

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY

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EDITORIAL

Spring is a time for re-birth and, for me certainly, much more a time for new resolutions than the New Year. As my time as Editor draws to a close I am looking forward more and more to being able to re-start my own researches which, I am afraid, have lain dormant for the past four years. One of my resolutions is to not only fill in those annoying little gaps that we all have in our "trees" but also to let the Society know of all my work. Many of you will receive a printout of your Birth Brief, which is held by the Society, with this edition of the Mecca News. I am ashamed to say that mine is very brief. Sorry, Diane, but I will definitely let you have an update by 1st June. I hope that all our members will do the same.

May I commend some of the articles in this edition to you for your particular consideration. There are, as always, a number of excellent articles, interesting in their own right and I am very grateful to all of you for sending me material. In particular, may I draw your attention to the letter from Peter Metcalfe, prompted by an article by Howard Metcalfe in the last edition. Editors always like controversy as it generates further correspondence, and Howard's letter certainly did that! Peter's suggestions are well worthy of our consideration.

I've told you my resolutions. What are yours? Are their members out there who will respond to our constant pleas for help? Nina is in desperate need of help, and there's always the Editors job!

Stuart Metcalfe April 1993

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 23rd February 1993

My thanks for all the lovely Christmas messages - it is great to hear from so many of you.

Two people responded to my pleas for help. M218 Lillah Chapman is to record the 1891 Census returns for York and M550 Madelaine Jackson is to begin on the same for Leeds. M46 David Metcalfe is still beavering away and after completing Swaledale, Wensleydale & area, then Ripon, Harrogate & Skipton areas, he put these onto the computer, making searches remarkably easy. He has now started on the Darlington area of Co Durham. Many thanks to you three. Otherwise nothing. Therefore to lighten my load and delay my nervous breakdown I shall be announcing changes as and when I can think of them.

The **FIRST** is to the **UPDATING OF THE BIRTH BRIEFS IN THE MECCA NEWS** - at present I pick these up from your letters. In future **YOU** will be entirely responsible for sending them, in the present format, **DIRECT TO THE EDITOR**. The Editor will not respond to any queries enclosed. I will of-course continue writing up the new members' Birth Briefs.

The **SECOND** is to reiterate that articles and snippets for publication in the Mecca News should go **DIRECT** to the Editor and that queries or requests to be

covered by other committee members should be addressed to the particular Officer concerned - see the back page for the job descriptions. I can no longer accept the responsibility of repackaging and redirecting these items. If they continue to arrive they will be handed over only at our April and Sept Committee Meetings - making delays in replies inevitable.

Sorry to be so horrific but the time has come to call a halt to my overloading.

Be assured that I shall continue to be delighted to receive your letters and genuine queries - it gives me great pleasure to delve amongst the records!

LISTS - our thanks go to Stella Balderston for the donation of a lot of John's papers covering, in particular, Hawes parish registers. Also we thank M446 John Turner for further coverage of the same. I have also added a few years to these records and have now completed the following :-

Parish Church of St Margaret :-

Baptisms 1695-1787, 1810-1826, 1860-1898.

Marriages 1699-1837, 1838-1885.

Burials 1695-1771, 1865-1890.

Wesleyan Methodist :- Baptisms 1850-1908.

Obviously these have not yet been transferred to the computer but I will be pleased to answer precise enquiries provided they include return postage. If you can write the query on a separate piece of paper on which there is enough room for the reply, it will speed up the response.

Muster booking forms are enclosed in this issue - your early replies would be appreciated.

Regarding ties and headscarves etc, with a relevant motif -thank you to members for catalogues and price lists -unfortunately the smallest orders appear to be (for example) 100 ties...with prices

beginning at £6 EACH....this is way beyond our present means. However we won't forget about them entirely and keep on the lookout for more reasonable numbers and prices.

I'm looking forward to meeting some of our southern members at the Society of Genealogists "Family History Fair" at the Royal Horticultural Society Old Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, London...on Sunday 16th May 1993...10am to 5pm. Friends have kindly offered me B & B so I shall be joining Charles and his team for some part of the day. Further news from Charles elsewhere. Good hunting!

N.E.B.

Obituary

Sadly we regret to report the death in February of M546 Elizabeth Lee of Killinghall, Harrogate. Elizabeth was an all too brief addition to the Hipswell family group. We offer our sincere condolences to her husband and family.

Society of Genealogists 1993 Family History Fair.

The METCALFE SOCIETY are planning to run an exhibit at the fair on Sunday 16 May.

The fair is to be held at Royal Horticultural Old Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, London from 10am to 5pm and we plan to have a stand to demonstrate the publications and data belonging to our Society.

I have arranged with John Alderson of the Alderson Society - another dales name - to have the stand next to ours so that our impact is greater and mutual aid will reduce any problems.

There are planned to be 120 exhibitors and with an entrance fee of £1 we expect to see a large number of visitors, maybe even some recruits?

Although we are a team of 4 running the event, it would be perhaps useful to have two other members who live close at hand to give some relief to those 'manning' the stand.

Any volunteers please write to me before the 16th May.

CSM



BIRTH BRIEFS

ALTERATIONS to CURRENT ADDRESSES and MEMBERSHIPS:-

M153 - is now a Family Membership, Mr & Mrs William and Helen Metcalfe, 10 Highgrove Drive, Chellaston, Derby. (Please note new post code is DE73 1XA).

M154 - Peter Metcalf has re-joined - new address - "Foxley View", 3 The Paddock, Sawley, Lancs. BB7 4LE.

M191 - Mavis Cunningham has resigned.

M205 - Sheila M Jones, correct address is 60 Glenwood Gardens, Gantshill, Ilford, Essex. IG2 6XU.

M297 - Mrs Shian Waugh moves 1st June '93 to Tuturau, RD4, Gore, South Island, New Zealand.

M302 - Family sub covers Stephen G. & Master Miles T.S. Graham.

M326 - Dr D.M. Metcalf, correct address is 40 (not 4) St Margaret's Rd

M361 - Peter J.R. Clerehugh has moved to - Lowlands Farm, School Lane, Blackboys, Uckfield, East Sussex. TN22 5LN.

M475 - Kathryn Metcalfe has re-joined - same address.

UP-DATING MEMBERS BIRTH BRIEFS :-

M154 Peter Metcalf, Foxley View, 3 The Paddock, Sawley, Lancs. BB7 4LE.

Son of Charles & Edith (Holmes) Mt, m 6 Dec 1942 Radcliffe, Lancs. Charles b 25.07.1920 Radcliffe s.o Harry & Alice Ann (Green) Mt m 02.07.1917 Radcliffe. Harry b 01.04.1892 s.o Charles & Elizabeth (Gregory) Mt. Charles b c1855.

M267 Mr & Mrs John Robinson, Norton House, 26 Chester Road, Holmes Chapel, Crewe, Cheshire. CW4 7DP.

Norah is dau of Robert & Grace Ellen (Gardner) Mte m 26.11.1915. Robert b 20.03.1891 s.o Robert & Elizabeth (Eyre) Mte. Robert b 21.03.1859 (Brother to Rev Thomas Mte of Troston & see M549) sons of Robert and Agnes (Kendal) Mte m Feb 1856. Robert bpt 1833 Ingleton, Yks s.o Thomas & Elizabeth (Mte) Mte m 1824. Thomas bpt 1801 Ingleton s.o John & Alice (Calvert) Mte. John bpt 1780

Ingleton Fells s.o William & Alice (Thompson) Mte m 28.03.1774 Hawes. William s.o Robert & Mary (Bentham) Mte m 16.02.1751 Thornton in Lonsdale. Robert b 1723 s.o William of Weathercote & Margaret (Lodge) Mte m 19 Jan 1704/5 Hubberholme. William s.o William of Tanton & Gayle & Anne (Woodworth) Mte m 29 May 1677 Thirsk. William b 1649 s.o John of Tanton & Mary (second dau of Michael Mte of North Otterington) his third wife. John b 1581 s.o Gilbert of Hood Grange, Kilburn & Jane(Jerom.) Mte. Gilbert s.o George of Hood Grange & Elizabeth (Banks) Mte. George s.o James of Swinethwaite & Bekards. James b 1490 s.o Ottiwell of Nappa. Ottiwell s.o Thomas of Nappa & Elizabeth(Hertlington). Thomas s.o James & - (Gibson) Mte. James b 1389 s.o John & Alice (?) Mte.

