

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY



THE METCALFE SOCIETY

Established 1980

www.metcalfe.org.uk

Issue No 81

April 2007

Registered Charity No. 1000879

ISSN 0952-7354

SOCIETY OFFICERS

President	Charles S. Metcalfe (M305), 17 Canon Drive, Bowdon, Cheshire WA14 3FD D a v i d
Chairman & Legal Advisor	Lambert (M11), 22 Lime Grove, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 6PJ e-mail : chairman@metcalfe.org.uk
Vice Chair & Editor	Peter Dobson (M69), 143 Vernon Road, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1YS e-mail : editor@metcalfe.org.uk
Secretary & New Members Secretary	Mrs Ena Metcalfe (M1554) The Willows, 11 Hillcourt Road, High Lane, Stockport SK6 8HN e-mail : secretary@metcalfe.org.uk
Publications, Journal Distribution, Projects Coordinator	Mrs Diane Howarth (M409), 16 Otterbourne Walk, Taylor's Farm, Sherfield on Loddon, Hampshire RG27 0SF e-mail : journal@metcalfe.org.uk
Treasurer, Web Administrator & Gift Aid Secretary	Ms Carol Herbert (M1072), 22 Webster Crescent, Kimberworth, Rotherham, South Yorks S61 2BP e-mail : treasurer@metcalfe.org.uk, webadmin@metcalf.org.uk & giftaid@metcalfe.org.uk
Conference Secretary	Mrs Lesley Longworth (M68), 57, Westbourne Avenue, Hull, HU5 3HW. e-mail : muster@metcalfe.org.uk
Master Membership File	Tony & Debbie Metcalfe (M577), 8 Newport, Amington, Tamworth, Staffs BB77 3QL e-mail : memberinfo@metcalfe.org.uk
Sales/Library Dept	Vacant e-mail : newmembers@metcalfe.org.uk
Archivist Coordinator	Brian Metcalfe (M1554) The Willows, 11 Hillcourt Road, High Lane, Stockport SK6 8HN e-mail : archivist@metcalfe.org.uk
Committee Secretary	Miss Margaret Hodgson (M515), 14 Garsdale Close, Walton le Dale, Preston, Lancs PR5 4BU
General Registration Index Coordinator	Patrick Malham (M444), 34 Peterborough Road, Sheffield. South Yorkshire S10 4JE e-mail : gro@metcalfe.org.uk
Computer Index	David Metcalfe (M46), 22 Constantine Ave, Colburn, Catterick Camp, North Yorkshire DL9 4QY e-mail : database@metcalfe.org.uk
Wills Project	Vacant. e-mail : wills@metcalfe.org.uk
Committee Member	Miss Josie Hopper (M810) Waterling, Thoraby, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 3SZ e-mail : committee1@metcalfe.org.uk
FRC Visitor	Julian J Metcalfe (M902), 21 Hartland Drive, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 8RJ e-mail : frcvisitor@metcalfe.org.uk
List Coordinator	Ms Anita Metcalfe (M1142), 12 Cornes Close, Winchester SO22 5DS e-mail : lists@metcalfe.org.uk
Agents	See inside back cover for full contact details.

The MECCA NEWS

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

Issue No. 81

April 2007

Editor: Peter Dobson

C O N T E N T S

Regulars

From the Editor	2
Chairman's Jottings	13
Your letters & e-mails	15
Society News	18
Archivist Report & Membership Details	26

Features

The Luddite Connection:	
Part 2 - Trial and Tribulation	5
Copyright - Photographs	10
not to the want of zeal or knowledge	16
From Ravenstonedale to Lancashire	20
With a Little Bit O' Luck - Again	33
This Absurd Tradition	34

Member of the Guild of One Name Studies
Member of the Federation of Family History Societies
Registered Charity 1000879 Data Protection Act M0031084
<http://www.metcalfe.org.uk>

April 2007 : This journal is copyright. No part of it may be reproduced or used without the express written consent of the **METCALFE SOCIETY**.

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



We have held our committee meeting for the first time at Brighthouse Library in West Yorkshire in rooms operated by Calderdale FHS. It was a new town for most of us but lo! and behold what should we see as we entered the building but a company memorial to workers of T F Firth & Sons Ltd who fought and died in the Great War. However more importantly on the list under killed in action was a JW Metcalfe. At this stage there are no further details but

I will look to see if we can find out more for the next News.

In this issue we continue with the Luddite experiences of one of the Metcalfe family and also two members show that information to do further research is available even if you cannot always physically go to the archives. Whilst researching aspects of the Trial of the Luddites I found a wealth of detail which helped to understand why some actions were taken and picked up further information on family members which have not yet been entered into our records.

There are significant amounts of information out there which still need to be gathered and no doubt you may have some already from your own personal research. If you come across a Metcalfe reference which does not fit in your own tree send it to the Society it might just assist someone else.

I am always on the look out for information, snippets and articles to put into the magazine to show possible new sources and areas of research that can help you take your lines further back. So if you have family stories about ancestors occupations, homes, businesses, reasons why they moved, anecdotes about their lives, locations, or their neighbours please send them in. I look forward to hearing from you.



Brighthouse Library
and the Company memorial to workers
who fought and fell in the Great War
including JW Metcalfe.



Masham Mystery?

Anyone able to shed light on the sign opposite?

It is situated above a small nook at the side of the fireplace at the White Bear pub at Masham North Yorkshire.

The sign says

John Metcalfe 1831.

Who is this John Metcalfe and why is it there?

All answers to the Editor.

*Later answer: JM bpt 1862 !!
was inventor of a 'barrel washer' &
owner of Baxters Brewery, Thornton
le Moor & 'a few pubs'.
Ancestor of M's 305,398.*



Other Mecca Shops and Signs



Bolton Lancs



Blackpool Lancs
Supplied by
Phill Metcalfe M710



Buxton Derbyshire

HELEN OFFER

Member 4

It was with great sadness that I heard of the death of Helen Offer on 15 November 2006.

Helen was a member of the Society from the beginning and a staunch supporter of the Society until the last few years, when her great age and failing health meant she was precluded from actively participating at the Muster and in the Society's affairs. She resigned as President after a number of years to allow someone younger to undertake the role. The late John Holden took this on.

The Metcalfe index was Helen's creation, now so capably undertaken on computer by her cousin (and mine!) David Metcalfe. Initially written by her on card indexes and stored in shoe boxes, those were the days of no computers don't forget, she helped to transfer the information onto computers in her 80's.

I am sure many of you will remember her when she attended the Musters in the early days of the Society. She was one of the stalwarts of the Society, justifiably appointed our President. She had a great sense of humour and was dedicated in carrying on any task she undertook. She worked tirelessly on behalf of the Society in its formative days and was a very capable indexer. She did a tremendous amount of work for the Society. We all owe her a huge debt of gratitude for what she did for us.

Helen had done a considerable amount of research already and was able to provide new information which was a great benefit to me. In conjunction then with David Metcalfe and Ruth Kay (who died in 2005) we were able to share information and research back into our Metcalfe roots.

Helen will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by all of us who knew her.

David Lambert M11

Earby Cemetery

Grave number 2191 - To the memory of **Christopher Bushby Metcalfe**, died November 14th 1953 aged 57 years.

" Character and Principles Were Surely His".

Grave number 664 (full) **Metcalfe**. Provided by **Eddie Gullick** NWGFHS

The Luddite Connection: Part 2 - Trial and Tribulation

This article was suggested by Alan Boardman M1430 and is based upon cuttings and information supplied by him. Other relevant background and details have been compiled from various sources - Editor.

Christopher Medcalf was in trouble. He probably didn't know how much trouble but he would soon find out.

The time was 1812; the place the North West of England. Great Britain was in the throes of a titanic struggle with Napoleonic France that had weakened and sapped the British people's resolve. Trade sanctions were biting and the price of staple products had rocketed. To maintain profitability commercial and manufacturing concerns were looking to reduce costs and then as now that meant installing more efficient machinery and procedures which reduced the number of workers needed. By the early part of 1812 workers or those seeking work were finding it difficult to get a living wage, which resulted in civil unrest mainly in the Midlands and North of England. Some desperate workers had banded together and sought to remove the cause of their perceived problems the new machinery. Commonly called Luddites these groups were not particularly seeking political change but economic stability. However the government fearful of an English Revolution along the lines of the French experience were determined to stamp out the disturbances and return to a degree of normality.

In the first part of this article (Mecca News 80, December 2006) the background was explained in some detail. The Winter and Spring of 1812 had seen increasing unrest especially around the Lancashire Mill towns. The Dragoons had been called out a number of times but this had only inflamed the situation and in April food riots combined with attacks on property and people had occurred in Ashton under Lyne, Manchester, Bolton, Stockport and other North West towns and villages. Up until the burning of the Westhoughton Mill matters whilst tense had been within reasonable limits. However the destruction of the mill saw a rapid and draconian response by the authorities with those perceived to be responsible rounded up within hours of the event; together with those who had been identified as perpetrators of civil misdemeanours over the previous weeks who had not already been taken into custody.

Christopher Medcalf was one of those arrested after the Westhoughton Mill fire but only on the seemingly lesser crime of forcing another to take an illegal oath. However it was from a non-commissioned officer of the Local Yeomanry. We cannot be sure of how involved Christopher was, he could have been in the wrong place at the wrong time but whatever the circumstances it was to cost him and his family dearly.

Christopher was 41 at the time of his trial living apparently in the Deane area of Bolton then a short distance out of the main town and a couple of miles from Hulton Park and Westhoughton. He was married to Hannah with at least two children Mary and George both baptised at Deane Church between 1806 and 1809 (although their surname is given as Midcalf). At this stage we have no information concerning Christopher and Hannah's marriage or their birth places.



Deane Church Bolton

The Westhoughton / Bolton felons together with others from around the region were committed by local magistrates on the 29th and 30th of April to Lancaster Castle which was the major jail¹. There they stayed for some weeks until a commission appointed for the purpose of dealing with the disturbances was appointed in late May. The appointment of Judges Baron Thomson and Mr Justice Le Blanc, should have started alarm bells ringing for the prisoners. However from an account by one of those subsequently acquitted " *...it never entered the mind of any of them that they should get more than three or six month's imprisonment.*"³ The authorities had other ideas. This is given some credence by an observation in a later publication² " *...that the rioters in Lancashire should not meet with the leniency for which Mr Justice Bayley had been blamed elsewhere.*"



Hulton Park Gates

The trials (or possibly in modern parlance they could be described as "show" trials) started at the beginning of June with what can be categorised as three main groups of felons - those accused of malicious damage to property and

person, those administering illegal oaths and those causing general disturbances - normally rioting over the price of food. Christopher Medcalf was in the second category - those administering illegal oaths. We have no information concerning Christopher's apprehension but he was one of those arrested quickly. It seems that the authorities spies had already identified him as one of the main perpetrators of the illegally taken oath from Sergeant Holland Bowden (Bowden) at Hulton Park Gates (on the outskirts of Atherton, Lancs).

