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December 2007

Issue No 83

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The MECCA NEWS

Editor: Peter Dobson

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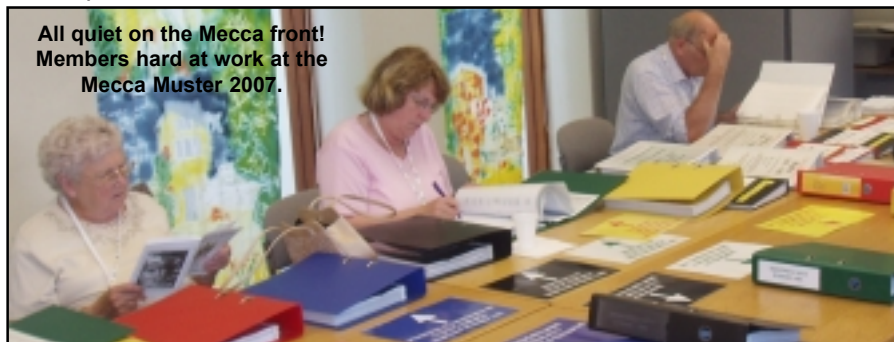


It never ceases to amaze me the number of times that I look to put together an article or a particular theme, then leave it to one side because of lack of enough substance, that details appear on that topic - sometimes from a number of different sources and this issue is no exception!

I received a request some while ago from one of our US members concerning the reproduction of an article in Mecca News 13 concerning Blind Jack Metcalfe the famous road builder (amongst other things) and had been looking how to present it as the original was somewhat lengthy for just a short item. Now I have received details about Jack from a Professor Kellett who is writing a book on him and our own member Enid Cox M386 (see pages 16&17). However I still have yet to resolve the request about the article!

The Muster was another success but with fewer members than before. It was thought that the early September date - so soon after the traditional summer holidays period and with little time to follow up the August Mecca News notification (although there is a booking form in April's magazine) - was a factor. However a member had asked if it was more appropriate to hold it elsewhere (perhaps in the Midlands) and whilst that idea was not supported at the AGM perhaps the wider membership would like to see the event in another location. If you have any opinion let me know. In the meantime the 2008 Muster and AGM is to be held at Hawes on Saturday 4 October 2008.

Well another year has gone. Time does have wings! Sixteen months in to retirement and I wonder where it has gone - I still haven't done three quarters of the tasks I wrote down before I left work. Still it gives me something to aim at over the coming months now that summer is over! So it only remains for me to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!



All quiet on the Mecca front!
Members hard at work at the
Mecca Muster 2007.

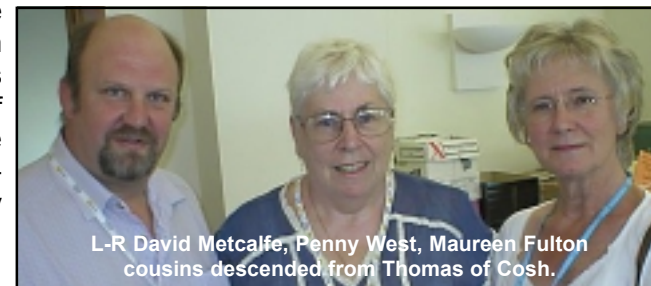
MUSTER ROUNDUP

On a typical later summer/early autumn day in the Dales (cloudy/misty start giving way to warmish pleasant sunshine) the Annual Mecca Muster and AGM took place in the market town of Hawes in Wensleydale North Yorkshire. Our Muster home for the last three years (deep in the heart of Metcalfe country) we were ensconced in the Dales Countryside Museum where we were made extremely welcome. Some seven (mainly committee) members helped in the task of putting up the displays and laying out books and literature on the Friday afternoon before the Muster and after various debates of what to show and what not to show were resolved the somewhat weary workers completed the task by the time the museum closed.

Members and guests starting arriving at the Dales Museum from before 10am on the Saturday morning, some to make use of the research facilities prior to the AGM start. This year in the absence of our Chairman David Lambert away at a family event our Vice Chairman Peter Dobson officiated. The AGM opened up to just under fifty members and went relatively smoothly given the acting Chairman's first time in the role! Then it was time for a look around at the displays or literature, a sortie into the research area or a chat with new and old friends before lunch either at Beckindales or the Wensleydale Pantry or whatever alternative arrangements suited your needs.

After lunch our guest speaker Marion Moverley of the Upper Dales FHS gave an interesting presentation entitled '*Hark, Hark the Dogs do Bark*' on the handling of itinerant travellers in the past which provides a number of potential areas for future research in Quarter Session and Poor Law records. After which it was back to the Muster activities and the much awaited raffle with its various prizes.

Much of the Muster is about renewing old acquaintances or making new ones and this event was no different. Three new members found they were related and it opened up new lines of research. Canadian visitor Penny West M1639 found cousins in David Metcalfe M1644 and Maureen Fulton M1674 and they were soon swapping stories. Even our speaker Marion Moverley who said she had a "Metcalfe leaf" on her family tree was suprised at the wealth of information available and found herself related to Lesley Longworth M68 David



L-R David Metcalfe, Penny West, Maureen Fulton
cousins descended from Thomas of Cosh.

Metcalfe M46 and the others of that family branch (No 1 see *Metcalfe History of the Clan* page 146). There were also a number of new members enrolled during the day.

The Muster slowly wound down and by 4.30 when it closed some eighty members and guests had visited the Hawes Museum. Whilst the numbers were not as high as previous years those attending seemingly enjoyed themselves and many spent more time undertaking research as it was less hectic. There are always advantages in any situation!

The day and even the night were not finished for some. There was the necessary task of taking down the displays and packing away the goods and chattels before a short committee meeting. (The acting chairman was told 30 minutes and no more and so completed the discussions in less!) Whilst others wended their weary way to whatever abode they had secured for the night others continued their merriment by having dinner at the Rose & Crown at Bainbridge (see photograph below).



L-R: Ena Metcalfe, Julie Metcalfe, Peter Metcalfe, Brian Metcalfe, Stein and Doris (nee Metcalfe) Larsen (from Norway) in the Rose & Crown pub, Bainbridge, after the Muster.

So another successful year with 2008 already booked for the more traditional time of early October on Saturday 4 October 2008 again at Hawes. Make the arrangements now!

MECCA NEWS DEADLINES

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

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

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!

Christmas in the Dales

(a look back to the 1940's and 1950's)

Well 65 years ago we always had snow, maybe not always on Christmas day but usually some before and heavy falls straight after, and it was mostly very cold, with jack-frost on the bedroom windows and other rooms where there wasn't an open fire, very few houses had central heating. We went sledging at every opportunity, taking our sledges to school so that at play time and dinnertime we could sledge down the green just outside Bainbridge C.B. Primary School, completely unsupervised unsuitably dressed by modern standards, but I never remember any accidents! Sometimes Semerwater was frozen over with ice thick and smooth enough to skate on. Some brave or foolish people even drove their cars on the ice! In 1947 the roads were blocked with so much snow farmers used a horse and (hay) sledge to cross the lake to feed sheep!

Christmas started with going out to gather the holly, I suppose every family had its favourite places, not necessarily on our own farm, we children, as we roamed the countryside freely, maybe when gathering wood for bonfire night, kept a mental note where the best berries were for our Christmas decorations. Of course we had the usual coloured streamers put away each year, often home made, tinsel and some very special glass ornaments for the tree and Victorian coloured glass candle holders designed to hang on the tree. More often than not, ours was a branch off a fir tree in the garden or large holly branch and the shiny leaves reflecting the candlelight when we switched off the mains. I don't think they had got around to selling real Christmas trees in the dales for Christmas at that time, nor can I remember trees in the villages, that came later, when things slowly recovered after the war. Don't forget we still had rationing until July 1954!

We hung our stockings up on the end of the bed, no divans in those days, in the toe was always an apple, and a tangerine or orange pre war, but they were missing by 1940, nuts and sweets, including sugar mice followed by a few other small gifts. Some of you will remember those wee china dolls from Woolworth's, just about 4 inches high with movable joints? Sad to say none seem to have survived. Lots of presents had to be home made, but we always had fun and joy with whatever we received, our expectations were rather modest, local village shops put on a special display of gifts which we looked forward to visiting.

Most Christmases we three sisters were invited by farming friends, near Bainbridge, to their party with lots of fun and games. The highlight was always some very special Christmas indoor 'fireworks', snowmen, a snowball, houses and other shapes covered in something like cotton-wool, and were

placed on the hearth to light, the effect was much like sparklers. They were presents from their relations in Liverpool and were obviously available in cities, but not seen by us in the Dales.

On Christmas day we always had a big family meal at my Grandfathers, Yorescott Farm. Naturally it was a real Yorkshire Christmas dinner with Goose (not Turkey) all the accompaniments, & the obligatory flaming pudding and rum sauce to finish. There would be about 16 to 20 of us in the dining room around the large table. Grandfather was an expert carver and it was all amazingly quickly done at the table so we were able to start eating at the same time; *and* we were not allowed to leave any food on our plates!



Josephine Hopper giving a demonstration and talk about preparing for Christmas Day in the Victorian farmhouse kitchen in the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes, Wensleydale.

After the meal the adults split up, in the drawing room mostly the females, aunts and older cousins, to listen to records on the gramophone or my aunt Isabelle, singing and playing the piano and the men to the living room discussing farming matter and other local issues. My father, the only surviving son of the family, (3 small brothers died in infancy) and Jimmy our farm man, donned aprons and always did the washing up before joining the other men folk! All the while we grandchildren were usually playing games, sliding down the banisters, sliding down the stairs on a tin tray or for me the most memorable, being challenged to be able to still remain standing at the bottom

as they rolled a large leather poof down the stairs! Some of this ritual continued until Christmas 1948, Grandfather Joseph died in June 1949 in his 90th year and we moved into Yorescott farmhouse.