M309 Thomas Metcalfe, 32 Floral Avenue, Leeds, West Yorkshire. LS7 3DP

Grandson of Alfred Rhodes Mte who was born 28 Mar 1858 at Moor Bottom, Hartwith, (near Harrogate/Ripon Yks), son of John & Mary Ann (Steel) Mte.

M358 Michael Richardson, 18 Gordon Way, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3TW.

The mystery only deepens. In Marrick parish registers - there is a William PETTY bpt 21st Jan 1835 s.o John & Eliz (Blenkiron widow of Matthew Blenkiron nee Eliz Garforth) PETTY, m 23 Jan 1827. AND there is a William PETTY bpt 20 Jan 1833 s.o Isabella Petty spr(by J.Johnson). When Michael has stopped spinning we may hear more !

M549 Mrs M. Condon, 5 Nursery Walk, Brampton, Huntingdon, PE18 8UU.

Grand-dau of Rev Thomas Metcalfe of Troston ... see **M267** above.

M550 Mrs M. Jackson, 4 Lark's Hill, Pontefract, West Yks. WF8 4NE.

Correction to Mecca News 38 - Ann Metcalfe (b1825 d.o Leonard & Mary (Atkinson) Mte) did NOT marry John Scott. She married on 12 Dec 1845 Thomas Chapman.

M562 Mrs D. Eldridge, 3 Johnson St, Hawthorn, Victoria 3122. Australia.

Great grandfather George Mte b c1823 Elton, Co Dur, Eng, s.o Francis and Elizabeth (Dilchett) Mte who m 26 Mar 1804 in India...the records of the East India company give the details - Mr Francis Metcalfe. mariner. bach to ED spr, both of Calcutta, Fort William in Bengal and also the bpt of their children Ann 07.03.1805 & Thomas Francis 28.03.1807. In the 1851 CR Francis is 71 born Stockton, Eng. and his obituary in the Stockton & Darlington Mercury of 10th October 1860 states that he died at Norton Cottage near Stockton on Tees and that he assisted at the capture of Batavia when he brought home as prisoner General Jansen. Francis is at

Norton Grange in 1848. Can anyone locate Norton Cottage ? Besides the two children given above we now know that there was also Hannah Thompson bpt 05.10.1814 at Norton Co Dur who d 17.03.1897 unm. William bpt 26 Mar 1818, Norton. Thomas Francis is known to have married a Georgina ? and had issue Elizabeth Marion 05.02.1833 Norton & Georgina 02.09.1836 Norton.

M583 Mr & Mrs D.J. Metcalfe, 355 Pleasant St.Lane, Post Moody, British Columbia, Canada, V3H 4S5.

Grandfather George Edwin Mte born 6th Nov 1866 s.o Philip Sanderson & Jane Elizabeth (Kirby) Mte. Philip was listed as a coachsmith journeyman.

NEW MEMBERS - *who are most welcome to our "family" Society.*

M589 Mr & Mrs Stephen & Judith Napper, Saddlebole Farm, Mottram Road, Alderley Edge, Cheshire, SK9 7JF.

Judith is nee Metcalfe - further ancestry awaited.

M590 Dr Christopher Metcalfe, Trafalgar House, 29 Sion Hill, Lansdown, Bath, BA1 2UW.

Son of George Arthur & Dorothy Elizabeth (Badham) Mte m 1927. George Arthur b 16.03.1897 s.o Arthur Wilson & Phoebe Evelyn (Pringle) Mte of Belfast who m 1895. Arthur W. b 28.01.1865 Pateley Bridge, Yks s.o George & Isabella (Wilson) Mte m 1856 Bishop Auckland Co Dur. George b 26.12.1826 Castlestead, Pateley Bridge s.o John & Mary (Hawkridge) Mte of Castlestead m 08.05.1817 PB. John b 27.10.1783 s.o George & Elizabeth (Smith nee Ragg) ?m 22.03.1780 Leeds.*George bpt 05.12.1750 at Well, Yks. s.o John & Margaret (?) Mte of Snape. John bpt 24.09.1706 s.o George & Eleanor (Raper) Mte m 25.07.1703 Well. George a joiner of Snape is s.o John Mte of Carperby in the parish of Aysgarth who mentions this son in his will dated 1715.

*To go back to George b 1750 - he had a nephew Christopher (s.o William & Ann (Mte) Mte) a merchant who moved from Snape to London, marrying 1st Jane Dixon & 2nd Jane Posnet - and had issue Mary, Sarah, Anne, Barnett, Elizabeth, Fanny and William. This William MAY be the one bpt 26.01.1821 St Luke, Old St, Finsbury, London. Anyoneknow anything of them ?

M591 Mrs Janet L. Bywater, PO Box 2084, Raumati Beach, New Zealand.

B Dewsbury Eng d.o Hedley & Doris (Metcalfe) Mortimer m 20.12.1941 Bruntcliffe. Doris b 06.12.1922 Wortley, Leeds d.o Thomas & Amy (Proctor) Mte m 28.10.1911 New Wortley. Thomas b 20.01.1889 Hawes s.o Robert & Mary Ann

(Metcalf - 19 spr d.o James & Eleanor (Sunter) Mte) Mte m 04.04.1883 Hawes. And now, thanks to the recording done by M446 John Turner, I am able to add that Robert was born 16.03.1862 bpt 12.06.1864 Hawes s John & Agnes (Blades) Mte m 17 Nov 1853 Hawes. John b c1827 may be the son of William & Betty/Eliz (Smith) Mte m 20 Jun 1820 Hawes. Ties into the family of re-joined M475 Kathryn Metcalfe, 190 Whitby Avenue, Ingol, Preston, Lancs. PR2 3GB.

M592 Peter Hunt, 3 Somerset Ct, Mount Pleasant Rd, Brixham, Devon. TQ5 9RX

Grandson of George William & Mary Isabella (Metcalf) Tilson m 25.12.1901 St Mary-Le-Bone, London. Mary Isabella b 19.02.1882 Ryan St. Stockton Co Dur. d.o John Alexander & Sarah (Wood) Mt who m 08.05.1880 Reg Office Stockton. John A. b 27.05.1859 Alfred St. Hartlepool s.o Ralph Karrison & Mary (Bold) Mt. Ralph was a seaman in the Merchant Service and died pre May 1880.

M593 Wayne L.Owen, 65G Golf Course Rd, Madison,Wisconsin 53704-1485 USA

Born North Branch, Canton, Buffalo County, Wisconsin s.o Lewis Warren & Caroline Mary (Metcalf) Owen m 14/15 Dec 1920 Durand. Caroline Mary b 1 Jan 1902 Durand d.o William Orlando & Mary Henryetta (Baker) Mt m 22 Aug 1899 Plum City. William O b 19.04.1871 Glen Haven, Grant County, Wisconsin s.o William Saley & Mary (Pettermann) Mt m 2 May 1867 Glen Haven. William S. b 18 Apl 1847 Glen Haven s.o William & Rachael Elizabeth (Curtis) Mt m 28 Sep 1840 USA. William bpt 12 Sep 1811 Masham, Yks, Eng. s.o George & Ann (Astwood) Mte m 21 Jan 1811 Masham (when Geo gave his age as 20 - b circa 1791). Wayne has Geo b 3 Nov 1783 bpt 3 Oct 1784 Masham s.o George & Jane (Mallaby) Mte of Ilton m 31 Mar 1777 Masham both of this parish.