The Grand Jury of some twenty of the great and good from Lancashire were sworn in on Monday 1 June when Baron Thomson briefed them " *..exhorting them to use their utmost endeavours, in their respective neighbourhoods, to restore and promote the public tranquillity.*". Men from Middleton and Manchester were tried first mainly concerning either rioting against food prices or the stealing of food - potatoes, cheese and bread during the ensuing disturbance. Of the eight prisoners four were acquitted and four found guilty and sentenced to death. One of those condemned to death was a 54 year old woman. The dye was cast; the remaining prisoners could now be in no doubt what fate awaited them if found guilty.⁴

On the Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock the second group of fourteen (twelve men and two women) accused were brought before the jury. They were the Westhoughton Luddites accused of arson and destruction of the Mill. Their trial lasted all day until eight at night when the Jury retired for an hour or so and brought in a verdict of guilty against four of the men. One was a 16 year old cripple who was " *... hoisted on a man's shoulders in order to break a window with his crutch.*"⁵

The following day the trial of those giving illegal oaths commenced. Given the results of the previous day there must have been feelings of dread if anyone was found guilty and mixed emotions when Judge Baron Thomson had told the Jury that " *Persons guilty of administering or aiding and consenting of unlawful oaths, were liable to seven years transportation.*". Christopher Medcalf stood in the dock with eleven others when the trial started at 9 o'clock in the morning. Evidence was taken until seven o'clock in the evening when the jury retired to consider their verdict. During the trial Sergeant Bowden failed to identify the accused and the convictions were achieved by the statements of nine spies. Within 30 minutes they were back - seven were found guilty amongst them Christopher.

Further trials continued all that week with a total fifty eight people accused of various felonies; twenty were acquitted, six held over to a later date, seven imprisoned for six months; seventeen transported, each for seven years and

eight condemned to death. Those in the last category were executed in Lancaster Castle on Saturday 12 June .⁴

The hangings may have had a salutary effect in the short term but disturbances carried on for another five years with wheat prices rising and knitwear prices continuing to be depressed.⁶

However this was not of immediate interest to Christopher he had his own personal crisis. We are not aware of how the verdict was conveyed to Christopher's family - or even if they were present at the Assizes but it appears that he was not to see them as a free man again. From letters sent by Thomas Holden another convicted of administering an illegal oath in Bolton, we can piece together some of the tribulations that Christopher endured after his trial. Holden's letters were kept by his family and they indicate that he and the other Bolton prisoners were kept together on what would become a long and arduous journey. Details of these letters are available on the Lancaster Castle website.⁷

Immediately after sentencing Christopher and the other convicted Luddites were incarcerated in Lancaster Castle where they stayed till shortly after the executions. At that time Holden wrote to his wife saying "*To part with my dear wife and child, parents and friends, to be no more, cut off in the bloom of my youth without doing the least wrong...oh my hard fate, may God have mercy on me.*"⁸ Mercy was not forthcoming to him or the others. We must assume that those who could write or get someone to write penned similar letters to their loved ones and the relatives of those that couldn't send letters only picked up information second or third hand a further tribulation to those left behind.

The Bolton transportees were kept together being moved firstly to London arriving on Sunday 21 June, staying until 25 June when they were moved to a prison hulk, HMS Portland, in Langstone Harbour Portsmouth. How life on the hulks must have been is described in various books and magazines. An article in The Age of Sail of 22 September 2003 indicates how convicts were treated and is described as "*a tale of unrelenting gloom and human misery.*"⁹ The use of old outworn merchant or warships as prisons had been going on since at least the 16th century. Select Committees reporting in 1811 and 1812 reported that conditions on the hulks were desperate. Prisoners kept in leg irons all the time in crowded conditions, poor sanitation and ventilation, little or no medical care, infrequently religious visits, inadequate clothing with stinking meat and often mouldy food. No wonder many became depressed and lethargic. Yet in spite of their similar circumstances on board the Bolton group split into gangs which then proceeded to make each other's lives even more miserable by verbal and physical attacks. It was against this background that Christopher Medcalf had to survive.

By the time Christopher arrived at Portsmouth there were some 1000 convicts on the port's hulks. Many ordinary criminals serving out their sentences before returning home; others like the Bolton men awaiting transportation. Convicts in Langstone Harbour were employed on improving the fortifications of Fort Cumberland, moving timber and supplies around the dockyard or other repair and maintenance work. It was in these conditions, until November 1812 that Christopher Medcalf and the others worked. On 22 November 1812 they embarked upon the Fortune for Australia.

Next Issue **A new life**

Sources:

¹ Calendar of Crown Prisoners Lancaster 1812; ² The Skilled Labourer 1760 - 1832

³ Leigh Monthly Magazine Issue no.1 reprinted 1897 in the Westthornton Historic Review

⁴ Manchester Mercury / Manchester Gazette/ Manchester Chronicle/ Lancaster and Preston papers

⁵ Lancashire Gleanings. WEA Axon 1883; ⁶ www.learning curve.gov.uk - Power, Politics & Protest

⁷ www.lancastercastle.com; ⁸ www.thisbolton.co.uk 28 January 2005

⁹ From Floating Tombs to Foundations. Dr Ann Coats

Some Early Mecca Transportees To Port Jackson Australia

Arrived 1790 **Elizabeth Metcalfe**; Convicted Middlesex 1788;
Transported 7 years; Ship Lady Juliana
Arrived 1790 **James Metcalfe**; Convicted York 1788;
Transported 7 years; Ship Surprise
Arrived 1790 **John Metcalfe**; Convicted Middlesex 1790;
Transported 7 years; Ship Neptune
Arrived 1791 **Ann Metcalf**; Convicted Middlesex 1790;
Transported 7 years; Ship Mary Ann
Arrived 1791 **Barnabas Metcalfe**; Convicted London 1788;
Transported 7 years; Ship Matilda.1792

MECCA NEWS DEADLINES

The deadlines for inclusion of articles etc in the Mecca News
are as follows:-

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

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!

COPYRIGHT - PHOTOGRAPHS

If you ever thought that copyright concerning photographs was any easier than copyright covering the written word think again! In the period I have been editor the question of copyright concerning the written word has tightened up significantly resulting in potential for breaches of the law even if it was unintentional which is why wherever possible I seek to use original material and only rely on short quotations or extracts from written articles and then to acknowledge where known. That is why if you are putting extracts forward from published material you need to follow the following guide:

- Provide confirmation that author's permission to publish has been supplied
- Provide publishers name and address with any issue number and date of publication.

However the copyright for photographs has now been tightened as a result of recent European changes to UK law and it is now ".....something of a minefield..." so says our own **David Lambert M11**. David has kindly allowed details of his article "Copyright..A Snapshot View" which appeared in Family History News and Digest - April 2006 to be reproduced here and hopefully it will make things clearer and allow you to provide me with photographs for the Mecca News.

There have been a number of acts covering artistic and photographic works but the recent changes make the situation more complex than previously. The definition of a photograph is *"a recording of light, or other radiation, on any medium on which an image is produced or from which an image may by any means be produced, and which is not part of a film."* This covers all print and now digital photos.

The length of copyright depends on when the photograph was taken. The table opposite gives details of how copyright is handled from 1 June 1957 where you weren't the photographer but merely the "author" of the photograph. By author it refers to the person who controlled and arranged the taking of the photograph provided he paid or agreed to pay for it. David goes on to say "A general rule of thumb is that where a person who was the **"author"** of the photograph **died over 70 years ago** or if the photograph cannot be attributed to an individual but was **published more than 70 years ago** the photograph will be **out of copyright**." Also "a photograph known to have been **taken before 1936 and never published before will be out of copyright**." From 1 August 1989 the law was altered - the photographer who takes the photograph will now own and retain the copyright of the work subject to any agreement to the contrary.

"So when supplying photographs you need to check whether the photograph is still protected by copyright and, if it is, who might be able to give consent for its use. Locate the death of "authors" of photographs and if they have died, when this occurred, as well as the identity of the personal representatives. They might still own the copyright. Most "family" photographs can be copied for private research under the fair dealing rule, but if a Society wanted to publish photographs in a book or on the Internet or on a CD-ROM then this will be publication and consent will probably be required. Some older photographs could be in copyright because the copyright owner is still alive or, having died, the relevant period has not expired. Consent in writing to use it would be sensible and if it is impossible to trace who owns the copyright then a record should be kept of the steps taken to establish who might have owned it and the failure of the Society to identify the person."

COPYRIGHT PROTECTION FOR PHOTOGRAPHS	
Photographs taken ON OR AFTER 1 JUNE 1957 BUT PUBLISHED BEFORE 1 AUGUST 1989	In copyright for 50 YEARS FROM THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH PUBLISHED
Photographs taken ON OR AFTER 1 JUNE 1957 BUT UNPUBLISHED ON 1 AUGUST 1989	In copyright for 50 YEARS - ie UNTIL THE END OF 2003
Photographs taken ON OR AFTER 1 AUGUST 1989 (BUT BEFORE 1 JANUARY 1996) where the AUTHOR IS KNOWN	In copyright for the LONGER OF EITHER 50 YEARS FROM CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE PHOTOGRAPH IS FIRST PUBLISHED, OR THE LIFE OF THE AUTHOR (generally the photographer) PLUS 70 YEARS FROM THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE AUTHOR DIES
Photographs taken ON OR AFTER 1 AUGUST 1989 (BUT BEFORE 1 JANUARY 1996) where the AUTHOR IS UNKNOWN	In copyright for EITHER 50 YEARS FROM THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE PHOTOGRAPH IS FIRST MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC OR THE TERM APPLYING TO PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN ON OR AFTER 1 JANUARY 1996 (below)
Photographs taken ON OR AFTER 1 JANUARY 1996 where the AUTHOR IS KNOWN	In copyright for THE LIFE OF THE AUTHOR (generally the photographer) PLUS 70 YEARS FROM THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE AUTHOR DIES
Photographs taken ON OR AFTER 1 JANUARY 1996 where the AUTHOR IS UNKNOWN	In copyright for 75 YEARS FROM THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN OR 70 YEARS FROM THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE PHOTOGRAPH IS PUBLISHED IF THIS HAPPENS DURING THE PERIOD OF 70 YEARS FROM IT BEING TAKEN
NOTE 1: WHERE A PHOTOGRAPH IS TAKEN JOINTLY BY TWO OR MORE PHOTOGRAPHERS, THE COPYRIGHT IS CALCULATED FROM THE DEATH OF THE LAST ONE TO DIE OR THE LAST ONE KNOWN TO DIE	
NOTE 2: WHERE THE PHOTOGRAPH HAS ITS ORIGIN OUTSIDE THE UK, OR ANOTHER COUNTRY OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA, THE TERM OF PROTECTION MAY ALSO BE SHORTER IF IT IS SHORTER IN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	
NOTE 3: ALL UNPUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN SINCE 1 JUNE 1957 ARE CURRENTLY PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT	

So where does that leave us? If you have taken the photograph and supply it to me for the Mecca News you should indicate that it can be used by the Society; in what circumstances and whether you wish to retain copyright. Any unpublished photograph prior to 1936 should not give you a problem. For all other situations see above! You can also contact me. Editor

Mecca Sightings

Stars of Stage and Screen

Lewis Metcalfe of Fallowfield Manchester supplied a picture, shown on local TV news programme, of the storm impact on the NW region.