Another tradition if weather permitted, we would join our local carol singers & walk round all the farms on Low Abbotside. In retrospect it was quite a marathon. We started from Bowbridge, then Coleby Hall, Dale Grange & the Alms houses, Gill Gate, Helm, Spen House, Skelgill, over the old track to Shaw Close, down to Cams, Ingleby Lodge, Newstead, Yorescott and Breconbar. It is at least 6 miles, but we did walk everywhere then. We were 'refreshed' at many houses, greeted by 'come thi way in' for a drink with Christmas cake and mince pies and the weather was very seasonable, always cold, often wet or snowing but remembered as great fun.

After Christmas the next thing for children to look forward to was, calling early morning on our neighbours, for a New Years gift, singing 'We wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, please will you give us our New Years' gift'? Usually the gift was money though sometimes sweets. That all died out ages ago, maybe when families had radio or TV's and a knock on the door would not be heard over the volume of the media?

Once you were old enough you would join in with the 'First Footing' a very old tradition in the Dales. Until the law stopped you, we usually started off from a pub and could travel around all the local villages in cars calling wherever there was a light indicating they were not yet in bed! Someone in the party always knew the best places to call! The most memorable time was when we ended up at Yorescott at 5am! Funny thing is I never remember anyone having an accident, but cars were less powerful then!

The other important tradition was 'letting the New Year in' just after the stroke of midnight. As with the Scots it should be a dark haired person, usually a man, bringing with them three symbolic gifts of fuel, money and food; a piece of coal, a coin, and a biscuit; which should be kept 'till next New Year. Of course a 'bottle' would be most greatly appreciated to drink everyone's health for the coming year! Some folks were so particular that they would lock their door so that no one would call without the traditional good luck tokens, thus bringing bad luck instead! First Footing is still carried on, obviously now 'on foot' in a limited way.

It is all good fun as the New Year T.V. has 'nowt t'do wi owt traditn!'

Jose Hopper M810

Jose writes " About 4 or 5 times a year sister Ann or myself are in the kitchen for the day (at the Museum) talking about different aspects of a farmers wife over the year. I usually do Autumn Preserves which includes Christmas Puddings and Mince meat."

ARRIVAL The Society is delighted to welcome **M1692 Eileen Metcalf** of Wigan as both a new member and also as a volunteer to run the society's library. During this winter, Eileen will be in receipt of the books from our storage and will be checking the stock against the three year old Library List. The aim is to publish the revised Library List in the April Mecca News and announce the library to be back in business. With the library list we will also publish Eileen's contact details. Welcome to the fold of volunteers Eileen - we are most grateful.

DEPARTURE Although we have a new volunteer librarian, it is unfortunate that we have to announce that **Diane Howarth M409** is stepping down from the committee with immediate effect. Due to professional and personal commitments Diane does not feel she is able to provide the society with a reasonable service and respond on a timely basis going forward over the next year or so. She hopes to be able to volunteer her services again in the future. Diane will continue to arrange for the Mecca News to be printed along with copying and updating the standard society publications. We wish her well and look forward to welcoming her back to the fold soon.



Congratulations to our Treasurer **Carol Herbert** on the birth of her second child on 20 August. Amber Rose was born at 7.27am and weighed in at 7lbs 10 oz. She is apparently "very contented, not woken by anything and sleeps like an angel!"

Long may it continue. Ed.

Society

NEWS

WILLS PROJECT

Wills are a good resource for research and the project will firstly prepare a searchable index of the 400+ transcribed wills that the Society currently holds. Eventually this source will be available to search by members but in the meantime direct any enquires to me please. The next phase of the project is to increase our collection of wills and it is hoped that members will make available copies of any that they may acquire in their own researches.

A number of booklets have been prepared by members list-

ing wills held by various bodies and it may be possible to identify ones that we do not hold but members might be looking for. I can try this as well. The Society database does have cross-references in it where there are known wills that connect.

There are already volunteers offering to assist the indexing and perhaps later transcribing so I do hope this Society resource can be expanded and also be made more available to the members.

I will report progress in future Mecca News.

Edwin Metcalf M980

MECCAS IN THE NEWS

The Little People. Liliput Lane the world famous makers of miniature houses celebrated its 25th anniversary with spokeswoman **Angela Metcalfe** of the company giving details of its success. *BBC TV North East and Cumbria News 12 June 2007.*

Rara Avis. **Stephen Ellis Medcalf** was described in his obituary in the Independent on 28 September 2007 as "a scholar, academic, bon vivant, traveller, bibliophile, visionary, clubman and mystic". Born in Essex in 1936 he retired from Sussex University after forty years in 2002 and died in Littlehampton Sussex. (*Rara avis - somebody/thing rarely encountered- Ed.*) **Culture.** Actress **Kim Medcalf** gave her current theatre/opera, film, music and book likes. (Joan Metcalfe comments "She doesn't say she's just read Metcalfe: History of the Clan"!) *From The Independent Arts Magazine 21 September 2007.*

Both supplied by Mrs Joan Metcalfe M63

Happy Birthday! **Mary Medcalf** celebrated her 60th birthday. *Reported in the Jersey Evening Post dated 19 September 2007.*

Supplied by Mrs SMD Billot M880

Working on the Railway. National Express was awarded the contract to run the East Coast Main Line franchise by the Department for Transport after a bidding war. The group will take over the operation from troubled GNER in December. GNER's chief executive **Jonathan Metcalfe** said: "Naturally, we are disappointed that our joint bid was unsuccessful, but we now have to look to the future and work with the successful bidder to create an even bigger and better railway. The needs of our passengers will always come first." BBC News website 14 August 2007.

Walking the line. Football League linesman - **Lee Metcalfe** at the Chester City versus Chesterfield Coca Cola 2nd division match on Saturday 11 August 2007.

Green Fingers. Congleton, Cheshire gardener **Kathryn Metcalfe** won the top prize in a competition run by Seddon Homes with her multi-coloured display of summer flowers. The Advertiser, Congleton 30 August 2007.

All three supplied by Paul Thomas

Top of the Class! GCSE successes in Greater Manchester and Cheshire included **S Metcalf** of Manchester Broadoak HS; **G Metcalfe**, Poynton HS & **V Metcalfe**, Weaverham HS both Cheshire and **J Metcalf**, Tameside Egerton Park HS. *Manchester Evening News 29 August 2007.*

Wordsmith. Speaker on the BBC Radio 4 programme "Word of Mouth" on 21 August 2007 **Dr Allan Metcalfe** talking about the meaning of unusual words including TWONK*. (**Normally describes another person's poor actions - try it whilst driving! Ed*)

World Singer Support. Part of the BBC TV 2's programme production team for "Cardiff Singer of the World 2007" on 17 June 2007 - **Llinos Metcalf.**

your letters and e-mails

HMS HOOD

My wife and I made a visit this summer to Boldre, Hampshire to look at the information held in the church about the casualties of HMS Hood lost in action with the Bismark on 24th May 1941 and to obtain further facts relating to a sailor on board in her family line. In addition to a painting of the vessel the names of all the casualties on the vessel are recorded in a Book of Remembrance there.

A recent visitor had left a piece of paper in the book recording that they were visiting and remembering their relative Leading Seaman Matthew

Metcalf who had been lost with the vessel.

Having found my wife's connection we then visited the Porstmouth Naval Memorial, a large war memorial on the sea front at Southsea Common where the names of those lost are recorded. Here the names recorded on the panels included Matthew Metcalfe and below on a plinth were flowers, a photograph and details of the same Leading Seaman Matthew Metcalfe aged 21 years, son of Matthew & Elizabeth Metcalfe of Boldon Colliery, Co. Durham.

Edwin Metcalf M980

From the Metcalfe database Matthew's birth was recorded in the GRO Births in 1919 Q4 Sunderland 10a 1507 - Ed.

Background Note. On 24th May 1941, the Royal Navy intercepted the Bismarck and Prinz Eugen as they attempted to break out into the Atlantic. Just before 6am the Hood opened fire which prompted a response from the German warships. The Hood was hit causing a fire on deck which was not serious. However a salvo from the Bismark hit the deck of the Hood - where her armour was at its weakest - and exploded one of the ship's magazines which split the vessel in half. She sank within two minutes. Only three of her crew of 1416 survived. See www.historylearningsite.co.uk.

Books

Face of Britain - Robin McKie. An accompaniment to the Channel 4 Series of the same name. Available at all major booksellers.

Tracing Your Ancestors in the National Archives - Amanda Brown. Details of the NA website and Records. £19.99.

Early Madras Genealogy 1600 - 1838 by Paul Chambers. For all those with Anglo Indian interests. £25.

Sources for Local Historians - Paul Carter & Kate Thompson. Less well known archive collections. £22.50.

Hello from Canada

My cousin, Megan Metcalfe (age 25) from Edmonton, Alberta has just won the women's 5000m race in Brazil at the Pan Am Games. This is great news as she is qualifying for the worlds in Japan and hopefully the 2008 Olympics in China.

Thanks for all your great work and I will be interested in the date of the 2008 Mecca Muster as I hope to attend with my friend Charlotte Granewall who also dabbles in family history. Will it be in Hawes in 2008?

Sandi Walton M541, Surrey, B.C., Canada

(The 2008 Muster will be in Hawes on Saturday 4 October - Ed.)

The Metcalfe Missing Millions

(See Mecca News 82 page 36)

My half sister Alice who died last year at nearly 99 could still remember our father James and his first wife talking about it. Our father's eldest sister Sarah Anne also had a talk with the solicitors in about 1932, according to a late cousin in Carlisle (Member 58 (Harold Crossfield)).

One small detail the name of the person leaving the fortune was George. I would like to think that the rightful claimant could be found after so long.