Members may recognise this line fits into **M200** Basil Metcalfe and **M218** Lillah Chapman.

M594 Jeffrey A. Metcalfe, 33210 Pujols sur Ciron, France.

Ancestry awaited.

M595 Mrs Doy Groenenberg, 816 S. 216TH, Cottage #1, Des Moines, WA 98198. USA.

Doy has a problem here ! Her great great grandmother was Elizabeth Metcalf "from County Durham, England". Elizabeth married in 1851 George Slater (NOT TRACED) and in 1853, with a 10 month old dau Annie, they left England, by boat. Their actual destination is uncertain, maybe eastern Canada - but the ship ended up in Chile ! Baby Annie had died at sea and about 1858 the family arrived in Washington State.

Elizabeth is supposed to have attended Bishop Auckland grammar school and she and her younger brother (no name) were orphaned and raised by a wealthy aunt & uncle. The aunt was called Lady Metcalf. Elizabeth's father was William. CAN ANYONE HELP WITH DURHAM RECORDS ?

M596 Rev'd Charles E. Medcalf, 640 Alger Drive, Palo Alto, California 94306,USA

Born Jersey City s Charles L.H. & Lizzie (Flanagan) Md m 17 Aug 1922 Jersey City. Charles Lyndhurst Hiram b 21 Nov 1889 Jersey City s.o William Arthur & Cornelia (Weeks) Md. William A b 29 Oct 1852 Bocking, B. England s.o Arthur Brown & Mary Ann Eleanor (Crack) Md. Arthur B. b 18 Jun 1828 England.

M597 Mrs Signy Allen, 2 Turf top House, Hawes, North Yorkshire. DL8 3RH.

Sister to **M410** Denise Minnitt. Daus of Richard Mason & Margaret Alice (Metcalf) Chapman. Margaret Alice b 1905 d.o James & Jane (Outhwaite) Mte m 13.07.1898 Askrigg. James b c1875 s.o John & Alice (Blenkiron) m 22.03.1864 Wensley. John bpt 23.07.1843 Askrigg s.o William & Margaret (Sill) Mte m 15.10.1636 Askrigg. William bpt 18.11.1816 Askrigg s.o John & Margaret (Blades) Mte m 31.01.1803 Askrigg. John bpt 02.09.1780 s.o James of Bainbridge. Connects to MANY other member's lines !

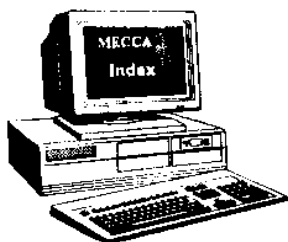
M598 Philip J. Medcalf, 26 Lower South Wraxall,Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts. BA15 2RZ.

Ancestry awaited.

M599 Robert S. Harlow, 90 Wybalena Grove,Cook, A.C.T. 2614.Australia.

Descendant of Edward & Ruth (Metcalf) Close who m 22 Aug 1774 atGrinton, Yks, England. Both of Grinton parish. Witness William Mt. Could Ruth be the dau of Richard & Monica (Sunter) Mte b c1752 ? Can either **M217** Rosemary & Adrian Bower, or **M255** Elizabeth Morey add anything ?

N.E.B.



Computer Notes

CSM

I'm taking a short break from gardening - so it must be Spring already. I also took a break to go to Birmingham a few days ago to attend the 'Federation of Family History Societies Seminar on Computers for Society Administration' - that's half my article in just the title!

It really was a very interesting day with four presentations and lots of discussion with some very knowledgeable and experienced people, a good day out except for the fact that my wife went shopping while I was locked away.

The Data Protection Act was one of the items covered and we were told that if address lists are used for selections (eg we airmail) or are updated (we do) then registration is necessary (we are registered - M0031084) at a cost of £75 every three years.

While there I learned that Bedfordshire FHS have a day conference 8th May at Houghton Conquest on My Family Criminals; Development of Police & Prisons; and Petty Crime in the 18th century. Of no interest at all to members of this Society!

At the meeting I was able to collect a copy of the Buckinghamshire FHS Family History Transcription System. This is a stand alone program which creates a

marriage database system. Searches, printouts etc are possible but it is aimed only at marriage records. A copy of the system for individuals will cost £50 but I have a demo disc (which does not allow work to be saved) which I am able to send to anyone who would like to assess the program. I can copy to any IBM compatible disc format - please send a formatted disc with a SAE if you are interested, my address is on the back page.

Back to our own Mecca Index, we now have made considerable inroads into the backlog of Lists having entered 950, with List 1,450 being the last one created. We are also making valiant attempts to enter current family trees and notes that you have sent in.

As records from lists or your personal tree are entered I occasionally come across changes to records which are of potential interest to a member. As more and more entries are made correlation becomes more frequent, as one would expect. It is the case now that 30-40% of all entries are either duplicates or additions to existing records.

Normally I take a quick print of those items that may be news (where reference is made to an already entered members family tree) and mail them off reasonably soon. Sometimes I'm not sure of the validity of the fresh item and so question marks are liberally scattered to indicate uncertainty. If you receive one of these printouts please treat it as a suggestion and help me to keep the Mecca Index in an accurate form by returning it with comments - on the original sheet - even if the comment is only 'RUBBISH'!

From M520

Please find enclosed a photocopy that might be of interest to the Metcalfe Society.

It is from a publication called 'Remembering In Rhyme' by Barbara Brill published by the Stockport Historical Society in 1979. The item formed part of an entertainment given by S.H.Soc. in February 1979 about various local characters.

Yours sincerely,

Duncan Broomhead

DOLLY METCALFE

I am Dolly Metcalfe - have you ever heard my name?

My marriage to Blind Jack is my only claim to fame.

They say behind a famous man there lurks a worthy wife,

So p'rhaps it was because of me Jack had success in life.

He lost his sight in boyhood, but it never daunted him,

He'd go a bird's-nesting with his friends, he'd ride, he'd climb, he'd swim.

He'd roam the countryside around, without a guide

Sensing the hills and valleys he wandered far and wide.

He learnt to play the fiddle, led a roving gypsy life

And then he came a-courting, asked me to be his wife.

My parents both forbade it, found me another man,

But I loved Jack and he loved me and so we made a plan;

The night before my wedding Jack came with ladder tall,

I climbed down from my window, and soon, beyond recall

Of disapproving parents, we were married, Jack and I,

And I said that day that come what may "I'll love you till I die".

As th'Industrial Revolution was getting under way

My Jack was soon in great demand to help with a survey

Of roads and routes for transport, for he knew each vale and hill,

His natural sense of contours, an invaluable skill.

I stayed at home and cared for our growing fam-i-ly

While roads spread out that Jack had planned from Humber to the Dee,

And then we came to Stockport while a stretch of road was laid

From Alderley to Wilmslow, and my health began to fade.

And I left my Jack to rest in peace in St. Mary's churchyard shade.

DOLLY METCALFE'S husband was known as Blind Jack of Knarsborough. He was Jack Metcalfe who became famous in the 18th century as a surveyor of roads in spite of being blind since childhood.

He and Dolly came to Stockport to stay with a daughter while Metcalfe was working on roads in this area. Evidence of his work can be seen today in the bridge known as Metcalfe's Bridge that takes the Whaley Bridge to Macclesfield road across the Todd Brook at Kettlethulme. Dolly died during their stay in Stockport and is buried in St. Mary's churchyard. After an unsuccessful attempt to go into the cotton trade in Stockport, Metcalfe returned to Yorkshire where he died in 1810 at the age of 93.

(Lives of the Engineers by Samuel Smiles; Blind Jack of Knarsborough by Garry Hogg; Stockport Ancient and Modern by Henry Higinbotham).

In memory of Dorothy
wife of John Metcalfe
who died April 12th 1778
aged 61 years.