Our own **Joan Metcalfe M63** making a non-speaking appearance on an item concerning the protection and storage of old wills at Lancashire Record Office Preston. **Both shown on NW TONIGHT at 18.30 on 18 January 2007.**

Co-presenter of the Sing Live Northern Concert at Leed Town Hall on 17 & 18 February 2007 **Linda Metcalfe**. Provided by **Phill Metcalfe M710**.

OZ Speed Merchant

South Australia Motocross Champion is **Shane Metcalfe** (24) who won the title on 6 January 2007 at Murray Bridge. In a three race decider Shane from Mt Barker won two of the three close races, coming second in the third to take the championship on his Yamaha 450. The Advertiser 8 January 2007.

Supplied by Patricia M Pearson M1596.

"HOT" Food

When you see the major news headlines it is not always obvious that there may be individual stories behind them which are often just as interesting.

In November 2006 an amazing story broke concerning the poisoning of the former Russian KGB operative Alexander Litvinenko. He was apparently given polonium-210 a radioactive substance whilst in London. Subsequently traces were found in a number of public places including hotels and the sushi bar Itsu. In an article in The Times of 16 December 2006 it was disclosed that one of the owners of the Japanese restaurant is **Julian Metcalfe** a founder of Pret A Manger food chain. The site was closed and the customers and staff tested for radiation contamination. Fortunately none were affected. Julian is quoted as saying that he *"....thought it was the end of Itsu."* but he goes on to say in some sick way the episode had been good for the brand. The article mentions that the old Harrovian's lineage includes Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India on his father's side and Russian peasant stock on his mother's.

Supplied by David Lambert M11.

Working on the Railway

1924 Railwaymen's Carnival & Fete, Darlington Management Committee Member **J Metcalfe**. **Supplied by DE Thompson M1603.**

Teaching Strays

1861 Census Sunderland. **Dorothy Metcalf**, Head, 83, Kilburn, Yorks;
Jane Metcalf, Daughter, 49, School Mistress, Kilburn, Yorks.
Cleveland FHS Journal July 2004.

Chairman's Jottings from David Lambert M11

By the time this is read we will have held our first committee meeting of the year. We have some important issues to discuss and will be trying as well a new venue which we hope will suit everyone! We will of course be planning the 2007 Muster which will be held for the third year running in Wensleydale at the Hawes Upper Dales Museum. A superb venue in every sense of the word. Whilst it might seem early to book please do consider doing so now as it greatly assists us in planning the day if we have an early indication of delegates attending.

Please also consider volunteering to help the Society. There are always vacancies either on the committee or to undertake jobs. For example we need a replacement for Carol Arkwright to run our library and to also sell publications on our behalf at the Muster and during the year on a postal basis. We will also be attending at least one family history fair in the year and help on our stall there is most welcome. If you think you might be able to assist or want to find out more about the roles available please contact Ena Metcalfe our secretary initially. (Contact details on the inside front cover.)

It was with great sadness that I heard of the death of our former President Helen Offer before Christmas. I also mourn her passing on a personal level since she was a cousin. We were both excited to read 26 years ago, in the Society's first Newsletter, that we had common ancestors when our birth briefs were published. I expect that those of you who have filled in the Birth Brief forms will agree that one does receive a buzz of excitement when you are fortunate enough to hear from a fellow researcher with a common ancestor. If you have not completed our forms I would urge you to do so as you never know there probably is a common ancestor who is a member. If you do not try you may never know! We published our last birth brief book last year.

One of my tasks is to represent the Society at the half yearly meetings of the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS). The next meeting takes place after the deadline for my report to the Mecca News. At their forthcoming AGM a Resolution will be proposed to increase subscriptions in 2008 paid by member societies from 34p to 38p per individual/member and thereafter annually a similar increase of pence. The subscription is based on the number of members of each society as returned by them. Subscriptions have remained static for 10 years and even after allowing for inflation they ought to be increased in line with the officers' recommendations.

The FFHS had a Think Tank in 2005 to seek ideas for the way ahead and in 2006 studied and considered several suggestions and proposals for

the future. A seminar last November received reports on progress to date. A report and action plan will be delivered at the AGM this year.

We obtain several benefits from belonging to such an organisation, many intangible but real. FFHS has been instrumental in co-ordinating major National Projects such as the 1881 Census Index, which all of us must have used at sometime, and the National Burial Index which is continuing into its 3rd enhanced edition. The FFHS has represented family historians in the consultations on the government's plans for the Birth Marriage and Death (BMD) Registration service. Their evidence before the House of Commons Select Committee was singled out for praise and resulted in the original plans being shelved. As I write this, it has been announced by the FFHS that it had attended a meeting with General Register Office (GRO). The FFHS learnt there that a system is now being developed to enable the BMD indexes to the newly prepared digitised records to be capable of being searched via the internet progressively from April 2008.

Work is well advanced on digitising the historic birth records (those from 1837-1934) and over 40 million of the 70 million records have already been processed. These have been loaded on to a new database called EAGLE (Electronic Access to GRO Legacy Events). The EAGLE project will introduce a more efficient system of recording and tracking customer orders within the GRO at Southport; its implementation is imminent. The historic death records (those from 1837-1957) should also have been loaded by April 2008. A third project - MAGPIE (Multi Access to GRO Published Index of Events) is ongoing and this will provide online indexes to the newly digitised records, and will be accessible via the internet, hopefully by April 2008. The FFHS has accepted the GRO's invitation to take part in user testing this new internet facility.

FFHS serves on other National bodies and representatives sit on regional archive bodies. In addition it is perhaps best known as a publisher of relevant books which we can purchase as a Society (at a discount) and sell on to you. They have negotiated insurance cover for societies like ourselves at competitive premiums and we make good use of these facilities. The boom days of publishing and selling reasonably priced books has now all but gone. There is commercial competition for such products unlike before and the internet has obviously altered the way that research can be carried out and raised queries over the necessity for Family Societies at all. The FFHS still publishes excellent value books but a decline in book sales have depleted its income. Do buy their books through us: it will provide us with funds and also enable the FFHS to carry on its good work on our behalf.

Good hunting for Metcalfe ancestors during in the summer !

Muster on Middleham Moor 1535

At the gathering on 23 January on the Moor in North Yorkshire, organised by Lord Scrope there were some 96 Metcalfs (of which 62 came from Bainbridge and Raydale) out of a total of 1451 for Wensleydale. Included in the total of 79 men between the ages of sixteen and sixty from **Askrigg** were **Sir James Metkalf** and the following:

Archers:

Oswald Metkalf (and horse),
Ninian Mt (horse and harness),
George Mt (horse and harness),
John Mt (horse and harness),
Maure Mt (horse and harness),

Bills:

Walter Metkalf (and horse),
James Mt (horse),
Francis Mt (horse),
Adam Mt (horse and harness),
Francis Mt (horse and harness).



*Sketch from
Metcalfe History of the Clan
page 80*

From PRO E36/44 Musters

your letters and e-mails

Further to the article in the December 2006 Mecca News (*Number 80 page 11 - Editor*). I have over the years located in addition to those shown other variations of our illustrious surname which are:-
Mcf - from Hexham
Meccaf and Meccuf - Allendale area (*both Northumberland*).
Has anyone offered up any more?
I eagerly read the section of new members in each issue in the hope that my side of the family can be linked up but to date no luck. Having started my search way back in 1947, when certificates were not treated as a source of government income, my

tree is now a forest covering both my wife and my forebears going back to the 16th century. The exception is my own Metcalf surname which came to a grinding halt many years ago trying to locate Joseph Midcalf born in Stanhope County Durham c1804 according to the 1841 census. I have his marriage certificate in 1835 and subsequent family but he disappeared into that great beyond - still who knows what is behind the next gravestone.
2007 marks our 54th wedding anniversary - are there any Mecca's out there who can beat it?

Walter H Metcalf M655

Not to the want of zeal or knowledge

Bernard Metcalfe

Cotton was being grown in India in the early part of the 19th century but to quote The East India Company (EIC) Board of Directors "The dirty and mixed state in which cotton is at present brought to Europe depreciates its price ". Therefore the EIC directors decided to change matters and sought to to import specialist knowledge, agreeing on the 7th of May 1813 to increase cultivation of cotton and at the same time to improve the quality of their output . To aid them in this objective models of American machines for dressing cotton were obtained and studied; they also engaged the services of Bernard Metcalfe. He was to be engaged as an assistant in the Commercial Department.

Bernard Metcalfe had according to the directors resided in Georgia for several years, he was a merchant and dealer of cotton and accordingly considered a person of credit and respectability. His principal responsibility was to further cotton truncations but could be "called upon to assist general business". Further he was to be made available to any location "where his services can be most useful" with a pay of 110 pagodas per month, to commence on the day he landed in India. The EIC was to pay his passage to India which was to be at the commander table in the ship Northumberland; upon landing he was to be conveyed to Madras. To assist his passage he was advanced £100, which was to be recovered from his monthly pay.

From information in records in the USA a Bernard Metcalfe was living in Natches Georgia in January 1807 where he had started proceedings to recover \$675.55 from Messrs Hammond and Brown also of Natches. On 28th September 1808 they promised to pay him \$885; again on 21st January 1809 the sum of \$208.04. On 26th May 1810 a B & F Metcalfe recovered the sum of \$235.90 from George W Nicolas.