Mrs Kathleen Robinson M1088

You have probably visited this site often but it's a new discovery for me. I was looking at something which gave a link to <http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk> I've now been exploring it for 9 hrs!! I've looked at military appointments/ medal awards in WWW1. I've looked at entries filing for bankruptcy / probate / dissolving partnerships. You just type in a surname, no need for dates or christian names and pages of stuff appear. I've been looking at Longworth and Plews today and have found all sorts. Metcalfe must give greater numbers of results - lots of bits to fill space. Sorry haven't time to look up a Metcalfe one. My family are not pleased I've monopolised the computer all day!

Lesley Longworth M68

Metcalf Surname in Bradford

I was wondering if you could make my project known to the membership, perhaps in the member's section. I have listed it on the 'Message Board & Forum' but to date have had one unrelated response. I intend to work on it again this winter have been working on a study of the Metcalfe surname [any spelling] in Bradford between 1841 & 1901. I currently have about 3800 entries in my file. At present I have only isolated about

50% of the 700 plus marriages in the partial index. The difficulty in allocating the marriages is mainly with the females.

I f you have a transcription of a marriage, birth or death, which took place in Bradford for the Metcalfe name, I would like to have a copy. It would help to verify the linkages made, etc. I would like to hear from anyone with Bradford connections.

Susanne Metcalfe M150, Canada
john.metcalf@sympatico.ca

Chairman's Jottings - David Lambert M11

This year to my regret I had to miss the Muster a family wedding, which I am pleased to say went very well and was thoroughly enjoyed by all! Just like the Muster this year although if there was a disappointment it was in the numbers attending. Maybe it was the time of year; much earlier than usual.



Congratulations to all who were involved in Day the success it undoubtedly was. A report by those who did attend is to be found elsewhere. Thanks also to the members who were present at the AGM for re-electing the committee and me for another year in office. We will try our best to continue to make the Society satisfy your needs.

I attended The Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) General Meeting in Durham the week before our Muster. In the morning the inaugural Elizabeth Simpson commemorative Lecture by Paul Blake was most interesting. After lunch the FFHS meeting was quite a lively affair with a discussion on the possible arrangements with Find My Past to run the members Family History Online (FHOL) dominating the afternoon.

Given our one name status we are not as likely to participate in this service unlike larger, general county or local Family History Societies who like us belong to the FFHS. Our records and information are at present too specialist for the larger commercial concerns to be interested in and we have not placed our records online with FHOL, which was created by the FFHS for societies to try to counter the threat of a downturn in sales of census indexes and transcriptions which for years had been the mainstay of their funding apart from membership subscriptions. The move was farsighted as this has indeed occurred. Virtually all Societies report a downturn in the sales of their census material. The FFHS hopes to have its site developed in partnership with Find My Past for the mutual benefit of researchers and societies alike in the next few weeks.

Interestingly as I write this (in October), shares giving control of The Generations Network, the company that owns Ancestry .com in the USA (which also owns Ancestry.UK), were sold for what to me is a staggering sum: \$ 300 million. There's certainly money in genealogy if you are a commercial organisation who is able to invest in technology and pay for indexes and copying of material. We obviously cannot compete with that! Hopefully we will not need to for some time to come! We are though dependent on volunteers who help to produce our indexes and membership information.

I would like to thank all the committee members on your behalf for

the time they devote to our mutual benefit as well as to our archivist and his helpers and our other volunteers in the UK and abroad. Welcome to our new librarians, for their first full stint in that capacity. I feel sure they will enjoy it.

We seem to me to have been inordinately fortunate in keeping committee members and volunteers for lengthy periods. Peter Dobson for example has been editor since 1994; Nina Benson has worked indefatigably almost since the society was founded; David Metcalfe (M46) has been beaver away on indexes for over 15 years as far as I can see and maybe a lot longer than that. Patrick Malham, an ex committee member, still is active on indexing births marriages and deaths and has plenty of good ideas for the development of this. Important because of the likely changes in access to general registration information with implications of terrorism, identity theft, data protection and privacy laws so far as the government is concerned. If we do not prepare such indexes now it might not be possible to do so in the future from the more recent registers.

Ancestry has in the last few days announced a new service called DNA Ancestry. It will ".....combine science with the company's online database of family trees. The service allows users to submit a DNA sample to Ancestry.com, who will then analyze and compare it to results in their database...." according to a press release. Many of you will recall that we made a modest sortie into this in 2005. I would refer you to the December Mecca News of 2005 for details. It would be interesting if more members participated in this. As my Metcalfe ancestors are through the female line, with illegitimacy thrown in it seems unlikely that I can usefully participate but what about you? Why not have a go? (See page 22.)

We have been inconvenienced, to say the least, by the liquidation of the company with whom we have been storing our Metcalfe Books. We had a good arrangement whereby they were be stored free of charge. This has ended with the sad demise of the company and it has proved difficult to retrieve the books for reasons of a legal nature as between the landlord of the premises previously occupied by the publishers and liabilities under the former lease. I hope that the problem so far as we are concerned will have been resolved amicably by the time you read this. If it has not then we will have a major difficulty since we have no more stocks left to despatch to purchasers as all the remaining books are stored in the premises.

Let us hope that these challenges (I am told, at work, that managers do not have "problems" but "challenges" instead because you can meet and overcome the latter psychologically more easily !) will soon be resolved to our satisfaction, so that we can have a Happy Christmas and a successful New Year. I wish you all the Compliments of the Season!

Those in Glasshouses...

Used by the Kings of England as a hunting park, Enfield, Middlesex, mentioned in the Domesday Book, was until the early 19th century a fairly rural backwater. However by the early 1830's when the population stood at nearly 10,000 it had become a primary supplier of vegetables to the growing metropolis of London some 10 miles (16km) to the south.

The village started to grow significantly after the arrival of a railway branch line in 1849 followed the development of the Ordnance factory (which in later years would manufacture the world famous Lee Enfield rifle) in the following decade. Population growth continued throughout the latter part of the 19th century as Enfield became a large manufacturing base.¹ Housing sprung up over what had been green fields to provide accommodation for the new workers but horticulture was still a major activity in the area. Supplying vegetables to Smithfield Market had been going on for decades with the farmers packing their wagons and driving their horses into the capital at 4am in the morning travelling back in the early afternoon after hopefully selling their wares.

The railway and the urban development saw the demand for carrots, cabbages, turnips and other vegetables increase. One of those who seized the opportunity was one George Benjamin Medcalf. Leasing nearly 130 acres from the vicar of Enfield (who held it on behalf of the landowners - Trinity College Cambridge) George started supplying vegetables for the town and capital. He must have been successful for ten years after undertaking his enterprise he erected a block of eight glasshouses measuring some 150 feet by 30 feet each.² That must have been quite a sight in 1895 when they went into use and even more so when they were followed by propagation houses and further glasshouses. The glasshouses enabled the business to move away from the farming of root vegetables to the growing of tomatoes and cucumbers, crops with potential for larger monetary returns.

George continued his horticultural and farming activities throughout the early part of the 20th century and was joined by his son Sidney who was a nurseryman on a site nearby. However after the First World War the urban activities of the now growing town saw the local council compulsorily purchase much of the land for housing. The intervention of the Second World War delayed the demise of the glasshouses which continued to be utilised until finally demolished in 1953.²

By the early 1950's the population was over 100,000 with most of the adults working at the Ordnance factory, on the developing Feguson TV site or for other growing manufacturing companies. The year after the demise of the glasshouses Colonel Sidney Medcalf occupied Capel Manor, a mid 18th century manor house, located to the north of Enfield near the Hertfordshire /Middlesex boundary.

He used the house and grounds as a stud for Clydesdale horses - apparently the love of these large horses coming from when they were used to convey his agricultural produce to Smithfield Market.²

In 1968 the house and grounds were left in trust and Capel Manor College was formed to carry out activities on the site. It took some eighteen years to restore the house and grounds to its former glory but it is now a tourist attraction and an internationally renowned learning establishment for those interested in plants, animals and the environment. In the stable yard a plaque and a weather vane of a Clydesdale horse commemorates the property's time as a stud.³

Medcalf's appear to have been in Enfield from at least 1770, (and may be related to the cluster of Medcalf's around the Hertfordshire/ Essex area) as in that year William Medcalf married Hannah Childs and had at least seven children. A Thomas Medcalf (apparently not directly linked to William) had a son Benjamin in 1814 and was a collector of lock tolls on the Lea Navigation Canal on the outskirts of Enfield. Benjamin was the father of George Benjamin Medcalf and the grandfather of Sidney the nurseryman. This branch of the family may be related to members 432, 563, 751, 780, and 1383.

The Medcalf presence must have made an early impression in the area as in 1861 as new housing associated with the Enfield Ordnance factory was built on Medcalf Road. There are also a number of other Medcalf sightings including Caroline M Medcalf the proprietress of the Greyhound Inn in Enfield in 1876.⁴

One Medcalf who definitely made an impression on the town, in terms of age, was Josiah Medcalf who reached the grand old age of 100, dying on his birthday. Josiah was recorded as being born on 28 September 1832 and was for some 46 years employed by the Great Northern Railway Company until his retirement in 1897. He was stated to be part of a long lived family with two of his sisters living to 99 and 96 whilst an older brother died in 1930 just three months after his 100th birthday.⁵

1 British History Online. www.british-history.ac.uk

2 Sent in by **D S Medcalf M780** from book "Now Turned into Fair Garden Plots"

3 www.capel.ac.uk

4 www.pubsinlondon.net

5 From **Angela Clarke M1653** via Edwin Metcalfe M980



Moving

East Riding of Yorkshire Archives are moving to the New Treasure House Champney Road Beverley East Yorks and records should be available early in 2008. Further details from ☎ 01482 392790 or www.eastriding.gov.uk

Further Research

Patrick Malham M444 writes

"The Society has now been in existence over 25 years and has quite a sizeable' archive of births, marriages and deaths, together with much information on the censuses and from parish registers. However, these refer mainly to events in England and Wales, and though we do have other databases, they are rather fragmented. As befits one of the leading family history societies, it would be good if we could try and gather together as much information as possible in those places where the Metcalfe name is found.

