thomas and Joseph, but the I.G. Index gives no clue as to the identity of the other brother. It does however give the name of a Smith Metcalfe before 1830, so is there another explanation? I would be particularly interested in finding out whether there are any other branches of the Metcalfes which include Smith as a recurring Christian name.

C. Suffleet, Mem No. 513

ARE YOU NAMED AFTER YOUR UNCLE?

or THE USE OF RECURRING CHRISTIAN NAMES IN TRACING ANCESTORS.

Our first efforts in tracing my family history were concentrated on my mother's family. This was a comparatively easy task since their names were very distinctive. My grandfather was Larrett Thompson and my grandmother Sarah Elizabeth Orange. Research into Larrett Thompson revealed that his unusual Christian name was shared with his father's brother and we presume that he was named after him. Similarly, Larrett's brother, Israel, was also named after another uncle. This gave us an insight into family traditions that proved very useful.

Eventually we turned our attentions to the Metcalfes, my father's family, expecting this too to be very straightforward, since "Grandma Metcalfe" (née Mary Ellen Stores) was fascinated by Metcalfe history and had steeped herself in "Romantic Richmonds-hire" and tales of Nappa Hall. She had obviously tried to trace Grandad's family and, to this end, obtained some marriage and death certificates. However only one marriage certificate proved to be relevant, and information on this set us looking for a George Metcalfe, born in 1837/38 to a Thomas Metcalfe, birthplace unknown but almost certainly in Yorkshire (at that point we thought it had to be a Metcalfe and discounted those without an 'e'). Searching through the St. Catherine's birth register for 1837/38 soon revealed the extent of the problem - there were far too many George Metcalfe's - we needed a birthplace. A painstaking search of the Leeds 1871 Census eventually traced him and his family but, frustratingly, he gave his birthplace to be the same as his wife's (which we knew not to

be true) and, in the 1881 Leeds Census, he was not with his family - foiled again!

Then suddenly my husband surmised that, since my grandfather's brother was named Smith Metcalfe, it was possible that he was named after an uncle and, if we could find where he was born, our problem was solved. Search of the I.G. Index in the 1835-45 era revealed only two Smith Metcalfes, one born to a Joseph and Ellen in Bishopside near Pately Bridge, the other to a Thomas and Elizabeth in Sawley, near Ripon (about 5 miles away). This immediately rang bells since, at that time, I believed that my great uncle Smith Metcalfe had lived at Cragg Hall, Wilsill (in an area previously known as Bishopside). At that point we had the good fortune to find a most helpful Registrar at the Harrogate Registry Office who found us the birth certificates of two George Metcalfes, one born to Joseph and Ellen in Bishopside and the other born to a Thomas and Elizabeth in Sawley, Ripon! Since the latter's birth date was 1837 we concluded that this was my great-grandfather, even though his name was 'Metcalf' (our second lesson in family history). It seemed fairly obvious that Thomas and Joseph were related, a supposition confirmed by the I.G. Index. Both were baptised as sons of Peter Metcalf, and both were married in Ripon Cathedral, Thomas to Elizabeth Smith, Joseph to Ellen Smith. (We have not been able to confirm that Elizabeth and Ellen were sisters).

This January, I went to the Public Record Office and finally found the confirmation I wanted in the 1891 Leeds Census.

Myrtle Square, Meanwood.

George Metcalfe Age 56 Labourer

Born Sawley, Nr Ripon

Since then we have discovered that Smith Metcalfe of Cragg Hall was not my great uncle but, in fact, his cousin, grandson of Joseph and Ellen, but, how that came to light is another story.

Christine Suffleet, mem no 513

(Ed. Thank you, Christine, for an enjoyable article. We often talk in committee meetings about including articles in the Mecca News giving 'hints'. Your article does this in a very effective and entertaining way.)

Dear Mr. Metcalfe,

The arrival of the latest 'Mecca News' has stirred me into action on seeing the blank entry against my name regarding new members. I don't really know too much about us and it is only in quite recent years that I have taken any great interest in such matters. All I do know really, is family gossip, so I have collated this as best I can so there is some sort of written record. My health is not all I could wish it were so I feel it important to get a record down somewhere, such as it is. I don't travel very well now so I don't know if I shall ever get to one of the Musters - what a good idea. I congratulate all who are actively participating in organising the society, it's very well done and most important as part of our heritage. Please amend or condense these notes as you feel fit and pass them on to anyone appropriate. Among the family papers is a search that was carried out by the College of Arms concerning our particular Arms. I thought you might like to have a copy for someone's use. The correspondence is not complete, but I gather that we were traced to the particular Coat of Arms of which I am sending you a copy.

Yours sincerely

Leo Metcalfe

FROM LEO METCALFE

mem no 502

My grandfather was a LEONARD METCALFE who was in the development of the Stockton and Tees Railway at the end of the last century. As a railway engineer from the Darlington area, family legend has it that he was a descendant of former railway engineers going back to George Stephenson's time. Apart from his son Leonard (my father), there was an older brother Raymond, (born about 1885), and a younger brother John (born about 1895). My father Leonard (born 1892), was trained as a locomotive engineer in the various specialist colleges of the area at the time. However this was the time of the Pioneering of Aviation and the advent of the aeroplane. My father caught the 'aeroplane bug' and managed to get a job with Alliot Verdon Roe at Hamble in Hampshire in 1912 with the man who founded AVRO aviation, and built one of the very first aeroplanes in the world. My father was then about 20 years old, World War I was not far away and when it broke out my father joined the design staff of Thomas Sopwith at his factory at Brooklands, Surrey. Among various projects he worked on was the first aeroplane for the Royal Navy which began his connection with naval aviation. There was experimental work on the first aeroplane to be catapulted from a ship, and the first one to be flown off the first aircraft carrier.

As a young man in First World War Portsmouth, he met and married in 1917 the daughter of a naval officer, Mabel Emily Roberts. Subsequently they had a daughter Beulah Daphne, a second daughter Patricia

Rosemary, and then myself, the present Leonard. All the Leonards have been known as 'Leo' as a family custom.

After World War I my father joined the Hawker Aircraft Company and then, to continue his interest in naval aviation, he moved back to Yorkshire (about 1920) to join the Blackburn Aircraft Company at Brough on the River Humber. I was born there and as a boy over the next 10 years grew up with the sight and sounds of the biplane aeroplanes of the day developed for the fleet and use at sea, very noisy and barely able to reach 100mph. I had my first flight with my father in a Blackburn aeroplane. Invited to help design a flying-boat with the Saunders-Roe Aircraft Company, he moved back to Portsmouth in 1935, then he decided to start his own aircraft company in the Midlands. He founded the Warwick Aviation Company prior to the Second World War, and at its peak in wartime employed 3000 people building a variety of parts and components for the aircraft industry. After World War II he retired to his home near Portsmouth where he continued a variety of engineering experiments into various of his inventions. He died in 1960. His widow, Mabel Emily Metcalfe, died in 1992 aged 93.