The terms of the EIC proposal must have been accepted as on 3rd September 1813 Bernard Metcalfe signed a contract promising to work for the EIC for a term of 5 years and gave a promise of his faithful performance of this engagement. The EIC purchased 2 different machines from America which were dismantled; six copies made and were then distributed to the areas where cotton was grown. As Bernard Metcalfe "was well acquainted with the machines " no great difficulty was expected .

The project appears to have proceeded as nothing further was recorded concerning Bernard until 1815 when he was to travel to central

India, for which he was to be paid his regular allowance but was refused any extra payment beyond his regular amount. However problems seem to have occurred with the project as in January 1816 when Bernard sought and was given permission to travel to China for the benefit of his health - drawing his salary four months in advance - the building, which had been purchased for the project and some of the installed machines were put up for sale.

Clearly the adapted machines had failed and the project was in difficulty as, on the 10th January 1817, Bernard Metcalfe's request for his allowances to travel to Bombay were refused with the comment "no advantage can be anticipated employing him there ". Instead he was permitted to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope for his health, and also allowed take an allowance of 6 months.

During his absence the difficulties were not seemingly resolved as on his return on the 9th July 1817 he asked for his contract to be terminated and paid in full. The failure of the project was confirmed by an internal report dated 20th August 1817 which stated that the problem was due to the difference between the cotton grown in Georgia and India and not "to the want of zeal or knowledge on the part of Bernard Metcalfe ". As his services were no longer required his employment was terminated with the EIC promising to pay their obligations under his contract in full. He asked to remain on full pay until his return to England but this was refused.

Bernard Metcalfe was buried 10 August 1820. The balance of his estate, including some of his outstanding pay was paid to his mother Mrs Jane Metcalfe of England.

In 1839 the EIC was still trying to improve the condition of cotton grown in India and Bernard Metcalfe was still being referred to in internal reports in a very complimentary manner.

*The Metcalfe Society has information on a Bernard Metcalfe, a deputy registrar of Richmond, who married a Jane Hogg in Askrigg. They had a son Bernard born 1771. However the subject of this article was aged 66 when he was buried in 1820. Could he have been the same Bernard Metcalfe? This article was written from the records of the East India Company and records of the State Historical Society of Georgia USA. **George Buxton M3***

Mecca's can't keep out of the limelight!
In a recent advert on the Classic FM radio station for Simon Bate's morning show reference was made to Metcalfe
as being one of the more numerous surnames.
I wonder who thought to include the family name out of so many others?

We still have an urgent need for a Sales Despatch Volunteer

In our last Mecca News we asked for a member to fill this vital post. Unfortunately no-one has volunteered. So we are trying again!

The post is relatively straightforward and not particularly time consuming but is an important aspect of the Society's activities. The volunteer would carry out the packing and shipping out of orders of society merchandise.

The actual duties involving dealing with orders by email from either Carol Herbert (who manages the orders received via the web site) and Diane Howarth (who manages the orders received via ordinary post).

The volunteer member would hold a small set of merchandise that would not take a great deal of space for storage that would be replenished on request. All the member has to do is to pack the orders into boxes/packages and then take them to their local post office for despatch. They would be given a 'float' of money to use to cover the postage and this would be replenished as required. There will be no need to manage the funds that are received for these orders - Carol and Diane will manage that.

Hence, if you live in the North of England (so a committee member can easily deliver stocks from the storage on a regular basis), have access to email and are prepared to despatch items on a semi-regular basis, we really would like to hear from you. If you are interested but unsure, then you are more than welcome to 'give it a go' for a few months. So why not give it a try?

If you are interested in discussing it further please contact

Diane Howarth on ☎ 01256 883633



Congratulations to our Treasurer

(Web Administrator and
Gift Aid Secretary!)

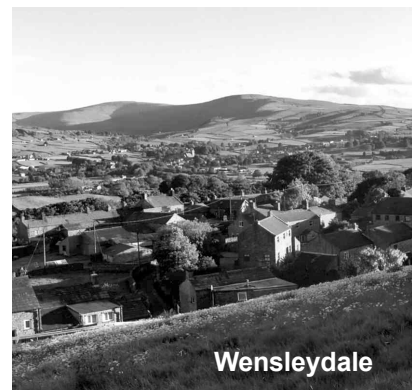
Carol Herbert

who announced at our Committee meeting at Brighouse West Yorkshire on 3 March 2007 that she was expecting a baby in August.

Carol expects business as usual although she may be indisposed around the middle of August and is not expecting to come to the Muster on 8 September!

Mecca Index Records

Numbers now stand at 97090. **David Metcalfe (M46)** has recently updated the Index with Commonwealth War Graves Commission information and is looking to add the Canada 1901 Census details in the near future.



Wensleydale

mecca muster 2007

We are delighted to announce that the Mecca Muster and AGM will be again held at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes, Wensleydale

on **Saturday 8 September 2007.**

Full details of the day's events and speaker are provided in the enclosed invitation and booking form.

Come and join in the AGM and muster at the ancestral home of the Metcalfe's - Wensleydale. Don't delay book now.

You may wish to book an early autumn weekend break in the Dales for the Muster. However do book early as September is very much high season in the Yorkshire Dales, especially after the children have returned to school.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

York & Southport

The Society will be attending two fairs this year.

Why not come along and visit the Metcalfe stall at:

York Fair - York Racecourse

on

Saturday 30 June 2007

Southport Floral Hall,

Promenade, Southport on

Saturday 25 August 2007

SPRING CONFERENCE

The NorthWest Group of Family History Societies will be holding its annual Spring Conference on Saturday **12 May 2007** between 9.30am and 4pm.

The event hosted by the Family History Society of Cheshire entitled **Working Lives**

will be held at the Memorial Hall, Chester Way, Northwich.

Four speakers: Charles F Foster: Cheshire Cheese & Farming

Peter Park: Migration to the Mills

Mike Walton: Mill on the Trent & Mersey Canal

Dr Di Drummond: The Life & Times of Railway Workers: 1830-1948.

Advance booking essential. Cheques made out to FHSC

no later than 30 April. Addressed to Mrs L Smetham,

Little Trees, Gawsworth Road, Gawsworth, Macclesfield SK11 9RA.

Tickets £9 without lunch; £18 with lunch.

Further information www.fhsc.org.uk

FROM RAVENSTONEDALE TO LANCASHIRE

Rosemary Brown M756 writes "I have written two previous articles about the Ravenstonedale branch of the Metcalfe family: the last one was "A Love Story?" in the August 2003 issue. I was aware that one branch of this family had moved to Liverpool and I became interested in finding out what had happened to them. My approach could certainly help anyone researching their Lancashire Metcalfes to make the jump to Westmorland or indeed help anyone who suspected that their ancestors had moved to Lancashire. The sources that I have used are all on the internet - www.ancestry.com; www.lancashirebmd.org.uk; www.freebmd.org.uk. I have given references to marriages which I believe to be correct but I have not sent off for any certificates. There are two kinds of reference, those that give volume and page numbers are the GRO references, a certificate can be applied for at Southport. The longer reference, showing four digits initially, is given by Lancashire BMD who supply an application form online. This application goes to the local registrar. Ancestry provides all the censuses from 1841 - 1901. There are some inexplicable gaps when families appear in early censuses, then reappear twenty years later, this is probably due to faulty indexing, searching on another site might fill in some of these gaps."

ANTHONY METCALFE

Anthony Metcalfe, who was born in 1792, was the grandson of Anthony Metcalfe (1733 - 1798) and Mary Fothergill who were the founders of the Ravenstonedale branch of the Metcalfe Clan. (See Branch 36 in METCALFE - History of the Clan.) Anthony's father, James Metcalfe, had moved to Liverpool to become a tide waiter in the Customs Service there. Anthony married Sarah Danvers although I have no record of the marriage. Anthony, Sarah and family were shown to be living in Gravel Lane, Salford in the 1841 census, he was a gilder by trade. (HO107/585/16) However I have been unable to find the family in the 1851 census for Lancashire and neither Anthony, nor his wife Sarah, appeared subsequently. It is possible that Anthony died at Chorlton in December 1848 (Freebmd vol 20, page 153)

MARY ANN METCALFE

Anthony and Sarah had 4 children. the eldest was Mary Ann who was probably born in about 1827 in Manchester. Mary Ann never married but all her life she remained close to, even protected by the Metcalfe family. The 1861 census (RG 9/2822) found her staying at 79, Clarence St. Little Bolton, she was visiting Elizabeth Metcalfe, who was her aunt by marriage. Elizabeth, who was born Elizabeth Winder, was connected to Anthony Metcalfe of Ravenstonedale (Anthony Metcalfe 1765 - 1844) through her mother, and had married James Metcalfe, Anthony Metcalfe of Liverpool's younger brother. James was a cabinet maker, he and Elizabeth had no children, they were shown living in Bolton in both the 1841 and 1851 census, but by 1861 James was dead. Elizabeth was living with her younger sister Eleanor Bradburn, who was also a widow. Both ladies must have been comfortably off as they were shown respectively as 'landed proprietor' and 'proprietor of houses.' Mary Ann Metcalfe was described as a seamstress. Agnes, another of Elizabeth and Eleanor's sisters also lived in Bolton, she married Thomas Nicholson

and when she died in 1886 she left Mary Ann 15 shillings a week, which must have helped her considerably. Bolton was quite a Metcalfe stronghold at this time.

We know some of the details of the lives of these Metcalfes through Charles Edward Smith who kept a notebook. He was the son of another Elizabeth Metcalfe. who was the younger sister of Anthony Metcalfe - Gibson of Ravenstonedale (1817-1885). Elizabeth married John Smith, a sadler from Bolton. There are several references to Mary Ann in his notebook - in 1893 he mentions that she visited him with her nephew J. W. (John William) Metcalfe, aged 6 years. In 1895 we know that she was living at 52, Leaf St, Hulme because he had reported that he had sent her a certificate of recovery of income tax. It was through him that we know of her death on April 14th 1900 - "*Mary Ann Metcalfe died at 8, Watson Street. Clarendon St, Hulme. I have paid her 15/- a week since 27th Dec 1886 under the will of Mrs Agnes Nicholson of which I am trustee.*" April 18th 1900 - "*Received certificate of death of Mary Ann Metcalfe. Sent Annie Metcalfe £5 to help about funeral.*" I think Annie was a niece, the daughter of Mary Ann's brother William. She was aged 15 in 1881 (Census RG. 11/3990) so she would have been about 34 when Mary Ann died. There is a photograph of Mary Ann (see above), wearing a close-fitting dark bonnet tied under the chin, she has the look of a poor relation.