We have members in many countries and it would be great if those who feel able to do so could help to assemble a world list. This is obviously going to take many years and will probably never be finished, but until we start, we shall never know how much there is available. I am willing to co-ordinate the research but obviously do not have the knowledge or means of finding out what is out there. First of all, I should like to ask any members in Scotland, Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands and who are willing to take part, to let me know what is available and if they can (photo)copy the details (*Bearing in mind any National restrictions eg Crown Copyright in the UK.*) and/or put them on a database using either Access or Excel. I am sure that all reasonable costs could be reimbursed.

F o r those of you who live in further flung countries, I wouldn't want you to feel neglected so if you could let me know how the information is stored and made available, we could then consider how to tackle it. We need a systematic approach. I gather that in some countries it is organised regionally rather than nationally and if you could say what there is, at least we should know. This applies to any European country, and also to Australia*, New Zealand*, South Africa and the United States. (*We already have some information for these countries.)

The principal areas are these:

Births)	starting year
Marriages)	together with
Deaths)	information available.
Divorces any?	
Censuses which years?	

It is more probable that we shall find these in the Commonwealth and any other English-speaking country, but that does not preclude there being information in any country. Once we have built up a picture of what is available, we can then see if we can do something about the gaps.

Remember, that to answer your queries, we need to have the information available and it is only with your help that this can be done. Don't leave it to someone else to do - make a start now."

If you are interested Patrick can be contacted at

34 Peterborough Road, Sheffield South Yorks S10 4JE.

IT'S JUST LIKE WATCHING BRAZIL!

So rang out the chant from the football terraces of the English Premier League in the late 1990's and in particular from the supporters of the South Yorkshire team Barnsley. However long before Barnsley and their idols Brazil strutted their skills on the World stage another roar went up for a football team which included a member of the Mecca Clan.

It was the time the great powers of Germany, France and Britain and their allies were locked in titanic conflict in Europe. Many of the younger men had gone overseas to fight leaving only those in specialist sectors and the older men and women to undertake the work needed to keep the nation functioning. In the North East of England women took on many roles in the munitions factories which included the chemical factories, shipyards and other heavy industries. They worked together and they not unnaturally played together and one of their favourite pastimes was football (soccer).

The matches were for charitable purposes and the first game was in February 1917 when Wallsend Slipway played North East Marine. However one of the more successful teams was Blyth Spartans Munitions Girls. This team were the goalscorers extra ordinaire of their time. Their star centre forward was Bella Reay who was the Jackie Milburn of the women's game scoring prolifically. However as with all good teams as well as having good attackers they must have good defenders and it is here that find the Mecca representative **Bella Metcalfe** who was also the captain. The team swept all before them not losing in thirty games in 1917/18 often playing before crowds of many thousands. After the end of the conflict the team ceased playing but some of the players joined local teams and again came out to raise monies for local charities during the miners strike of 1921 and in the General strike of 1926. Other women's teams played on between the war years sometimes to crowds of up to 30,000. However in the early 1920's, the Football Association disturbed by the level of support for the women's game banned them playing on FA club grounds and they had to continue on much smaller local fields.

Bella Metcalfe married Stanley Gray a publican in Blyth. She is seemingly part of the Cowpen, Blyth, Northumberland Metcalfes who were mostly involved in mining at that time.

The details for this item came from Patrick Brennan's article in the Northumberland & Durham Family History Society Journal in Autumn 2006 "Was your grandmother a footballer?" which described the history of the women's 'munitionette' football teams. (He has since produced a book by the same title priced at £11.99 including postage available from his address at Riding Lea, Strathmore Road, Rowlands Gill NE39 1JA.) Further details can be found at

www.donmouth.co.uk/womens_football/blyth_spartans.html



BLIND JACK METCALF

Miss Enid Cox M386 writes that an article appeared in the Knaresborough Post on 7 September 2007 concerning Blind Jack Metcalf*. She goes on to say " It concerns a proposed statue of him but does not say where it might be placed (if approved).

Knaresborough Civil Society is also active in erecting historical blue plaques around the town and one for Blind Jack is on the wall adjacent to the St John's parish buildings opposite the south side of the parish church. The round plaque locates his place of birth "in a cottage near the parish church".

It was during the unveiling of another plaque, this one for the 1408 chapel carved out of the rock face overlooking the River Nidd that I met Dr Kellett, the Knaresborough Historian, who tells me he is still looking for Blind Jack's violin and will be contacting the Society (see opposite).

The chapel mentioned above is known as "The Chapel of our Lady of the Crag" and is in quarterly use by the Catholic parish of St Mary in Knaresborough. The chapel is the property of Ampleforth Benedictine Abbey in North Yorkshire and was built - with ecclesiastical and regal permission - by John the Mason after his son escaped possible injury or death during a rock fall at the quarry his father worked in. The chapel escaped the destruction of sacred buildings during Henry VIII's reign and celebrates its 600th anniversary next year."

The Knaresborough Post reported that a working group had prepared a report for the town council for consideration on 10 September. In 2005 the council first discussed the idea of a statue to the famous Mecca and a working group of members from Knaresborough Civic Society and the Town Council was set up to investigate the options.*

Two sculptors were invited to provide models and the public asked to vote for their preference. The two mock up statues - one sitting and one standing - were equally appreciated and the sitting model was narrowly preferred.

Quotations for the casting in bronze of the sitting model by local sculptor Barbara Asquith had been obtained and it was those details which were to be put to the council.

***At the the time of writing a decision was still to be taken as a number of councillors who had sat on the sub-committee declared an interest when the full Council sat to discuss the matter in September! Their position was then referred for a legal comment which was still outstanding in late October. Ed*

OF KNARESBOROUGH

In the December 2001 (No 65) issue of the Mecca News there appeared an appeal from Dr Arnold Kellett of Knaresborough for information on the whereabouts of Blind Jack of Knaresborough's violin.

Dr Kellett wrote then *"In the Midst of my research on John Metcalf (1717 - 1810) better known as Blind Jack of Knaresborough, I have come across a reference to his violin whose whereabouts I would like very much to establish. Most people - especially in the Metcalfe Society - will have heard of Blind Jack as a pioneer of road building. But his other occupation was as a fiddler at the growing spa of Harrogate and in the country houses round about. This is something we managed to bring out in the retelling of Blind Jack's colourful life on Radio 4 (20 August 2001) which some of you may have heard.*

What Intrigues me is an entry in the catalogue for an exhibition of The Art and Industry of the Blind held in Church House Westminster London in 1914. Item 251 is described as 'Blind Jack's Violin' loaned by Mr E S Metcalfe but no address is given. This is presumably a relation and could have been a direct descendant as Blind Jack left behind two sons as well as two daughters, twenty grandchildren and ninety great and great-great grandchildren.

I would be most grateful if anybody could track down the family of E S Metcalf and perhaps help me to locate the famous fiddle. To have it played again would be worthy of another radio programme!"

Well Dr Kellett is now in the final stages of writing a biography of Blind Jack which is expected to be published in Spring 2008 by Tempus Publications. A foreword is to be provided by another colourful son of Yorkshire the Right Honourable David Blunkett; but Dr Kellett is still trying to track down that elusive violin and makes another appeal through the pages of the Mecca News for any information regarding its whereabouts. He is interested primarily to know if it still exists and if so whether it could be photographed. He has also asked if any of Blind Jack's descendants have anecdotes, stories or memorabilia, which might be available for inclusion in the book.

Can you help?

Time is short but if you can assist contact Dr Kellett at 22 Aspin Oval, Knaresborough, North Yorks HG5 8EL.

☎ 01423 863555

The Society's own feature on Blind Jack appeared in the Mecca News Number 13, August 1984. Back copies are available see www.metcalf.org.uk.

The Mercers Grocers & Haberdashers Company of Richmond Yorkshire Admissions 1580 - 1980

Anthony Metcalfe	admitted	1635
Bernard Mte		1762
Francis Mte		1605
Francis Mte		1624
George Mte		1648
George Mte		1601
James Mte		1624
James Simm Mte		1866
John Mte		1596
John Mte		1603
John Mte		1632
John Mte		1649
John Mte		1666
John Mte		1675
John Mte		1743
Matthew Mte		1591
Matthew Mte		1625
Thomas Mte		1724

Supplied to **Warwick Metcalfe M256** by Mr Ralph Wagget

Guilds were set up to protect the trading interests of the experienced workers from unfair competition. The early Worshipful Companies were based in London under separate guilds, the earliest dating from around the 12th century.

Outside of London commercial activities were not as great so guilds often joined together to provide a larger local presence but with a specific seniority which had been decided by Henry VIII. The mercers were the most senior guild followed by the Grocers with haberdashers eighth on the list of the senior guilds - Ed.

PARISH RELIEF. 1737, November 13. The sum of 3s 4^{1/2}d sent to Ravenstonedale Church Westmorland by Haslemere Parish Church Surrey.
The Harleian Society Surrey Vol 9. Haslemere, Surrey Parish Records 1754-1793

Want to find out how to make the most of the huge range of material online?

The Family Records Centre is providing a free half hour one-to-one Computer Skills Tutorial for those who are interested.

To book a session which are held every Thursday throughout the year ring ☎ 0208 392 5300 for details.

A GEORGIAN TIMEPIECE

Prior to our recent Muster Archivist Brian Metcalfe corresponded with **Member 997 John Mitchell** about a family heirloom handed down through his family for over two hundred years. The heirloom in question was a Georgian pocket watch which John brought along to the Muster and arranged to provide background details and a picture.



John's subsequent research showed that the first owner was the Reverend John Metcalfe vicar at Kirkby Overblow and Fishlake a parish a few miles south of Harrogate in North Yorkshire. John contacted the British Watch & Clock Makers Guild looking for more information but unfortunately some of the Guild's records were incomplete due to enemy action in WWII. Nonetheless he persevered and consulted Brittens Old Clocks and Their Makers and found the watch under former watchmakers B. Robarts who went out of business in 1783. A local Horologist on examining the watch confirmed the Assay date as 1771-London and said the value of the watch in working condition would be about £150.