At harogate in Yorkshire I was Born But
now my Body lies under this stone to you
Ive left be HIND - Its sure to be your Body
when in dust will lie the same as me take
care in time to obtain a happy fate and
dont neglect for fear it may be too late
all you that come these lines to see
prepair in time to follow me .

In response to "From Arkefrith to Howard Metcalfe" (Mecca News 38)

The Earliest Metcalfe's - Fact and Fiction

This article is written partly in reply to Mr Howard H. Metcalfe's extract "From Arkefrith to Howard Metcalfe 995-1992" which appeared in issue 38.

It was a matter of concern to see a lot of historical and other inaccuracies being presented as fact, when simple checking with reference books would have avoided this. To take the points in turn:

1. The first Metcalfe did not come to England with Canute, as the name did not exist until about two hundred years later.

2. I can find no reference to Arkefrith - do other readers have information? According to Speight's "Craven and NW Yorkshire Highlands" of 1892 (not always historically reliable) there was an Arkyl, a great Danish nobleman, who was Lord of Dent before the Conquest, but his great-grandson Torfin held the land round Dent at the time of the Conquest.

3. Even if there is a dent in Denmark, the name Dent in Yorkshire almost certainly has its origins in Celtic times, perhaps a thousand years

before the time of Canute (cf Old Irish "dind", a hill), though the first record of the name is "Denet" in 1202.

4. Dent and Sedbergh are in the old West Riding not East Riding.

5. Canute cannot have given any land to anyone after the Conquest in 1066, having been dead for over 30 years.

6. In any case, according to the Domesday Book, 20 years after the Conquest, Dent was still held by Earl Alan, who received it from his relative, William the Conqueror. Alan does not appear to have handed it to anyone, still less to a conquered enemy Dane or Englishman.

7. The Three Peaks of Yorkshire are not called the Pennegent Hills, and have no record of being called the Three Calves (my family have lived in this area for at least three hundred years).

8. The Danish for hill is not "calfe". The three Danish words for hill are "brække", "banke" and "bjerg". There is no record of a Danish "calfe" being used in the past. "Calf(e)" is often used to refer to a place that is smaller than another (cf the Cow and Calf rocks near Ilkley), so it could refer to a small hill indirectly, as in Middleton

Calf Top near Dent. The word "calf(e)" is in fact from Old English or Old Norse, not Danish.

As for the rest of the extract, I have no information on the heraldic items but the heights of the Three Peaks are correct. We are (nearly) all just amateur historians, by virtue of being family history researchers, and I do not wish to belittle other people's work. The point is that most of us have struggled for years to get back a few generations, but we make sure of our facts. I just wonder if Mr H.H.Metcalf's information came from a firm which specialises in writing "instant" family trees containing inaccurate and unverified information, often at great cost. These firms do exist, especially in the US, and I think our members should be aware of this. I don't think it does any of us a service to accept "instant" answers, however attractive and romantic they may be. I hope this will not be seen as a personal affront to another member, but I sincerely feel that matters of fact should be corrected or errors could be taken up and used by other members.

The approach most to be recommended seems to be that of Mr D.M. (Michael) Metcalf (Member No. 326) who, responding to a challenge about his views on the origin of the Metcalfes, has given us two excellently researched articles (issues

31 and 33) on the earliest Metcalfes. He has gone to the published source books, made an analysis and presented it with references to the texts. I am not sure if other members have commented on these articles, but they seem to be just the sort of material we should all be summarising and putting in at the start of our own family histories as background, instead of unsubstantiated material from other sources. Mr D.M.Metcalf is, I think, a professional historian and has an advantage with knowledge of research methods and sources, but even we amateurs can follow his simple example of taking nothing on trust unless it is the original (or transcribed) material, or unless the author of the material quotes the source.

I have looked through all the back issues of Mecca News and have found a bewildering collection of contradictory statements about the earliest Metcalfes. Can we all get back to basics? Is it possible to make a list of simple statements that are not in dispute, or of reasonable possibilities with a declaration of degree of likelihood? Each document would need to be followed by the reference to the ORIGINAL historical source document. Another approach is to list basic queries about the earliest Metcalfes and their environment. Perhaps the following framework could start the ball rolling.

Fact File about the earliest Metcalfes

(partly based on D.M.Metcalf's articles)

1. The origin of the name is very much in dispute. The Middleton Calf Top story may well be a myth. The most likely explanation is.....(What does Reaney's Dictionary of British Surnames actually suggest?)
2. The earliest authentic sighting of the name is in(document) (date)..and states...? Adam Medecalf was killed at Dent in 1278? (What is the hard evidence for William Medecalf de Dent being Chief Forester for Wensleydale 1194-1200, and great-grandfather of Adam above?)
3. The other earliest mentions of the name are.....(list with sources, places and dates).
4. The name did not "expand" from Dent.
5. After Dent, the name appears to almost vanish from the records in the early fourteenth century, with the few examples limited to Bainbridge. These are.....(list).
6. The early pedigree of Metcalfe of Nappa relating to the (supposed) Metcalfes of Dent seems highly

unreliable. The earliest "cast-iron" ancestor of the Nappa family is.....

7. The name had expanded in Wensleydale in the later fourteenth century, and was very dense by the sixteenth century (examples).
8. The earliest signs of emigration from Wensleydale are in (date, place, document).
9. The dates of the earliest appearance of the name in [a] Swaledale, [b] Wharfedale, [c] Nidderdale, [d] Ribblesdale, [e] Airedale, [f] outside the Dales, [g] outside Yorkshire are (date, place, document).
10. The only definite descendants of the Nappa family alive today are.....
11. To prove descent from Nappa Hall, one would have to.....

These are only suggestions, and open to alteration of course. What do other members think about setting up an "Early Metcalfe Fact File" with the source for the information always quoted? I would suggest that D.M.Metcalf, if he is willing, might be the person to start it up properly. I just feel it would be reassuring for all of us to have some firm, authenticated statements to make about the early days, a kind of state-of-the-art of present knowledge. Of course, if someone came up with a discovery,

this would be incorporated in to the Fact File, or cause an alteration to be made. I hope this is a reasonable suggestion, and I welcome comments, criticism, etc.

In the meantime can anyone answer any of the Fact File questions above? Has anyone got access to W.G. & C. Metcalfe's "Records of the Family of Metcalfe" (could Mecca News print the introduction)? Can we honestly trust the information given in Thomas Metcalf's "Medecalf" book if the sources are not quoted by the author?

A final thought - reading through the entire back issues has really brought home the incredible amount of work done by the Committee and other Society officials. The annual fee is a paltry sum to pay for this sheer effort and expertise. We owe them all a huge debt.

Peter Metcalfe (member 31)

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your kind note of the 1st. Of course I take no offence at your enclosed note - it is for this sort of interaction that I joined the Society, and it is a pleasure to me that someone has taken the trouble to respond to the excerpt from my book. Thank you for your effort.

Rest assured that I have never paid

an "ancestry firm" for any information contained within the excerpt. However, in other cases, I have paid certified, professional researchers in Salt Lake City, Utah, where the main LDS (Mormon) genealogical files reside, to verify and/or extend information taken from other source documents. This is notably true when I required copies of birth, marriage and death certificates, deeds, records of service, wills, etc., which related to ancestors of the more recent generations (e.g. post-1600's)

Now to your specific points.

#1: The reference to the "first Metcalfe" was not meant to be taken literally as the one who first bore the name; rather it was to the first ancestor of such who could be found.

#2 and #3: The excerpt as printed in the News did not include the footnotes in the book that I had enclosed. The relevant footnotes were:

1. The genealogical material for this generation was taken from the following sources: "Metcalfe Families", William and Mary College Quarterly, 1st series, V (1896), 10-15; Isaac Metcalfe, Metcalf Genealogy (Cleveland: The Imperial Press, 1898), 3-8; Mary Cousins McCabe, Some Early Settlers (St. Louis: Moinester Printing Co., n.d.), 43-44;

and a private communication from Robert Dale Metcalfe.

2. There is also a hill called the "Calf Mountain" (2,220 feet) north of the Pennegent Hills. It is the chief height in a group of steep green hills deeply troughed with V-shaped valleys, covering the country between Sedbergh, Tebay and Kirkby Stephen.

In addition, my cover letter to the News included the caveat:

Of course, the earliest portion of the lineage will be in dispute, as most records of that era tend to be unreliable.

And in the preface to the book, I noted with regard to Arkefrith and subsequent generations that:

A caveat - only a portion of the lineage can be considered "proven", that is, 'established according to a preponderance or greater weight of the evidence available'. The earlier portions of the ancestry are taken only from published but tenuous pedigrees and await substantiation (if, indeed, pre-1600 substantiation is possible) through examination of official and other source records.

The "Arkyl, a great Danish nobleman, who was Lord of Dent before the Conquest," to whom you referred was shown in my sources as the son of

Arkefrith, probably born circa 1030, and it was noted in my excerpt to the Society that "Arkendale, otherwise called Arkilgarthdale or Arkengarthdale, an extensive forest land [at that time] was named after Arkell."

The excerpt also noted that this Arkell had at least two sons, Robert de Arkilgarth and Gospatrick, probably born circa 1060, and that Gospatrick had a son Dolfen, probably born circa 1090. On the following page (not sent), the book notes that Dolfen had two sons, Torfin (whom you also noted as the great-grandson of Arkell) and William. William, the pertinent one in the lineage, probably born circa 1120, would probably be the William fil Maldred or the William Medecalf de Dent referred to in Thomas Metcalfe's book, 'Medecalf', since I have William's son as Richard (died 1232), and Richard's son as Adam de Dent (died 1252), and Adam's son as Adam de Medecalf de Dent (died 1278 in combat), and so on in concert with 'Medecalf'. So my poor sources indicate that the William above was descended from the Danes rather than the Saxons and British as Thomas Metcalfe has it. How I wish Thomas Metcalfe had annotated his text with sources! Short of that and further research to which we all look forward, one could conjecture either path, though I rather enjoyed Thomas Metcalfe's journey

since it leads back to Cerdic as well as the early Kings in Scotland!

#4: Dent and Sedbergh were shown in the Western portion of the North Riding, as stated in the excerpt, in a very old map to which I referred, which no doubt was in error. My apologies to the current residents.

#5: The conquest (small capital) to which I referred was that of 1016, not 1066. I apologise for the poor choice of words. Even we colonials know to what the Conquest refers!

#6: The reference to Earl Allen is not substantiated, and should not have been included in the book, unless the source was referring to an earlier Allen, first Earl of Richmond.

#7: I apologise for not further researching the reference to the Pennegent Hills, rather than the Three Peaks of Yorkshire, and to the Three Calves. You, more than anyone, certainly know what the neighbourhood is and was called!

#8: I accept your derivation of the word calf(e) as Old English (perhaps Frisian?), rather than Danish. But it still would seem likely that the noun is the origin of calfe in Metcalfe, even in your reflections about the Cow and Calf rocks near Ilkley and Middleton Calf Top near Dent - isn't conjecture fun?

Again, let me assure you that I have never and would never use a disreputable "instant" family tree firm. But certified, established and respected professional researchers do figure in my efforts from time to time (although not in this case).

I agree wholeheartedly about your suggestions about a "Fact File about the earliest Metcalfes". And I agree too with your question, "can we honestly trust the information given in Thomas Metcalfe's 'Medecalf' book if the sources are not quoted by the author?" If you have the time, I would enjoy reading your thoughts about that book.

I enclose for your reference copies of letters to the Society of 7 November 1992 and 30 January 1993. The former covered the excerpt; the latter is my "birth brief" proven, as noted, only to John Metcalfe I (c.1680 nr. Richmond, Yorkshire - 1751 Fauquier County VA) and his wife Diana Watkins (?-after 1765). I am also forwarding a copy of this letter to the News Editor so that my errors will be appropriately noted.

With warmest regards, I am

Respectfully yours,

Howard H. Metcalfe

And again....

I found Howard's story fascinating, hair-bristling stuff, even though it appeared to challenge my preferred nickname derivation.

But does it? Perhaps not. On reflection, the H.H.M. saga can sit happily with this theory, or the location derivation (Meat-calf or Mid-calf).

However that may be, the best news for me here was the specific information in Howard's article - Arkefrith was given by Canute 'a tract in Craven, 12 miles S.E. of Dent'. This direction, if accurate, brings us to Studfold, Horton-in-Ribblesdale. This placename has clear connotations of stockbreeding, a skill I believe at the root of the Metcalfe surname.

Incidentally, can any member throw light on the history of the Craven Hunt which, according to one encyclopedia, is in Berkshire? Why should I be interested? Because my great grandmother Jane Allinson was the sister of James Raine Metcalfe, head gardener at Swinton Park, Masham around the turn of the century, and James' wife Annie was born in Berks. around 1844.

Best wishes,

Terry Allinson

DEED OF COVENANTS

Thank you to all our members who have covenanted their subscriptions, our first repayment of Income Tax has been received in the sum of £54.56.

If you ask any member who has taken out a Deed of Covenant in respect of their subs they will tell you it is completely painless, after all 'covenant' only means 'promise' and you are going to pay your subs anyway, so you have nothing to lose and the society can only gain. Please think about it.

Only payments made AFTER the deed is dated are covenanted, so if you have already paid this year's subs it is too late to Covenant them, but you can complete a form to covenant next year's subs, do it now so you don't forget.

Once you have covenanted your subs, remember they are due on the 31st January and should be sent in the usual way to our Treasurer, not to me, and must be paid before the 5th April following, so that I can include them in our claim to repayment of tax. I will shortly be sending green forms R185 to all our covenanting members - please complete and return them to me as soon as possible.

Thank you again,

Valerie Metcalfe - Deed of Covenant Secretary

From M501

Dear Mr. Metcalfe,

I am writing to say how much I have enjoyed reading 'Another year in the life of William Metcalfe' in the latest edition of the Mecca News. My 3x great-grandfather was George Sheppard, who was a contemporary of William Metcalfe (his dates were 1756-1809) and lived only a few miles from Bagby at Coxwold. He was a farmer who liked to describe himself as 'gentleman' and at the time of his death was agent to Thomas Edward Wynn Belasyse of Newburgh Priory. He was Churchwarden at Coxwold for a time and was one of the 'jurors and Constables' at Old Byland. Like William, he evidently made frequent visits to York and a surviving letter shows him to be on friendly terms with his wine merchant, Mr. Burnell. William and George must have led very similar lives.

When, therefore, I read in the latest extract from William Metcalfe's Journal that he had visited Mr. Pierson in Coxwold, I felt as though we had a mutual acquaintance. The Rev. Robert Pierson, M.A. was the Minister at the neighbouring village of Hushwaite and Archdeacon of Cleveland as well as being the Master at Coxwold Grammar School until his death in 1805. He had close connections with the Sheppard family

for not only had he officiated at the marriage of George at Carlton in Hushwaite in 1781, his daughter Jane married George's eldest son John, only to die in childbirth four years later. Although I have no direct evidence, I strongly suspect that John and his brother George (who went on to become a solicitor and was my great-great-grandfather) were taught by the Rev. Pierson. When his widow died in 1822 she left bequests of £50 each to George and his twin sister Eleanor.

Although not strictly Metcalfe news, I hope that this may be of interest to your readers.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Wigglesworth

The Yorkshire Journal

Peter Metcalfe, see letter re Alkefrith, has also sent us information regarding a new journal which is just about to be published. Called the "Yorkshire Journal" it will be published four times per year at a cost of £2.95 per issue. It aims to produce a "serious but entertaining and informative journal on all topics of Yorkshire life, history, culture and folklore.

More details from:

Smith Settle Ltd., Ilkley Rd.

Otley W.Yorks LS21 3JP

Early Metcalf Emigrants to Nova Scotia by Denny Gibson

Recession is not a twentieth century phenomena. Many members will be aware of the mass migration from the Yorkshire Dales to mid-west America from the 1830's onwards. How many realise there was a large movement of population, from Yorkshire to Nova Scotia, predominantly in the 1770's?

The early 1700's had been fairly affluent as England made the most of her trade links with the 'New World'. Agriculture had been profitable and there had been a widespread tendency for the squirearchy to improve their estates. Farmsteads were rebuilt or drastically 'modernized'. The 'four-square' design of many Yorkshire farmhouses, date from renovations or rebuildings carried out from the early to mid 1700's. Large areas of common pastures were enclosed, often to be added to existing farms, in order to command a higher rent. Like all good things, it had to end! Various factors were, as always, involved but by the 1770's, agriculture was feeling the effects of depression. Struggling to pay their rent, farmers cut their labour force. The labourers, many of whom had lost their right to graze the odd cow and a few sheep on the common pastures, were destitute. No doubt it was this that enticed many of them to make what must have been a

very brave step into the unknown, across the 'Gert Dub', as the Atlantic was nicknamed. The movement probably started with the penniless, who had nothing to lose, but they were soon joined by tradesmen and farmers.

Ships passenger lists, carrying these voyagers, show that a huge number showed their reason for emigrating as "Leaving as rent is too high", "Leaving to find a better life", "uneconomic rent". Many were non-conformists, there is evidence that because of animosity and discrimination against early followers of John Wesley and other radical religious reformers, many converts left for Nova Scotia. Ralph Siddall, a brother of one of my gr x4 grandfathers, sailed from Hull in 1773 on the Albion. His wife and three children followed a year later. He was a wheelwright by trade and was almost certainly an early convert to Wesley's methodism.

Not all were short of money, some were quite affluent and were entrepreneurs, seeing it as an opportunity for investment.

Some emigrants left from Liverpool. JAMES METCALF, aged 66, and his son JAMES junior, 27, both devout Methodists and skilled in agriculture,

British Isles Genealogical Register

From the Federation of Family History Societies Information on FFHS Project

Dear Editor,

At the Federation Council meeting held in Worcester last September, it was agreed to support the above project. The application forms, for inclusion with society journals, will be available in early April at the Norwich conference.

I enclose a short article explaining the project that I hope you will find suitable for publication in your Spring or Summer Journal, either to publicise the project or to accompany the enclosed forms. Please feel free to edit and to include my name and address as contact for any queries re forms, etc.

Best wishes

**Carol McLee, Federation
Projects Co-ordinator**

3 The Green

Kirklevington

Yarm

Cleveland TS15 9NW

England

For many years societies have produced Members' Interests Directories in which members have been able to 'advertise' the families they are researching, hoping that others, interested in the same names, would be able to exchange information. The same was true for the well-known 'County Families' Directories, produced by John P. Perkins, which proved to be very popular and the information reached further afield with more subscribers than the local society booklets.

It is now time to set up a national list of family names being researched by family historians to complement the present system of county / society / regional directories to which only a comparative few contribute. The Federation of Family History Societies is sponsoring a project to list all the families being researched in the British Isles - to be known as 'The British Isles Genealogical Register'.

It will be open to everyone, not just members of family history societies. There are hundreds of people out there who are content to do their own thing and do not wish to belong to a society, or are totally ignorant of the fact that such things as family history societies exist and so cannot

sailed from Liverpool on the 16th March 1772, aboard the 'Duke of York'. JAMES, senior, had left Eppy Heads, near Hawnby, North Yorkshire. His son had been employed by Thomas Wilkinson at Marton, about twelve miles south of Eppy Heads. Four months after arrival, JAMES (junior) wrote to his fiancée, ANNE GILL, a farmer's daughter from Huby, near Marton, who also worked for the Wilkinson family. The surviving letter tells her of the excellent prospects and that he had managed to buy 207 acres of his own, plus a few more acres he had bought in partnership with others. He had found the people "naturally kind to one another, even the Indians". He tells her that many of the immigrants are Presbyterians or Baptists, but says "If one of our Methodist preachers came to Nova Scotia, people of all denominations would welcome him". He obviously appreciated the new found religious tolerance. JAMES METCALF'S only complaint was about the "mosquitos". He reminds ANNE of her promise to join him and he promises to be a kind husband to her. He tells her not to fear the journey and that there will be plenty of Yorkshire folk travelling with her on the voyage. He asks her to bring a bushel of four specific kinds of wheat seed with her and be careful to keep it dry by "laying it like a pillow in your bed". He advised her to sail from Liverpool saying the vessel would bring her to Fort Cumberland, at the far end of the Bay of Fundy, not far from the METCALF'S farm. He would meet her if she sent him word of her intended sailing.

ANNE did as she was bid and left her native parish of Sutton on Forest to join JAMES METCALF, the following year. They married in the crude church within the stockade of Fort Cumberland and before JAMES' premature death, 14 years later, produced a large family of METCALFS. ANNE and her brood carried on farming. No doubt with such a young family, she encountered hard work and difficulties, but they survived and prospered. Eventually, ANNE was laid to rest alongside JAMES METCALF, on the banks of the Maccon River, many miles from their native Yorkshire.

Source of Information:

1. "Voyagers to the West" by Bernard Bailyn and Barbara Dewolse, published 1986 in New York by Alfred Knops. The authors of the above book quote their source as "Thornton H. Lodge, comp. "The Metcalfe Family" genealogy in Webster Collection 7001/347". I presume this is a document in Canada.

2. My own research into the Siddall family of Wensley parish.

Denny Gibson

appreciate the give and take of the information that is available. I've seen the surprise on some faces when told!

The application forms will be made available to local history societies, record offices, libraries and family history societies throughout the U.K. Family historians living outside the U.K. with ancestral roots in the British Isles will also be invited to contribute.

Each entrant submits their research names with places and dates for a £1 fee per form which will cover the operating costs of the project. Unlike other directories, the 'British Isles Genealogical Register' will be available in county sections - eg the Yorkshire section will contain Yorkshire interests only, thus helping family historians to concentrate their interests within one county. This should increase the possibilities of 'family contacts', and enable them to select only the counties in which they are interested. Scotland, Ireland & Wales will be treated as countries in three separate sections. The entries for each county will be given free to all the societies of that county as hard copy or micro-fiche. Each society will be free to publish the information as a book or on micro-fiche, or hold it as a referral index for their area, as it wishes.

The Federation of Family History

Societies invites you to register the surnames you are researching in the British Isles. In this way, you can make your interests known to thousands of other family historians - world wide.

If YOU have family interests scattered over counties in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales & the Channel Isles you could have your entries publicised in ALL of them. This is an opportunity not to be missed. Watch out for the BIG R!

From Josi Birkbeck, USA

Dear Nina,

I would search for any twig that has dropped from anyone's Metcalfe tree, throughout the SS Death Indexes, in all fifty states. This gives d.o.b. (not place), date and place of death and Zip Code to where the last benefits were paid. This could give you addresses for next of kin and with the SSN one could obtain death certificate for name of spouse. The Zip Code is useful to write to the public library in the town mentioned, for Voters lists and phone numbers for that street/location. Search free of charge, printouts are 2 1/2p each! 16 entries per sheet. If a full Christian name is looked for the entry takes up a whole sheet. 160 names = 10 sheets (postage about £1).

There's also 'Phonedisc', 250 names, addresses, phone numbers and Zip Codes, even LABELS are provided (not an LDS facility) for £10. Useful for a one namer.

Kind regards,

Josi Birkbeck

Josi also sends this article from the February issue of "Yankee". Does anyone know of Emeline Metcalf?

I have acquired 25 diaries of George M. Wadsworth (b.1836, m.Emeline Metcalf, 1861, sons: Elmer, Alvah) that I am transcribing. The diaries include daily entries dated from 1857 to 1893. Unfortunately there are gaps in the sequence of the journals that suggest some are missing. I hope to contact descendants of George's only surviving son, Alvah, to locate and copy the last of the diaries. Alvah moved to Seattle, Washington in 1892, then to Denver, Colo., where he married Annabel; his last known address (according to a family will) was 412 Cooper Building, Denver.

Gail Lembo,

221 Pond Street, Franklin, MA 02038

James Metcalfe Dobson strikes a familiar note!

From M442

Dear Editor,

How I envy the recent member to your Society who has been able to establish quite clearly his Metcalfe lineal descent to some time prior to 1389. I am one of the many who have difficulty tracing descent prior to 1837 when registration of births, marriages and deaths became a compulsory civil requirement. Over the past few years through the assistance of an excellent service of films obtained through the Church of the Latter Day Saints at a small cost I have worn my eyesight very thin in the scrutiny of parish records and bishops transcripts to some time after 1538, when the keeping of parish records was imposed by the State upon the ecclesiastical authorities. I have searched through the parish records mentioned by my mother as connected with the Metcalfe family but have not been able to come across any direct link leading to a claim that my forebears were the illustrious Sir James or Sir Christopher or Sir Thomas of Nappa and even before them that Adam Metcalfe of Middle Tongue might have been my clan chieftain. All very frustrating.

Stanley Metcalfe, another committee member

It would have helped of course had my mother not thrown out the family Bible when she last changed her residence, and it would undoubtedly have assisted me further if as a child I had paid greater attention to her stories of heritage, which unfortunately I associated with bedtime fairy tales. As it is I have now had to rely on the ability of ecclesiastical clerks to maintain exacting records. Some of them knew their responsibilities and gave detailed account, leading from one name to a previous one and even further back, - the parish of Thornton Watlass I seem to remember was of that nature, whereas the parish records of East Witton, Spennythorne, Patrick Brompton merely contained the scantiest of names. What I have been able to establish however is the migratory movement of the Metcalfe family from Upper Wensleydale in one direction across the moors to Swaledale, in another direction across the moors to Nidderdale. And yet again to Westmoreland and finally down the Ure dale towards the plain of York. It appears that these migrations, no doubt prompted by economic circumstances, occurred at precise historical times. It would be a fruitful field for any student of social change to investigate the causes. But when the migrations occurred Metcalfes appeared like mushrooms in parish records for a generation or two.

Johns, James, Thomas, Christophers married and produced Elizabeth, Jane, Mary and Ann. How with certainty and a great deal of speculation can I pinpoint which of several similar names was the one from whom I am descended. During my travels in various parts of the world I have come across the family name in many countries - Canada, the USA, S.Africa and now Australia (I have not yet made New Zealand). All I can say is that we share a common origin somewhere on the bleak Yorkshire moors of Langstrothdale Chase. But how did we get there, and from where?

Yours faithfully,

James Metcalfe Dobson

From M30

In a letter to our Secretary, Nina, Clarence Metcalfe makes the following request. He is a stamp collector and wonders whether there are other members with a similar interest. He would like to "swop" bundles of British stamps for similar bundles of Canadian stamps.

If anyone is interested please contact Clarence direct. His address is:

83-3691 Albion Rd. S

Gloucester, Ontario KIT IP2 Canada

An only child of James Metcalfe and Amy Lush, born in Lancaster in November 1928, I perhaps more than a member of a larger family have sought the company of cousins, aunts and uncles, and have enjoyed the cut and thrust of an extended family connection.

I heard about the Metcalfe Society from a Richard Metcalfe who is a fellow member. I was drawn to him by having the same surname. This was my first contact with the society and the name was the bond between us.

Until just over a year ago I did not know that the Metcalfe Society existed. I had heard about other family organisations or clans but not of the Metcalfe's.

In this past year I have come to know something of the hard and dedicated work put in by the founding members of our society. When one considers the amount of time taken to collate the information on Births, Marriages and Deaths; to put them in order and commit them to computer disks; to correspond with and try to increase our membership; to communicate with and encourage other family societies...it is truly remarkable what the founders and present members of our committee have accomplished in the few years since our foundation.

What, however, of the future? The more information we are able to obtain and process the further and better we will be able to progress. This means that we need more and more Metcalfes to send in details of their family connections together with notable events from their family histories. I would like to see members allocated areas and then send up-to-date reports on events featuring Metcalfes which appear in local newspapers etc. From the information gathered in this way we could maintain a centralised, constantly updated file which in years to come will prove valuable to our members.

My vision is of the Metcalfe Society pulsating with vitality.... not only recording the past... but planning and creating a great future for this great family of ours.

Could it be, for example, that among our members there is someone who could produce a video cassette of our family history which could be profitably marketed?

While our fellowship affords interest and enjoyment we must never forget that our researches are an obligation laid on us by Metcalfes yet to come.

Stanley Metcalfe

BEDALE POLICE CHARGE BOOK

Northallerton County Records Office-
Microfilm No. 1681

I recently allowed myself to be very pleasantly sidetracked in Northallerton CRO, the other day. The above book covers the years 1857 to 1870. Bedale Court appears to have had jurisdiction over a fairly wide area as cases are included from Masham, Constable Burton, Kirby Fleetham, Carthorpe, etc. There is an index of a sort - it lists all the names that appear in the Charge Book but does not give the page numbers or case numbers, so it is not easy to find any one particular case. However, needless to say, I did not browse long before the name METCALFE jumped from the page, e.g. :-

"William Milligan of Richmond for disobeying a Bastardy Order due to ELIZABETH METCALFE of Salutation. Paid arrears of 18/-d. plus costs. 28th April 1857."

I was somewhat surprised to come across another entry 5 years later:-

"William Milligan, 32, general dealer of Richmond, for disobeying a Bastardy Order due to ANN METCALF, single woman, of Holtby. Paid arrears and expenses, 20th January 1862".

The question arose in my mind, who were ELIZABETH and ANN METCALF(E)? Were they sisters/relatives or had there been a clerical error with only one unfortunate METCALFE lady involved but her Christian name wrongly entered in the records? If they were two different people, they lived very close to each other and perhaps it was little wonder that Wm Milligan got into arrears, if he was supporting more than one illegitimate child. Holtby consists of a Hall and a few cottages, close by the western side of the A1 between Catterick & Leeming/Bedale. Salutation was almost certainly the Salutation Inn, which used to stand almost on the side of the A1, just east of Holtby. Perhaps a check of the registers of Kirby Fleetham and Hornby, the parishes either side of the A1, in this vicinity, might reveal more. In the meantime, I can give a list of the METCALFE names listed at the beginning of the charge book - several of them appear in the book on numerous occasions! If you have a METCALFE link in the Bedale area, with any of the following Christian names, you could spend a very absorbing day with the Police Charge Book!

Metcalfes who appear on charges in the above book were:- Thomas, John, James, William, Timothy, George, Anthony, Ellick, Jonathan and Richard.

Denny Gibson

A Plea for Help

We should be obliged if you could please find a space in Mecca News for a 'Plea for Help'. Drawing up a glossary of "Metcalf Place Names" for our branch of the family, we cannot trace 8 out of a total of 184, probably farms, small manors, hamlets or crofts in North Yorkshire or Cumbria we expect. Any help with any or all of the following would be welcomed - map reference or distance and direction from a larger town would be appreciated.

1. Caerwen
2. Carthem
3. Combetheyfock (could this be Cumdirock in Cumbria NY3549; 5 miles E of Wigton?)
4. Dalriata (thought to be an area in SE Scotland a thousand years ago.)
5. Goscroft
6. Gostcroft
7. Henley Mills
8. Hertlington in Craven

Thank you,

Norah and John Robinson

(address in next column opposite)

An Offer of Help

From M3

Dear Editor,

In common with, I hope, many members of the Metcalfe Society, my family tree spreads all over the country and the U.S.A. I am unable to spend much time in the various County Record Offices. However I live close to London and Kew and go to the P.R.O. several times a year.

Could I ask if any member will be interested in a reciprocal arrangement for both Metcalfe and non-Metcalfe research? Currently I am looking for information in Gloucestershire and Westmoreland as well as Northallerton. I have an arrangement with people in the U.S.A., their interests are Durham and Glamorgan so I would like to include these as well.

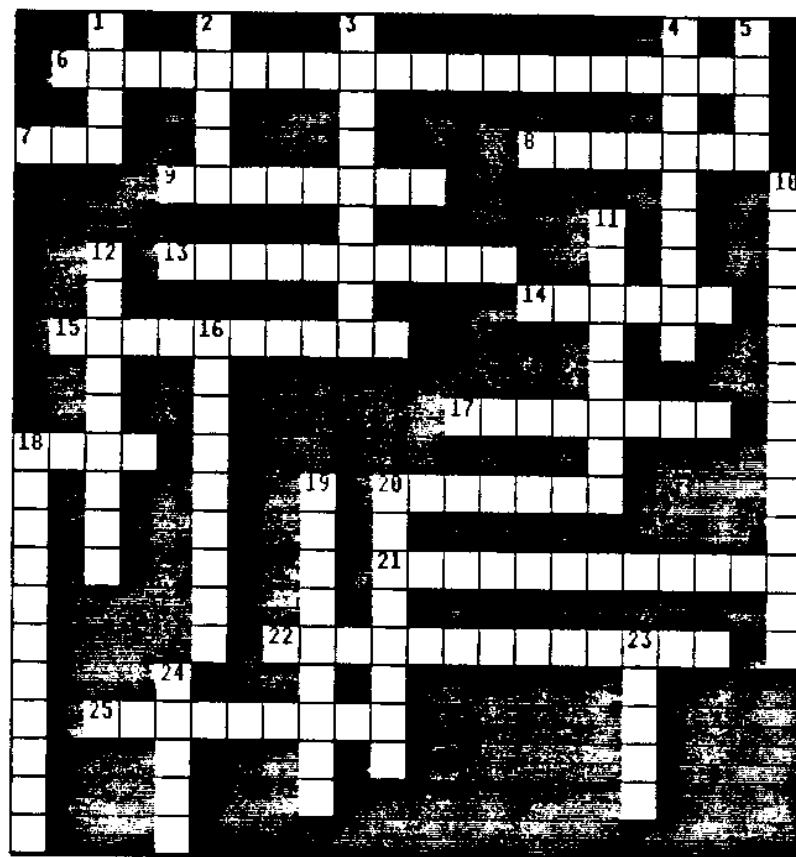
Who knows what the P.R.O. holds - land records, census, non-conformist records. However it must be understood that I only get limited time. Any ideas?

George Buxton

Norton House, 26 Chester Rd.,

Holmes Chapel, Crewe, Cheshire

CW47 DP



ACROSS...

- 6) The 'One Constant Rule' (7,6,7).
- 7) Era.
- 8) Apparently the Metcalfees are famous for one (1,6).
- 9) Famous Book.
- 13) Hidden Secret... of the 'No Beans Inn' (4,6).
- 14) What it's all about.
- 15) The oldest house in Northallerton (5,5).
- 17) The terrible _____ of Dent.
- 18) Where there's a _____ there's a way.
- 20) When a Royal Flower place gets roots (3,4).
- 21) Venue is a must... (5,7).
- 22) Who stole Barrow's braces? (5,8).
- 25) Yorkshire Bloom (5,4).

DOWN...

- 1) Most have barked up the wrong one.
- 2) You can recognise a member by this.
- 3) The Journal of the Metcalfe Society (5,4).
- 4) A good place for 40 winks (5,4).
- 5) Eldest son.
- 10) 12 foot down was Methley's solution to this problem (4,9).
- 11) Charles wouldn't be without his.
- 12) The Twins (3,6).
- 16) Hearts did not warm to this in 1673 (6,3).
- 19) Sounds like something you study by rubbing a lamp.
- 20) Fate of Thomas, Lofthouse gamekeeper.
- 23) Metcalf information sheets.
- 24) Trees are often found in it.
- 25) Tasty haunt of the Metcalfees.

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Accommodation lists can be obtained from the Tourist Information Office,
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To :- The Secretary, Mrs Nina Benson,
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Send before the 1st September 1993 Please.

I enclose payment for places @ £9.50 each = £
for the 1993 Muster / AGM on Saturday 9th October 1993
at The College of Ripon & York St John, Ripon, Yorkshire.

Please make your payment to 'The Metcalfe Society' and enclose a stamped
addressed envelope if you require a receipt. (All in BLOCK CAPITALS please.)

FULL NAME Membership Number

ADDRESS

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I shall be accompanied by :-
(Please give FULL names and state if Society Members or not. Non members are
most welcome but cannot take an active part in the Annual General Meeting.)

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The MECCA MUSTER & A.G.M.

Saturday 9th October 1993

At The College of Ripon & York St John, College Road, Ripon, Yorkshire.

Price per Person is

£9.50

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9.30 am to 4.30 pm

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Registration from
9.30 am.

AGM at 10 am

Lunch 1 pm

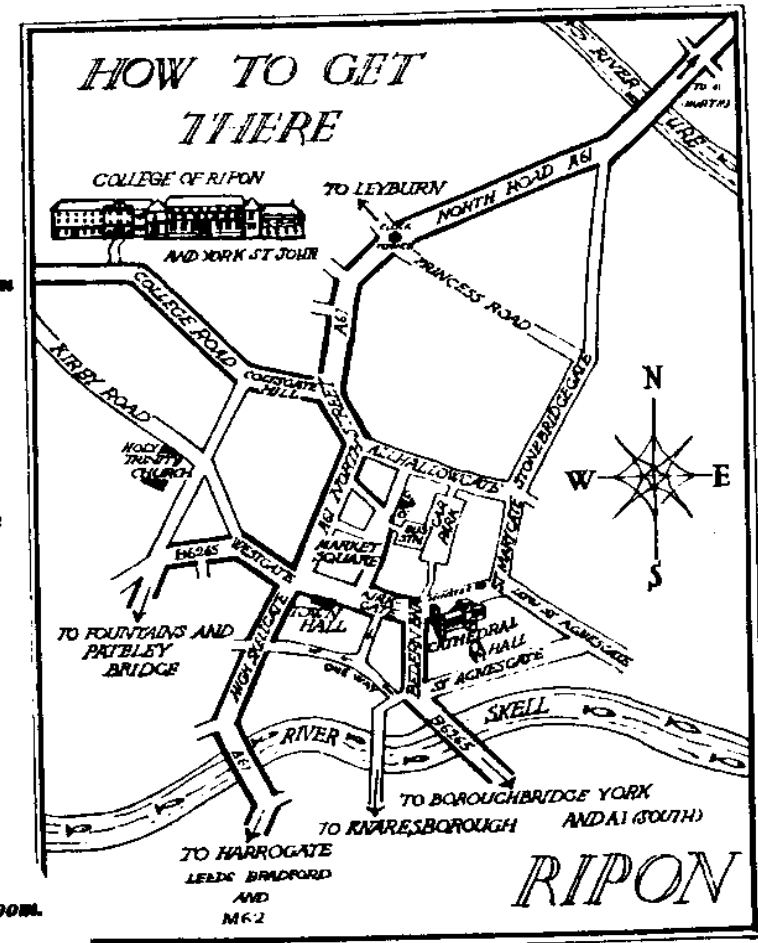
Tea 3.30 pm

Close 4.30 pm.

#####

Lunch will be of
three courses,
served in a
separate dining room.

#####



Plenty of car parking space at the College.