I have been unable to find any of this family in the 1871 census but the 1881 census (RG.11/3990) showed Mary Ann living with her brother William in the St. John's district of Manchester. They were actually living in a boarding house at 1, Lower Irwell Street, together with William's two youngest children, Arthur, aged 13, and Ann, aged 15. William described himself as married, but his wife Elizabeth was absent. The 1891 census (RG12/ 3191) showed Mary Ann living with her nephew Arthur and his wife Susannah, she was 'living on her own means,' - the legacy of 15/- a week which Mrs Agnes Nicholson had kindly left to her. They were living at 4, Ferneleys Buildings which is in the Medlock St. area of Hulme. John W. Metcalfe aged 3, described as a nephew, was also living with them. He would be the same J. W. Metcalfe who visited Charles E Smith in 1893. In an effort to discover to which family he belonged; I looked in Free BMD (www.freebmd.org.uk) the only candidate was a John William Metcalfe, born 1888, in Gisburn, Preston. (Ref. Gi /9/44) However, the 1891 census said he was born Manchester. I also looked up the marriage

of Arthur Metcalfe to Susannah, this time on www.lancashirebmd.org.uk - it is likely that she was Susannah Moore, they married at Holy Trinity Hulme in 1890. (Ref. 64.5.88.) This was the last census in which Mary Ann Metcalfe appeared.

WILLIAM METCALFE

William, who, as mentioned above, was the second of Anthony and Sarah Metcalfe's children followed his trade as gilder, which he combined with being a carver. He is first mentioned in the 1841 census, with his family, aged 12, so he was likely to have been born in 1829. In the censuses he is always described as having been born in Salford. His next appearance was in the 1861 census aged 31, living with his wife Elizabeth, who was aged 25. She was described as a dressmaker and born in Bishop Auckland, Durham. I looked for a possible marriage in www.lancashirebmd.org.uk and came up with a marriage in 1860 at St James Church, Kirk Preston between William Metcalfe and Elizabeth Jackson (Ref. SICK /3/58).

William probably died in Manchester in 1885, aged 57. (Ref. Free BMD 8d 173 or 175.) William's daughter Ann or Annie, married Frederick Turner in 1890 at St Mark's Church, Hulme (Ref. Lancashire BMD Manchester 5/5/441). She must have been close to her brother Arthur. They married in the same year and the 1891 census (Ref RG. 12/3191) showed that they actually lived next door to one another in Femeleys Buildings. Frederick was a general labourer and Annie was a silk hat trimmer, Frederick's sister Alice lived with them. By 1901 (Census Ref. RG. 13/3701) Frederick and Annie were still living in Hulme, at 24, Silk Street and their family consisted of William Turner, aged 14. James, aged 8, Alice, aged 7, Annie aged 4 and Lillian aged 1. Annie's brother Arthur Metcalfe and his wife Susannah also stayed in Hulme. Arthur was described as a warehouseman in both the 1891 census and the 1901 census when the family were living at 13, Dixon Street. They had 4 children, all boys, William Arthur aged 9, Albert Walter aged 8, Ernest, aged 5 and Robert Harry aged 1.

JAMES METCALFE

James was the third child of Anthony Metcalfe. He was the younger brother of Mary Ann and William and older brother to George Anthony. Like his brother William he was a carver and gilder. In 1858 he married Jane Jones at St. Chad's Church Rochdale. (Ref. CE11/25/17) The 1861 census showed them living at 4. Elizabeth Street, Salford, with their 2 year old daughter Sarah J. and an 11 year old house servant, called Sarah Bibby. (Ref. RG 9/2928). Unfortunately. like all the members of this family. I have been unable to find them in the 1871 census. This means that in the 20 year period between 1861 and 1881 more children could have been born who had already left

home. The 1881 census (Ref. RG11/3990) showed James and Jane Ann Metcalfe living at 112 Water Street which is in the St. John's area of Manchester with 5 lodgers, 2 of them calico weavers. They must have been large houses as the house next door contained no fewer than 12 lodgers. There were no children shown in this census record their daughter Sarah J Metcalfe probably married William Johnson at Stowell Memorial, Salford in 1888. (Ref.C26/2/323.) But I have no further information about them. So far I have been unable to find James and Jane Ann in the 1891 Census. The 1901 census (Ref RG 13/3972) showed them living at Moister Road, Blackpool. James was working from home as a carver and picture framer. The sea air must have made them feel younger. In 1861 James was 30 and his wife was 27. However, 40 years later in 1901 James was only 61 and his wife 54.

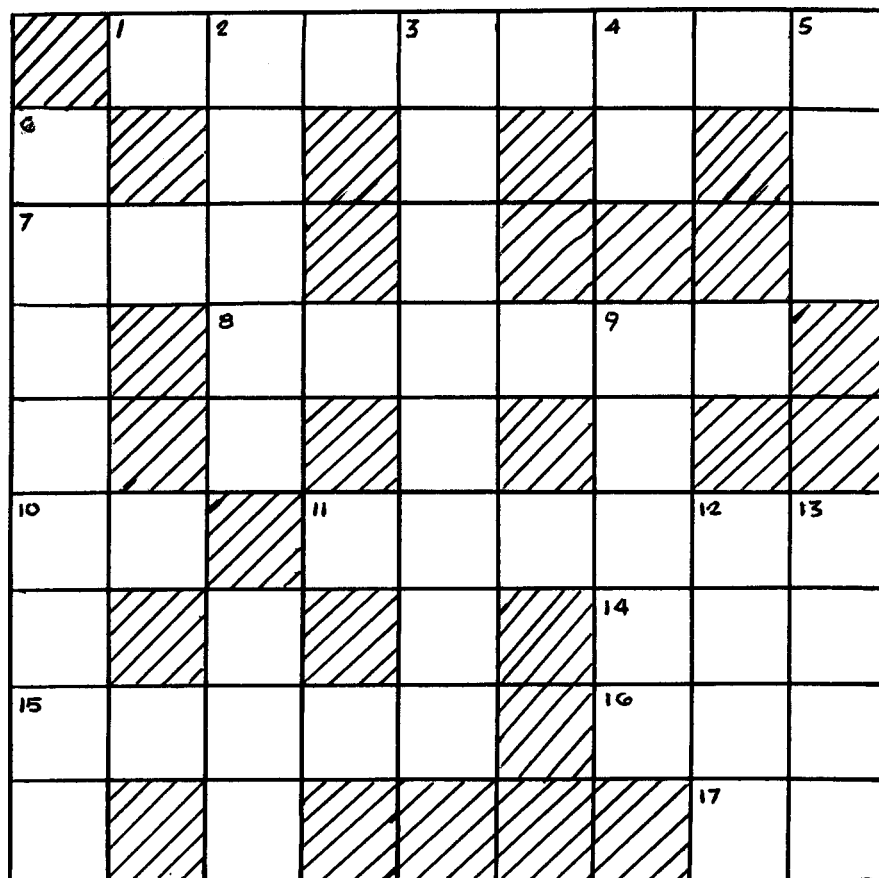
GEORGE ANTHONY METCALFE

George Anthony was the youngest of Anthony Metcalfe's 4 children. However, he was the first to marry, he probably had the most children and he is the best documented member of the family, having been found in every one of the censuses except for the 1851. George followed the family woodworking tradition; he became a billiard table maker. He married Mary Ann Taylor at All Saints Church, Bury in 1854. (Ref. CE11/1/136) She was 3 years older than him. Their first home was in Hulme (Ref. RG 10/4036). They appear to have shared a house with a lady called Ann Daniel, although, as both she and George were described as 'head,' they must have had separate accommodation. She was born in Loughborough, Leicestershire and literally described herself as 'a lady,' but there may have been some kind of link because George and Mary Ann called their first son Samuel Daniel, he was born in 1856. Six more children were born at two year intervals. Sarah A in 1858, Elizabeth in 1860, George A. in 1862, Joseph in 1864, Edward F. in 1867 and Mary L. in 1870. It has been possible to follow most of these children through the censuses, Joseph was the only one to disappear.

By the 1881 census (Ref. RG. 11/3680.) George and Mary Ann had moved into the Everton area and were living at Kirkdale. With the exception of Samuel Daniel and Joseph all the children remained at home. Sarah A. was described as a draper and George A. jnr. as a joiner. George A senior was described as a billiard table manufacturer and in 1891 he was still working on his own account. By 1891 they had moved to 47 Louisa Street, Everton. (Ref. RG 12/2954.) Edward and Mary were still living at home, Edward was described as an upholsterer cabt., which I took to mean cabinet. At some time between 1891 and 1901 Mary Ann must have died. George Anthony however appeared in the 1901 census as a widower, (Ref. RG 13/3519) living at St. Helens, Lancashire with his youngest daughter Mary L Hampson and her family. She had married Albert W. Hampson. a foreman lead smelter. In 1901 they had 3 children, Albert F, aged 7, Harold M. aged 6. and Louisa F. aged 2.

Now for something new - A Crossword.

Some while ago a member, who only wishes to be known under the pseudonym T.W.I.T., provided the crossword below. If you enjoy this relatively(?) straightforward test perhaps you would like to compile your own, with at least a passing family history / Mecca theme, to test the other members, if so then send it in to the Editor.



Clues Across: 1 A Metcalfe Mill (8); 7 Your family tree never does (3); 8 A sense of fulfilment (6); 10 Follows BC (2); 11 The original records repository (6); 14 Loses family name on marriage (abbreviation) (3); 15 A necessary evil to buy certificates (5); 16 The apple of a mother's eye (3); 17 Well known races (abbrev) (2).

Clues Down: 2 The IGI have several (5) (see also 9 down(5)); 3 Time consuming exercises (8); 4 Hopefully none in your records (abbrev) (2); 5 Type of computer (3); 6 A one name society surname (8); 9 See 2 down (5); 12 Anagram of coat (4); 13 A genealogy necessity (4).

Answers at the bottom of page 32.

TNA NEWS

TNA is now providing a basic research service to enable information from specific addresses in the 1911 census. Searches will cost £45 per address search. A fully indexed online service is expected to be available from 2009. For more details see www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/1911census.

(See page 33 of this issue for the experience of one of our own members using this service - Editor.)

Family History Surgeries. One-to-one sessions can be booked with TNA's expert family historians. For availability up until end of July contact ☎ 0208 392 5300 or e-mail frc@nationalarchives.gov.uk.