Given the 1771 date it would appear that the Reverend John received the pocket watch on or around his 21st birthday (he was baptised 23 June 1750 in Hawes Wensleydale). (*The Reverend John Metcalfe was the son of Anthony & Alice Metcalfe part of Metcalfe family branch 2 (see Metcalfe History of the Clan page 147).*)

CANADIAN COUSIN

Graham Metcalf

M1073 writes I was contacted by **Carmen Metcalfe** of Vancouver, Canada via the Ancestry website early in 2007. She had seen my family tree which I posted on the site some time ago and recognised the connection between our families. Carmen is a descendant of my g-g-g uncle Isaac Metcalf of South Cave, East Yorkshire, who emigrated in the 1860s along with two brothers and a sister.



O u r East Yorkshire ancestry goes back to at least the 17th century, and I believe that we are possibly a branch of the Hood Grange Metcalfes who were scattered around Yorkshire as a result of the Reformation.

Carmen paid us a visit in late June, and I met up with her in York, where I introduced her to some of our local music and also some of our local beer, care of John Smith's, to which she gave her wholehearted approval. A true Metcalfe indeed!

She had intended to visit South Cave, but by the time she reached Hull the rain was so heavy that she had to abandon the trip. She hopes to pay another visit in the not too distant future.

DNA PROFILING WONT HELP

So said Kevin Smith a biologist writing in the Family Tree Magazine in November 1997. He stated that "to use the technique to determine beyond doubt the parentage of an individual, is not possible." Before you laugh the comment out of court, with the hindsight of ten years of experience with the new science, let us as family historians look at the current knowledge.

Our first real sortie, as a Society, into the topic was in April 2003 when in Mecca News 69 (A New Way for Family History?) some of the background to the subject was provided and the involvement by a number of members of the Clan described. This was followed up by a more technical explanation by Enid Cox M386 in the article "We Don't Know Who We Are" in the April 2004 issue (No 72). Then the Society launched its own DNA project led by Martin Metcalfe M772 after the 25th Anniversary Muster (see Mecca News 77). A further article this time from a female perspective was provided by Lynda Clark M791 which appeared in the April 2006 Mecca News (No 78). However the interest and take up generally has been slow although there are signs that newer researchers are prepared to consider this technique.

You may well have seen the Channel 4 TV programme "Face of Britain" screened over three episodes in April 2007. The programme set out to map the genetic profile of modern Britain using DNA which was tied to a study undertaken by Oxford University. It was considered to be "Another kind of archaeology" seeking to identify the background genetics of the population at large and define common facial characteristics of those groupings.

The programme was hosted by Dr Neil Oliver the somewhat flamboyant historian who came to notice as a presenter in the BBC TV series "Coast". There was some useful background information on the expansion of population over the last 10,000 years from the hunter/gatherers to settlement in modern civilisation together with the various tribal inroads over the period.

Each episode concentrated on different facets of British geographical population spread and surprise surprise did not come up with any major revelations but generally confirmed that the different migrations had made a mark on present day society. However there were a number of smaller surprises especially around the impact of the Romans and William the Conqueror's (or the Bastard - depending upon your point of view!) Army and subsequent Norman settlers, who seemed to leave little in that direction. What it did show was that there are specific gene pools around Scotland, Wales and South West England erring on the Celtic side whilst Central and Northern England were more biased towards the Danish and Anglo-Saxon

influxes - what we would have expected. However what was interesting were the facial characteristics which showed certain traits for each of the different groupings. This was also tied into language/dialect, surname and cultural imprint which provided geographical comparisons with the population. It also revealed that the picture of change over the last 2 or 3 centuries is accelerating and that there are likely to be major changes in the gene pool in the future resulting from greater modern mobility.

So where does that get us? Well it does demonstrate that DNA can be used for mapping the coverage of genetic groupings. How does that help with the individual? It does and it doesn't? That's not a very satisfactory answer! Like all tools and aids it is how it is used and in what circumstances. However it must be noted that it is only relevant in one name research as only the male line carries the Y chromosome passed down the generations thereby linking the surname. Whilst that reduces its usefulness DNA testing still can provide a link with other parts of the named family.

DNA tests must be used in conjunction with available sources, must be of a high quality and must have a suitable number of male volunteers involved to be of any use. Martin Metcalfe's assertion that 37 markers are the minimum required seems very valid. Some DNA testing organisations only use 25 whilst some use as few as 12. This low number of markers does create difficulties as others in family research have found out. One colleague had a number of callers claiming relationship and when they compared notes there was none! Twelve markers can apparently cover a large part of the male population! There are even reports that identical DNA is possible in very small numbers.

Family research has become easier over the last thirty years and even more so with advent of the Internet and now DNA profiling. However these methods should not be used to the exclusion of other more traditional research methods.

They are useful in conjunction with the older techniques and DNA can provide a bridge where paper information becomes scarce. As one researcher commented "it's a bit like driving on the motorway you get to your destination but you miss out a heck of a lot on the way".

So whilst Mr Smith's assertion that "DNA profiling won't help" is somewhat suspect with the passage of time, his general approach that it will not conclusively identify an individual is not. As with all information you should seek to corroborate it by at least one other and preferably more sources.

If you have not yet joined or managed to encourage your male Metcalfe family members to undertake the test you are missing out on a valid research aid. So go to our project website at www.familytreedna.com/public/Metcalfe/ and join or better still buy the test as a Christmas present!

ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

Members who have had contact with Nina Benson, either as a result of extensive research done on their behalf, or for any other reasons, will, I am sure, be delighted to know that she is now settling into her new home. Like so many building projects, it took longer than anticipated, but it is now a dream come true for Nina & one which all will hope she enjoys for a very long time.

One of our Canadian members, Mrs Susanne Metcalfe (M150) is collating information on Metcalfe (any spelling) marriages, births & deaths in Bradford, Yorkshire, between 1841 & 1901. If anyone has transcriptions of such events, Susanne will be delighted to add them to the lists. There is a particular shortage of details involving female members of the "Clan". Susanne's email address is john.metcalfe@sympatico.ca if you are not online & would prefer to post them to me, I will gladly forward them to her.

I look forward to receiving any enquiries you have concerning your ancestors. Our two researchers, Nina & Edwin & I will always do our utmost to help uncover your past.

Please remember that because of the Data Protection Act, I have to contact ex members (XM) with whom you may be connected, to obtain their permission to release contact details.

Brian Metcalfe (Archivist) M1554

REJOINED MEMBERS, DELAYED BIRTH BRIEFS, CORRECTIONS & UPDATES

NEW ADDRESS

M29 Nina E. Benson Perryston Lodge, Rainton, Thirsk, North Yorkshire. YO7 3PH nina@bronco.co.uk (only for receipt of e-mails at the moment)

M1252 Mr Keith Spencer 48 Pine Crescent, Walton-on-the-Hill, Stafford. ST17 0NF olivia.spencer@btinternet.com

CORRECTIONS

M1646 Mrs Doris Larsen. Astunet 7, Hagen 1481, Norway. Email should read steinlarsen@2ci.net (A "dot" was added to the end in the August Mecca News)

M1693 Mrs Marguerite Pearson 2110 Reecer Creek Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926, USA. Email should read marscot2@charter.net (We had two "t's" in marscot in the August Mecca News)

ADDITION TO EXISTING BRIEF

XM315 Mrs Marion Metcalfe & Miss Sarah Metcalfe. Henry & Susannah (Davis) Mte m 30 Nov 1845 Stepney, London. Henry bpt 27 Jun 1824 Gargrave s.o. Thomas & Jane (Blake) Mte m 16 Oct 1816 Rylstone. Thomas bpt 21 Jun 1793 East Marton s.o. Thomas & Ellen (Edmondson) Mte m 4 Mar 1790 East Marton. **Conn XM109.**

BIRTH BRIEFS FROM EXISTING OR REJOINED MEMBERS

M1131 Mr Kenneth Griffiths 2 Victoria Road, Fairfield, Stockton on Tees. TS19 7EJ.

Descendant of Jane Ann Mte b 19 Feb 1850 Darlington.d.o.Thomas & Mary Ann (?) Mte. Thomas bpt 01 Aug 1823 Richmond s.o.John Dickinson & his 2nd wife Jane (Newton) Mte m 18 Dec 1822 Richmond. John D. Mte b c1793 Stockton.