I joined the army in World War II and stayed on after the war as a regular officer. In 1947 I married Marion Joan Bailey of Wimborne, Dorset and have two daughters Maxine Deana and Penelope Jane. I was later invalided out of the army as a result of

wounds and followed a career in commerce until I retired a few years ago. Since then I have occupied myself writing and in recent years had a novel about the business world published called 'Top Flyte'. It is available through public libraries.

When I was a small boy my grandfather went to a great deal of trouble to tell me certain stories of the Metcalfe 'Clan'. This would be about 1930, shortly before he died. Whether they are folk tales or legend I don't know, but I record here what I remember for the record as follows:-

1. On Darlington Railway Station he pointed at a model of an ancient steam locomotive and said, "Remember your ancestors helped to build that."

2. "Remember," he said, "that you are descended from the White Horsemen of Nappa. In the Civil War King Charles sent a message to the head of the clan for as many horsemen as possible to join Prince Rupert's Cavalry. Subsequently, 120 horsemen went to the battle of Marston Moor where 20 were killed. The remainder became known as the 'Mecca Hundred' and they later joined King Charles at Oxford."

3. It is said that the 'Mecca Hundred' were all large men who rode white horses. When the country is in danger it is said that the ghosts of the 'Hundred Horse' are seen riding across the wolds on their white horses with their cloaks billowing behind them.

4. I was told, "You have Scots ancestry through the family line and are technically entitled to wear a tartan - but be very careful about doing so."

5. There was a story that when Charles II returned to the throne, as a gesture of appreciation he arranged for a Metcalfe son

to marry one of his close relatives to establish a 'Royal' connection.

My daughter Maxine has not married and is technically the last Metcalfe of my specific line. My other daughter Penelope Jane has married a Wheatley. They have christened their son, my grandson, Richard Leroy Metcalfe Wheatley.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The family home that my father, Leonard, established in the Portsmouth area was at WYMERING MANOR, COSHAM, HAMPSHIRE. It is on the southern slope of Portsdown Hill that overlooks the city of Portsmouth. When my father died we sold the house to the Portsmouth Corporation who leased it to the Youth Hostel Association. It is now the hostel that serves the Portsmouth area.

My father bought the house just before World War II from the executors of Thomas Knowliss Parr. He had been related to the Fleetwood family of Lancashire. One of the daughters of that family in 1826 was married into that family, i.e. the daughter of Sir Theophilus Metcalfe (Bart) and niece of Charles, Lord Metcalfe, the first Governor General of Canada. This Metcalfe daughter, Eliza Debonnaire, was the great, great aunt of Thomas Parr from whom my father purchased the house, and she died in this house in 1900. In conjunction with the YHA and other local historical interests, I have been researching recently into the one thousand year history of this old house. It has been established that we Metcalfes were the last private residents of the house, and we now have the name of all residents there for the time back to the Domesday Book. An incredible coincidence that the last but one owner was connected, by marriage, also to the Metcalfe clan.

This may be of interest to individuals who participate in YHA activities and might want to stay somewhere with a Metcalfe connection when in the Portsmouth area.

REPORT ON RESEARCH CARRIED OUT IN THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE COLLEGE OF ARMS TO SEE WHAT ARMS AND PEDIGREES ARE REGISTERED FOR FAMILIES OF METCALFE

At the Heralds' Visitations of Yorkshire in 1530 and 1563, the following Arms were recorded for Sir JAMES METCALFE (of Nappa) - Argent three calves passant sable. The same Arms, with a crescent for difference, were recorded for JOHN METCALFE at the Visitation of the North in 1530. At the Visitation of Yorkshire in 1584/85, a seven generation pedigree of the family of Sir JAMES METCALFE, showing principally the descent of the senior line of Berepark, Bidall, and Bellerby, was recorded, together with the Arms, undifferenced, and one quartering. In 1581, MATHEW METCALF of Bedall (or Bidall) had his Arms and two quarterings confirmed, and the following Crest granted - A hound sejant proper posing the forefoot on an escutcheon or. At the Visitation of Essex in 1664, a three generation pedigree of METCALFE of Bellarby (or Bellerby), co. York, and of Chelmsford, co. Essex, was recorded, together with the usual Arms, with a crescent for difference.

At the Visitation of Yorkshire in 1612, a 6 generation pedigree of METCALFE of Otterington and of Fairholme, co. York was recorded, without Arms - no connection being shown with the above family. At the Visitation of Lincolnshire in 1634, a 4 generation pedigree of METCALFE of Revesby,

co. Lincoln, continuing a branch of METCALFE of Otterington, was recorded, with the following Arms - Argent three calves passant sable, with a crescent for difference.

Also at the Visitation of Yorkshire in 1612 was recorded an 8 generation pedigree of METCALFE continuing a branch of the 1584/85 pedigree, but without Arms. At the 1666 Visitation of the same county were recorded - an 8 generation pedigree of the Nappa branch of the same family, with the usual Arms (undifferenced) and four quarterings; a 5 generation pedigree of METCALFE of North Allerton, co. York (another branch of the same family), with the same Arms, a canton gules for difference; and a 5 generation pedigree repeating part of the Northallerton pedigree and showing the descent of another junior branch, of Thornborough, co. York, with the same Arms, a canton vert for difference.

In 1810, a 6 generation pedigree of METCALFE of North Allerton, Sand Hutton, Scarborough, Rudstone, Kirkby Overblows, Little Busby Hall and York, all co. York; Narborough, co. Leicester; of Kirkbride, co. Cumberland; of Ampart, co. Southampton; of Lincoln's Inn, co. Middlesex; and of Manchester and Chichester were recorded. This continues a branch of METCALFE of North Allerton and shows a connection with the MARWOOD family. Rev. GEORGE METCALFE of Little Busby, co. York was granted in 1809 a Royal Licence to change his surname and Arms to those of MARWOOD, and was granted the Arms of MARWOOD. Also continuing a branch of METCALFE of North Allerton is an 11 generation pedigree recorded in 1869 of METCALFE of Kilburne, North Allerton, Stokesby and Firby, co. York; of Gainsborough, co. Lincoln; of West Ham, Walthamstow and Epping, co. Essex; of Hawstead, co. Suffolk; of Birghton, co.

Sussex; of Berkley Square, Stepney, and Bromley St. Leonard, co. Middlesex; and of London.

In 1555 the following Armorial Bearings were granted to THOMAS METCALFE of London:-ARMS - Argent on a fesse vert between three calves sable langued gules a leopard's face and 2 annulets or.

CREST - On a torse argent and azure a demi-sea-calf proper (?) purled and finned or.

A three generation pedigree of his family was recorded at the Visitation of London in 1568. He impaled the Arms of his wife's family COCKE with his own.

A funeral certificate dated 1581 is recorded of NICHOLAS METCALFE, one of six clerks of the High Court of Chancery.

A pedigree, registered in 1771, of BAYLY and PAGET, Baron Paget of Beaudesert, shows that MARY daughter of Sir NICHOLAS BAYLY married in 1766 STEPHEN METCALFE of Sereby, near Brigg, co. Lincoln, and had issue.

In 1791, JOHN METCALFE of Hillbeck Hall, Brough, co. Westmoreland was granted a Royal Licence to change his surname and Arms to those of CARLETON, and was granted the Arms of CARLETON.