FFHS NEWS

21 January 2007 **Changes at the Family Records Centre Ground Floor.**

Family historians will be interested to learn that the Office for National Statistics (ONS) intends to close its public search facility, currently located at the Family Records Centre (FRC) in Islington, and instead to make indexes available at The National Archives (TNA) in Kew. The relocation is expected to be complete by April 2008. The services currently provided by ONS in Islington will then cease.

(When TNA announced earlier this year that it intended to relocate from the FRC 1st Floor to Kew, ONS said that it would be reviewing the services it offered at the FRC on the Ground Floor.)

The News Release can be read at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/frc0107.pdf> but, as its wording is open to misinterpretation, the FFHS has contacted the Project Manager of the Digitisation of Vital Events (DoVE) team at Southport for clarification. The heading of the Release states "Births, marriages and deaths records to go on the Internet" and in its main body it states "This will enable researchers to access records yet to be digitised in paper or microfiche format."

What we have been told will be available at Kew are the indexes to Births, Marriages and Deaths, not the records themselves (i.e. full registration details will still only be obtainable by purchasing copy certificates). Furthermore, the DoVE Project will not have been completed at the time the relocation takes place. For those records that have been digitised and re-indexed, the newly produced indexes will be accessible on computer screens at Kew. Where digitisation will not have been completed, it is the existing indexes that will be made accessible: we understand that ONS have not yet established with TNA whether these will be the binders currently in use at the FRC or whether, because of space constraints, they will need to be provided in microfiche format.

Geoff Riggs Chairman Federation of Family History Societies www.ffhs.org.uk,

ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

Many thanks for sending the information which our two researchers, Nina & Edwin, have been able to check against our extensive database & other sources, enabling them to produce your birth briefs. As usual, they have often been able to provide additional facts & dates, as well as connections to other members. Quite often you include new information, which we are able to add to our data, and for which we are always grateful. It is surprising, that sometimes even lengthy briefs do not connect to past or present members, so there must be lots of "Metcalfes" of whom we are unaware. Where are you all?

Keep sending anything you have, as it is always possible that it may be the piece which someone needs to complete or further their research. Our Editor would also be delighted to receive any stories or articles concerning your ancestors, their occupations or any events which occurred during their lifetime & perhaps in which they were involved. I may be biased, but anything about a Metcalfe must be interesting!

Please remember, that if you wish to contact an ex member (XM), you must do so via myself, because of the Data Protection Regulations.

Don't forget that our updated Birth Brief Booklet is on offer at COST PRICE! ie; £5 plus postage. Further details are available either on our website; www.metcalfes-online.co.uk or by post to our Publications Officer (see inside front cover)

Brian Metcalfe. (M1554)

DELAYED BIRTH BRIEFS, REJOINED MEMBERS, UPDATES & CORRECTIONS

M150 Mrs Susanne Metcalfe 6222 Salt Marsh Court, Mississauga, Ontario, L5N 5V7, Canada. john.metcalf@sympatico.ca

M414 Mr Thomas Keith Metcalfe 39 Thornbury Rise, Darlington, Co Durham. DL3 9NE. keith.metcalf5@ntlworld.com

M960 Mr Dennis Wray Metcalfe 41 Victoria Road, Askern, Doncaster, South Yorkshire. DN6 0AY

M1288 Ms Rosemary Gutteridge Malin House, Angram Road, Long Marston, York YO26 7LR. rgutteridge@tiscali.co.uk Grd d.o Herbert & Edith (Mte) Mason m 1910 Garsdale. Edith b 14 Jun 1885 Garsdale d.o Christopher & Jane (Dinsdale) Mte m 1862 Sedbergh. Christopher b 20 May 1843 Garsdale s.o John Thomas & Isabella (Wightman) Mte m 3 Jun 1830 Garsdale. John Thomas bpt 28 May 1809 Sedbergh s.o William & Mary (Taylor) Mte m 10 Feb 1806 Sedbergh. William bpt 8 Sep 1783 Garsdale s.o John & Emma (Sedgewick) Mte m 11 May 1773 Garsdale. John bpt 3 Apr 1748 Garsdale s.o Thomas & Mary (Archer) Mte m 25 May 1746 Garsdale.

Connects to XM106 et al

M1522 Maureen Alison Metcalfe 4 Barncroft Way, St Albans, AL1 5QZ m.a.metcalf@ntlworld.com

We regret that the connections to Alison's birth brief were missing from the December issue. They are; XM624, M645, XM898, XM991, XM1275, M1567 & M1620.

M1639 Ms Penelope West 14 West McDougal Road, Cochrane, Alberta. T4C 1L3. Canada. westden@telusplanet.net Grd d.o Ethel Fleming Cuthill Mte b 30 Mar 1880 Lancaster d.o. James & Margaret Fleming (Cuthill) Mte m 25 Dec 1875 Salford. James b 28 Jan 1852 Kirkby Malham s.o. Christopher & Sarah (Stamper) Mte m 26 Mar 1842 Hesket in the Forest. Christopher bpt 5 Jul 1818 Arncliffe s.o. Robert & Nanny (Hebden) Mte m 22 Nov 1817 Kirkby Malham. Robert bpt 17 Oct 1779 Arncliffe s.o. Christopher & Sarah (Foster) Mte m 18 May 1778 Giggleswick. Christopher bpt 28 Feb 1754 Arncliffe s.o. George & Margaret (Howson) Mte m 27 Jun 1745 Horton in Ribblesdale. George bpt 28 Jan 1697 Arncliffe s.o. Thomas Mte.

Connects to XM12, XM31, XM47, XM208, XM209, M792, XM1048

M1641 Mr Geoff Turton 29 Brian Avenue, Stockton Heath, Warrington, Cheshire. WA4 2BG g.turton3@ntlworld.com Desc. Of Thomas & Ann (Mte) Morrell/Morrill m 2 Oct 1776 Ripon Cathedral.

M1645 Mrs Penny Pursey Chippies, Broadlands Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex. RH15 0BG pennypursey@hotmail.com D.o. John Leonard Mayer Metcalfe b Constantinople/Istanbul 10 May 1914 s.o. Albert Mayer & Dorothy (Bond) Mte m 2 Jul 1913 Istanbul. Albert Mayer b 4 Qtr 1871 Manchester s.o. Thomas & Agnes (Mayer) Mte m 4 Qtr 1870 Manchester. Thomas b 1 Qtr 1846 Garsdale s.o. John Thomas & Isabella (Wightman) Mte m 3 Jun 1830 Garsdale. John Thomas bpt 28 May 1809 Sedbergh s.o. William & Mary

(Taylor) Mte m 10 Feb 1806 Sedburgh. William b 11 Aug 1783 not in Yorkshire bpt 08 Sep 1783 Sedbergh s.o. John & Emma (Sedgewick) Mte m 11 May 1773 Garsdale. John bpt 3 Apr 1748 Garsdale s.o. Thomas & Mary (Archer) Mte m 25 May 1746 Garsdale.

Connects to XM106, XM321, XM353, XM883, M1122 & M1288

NEW MEMBERS – WITH OR AWAITING BIRTH BRIEFS

M1643 Mrs S Buddo, 2 Hawton Crescent, Wollaton Park, Nottingham. NG8 1BZ

M1646 Mrs Doris Larsen, Astunet 7, Hagen 1481, Norway
steinlarsen@c2i.net

M1647 Mr William J. Lyness, 11 Pine Tree Avenue, Coventry. West Midlands. CV4 9GA bill.lyness@tesco.net Grd.s.o. Harry & Mary Isabella (Isabel) (nee Metcalfe) Adcock m 14 Jan 1911 St. Bartholomews Church, Bowling, York. Mary Isabella b Fearby bpt 30 Sep 1888 Healey d.o. Stephen & Ann Elizabeth (Mawson) Mte m 10 Jan 1882 Armley Church, Leeds. Stephen b 21 Sep 1857 bpt 7 Oct 1857 Masham s.o. William & Hannah (Robinson) Mte. William bpt 27 Sep 1829 s.o. William & Isabella (Morland) Mte m 27 Sep 1828 Wath, Ripon. William b & bpt 6 Oct 1805 Masham s.o. Stephen & Elizabeth (Hartley) Mte m 25 Nov 1802 Masham. Stephen bpt 5 Sep 1773 Hornby nr Catterick s.o. Stephen & Phillis (Swales) Mte m 27 Jul 1766 Catterick. Stephen bpt 27 Oct 1742 Patrick Brompton s.o. John of Arrathorpe nr Hunton, Bedale.

M1648 Ms Elizabeth Metcalfe, 303-3400 Quadra Street, Victoria, British Columbia. V8X 1G6 Canada. emmetcalfe@shaw.ca

M1649 Miss Alison Metcalf, Flat 4/2, 33 Dalintober Street, Glasgow. G5 8J K515040@googlegmail.com

M1650 Mr John Metcalfe, 28 Keys Drive, Wroxham, Norwich, Norfolk. NR12 8SS meatcalfe@supanet.com

M1657 Mrs Jean Allison, 36 Weston Crescent, Norton, Stockton on Tees, Co. Durham. TS20 2HU danniallison@ntlworld.com

M1658 Mrs Hilda Hill, Hillcroft, 37 Parkfield, Stillington, York. YO61 1JP stillihills@dsl.pipex.com D.o. Arthur & Doris (Briggs) Mte m 1931 Easington district, Dur. Arthur bpt 16 Mar 1905 Ripon s.o. Frederick & Clara (Wray) Mte m 16 May 1894 Ripon. Frederick b 26 Dec 1874 Ripon natural s.o. Mary Mte. Mary b 6 Mar 1853 Littlethorpe, Ripon d.o. John & Isabella (Simpson) Mte m

16 Nov 1847 Ripon Cathedral. John bpt 12 Nov 1830 Ripon s.o. Thomas & Jane (Hewson) Mte m 6 Jul 1816 Ripon Cathedral. Thomas bpt 13 Apr 1789 West Tanfield s.o. Thomas & Mary (Wintersgill) Mte m 22 Nov 1775 West Tanfield. **Connects XM137, XM151, XM314, XM387, XM416 & XM960**

M1659 Mr Geoffrey Metcalf, 3491 Barberry Lane, Sacramento, California. 95864, USA geoff@geoffmetcalf.com

M1660 Mr John Gorton Metcalfe, 259 Liverpool Road, Rufford, Ormskirk, Lancashire. L40 1SD

M1661 Mr David Metcalfe, 15 Kensington Gardens, Bath, Somerset. BA1 6LH dm_metcalf@yahoo.co.uk