M1361 Mr Edward Breen Metcalfe 12 Eruini Street, Ohope, New Zealand. czar@wave.co.nz

S.o Edward Morell & Cecilia Dorothy (Brennan) Mte m 20 Apr 1935 Onehunga, Auckland, NZ.. Edward Morell b 15 Oct 1905 Matakoho, New Zealand s.o Edward Nelson & Lydia (Gaille) Mte m 28 Apr 1902 Matakoho, Northland, NZ.. Edward Nelson b 20 Sep 1876 s.o James Morell & Bessie (Warner) Mte . James Morell b c1851 s.o Charles James & Louisa (Dando) Mte m 3 Apr 1845 Bristol Tabernacle, Somerset. Charles James b 29 Jun 1814 Roxton Park, Bedfordshire s.o Charles James & Elizabeth Mary (May) Mte m 26 Aug 1813 Maldon, Essex. Charles James bpt 12 Oct 1786 Fordham, Cambs s.o James & Susanna (Banyard) Mte m 28 Mar 1785 Covent Garden, London. James b 1742 s.o William & Catherine (Affleck) Mte m 26 Apr 1733? Dalton Hall, Cambs. William b1697 Fort St George, Madras, India s.o Charles & Mary Mte. Charles bpt 21 May 1650 Banbury, Oxf. S.o Thomas & Elizabeth (Martin) Mte m 30 Dec 1637 St Giles, Oxford. Thomas b c1610 Long Combe, Oxf. **Conn M113 XM465 XM1199**

M1497 Mr Frank Metcalfe 10 Brook Road, Leicester, Leicestershire LE5 2HD frankmetcalfe2007@yahoo.co.uk S . o

Francis Eric & Joan (Dunn) Mte m 1957 Bradford. Francis Eric b 1922 West Hartlepool s.o Frank & Louisa (Brydon) Mte m 1920 West Hartlepool. Frank b 1893 South Bank, Normanby, Middlesbrough s.o Matthew Wintersgill & Elizabeth (Harrison) Mte m 31 Jul 1889 Healey. Matthew Wintersgill bpt 7 Oct 1865 Pateley Prim. Meth. s.o Francis & Mary Jane (Rayner) Mte m 7 Jul

1879 Coverham. Francis bpt 28 Aug 1824 Middlesmoor s.o John & Ann (Wilkinson) Mte m 21 Jan 1799 Middlesmoor. John bpt 6 Jan 1773 Kirkby Malzeard s.o John & Ann (Prest) Mte m 24 Nov 1761 Kirkby Malzeard. **Conn XM10 XM1428**

M1510 Mr Douglas Jefferies 4 Moore Close, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands. B74 4XY dandhjefferies@uwclub.net
S.o William John & Elizabeth Patricia (Medcalf) Jefferies. m 16/08/1932 Sutton Coldfield. Elizabeth Patricia b 21/11/1906. d.o.Charles Edward & Harriet Ann (Crowe) Md m 10/02/1891 at Catholic Chapel, Kendal. Charles Edward b c1866 Kendal Erdington, Birmingham. s.o. John & Charlotte (Kirby) Md m 20/02/1862 Liverpool. John b c1832 s.o. John & Jane (Willan) Md m 25/07/1823 Kendal. John b 02/06/1802 Kendal s.o. Caleb & Mary (Birkett) m 03/08/1801 Kendal. Caleb bpt 08/09/1776 Kendal Kendal s.o John & Ellen/Eleanor (?) Md m 25/07/1823 John b c1742 s.o. James & Mary (Backhouse) Mt m 08/09/1741 Yealand Conyers, Lancs. **Conn M694, XM750, XM829, M928 & XM1500**

M1630 Miss Linda Anne Cunningham 3 Holywell Dene, Glasshoughton, Castleford, West Yorkshire. WF10 4RG
Gt grd d.o. John & Alice (Mte) Dobson. Alice b 1862 Hunslet, Leeds d.o. William & Emma (Crowther) Mte m 03/06/1849 Leeds Parish Church. William b c1828 Holbeck, Leeds. s.o. William & Mary Ann (Tatham) Mte m 21/12/1819 West Witton. William b c1798 Spennithorne s.o. Edmund & Ann (Carter) Mte m 12/05/1789 Spennithorne. Edmund b c1766. brd 13/03/1806 Spennithorne. **Connects XM1147 & XM1238**

M1667 Mrs Anne Dinsdale Penny End, Newbiggin-on-Lune, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria. CA17 4NT Annedinsdale@aol.com
D.o Matthew Bell & Nellie (Sayer) Mte m 1950 Westmorland. Matthew Bell b 1899 Orton, Westmoreland s.o Christopher & Margaret (Bell) Mte m 1880 Westmorland.

M1669 Mrs Valerie Boycott 4614 Lost Lake Road, Nanaimo, British Columbia, V9T 5C4. Canada. valerie.boycott@shaw.ca (Please note new email address)
D.o. William Henry & Sarah Ellen (Pemberton) Mte. m 1/2/1936 Chew Moor, Bolton. William Henry b 14/12/1912 Burtersett.s.o. John James & Hannah (Waggett) Mte. m 2/3/1912 Hawes. John James b 11/12/1889 Burtersett s.o.William & Elizabeth (Raw) Mte m 20/2/1886 Reeth. William b 19/2/1863 Burtersett s.o. Thomas & Margaret (Woodward/nee Constantine) Mte m 31/8/1859 Hawes. Thomas bpt 13/4/1828 Stalling Busk s.o. William & Elizabeth (Hebden) Mte m 26/3/1825 Stalling Busk. William b c1794 Marsett s.o. Thomas & Alice (Mte) (a) Mte m 6/7/1789 Stalling Busk. Thomas bpt 7/6/1761 Stalling Busk s.o.John & Barbara (Mte) (b) Mte m 12/5/1756 Hawes.

John b c1727 Marsett s.o.William & Margaret (?) Mte. William (—1753) of Marsett. **Conn M28 M50 M55 M63 M69 XM173 M178 M256 XM277 M288 XM384 XM415 XM419 XM427 XM512 XM528 XM538 M539 XM550 M606 M676 XM748 XM821 XM859 XM875 XM897 XM916 M987 M997 M1099 XM1141 M1280 XM1319 XM1345 XM1392 M1415 M1430 XM1492 M1521 M1586 M1665**

(a) Alice (—1796) Stalling Busk d.o.Thomas Mte fmr of Blindsike in Bishopdale.

(b)Barbara bpt 31/7/1729 Hawes d.o.Anthony & Alice (Mte) (c) Mte m 18/8/1724 Ingleton Fells. Anthony b c1699 Hawes s.o.Cuthbert & Barbara (Symondston/Simondson) Mte m 1694 Kettlewell. Cuthbert (—1743) Hawes of Gayle s.o.Anthony & Elizabeth (Wynn/Winn) Mte. Anthony b c1640 natural s.o. Margaret Mte d.o. Anthony & Anne (Hudson) Mte. Anthony (—1658-59) of Hardraw in Abbotside.

(c)Alice b c1704 Hawes d.o. Philip & Alice (Jackson) Mte m 31/7/1698 Hawes. Philip bpt 13/2/1676-77 Hawes s.o. Thomas Mte of Hawes.

M1671 Mrs Margaret Marshall Bentham Hall, Bentham, Lancaster, Lancashire. LA2 7HS tbmbenthamhall@aol.com
Grd d.o. Charlotte Mte bpt 1/10/1865 Thornton in Lonsdale. m Samuel Bargh Mason 8/1/1890 at Thornton in Lonsdale. Charlotte d.o John & Jane (Baynes) Mte m 2/3/1839 Ingleton. John b 10/2/1817 Ingleton s.o. Thomas & Margaret (Baynes) Mte m 6/4/1828 Ingleton. Thomas b c1789 Yks. **Conn XM390 & XM501**

M1672 Mrs Maureen Patricia Theobald Yew Trees, Phoenix Way, Windermere, Cumbria. LA23 1BZ maureen.theobald@virgin.net
D.o. John & Mary (Mte) Whalley m 16/7/1945 Salford. Mary b 4/9/1913 Higher Broughton, Salford d.o. Anthony & Annie Maria (Barton) Mte m 26/5/1913 Kendal. Anthony s.o.Edmund & Mary (Bibby) Mte m 6/6/1882 Over Kellet, Lancs. Edmund bpt 10/2/1858 Over Kellet s.o.Anthony & Mary (Tomlinson) Mte m 21/7/1844 Over Kellet. Anthony b 2/12/1819 Over Kellet s.o. Anthony & Margaret (Rallinshaw) Mte m 30/9/1805 Tunstall, Lancs. Anthony bpt 5/6/1781 Hawes s.o.Thomas & Mary (Mte) Mte. Thomas b c1736. **Conn M53 XM121 XM390 XM969 XM970 XM971 XM1176**

M1677 Mr Kenneth Cockfield 26 Gregory Springs Mount, Mirfield, West Yorkshire WF14 8LG jennifer.cockfield@ntlworld.com
Grt grt grt gd s.o John & Isabella (Mte) Cockfield m 27 Jun 1791 Redmire. Also grt grt s.o William Lupton & Jane (Mte) Cockfield m 14 Feb 1860 Catterick. Jane bpt 18 Jan 1838 Catterick d.o George & Frances (Brown) Mte m 30 Oct 1829 Hornby. George bpt 2 Mar 1807 Scrutton s.o George & Elizabeth (Wells) Mte m 18 Nov 1798 at Scrutton. George bpt 12 Mar 1776 Danby Wiske s.o George & Margaret (Ewbank) Mte m 15 Mar 1775 Danby Wiske. **Conn XM201 XM888 M1030**

M1687 Mrs Olive Hamblin 57 Ekin Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire. CB5 8PS olive.has@ntlworld.com Gt Gt Grd
d.o Robert & Harriet (Mt) King m 19 Dec 1845 Wickhambrook, Sfk. Harriet bpt 21 Dec 1817 Whepstead Sfk d.o John & Susan (Garwood) Mt m 10 Aug 1812 Whepstead, Sfk. John bpt 18 Oct 1777 Stradishall, Sfk s.o William & Ann (Chapman) Md

M1691 Mrs Caroline Margaret Dinsdale 9 Crestwood, Redcar, TS10 4NN carol@dinsdale.wanadoo.co.uk Grt Grt Grt
Grd d.o Henry & Mary (Mte) Parnaby m 4 Dec 1798 Thornton Steward. Mary b. c1769. Also connected to John Matthew & Mary Ann (Parnaby) Mte m 3 Oct 1868 Haughton-le-Skerne. John Matthew bpt 22 Jun 1843 Richmond s.o James & Isabella (Hodgson) Mte m 16 Nov 1824 Bolton on Swale. James bpt 17 Jun 1804 Spennithorne s.o Thomas & Elizabeth (Raw) Mte m 31 May 1803 East Hauxwell. Thomas bpt 16 Dec 1781 East Hauxwell s.o James & Mary Jane (Croft) Mte m 15 May 1781 East Hauxwell. James bpt 1 Oct 1758 East Hauxwell s.o Thomas & Elizabeth (Plews) Mte m 13 Nov 1757 East Hauxwell.
Conn XM624 M645 XM898 M991 XM1275 M1522 M1567 M1620 Possibly connected to John & Mary (Parnaby) Mte. Mary b c1802 Finghall.