In 1795, HENRY METCALFE of the Chancery Office, London, was granted a Royal Licence to change his surname and Arms to those of BARTON, and was granted the Arms of BARTON.

A pedigree, registered in 1797, of the MORE family includes three generations of METCALFE of Glamford Brigg, co. Lincoln, showing the family's descent from Sir THOMAS MORE. THOMAS PETER METCALFE

was granted a Royal Licence in the same year to change his surname and Arms to those of MORE, and was granted the Arms of MORE.

In 1802, a four generation pedigree of METCALFE of Chilton, co. Berks, was registered. Major THOMAS THEOPHILUS METCALFE of Chilton, M.P. for Abingdon (who was created a Baronet) was granted the following Armorial Bearings in the same year:-ARMS - Argent on a fesse wavy gules between three calves 2 & 1 sable a sword fesseways the point to the sinister proper, pomel and hit or.

CREST - A talbot sejant sable the dexter paw supporting an escutcheon or charges with a hand issuant from clouds on the sinister and holding a pen all proper.

In 1838, the following Supporters were granted to his son, Sir CHARLES THEOPHILUS METCALFE Bart. G.C.B. (later Baron Metcalfe):-On the DEXTER - A Moonshee of Bengal habited proper. On the SINISTER - A Soldier of the Bengal Native Infantry equipped and armed also proper.

In 1850, this grant of Supporters was extended to subsequent holders of the Baronetcy on the petition of Baron Metcalfe's brother and heir, Sir THOMAS THEOPHILUS METCALFE, who was also granted in 1853 the arms of DEBONNAIRE (his mother's family) as a quartering. In 1854, a three generation pedigree was recorded bringing up to date the 1802 pedigree.

A pedigree of HILLARY, registered in 1807 shows that WILLIAM HILLARY (born 1832) married ANNE daughter of TRINIAN or NINIAN METCALFE of Birkkrigg, Aysgarth, co. York, and had issue.

In 1810 the following Armorial Bearings

were granted to JOHN METCALFE of Glamford Briggs, co. Lincoln, Doctor of Physic (not shown on the MORE pedigree registered in 1797):-ARMS - Argent a fesse engrailed pean with plain cotises gules between three calves passant of the second.

CREST - A talbot sejant pean his dexter paw supporting an escutcheon gules charges with a serpent erect or.

In 1853, JONATHON WALKER METCALFE was granted a Royal Licence to change his surname and Arms to those of WALKER but did not subsequently petition for a Grant of Arms of WALKER.

In 1874, HENRY METCALFE AMES of Linden, Long Horsley, co. Northumberland, D.I., was granted quarterly Arms. His mother was daughter and sole heir of HENRY METCALFE of Murton House Tynemouth, co. Northumberland, and the METCALFE quartering granted was as follows:- Per fesse or and sable in chief 2 calves statant and in base a dove volant counterchanged.

In 1875, LEONARD CHAMBERS METCALFE of Maryport, co. Cumberland was granted a Royal Licence to change his name to COLLINS.

In 1919, a nine generation pedigree was registered of METCALFE of Hawes, Chapel Le Dale and Bentham, co. York; of Ingleton, Lancaster and Farleton, Hornby, co. pal. Lancaster. In the following year, Rev. THOMAS METCALFE, Vicar of Mytholmroyd, co. York was granted the following Armorial Bearings:-ARMS - Argent three calves statant sable on a chief of the last a rose of the first barbed and seeded proper.

CREST - A satyr affrontée holding in the dexter hand a club over the shoulder on the sinister the stump of a tree all proper.

A pedigree of WYATT, registered in 1931, shows that NELLIE MONA MARGARET (born 1877) daughter of Captain LOUIS WYATT (1841-1926) married in 1911 CHARLES CAMPBELL METCALFE of the Colonial Service, and had issue.

A pedigree of McCALL, RITCHIE, WINN AND METCALFE, also registered in 1931, includes three generations of METCALFE of Calvert House, Grinton, co. York.

A pedigree of NORTON, registered in 1936, shows that DRUCILLA (born 1894) daughter of Rev. FRANCIS COLLINS NORTON (1848-1921) married in 1920 BRUCE METCALFE of Woodchester, co. Gloucester, O.B.E., Commander R.N. (born 1882) and had issue.

There is also record of a recent change of name from CORNER to METCALFE.

(Ed. I have tried to copy faithfully the text of Leo Metcalfe's researches. However, I have no knowledge of heraldry, I am ashamed to say, and hope that there are no mistakes here. Thank you, Leo, for a very different article.)

Leonard Mt M107
Born c1826 Lodge Green,
Gunnarside

1881 unmar 54 farmer 17 acres
living Lodge Green with Ruth
Smithson unmar 58 housekeeper &
domestic servant born Satron.

CSM

The May edition of the Family Tree Magazine published an edited write-up on our Society which was submitted by Denny Gibson. This has resulted in two new members with two more (almost) certain to join. The overall response has been only moderate - perhaps 10 letters. The one phone call was notable - from landlord Mr Blackburn of the Metcalfe Arms pub in Hawstead near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. He reported on their church and churchyard being full of Metcalfes and that Philip Metcalfe built the local Almshouse. Thanks to him John Metcalfe a direct descendant of the Hawstead line will be joining our ranks shortly. If anyone wishes to visit this area Mr Blackburn runs a small caravan site and can be contacted on 0284-386321.

NEB

Richard Mte M119 M255
1841 coalminer, Hart Lakes, Keld

"a ruined cottage -Hartlakes- a miner once lived who worked at Tan Hill; he used to ride to his work in a donkey cart, and bring it back at night full of coal which he sold on the way. Now the cottage is a ruin, its floors falling in and its garden thick with nettles.

Farm workers have sheltered in it while hay-making and have written on its walls records of the weather and the state of the harvest for many years. Travellers have come back to it, some of them descendants - and have written who and where they live." 1934 Swaledale - Ella Pontefract.

CSM

FFHS Publications

As has been mentioned elsewhere in this edition the Society is now a member of the Federation of Family History Societies. As such we are eligible to sell their publications to our members. There are financial benefits to the Society if members purchase these through us rather than going direct to FFHS.

Further details will appear in the next edition of the News along with a complete list of publications available. I also intend to publish reviews of some of the more interesting of the booklets which can be borrowed from our own Society library. The first of these reviews follows:

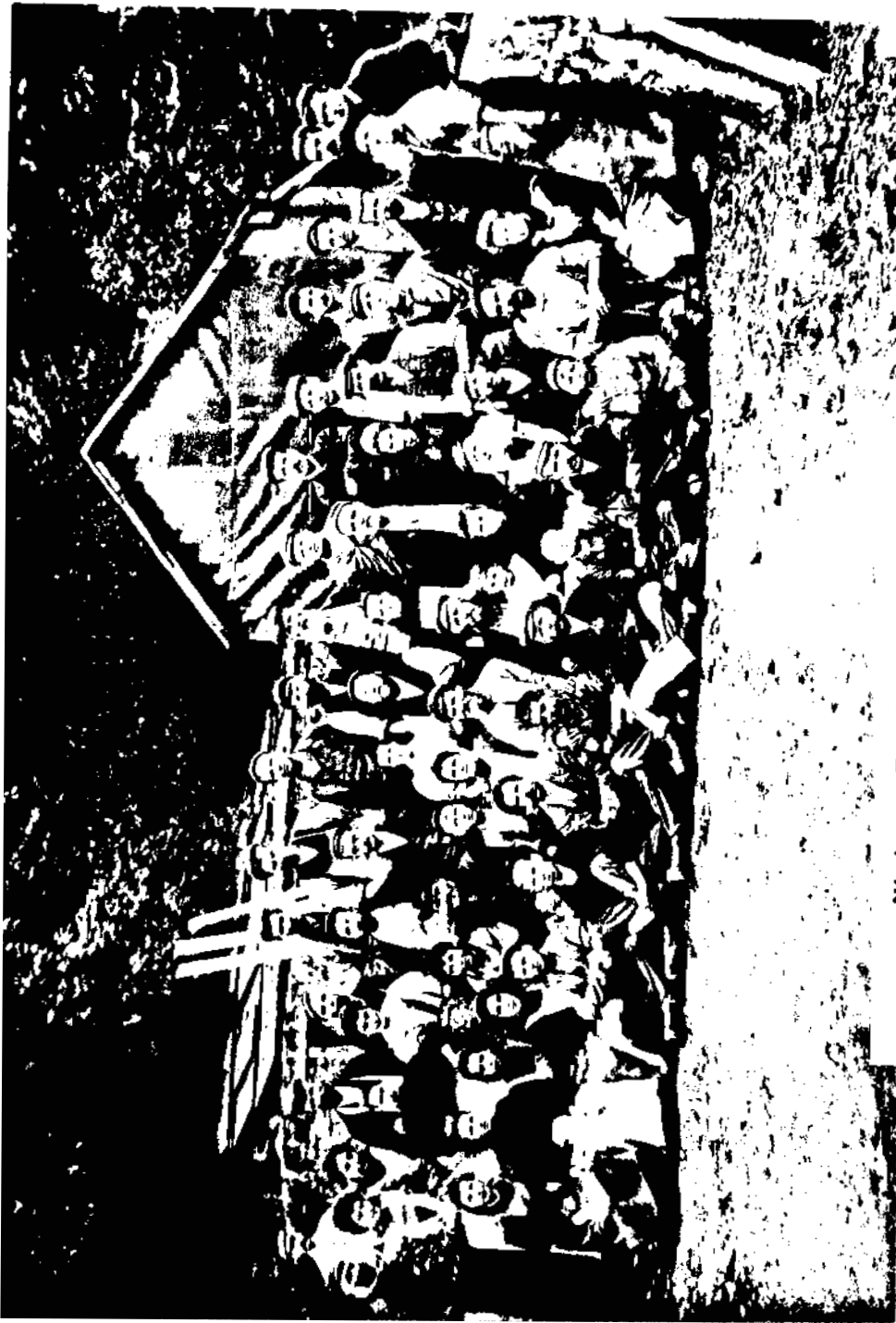
Dating Old Photographs

by Robert Pols price £4.40 (UK)

As I have just published a collection of old photographs of my home town of Mirfield this booklet was of particular interest to me. (That's not a free advert by the way as the book is already out of print!)

Many of us first come to an interest in family history through glancing at old photographs and so it is particularly useful to have a guide as to how to put an approximate date on them.

The booklet is written in an easily readable style and contains chapters on the history of photography, identifying early photographs, dating photographs and copying photographs. There is also a particularly useful summary entitled 'Photographs and Dating Charts' which provides an easy to use guide to using such clues as women's fashion and the shape of card used to help with dating.Altogether an interesting and useful addition to our Society library and one well worth buying for yourself. Stuart Metcalfe



Workers at Farfield Mill about 1900

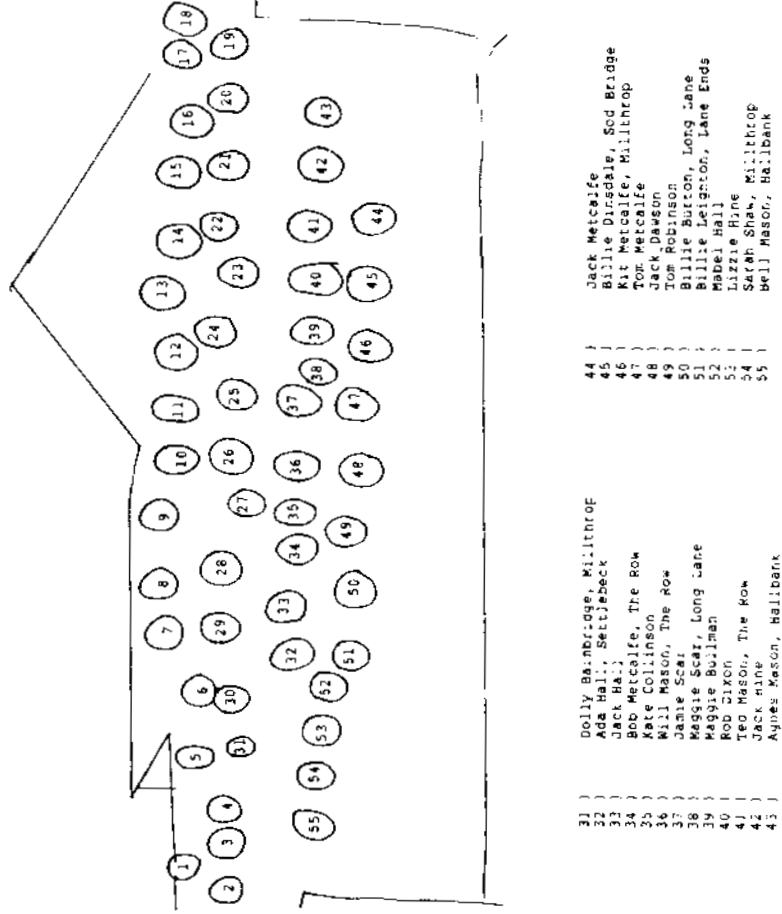
from The Sedbergh Historian Spring 1991

WORKERS AT FARFIELD MILL, ABOUT 1900

From a Photograph Belonging to Mr P. Stainton

Farfield, a Woollen Mill in Frostron was one of the two largest Mills at Sedbergh. We are grateful to Mr Pearson Stainton for allowing us to reproduce this excellent photograph of some, but not all the workforce there at about the turn of the century.

- 1 1 Mr Edward Dover, (Proprietor) Farfield House
- 2 2 Joseph Hall
- 3 3 Miss Briggs, Milnthrop
- 4 4 Ada Hall
- 5 5 James Mason, Moss Cottage
- 6 6 John Bullman
- 7 7 George Mason
- 8 8 Harry Wilson, Sod Bridge
- 9 9 Jimmy Wilson, The Row
- 10 10 Jimmy Wallace, The Row
- 11 11 Will Scar, Long Lane
- 12 12 Jim Wallace, The Row
- 13 13 Jonnie Wilson, Moss Cottage
- 14 14 Alex Wallace, The Row
- 15 15 Sam Bainbridge, Milnthrop
- 16 16 Jenn E. Sedgies
- 17 17 Tent Garnett, Salt Pie
- 18 18 Willie Miller, The Row
- 19 19 Jimmy Metcalfe, The Row
- 20 20 George Hall, Finkle Street
- 21 21 Nellie Bainbridge
- 22 22 Margaret J. Metcalfe
- 23 23 Jan Crawford, Main Street
- 24 24 Agnes Garnett, Milnthrop
- 25 25 Jack Bullman
- 26 26 Mat Scar, Long Lane
- 27 27 Annie Hall
- 28 28
- 29 29
- 30 30



- 31 31 Dolly Bainbridge, Milnthrop
- 32 32 Ada Hall, Settlebeck
- 33 33 Jack Hall
- 34 34 Bob Metcalfe, The Row
- 35 35 Kate Collinson
- 36 36 Will Mason, The Row
- 37 37 Jamie Scar
- 38 38 Maggie Scar, Long Lane
- 39 39 Maggie Bullman
- 40 40 Rob Dixon
- 41 41 Ted Mason, The Row
- 42 42 Jack nine
- 43 43 Agnes Mason, Hallbank
- 44 44 Jack Metcalfe
- 45 45 Billie Dirsdale, Sod Bridge
- 46 46 Kit Metcalfe, Milnthrop
- 47 47 Tom Metcalfe
- 48 48 Jack Dawson
- 49 49 Tom Robinson
- 50 50 Billie Burton, Long Lane
- 51 51 Billie Leighton, Lane Ends
- 52 52 Mabel Hall
- 53 53 Lizzie Hine
- 54 54 Sarah Shaw, Milnthrop
- 55 55 Bell Mason, Hallbank

Bankrupt Metcalfes?

by David Lambert

I recently bought two microfiche from the Society of Genealogists relating to bankrupts. I list below all METCALF(E) entries for the periods referred to.

When scanning the Indexes I thought it might be of interest to find out a little more about bankruptcy generally. The following does no more than skim the surface but might be of interest to researchers.

Generally, if one fell into debt and was unable to pay one would be sent to prison. However, in the mid-16th Century the Laws of Bankruptcy were introduced. These applied to "traders" who owed money above a certain level which varied from time to time. Such a person who was unable to pay his creditors could have himself declared bankrupt thereby avoiding the necessity of being sent to prison and making it possible that his creditors might receive a payment from his bankruptcy.

Having decided to declare oneself bankrupt, a Court Officer or in modern parlance "Trustee" took over that person's property and assets and used them to discharge his debts. The debts were paid to creditors in proportion to the property available and the total amount of the debts. A bankrupt was discharged then from further responsibility for the payment of outstanding debts. A "trader" was basically anyone involved in commerce or business. Small debtors were not allowed to become bankrupt and therefore would be covered by the general insolvent debtors laws. They would face the consequences of prison unless and until their debts were paid by or for them.

Where are the surviving records to be found? The answer is that the Public Record Office holds records relating to bankruptcy.

What records exist? Firstly, The London Gazette gave the official notices of proceedings in the Court of Bankruptcy. The PRO at Kew has copies of The London Gazette from 1684 but these are not indexed until 1790 when the Gazette was indexed alphabetically. It may be possible to look at copies of The London Gazette at larger reference libraries as well as at the PRO.

Court records which exist are voluminous although by no means complete from 1710 until 1821. After that date the records are complete although cases heard in the last 75 years may not be available for public consultation.

The Chancery Lane office of the PRO holds bankruptcy court papers. It has the bankruptcy order books which survive from the period 1710 up to 1877 (PRO reference B1). It also holds documents known as the Bankruptcy Commission Files although these are selective only and cover the period 1759 to 1911 (PRO reference B3). Bankruptcy Commission Docket Books also survive from 1710 to 1849 (PRO reference B4). If the court proceedings papers have survived it may be worthwhile consulting the Bankruptcy Minute Books also held at the PRO (reference B7) and which cover the period 1710 to 1859. These may give family details as well as refer to the names of creditors, business and trading links. At the very least the name of the bankrupt will be given in the various records referred to together with an address, sometimes merely the town in which he traded, and the nature of the business or trade carried on. A summary of the court proceedings may exist together with greater details of creditors.

After 1842 proceedings in the Bankruptcy Courts, which took place outside London, were kept by local District Bankruptcy Courts. After 1861 their powers were transferred to the County Courts.

I would urge anyone who is interested to read the book produced by BEVAN & DUNCAN (Fourth Edition) entitled "TRACING YOUR ANCESTORS IN THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE". Pages 225 to 228 are particularly relevant. Much of this article is based on that book. If you wish to learn more of the nature of the records held at the PRO you should read the book referred to above which is an excellent publication not only dealing with bankruptcy but with all records of interest to Family Historians held by the PRO.

I trust that whilst there may be a stigma attached to an ancestor who was "bankrupt", I have demonstrated above that it may be worthwhile seeking out amongst the PRO records details of your unfortunate ancestor's bankruptcy. The information available may prove to be sparse (what's new!) but if you are fortunate you may find papers which do give details of the bankrupt's family, his associates, friends (and enemies?) and creditors together with details of his property and business activities.

In the following lists I have indicated the periods covered. These are all METCALF(E)'S who were made bankrupt during the relevant periods. If your ancestor's name is not amongst them it is not likely that your Metcalf(e) was a bankrupt. Perhaps consolation for some!

David Lambert

DIRECTORY OF BANKRUPTS 1820-1843
METCALFE

Metcalf:

CHARLES DICKINSON	Birmingham	Grocer	Mar 25th 1834
CHRISTOPHER	Bedale, Yorks	Flax Dresser	July 10th 1821
CHRISTOPHER	Leeds late Bradford	Straw Hat Manufacturer	Apr 2nd 1833
FRANCIS	Friday Street Cheapside	Wholesale Linen Draper	Oct 12th 1824
GEORGE	Orcus Street Lisson Grove	Carpenter and Builder	June 20th 1826
JOHN DUNCOMB	Regent Street	Jeweller & Engraver	Apr 19th 1833
MICHAEL	Brunswick Place City Road	Merchant	Jan 19th 1822
ROBERT	Haddiscoe Norfolk	Miller	Sept 16th 1828

Metcalf:

GEORGE	Liverpool	Grocer & Tea Dealer	Nov 9th 1827
GEORGE	Liverpool	Grocer & Tea Dealer	Oct 19th 1830
JAMES) and THOMAS)	Cambridge	Upholsterers	July 26th 1842
JOSEPH	Thirsk, Yorks	Linen Merchant	Apr 3rd 1824
THOMAS THOMPSON	Leeds, Yorks	Surgeon and Apothecary	June 13th 1828
WILLIAM	Bristol, Somerset	Tailor & Draper	Nov 7th 1826

- NOTE:**
- (a) The surname without "e" is listed first, alphabetically by Christian name. Those with the "e" at the end are listed next
 - (b) James and Thomas Me appear to have been partners since both were declared bankrupts on the same day
 - (c) The unfortunate Grocer, George Me appears to have been made bankrupt twice - 1827 and 1830

Alphabetical list of all Bankrupts from
1st January 1774 to 30th June 1786
with the date of Certificates and Supercedures
of those who have received them

METCALFE

JOHN	late Dykeheads, Yorks	Miner Cert;	July 4th 1775 Dec 25th 1775
THOS. (-E)	Wapping Dock, Middx	Dealer	Feb 13th 1776
CORNELIUS (-E)	now or later Manchester	Fustian Manufacturer Cert:	Oct 26th 1782 Aug 1783
ELIZABETH (-E)	Wickham Market, Suffolk	Shopkeeper	Mar 15th 1783
WILLIAM	now or later Liverpool	Merchant Cert:	Dec 10th 1785 Feb 1786

NOTE:

- (a) John and William spelt their names without any "e" at the end of their surname
- (b) In references to residence the "er" is included on the word "later" i.e. it does NOT say LATE of etc. The first entry against JOHN DOES say "late" and NOT "later"

APRIL 1992 COMMITTEE MEETING

An informal report of the main business of the meeting taken from the minutes...minuting secretary Denny Gibson

There was a good attendance with only one member absent owing to being overseas - looking up some of our very far flung members.

Charges for computer printouts, to both members and non-members, were reviewed and left at their present level.

Forms for the Computer Index are to be left as they are because, so far, members are making good use of them.

It was decided to make enquiries re a member making a video of Nappa Hall and its surroundings with a view to having copies to sell at the Muster. Also the possibility of putting a Beginners Booklet together for the benefit of new members wanting to make a start in family history research. All ex-members and those who have not renewed their subscription this year to be contacted inviting them to re-join the society. Efforts to be made to photocopy a large, very informative book, written at the turn of the century, about the history of the Metcalfe family, to add to our lending library.

The Chairman reported that there are now eight million characters of information on disk and he regularly updates the backup copies, in case of accident. The whole of the IGI is now on hard disk.

The Secretary reported a slight drop in membership but nevertheless she had received 174 letters between January and April this year. Leaflets advertising the society to be distributed to strategic places where they might be noted by interested non-members.

The Treasurer circulated copies of the audited accounts to April 5th 1992 which will also be published in the Mecca News. A budget, drawn up by the Secretary, was also circulated, which showed a likely shortfall of around £250. In view of this it was suggested that subscriptions are increased from next January. This matter to be reviewed at the September meeting, when we will be better able to tell whether the budget predictions are on target. Miss J J P Metcalfe, a qualified accountant, is willing to audit our accounts. The committee gratefully accepted her offer and look forward to welcoming her at the Muster, as a member of the Society.

The Editor reported that there had been problems with the December issue of the Mecca News, most of which had been ironed out by the April edition. Unfortunately the Secretary's notes had reproduced badly in this latter edition. It was decided to laser print them in future to improve the quality. It was decided not to send the April edition of the News to members who had failed to renew their subscriptions, a reminder letter to be sent instead. Suggestions for items to be included in future editions were discussed at some length. Also the best method of collecting overseas subscriptions and keeping the cost of postage to a minimum.

The Publications/Sales/Library report pointed out that the coloured crests are our best sellers, but there is a limited demand for back numbers of the Mecca News. Two very helpful members in Canada and New Zealand are willing to act as 'agents' for the library, holding some photocopied material to circulate to other members in their respective countries. When next due for renewal, it was decided to insure the society's publications for £1,000 and the library for £100.

The publicity report pointed out that leaflets will still be distributed to Tourist Information Centres and places of interest in Wensleydale, but family history gatherings will be targeted more. Leaflets will be sent to anyone advertising genealogical events of any type in this country. Family Tree magazine are about to publish a short write-up and photographs re the last Muster and publicity for this year's event will be sought from several local papers and publications.

Forty members have now signed Deeds of Covenant for their subscriptions.

The St. Catherine's House project still continues at a steady pace, thanks to the efforts of the few willing members involved in same.

The Wills Book 4 will be considerably thicker than Book 3, which will obviously make it cost more but it should be available by the time of the Muster. There are already over one hundred amendments to the Birth Brief Booklet but we cannot afford to do a reprint for at least the next three years. Priority to be given, in the meantime, to making a supplement to the 'Index to Lists'.

The suggestion to hold a West Midlands Muster in the Spring of 1993 had drawn a response of about 30 members. It was felt that, to make it a worthwhile event, it would need to be supported by at least 50 members, therefore the matter was left in abeyance for the time being.

Our Society is now a member of the FFHS (Federation of Family History Societies), which should bring several benefits. The Secretary had attended the FFHS Conference at Hull which was much enjoyed and most worthwhile. Amongst the benefits is the fact that we can exchange journals with other member societies. It was decided that we should exchange copies with all the

North of England societies, these being the most likely to have members with a Metcalfe 'root' in their ancestry. We will receive copies of their journals which will then be available for members to borrow through our library or peruse at the Muster.

All present said they were willing to stand for re-election at the AGM. It was felt that an urgent plea should be made, yet again, for other members to help in running the Society. 26 suggestions were read out from members re activities at the Muster. Most requested speakers, a huge range of topics being put forward. It was generally felt that if, at a future Muster, we do engage a speaker, it would be most beneficial to get someone to talk about the history of the Metcalfe family or about Wensleydale and the family's involvement in the historic events of the dale.

The next committee meeting is at the same venue, Earby, on 19.9.92.

From Vera Adams

(Ed. Vera was our 'missing' committee member. As you can see she was not idling away her time in the Antipodes!)

Whilst in Australia I visited Hyde Park Barracks in Sydney, now a museum but once a convicts barracks from 1819-1848....

Lots of lists of names were displayed and among them I found one Metcalfe - Joseph Me who was born in Cambridge and tried in London on 13th May 1812. His sentence was life and he was transported to Sydney on the "Earl Spencer" on 8th October 1813. His crime is unknown.

I also visited the Shire of Metcalfe in Victoria of which I have a map and some photographs. Perhaps they will be suitable for the Society scrapbook...kind regards, Vera.

Sales 1992 All Prices Include P & P

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surface

MECCA NEWS numbers 1 to 35.....1.00p Send for a quotation

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BOOK 2. Those at CRO Preston, Lancs. 1545-1857.....1.90p 2.25p
BOOK 3. Those at Borthwick Inst: York. 1389-1857.
Also those held Cornwall & Durham.....2.50p 3.00p

INDEX TO LISTS.

Alphabetic index to all collected records.....3.00p 3.25p

SOCIETY BADGE.

A pin lapel badge, 1" dia, white & gold on blue
background, depicting a white Yorkshire rose with
two calves and the words "The Metcalfe Society"2.00p 3.00p

METCALFE COATS OF ARMS.

The Metcalfe of Nappa coat of arms consists of 6 quadrants.

Available in either black/white or colour & in two formats:-

On quality paper to fit frame 7"x5" B/W.....2.00p 2.50p
Colour.....2.50p 3.00p
On A5 folded notelet/greetings card B/W.....75p 1.00p
Colour.....1.00p 1.25p

NAPPA HALL PICTURES.

Of Nappa Hall in Wensleydale treated so that it gives
the effect of an old sepia photograph, in two formats :-

On quality paper to fit 8"x8" frame.....2.25p 2.75p
As an A5 folded card75p 1.00p

TOTAL ENCLOSED.....£

PLEASE MAKE OUT ALL PAYMENTS TO "THE METCALFE SOCIETY"

Return completed form ; together with your payment,

TO :-

MRS CAROL ARKWRIGHT, SCHOOL FARM, 1 MIDDLETON RD,
OVERTON, MORECAMBE, LANCS. LA3 3HB.

SOME USEFUL ADDRESSES AFFILIATED TO THE FEDERATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

Society of Genealogists Mr A J Camp BA, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London, EC1M 7BA.

Inst of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies Dr GM Swinfield, Northgate, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1BA.

Bradford FHS Mrs J Walsh, 8 Coates Terrace, West Bowling, Bradford, W. Yorks BD5 7AB.

Calderdale FHS Mrs I Walker, 61 Gleanings Avenue, Norton Tower, Halifax, W Yorks, HX2 0NU.

Cleveland FHS Mr A Sampson, 1 Oxbang Close, Redcar, Cleveland, TS10 4ND.

Cumbria FHS Mrs M Russell, 32 Granada Road, Denton, Manchester, M34 2LJ.

Doncaster SFH Mrs J B Grundy, 5 The Brow, Brecks, Rotherham, S. Yorkshire, S65 3HP.

Huddersfield & District FHS Mrs M Bowers, 31 Kingshead Road, Mirfield, W. Yorks, WF14 9SJ.

Lancashire FH & HS Mrs D Frankcom, 183 Bolton Street, Ramsbottom, Lancs BL0 9JD.

Manchester & Lancs FHS Mrs L Smith, Clayton House, 59 Piccadilly, Manchester, M1 2AQ.

Northumberland & Durham FHS Mr J Ashburner, 10 Melrose Close, Jarrow on Tyne, NE32 4HP.

Ripon, Harrogate & District FHG Mrs P M Litton, 2 Florence Road, Harrogate, N Yorks., HG2 0LD.

Sheffield & District FHS Mrs E Perkins, 24 Withens Avenue, Sheffield, S6 1WE.

Yorks Arch Soc (F&PS Section) Mrs S Skelton, c/o Y.A.S., Claremont, 23 Clarendon Road, Leeds LS2 9NZ.

East Yorkshire FHS Mrs E Tarlton, 67/68 Southgate, Hornsea, Hull, HU18 1AL.

City of York & District FHS Mrs M Varley, Ascot House, Cherry Tree Avenue, Newton upon Ouse, York

NAMES AND ADDRESSES

President : John Holden, 49 Brooklands Road, Towneley, Burnley, Lancs, BB11 3PR.

Chairman : Charles S. Metcalfe, 28 South Road, Hayling Island, Hampshire, PO11 9AE.

Vice Chair : Mrs Diane Howarth, Craggley Cottage, 242 Chestnut Ave, Stoneham,
Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO5 3HN.

Secretary : Mrs Nina E. Benson, 29 Skelton Road, Langthorpe, Boroughbridge, York,
North Yorks. YO5 9GD. (0423-324018).

Treasurer : Mrs Margaret Metcalfe, 17 Duxbury Street, Earby via Colne,
Lancs, BB8 6RG.

Editor : Stuart Metcalfe, 31 Blake Hall Drive, Mirfield, West Yks, WF14 9NL

Committee : Mrs Vera Adams, 2 Moorland Terr, Garforth, Leeds, West Yks, LS25 1EJ.

: Mrs Carol Arkwright, School Farm, 1 Middleton Road, Overton,
Morecambe, Lancs. LA3 3HB.

: Mrs Denny Gibson, Hunter's Hill, Crakehall, Bedale, Nth Yks, DL8 1LA

: David Lambert, 22 Lime Grove, Timperley, Altrincham,
Cheshire, WA15 6PJ.

: Joseph Metcalfe, 7 Roundcroft, Romiley, Stockport, Cheshire, SK6 4LL.

: Stanley Metcalfe, 364 Marine Rd East, Morecambe, Lancs, LA4 5AQ.

Newsletter Distribution : Jack & Vera Adams, address above.

Wills Project Coordinator : Mrs Dorothy Pope, 1 Neville Grove, Guisborough,
Cleveland, TS14 8BZ.

St Catherine's House : Miss Sara Illingworth, 87 Phylliss Avenue,
Index Coordinator. New Malden, Surrey, KT3 6LB.

Computer Index Keeper : Mr Charles S. Metcalfe, see above.
all enquiries for same. Include SAE or 2 IRCs with enquiries.

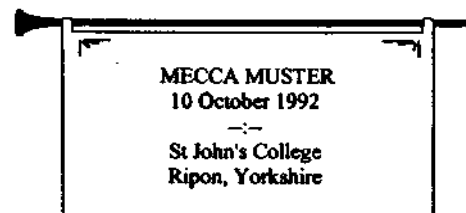
Lists and Copy Lists : Mrs Nina Benson, see above.
& Family Trees. Include SAE or 2 IRCs.

Covenant Secretary : Mrs Val Metcalfe, "Toft", 4 West End, Hutton Rudby,
Yarm, North Yorks, TS15 0DJ.

Library & Sales Dept : Mrs Carol Arkwright, address above.

Publicity Dept : Mrs Denny Gibson, address above.

AT ALL TIMES when requiring a reply, you must send either a stamped SAE or 2 IRCs.
If these are not enclosed, we will assume that NO REPLY IS EXPECTED.



At the College of Ripon & York St John, College Rd, Ripon, North Yorks.

PRICE PER

PERSON

is £9.50p

9.30 a.m

to

4.30 p.m

Registration
at 9.30 a.m.

AGM at 10 a.m.

Lunch 1 p.m.

Tea 3.30 p.m.

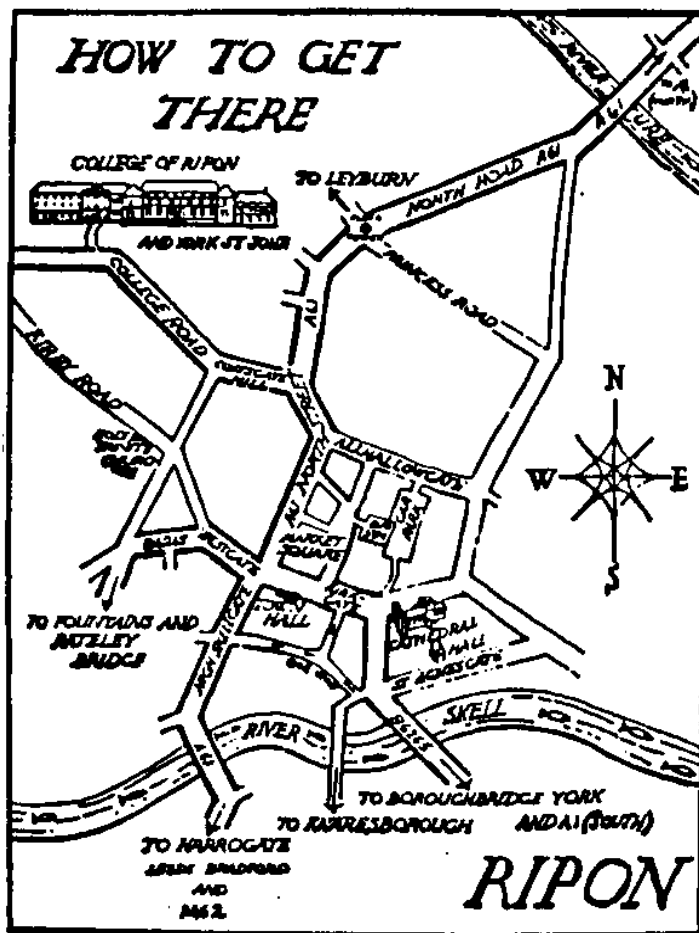
Close 4.30pm

Lunch will be

three courses,

served in a

separate room.



Plenty of car parking space.

Minutes of the AGM 1991

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Bradley who set the whole work in motion. This year sees the end of our first President's term of office, during which time we have been honoured to have Helen's guidance, knowledge and expertise and in sending her our thanks and best wishes we hoped that we would still have the benefit of her "know how" for many years to come.

b) Treasurer : In the period 6th April 1991 to 12th October 1991 income was £331.40p mainly from subscriptions and sales. Expenditure totalled £2,345.34p which included newsletter printing twice & despatch once and the purchase of the Society's computer together with sundries and insurance. This leaves a balance of £1452.32 in the deposit account and £335.37 in the current account.

c) Editor : In his absence, his statement was read out saying he hoped to have the A5 format ready for either the December issue or the April 1992 issue. He appealed for many more articles & items of interest for publication. The Chairman recorded our congratulations for his recent efforts which have produced a much improved newsletter.

d) Computer Index : The major item of expense this year has been the purchase of an IBM PS1 for the Secretary's use. It now holds all the 27,000 index records plus the IGI 1988 version holding c20,000 names and innumerable letters. At present we have 8 megabytes or million characters of information in the index which can be held on 4 small floppy disks. This makes a huge amount of information very mobile & much easier to store & handle. There is still a vast amount of data awaiting transfer to the computer and if only there were more volunteers, with IBM compatible computers, this work could go ahead much more quickly. The 1st XT computer is still with Helen Offer, who continues to do steadfast work on it. The 2nd XT is now with David Metcalfe who is busily transferring data. A 3rd volunteer is Kathryn Metcalfe of Preston, Lancs., who uses her own computer. Queries come in at an average rate of one per week. There is still no charge for two searches per annum but a request was made that they be kept in a sensible format - be specific and concise.

e) Deeds of Covenant : Valerie Metcalfe sent her report, saying she had received the forms and our Tax Reference number is XN 84812. For subscriptions due 31st January, the tax rate which applies is the one current at that time. It is the Covenant Secretary's responsibility to calculate the correct amount of tax. Usually the Inland Revenue require Form R185 to be submitted annually but there is a modified procedure by which they will require them with the first payment, but not with subsequent payments - where the Covenanted amount is less than £300. However they request that we keep the following records :-

1. Name & address of Covenantor.
2. Date of Deed
3. Consecutive number of payment.
4. Amount (gross/nett tax deducted)
5. Date of Receipt.
6. Cash Book reference.

and that we allow them to inspect these records. Val Metcalfe will keep a record

Minutes of the AGM 1991

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1,2,3 & 4. The Treasurer to keep 5 & 6 and pass that information to the Covenant Secretary. So far 20 members have signed Deeds.

6. Projects

- i) Wills - post 1858 National Index - covered in Secretary's report.
- ii) SCH - Sara Illingworth was struggling on with this project and help was urgently required.

7. Publications

Wills Book 3 covering YORK/DURHAM/CORNWALL was now in print and thanks were given to Jean & Frank Bradley, Lillah Chapman, Dorothy Pope and Ken Banks for the collection and to Susan Liptak and Diane Howarth for the compilation and printing. Index to Lists and the Birth Brief Booklet have been mentioned in item 5a.

8. Elections

President - JOHN HOLDEN - proposed by Helen Offer, seconded by Nina Benson - no further nominations - elected unanimously. Other Officers and general committee - there were no resignations and no further nominations. It was proposed by John Holden & seconded by George Wigglesworth - that they be re-elected en bloc - passed unanimously. Diane Howarth accepted the post of vice-chairman.

9. Subscriptions 1992

The committee recommended that all rates be increased by .50p. Proposed by Joan Metcalfe & seconded by Carol Arkwright - passed unanimously.

10. Approval of Accounts for 1990-91

These had been circulated to all members and it was proposed by Bill Metcalfe & seconded by Diane Howarth that they be approved and accepted. Passed unanimously.

11. Auditors

Nina Benson proposed and Ruth Kay seconded that Windle & Bowker should continue for the Society. Passed unanimously.

12. Any Other Business

- a) The meeting passed unanimously that the Society should apply to join the Federation of Family History Societies from January 1992. Proposed by Dorothy Pope, seconded by David Lambert.
- b) Warwick Metcalfe revealed that the mystery artist of last year's Metcalfe etchings was Richard Metcalfe born at Masham in Yorkshire.
- c) Charges for Computer searches were thoroughly discussed & discounted for the present time.

Date of Next AGM - SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 1992. 9.30am. Same venue.

The meeting closed at 11.10am.

1992 MECCA MUSTER

The nearest train station is at Harrogate from where regular buses go to Ripon. Accommodation lists can be obtained from the Tourist Information, Royal Baths Assembly Rooms, Crescent Rd, Harrogate.

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To:- The Secretary, Mrs Nina Benson, 29 Skelton Rd, Langthorpe,
Boroughbridge, York. North Yorkshire. YO5 9GD.
By the 1st September 1992 PLEASE.

I enclose payment for _____ places @ £ 9.50 each = £ _____
for the 1992 Muster/AGM on Saturday 10th October 1992
at the College, Ripon, Yorkshire.

Please make out your payment to "The Metcalfe Society". Enclose
SAE if you need a receipt.

FULL NAME.....MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

I shall be accompanied by :- (Please give FULL name(s) in BLOCK
CAPITALS state whether they are SOCIETY MEMBERS or not.
Non members are most welcome but may not take an active part in the
Annual General Meeting).

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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL, 1992

BALANCE SHEET as at 5TH APRIL, 1992

Typewriter	50.00	50
Filing Cabinet	192.80	193
Computer, Printer, Workstation and Software	<u>1,287.05</u>	-
	1,529.85	243
Less Depreciation to Date: Typewriter	(49.00)	(49)
: Filing Cabinet	(69.80)	(39)
: Computer Etc	<u>(128.05)</u>	-
	1,283.00	155
<u>BANK BALANCES</u>		
Barclays Bank	1,190.66	1,474
National Savings Bank	<u>375.35</u>	<u>2,452</u>
	£2,849.01	£4,081

Provincial Society at 5th April 1992 arising from this fund

Windle Bowker WINDLE & BOWKER

24/4/92 DATE