M1662 Mrs Alison Ewbank, Harmony, 145 High Road, Layer de la Haye, Colchester, Essex. CO2 0EB ewbank@harmony145.freeserve.co.uk
Husband Jonathan ggds.o. Robert & Caroline (Metcalf) Ewbank m 30 Dec 1871 Hawes. Caroline b 17 Aug 1850 Marsett bpt 28 Oct 1850 Hawes d.o. Francis & Rachel (Mte) (a) Mte m 1 Jun 1850 Hawes. Francis bpt 28 Mar 1828 Stalling Busk s.o. Martin & Elizabeth (Tennant) Mte m 24 Nov 1827 Stalling Busk. Martin bpt 6 Jan 1794 Stalling Busk s.o. Miriam Mte. Miriam b c1774 d.o. Alice Mte of Marsett.
a) Rachel bpt 28 May 1821 Hawes d.o. John & Elizabeth (Jackson) Mte m 28 Apr 1821 Hawes. John bpt 20 Mar 1792 Hawes s.o. John & Mary (?) Mte of Burterset. **Connects to M84**

M1663 Ms Sharon Metcalf, 437 Montana Street, Gooding, ID 83330. USA smetcalf@cableone.net

M1664 Mrs Belinda Egginton, 102 Cobham Road, Fetcham, Surrey. KT22 9JS belinda.egginton@ntlworld.com Great grd d.o. Robert & Eliza (Metcalf) Woodley. Eliza b c1875 Bermondsey, London d.o. Thomas & Emily (?) Mte. Thomas b c1838/9 Bermondsey s.o. Thomas & Eliza (Balmer) Mte m 25 Dec 1838 St Peter, Walworth, Surrey. Thomas bpt 19 Mar 1815 St Mary Magdalene, Bermondsey s.o. Thomas & Esther/Hester (?) Mte.

M1665 Mr Francis Townson, Highfield Farm, Green Sykes Road, Laycock, Keighley, West Yorkshire. BD22 0PY ftownson@btconnect.com Grd s.o. Matthew & Catherine (Metcalf) Bell m 27 Jan 1913 Stalling Busk. Catherine bpt 22 Mar 1891 Stalling Busk d.o. James & Catherine (Mason) Mte m 27 Mar 1875 Askrigg. James bpt 15 Jul 1849 Stalling Busk s.o. James & Priscilla (Peacock) Mte m 19 Jan 1836 Aysgarth. James bpt 15 Aug 1813 Stalling Busk s.o. William & Sarah (Dinsdale) Mte m 18 May 1811 Stalling

Busk. William bpt 8 Feb 1789 Stalling Busk s.o. William & Anne (Tomlin) Mte. William b 1757 bpt 13 May 1759 Stalling Busk s.o. John & Barbara (Metcalf) (a) Mte m 12 May 1756 Hawes. John b c1727 Marsett s.o. William & Margaret Mte. **Connects to M63 et al**

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

Connects to M50 et al

(b) Alice b 1704 Hawes d.o. Philip & Alice (Jackson) Mte m 31 Jul 1698 Hawes. Philip bpt 13 Feb 1676/7 Hawes s.o. Thomas Mte.

Connects to M28 et al

M1666 Mr A T Sparling, 129 Cooden Sea Road, Bexhill-On-Sea, Sussex. TN39 4TA atsparling@tiscali.co.uk

M1667 Mrs Anne Dinsdale, Penny End, Newbiggin-on-Lune, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria. CA17 4NT annedinsdale@aol.com

M1668 Mr S P Carr, Bell Mount House, Dalguise, Dunkeld, Perth and Kinross. PH8 0JU pandscarr@btinternet.com

M1669 Mrs Valerie Boycott, 4614 Lost Lake Road, Nanaimo, British Columbia, V9T 5C4. Canada sbkandbv@shaw.ca

M1670 Mr Michael Anthony Metcalfe 19 Albany Villas, Hove, Sussex. BN3 2RS michael@michaelmetcalfe.orangehome.co.uk

On the wall inside Stokesley, North Yorks Parish Church

THOMAS METCALFE M.A. Rector of Kirby Overblow,
departed this life 16 February 1774 age 67

Also his wife **Ann**, daughter of William Smelt of Kirby Fleetham,
died 12 February 1804 age 87

Also **Henrietta Ann Catherine** their daughter who departed this life
19 June 1781 in the 57th year of her life.

Provided by **Dorothy Pope M55**

*Can anyone spread any light on why this plaque is in Stokesley church outside
Middlesborough whilst Kirkby Overblow is near Harrogate? Editor*

In the News - Spotted on BBC TV News the heavy lifting equipment of **Metcalf Construction** as part of the recovery operation of the high speed train carriages derailed near Kendal. 28 February 2007

PAWN SHOP CUSTOMERS

The City of York & District Journal for January 2007 gave details of a book recently published by Alison Backhouse under the title "The Worm-Eaten Waistcoat".

It lists details of entries from a pawnbroker's Pledge Book for the years 1777 and 1778 held in the City of York Archives.

The book of 494 pages and some 11,000 individual entries details the business of George Fettes in Lady Peckett's Yard, York and covers the period 5 July 1777 to 26 December 1778.

Examples of the transactions and details of the customers quoted in the Journal lists

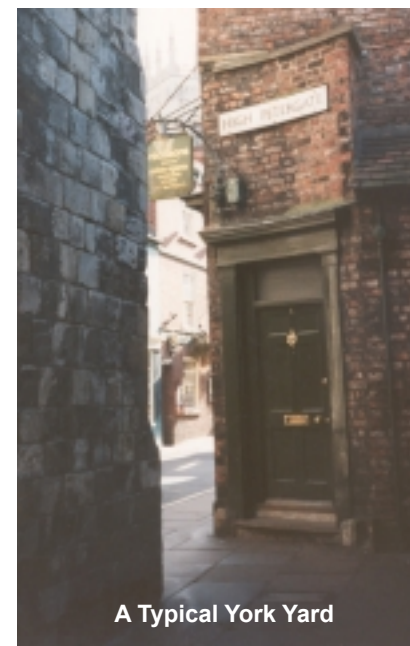
a **Mary Metcalfe** of Walmgate who pledged gloves twenty five times!

Given the Metcalfe presence in area there could be other Mecca's using the shop and not necessarily just those living in York

as other entries indicate customers from a wide catchment area.

You may not have antecedents who used the pawnshop but it is still an interesting snapshot of life in the late 18th century.

Further details can be obtained from www.worm-eaten.co.uk.



A Typical York Yard

Why not visit the Society's website and pick up a bargain?

Metcalf Mugs - Sturdy, standard size mug with the new Metcalfe Society coat of arms printed on one side and the Yorkshire Rose / 2 Calves...

Set of 6 now £22.20 down from £23.70

Set of 4 now £14.80 down from £15.80

Log on to www.metcalfes-online.co.uk for more information.

The family of Metcalfe is of great antiquity in Yorkshire and so numerous that there is scarcely a town or village in the North Riding which cannot own an inhabitant of that name and in 1607 it was counted the most numerous family in England. *History & Antiquities of North Allerton by CJD Ingledew 1858.*

Mecca Marriages

from Phillimore Marriage Records
via CD's attached to the Family Tree Magazine

Suffolk Parish Registers Vol 11, Exning (nr Newmarket)
7 July 1616 **Isaack Medcalfe** & Jane Roome
29 September 1669 John Merden, jun of E & **Mary Medcaf**
25 October 1675 Robert Norton, w of Wood Ditton
& **Elizabeth Medcalfe** of Stetchworth
25 April 1700 **Andrew Metcalf** & Mary Warren
29 April 1708 **Richard Metcalf** & Martha Norfolk both of Soham
Derbyshire Parish Registers Vol 1, Heath alias Lownd or Lund
18 Nov 1710 **Mr Bernard Metcalfe** & Mrs Ann Barker both of Chesterfield
Buckinghamshire Parish Registers Vol 1, Edlesborough
7 Nov 1695 **Wm Metcalf** of St Michael's St Albans & Mary Fletcher of E
Middlesex Parish Registers, Acton
11 April 1749 **Henry Medcalfe**, p Woodstock, co Oxford
& Sarah Pairchild p Hammersmith, co Middlesex, lic
Norfolk Parish Registers Vol 9, Congham
21 April 1679 **Peter Medcalfe**, w & Rose Baniard, w both of Harpley
Wiltshire Parish Registers Vol 9, Salisbury, St Martin
22 October 1700 **James Metcalfe** of the Close, clerke
& Jeane Kent p St Thomas, lic
Cambridgeshire Parish Registers, Knapwell
29 August 1639 Thomas Gobey & **Mary Medcalfe** both of Cambridge, lic
28 June 1795 **James Medcalfe** & Melissa Mackaness
Cambridgeshire Parish Registers, Cambridge St Edward's
21 July 1573 **Thomas Midcalfe** & Prudence Goldsborough
8 April 1627 Henry Haydon & **Alicie Medcalfe**, lic
16 March 1692 James Pitcher of Linton
& **Ann Metcalfe** of Carlton(?Carlton), co Cambridge
27 April 1753 **John Metcalf** of Willingham
& Sarah Seagrave of Stanton St Michael, lic
Dorset Parish Registers, Milton Abbey
A record of the Institution and Induction of **Thomas Metcalfe** 1758.

Crossword Answers

I know I said relatively easy but I didn't set the questions. I prefer Su Doku!

Across: 1 Hipswell; 7 End; 8 Enrich; 10 AD; 11 Church; 14 Dau(ghter); 15 Funds; 16 Son; 17 TT.

Down: 2 Index (9 Cards); 3 Searches; 4 ET; 5 Lap; 6 Metcalfe; 9 Cards; 12 Caot; 13 Hunt.

WITH A LITTLE BIT O' LUCK - AGAIN!

Twenty one years ago I wrote an article called 'With a little bit o' luck' for the April issue [No 18] of our Mecca News. It was about serendipity and Lady Luck, and how one should never give up searching for one's lost ancestors.

That maxim paid off for me yesterday after 32 years of searching for the birthplace in Ireland of my maternal Grandfather. I had read in the January 2007 issue of the Family Tree magazine, that a limited search for someone in the 1911 census was now available at a cost of £45. The other information I had gleaned from the F.T. magazine's Q & A section about 2/3 years ago, was that for the first time since the census began in 1841, the 1911 census required those people who had been born in Ireland or Scotland, to give an exact place name of Town and County of birth. After giving it some thought, and realising I might spend £45 and still find only 'Ireland' had been given on my Grandparent's schedule, I decided to take a gamble.

I duly went onto the National Archives Website, where I found the 'request for information form' and filled it in with the relevant data. You must know the exact address and name of the family, give your own details, and pay by credit card. Within less than 7 days I had the information I needed, and that included a reply from the Archives asking me again to confirm the address as the road name had been changed. All Genie folks will understand what the information meant to me: I was like a demented animal for 24 hours. My Grandfather Robert Moore, as only previously suspected by me, was born at Mount Stewart, County Down, the Estate of the then Lord Londonderry. You may be wondering how serendipity came into all this. That came from me doing some research in the 1861 census in Stockton on Tees for our friend Nina Benson many years ago. I did not find her family in Stockton so looked at surrounding villages, but still no sign of them. To my amazement, I found what my gut feeling told me was my Grandfather. Shown as an apprentice blacksmith on Lord Londonderry's Wynyard Park Estate, Robert gave his age as 17 and place of birth Ireland. No one in my mother's generation, all long gone, knew where he was born - I do now!

Never give up the search Meccas, and thank you Nina for helping me to find all my paternal Metcalfe ancestors, and unknowingly setting me on the road to finding my Maternal Grandfather. It took 32 years but never was £45 spent with greater success.

The other good news in the FT Magazine was that the 1911 census will be available for public research in 2009, 3 years earlier than expected. Given that in a weeks' time I will be entering my 90th year, I decided I could not wait till 2009; I might be with my ancestors by then. **Dorothy Pope M55**

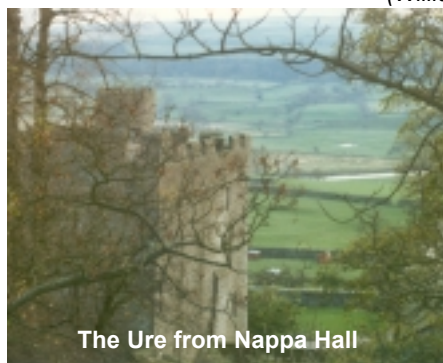
"THIS ABSURD TRADITION"

Extract from "Metcalf Records" of 1891 by W C & G Metcalfe.

My thanks to Warwick Metcalfe (M256), in giving me access to his copy of the above book. The extract printed below displays a fine example of that widespread Metcalfe characteristic - tolerance mixed with humility!
CS Metcalfe M305

"Hinc citus defertur Urus cammaris fluvitalibus abundans ex quo C. Medcalfe nostra memoria id genus piscium ex Australi Angliæ parte huc detulerit."

(William Camden's "Britannia" 1600.)



The Ure from Nappa Hall

Here we have in the fifth edition of Camden's book, published in his lifetime, and therefore before his work could be, as it was afterwards, mis-translated and garbled by self-constituted editors and ignorant meddlers in county history, a plain statement, made in 1600, by Camden himself, that Sir Christopher Medcalfe had within living memory stocked the river Yore with crayfish. But, nevertheless,

we find in Mr. Barker's "Wensleydale," at p224, the following passage:—"One of Mr. Camden's Editors states that crayfish were introduced into the Yore from the south by Sir Christopher Metcalfe of assize display, but tradition avers that they were put there by the renowned Sir Walter Raleigh, whilst on a visit at Nappa, probably some years later."

Later than when? Verily, whoever invented this absurd tradition ought to be ashamed of it. To bring Sir Walter Raleigh of all men upon the scene is too absurd, for, what with his birth and bringing up in Devonshire, his early travels, his exploits and expeditions on land and on the seas, his residence in Ireland and his long imprisonment, it is too much to suppose that he ever visited Yorkshire at all. As to his ever having visited Nappa; it is incredible that he ever could have done so. He was only twenty-two years old when Sir Christopher died in 1574, and from 1580, when Sir Christopher's son died, until 1601, when Thomas came of age, Nappa was either unoccupied or occupied by Popish priests, and after that time and until two years before his execution Sir Walter was a prisoner in the Tower.

But as if it was not bad enough that such trash should appear in Mr. Barker's book, Mr. Whaley, in his "History of Askrigg," must needs repeat it in this wise, "Another illustrious visitor (to Nappa) was Sir Walter Raleigh, who is traditionally held to dispute with Sir Christopher Metcalfe the honour of having introduced crayfish into the streams of Wensleydale." This is how error gets perpetuated. When will guide-book compilers learn to sift their information before repeating it?"

FROM THE PAST

MECCA NEWS Number 14

December 1984

The second in our series of famous Metcalfes

JACK METCALFE, THE BAINBRIDGE HORNBLOWER

Jack is a very common diminutive of John and as, in our last issue, we read about Blind Jack Metcalfe of Knaresborough, we now have a story about another famous Jack Metcalfe, the Bainbridge Hornblower.

From Holyrood, the 27th September to Shrovetide, it has long been the custom for the Bainbridge Hornblower to stand beside the village green at dusk and sound several blasts on his horn. This was to act as a guide for travellers who might otherwise be lost in the surrounding countryside.

The custom of blowing the horn began when, in Norman times, 12 foresters used Bainbridge as a base from which to patrol the Forest of Wensleydale.

The Hornblower is always a member of the Metcalfe family and it is said no one but a Metcalfe could ever hope to blow the horn properly so that its note carried a full three miles.

As Englishmen generally dislike losing old traditions the practice of blowing the Bainbridge Horn has been kept up throughout the centuries, to this day. The older horn is now at Castle Bolton, but the present one, from a large Afrikander ox and adorned with silver bands and a chain, was given to the village in 1864. The ceremony which initiated this was a splendid affair as the great horn headed a procession through the village accompanied by 12 white horses as a token of the sovereignty of the Metcalfes of Wensleydale.

During the summer the horn bides its time hanging in the village inn, The Rose and Crown, overlooking Bainbridge village green. The horn has been blown for generations by a Metcalfe and when the dark nights come round again the onerous task of blowing the horn every evening is undertaken, not these days, by a Jack Metcalfe, but by 10 year old Alistair Metcalfe, whose great-uncle Jack Metcalfe had been the hornblower for 36 years until his recent death at the age of 83.



Twenty one Years Later

Those of you who attended our 25th Anniversary in September 2005 may not have known that the hornblower at the dinner at

The Rose and Crown, Bainbridge was none other than Alistair Metcalfe mentioned above!

MECCA SNIPPETS

mainly from Google Alert
via David Lambert M11

Eric Metcalfe of Vancouver (aka Dr. Brute) won the Canadian 2006 Audain Prize for Lifetime Achievement in the Visual Arts

Charles Metcalfe is the Elmira, New York, USA First Assistant District Attorney.

Calvary Episcopal Church in New York State USA has as its incumbent the **Rev. Steven Metcalfe**. Saturday, April 29, 2006. A n

official NZ/UK co-production is produced by partners **Matthew Metcalfe** (Nemesis Game) and Atlantic Film's Alan Harris (Wallis & Edward) both reported 5th May 2006.

Andrew Metcalfe is the Immigration Department Secretary in Australia .May 1st 2006. S y d n e y

Morning Herald - Sydney, NSW, Australia. May 4 2006 interior designer, **Elizabeth Metcalfe** mentioned. Schrodgers

has replaced UK equity manager **Christopher Metcalfe** with Simon Brazier in a bid to make its core UK proposition fit for the retail market.

Renault UK star **Jeremy Metcalfe** Team Lemac Formula
Classic FM motor unit and does the broadcasts of their traffic reports some days
Whitehaven News. 4th May 2006. "Meniscus" was skippered by Martin Elloy, of Whitehaven Sailing and Boating Association, with crew members Mark Hillmann, **Alastair Metcalfe** and John Deakin. Blackburn, Lancs. Church

warden Cynthia **Metcalfe** and John Hicks scaled the spire at St Thomas The Apostle Church, Helmsore, and are hoping to bring in more than £1,000

Enfield & Haringey Independent.
Jan **Metcalfe**, museum community officer, at Forty Hall.

Wharfedale FHS Newsletter December 2006.

page 9: Wharfedale and Airedale Observer 4th November 1887.

John Metcalfe stonemason of Brickhouse Ilkley was summoned on the information of Mr Albert Sykes school attendance officer for not sending his children **Mary Agnes and Martha** regularly to school.

page 15: An article by June Tingey - The families of Halton Gill part 3 has references to John Hebden of Hubberholme widower marrying in 1756

Ann Metcalfe of Cray. Second reference in the same article to Thomas Hesledon of Foxup marrying **Betty Metcalfe** in 1789. They had 9 children baptised between 1789 and 1810. Mary, Isabel and Robert, a Matthew baptised in 1799 and lived in Cracoe; James baptised 1808 worked as a cartman.

Subscriptions 2007

	£	Euros	\$US	\$Can	\$Aus	\$NZ	SAf Rand
UK & Europe	£10.....	15					
Overseas via Air Mail.....	£14.....	21	\$26	\$32	\$34.....	\$38.....	R160

A joining

fee of 50% of the chosen subscription rate is payable by new members in addition to the annual subscription.

If you are a UK member and wish to pay by a standing order, please contact the Treasurer for a Standing Order form to send to your bank, not the society.

How many years subscription would you like to pay?

To help you and the society, you can pay subscriptions for any number of years you wish on one cheque now at the current subscription rate, thereby avoiding future increases in subscription rates.

Where to send your subscription

Please send your subscription to one of the following people :

If you wish to pay in £ sterling (irrespective of the country in which you reside) please make your cheque payable to **The Metcalfe Society** and send it to : Ms Carol Herbert (M1072), 22 Webster Crescent, Kimberworth, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S61 2BP.

If you wish to pay by credit card you may do so online via our society website **www.metcalfe.org.uk**. The society cannot take credit card payments via mail order or via the telephone.

If you wish to pay in the relevant local currency, please make your cheque payable to **the name of the agent, not the society**, and send it to your local country agent :

* 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**

Don't forget to include the following information with your subscription :

- * Your name and address
- * Which year(s) you wish to subscribe
- * Your membership number
- * Your remittance
- * Type of membership subscription (eg overseas air mail individual)

How to Contact Us

All general queries and correspondence about the society to the Secretary.

All search queries about your Metcalfe family tree or any updates to your Metcalfe Birth Brief to the Archivist.

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 Journal Distribution Department.

Send new member application forms to the New Members Secretary.

Send your Gift Aid form to the Gift Aid Secretary.

Requests for merchandise, publications and library to be sent to the Sales & Library Department.

Send any general research that you have completed that includes Metcalfes to the List Coordinator.

Please note : If pre-paid return postage is NOT included with any letter or enquiry, it is assumed that NO REPLY IS EXPECTED.



Metcalfe Buildings: Hipswell Mill, Catterick before its recent purchase.
Possibly the building with the longest Metcalfe occupation from 1228 until 1994.
See Metcalfe History of the Clan p165