NEW MEMBERS, WITH OR AWAITING BIRTH BRIEFS

M1695 Mrs Lynne Hullock 46 Barrowmoor Road, Appleby, Cumbria. CA16 6SB lynne-hullock@supanet.com

M1696 Mr Peter J Metcalfe 15 Southville Terrace, Lyncombe Vale, Bath, Avon. BA2 4LZ pjmpma@aol.com

M1697 Mr Gordon Quigley 148 Lindeman Road, Beerwah, Queensland, 4519, Australia. gquigley@aapt.net.au

M1698 Mr Michael Peel 16 Coppice End, Highwoods, Colchester, Essex. CO4 9RQ michaelhpeel@ntlworld.com G r d
s.o. Arthur & Jane (Mte) Wood m 1912 Christ Church, High Harrogate. Jane bpt 28 Mar 1880 Sharow d.o. John & Jane Ann (Hodgson) Mte m 1864 St. Margaret, York. John bpt 31 May 1837 Kirkby Malzeard s.o. Matthew & Hannah (Peacock) Mte m 26 Nov 1817 Ripon Cathedral. Matthew b 15 Jun 1788 Well Hse, Blackhill, Kirkby Malzeard s.o. George & ?Jane (Mallerby) Mte. George bpt 19 Feb 1751 Aysgarth s.o. James & Ellen (Scarr) Mte m 23 Apr 1747 Aysgarth. Conn M163 XM431 M730 M788 & XM1223.

M1699 Mr Neale Walker 109 Fox Lane, Leyland, Lancashire. PR25 1HB nealewalker001@yahoo.co.uk

M1700 Mr Ian Scott 138 Wycombe Lane, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. HP10 0HH ian.paigescott@btinternet.com

M1701 Ms Carmen Metcalfe 23010 117th Avenue, Maple Ridge, British Columbia. v2x2k1 Canada. abonnywind@telus.net

M1702 Mrs Janette Blackhurst 9 Vicarage Lane, Ennerdale, Cleator, Cumbria. CA23 3BE jan.gradwell@btinternet.com

M1703 Dr Roger Metcalf 5126 Bridgewater Drive, Arlington, Texas, 76017-2782, USA. metcalf@tarrantcounty.com

M1704 Mrs Anita Waterman 8 Rosewood, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire. RG5 3QU. anita@watermansolutions.co.uk Grd d.o. Thomas & Mary Ann (Mte) Partridge m 6 Mar 1897 Lee Chapel, Horwich, Lancs. Mary Ann b 10 Jan 1873 Bishopdale, Aysgarth d.o. James & Mary (Tennant) Mte m 26 Oct 1871 Aysgarth. James bpt 16 May 1848 Aysgarth s.o. James & Ann (Falshaw) Mte m 31 Oct 1843 Aysgarth. James bpt 3 Jun 1821 Coverham s.o. Edward & Sarah (Weatherald) Mte m 21 Feb 1803 Aysgarth. Edward bpt 22 Aug 1778 Aysgarth s.o. William & Elizabeth (Kidd) Mte m 17 Nov 1760 Aysgarth. William bpt 18 Aug 1734 Aysgarth s.o. Leonard & Jane (l'anson) Mte m 7 May 1725/6 Aysgarth. Leonard bpt 17 Apr 1698 Askrigg s.o. George & Jane (Parker) Mte m 30 Nov 1678 Askrigg. **Conn XM140 XM176 XM301 & XM784**

M1705 Mr Brian Metcalfe 75 Crimicar Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire. S10 4FA. brian@bmetcalfe.freemove.co.uk

M1706 Mr David John Harrison 63 Cricketers Green, Yeadon, Leeds, West Yorkshire. LS19 7YS david@djharrison.co.uk

M1707 Mr Stephen J Snow Box 1396, Hulunbuy, NT 0881, Australia. sjamsnow@bigpond.com

M1708 Ms Karen Marchant Plas y Coed, Cwmerfyn, Aberystwith. SY23 3HB kassmarchant@btinternet.com

M1709 Mrs Hazel Barker 294 Pickering Road, Hull, East Yorkshire. HU4 7AD hazel@pickeringplumbing.com

M1710 Mr Chris Hills 2 Cotswold Corner, Great Rollright, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire. OX7 5ST chills@gtrollright.fsnet.co.uk

M1711 Mr Jan Van Green St Janstraat 33, Laren, NH, 1251 KZ, Netherlands. jvg@vgbholding.nl

M1712 Ms Treena Mary Hemsworth 7 Wentworth Court, Beech Grove, Harrogate, West Yorkshire. HG2 0EL kenworth@went7.freemove.co.uk

M1713 Mr Roy Brocklehurst 7 St Mary's Mews, Prospect Road, Market Drayton, Shropshire. TF9 3FD brocklehurst2@aol.com

M1714 Mr Peter Myers 23 Rempstone Drive, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. S41 0YB m4ers@btinternet.com

M1715 Ms Mary Metcalfe 23 Burges Road, Norwich, Norfolk. NR3 2LP metcalfekids@yahoo.co.uk

M1716 Mrs Katherine Appleton 15 Bransdale, Guisborough, North Yorkshire. TS14 8JR katherinetct@yahoo.co.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Who Do You Think You Are? LIVE. Olympia, London: Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th May 2008. Adults £20

Family History Fair & AGM 2008 hosted by Devon FHS & Cornwall FHS in Plymouth on 29th March 2008.

Mecca Muster & AGM Saturday 4 October 2008 at 10am at The Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes Wensleydale. Note your dairies now! Full details in the April issue of the Mecca News.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES NEEDS YOU!



There are thousands of under used and unlisted letters, memos and reports from the various North Yorkshire Poor Law Unions at the National Archives in London.

TNA is seeking funding to digitise the records for a number of Unions and make them available on-line for free. They are essential for 19th century studies into poverty, pauper education, public health, labour matters/wages and they contain personal information on thousands of paupers.

For further information go to www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/partnerprojects/workhouse/default.htm. You can also contact Dr Paul Carter the project coordinator c/o National Archives, Kew Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU, ☎ 020 876 3444 or by email paul.carter@nationalarchives.gov.uk

FFHS NEWS

Family Records Centre Closure

On 28 September the FFHS was advised by the GRO's Certificate Services Branch that a certificate collection service will be available at the GRO office in Southport, Lancashire with effect from 30 October 2007. Following this at the Family Records Centre (FRC) Users Consultative Group Meeting on 3 October 2007 the schedule for withdrawal of the paper indexes from the FRC was also confirmed. Full background behind the closure of the FRC and for more details on both of these visit the FFHS website.

An E-petition "to ensure that the General Register Office completes ASAP, as promised, the digitisation of, and online index to, the national BMD ledgers dating back to 1837 previously held in the Family Records Centre in London", has been created on the Prime Ministers Website

First Floor Family Records Centre (TNA) move to Kew

With the planned closure of the Family Records Centre (FRC) in Islington, the National Archives at Kew will be making changes to enable them to integrate the services The National Archives offers at the FRC. This will entail building works at Kew until spring 2008. As well as doing essential works to the fabric of the building, they will be improving the layout of the reading rooms based on feedback from their visitors. Further information available on www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Discover Shropshire Project – Shropshire County Council

The Discover Shropshire Project encourages people to find out more about Shropshire families and the history of Shropshire communities. The project has digitised a huge amount of material that was previously only available at Shropshire Archives and made it available in two brand new local history centres at Bridgnorth Library and at Oswestry Library.

A bonus for Shropshire based researchers is that Ancestry is now available at all Shropshire libraries and at Shropshire Archives completely free of charge.

Contributors to Gunnerside (Swaledale) Literary Institute 1875

George Metcalfe	Gunnerside	10s
JS Metcalfe	Gunnerside	10s
John Metcalfe	Gunnerside	£1
John Metcalfe	Bradford	£5
Joseph Metcalfe	Gunnerside	£2 2s
William Metcalfe	Gunnerside	10s

Supplied by **George Buxton M3**

FROM THE PAST

MECCA NEWS Number 24 April 1988 page 11

STARS OF THE SILVER SCREEN

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

James S. Metcalfe: Born 1901 and died on the 2 April 1960 of a heart attack at Northridge, in California. A stage actor, he also appeared in the films 'The Iron Claw' (1941), 'The Hardway', 'Who is Hope Schuyler?' and 'A Gentleman at Heart' in 1942. None of his films, unfortunately, seem to have featured amongst the cinema's classics, although some of our members may well remember having seen them.

Edward Metcalf: Born 1867 and died on the 2 April 1951 at Brentwood, New York. A stage, screen and vaudeville actor, he appeared in both the stage production and the Paramount Pictures screen version of 'Animal Crackers' the latter of which starred the Marx Brothers and is still remembered for many of its classic dialogue exchanges.

Earl Metcalf: Born 1889 in Newport, Kentucky and died on the 27 January 1928 at Burbank, in California. Probably the most intrepid, as well as the most prolific of the family's film stars, his screen appearances spanned the period from 1915, when he moved on from his stage roles into a career in films with Vitagraph, (a very successful early U.S. production company which was taken over by Warner Bros. in the twenties), until his death in 1928. His career included no less than forty three films, beginning with 'The Insurrection' in 1915, quickly followed by, 'Perils of Our Girl Reporters' in 1916. The latter, no doubt a classic, now unfortunately lost to us, was followed by a number of other films in what we might refer to as his 'romantic' period, culminating in his appearance in 'Silk Stocking Sal' in 1924. Unfortunately, 1925 marked a turning point in his career, which was ultimately to lead to his untimely death. This was the year in which he turned to more adventurous roles, with 'Kit Carson and the Great Divide' (1925) and 'The Call of the Klondike' (1926). After this, a fatal fascination with flying began to manifest itself, with his appearances in 'The High Flyer', followed by, 'The Airmail Pilot' and 'Eagle of the Night', a serial. Sadly, the serial was cut short at the beginning of 1928, as was his life, when he was killed in a flying accident. The official cause of his death was reported as "falling off a plane" thus earning him the distinction of being the only Metcalf(e) in history believed to have perished in this fashion.

