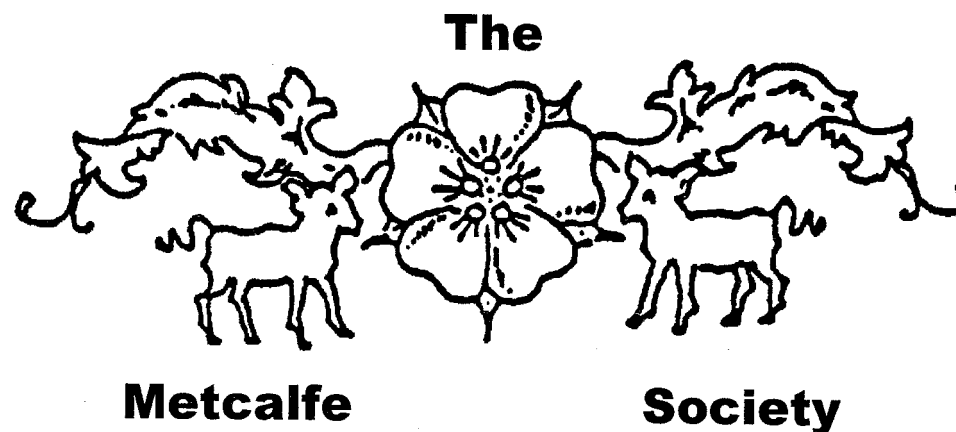




MECCA NEWS

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How to Contact Us

All general queries and correspondence about the society to the Secretary.
All search queries about your Metcalfe family tree to the Archivist.
Send any updates to your Metcalfe Birth Brief to the Archivist.
Send any research that you have completed that includes Metcalfes to the List Coordinator.
Send contributions for the Mecca News to the Editor.
Send subscription renewals for UK members and £ sterling payments to the Treasurer.
Send subscription renewals for non-UK currency payments to your local Country Agent.
Send name and address changes to the Keeper of the Muster Membership File.
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December 2002

The Mecca News

The MECCA NEWS

The Journal of the Metcalfe Society
produced three times a year in April August and December

Issue No. 68

December 2002

Editor: Peter W Dobson

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This issue is hopefully back to something like normal as we have organised the printing arrangements for the Mecca News. Unfortunately the previous arrangements which have been beneficial to the Society over the years are no longer available.

We will have to keep to around 36 pages for the foreseeable future and this might delay the appearance of some articles already in the pipeline but I hope we will still be able to achieve a balance which gives a magazine that remains informative and interesting.

I thought you might like to see the scarecrows from the Jubilee weekend in June and they are in the centre pages. There were even more but I ran out of film before I got to them all!

Congratulations goes to our Secretary Diane Howarth (see page 7) and an interesting letter on page 36 concerning replies to requests for help. See what you think. Compliments of the Season to you all.

Mecca Index As you probably know the above title is given to our main Metcalfe data base which is maintained by David Metcalfe and added to very frequently by the data he personally gathers and by data sent in by other members such as eager beaver M398.

Some two years ago we ran an exercise to give existing members information on the top/oldest two or three families on their tree. It seemed to be well received.

We intend now to carry out this exercise on a 'Forth Bridge' basis i.e. to start in January every second year with Member 1 and to finish when each existing member has been mailed. Of course if you have just joined you will be up to date anyway. Please send comments and opinions to the Editor as the service progresses.

OLD MECCA SIGHTINGS

William Metcalfe Precentor of Ely 1778

Matthew Metcalfe Chorister November 26th 1712

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

My Grandfather was always one for a laugh, and he used to tell the tale of mistaken identity

Whenever business would allow, my grandparents used to take a week at Morecambe in Lancashire. In those days the lady guest used to go shopping straight after breakfast for the meat or fish for that days dinner. The landlady provided everything else and cooked the dinner to perfection and to the appointed time.

This particular morning, Grandma said, "Now you get a paper and go and sit down on the promenade Walter while I go to the butcher and I will meet you shortly. Grandpa duly did this and on reading his paper he found there was a competition on in Morecambe This national paper had printed a part picture of someone's face. i.e. the eyes under a trilby or a chin or an ear.

Grandpa had only been sat there a few minutes when a young lady came up and stood before him She put two shopping bags down beside her and took a folded newspaper out of one of them putting it under her arm.. She then stood to attention and in a firm voice said to Grandpa "You are Mr. Lobby Ludd and I claim the £5 prize " Grandpa said he was very sorry but he wasn't and he hoped she would soon find him." She hurried away in embarrassment.

A few minutes later Grandma turned up and said did he want to stay a little longer or should they go to that little cafe and have a cup of tea. Grandpa agreed on the tea and said he had something funny to tell her. So off they went for a good laugh

Some weeks later we heard that Grandma had written to this Landlady for her tariff and on agreeing to accept she just wrote a few lines on a post card, including the time they were likely to arrive. They were very religious and didn't like to miss the Sunday morning service at the Wesleyan Chapel. Then Grandpa suggested that she asked how far it was to the Chapel. Not having much room left at the bottom of the card, she just asked how far it was to the nearest W. C. She got a quick reply to say that they had had a water closet put in the house.!!!

Lillah Chapman M 218

Young Rugby Union Star

Jamie Metcalfe, son of former Mosley captain, Ian and grandson of Fenwick Allison, an England full back helped North Midlands 16 Group to victory over Leicestershire. From Birmingham Evening Star 14/11/2002.

Supplied by **Paul Robertson M1259**.

Metcalfe fatalities as a result of mining accidents in the mines of the North East of England

Name	DoB	Date of death	Age	Anccestor of
Anthony Mt	bn c1886	9 May 1908	22	
Benjamin Mt	bn c1856	28 Nov 1879	23	
Henry Mt	bn c1872	16 Oct 1886	14	
Herbert Parker Mt		19 Jan 1915		
James A Mt	bn c1875	12 May 1926	51	
John Mt	bn c1838	1 Nov 1870	32	
John Mt	bn c1845	2 May 1892	47	
John Mt	bn c1897	8 Aug 1919	22	
Thomas Mt	bn c1860	28 Feb 1879	19	
Thomas Mt	bn c1837	28 Dec 1892	55	
Thomas Mt	bn c1842	14 Oct 1906	64	
Vincent Mt	bn c1867	20 Jan 1881	14	
William Mt	bn c1838	16 Dec 1870	32	
William Mt	bn c1867	4 Nov 1889	22	
A.G. Mte	bn c1876	24 Oct 1895	19	
Christopher Mte	bn c1885	15 Jul 1898	13	
F Mte	bn c1927	20 Feb 1951	24	
George Mte	bn c1834	16 Aug 1892	58	
George Mte	bn c1851	2 Jun 1902	51	
James Mte	bn c1859	1 Jul 1909	50	
James Mte	bn c1880	15 Dec 1918	38	M448
John Mte	bn c1851	11 Mar 1873	22	
John James Mte	bn c1875	3 Mar 1898	23	
Joseph Mte	bn c1851	3 Mar 1880	29	
Michael Mte	bn c1835	27 Apr 1891	56	M1388
R.H. Mte	bn c1901	22 Jul 1936	35	
William Mte	bn c1830	26 Jul 1884	54	

A list of the collieries in which they worked at, can be viewed on the Durham Mining Museum's website, at www.dmm.org.uk. Some of the names have links to pages referring to the details of the accident, the Mines Inspectors report and/or an image of the memorial erected if they were killed in a mining disaster. **Extracted and Researched by David Metcalfe M46**

One plus One

Laura Metcalfe an accountant for KPMG married Simon Arbuckle of rival accountants Deloitte & Touche at Glasgow University Chapel on 23 February 2002. From the Saturday Daily Express.

Subscription Increase - Why?

Enclosed with this edition of the Mecca News is the usual Subscription Renewal Form. On the reverse you will see confirmation of those members who have paid in advance. If your number is there, you need do nothing except smile! For many years we have suggested that you can pay in advance for as many years as you wish, and by doing so, you do not have to pay the extra amount when subscriptions increase. Well, that time has come!!

Given the permanent loss of the free Mecca News photocopying facility, and the increasing postage costs, especially for non-UK destinations, members at the October 2002 AGM approved the proposal to raise the subscriptions for 2003 to the following :

New rates

* UK Individual (£8) and UK Family (£9) £10

* Overseas Individual (£8) and Family (£9) via surface mail £12

* Overseas Individual (£9) and Family (£10) via air mail £14

The joining fee of 50% of the chosen subscription rate remains unchanged. Therefore, when sending your subscription renewal (either via post using a personal cheque or online using a credit card) please ensure you use the new rates.

'Metcalfe - History of the Clan' Launch

As you will no doubt read about the successful Mecca Muster this year, the event also saw the launch of the reprinted 'Metcalfe - History of the Clan'. Relatively new members were as impressed with the quality of the book as those long-standing members who bought the first edition. Additional sales were made at the Muster and since then to mid November, the society has sold 230 copies of the book - almost 25% of the total amount of books available. Sales leading up to Christmas have been steady. The society is now in a position to support demand by future new members and non-members alike over the next couple of years.

A book order form will be provided with future copies of the Mecca News. In the meantime, if you are interested in purchasing the book please request details from the secretary or order the book online at the society's website paying by credit card.

From - Life & Tradition in the Yorkshire Dales by M Hartley & J Ingloby
(written about 1967 - held in the Society's Library.).

Page 23 has a photo of **Mrs Cooper Metcalfe** of Starling Castle, Swaledale seated before her kitchen range. (She was Alice nee Alderson).

Page 42 has a photo of **Mrs P Metcalfe** of Shoregill, Swaledale using an iron cheese press.

Page 68 - Washing sheep, which gradually ended in the twentieth century, took place in late June.... **Mr G. Metcalfe**, Bouthwaite, Nidderdale, said that there were two or three of you standing in the dub. Old rags were worn, but you were careful to tie up sleeves so that the water couldn't get in.

Page 124 - Hay-time... From 1897 to 1903 Mr Ernest Campbell mowed the sixteen acres at Cosh, Littondale by himself. **Jeremiah Metcalfe** of Oldcotes, Littondale, had eighty acres to mow alone. Starting at 4 a.m. each day he went on rain or shine, never stopping until all was down.

Page 162 - Tailors... **Mr A Metcalfe** says that just before the First World War a suit 'made on the board' was from £2 to £3.At Hawes, Wensleydale, the journeymen went to a lodging house of two rooms,charged 3d. a night. As an apprentice **Arnold Metcalfe** was sent out to buy 3d. worth of liver which together with some onions the journeymen cooked in a pan supplied at the house.**Arnold Metcalfe** remembers making a special horse dealer's suit for Bill Buck of Appersett, Wensleydale made of green tweed.

From the WHARFEDALE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP : WHARFEDALE
NEWSLETTER Sept 2002 Issue No.45;page 71

St John's Church Yeadon, "the first baptism entry at the new churchwas July 21st 1844, when the **Rev. W.METCALFE** baptised The Rev W. METCALFE was very active in reviving enthusiasm amongst his flock. During the next few years there are many multiple baptisms in his register....[a list of these is given]. The Rev METCALFE possibly achieved his greatest success on Aug. 19 1848 when he baptised 39 children many of them multiple family baptisms"

1863 WHARFEDALE FAMILY ALMANAC.

Reference to a **Rev W METCALFE**. He appears to be the clergyman at HUBBERHOLME St. Michael with no living attached to his position.

Supplied by **D Lambert M11**

Secretary's Report



The old saying goes 'if you've got it, flaunt it'. I write this after just enjoying an important day for me - when I was awarded my postgraduate Diploma in Marketing at a graduation ceremony in Birmingham. Although not obvious from the picture, there are still a few brain cells left at 40!

As you will read in the journal, we have an urgent requirement to gain & train volunteers to help in the archivist's role. Alongside this, although of slightly lesser importance, the committee have already started reviewing how my workload can be re-allocated to other people. This is because the scope of responsibilities that I have taken on over the past few years has widened somewhat.

So what have I been getting up to? It not only includes the internal/external liaison for the society but also other areas such as supporting the agents, working with the web administrator to provide content for the website, processing book orders, creation & printing of all publications, writing a number of articles for each Mecca News, and finding replacement printing and copying facilities for the society. The worst scenario is that if I was to get seriously ill tomorrow, there are too many areas of running the society that are dependent on my availabilityand that is not healthy for the society. Thanks goes to Lesley Longworth who is taking responsibility for receiving queries by post and telephone, and to Carol Herbert for receiving queries via e-mail. For instance, is anyone interested in the role of supporting the agents which involves responding to queries from them and also providing material on a regular basis? Do let me know.

On a more positive note, I have been delighted to receive a number of notes from members and non-members who have purchased the Metcalfe book and can be classed as 'delighted customers'. Long may it continue.

So assuming you are reading this article, it means that one of the above jobs has been completed - replacement printing facilities for the society! My winter will include a combination of the above mentioned jobs - I hope you also enjoy a varied selection of projects during the forthcoming winter months.

Diane Howarth (M409)

COMMITTEE NEWS



Report on the September meeting

Chairman: David reported that IBM's generous charitable support for many years for the printing of the "Mecca News" had now been withdrawn. The Editor had performed well to produce the August edition despite the undoubted difficulties. The Society needed to reflect on the future level of subscriptions in the light of publishing costs as they now stood.

Secretary: There was some detailed discussion of ways of reducing Diane's workload, which has increased substantially over the years. David Lambert will become the point of contact for all Federation business. Carol Herbert will be the Contact Secretary for e-mail enquiries to the Society and Lesley will be the Contact Secretary for land mail and telephone enquiries.

Treasurer: The balance sheets were approved. The use of the Pay Pal system was working well. It will be emphasized that the Society prefers overseas renewals of membership through Pay Pal if possible. The Committee thanked Carol for her hard work in setting up the Pay Pal system. She reported that it had done about 3500 dollars of business in its first six months.

Archivist: Eileen outlined the increase in the volume of her workload and there was a long and detailed discussion of ways forward. Diane will include more guidance in the New Members Booklet regarding the type of detail required before requests for information are made to the Archivist. At the moment some requests are much too vague, and put too much pressure on a service supplied through purely voluntary effort. Until the Muster, David Metcalfe agreed to help support Eileen in getting through the backlog of enquiries and dealing with incoming work. New volunteers to help with the work of the Archivist will be sought.

New Members' Secretary: There had been 65 new members since the last report in March.

Master Membership File: There are 624 current members: 449 from the UK, 58 in the USA, 43 in Australia, 40 in Canada, 26 in New Zealand, 4 in France, 3 in South Africa and 1 in Germany.

Editor: There was discussion of the new printing costs. Diane will set up a display at the Muster of possible printing options for the magazine and seek opinions from the membership.

Subscriptions: In the light of increased magazine costs the Committee felt it would be necessary to raise subscriptions to £10 for UK members, £14 for overseas airmail and £12 for overseas surface mail.

Despatch: June and Doug have found out that the Post Office will carry out postage franking at no extra cost if dealing with over 500 copies, so they are to use this system.

Computer Index: The main index currently stood at 82,391 entries.

Web Administrator: A volunteer was still needed to sift through e-mails received in response to the web noticeboard.

Publications: When complete, the place name index for the Birth Brief Booklet will be placed in the members only area of the website.

Affiliations: The Society plans to be represented at the North West Fair in Manchester on 27th October.

Conference Secretary: There was discussion of detailed plans for the forthcoming Muster.

Projects: The second edition of "Metcalf: History of the Clan" is now printed and will be available at the Muster and for dispatch. The index will be photocopied and made available at the Muster and to those who write in for a copy. It will also be available as an e-mail text file. The Committee thanked those involved in the publication of this second edition of the book for their hard work.

Research: Warwick, George and Charles have formed an India book sub-committee. This needs a writer. A plea for a writer will be made at the Muster and through the "Mecca News". The plans for this book are likely to include two sections, one on stories of individual Metcalfes in India and the other on references to the documents available.

**The next meeting will take place on
Saturday 15th March 2003 at Earby.**

Margaret Hodgson M515

A HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP OF THE OLD POST OFFICE, SCORTON, YORKSHIRE

As supplied by Michael Eden © 2002 to Charles Metcalfe M305.

A remarkable collection of documents gives a full record of the ownership of this property for almost 200 years. The documents are originals and are in exceptionally good condition. It is astonishing that they have remained together and in this condition for all these years. Not only that but they give valuable insights into social affairs and the history of one family in particular, the Metcalfes.

Some of the documents are rare, for example the Wills of the various members of the Metcalfe family, with the Grants of Probate attached. They carry such things as the Court Seals which have been meticulously applied and are as fresh as the day they were done. The workmanship, from the persons who wrote the documents to the immaculate finishing of them, is breathtaking. Some of the documents are "home-made" and all the more remarkable because of that, and the fact that they have survived. If you have any sort of imagination you should be able to picture poor old William Metcalfe deciding it was time to do his Will and sitting down with a very ordinary piece of paper. To me it is obvious that he has copied phrases from other Wills. No doubt he thought he could save some money by doing it himself but in the long run it has ended up costing his family much more, as many other Do-it-Yourself will makers have done.

All of these documents carry the signatures of the principal parties, or in some cases their "mark", but the signatures and occupations of the many witnesses are also most interesting. There are also several Bills from Solicitors and again it is amazing that they have survived at all. If only people could write like that now !! As a former member of the legal profession I have to comment that I do not know how they did it for the money ! These bills have been receipted across Inland Revenue postage stamps of Victoria's reign, which is how receipts were done then, and I suspect that these are now possibly rare and have some value.

There can be very few properties where not only is the identity of each successive owner known for such a long period, but there is also the complete original documentation to prove it and in such good condition also. The documents have obviously not been handled much, if at all, for many years and this has helped to preserve them.

A summary of the succession follows:-

1. ROBERT GIBSON [1757-1831]. 1831. By his will Robert leaves "*all that house at Scorton being my property with a parlor now down and fronting the South*" to his two sons, William Gibson and Joseph Gibson. Robert is a cordwainer, which is a skilled shoemaker.

2. WILLIAM GIBSON [1784-1863]. 1856. By his will William leaves "*all my part share and interest in the dwelling house with appurtenances situate at Scorton aforesaid where I now reside*" to his brother Joseph Gibson. From a strictly legal point of view this is difficult to interpret, since the property was left to both William and Joseph jointly by their father, in any event. Therefore on the death of the father (Robert) the property should have passed into their joint names; in turn whenever one of the brothers died the property would have automatically passed into the sole name of the survivor - it is not necessary for William to leave his share to Joseph in a separate document. However at this point in time conveyancing was less of a science (it is significant that there is no other paperwork) and no doubt what happened was that on Robert's death the property was lived in by William (Joseph still having a half ownership). By this will William is simply confirming what would have to happen in any event. William is a shoemaker.

3. JOSEPH GIBSON [1799-1864]. 1864. By his will Joseph leaves "*all my property of whatever nature.....to be equally divided between my brother Thomas Gibson, my sister Susan Metcalfe, and William and Robert Gibson sons of my late brother Robert Gibson. As I wish the house and garden to remain in the family the persons may agree among themselves which of my name is ultimately to possess the property after paying the three others their shares according to a valuation*". Joseph is a shoemaker. By any standards this Will is a disaster waiting to happen. To expect his brother and sister (who has married), and the two sons of his other brother, to agree who should have the house is perhaps hoping a bit too much. The wording could also cause many complications. The ownership thus passes to -

4. THOMAS GIBSON [1796-1871], SUSAN METCALFE [1792-1872, married George Metcalfe 1795-1869 in 1819; George was son of Christopher 1751-1812 & Hannah nee Brown], WILLIAM GIBSON [1824-] AND ROBERT GIBSON [1833-]. 1864. Sure enough we find that by March 1871 there had not been any such agreement by the four of them, and Susan (Metcalfe) sells her share in the property to a Robert Metcalfe [1823-1878 her son]. She is now described as a widow of Great Langton. Robert Metcalfe is described as a farmer of Thornton le Moor (Near Thirsk). It would seem highly likely that Robert is a relative of Susan's late husband. He paid her £18 as her quarter share of

the property which seems to value the property at £72. Note that Susan Metcalfe cannot write her name and makes "her mark". In this document the property is described as "that messuage or Cottage with garden and outbuildings. (A "messuage" is a very old word, although still often used today. It is basically a blanket term meaning house). The ownership thus passes to -

5. THOMAS GIBSON, ROBERT METCALFE, WILLIAM GIBSON and ROBERT GIBSON. March 1871. Through the document next described in detail we learn that Thomas Gibson died intestate (no date is given) and his quarter share is therefore inherited by his eldest son Robert Gibson. The ownership thus passes to -

6. ROBERT GIBSON (son of Thomas), ROBERT METCALFE, WILLIAM GIBSON and ROBERT GIBSON. (Date unknown).

7. ROBERT METCALFE. 1871 December 30. Some nine months after Susan Metcalfe had sold her quarter share to Robert Metcalfe we find that the other three Gibsons are also selling to him and the ownership therefore now passes into the sole hands of Robert Metcalfe. He pays £20 to each of them for their share, effectively valuing the property at £80. Note that one of the Robert Gibsons **[presume RG son of Thomas]** has moved to Barnsbury in Middlesex. All the parties can sign their names. The property still has the same description as above.

8. HANNAH METCALFE **[1825-1897 nee Parvin]**. 1878. Robert Metcalfe died on 26th June 1878 intestate (without leaving a Will). Probate of his Estate was granted to his widow Hannah. It is interesting to see from this that his main residence is given as Thornton le Moor, and presumably he did not ever live at Scorton. From the two Inland Revenue summaries we learn that the value of his Estate (other than property) is £275-16-6 and on this duty of £1-16-9 was paid. On the property return are listed 2 cottages at Scorton, each valued at £65, with a yearly rental value of £4. Later documentation makes it clear that these are not two separate cottages but that the property was now divided into two. Perhaps this gives an indication of the size of the property in 1878.

A Consent document dated 15th July 1878 is both curious and legally imprecise, but by it John James Palliser **[1854-]**, Susannah (Metcalfe) Palliser (his wife) **[1852-]**, Elizabeth Emma Metcalfe **[1856-1899]** and William Metcalfe **[1859-1901]**, described as the children and next of kin of Robert Metcalfe, purport to consent that their mother Hannah Metcalfe "*shall retain in her hands for her use and benefit during her lifetime our several shares in the Estate and effects of the said deceased*".

In this document, and subsequent ones, reference is made to "in consideration of our natural love and affection". I feel I should point out that this does not always reflect the situation, but it is a legal device. In all transactions and conveyances there has to be a "consideration" i.e. something has to change hands. Usually this is money but there are occasional transactions where no money is needed or appropriate, most often in family matters, as here.

The next development is three years later when William Metcalfe sells the property to his mother Hannah. This document is most interesting and complicated and reflects great credit on whoever drafted it at the solicitors (West's of Thirsk). Essentially by this document William Metcalfe claims ownership of the property by virtue of being the eldest son. It will be remembered that in document 7 the four people take it on themselves to consent to their mother, Hannah, taking a lifetime use in their shares in the Estate. It is my view that this document has no legal effect. Apart from anything else, John James Palliser has no legal interest in the Estate. He is neither a child nor next of kin. He is only the husband of one of the daughters.

William therefore claims ownership and by means of this document achieves several things. He conveys ownership to his mother. However he sets down conditions on this. Firstly his mother promises that in consideration of this conveyance she will, as soon as she has signed it, execute her Will (which has already been prepared) and in her Will she will have left the property to William. Secondly she promises not to sell the property and thirdly she promises not to revoke or in any way alter her Will. By these means the property is certain to come back into William's ownership (assuming that his mother dies before him). It is also expressly declared that the purpose of the document is to enable Hannah to enjoy the "rents and profits" of the property. Finally it is declared that the property stands charged with the payment to William's sister, Susannah, of the sum of £100 (or as much of the sum of £100 as cannot be paid from Hannah's other assets on death. In other words, if Hannah only leaves £50 in money then the other £50 owed to Susannah will be mortgaged on the property and thus be certain to be paid at some point).

As I said at the beginning this is a very complicated document and there are so many things that could have gone wrong with these elaborate provisions. However we can glean some more information from it. The property is still being described as "*those two Cottage houses messuages or tenements and premises situate at Scorton*". We also learn that the 2 dwellings are tenanted by a Mr Calberry and a Mr Whitfield respectively. William Metcalfe himself is living at Sandhutton near Thirsk and is a joiner. Hannah is still living at Thornton le Moor.

The concluding part of this article will appear in the next issue.

Chairman's Report

Reflecting on the year now passing, the major achievement for the Society was, undoubtedly, the publication in the autumn of the second edition of "the Book". We had already sold over 200 copies at the Muster in October. Clearly it will take some time to sell every copy but the auspices are good. Several sales have been accomplished over the Website, as well as at Family History Fairs and we are looking at the possibility of selling them through other channels too. I must thank on your behalf Charles Metcalfe and Warwick Metcalfe, for revising the content and arranging for an Index, together with the "adminteam" headed by the indefatigable Diane Howarth (assisted by Carol Herbert), for processing the orders and despatch. If anyone who purchased the first edition would like a copy of the Index, please write to Diane, with a stamped addressed envelope.

We enjoyed a most enjoyable muster in York a few weeks ago. Our speaker Eric Houlder was very interesting and enlightened us, with excellent slides, about that now bygone mode of transport, the Stagecoach and the businesses and buildings that such routes supported. The usual Society displays and facilities were present and my thanks go to the organisers and their helpers for another successful Muster. We had some new members present as well as some who came as visitors and joined up on the day.

Next my apologies to those 80 plus who attended the Muster, in York. The Accounts which had been sent out before the meeting **WERE** the audited accounts and Diane and I on the top table had an earlier draft of them which caused some confusion, not least to me! As we explained, the total figures remained the same but the layout on "our" copy was not identical to the layout on the final audited accounts. The auditors have confirmed that the correct accounts were those which they had signed and which the members all received before the Meeting.

After an apology, next the bad news. I am afraid that the Committee felt obliged to recommend to the Members that we should raise the subscriptions. The loss of our benefactor, who so generously had paid for our Magazine printing for many years, coupled with the increases in postage (not including the one announced for next year) meant that it was imperative to increase the fee income of the Society.

In fact subscriptions had remained at their existing level of £8, for basic UK members since as long ago as 1996. Even with the highest active membership ever and current low inflation (just under 2%) the subscription income would be below our level of expenditure. The committee believes that the in-

crease will enable it to print a Magazine in the future of as good a quality as the August edition. I am grateful to the members for agreeing the increase to the recommended £10 per annum for UK members. The increase to £12 surface mail and £14 airmail for overseas members reflects the higher overseas postage costs. At these rates we still in my opinion give terrific value for members who seek their Metcalfe ancestry. We also compare favourably with the subscriptions charged by other similar "one-name" societies.

At the AGM all the existing members of the committee were re-elected, which helps to smooth the running of the society. We also had some new volunteers to assist Eileen and also Diane. So our pleas did not fall on deaf ears. Particular thanks were extended to Mary Morris, our long serving and stalwart agent in New Zealand. A signed copy of the second edition is being sent to her as a token of our thanks. A warm welcome was extended to Kevin, our new USA agent, who had been able to attend the Muster with his wife.

It would take too long to thank all our committee members, officers, overseas agents and volunteers, by name, for everything that they have done for us this year. We are indeed fortunate to have such a devoted, dependable and hardworking team. Please accept this as my thanks, on your behalf to each of them.

It now only remains to me to wish you all a good Christmas and a happy, peaceful and successful 2003.

David Lambert M11

How Your Officers Come Up With a novel way of getting a new member!!!

Alison Hutton M81 our New Zealand Agent reports that the Captain on the plane that took her to Australia was **Tony Medcalf**. So she sent him a note and he came down to see her. Passing on the information about the Society he joined!!

Well done Alison - talk about taking advantage of a situation.

AGM 2002 Minutes and Accounts

As agreed at the October 2002 AGM, each year the December Mecca News will now include the Minutes from the previous October's AGM and supporting accounts. Therefore, even if you were not able to join in the fun of the Mecca Muster, then at least you can keep abreast of the business aspects of

The Metcalfe Society.

A Long Journey to the Muster

To start this summary I need to go back to 2001 when I was living in Australia. My youngest daughter announced she wanted to do a gap year before going to university. She applied to schools in the UK so my husband and I also decided to come over and visit relatives, look around England and do some family history. This was extended to doing some supply teaching as well.

In Australia I had been communicating with Nina Benson as I had recently joined the Society and sent my family tree to her. We were still discussing problems when I received the email that she was retiring. She enclosed the address of the new archivist and said 'goodbye'.

We went ahead with our planning and packing up our house in Canberra. Our daughter left Australia in December to travel to a school in Folkestone and we left early February 2002. We visited relatives and settled in Bristol to teach. We had problems finding suitable accommodation so one day we decided to travel to London and apply with an agency for Independent Schools which would include accommodation. We said we would go anywhere to work and within a week were settled in Andover.

Eventually when I was unpacking my family History material I found the last email from Nina and was amazed to find that the new archivist lived in Andover and was only a short walk from where I was. This seemed very weird. I did eventually telephone Eileen Measures and discussed the unusual circumstances of arriving in Andover and that I would call to see her. It was on 2nd of October that I went to visit her on the off chance that she would be in. While I was knocking on the door a lady passed by on her way to her daughters with a young child in a pushchair and asked me what I wanted. This was Eileen. She reminded me of the Muster. We had to do a quick organising of duties and we left Friday afternoon, having to be back Saturday night ready for Sunday duties.

So to the Muster. We were made very welcome and enjoyed meeting people in the flesh like Nina Benson. There were lots of things for me to look up and I wished I had a week at the Muster - not a day. I bought the cards, book of the Clan, cheese, coat of arms and someone gave my husband a competition paper to win free membership. We spent a lot of the day doing this and our last minute attendance meant we missed lunch in the hall so we sat in the local pub doing the competition over lunch.

I thoroughly enjoyed the talk 'Coaching Memories' by Eric Houlder. Eric brought back memories for me as he showed slides of coaching houses that I knew because of an Uncle who lived at Sherburn in Elmet and who I spent many holidays with.

It was with a sigh that the day ended and we won the years free membership! We had a long drive back to Andover but it had been worth the effort. I still think it odd that I arrived in Andover of all places and that I decided out of the blue to visit Eileen on the day I did.

The Cavalry is (hopefully) on its way! As reported at the recent AGM, just 4 years ago, the membership had reached a plateau of about 450, gaining & losing an equal number of members each year. Since then, mainly as a result of the website, the membership growth is about 50% to a current 630+ membership. The main reason people join the society is to find out more about their family tree. Therefore the importance of the role of the archivist cannot be understated in terms of its of vital importance to the whole society. Given the increase in membership, the workload on the archivist means it now needs about 3 people doing this job in their spare time or one person as a full-time paid job! The society has become a victim of its own success.

In September, Eileen Measures, the archivist, stopped her part-time work completely to help clear the backlog of the searches. This has been supported by David Metcalfe who has halted his project on gathering data to provide additional help, but this is only temporary. Eileen is shortly to start full time work and therefore revert back to the archivist's job being a 'hobby' and doing it only in her spare time. With the continual increase in new members, this is not a temporary problem, but a growing problem, that can only be resolved with additional voluntary resource.

At the AGM, we requested volunteers who could spare anything between 2-5 hours per week (such as one evening) to help the society - either in researching someone else's family tree or performing work on another project, thereby relieving someone else to be a trainee archivist. All material and training is provided, including a computer if the job requires one. As a result of this plea, we were delighted when four members stepped forward to volunteer their services and come to the rescue.

Assuming the job is of interest to our volunteers, it will then be a few months before we can hope to be up to full strength and cope with the workload required of our archivists. Therefore may we request patience by our members for the archivist to be able to respond to requests.

MECCA NEWS DEADLINES

for inclusion of articles etc in the Mecca News is as follows:-

December	-	20 October
April	-	6 February
August	-	6 June

As members will appreciate receipt of the items by the due date will not necessarily guarantee inclusion in that issue but don't let that put you off sending in those articles comments or snippets!



Sleeping Beauty



Stone the crows!
My wellies are the same colour
as the jubilee.



The Genteel family Group.
Undoubtedly Nappa Metcalfes!

THE ASKRIGG JUBILEE SCARECROWS

Jubilee Weekend
June 2002



The Queen
(for she had a crown on and looked regal)
who after a weekend of blustery showers was
barely hanging on.

A TORTUOUS AND UNGODLY JUMBLE (Part 3) by David Lambert M11

In the two previous Articles I have explained something of the development of the feudal system and its relationship to land ownership; the grant of land in *tenures* with feudal *services* and *incidents*. In this article I propose to explain how land was sold and transferred and some of the documents which were utilised to accomplish this.

Title deeds is the generic description for documents which were used to deal with land transactions. ***“Those most venerable of documents.... being difficult to read, disgusting to touch and impossible to understand”*** [per Lord Westbury in 1877]. A pretty accurate description but don't be put off!

In Medieval times the right to sell a *tenure* was not permitted; a new tenure would be created instead. The lord wanted to ensure that he knew his tenant. As we have seen in an earlier article this practice was called *subinfeudation*. After 1290 this ceased and sales of tenures (i.e. land holdings) were permitted. A public ceremony, in two parts took place on the land to be transferred, before witnesses. The first part was the *act of feoffment* and the second the *delivery of seisin*. The *act of feoffment* was a statement by the seller thus:

“Enter into the land and God give you joy”. The second part was the symbolic handing over, by the seller to the buyer, of a twig or a sod of earth from the land itself. In time partly due to the Black Death and the Wars of the Roses, the value of feudal tenures fell and there were fewer men to carry out agricultural work. Money changed hands on a sale rather than promises to carry out feudal duties.

People preferred that the terms of a sale, including the price, should be kept secret. They also preferred the certainty of a written record of the transaction. A document called a *feoffment* was adopted, this document being written in the past tense stating that the ceremony of the act of feoffment had taken place. On the reverse side of the deed a statement was written referring to the *delivery of seisin* to the buyer. *Seisin* was the name given to the right to be in possession of the land. It was the fundamental part of the conveyance. The document (feoffment) avoided the actual necessity for the ceremony, even though it referred to it as having taken place. As we will see, the documents used to transfer land often used what are called “legal fictions”, i.e. statements or procedures, such as pretended claims, taken to Court to secure a judgment which then was recorded in the Court *rolls*. The *rolls* were records of judgments stitched one on top of another, a little like a long scarf i.e. long and narrow, sewn together, one after the other, in one huge, long document which was *rolled* up, for storage purposes.

Even though a tenure had been transferred to another, that person was never-

theless subject to the services and incidents to which his predecessor had been subject. Lawyers devised a clever way to avoid certain of the more onerous incidents, especially *relief* on wardship or marriage. (See an earlier article for details of these *reliefs*). They created a “*use*”, what we would call today a *trust*.

The land would be transferred to *trustees*, who held it on behalf of the actual buyer. If the buyer died there would be no *relief* payable to the lord to whom the *relief* should have been payable, because the real owner did not have the *seisin* vested in him; it was vested in several persons as *trustees* (technically called *feoffees to uses*). They did not have *seizin* of the land and consequently did not have to perform the feudal services, many of which had been commuted to monetary payments. The real owner (beneficiary) was not the legal owner (the trustees were) nor was he liable for the feudal services and incidents. As might be imagined this was unpopular so far as lords were concerned as it reduced their income. The Statute of Uses in 1535 was introduced to provide that the real (beneficial) owner was deemed to hold (have *seisin* in) the land. It was still possible to transfer land by the Use but the deed had to be registered to be effective by virtue of the Statute of Enrolments in the same year.

At this point comment should be made upon the inheritance of land on a death. It was not possible to leave land by Will in medieval times. As we have seen above, the *use* was developed to avoid the obligations of a tenant to his lord. The same procedure was utilised to enable the tenant of a tenure to pass on his interest to his chosen beneficiaries by Will. That was stopped by the Statute of Uses but four years later the Statute of Wills allowed tenures again to be left (technically called “*devised*”) by Will. This only however applied to tenures of *common socage* (which was the least onerous form of tenure from which is derived the present day *Freehold*). Further refinements were made in 1660 so that all freehold land was capable of being left by Will.

Whilst it is true to say that it was not possible to leave land by Will unless the transfer utilised the “*use*”, this does not mean that tenures could **not** pass to a tenant's next of kin or other specified individual by what we might call “operation” of law. So far we have discussed the concept of tenures. We now need to consider that other great tenet of English Land Law, namely the *estate*. English law knows of 4 estates: *fee simple*, *fee tail*, *estate for life*; and a *lease (or term of years)*.

I will say more about the last two forms of *estate* in the final article. However, the first two allowed the tenure to be *inherited* and indeed the word *fee* means just that. A tenure held “*in fee simple*” meant that the tenure was held for an indeterminate number of years. It was capable of being sold or gifted away. A *fee tail* was similar save for one important difference namely the fact that the

interest would continue only as long as there was a descendent alive of the original tenant. It was common for land to be sold to the buyer "*in fee tail male*", which meant that the tenure lasted as long as the original tenant had living male descendants. When this ceased to be the case the tenure ended and it "reverted" (went back) to the lord (or his descendants). Historically this is why if a person dies today intestate (without a Will) and no next of kin the estate including the land reverts or passes to the Crown (or Duchy of Lancaster or Duchy of Cornwall).

In the 12th Century it became possible to convert the fee tail into a fee simple by "*barring the entail*" by means of a legal claim called *levying a fine*. In the 14th Century a different procedure called *a common recovery* was developed by lawyers. A fictional court case (usually involving Richard Roe and John Doe) was used to obtain a judgment of the Court which confirmed that the buyer was the true owner of the fee simple in possession of the land. For this reason it was also used to convey land. After 1834 a simpler way to bar the entail was introduced.

A *Fine or Final Concord* can be recognised by its very strange specialised handwriting. It was written in triplicate on a long rectangular piece of parchment and had two of its sides indented i.e cut with a wavy indentation. The bottom version was enrolled at the Court (being known as Feet of Fines). Its commencement words were “THIS IS THE FINAL” (before 1733 it would probably have been in Latin : “*Hec est finalis concordia*”) (see example below). It also called the parties “*Querient*” in the case of the Purchaser /Plaintiff and “*Deforciant*” in the case of the buyer /defendant.

Chirographi.

[illegible]

The *Recovery*, which was used in tandem with the *Fine to bar the entail*, was a very impressive document and would commence with a reference to the Sovereign: "George by the Grace of God" It referred to the parties as *Demandant* and *Tenant*, and contained a Royal declaration of the Court of Common pleas. The *Recovery* would be registered with the Court of Common Plea in the Plea Rolls or the Recovery rolls. In the Palatinate Courts of Chester, Lancaster and Durham enrolled deeds were also filed and these have been kept separate from the main Court Rolls. The records are at the Public Record Office. (Classes *CP 40* and *CP 43*). A large number of the Yorkshire records were published by the Yorkshire Archeological Society and a potential project to extract all Metcalfe references is waiting to be done! Any takers ? (If so contact the Editor.)

Books

Did you buy the first edition of '**Metcalfe-History of the Clan**'?

The main difference between the first and second editions of the book 'Metcalfe-History of the Clan' is that the second edition has an index. If you bought a copy of the first edition and would like a copy of the index, totally free of charge, then please send a request direct to the secretary, either by post or via e-mail. The two pages will be despatched by post. Full contact details can be found on the inside front cover of this journal.

Army Service Records of the First World War (3rd Edition). 128pp illustrated.
William Spencer. £9.99

Family Photographs. Robert Pols. 176pp 150b/w photographs. £12.99

Protestant Nonconformity. £9.99. All available from Publications Marketing, Public Record Office, Richmond Surrey TW9 4BR. ☎ 020 8392 5271.

Want to pay using your credit card?

The society is now delighted to announce that you can pay for anything to the society using your credit card - the Metcalfe book, Christmas cards, merchandise and publications outlined on the Sales Order Form and even your subscription. After a very successful pilot during the summer offering overseas members the ability to order the book online using their credit card, the facility was expanded to cover all items that involve a monetary transaction with the society.

The society apologises to those who wish to pay by credit card via telephone or mail order, but unfortunately, the cost to the society for providing this service is still prohibitive. So for the foreseeable future this is the one service the society offers only to members who can access the Internet. Given the feedback from our overseas members acknowledging the flexibility of choice of payment methods available to them, your committee is sure non-computerised members won't mind in this instance.

FRANCIS EDWARD MEDCALF 1883 - 1927



The photograph was probably taken in a favourite tavern in that area that forms the angle between the River Irk and Market Street in central Manchester. The soldier is Thomas Herbert, my maternal grandfather. He volunteered in 1915 for War Service and does not appear to have yet experienced the conditions of trench warfare in France. The man on the left is believed to be Francis Edward Medcalf, a fruit and vegetable merchant of Manchester's Smithfield Market.

The two men knew each other on three counts: both families were associated with Bennett Street Sunday and Day schools in the parish of St Paul's C of E, New Cross; Tom was in the same trade and his wife's widowed mother - Florence Stringer, rented a large house on the edge of the market, where she still made a living for herself and her daughters, offering B&B and light refreshments for business people.

While still a schoolgirl my mother lived here with "Ma Stringer", her grandmother. From mother I have Francis' description; *Always well-dressed, small, dark with a slight limp and set habits*. He brought his own food - maybe a chop, a piece of fish - to the house for it to be cooked for him at a particular time. If it was not ready when he returned he would stand chonnering in the parlour, his back to the fire and hands behind him. Here he was a stone's throw from his market premises in Block B; a stall at floor level and a small office above, which bore the firm's name - either Joseph Medcalf or Joseph Medcalf and Son.

This was a name pronounced with a glottal stop! Until I asked mother to spell it out I assumed we were talking about Metcalf(e)s. "M-E-D-C-A-L-F" said Mother, though, unsurprisingly, he is registered at Bennett Street School as Francis Metcalf, roll number 1416, October 7th 1888, aged 5 of Marshall Street.

Francis Edward appears to have been the first child of Joseph and Annie (Brown) Medcalf who married at St Peter's, Oldham Road. (Their marriage certificate lacks the signature of the officiating minister/C of E registrar!) Joseph was then a porter aged 20 (altered from 21!) and his father is an earlier Francis Medcalf, a salesman. Annie's father, John Brown is a shoemaker. Bride and groom give the same address, 28 Wood Street and their nuptials are dated September 10th 1883. Francis Edward's birth is dated 20th September 1883 and he was born at 17 Bennett Street. However his baptism entry on 6th February 1884 at St Paul's Church gives his date of birth as the 17th of September.

When his sister Lilly was born on March 3rd 1887 they were living at 14 Marshall Street and Joseph is now a vegetable dealer. He appears as number 12308 in the citizen's Roll of Manchester which I understand gave him certain voting rights. His name begins to appear in Local Trade directories.

Lilly died in the second quarter of 1891, aged 4. Then Annie, *wife of Joseph Medcalf, a fruit and flower salesman of 14 Cable Street, Rochdale Road died from injuries caused by being accidentally knocked down and run over by a horse and cab*. She died in the Royal Infirmary, Manchester on May 14th 1898 and the informant is Sidney Smith, Coroner for Manchester, following his inquest on May 17, 1898. She was 32 years, though this does not agree with the declaration "21" on her marriage certificate 1883.

Joseph drew up his will in 1921 - leaving everything to Francis Edward Medcalf - and although he describes himself as "Joseph Medcalf of Burnby Moor in Retford in the County of Notts", his place of death in 1925, aged 63, is given as Stockport. I have not found Joseph's place of birth and the nearest register entry to fit the ages and dates given above is 1862 Joseph Medcalf 3rd qtr Kendal. There is another close one in Liverpool and an 1864 birth in Spilsby Lincs.

Joseph and Francis Edward carried on as a Father and Son business. Francis married Minnie Rodley at Pontefract in the first quarter of 1909 and there were two children; Kathleen was born in the first quarter of 1910 at Chorlton and Francis J in the first quarter of 1914 also at Chorlton. My Mother has one recollection of Kathleen and Francis J. visiting the market. They were dressed in *smart school uniforms with straw hats*.

When Francis Edward drew up his will also in 1921 he was living at 11 Holey Range, Heaton Moor, Stockport. He bequeathed "to my son Francis Joseph Medcalf my personal jewellery and books and to my daughter Kathleen Medcalf a sum of money of a like nature. The rest of my belongings ... to my wife Minnie Medcalf absolutely".

Then suddenly the market was agog with the tragic death of Francis Edward on November 16, 1927 in Manchester Royal Infirmary. The Manchester Coroner was now CWW Surridge and his assessment was death *from injuries received by being run over by a motor bus. Accidental death*. The inquest was held on November 18th. Francis is described as a fruiterer aged 44 of 17 Claremont Road, Heaton Moor.

My mother was in her early twenties when this happened and the Herbert family were then all living in the Stringer household by the market. Mother recalls offering condolences to Francis' widow Minnie who took over the business. Minnie observed "He was a very good husband and father", Some time later she sold the business and left the area. There are several Kathleen Medcalf marriages in he registers but I have found neither a marriage nor a death of Francis Joseph.

Enid N Cox M386

ARCHIVIST REPORT From EILEEN MEASURES

Firstly I must apologise to all those New Members who I failed to include in the last issue of the Mecca News this was a total oversight on my behalf and there can be no excuse for it.

As many of you will know there has been such a growth of interest in the society. I have been snowed under with mail of every description and it has only been due to the kindness of David Metcalfe M46 and others that the Birth Briefs have got to the Editor this time.

For those of you who have email addresses and would like these included, would you please email me with them, as I have found that taking them from the written word there can be mistakes, even when trying to reply to emails sent to me, they sometimes come back as 'NOT ABLE TO DELIVER,' and that is using the reply button, which SHOULD work.

On the same subject an appeal to all who send me their 'COMPLETE' Family Tree by email, interesting though they may be, what I really want and need is just the Metcalfe line, not all the intermarriages through the generations, for which I have not resources to check. Yes we ask for the direct line, but brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, can be a help along with places and dates if known.

When sending a request for a search by whatever method please quote your membership number at the top of a letter or in the Subject line of emails also your address, and this hopefully will make things easier for who ever is doing your particular search.

As some of you who were at the Muster will know, we now have four volunteers to help me, so this should make waiting times a lot less than they have been. And as three of them have not done this before, I hope you will be as kind to them as you were to me.

Finally and yet again **PLEASE KEEP UP YOUR VIRUS CHECKS** once again I have received emails with **Virus attachments** so if any of you have emailed me and not had a reply, **check your systems!** My computer stops them and isolates them **does yours!**

**It is with regret we report the death
on 19 Sep 2002 of
M1033 Jack Lambert.
We extend our condolences to family and friends.**

Membership Details

Changes to Names / Addresses

- ✓ **M987 Gladys Gill** to Flat 37 Forest Hill, 11 Park Crescent, Leeds LS8 1DH.
- ✓ **M1061 Thomas Metcalfe** to 42 Mabel Street, COLNE, BB8 0JR, Lancs.
- ✓ **M1129 Dennis Foster**. New address : dennis.foster@ic24.net
- ✓ **M1224 Linda Monkman** to 108 Birchwood Drive, Barrie, Ontario L4M 6X4 Canada
- ✓ **M1315 Mrs Rayner Soothill** to PO Box 3110 Bundeena NSW 2230 Australia email address: rjs87@hotmail.com

Rejoined Members:

- ✓ **M366 Ian White** 24 Mabel Street, Colne, Lancs BB8 03R .
- ✓ **M1057 Sharon Pollard** (USA) has returned to the fold after a gap year in which she ran for Mayor of her city. Belated congratulations are in order as she won!!

BIRTH BRIEF SECTION – compiled by Eileen Measures archivist, David Metcalfe M46, and other society members.

ABBREVIATIONS :- MT = METCALF. MTE = METCALFE. MD = MEDCALF. MDE = MEDCALFE.

b= born. bpt = baptised. d = died. dau = daughter. d/o = daughter of. s = son. s/o = son of. m = married. The new system notes where the child fits into their parent's family hence 6/10 means 6th child of 10.

CORRECTIONS

M1303; M1345 see Up-Dated section below.

UP-DATED BIRTH BRIEFS – please send these entries direct to the Editor in the usual format.

BIRTH BRIEF AMENDMENT to M204, M210, M213 & M215

S. or d.o. James William & Gladys (Smith) Mte m 21 Dec 1918 Leeds. John William b 1896 Leeds s.o. Alfred & Harriet Ann (Fellows) Mte m 1 Sep 1894. Alfred b 1873 Cockerton, Dur s.o. James & Sarah Jane Mte m 1868 Darlington. James b 1845 Hunslet, Leeds s.o. Benjamin & Sarah (Darwin) Mte. Benjamin bpt 17 Jan 1819 Hunslet s.o. James & Sarah (Wooley) Mte m 24 Feb 1814 Leeds. James bpt 13 Aug 1792 Hunslet s.o. John Mt. **Connects with M362 & M925.**

- ✓ **M1207 Mr Robert A. Metcalfe** 76 Walnut Grove, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL7 4EU. S.o. Fred & Elizabeth May (Andrews) Mte m 25 Dec 1910 Islington. Fred b 29 Jane 1885 Barnet s.o. Thomas & Lydia (Peachy) Mte m 1880. Thomas bpt 13 Nov 1859 Easington N.R.Y. s.o. Thomas & Jane (Waller) Mte m 19 Apr 1856 Lythe. Thomas bpt 3 May 1836 Easington s.o. George & Elizabeth (Wood) Mte m 3 Feb 1835

Great Ayton. George bpt 16 Aug 1808 Easington s.o. Thomas & Elizabeth (Laing) Mte m 12 May 1798 Easington. Thomas bpt 29 Feb 1778 Easington s.o. Thomas & Susannah (Brown) Mte m 6 Oct 1774 Easington. Thomas bpt 29 Mar 1736 Easington s.o. Thomas Mte. **Connects M430 & M462.**

M1291 Ms Andrea Jane Metcalfe 2 The Cottages, Maythorne, Southwell, Notts., NG25 0RS. D.o. of Leslie Robert Mte b 1933 s.o. Thomas Wesley & Maude Ellen (Hopkin) Mte m 10 Aug 1915 Winksley. Thomas Wesley Mte b 21 Sep 1892 West Scrafton s.o. Thomas & Eleanor (Spence) Mte m 2 Aug 1884 Ripon. Thomas bpt 1 Sep 1861 Aysgarth s.o. Robert & Rosamund (Thwaite) Mte m 29 May 1843 Aysgarth. Robert bpt 29 Nov 1807 Halton Gill s.o. Thomas & Rose/Rosamund (Preston) Mte m 20 Mar 1793 Arncliffe. Thomas bpt 19 Oct 1774 Arncliffe s.o. Robert & Isabel (Simpson) Mte m 13 May 1751 Arncliffe. **Connects to M46, M608, M678, M839, M958, M1043, M1082, M1129, M1156, M1218, M1265, M1323 & M1393**

✓ **M1303 Mr George Metcalfe White.** 1541 Mt Dufferin Drive, Kamloops, B C V2E 1A3, Canada m June Irene (Perry) 5 June 1963 White Rock BC. George s.o. Frederick Septimus Metcalfe & Ida (Bottemley) White. Frederick b 24 Apr 1896. d 11 Jul 1955. Frederick s.o. John Metcalfe & Mary Ellen (McCabe) White. John b 8 Feb 1861 d 20 Jan 1932. John s.o. William & Elizabeth (Mte) White. Elizabeth b 3 Jun 1835 d 4 Apr 1919 Carleton d.o. Edmund & Elizabeth (Jameson) Mte m 23 Jun 1834. (Elizabeth bpt 14 Dec 1806 d 9 Apr 1885 Carleton) Edmund bpt 7 June 1800 d 28 Feb 1881 s.o. John & Margaret (Wilson) Mte m 27 Dec 1786 Hawes. John b 31 Jan 1766 Hawes d 8 Nov 1848 Hawes.

✓ **M1307 Mr Philip Metcalfe** 15 Alexandra Rd., Shipley, West Yorks, BD18 3ER S. o. Wilfred & Eliza (Hornby) Mt. Wilfred b 26 Jun 1902 s.o. Herbert & Fanny (Brooks) Mt m 1899. Herbert b c1868 Goole s.o. Joseph & Ann (Greenwood) Mt m 1855. Joseph bpt 3 Apr 1825 Owston s.o. James & Hannah Maria (Hibberd) Mt m 23 Mar 1823 Owston. James bpt 13 Jan 1799 Misterton s.o. Joseph & Mary (Stamford) Mt m 22 Nov 1791 Horkstow, Lin. Joseph bpt 2 Jul 1772 Elsham s.o. Thomas & Elizabeth (Manby) Mt m 14 May 1767 Elsham. Thomas bpt 22 Nov 1741 Hibaldstowe s.o. Jeremiah & Alice (Vessey) Mt m 10 Dec 1735 Barnetby. Jeremiah bpt 24 Mar 1707 Barnetby s.o. Thomas & Mary (Baldwin nee Gibson) m 17 Jun 1704 Barnetby. Thomas bpt 22 Nov 1668 South Kelsey. s.o. John & Ellen (Parker) Mt m 6 Jun 1664 South Kelsey. John Mt b c1635. **Connects to M45 & M936**

M1312 Mr Alan Metcalf. 10 Manor Bend, Galmpton, Brixham, Devon, TQ5 0PB. S. o. George Norman & Louise (Taylor) Mt m 27 Nov 1935 Tadley, Hants. George Norman b 1 Dec 1914 s.o. George Norman & Emma (Griffin) Mt m 25 Dec 1910 Holborn, London. George Norman b c1889 s.o. Norman & Annie

(Chalk) Mt m 24 Jul 1886 Brentford, Mdx. Norman bn c1864 Hull s.o. John William Mt.

M1323 Mr Leslie Robert Metcalfe 13 Lickley Street, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 1LJ. S.o. of Thomas Wesley & Maude Ellen (Hopkin) Mte m 10 Aug 1915 Winksley. Thomas Wesley Mte b 21 Sep 1892 West Scrafton s.o. Thomas & Eleanor (Spence) Mte m 2 Aug 1884 Ripon. Thomas bpt 1 Sep 1861 Aysgarth s.o. Robert & Rosamund (Thwaite) Mte m 29 May 1843 Aysgarth. Robert bpt 29 Nov 1807 Halton Gill s.o. Thomas & Rose/Rosamund (Preston) Mte m 20 Mar 1793 Arncliffe. Thomas bpt 19 Oct 1774 Arncliffe s.o. Robert & Isabel (Simpson) Mte m 13 May 1751 Arncliffe. **Connects to M46, M608, M678, M839, M958, M1043, M1082, M1129, M1156, M1218, M1265, M1291 & M1393**

M1324 Mrs Maureen Allen 19 Croftsway, Corbridge, Northumberland NE45 5NB. D.o. George Gordon & Margaret Hannah (Petty) Mte m 3 Aug 1921 Gilling West. George Gordon s.o. Robert & Elizabeth (Pickard) Mte b 26 Jul 1894 Richmond s.o. Robert & Elizabeth (Frankland) Mte m 28 Dec 1841 Hipswell. Robert bn c1822 Hipswell s.o. Robert & Elizabeth (King) Mte m 3 Mar 1818 Richmond. Robert bpt 3 Jun 1787 Hipswell s.o. George & Elizabeth (Robinson) Mte m 17 Nov 1768 Coniscliffe. George bn c1733. **Connects to M13 M29 M66 M70 M132Dec M133 M211Dec XM212 M246Dec XM248 M257 M292 M458 M517 XM546 M547 M791 XM847 XM849 M855 M856 XM887 M1139 M1197 M1220 M1230**

M1338 Mrs Lynette Lawson 261 Swansea Road, Lilydale 3140, Victoria, Australia. Grt grd d.o. John & Mary Jane (Mte) Tiller m 18 June 1890 Great Western, Victoria Australia. Mary Jane b 8 Sept 1861 Pleasant Creek, Victoria, Australia d.o. Thomas & Caroline (Bale) Mte m 22 Sept 1858 Great Western. Thomas b 29 May 1833 Skipton s.o. Thomas & Eleanor (Wilson) Mte m 18 Jane 1823 Kirkby Lonsdale. Thomas bpt 19 Jane 1793 Hawes s.o. John & Margaret (Wilson) Mte m 27 Dec 1786 Hawes. John bpt 25 Jun 1767 Hawes s.o. John & Ann (Allen) Mte m 17 Feb 1751 Hawes. **Connects to XM112 M147 & XM191**

M1343 Mr Michael Myers 108 Pembroke Road, Naperville, Illinois, 605040, U.S.A. 3 x Grt grd s.o. John Stephen & Ann (Mte) Moody m 17 Oct 1833 Masham. Ann b 23 Aug 1810 Masham d.o. James & Elizabeth (Hurriton) Mte m 22 Apr 1809 Masham. James bpt 9 Mar 1783 Masham s.o. James & Jane (Bacon) Mte m 26 Nov 1778 Masham. James bn c1757.

M1345 Mr Rod Henderson. 35 Koorana Road, Picton, NSW Australia 2571. Grt gt gd s.o. Benjamin & Alice (Mte) Broadbent m 24 Aug 1857 Bingley, Yks. Alice b 17 Aug 1835 Keighley d.o. Anthony & Martha (Wignall) Mte m 15 Nov

1827 Keighley . Anthony bpt 5 Mar 1797 Stalling Busk s.o Anthony & Mary (Prest) Mte m 1784. Anthony bpt 25 Mar 1759 Stalling Busk s.o. John & Barbara (Mte) Mte m 12 May 1756 Hawes.

Barbara bpt 31 Jul 1729 Hawes d.o Anthony & Alice (Mte) Mte m 18 Aug 1724 Ingleton Fells. Anthony s.o Cuthbert & Barbara (Simondston) Mte m 1694 Kettlewell. Cuthbert s.o Anthony & Elizabeth (Wynn) Mte. Anthony b c1640 s.o Margaret Mte d.o Anthony & Ann (Hudson) Mte.

Alice b c1704 Hawes d.o Philip & Alice (Jackson) Mte m 31 Jul 1698 Hawes. Philip bpt 13 Feb 1676/7 s.o Thomas Mte.

M1348 Mr & Mrs John T & Mary L. Midkiff. 2000 Standolind Ave, Midland, Texas, 79705, USA. S.o. Lee Herd & Julia Evelyn (Potter) Midkiff m 30 Dec 1928 Midland, Texas, U.S.A. Lee Herd b 22 Feb 1899 Glasscock County, Texas s.o. Thomas Oscar Snr. & Lillian (Davenport) Midkiff m 16 Nov 1896 at Arthur, Oklahoma. Thomas Oscar Snr. b 27 Oct 1872 Grayson County, Texas s.o. John Rufus & Louisa Maria (Cole) Midkiff m 2 Oct 1856 Lincoln County, Tennessee. John Rufus b 13 Jan 1835 Lincoln County s.o. Franklin Preston & Ellender (Oliver) Midkiff.

RE-JOINED MEMBERS-

M366 Mr Ian White, 24 Mabel Street, Colne, Lancs, BB8 0JR. Great gd s.o John & Jane (Mte) Hillary m 22 Feb 1872 Marrick. Jane b c1850 Muker d.o William & Rosamund (Alderson) Mte m 30 Nov 1843 Muker. William bpt 23 Sept 1821 Muker s.o John & Ann (Scott) Mte m 25 May 1812 Muker. John b 3 Apr 1779 Yks s.o John & Sarah (Whitehead) Mte m 7 May 1772 Muker. John Mte b c1744. **CONN M1045**

M440 Miss Sally Metcalfe 890 E Valley Court, Lancaster, WI 53813 USA Great gt gd d.o Matthew & Hannah (Shutt) Mte. Matthew b Aug 1828 Kexmoor, Yks s.o George & Ann (Astwood) Mte m 21 Jan 1811 Masham. George b 3 Nov 1783 Yks s.o George & Jane (Mallerby) Mte m 31 Mar 1777 Masham. George bpt 2 Apr 1747 Masham. s.o George & Jane (Mt) Mte m 15 Jul 1745 Masham. George b 13 Oct 1724 s.o William. #Jane Mt b c1719 d.o Thomas.

M1126 Ms Miranda Coates 15 Durham Road, East Finchley, London, N2 9DP Miranda desc of Mary Fothergill Mte, bc1849 Appersett m 3 Oct 1870 Jones Bell b1839. Mary d.p Christopher & Elizabeth Mabel (Fothergill) Mte. M 13 Oct 1840 Appersett. Christopher b c1821 Appersett bpt 26 Jun 1821 Hawes s.o Christopher & Mabel (Burton) Mte m 1 April 1815 Hawes. Christopher b c1779 bpt 9 Feb 1799 Hawes. s.o Thomas & Eden (Tennant) Mte of Widdall Gill. **CONN M603**

BIRTH BRIEFS – NEW MEMBERS – WELCOME!

M1352 Mr John Stuart Metcalfe The Hayloft, Warnicombe Court, Warnicombe, LN, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 4NZ. Details awaited.

M1353 Ms Karen Metcalfe 72 Angerstein Close, Weeting, Brandon, Suffolk, IP27 0RL. Details to be confirmed.

M1354 Mr David Metcalfe 40 Highland Avenue, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 2BJ. David s.o Thomas Edwin & Della Stace (Hutchinson) Mte m 4 Jun 1949. Thomas b 6 June 1919 s.o Thomas Edwin & Hannah Miller (Hawden) Mte Thomas b 15 May 1875 Aysgarth s.o William & Annie (Evans) Mte. Details to be confirmed.

M1355 Ms Linda Reeves 77 Stockton Road Darlington DL1 2RZ Details awaited.

M1357 Mrs Vivienne E Hughes 27 Pittville Close, Thornbury, Bristol, S Glos BS35 1SB. Details awaited.

M1358 Mr Eric & Mr Howard John Metcalf. Beechlee, Vicarage Lane, Ropley, Arlesford, Hants, SO24 0DU. Details awaited.

M1359 Mr Arthur Alan Metcalfe 39 Dunkeld Road, Baguley, Manchester, M23 1HZ. Details awaited

M1360 Mr Michael W Metcalfe 47 Hornton Street, London, W8 7NT. Details awaited

M1376 Mr Derok Michael Metcalfe 15 Yeovilton, Tamworth, Staffs, B79 8SJ. Details awaited

M1377 Ms Johanna Mari Metcalfe, Upper Flat, 1 Ringstead Road, Catford, London, SE6 2BU. Details awaited

M1378 Mr Derek Rukin Ingleby Lodge, Askrigg, Leyburn, North Yorks DL8 3JQ. Grt grt grd s.o. William & Betty (Mte) Rukin marr 17 Mar 1798 at Muker

M1380 Mrs Angela Hallsworth 10 Cambrian Way, Holton le Clay, Grimsby, DN36 5DE. Grd d.o. Alfred & Beatrice (Mte Gibson) Davies m 6 Mar 1909 Nantwich, Chs. Beatrice b 7 May 1889 Wheelock Heath d.o. Arthur & Jessie (Mt) Gibson m 31 Aug 1879 Wheelock. Jessie b 18 Sept 1862 Shavington cum Gresty d.o. Cain & Sarah (Nevitt) Mt m 1851 Nantwich. Cain b c1829.

M1381 Mr Peter Alan Metcalfe, 50 Balmoral Road, Enfield, Middx EN3 6RQ. Details awaited

M1382 Mr David Dixon 17 Dayton Road, Hull, HU5 5TG. Details awaited

M1383 Ms Frances Haydon 650 Abbey Lane, Sheffield, S11 9NB. Details awaited

M1384 Mr Nicholas & Mrs Beryl Joyce Medcalf 47 Harper Close, Pocklington, York, YO42 2GW. Details awaited

M1385 Mrs Sue Gascoyne 26 Summersdeane, Southwick, BN42 4QU. Sue gd daughter of Ann Elizabeth Metcalf b 10 Mar 1883 Brompton Ann is Sister of John Richard Brown Mt b 2 Jan 1876 Snainton natural s.o Jane Mt b 9 Nov 1854 Snainton d.o John Burn & Jane (Marshall)Mt m 13 Nov 1847 Kilham. John Burn b 24 May 1822 Lockton. s.o Jeremiah & Elizabeth (Garnet) Mt b12 Jul 18 17 Danby in Cleveland . Jeremiah bpt 15 Jan 1792 Lockton s.o John & Mary (Pickering) Mt m 12 Jun 1787 Middleton. John bpt 16 Aug 1756 Lockton s.o William Mte. **CONN M197 M504**

M1386 Mr John S Calvert Tudor Cottage, 2 Prince Henry Rd. Otley, West Yorks LS21 2BE S.o. Kenneth A H & Annie Margaret (Mte) Calvert marr 9 Dec 1945, Annie Margaret b 16 Sep 1920 d.o Thomas Edward & Isabel Mason (Scarr) Mte m 1914 West Derby, Liverpool. Thomas Edward b 14 Jun 1890 Low Foss, Raydale, s.o. Thomas Edward & Elizabeth (Hall) Mte m 8 Oct 1881 Stalling Busk. Thomas Edward bpt 14 Oct 1841 Hawes s.o Simon & Agnes (Parker) Mte m 26 Sept 1829 Hubberholme. Simon bpt 23 Feb 1800 Hardraw s.o. Ralph & Mary (Thwaite) Mte m 27 Nov 1789 Hardraw. Ralph bpt 26 Feb 1769 Muker s.o. Richard & Elizabeth (Dinsdale) Mte m 4 Jul 1767 Hawes. **CONN M617**

M1387 Mr Ian J Williams "Fair Oaks", 9A Fairway, Tranmere Park, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 8JT. H.o. Rosemary Ann Brown grd d.o. David & Elizabeth Ann (Mte) Fothergill m 10 Dec 1898 at York. Elizabeth Ann b 20 Mar 1875 Knaresborough d.o. Francis & Sarah Ann (Megson) Mte m 2 Jan 1875 at Wykeham. Francis bpt 9 Nov 1848 Ebberston s.o. William & Elizabeth (Patrick) Mt m 1846. William bpt 15 Jan 1820 Ebberston s.o. Joseph & Elizabeth (Bentley) Mte m 1 Dec 1813 at Kirkdale. Joseph bpt 12 Sept 1790 at Ebberston s.o. Richard & Mary (Hutchinson) Mte m 7 Dec 1776 at Ebberston. Richard bpt 12 Mar 1748 Ebberston s.o. Richard & Mary (Huntley) Mte m 16 Nov 1744 at Ebberston. Richard ? bpt 6 May 1722 Ebberston s.o. Richard. Richard ? bpt 28 Sep 1693 Ebberston s.o. Robert.

M1388 Mr Isaac E. Smith 11 Swanage Grove, Hart Station, Hartlepool, TS 24 9RR S.o. Edmund & Hilda (Mte) Smith m 30 Jan 1926 Byers Green. Hilda b 4 Apr 1900 d.o. George & Sarah Jane (Davison) Mte m 17 Oct 1896 Bishop Auckland. George bpt 28 May 1874 St Andrews Auckland s.o. Michael & Margaret (Hillary) Mte m 25 Sep 1863 Arkengarthdale. Michael bpt 6 Nov 1836 Arkengarthdale natural s.o. Jane Mte & George Barningham. Jane b c1807 Arkengarthdale d.o. Michael & Jane (Hall) Mte m 22 Jul 1807 Arkengarthdale.

Michael bpt 27 Dec 1780 s.o. John & Hannah (Hillary) Mte m 8 Nov 1762 Arkengarthdale. John ? bpt 31/10/1742 Arkengarthdale s.o. George Mte.

M1389 Mr Harold Arthur Metcalfe, The Saltings, Llangain, Carmarthen, SA33 5AJ. Details awaited

M1390 Mr Anthony J Metcalf "Parkstones", Onslow Crescent, Woking, Surrey, GU22 7AU. So. Herbert James & Caroline (Tully) Mt m 21 Dec 1929 Brentford, Mdx. Herbert James b 7 May 1892 Sunderland s.o. John & Alice Maud Mary (Hodgson) Mt m 30 Apr 1887 Bishopswearmouth. John b 4 Dec 1858 s.o. John & Jane Mary (Ross) Mt m 1853 Sunderland. John bpt 2 Jul 1821 Bishopwearmouth s.o. John & Mary (Oats) Mt m ? John bpt 13 Jan 1793 Sunderland s.o. Thomas & Euphemia (Adamson) Mt m 4 Nov 1786 Sunderland. Thomas bpt 22 Jun 1755 Sunderland s.o. Thomas & Elizabeth Mt.

M1391 Mr John Harker Whitbeck Fm., Lofthouse, Harrogate, North Yorks, HG3 5SF. 1st Direct line. Grt grd s.o. John & Susannah (Mte) Harker m 30 Apr 1884 Hawes. Susannah b c1859 Appersett d.o. William Lambert & Susannah Mte. Susannah b c1833 Appersett d.o. George & Susannah (Branton) Mte m 9 May 1829 Hawes. George b c1798 possibly Appersett. **Connects to M44**
2nd Line by marriage. Grt grd f John Harker's 1st wife was Lavinia Rose Mte m 26 Feb 1876 Aysgarth. Lavinia bpt 5 May 1850 Aysgarth d.o. Thomas & Sarah (Bell) Mte m 27 Nov 1847 Aysgarth. Thomas bpt 26 Jun 1803 Halton Gill s.o. Thomas & Rose (Preston) Mte m 20 Mar 1793 Arncliffe. Thomas bpt 19 Oct 1774 Arncliffe s.o. Robert & Isabel (Simpson) Mte m 13 May 1751 Arncliffe **Connects to M46, M608, M678, M879, M958, M1043, M1082, M1129, M1156, M1218, M1265, M1291 & M1393**

M1392 Mrs Margaret A Morley 21 Meadow View, Skelmanthorpe, Huddersfield, HD8 9ET. D.o. John Wooler & Clara (Priest) Mte m 8 Dec 1947 at Settle. John Wooler Mte b 2 Jul 1924 Long Preston s.o. William Henry & Ann Ethel (Wooler) Mte m 23 Jan 1916 at Long Preston. William Henry b c1888 s.o. Thomas Mte.

M1393 Mrs Rita Collins "Mountains", 3 Fairview Rd., Salisbury, Wilts SP1 1JX. D.o. Ada Marion Mte b 23 Nov 1896 Skipton d.o. John William & Mary Elizabeth (Rimmer) Mte m 29 Dec 1877 Skipton. John William b c1855 Liverpool s.o. John Ellis & Eden (Wiseman) Mte m 29 Jul 1849 Kettlewell. John Ellis Mte bpt 24 Apr 1823 Hubberholme s.o. John & Mary Ann (Ellis) Mte m 23 Jul 1821 Hubberholme. John bpt 5 Jan 1793 Halton Gill s.o. John & Hannah (Stoney) Mte m 10 Mar 1788 Arncliffe. John bpt 18 Jun 1760 Arncliffe s.o. Robert & Isabel (Simpson) Mte m 13 May 1751 Arncliffe. **Connects to M46, M608, M678, M879, M958, M1043, M1082, M1129, M1156, M1218, M1265, M1291 & M1323.**

M1394 Mrs Joan C. Elliot 1202 Black Oak Circle, Greenwood, IN 46143-3165 USA. Details awaited

M1395 Mr Ian Metcalfe 55 The Quilts, Edinburgh, EH6 5RY. Details awaited

M1396 Ms Claire & Mrs Helen Turner 3 Moorlands Place, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3EE. Details awaited

M1397 Mr Peter Metcalfe 79 Doncaster Road, Tickhill, Doncaster. Details awaited

M1398 Society of Genealogists 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Boswell Road, London EC1M 7BA

M1399 Mr Iain Douglas & Mrs Karen Elaine Metcalfe 30 Hillside Close, Marston Moreteyne, Bedford, Beds, MK43 0QN. Details awaited

M1400 Mr Derek John Metcalfe 1 Fletcher Croft, Copmanthorpe, York YO2 3YE. Details to be confirmed

'One Hundred Years of World History' Competition

Coming up in the April 2003 journal will be the 'One Hundred Years of World History' competition where you could win a year's membership to The Metcalfe Society. The competition will also be published in the members area of the website. Members will be able to submit their entries either via post or via e-mail.

Something new coming along
that is hoped to be a
regular item.

Parish Registers - Help Wanted

M398 Bill Metcalfe has been busy both recording data and logging those registers still to be recorded on our Mecca Index. He has found that in Yorkshire between Aislaby & Long Preston (L to Z still to be looked at) 80 parishes still require work to be done to extract Metcalfe data. Can you imagine what might turn up!

Can any one who is within easy access of the Northallerton Public Record Office contact the Editor so that particular films/records can be allocated so as to avoid duplication of effort.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

29 March 2003. Cambridgeshire FHS Conference, Impington Village College. Contact Carol Noble, 22 St Margaret's Road, Girton, Cambridge.

3 - 6 April 2003. The South West Area Group of FHS will host the half yearly Conference entitled "Westward Ho!". Details from Audrey Lovell, 784 Muller Road Eastville Bristol.

23 - 27 April 2003. 10th Australasian Congress on Genealogy & Heraldry. Melbourne Convention Centre, Victoria, Australia.

Saturday 4 October 2003. The Mecca Muster at Askham Bryan College, York. Further details to follow in April's Mecca News.

The Good, the Bad and the North West Fair

The North West Fair has for a number of years been an excellent fair for the society and those interested in family history in the area. The fair has previously been held for a few years in both Stockport and Preston. Trying out something new, the fair not only moved location to the centre of Manchester in the most magnificent Town Hall I have ever seen, but also moved from a Saturday to a Sunday. Would it be a good move?

What the organisers could not have foreseen was the extremely bad weather that also rolled in to Manchester and a lot of the country just for that one day! But that didn't stop your mad secretary from venturing from deepest Hampshire at 3am (luckily enjoying an extra hour of sleep due to the clocks being turned back!) to drive all the way to Manchester, setup and man the Metcalfe Society stand and then drive all the way back again. Just change my title to Mad Secretary, not Honorary Secretary! But no, I won't be doing it again next year!

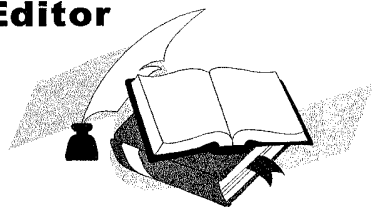
The bad weather did not dampen the good spirits of those that visited the magnificent Town Hall, although there were only about 800 visitors as opposed to the usual 1200-1400 that come through the doors. Revenue to the society was therefore down to £185 but we would like to welcome two new members that joined the society at the fair, and thank those members who came along to say hello. Last, but certainly not least, let me not forget Archer & Louie Metcalfe (M1218), Suzanne Briscoe (M604) and Peter Dobson (M69) who helped deliver the material and man the stand during the day. Your support is so much appreciated.

Next year's fair is not yet confirmed, but the feedback to the organisers from The Metcalfe Society is that fair needs to be in Manchester again to establish the location and to know for certain where it was the bad weather, the good location or the different day that affects the number of attendees.

Diane Howarth (M409)

Dear Editor.....Dear Editor

I wish to thank the Committee for the signed copy of 'Metcalf-History of the Clan'. It was entirely unexpected and I am most appreciative and touched by their kindness. Being an agent for the Society gave me an opportunity to help and I never thought, when Nina Benson and I first considered the idea, that it would be so satisfying. Thanks to the Metcalfe Society, another branch of my family - M1303 Mr George Metcalfe White, has made contact and we have been able to fill in gaps in each other's research. Thank you and kind regards, **Mary Morris M147**



I feel I must lodge a complaint against some members of the Society who put an enquiry into the magazine for related information. Where I have possibly a lead for them or an overlap of family information I have written or drawn out the details and sent them by post. I wrote my first letter 2 years ago and the latest in response to a request in the April 2002 magazine.

The result - UTTER SILENCE.

As a result of this lack of courtesy I will hesitate to respond in the future.

W H Metcalfe M655 (*What do other members think? - Ed*)

From the 1862 Wharfedale Family Almanac 1862 edition extracted by **David Lambert M11** - "*I saw this which might amuse*".

"The Untidy Housewife"

Who has not known an untidy woman? And who has not felt miserable in her presence? She may be of any station in life, for it is as possible to be a sloven in a mansion as in a cottage and in either case the presence of disorder prevents anything like comfort being felt. It is bad enough where there is an untidy man about the house-but when the woman is at fault in this respect the consequences are ten times more deplorable.It is of course far more frequently the case that the husband is untidy than the wife. Men have not the knack of being so neat and precise as the other sex, and doubtless many a tidy wife has cause for vexation sometimes in the carelessness and idle habits of her "worser half". We must repeat, however, that an untidy woman is a greater evil than even a man like this. If the wife cannot be depended upon to arrange the household affairs, who shall take her place? How is it possible that happiness can be experienced when no one is responsible for the comforts of home?"

Subscriptions 2002

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* Mrs Alison Hutton (M81), 197 Highsted Road, Christchurch 5, South Island, New Zealand
(e-mail: agentnz@metcalfe.org.uk)

* Miss Dianne Fox (M113), 75 Rosehill Road, Lower Plenty, Victoria 3093, Australia
(e-mail: agentaus@metcalfe.org.uk)

* Miss Susan C.M. Harper (M266), 7567 Canada Way, Burnaby, British Columbia V3N 3K1, Canada
(e-mail: agentcdn@metcalfe.org.uk)

* Mr Kevin Metcalf (M1285), 509 N. Prospect Manor, Mount Prospect, IL 60056, USA
(e-mail: usagent@metcalfe.org.uk)

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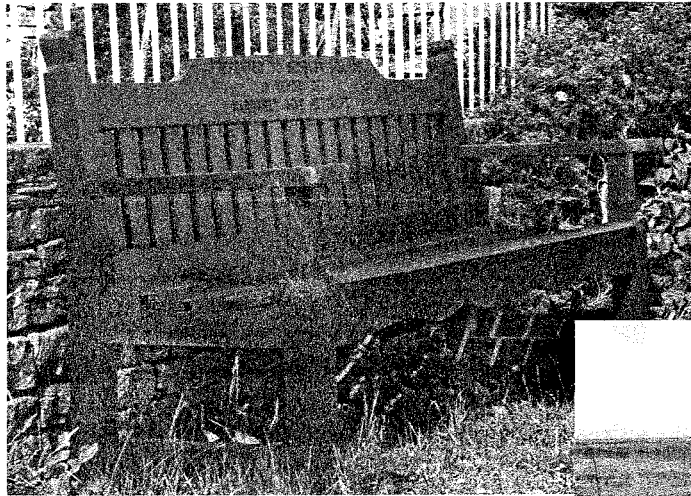
Notes for Potential Contributors

We welcome any articles or letters on the Metcalfe name in all its derivations, together with articles on family history research in general. Material should be sent to the Editor : Peter Dobson, 143 Vernon Road, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1YS. e-mail: editor@metcalfe.org.uk

The editor will publish, where appropriate, letters received by him unless contributors specifically request their correspondence not to be used. It would be appreciated if material could be submitted typed or in legible handwriting. We can also accept copy in ASCII formats on IBM compatible disks which will be returned if an SAE is included.

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A seat with a view

**The Inscription reads
in Memory of Margaret
Jane Metcalfe**

The seat is on the edge of the
village of Sedbusk with views
across Wensleydale to
Burtersett



THE METCALFE SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th APRIL 2002

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Subscriptions	6122.50	5846.50	Newsletters- Production & Distribution Costs	683.95	1239.79
Donations	27.28	836.80	Metcalfe Muster Catering & Expenses	2073.32	1257.12
Bank Interest Received	565.77	601.56	Asset Depreciation	397.68	367.66
Muster Raffle	153.00	193.00	Committee/ AGM Hall Hire	248.00	296.69
Muster Catering	632.00		Telephone & Internet Costs	125.65	73.48
Metcalfe AGM & Muster		1302.50	Insurance	67.00	142.25
Deed of Covenant Tax Refund	158.23	175.69	Accountancy	317.25	299.63
Publications Sales & Library	2102.65	942.85	Affiliation Fees FFHS, & GOONS	191.50	191.50
			Advertising, GRD & Family Tree	323.20	419.79
			Equipment Repairs/Maintenance	141.00	121.01
			Office Stationery	538.52	
			Printing Costs	2740.85	
			Postage-Xmas Cards	200.00	
			Postage-General	650.64	
			Computer Training	35.24	
			Exhibition & Fairs Stands	252	
			Research Costs	595.17	
			Bank Charges/Currency Conversion Fees	20.03	
			Genealogy-Supplies	509.90	
			Gifts	50.00	
			Publications, Library & Postage		846.9
			Postage, Stationery, Files & Labels		2288.82
			Purchase of Wills		437.85
			Committee Meetings & Travel Expenses		255.29
			Accommodation		332.98
Surplus of Expenditure over Income	399.47		Surplus of Income over Expenditure		1328.14
	<u>10160.90</u>	<u>9898.90</u>		<u>10160.90</u>	<u>9898.90</u>

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KIGGIN & Co

THE METCALFE SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5th APRIL 2002

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
COST		
Printers	538.73	538.73
Copier	410.08	410.08
Copier (2)	293.74	293.74
Computers, Printer, Workstation & Software	2942.15	2942.15
Filing Cabinets	338.84	338.84
Printers	149.99	
Scanner	149.99	
	<u>4823.52</u>	<u>4523.54</u>
LESS DEPRECIATION		
Printers (25% on cost)	538.73	538.73
Copier (25% on cost)	410.08	410.08
Copier (25% on cost)	146.88	73.44
Computers, Printer, Workstation & Software (10% on cost)	2462.59	2168.35
Filing Cabinets	338.84	338.84
Printers (10% on cost)	15.00	
Scanner (10% on cost)	15.00	
	<u>3927.12</u>	<u>3529.44</u>
NET BOOK VALUE ASSETS	896.40	994.10
BANK BALANCES		
Barclays	2251.21	3916.63
National Savings Investment Account	13757.37	13100.55
Cash Floats	431.53	
Cash in Hand	369.63	
	<u>17706.14</u>	<u>18011.28</u>

<u>LIABILITIES</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
MAIN FUND		
SURPLUS BROUGHT FORWARD	16236.33	14908.19
Surplus of Income over Expenditure for the year		1328.14
Surplus of Expenditure over Income for the year	-305.14	
	<u>15931.19</u>	<u>16236.33</u>
BOOK FUND		
SURPLUS/(DEFICIENCY) BROUGHT FORWARD	<u>1774.95</u>	<u>1774.95</u>

KIGGIN & Co
Chartered Certified Accountant
34 Bonet Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham

D. J. Lumb (Chairman)

D. J. Henson (Secretary)

Alfred (Treasurer)

Date:

AGM Agenda, Saturday 5th October 2002

Askham Bryan College, York

1. Chairman's opening remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 2001 AGM, a copy of which was distributed with the August Mecca News
4. Matters arising from the Minutes
5. Reports (see enclosures)
6. Projects (see enclosures)
7. Elections
8. Subscription rates for 2003 (see enclosures)
9. Approval of accounts
10. Appointment of Auditor
11. Any other business
12. Date of next AGM - Saturday 4th October 2003, Askham Bryan College, York.
13. Close

Executive Reports

Chairman - David Lambert

The last year has seen a successful transition of a number of officers (Treasurer, Archivist, USA & New Zealand agents, Web Administrator & List Co-ordinator) within the society who have helped the society become what it is today. May I thank again those who have retired from their posts for the generous support during their time in office, & thank the new officers for coming forward to continue the legacy. With now over 630 current members this year, I believe we can safely remove the word 'probably' from the label 'probably the world's largest one-name society', supported by a growing amount of data held by the society, as outlined in the Computer Index Report.

There are, however 'a few clouds on the horizon amongst the bright sunny spells'. As we mentioned a couple of years ago, we are now coming to the point where we are a victim of our own success. The society is run as always by a few keen volunteers in their 'spare' time. It is these few volunteers who keep taking on extra work to enable the society to prosper and grow. Once in a while, a volunteer does come forward and takes on a large role, such as our new treasurer, Carol Herbert. As you will read in the Treasurer and Web Administrator Reports, her contribution this last year has been overwhelming. But it is also the small amount of help provided by a number of volunteers that is also required that together make an equivalent contribution. The society cannot continue to prosper without additional volunteers who have just a small amount of time. Each Mecca Muster we ask for volunteers to help support specific projects. This year, the plea is more fundamental.

Just 4 years ago, the membership had reached a plateau of about 450 each year, gaining & losing an equal number of members each year. Since then, mainly as a result of the website, the membership growth is about 50%. The main reason people join the society is to find out more about their family tree. Hence the workload on the archivist means it now needs 2-3 people doing this job in their spare time or one person as a full-time paid job! Can you spare anything between 2-5 hours per week (such as one evening) to help the society - either in researching someone else's family tree or performing work on another project, thereby relieving someone else to be a trainee archivist. All material and training is provided, including a computer if the job requires one. If you can, or would like to know more before you agree, please do contact our secretary who would be delighted to talk to you about how you can help the society. Do read the archivist's report to understand the situation properly. You will see that it not only affects new members joining but also the search service we provide to existing members.

Onto something that is much more than just 'bright sunny spell'. This year's Mecca Muster sees the launch of the reprinted second edition of our acclaimed 'Metcalfe - History of the Clan' book. The books are all printed & will be ready for purchase at the Muster. So don't forget your cheque book! Might I be allowed to thank those responsible for producing our second edition of the Book, who have worked on so many aspects of the preparation this last year. It is always dangerous to single out one or two for fear of omitting some, but I will do so! Our President, Charles, & Secretary, Diane together with Warwick Metcalfe should all be particularly thanked. A full report is included but we have achieved what we intended to do in the year & have paid for all 1,000 copies. We must now get them all sold! Our cash reserves are very much depleted!

Onto the subject of money! For many years, we have enjoyed the luxury of the generous charitable support of free copying of the Mecca News. Unfortunately this has been withdrawn permanently as the service is being consolidated & relocated for business reasons. So you will see in the Subscriptions Review that for the first time in some years, we are proposing to increase the subscriptions to cover the cost of printing & the recent postal increases, especially in overseas postage. I am sure you will agree with me that the subscription to the society is still very much value for money.

The Government's White Paper on the future of the Registration Service (ONS) has implications for all family historians. You will have read about the proposals which are at the initial ideas stage of the government. A second Paper is due this autumn with the government's response to the comments made to it by family historians & others. The Federation of Family History Societies [FFHS] made a reply on behalf of members, as did the Society of Genealogists & Family Tree Magazine to name but a few.

Finally, do give some serious thought as to how we could celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Society? It is not too far away. Thank you for your support to the society. Long may it continue.

Secretary - Diane Howarth

Time goes faster as you get older, so people tell me. It certainly is true since the last AGM - it feels like just a few weeks ago. What I would like to do is give you an overview of the Secretary's work this year, including some changing responsibilities, and as last year, give you a few highlights of the achievements of the society as a whole, which are a direct result of work done by the few.

Secretary responsibilities

The scope of responsibilities taken on by the secretary has widened somewhat:

- * Finding/supporting our two new agents - providing material, giving guidance & answering questions
- * Working with the web administrator to provide the material for the new paypal credit card system
- * Receiving, processing & confirming all 160+ advance orders.
- * Reviewing the society's website & providing updates to the web administrator, including all forms
- * Liaising with the vendor to make arrangements to fulfil and distribute the books
- * Develop the costs & create/print the new standard book order form
- * Develop the costs & create/print the new Christmas card order form to include the smaller packs.
- * Arrange for the provision of material for the stand at the York Fair and make arrangements to ensure all items are delivered to support the event.
- * Providing material for 8+ articles for each edition of the Mecca News
- * Reviewing options with various vendors to reproduce the August Mecca News. Arrange for Mecca News to be printed via alternative route. Start reviewing alternatives for longer term options.
- * The usual responding to non-members queries both by post and e-mail.

Over the next year, we need to review how some of the above jobs that I do are re-allocated to other people - for two reasons. Firstly, given my workload (the paid variety) & my home commitments with my husband being away so much, I am finding that I am now constantly up against deadlines to deliver various items for the society. Previously, it was only happening once in a while, which allowed me to catch up. But that has changed this last year. Also, there is the principal that no company survives by a lot of its business being generated by one customer. The worst scenario is that if I was to get seriously ill tomorrow, there are too many key areas of running the society that are dependent on my availabilityand that is not healthy for the society. What I feel I bring most to the society are my skills are in developing the publications, managing various projects especially when it is generating collateral or involves marketing (what I get paid for!).

The already burdened committee are able to support non-member queries. Thanks goes to Lesley Longworth who is taking responsibility for receiving queries by post and telephone, and to Carol Herbert for receiving queries via e-mail. The role of secretary could be handed on to someone else including being the point of contact for members and other organisations, as could the role of supporting the agents. Is anyone interested in any aspects of the other items listed above. Please do contact the secretary.

Society Highlights

Our claim as the world's largest one-name society has gained even more credibility on both fronts - we now have the largest membership ever - over 630 current members and due to the vast data that the society now holds. Please see the Computer Index report to see the amazing statistics of the work that David Metcalfe (M46) has done to enable him to complete the collection of Census Returns for the society - truly unbelievable by person.

In terms of running the society to make it work for you, we have successfully come through the transition of the largest number of officers, with key responsibilities, in this last year....and all in our spare time of course! As you will read in the Treasurer's report, Carol Herbert's financial and computer skills has developed the treasurer's role so much and so quickly.... No more so than in the way she has seamlessly introduced the online credit card ordering system. So now anyone can join the society and/or purchase any of our merchandise at the touch of a few buttons, paying with their credit card. We truly are in the 21st century.

Finally, once again the society has been able to deliver 1,000 of the acclaimed book 'Metcalfe-History of the Clan' - probably the society's biggest and best project of which we are all so proud. So yet another truly magnificent year - what next?

Treasurer - Carol Herbert

Please refer to the Statement of Accounts as distributed with the August 2002 Mecca News.

2001-2002 Accounts

The accounts for 2001-2002 show an overall loss of £399.47 for the year and are attached. It must be noted that a part of this loss is due to the change in accounting systems, in that monies given as 'floats' to people are still shown on my accounts as assets until receipts have been received whereas last year they would have been straight deductions, and that there were also some discrepancies which cropped up due to the fact that I breakdown the accounts a lot further than previously. The income & expenditure sheet is a simplified version, and full breakdowns are available in a Comparison Chart, available on request. The accountant also pointed out that unsold stock is an asset to the Society, and that from last year's accounts there was no way of knowing how much of the Society's money was still tied up in stock. As this year and next progresses, hopefully the new accounts system in place will help to rectify this problem.

2002-2003 Accounts

We have moved from National Savings to a new treasurers account with Scottish Widows. Not only is the interest rate better but we can actually get at the money with a couple of days! The accounts were looking pretty healthy - however,

about £11,500 has already been issued for the book printing and distribution with another £8,000 due plus various other outstanding expenses. The current balances are : Barclays : £2,100 Scottish Widows : £8,000. Refer to the Internet report for the newly introduced 'paypal' online credit card payment system, allowing the purchase of subscriptions and all society merchandise via our website using a credit card.

Archivist - Eileen Measures

As new to the archivist's role, the learning curve has been steep. My traumas in understanding what idiotic thing I was doing or not as the case may be, to get results from FILE, IGI, etc, would have to be seen to be believed. Who would have thought that two little dots could make so much difference!!!

The second and most difficult thing was Nina's family crisis, there was obviously no way I would have thought to trouble her during this time. Not having my 'back up' things took me rather longer than they should have done, not helped by having to work extra days in my paid job due to various reasons, ultimately it must have lost me about a month of Mecca work. I must thank those members of the committee who I have had to contact for various reasons for all their help and support. They kept me sane, especially when I was starting to panic about getting things finished. This was indeed exacerbated by computer problems that I experienced in the spring.

As the year as progressed, it would appear from the amount of new members we are generating, they are also extremely keen to get their family tree to me to see if there is anything they have missed. The workload as a result has increased dramatically, and at present with things the way they are I am in despair of ever seeing the light of day, each search can, & sometimes does take up to 8hrs, then there are the daily letters/emails to answer, the backlog never seems to get any less. I also get phone calls with queries, as you can imagine it has all become very depressing & no light at the end of the tunnel. I truly feel that the society needs to find someone and pay them to do this job full time or have 2 or 3 of me! Anyone like myself who needs to earn a wage couldn't, in all honesty afford to lose so many paid hours. During September I have stopped my part-time work completely to help clear the backlog of the searches supported by David Metcalfe who has halted his project on gathering data to provide additional help, but this is only temporary. Next month I must look for full time work and therefore revert back to the archivist's job being a 'hobby' and doing it only in my spare time. With the continual increase in new members, this is not a temporary problem, but a growing problem, that can only be resolved with additional voluntary resource.

List Co-ordinator - Anita Metcalfe

The job of is going well, receiving 3-4 queries every month, so it's not too taxing. The few process questions I have had answered. I'm accumulating quite a few new lists as I go along, & will be looking to follow a process to also make them available on the Index to Lists available on the website. Please note that I have reverted to my maiden name, so there is now another Metcalfe in the Metcalfe Society.

Master Membership - Doug Cutting & Carol Arkwright

As at 18 September 2002 there are **633** current members, as follows:

453	UK (including Isle of Wight 1, Isle of Man 1 & Jersey 1).	26	New Zealand
60	USA	4	France
43	Australia	3	South Africa
40	Canada	1	Germany
		3	tbc

152 reminders were sent at the end of March to people who were members in 2001 but had not then renewed their subscriptions; **73** of those members did not respond. There are **109** new members since the last AGM report and **7** ex-members have rejoined, the sources given as:

WWW	39	Friend	5	FH Pubs (not specified)	3
No source given	17	Via relative	5	FH Fair York	2
Agents	11	Word of mouth	4	FH News & Digest	2
FT Magazine	7	Dalesman magazine	4		

& 1 each from : Leaflet in library, Northallerton Library, Leeds University Newsletter, CN Forum, Mailshot, Harrogate F H Fair, FH talk, Australian Inst. Genealogical Studies, a Cashier in Supermarket using a Visa Card and a visit to Nappa Hall (in 1993!).

Gift Aid - Alan Vickers

At 5 April 2002, 64 members had completed Deeds of Covenant & 21 had made Gift Aid Declarations. Of these, 2 subscriptions had not been received by 5 April 2002 & 2 payments had been made before the Gift Aid Declaration was completed. A claim was submitted to Inland Revenue (Charities) on 27 May 2002, based on a refund of Income Tax from subscriptions totalling £668.00 (20 members paying £9 & 61 members paying £8). A cheque for £188.41 was received from Inland Revenue (Charities) on 24 June 2002, & the Master Membership file has been updated with this schedule.

Editor - Peter Dobson

The December 2001 issue had a big spread on the Muster as usual. The use of colour photographs seemed to enhance the content, which was helped immensely as a result of the purchase of a scanner (HP Scanjet 5400c) & a printer (HP Deskjet 960c). Having a scanner to hand allows items to be copied and manipulated to see if they are right for the article and if not quickly discarded. There are still problems in receiving well written articles from members and I am still dependant upon a small number of providers. The August issue went off quite well although there is a little lull in the production of longer length articles, which was reflected in the August issue. There are a number of items, which should be available for the next few issues. Concern over possible problems with the printing meant that photographs were not included in the main body of the

News with the result that there were fewer pages. A definite reduction in the availability of single Metcalf items and not many new contributors – placing a heavy reliance on those who have been supportive in the past. See the 'Publications' report on regarding the copying problem.

Despatch - June Cutting

All mailings have proceeded without problems, & we are now able to use the Post Office franking facility as there are over 500 packages - stamp-licking days behind us! Royal Mail allow up to 8 weeks for delivery overseas by surface mail. The Australian agent became concerned at the non-delivery of her Agents pack at the end of that time. A second pack was despatched, and in accordance with Murphy's Law, the original pack arrived two days later!

Sales & Library - Carol Arkwright

The new Birth Brief Booklet has been selling like the proverbial hot cakes, & other sales items have sold quite well as a result of the sales sheet being included with the Mecca News. Sales have been quieter in the summer months, but this is usual. A lot of books were borrowed at the Muster, but since Christmas and through the year, the library has been very quiet. The committee proposed not to expand the service overseas given the increasing postage costs.

Computer Index - David Metcalfe

As a result of obtaining a copy of the National Burial Index, it took 3 months to enter, merge and check over 3,000 burial entries with the Main Society Index. I have also obtained a set of 38 CD's with images of the 1891 census for London. Unfortunately, at present, there is no surname index. So I am looking forward to the onerous task of looking through thousands of images to extract Metcalfe entries. The same can be said for the CD's covering the 1891 census for Lancashire which I have ordered. I have been busy with the 1901 Census returns from Leeds library. I have made at least 14 visits to Leeds library & collected over 2,900 returns so far, concentrating firstly on the Dales area N.W. of a line from Yarm to Keighley, but now progressing to the industrial areas of West Yorkshire. First impressions are that the enumerator's writing doesn't get any easier to read, and my prediction, to finish searching for Metcalfes by Christmas, may be a little over optimistic due to the increase in population. The data collected so far, has already been merged into the main index. I can only cover Yorkshire and not the whole of the U.K. The size of the main index currently stands at 82,391 entries or 30.25 Mb in size

Agents - Various

New Zealand (Diane Howarth/Alison Hutton)

Regrettably Mary Morris had to retire as New Zealand agent. Her lifestyle has changed considerably over the past year and was no longer able to ensure that emails, etc were actioned within a reasonable time frame as she was often away from home, sometimes for weeks at a time. She had endeavoured to continue as agent but it had been with difficulty last year, and felt it was in the best interests of the Society that someone else be appointed.

I became the New Zealand agent in May and found myself busy with new memberships and book orders. Since the beginning of August it has been much quieter. The statistics are: 4 new members 2 book orders. The highlight was the active recruitment of a new member who was the pilot of a 767 taking my husband and me to Queensland. Tony Metcalf introduced himself at the start of our journey so I sent him a message via a flight attendant. Shortly after he came to chat to us and I told him about the Society. A week later he had joined up.

Australia (Diane Howarth)

No report received, though I am in regular contact with Dianne & she has not expressed any problems.

USA (Diane Howarth)

No report received, though Kevin has confirmed he has been able to respond to all queries either independently or with Diane's support. Kevin will be attending the Muster in October.

Canada (Susan Harper)

Since the start of 2002 I have registered 6 new members, 2 joined through PayPal. Ten members renewed between February & April. There have been 9 book orders from Canadians, 7 of which were at the advance order price, 2 at full price. See the Internet Report for details of my other duties.

Fairs - Diane Howarth

See the reports in Mecca News for the Preston & York Fairs - both of which were very well attended and merchandise sales continually exceed previous fairs of £250-£400, mainly of certificate binders, polypockets, research record sheets & advance book orders. Both fairs were excellent in terms of gaining new members, members rejoining, and especially for meeting so many of our members. It is so good to see you all. Previously we have booked and manned one table at each fair. Given the amount of merchandise we now carry, and are able to sell, especially with the forthcoming Metcalfe book due to be available, we are able to now afford to pay for and man two tables at each fair - a much bigger presence. There is a requirement to standardise transport and storage arrangements from the Muster to the North West Fair in October, and then onwards to the York Fair the following June. Previously, we have relied on our secretary, Diane Howarth, attending both fairs and travelling the length of the country with the stands on each occasion. We were very fortunate last year at the Muster for Archer Metcalfe and his wife to take the stand from the Muster, store it, deliver and help setup on the morning at the Preston Fair and then take it back home with them that evening. Can anyone do the same for the forthcoming Manchester Fair & York Fair next June?

Internet - Susan Harper & Carol Herbert

Susan : I am very happy to be free of web site duties & think that the society is extremely lucky to have Carol Herbert take over. She has done a superbly professional job, something I could not have come close to doing. Thanks for all the acknowledgments for initially getting the Society on the web.

Issuing user names & passwords for the member-only site continues to be the most active area of my volunteer effort. I am letting a few members each week 'in the door'. The most common "hitch" is members who have already been issued passwords asking for another. We have tried to prevent this by adding a line to the directions for obtaining passwords that those who have "forgotten" their passwords should contact me directly. I also now do a member number search to make sure that it isn't already there before processing new requests. Currently, 240 members have access to the member area. I think it is time that we put more in the area that is of benefit to members. I have been liaising with our server contact regarding the establishment of an e-mail forum for members only.

Carol : Here are a few points that have happened since it went online last Autumn :

1. Web site wins first web award - a Merit from 42nd Street Awards.
2. Web site visitor numbers available on the site. The site is averaging about 100 unique visitors per week (ie returning visitors are not counted, only first-timers). This is good for such a specialist site & also good to know in case we want to look into selling advertising space to get some extra income.
3. Index to all the Mecca News' now online.
4. Site now fully searchable
5. Quite a lot of info has been added to both the member and non-member sections, and is continuing time permitting. I am intending to put some of the articles from the early Mecca News' online

The major improvement revolves around making it 'Credit Card Friendly'. All items have been converted so that we can accept credit card payments for everything including subscription renewals/sales. Paypal has been working like a charm. There was a slight bump when the stock markets went haywire and affected the exchange rates on an almost hourly basis. The flow of books sales has continued albeit at a slower rate. We have sold 47 books so far and had 10 new members joining through Paypal. The site is basically just ticking over now and I do not envisage having much time to add to it until the new year. I will just be maintaining the site - doing the odd bit here and there and keeping an eye on the Paypal rates.

Publications - Diane Howarth

The following publications have been created :

- * Gift Aid Form & accompanying notes
- * Metcalfe book advance order form
- * Metcalfe book order form

The following publications have been updated:

- * 'Are you Interested' flyer
- * Standing order form
- * Christmas Card Order Form
- * Subscription Renewal Form
- * Sales Order Form
- * Compliment Slips for all officers
- * New Member Application Form
- * New Member Introduction Booklet

All forms and publications are available via the agents and also electronically on the society website. The forms will be updated again and made available for 2003

Birth Brief Booklet

The Birth Brief Booklet launched at the Muster last year has sold well & is a popular publication. To enhance further, Susan Harper has volunteered to develop a placename index for it, to be available alongside the index by member surname. The work is approximately one third completed. When completed it will be available in both hardcopy version and also available in the member-only area of the society website as a database. It can be used to generate summary lists based on any search criteria: placename, first name, last name, year.

Publications copying facility

As reported in the August Mecca News, the free photocopying service that the society has enjoyed for many years will no longer be available at all in the future. This is purely for commercial business reasons as the service is being consolidated at another location. The committee is reviewing costs to provide at least the same quality of Mecca News, both in terms of paper & quality of print & photos. Also, given financial constraint, the committee would look to improve quality further as society funds become available.

Conference Secretary - Lesley Longworth

For the 2001 21st Birthday Mecca Muster, we received a record 113 bookings of which 87 were members and 26 guests. Nine other people turned up on the day. As the lunch was provided free of charge, the bill of £1790 was much higher than previous years. The lunch was of a high quality but also too high in terms of quantity. Therefore it is intended to provide a similar but smaller menu for 2002. There were no problems with regard the layout and facilities in the hall and the cake and wine seemed to be greatly appreciated. The 2002 will follow a similar format but financed on a cost recovery basis.

Family Record Centre Visitor - Julian Metcalfe

This has been a very quiet year but am happy to continue to provide the service to the society.

Affiliations - Various

North East Group of Family History Societies

Nina Benson stepped down from representing the society and will be replaced by Peter Dobson.

North West Group of Family History Societies

The Group held another successful fair in the Preston Guildhall last October. There was in excess of 100 stands & although the numbers were down on the previous 2 years some 1400 people attended the event, clearing just over £2500 of which £200 was distributed to Record offices across the North West. This year's Fair will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Sunday 27

October. The One-day Conference organised by the Group through the North Cheshire FHS held in May at Woodford, Cheshire, which also coincided with the Group's 25th anniversary, was a resounding success.

Federation of Family History Societies

Although we submitted our website to the new Federation website award, success was not to be as Cheshire won the award. Since then Carol has improved the site dramatically so who knows next year. See the Chairman's report regarding ONS.

Guild of One-Name Studies

As last year we have continued to be members of the GOONS receiving their journal but we have not participated in any Guild activities. We have submitted our website for the new Guild website award.

Projects

GRO Collection - Patrick Malham

The main focus has been to flesh out the GRO dates where possibly by adding in the exact event dates, making use of various sources but mainly the new Birth Brief Booklet. This now means that we have the following data :

Births	1889
Marriages	832
Deaths	27 (+4610 Birth dates - already supplied)
- a mere drop in the ocean! I have been using what resources I can to fill in the gaps in the GRO indexes - in particular Mother's maiden name / spouse, and exact dates of birth / marriage / death.	

Wills Project - Diane Howarth

Stephen has stepped down from the committee as he feels he cannot provide any added value to the meetings but is quite happy to continue with the wills project. There are now over 300 transcribed and Stephen is being asked to coordinate some output that will be of value to the members eg an index of the wills that are available, and how they can get the information.

Computer Strategy - Diane Howarth

I presented the requirements that I had developed across the various areas of the society - both in terms of how we run the society and how we want to manage the data. Committee members have been requested to review the document, think about the various jobs that they do, and then send me details of what they needed to do to perform the job. All that each person has to do is describe what they do for each job, and what they would like to help them do the job better. These detailed requirements will then be taken forward to develop a solution. We cannot proceed without having a full picture of what we need otherwise we cannot develop a long-term solution.

Metcalf Book - Diane Howarth

Content & Printing: Charles Metcalfe & Warwick Metcalfe to develop the revised content throughout this last year. Charles then liaised with the printer through the summer to produce, review & approve final photo & text proofs. The books are now all printed & available for storage/fulfilment.

Order processing: Diane Howarth coordinated the advance order process, & received a total of 163 orders. Since then a further 30 books have been ordered & paid for at full price. So almost 20% of the books are bought & paid for before they were printed. A good start. There are a couple of these orders where we are tying up the loose ends but all is in order. The online credit card payment system worked like a dream. The only few problems were all down to user error! Please join me in thanking Carol Herbert for setting this up. The system is still there but now has the full price of the book online. She is having to regularly check the system due to the current erratic changes in US dollar exchange rates. We have also found that many of the non-members purchasing the book have also joined the society, so we have had a good intake over the past few months.....so much so that the agents ran out of stocks of some of the material, which has now been resolved. Since the ending of the advance order offer, we are still receiving orders but on the new standard form that was despatched with the August Mecca News. As a result we now have a total of **193** book orders received, ready for fulfilment, summarised here:

102= UK	103 = paid by cheque directly to Diane
46 = USA	52= paid by credit card online at website
18 = Can	38 = paid by cheque to agents
14 = Australia	
10 = New Zealand	
3 = Other (Fra=1, Ger=2)	

Fulfilment : The same vendors & fulfilment process as before are in place (PMS in York). Confirmed orders go to PMS who then pack the books and ship them out as required.

New Order form As seen in August Mecca News, the final book order form has been updated & will be valid until year end. The postage costs have changed somewhat, especially overseas, so shelf life of the order form is limited. But as learnt by the first printing, that it is best to do it this way, otherwise someone could use the form in two years time and we would have to honour the costs even if the postage has gone up. Whereas we can easily change it online.

Subscriptions Review

The subscriptions have not been raised for a few years. However, given the permanent loss of the free Mecca News photocopying facility, and the increasing postage costs, especially for non-UK destinations, the committee propose to raise the subscriptions for 2003 to the following :

* UK Individual (£8) and UK Family (£9)	£10
* Overseas Individual (£8) and Family (£9) via surface mail	£12
* Overseas Individual (£9) and Family (£10) via air mail	£14

The joining fee of 50% of the chosen subscription rate remains unchanged.

oooOooo