Genealogical Humour

It is New Year's Eve, 1852 and John Smith sits at his desk by candlelight. He dips his quill pen in ink and begins to write his New Year Resolutions.

1. No man is truly well-educated unless he learns to spell his name at least three different ways within the same document. I resolve to give the appearance of being well-educated in the coming year.
2. I resolve to see to it that all my children will have the same names that my ancestors used for 6 generations in a row.
3. My age is no one's business but my own. I hereby resolve never to list the same age or birth year twice on any document
4. I resolve to have all my children baptised in a different church, either in a different faith or in a different parish. Every third child will not be baptised at all or will be baptised by an itinerant minister who keeps no records.
5. I resolve to move to a new town, new County, or new state at least once every 10 years – just before those pesky enumerators come round asking silly questions.
6. I will attempt to reside in counties and towns where no vital records are maintained, or where the courthouse burns down every few years.
7. I resolve to join an obscure cult that does not believe in record keeping or in participating in any military service.
8. When the tax collector comes to my door, I resolve to loan him my pen which has been dipped in rapidly fading blue ink.
9. I resolve that if my beloved wife Mary should die, I will marry another Mary.
10. I resolve not to make a will. Who needs to spend money on a lawyer?
11. I resolve not to clutter up the good farm pastures with headstones that will just get broken or fade with time anyway.
12. I resolve to protect my family and friends privacy by giving false names and places for events.
13. I resolve never to give correct accounts of misdeeds in the family, so when Uncle Lem shot that guy and was tried for murder, my kids will be told he stole a cow.

14. I resolve never to trim the family cemetery of brush and tangle weed, to keep out anyone doing that silly Genealogical work.

15. I resolve to always alternate my kids and wife's first and middle names when the census taker comes around, just to give him practice with his spelling.

16. I resolve to come from Ireland [where there are no records, or if there are they can only be examined by visiting the exact village, pleading with the local clergy [who is hostile to anyone not of his belief which of course you are] and/or handing over a fee equal to or exceeding your yearly income, for one hour's research which may not reveal anything.

17. I resolve that not only will I NOT die in my country of birth but nor shall my children [yea verily] unto the 6th generation.

18. I resolve that I shall call my children by odd names which the enumerator shall spell incorrectly.

19. I resolve that I shall be absent on the night of the census.

20. I resolve that if unable to be absent on census night I shall endeavour to be enumerated twice.

21. I resolve that when I die my children /wife are instructed to give the wrong details for my death certificate.

22. I resolve that I and most of my family shall die suddenly just before death certification is brought in, in a parish where easy access to the parish records ceases the previous year.

Supplied by Dorothy Pope M55

SMOKY MOUNTAIN MECCA

Marsden P Holden M1513 has provided a genealogy which shows that the Metcalf's are related to the Parton family and in particular the famous Dolly Parton!

The genealogy from the publication *Smoky Mountain Memories - Stories of the Parton Family* by Willadeene Parton (1996) and published by Rutledge Hill Press, Nashville Tennessee was submitted to the late John Holden (M6) by Charlotte Holden.

The relationship comes from Cassie Ann Moore (1860-1934) who was the daughter of Andy Moore and **Rachel Metcalf**. Cassie Ann married George Washington Rayfield in 1875 and their daughter Bessie Elizabeth married William Walter Parton in 1912. They were the grandparents of one Dolly Rebecca Parton.

UNIQUELY DIFFERENT

While visiting my son in Madison, Wisconsin, USA, I saw the huge sign in a mall advertising a supermarket.



Usually the name Sentry is larger than the name Metcalfe, but this one is definitely the other way around. I especially like the words "Uniquely different" since we could say that of the Metcalfes (and all the various spellings), couldn't we?!

Elizabeth Metcalfe M1648

Metcalfe Copeman & Pettefar Solicitors Wisbech Cambridgeshire

1784. The founder of the firm, Charles Metcalfe Senior, started practicing as a solicitor and attorney-at-law in the High Street at Wisbech. The first clear evidence of his practice is a "Book of Precedents No.2, which bears his signature and is dated 7 June 1787.

1834. He had numerous children and his eldest son Charles Metcalfe Junior took over the practice. Amongst his public appointments was that of Clerk to the Commissioner of Enclosures for Tydd St Giles, Leverington and Outwell. His



appointment is recorded in the Book of Proceedings (1841) and other related documents. He died in 1871 a wealthy man, leaving behind him several manors and ecclesiastic benefices, legacies of some £20,000, a widow and eleven children.

1877. The eldest son, Frederic Morehouse Metcalfe, took over the practice and in 1877 he built 6 York Row in the same soft red sandstone as Inglethorpe Hall where he lived. (Extracted from firms Webpage)

DSLambert M11



The Harleian Society
London Vol 16. **Kensington** Parish Registers 1539-1675.
Burials

23 Jan 1585/6. **Jane Medcalfe**, a poor traviling(sic) woman
6 May 1586 **Jane Medcalfe**

30 Sept 1615. **George Meadcalfe**, the Ladye Bartletes, porter.
Surrey Vol 9. **Haslemere**, **Surrey** Parish Records 1754-1793
Witness **Wm Metcalfe** at the marriage of Peter Pasto &
Susannah Smith 7 Aug 1789 by banns.

Birth Certificate donated to East Yorkshire FHS
Annie Eliza Metcalf
born 22 August 1897 Tetney, Lin(colnshire).
The Banyan Tree No 111 July 2007.

Yorkshlre anagrams

Yorkshire is so named because of its high hills, demanding stern effort by its many hikers. At the summit of one of its highest hills is a rest-house they call "Twin Peaks". One hot Saturday morning two hikers were resting on the bench outside, exhausted and hot and flushed. The hostess of the house saw them and laughingly commented: "What a pair of rosy hikers! We should call this land of hiker's hills 'Yorkshire', don't you think?" (anagram of *rosyhiker*). The two hikers didn't understand the joke till they later were running down the hill and were able to solve the anagram. Another time she told some hikers that the cairn at the top of the hill was once nicknamed by some amateur artists' *Sketch Hoe*' (anagram of *hot cheeks!*). Sometime later the rosy hikers came back to "Twin Peaks" and told her, teasingly, it must belong to a *skwint ape!* Or is there somebody who knows better?

DRH Major M314.

STEAMROLLED INTO LOVE

After meeting at a steam engine rally **Anne Metcalfe** decided to tie the knot by rolling up to the Sale, Manchester register office on a 10-tonne, 1923 Fowler steam roller owned by her husband-to-be Lee Fisk. *Manchester Evening News 5 March 2007.*

A day in the life of....

From the Diaries of Francis Smithson of Pocklington near York written between 1851 & 1910.
1853 August 9. *"Rode Jerry along with Mr Metcalfe to see Mr S Wiley of Brandsby, took dinner and then walked round his corn crops etc,etc, which were very good, then his shorthorned Bullocks, the young bulls, his old Bull a prime old fellow. Then....all of which were of excellent quality, took tea.....took a glass with the old Esq. And then rode home having been highly satisfied with my journey."* His last entry was on 23 September 1910 after nearly sixty years of writing. *City of York & District FHS Journal Sept 2007.*

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Metcalfe Buildings : Metcalfe House, Fort Collins, Colorado.
Built by William Metcalfe previously of Burtersett, Wensleydale North Yorkshire.
Supplied by Chris Metcalfe M1480.

Minutes of the AGM of The Metcalfe Society
Saturday 8th September 2007
held at Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:

Peter welcomed all members and guests to the 27th annual general meeting, in particular mentioning the presence of members from overseas. There was a short silence in memory of Helen Offer, a former President of the Society, who had died during the year. Carol Herbert was congratulated on the birth of Amber Rose.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Charles Metcalfe	David Lambert	Carol & David Arkwright
Liz Waller	Mary Metcalfe	Warwick & Jean Metcalfe
Carol Herbert	David Major	

3. The Minutes of the AGM of 2006, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5 & 6. REPORTS:

Executive reports for	Chairman:	Secretary:	Treasurer:
	Archivist Co-ordinator:	New Members' Secretary:	
	Gift Aid Secretary:	Agents' Reports:	Editor:
	Despatch:	Computer Index:	Web Administrator:
	Publications:	Sales & Library:	Affiliations:
	Conference Secretary:	Fairs:	Projects:

had been circulated via the August 2007 Mecca News in written form to the meeting. There were some questions asked to expand on some points in the reports. The reports were all accepted by the meeting without alteration. Eileen Metcalf, M1692, volunteered to take over the running of the library and the scrapbook.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2008:

- The meeting agreed that there would be no increase in subscription rates for the coming year.

8. ELECTIONS:

- David Lambert was re-elected as Chairman, Ena Metcalfe as Secretary, Carol Herbert as Treasurer and Peter Dobson as Editor. Nina Benson was re-elected as a Vice President.
- The rest of the Committee was unanimously re-elected: Margaret Hodgson; Jose Hopper; Diane Howarth; Lesley Longworth; Brian Metcalfe; David Metcalfe; Edwin Metcalf

9. PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS:

The audited accounts had been circulated in written form. There was a vote of thanks for the work which had gone into these.

10. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:

Following due process, the meeting approved the re-appointment Kiggin & Co. as auditor.

11. A.O.B:

- Peter was thanked for his chairing of the meeting.
- Earlier in the meeting there had been an update given on the DNA project.
- There was discussion of one member's suggestion of a Muster in the Midlands or the south of England. However the overwhelming view of the meeting, including that of several members present who had travelled long distances, was that the Muster should be held in the Dales as this represented the roots of the family.

The meeting was closed at 11-45am

12. DATE OF 2008 AGM: Saturday 4th October 2008 at the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes