

MECCA NEWS

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April 2008

Issue No 84

The Journal of
the Metcalfe Society
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The MECCA NEWS

Editor: Peter Dobson



CONTENTS

Regulars

From the Editor	2
your letters & e-mails	8
Chairman's Jottings	10
Society News	14
Archivist Report & Membership Details	22

Features

Voyage to Australia	3
The Weather Glass	9
Metcalfe's of Fort Collins	15
Mrs Vera Adams	20
Metcalfe's Missing Millions	31
The Weavers of Barnard Castle	34

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In this edition we have extracts from a letter written by a Thomas Medcalf sailing to Australia with his family. This first part gives a flavour of one family's experiences in emigrating to Australia and casts some interesting insights in to the understanding, knowledge and faith of our ancestors a mere hundred and fifty years ago.

Now we can travel to Australia in a matter of hours or, with a stop over, a few days but in the 1850's the only practical means of transport was by sea and that often took many months. The journey meant that you were thrown together with other travellers whom you may not have wished to share your time with in other circumstances and yet others whom enriched your life by their contact.

Any organisation goes through periods of change and this issue records the loss of our founding member and the wife of our President who worked in the background giving encouragement. It also records a number of changes on the committee and this will reflect in the activities of the Society in the future.

David Lambert in his *Jottings* (see pages 10&11) raises the question over what information the Society should concentrate its resources on in the future. The Wills project is in the capable hands of

Edwin Metcalfe M980 and with support from the North West Group of FHS's we have been awarded support to extract further details from Metcalfe wills. However there are still many pre-1837 (as well as post!) sources still to be investigated and David rightly asks where we should go. Hopefully we will have the opportunity to discuss this topic at the next committee meeting in mid-March and report back to you in the next magazine.



2008 MECCA MUSTER & AGM

Saturday 4 October 2008

at the

**Dales Countryside Museum
Hawes Wensleydale
North Yorkshire.**

Make a note in your diary.

Full details in the August Mecca News.

The Muster is back at its traditional time so no excuses come along and see your Society in operation!



Hawes Wensleydale

Voyage to Australia

Part 1 - "We are on the Rock"

The following are extracts from a letter sent by **Thomas Medcalf formerly of Ware Hertfordshire** to relatives and friends in England. The letter was provided by **Derek Medcalf (M780)**.

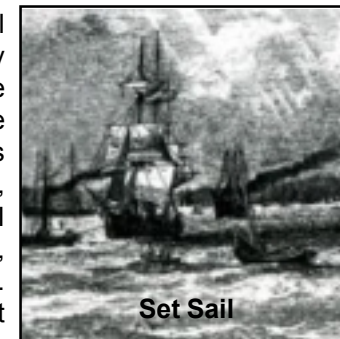
Fort Louis, Mauritius
The Island of France
7th October 1853

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Various have been the scenes through which we have passed since we have separated and when you have read the account of the voyage we have taken, you with us, will have to say, "Bless the Lord, on my soul and forget not his mercies", for they have truly been new every morning and fresh every evening.

After bidding you farewell as you left the vessel at Gravesend (*on Saturday 4 June 1853*), we watched with feelings of emotion, the boat carrying you to the land upon which you were soon to enter, and then return to your respective abodes, to give a account of the last act of filial affection you had rendered to us who were about to sail to our adopted country. We returned to our cabins, (where we found the hand and heart of brotherly and sisterly love had been there to supply many little wants we found creep upon us as we proceeded on our voyage, and for which we thank you). But to whom more particularly to do so we are unable to say, when we say we thank you all, that will suffice, and more so when I say we stood much in need of them, which we soon arranged, and being wearied with our days exertions, we soon retired to rest and enjoyed a sound and refreshing sleep until morning.

Then commenced a new scene, a change indeed, I was little prepared for on this day. All was bustle and confusion, having taken many of the passengers in at Gravesend on the Saturday, not the least respect was paid to the day. Having set sail, new duties crept upon us which we had little knowledge of, or indeed, might not have been called upon to perform. I am thankful to say, I was able to meet them, having the will, health and strength to do so. But with regard to my dear Stephanie Ann it was not so. The sea voyage soon told upon



Set Sail

her and she was soon laid to her bed. This was as we expected and it was the same with the rest of my family, except my dear little Amanda. She must, with myself, be said to be a good sailor. The sea had no effect upon us. They all soon recovered except Mrs. M. and Lucy, who continued unwell at times for about six weeks.

We found the second cabin occupied with various parties. Irish, Scotch, French, Swiss, German and English - an association I have never been so intimately connected with before, but from whose various characteristics I trust I have learned much which will be long remembered. They were composed of six families containing 29 children, two married couples having no family, 13 married and single individuals, making 58 souls in our part of the vessel. The greater part of this number I found very respectable and from whom I selected a few as more immediate associates and strange you will say that I should select for my companion one Irish, named Armstrong, a young man very intelligent. He came from Dublin thinking of going to the goldfields. Another is Swiss named Defoe, a gentleman intending to have commenced the fancy straw hat trade, as fine a man as I have seen, a noble minded and hearted man. Another is Mr. Black, a German merchant. He has a brother in Sydney, a physician. These can speak English pretty well; they have much the gentleman in all their ways. Thus, with these associates and the various duties I had to perform, the time rolled away, I may say, imperceptibly.

The first class passengers consisted of the Captain and his lady and one child, the Doctor and his lady and one child, Mr. Swyton, his lady, three children and one servant, Mr. Baxter and his wife and four children, who was a Chemist and druggist from Oxford Street; and I was glad to find Rev. Mr. Velleor, a Baptist Minister from Staffordshire, with his wife and three children, going to Sydney (partly through the influence of Mr. Black) to take the oversight of the church there if approved by them.

We also had a Mr. Leytroyche, a solicitor, Mr. Rud, a German merchant, a Mr. Newbolt, two French gentlemen making 16 adults and 12 children. Also Mr. Lambert, the first mate, Mr. Tulloch the second mate, and Mr. Worthingter, the third mate, two chief cabin stewards, a second cabin steward, two cooks and 15 sailors, making a company on board of 109 souls. As might be expected with this company, many things transpired which were unpleasant, but upon the whole we did much enjoy the voyage and the unpleasantness that did occur arose from the vessel being deficient of necessary accommodation (some of the provisions not being good) and want of proper officers. Where those are I have no hesitation in saying, the voyage to Australia is not that formidable undertaking some would make it appear even in my case having a wife and six children.

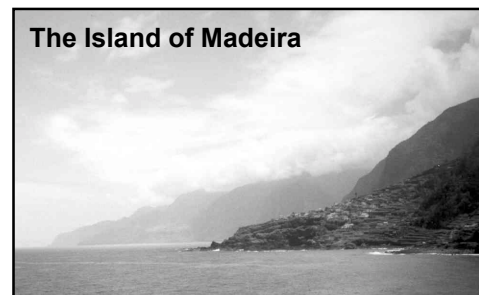
First the society of Mr Velleor. His style of preaching is very different to Mr Besley, but he has strength and earnestness, which is much required

for the ministry. I came to form a bright judgment of his talents. The preaching to the company like the one we had on the vessel, which I regret to say, cared nothing about the one thing needful, and who could, and would render things unpleasant. For you must remember, in a ship bound for Australia, is being in a small world from which you cannot escape. Therefore much allowance must be made if ministers do not preach quite as one might wish. He also tried to form a Sabbath school and Bible class, but this could not be done nor could we find the time during the week to educate the children. But had our ship been properly managed these things might have been properly carried out.

I will try and narrate something of which we have seen, and which afforded us much pleasure. The appearance of the sea is majestic and lovely, at one time rising wave over wave, bidding defiance to all; yet standing upon the poop or top of the cabin you behold the vessel rising safely and triumphantly over it. Then the calms, a glorious sight like a sea of glass, at times not a ripple to be seen. At other times you will see the sea swell around you, but still the ship motionless, and such an imposing effect it had upon me that I could have freely have jumped into the water to enjoy a good bath. Then again, the glorious sight of the sun rising and setting, the moon rising in all her beauty; the stars also increasing the splendor of the scene, and as if the splendors were not complete I found the sea burst forth myriads of

electrical sparks to illuminate the wide ocean as if we were gliding along. This is a phenomenon I have never heard of before. I should like to know the cause of it I have never been able to learn. They are caused by electricity no doubt.

The islands we passed by gave us much pleasure, the island of Madeira especially. The appearance was truly imposing. Some of us rose about five o'clock, it looked like a cloud rising out of the sea (this is the appearance of all islands at first when seen at a distance). We were then about thirty



The Island of Madeira

miles from it, but as we approached it we beheld with delight the most picturesque scenery. Every part looked in a high state of cultivation. Various sketches were taken of the island by the passengers.

We often passed by ships. Very few passed by us for our captain was like the Racer, always anxious to lead the way and to show what he could do. On one occasion he spoke to a 'vessel "The Gipsy Queen" and she did not reply. The sails were hoisted and we very soon went around her stern, past her side. This certainly was a time

of pleasing excitement. After a short conversation with her we found she had left London some days before us. The Captain laughingly said "Goodbye, I will tell them at Sydney you are coming".

We saw various birds, both large and small ones. The stormy petrel, a small bird like a swallow. The albatross - this is a very large one of the goose species, about twelve feet from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other, some of them almost brown the greater part white. Some were caught I should have liked to have been able to send the main of the one the Captain gave to me; it was indeed the handsomest I have seen. We ate part of one, when cooked, and found it very good. Then the Cape pigeon about the size of our own but much prettier, having the back beautifully speckled and feet web-footed. One of these Mrs M. made into a small pie and found it very nice. As we made to the Cape, there was the Whale bird. It follows the whale and lives upon the food the whale lives upon. I find the whale lives upon a weed that floats upon the surface of the water, which it sucks in. I must not forget the flying fish. This little fish afforded us great amusement. To see thousands of them issuing from the mighty deep in one direction as though pursued by an enemy. There is the porpoise to add his part to our voyage. It is pleasing to see the sport in numbers before the sail of the vessel. I could mention many other birds and fish but this will suffice.

With many varying circumstances

around us we sailed on till the 8th July, when we passed the line. Here nothing occurred that called for us to take place, such as Neptune coming on board, and so continued up to the 20th July, when we had what I call the first night at sea, it having been very rough.

The days at this time being short, we found it dark by five in the afternoon. After leaving the Cape we found the sea rough at times, but we were going on cheerfully until we came to the 24th day of August and this day will be chronicled in the history of our lives as one on which God displayed towards us his great mercy. In the morning we were fully anticipating the pleasure of seeing the island of St Paul, which you will find between the Cape and Australia. Here we saw a ship in sight. We spoke to her and found her to be the "John Sugars" from London, where she had left before us.

The Captain was anxious to pass her,



The Captain was anxious to pass her

and instead of making for the island of St Paul he made more to the south and intended to have passed the island of Amsterdam. In the afternoon

a squall came on. The sea was washing over the side of the ship and came down into our cabins below. This did not trouble us as we had had the same circumstances occur before; it did not disturb us further than it put us to much inconvenience.

Thus it continued and the evening came on. We had had tea. It was about a quarter past seven. Our dear children were retiring to bed; Alice and Charles were in bed, when we heard a sudden noise. We thought a barrel of water had fallen down on the deck, a circumstance, which had occurred before: but immediately we heard another rumbling noise, another and another.

Then we were fully aware of the awful position we were in.

The cry was "we are on the rock".

To be continued.

Other Voyagers to Australia

Mecca Transportees

(see also Mecca News 81)

Arrived 1792. **James Metcalfe**. Convicted York 1787; Transported 7 years. Ship Royal Admiral. Granted conditional pardon 13 June 1802.

Arrived 1792. **Margaret Metcalfe**. Convicted Berks 1788; Transported 14 years. Ship Royal Admiral.

Arrived 1801 **Ann Metcalf**. Convicted London 1800; Transported 7 years. Ship Nile. Granted certificate of freedom 9 January 1810.

Arrived 1802. **George Metcalf**.

Arrived 1808. **John Metcalf**. Convicted Middlesex 1808; Transported 14 years. Ship Admiral Gambier.

Arrived 1813. **Joseph Metcalf**, painter & glazier. Ship Earl Spencer.

Arrived 1817. **Benjamin Metcalf**. Ship Shipley.

Arrived 1817. **George Metcalf**. Ship Larkins.

Arrived 1818. **James Metcalf**. Ship General Stuart.

Arrived 1819. **James Metcalf**. Ship Atlas.

NATIONAL BURIAL INDEX

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you would like to volunteer assistance with burial indexing for the NBI Project, please contact your local or favoured family history society. Addresses will be found

at www.ffhs.org.uk/members2/contacting.php

If you have already transcribed and computerised records of a parish register, and have permission to present these to the NBI edition 3, please email Carol McLee, projects@ffhs.org.uk

For further information of the NBI Project

visit www.ffhs.org.uk/projects/nbi/nbi-overview.php

your e-mails

A town called Metcalfe

My daughter, who now lives and works in the State of Victoria, mentioned to me, that on her excursion out in the car, she came through a town called Metcalfe, to be precise, east of a town called Elphinstone, or if one wants to find it a bit better, east of the bigger city of Castlemaine!!

Frans Beerling M488

Anyone know how it got its name? - Editor.

Metcalfes at war

Death 30 Nov.1915. Private Thomas Metcalfe Yorkshire Regiment Second Battalion No.19679 panels 44 & 45 Loos Memorial Cemetery Pas de Calais France (my grandfather's brother).

Joseph Liddle Metcalfe son of Henry and Eliza Metcalfe died on HMS Calcutta at the evacuation of Crete, 1st June 1941 aged 20 yrs, Stoker 1st class RN. Chatham Naval Memorial No.473 (my grandfather's nephew). Submitted by **Eileen Howells M529**.

BANKRUPTCY From The Times June 27, 1851

Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street, June 26.

Before Mr Commissioner Holroyd, in Re May and Metcalfe

This was the last examination of Charles May, **William Leopold Metcalfe and C James Metcalfe** of Great Yarmouth, soap manufacturers There follows a list of assets and liabilities with a deficiency of £2782. The examination was adjourned.

Supplied by **Mrs J Gay M816**

From The Times Digital Archive 1785-1985.

Did you see....???

Hairstylist and make-up artist to celebrities **Rene Metcalfe** appeared in the October 2007 publication *Marie-Claire* being pictured styling the hair of Tara Palmer-Tomkinson. **Supplied by Mrs Suzanne Thomas**.

Chairperson of Netball North West **Carol Metcalf** received "a prestigious Lancashire Sports Award" for her efforts in working with some 800 women over the last 30 years to make Lancashire netball a national force. *Forward with South Ribble - the free newspaper of South Ribble Borough Council - Winter 2007/08*. **Supplied by Mrs Joan Metcalfe M63**.

Request for help in finding **Blind Jack Metcalfe** of Knaresborough's violin which appeared in the *Yorkshire Post* of 2 January 2008 - page 8. The plea for help came from Dr Arnold Kellett who made a similar request in the December 2007 Mecca News (Issue No 83 page 19). **Supplied by Mrs Nina Benson M29**.

Almost coincidentally on 4 January 2008 in the *Daily Mail* (page 82) a question posed about the life and work of Blind Jack was answered by a Mr G White of Harrogate. **Supplied by Mrs Nina Benson (M29), Mrs Jose L Gay M816 and Mrs Pam Jarman (M123)**.

1 When Dod-fell wears a cap of cloud
The roar of Gaylebeck will be loud
When mists come down on Widdale Fell
A drenching day grey heads foretell
When Stags-fell frowns on Abbotside
The rain will pour both far and wide
When Crag-end smiles and Semerlake's bright
'Twill surely rain before the night
When breezes blow from Raydale Head
'Twere best a macintosh to spread
If down from Weather-fell they come
You'd better not go far from home
For pouring rain and drenching wet
Is what you will most surely get
If breeze blow from Morecambe Bay
'Tis certain to be wet all day
But if they blow from over Stake
You'd better an umbrella take
If winds are calm and all is still
The rains will pour and streams will fill.



Dodd Fell

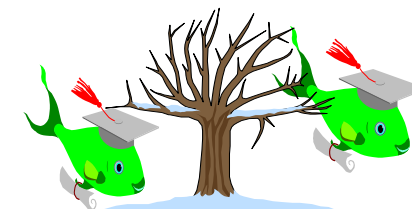
2 But if no rain will fall all day
From Leyburn town to Morecambe Bay
Upon that morning you will see
Fishes and eels in every tree;
When Carlow Stone mounts
Addlebrough Height
The sun will shine from morn till night
When sheep on Yockenthwaite
Tarn shall graze
The sun will shine with fiery rays
When in the nets on Semerlake
Twelve pickled salmon you shall take
No rain will fall upon that day
And men may safely make their hay.

THE WEATHER GLASS

by

The Man in the Moon

3 When Hawbank stands in Woodhall Lake
When whales in Oughtershaw Tarn they take
When Mr Metcalfe his boat shall sail
From Semerwater into Swaledale
When Bainbridge visitors shall pay
A pound an hour for the green all day
When no one there's to blow the horn
Then good old Horner must be gone
When no one on Contest Day has cried
This is the way to Hardrow side
When Aaron Knaggs shall fail to sell
The best of goods in Wensleydale
When all of us shall mend our ways
The sun will shine for thirty one days.



Fishes..... in every tree

Supplied by
Brian Metcalfe M1554
who writes "I found the attached
amongst some old papers.... I
obtained it at least 30 years ago
from a stall in the market hall
in Hawes."

In the last few years I have sadly had to report upon the death of persons who have meant a great deal to this society and its members.

Chairman's Jottings

It is with regret that I start this time reporting the death of our co-founder Vera Adams. A tribute is made elsewhere but I can honestly say without Vera and Mary Metcalfe the society would not have started. I remember receiving a letter out of the blue inviting me to come to an exploratory meeting at Claremont in Leeds more than 25 years ago now. I and about 10 others were members of the Family Section of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society who had indicated that we were researching the Metcalfe name and family. The rest as they say was history. Vera continued to be actively interested in the society when she came off the committee and would regularly attend the Muster and write with her views on the society's activities. Nina Benson represented the society at the funeral.

The second sad death a few days ago was that of Greta Metcalfe, our President Charles' wife. I am glad that Peter Dobson and I were able to attend her funeral. It was a moving and comforting event, with music and anecdotes of how Greta and Charles met in the Dales in 1947 and married a few years later.

I saw Greta after Charles and I had attended committee meetings twice a year when she was always ready for us with a cup of tea and cake and interested to learn what the committee had agreed to do and how the society was faring.

Life sometimes, especially it seems to me when researching family history, seems to involve strange coincidences. Greta's love of music reminded of one of those strange almost unbelievable occasions. I was in Helsinki on business, my one and only trip there, sitting in the hotel with clients. We had just been discussing coincidences of meeting people in foreign lands when you least expected it when who should walk into the room at that very point but Greta and Charles Metcalfe!! We had no idea that the other was going to Helsinki at all. After we recovered our composure I learnt that the President and his wife were in Helsinki to attend a performance of Wagner's Ring Cycle spread over 3 days I think.

I know that all your thoughts will be with the families of Vera and Charles.

Turning to other matters, we were able thanks especially to David Metcalfe to retrieve, virtually from a skip, our complete stock of Metcalfe books. (see page 12).

I was sorry not to be able to attend the muster in September but read with interest all the reports of the day. Please do consider coming this year either

as a first timer or a regular. We have had some new volunteers to help the committee and they are all most welcome to the team.

Diane Haworth has stepped down from the committee as previously stated. I suppose we did not really think it would happen. We owe a really huge debt to her for all she has done for the committee and Society. Her energy and enthusiasm as well as her expertise in driving the Society forward was probably seen at its best when we held our ambitious 25th anniversary muster weekend. She obviously remains a member of the society but you will I feel sure join with me in thanking her and wish her well for the future.

Diane's successor as secretary, Ena, has been in hospital at the start of this year. She is now back home and is I trust well on the road to recovery. Thanks to her husband Brian who doubled up as acting secretary, as well as archivist, whilst Ena was out of action. Like Charles and Greta, another good example of a team of husband and wife!

We need to focus our attention on society projects in my opinion. Accept that several projects remain unfinished and there is a case for saying we will finish off existing projects first before moving on to new ones. However one must ask why the existing projects are still incomplete. Are they too large for a small band or researchers? Are they becoming bored or overwhelmed by the size of the task? Would secondary records be of interest to members who have not been involved in larger projects? There are a lot of what one might call secondary even tertiary records but they have a value nevertheless for family historians eg 50 persons being confirmed on one day comprising 9% of the residents in the parish; the local fundraising concerts in the days when there was no cinema or TV, let alone the internet to entertain.

For those with computers and access to the internet there is a wealth of information: The National Archives catalogue is a good example of what you might find. By looking at indexes and catalogues one can find hundreds of references to the family: The British Library, local libraries and record offices to name but a few places. They are relatively easy to locate and identify and could be checked for Metcalfe entries. We need a plan though to decide what should be done first rather than several of us all doing the same thing unbeknownst to the other. Duplication of effort is almost (but not quite) as bad as no effort at all!

The wills project has been taken on by Edwin Metcalfe and is at the next stage of development. This will be discussed at our forthcoming committee meeting in March. Watch this space !

All in the day of the life of a Metcalfe Society Committee member!

After a dramatic drive across North Yorkshire the stock of the Society's Metcalfe - History of the Clan was saved from the recycling skip.

Diane Howarth (M405) and David Metcalfe (M46) save the Society's stock of some 550+ Family History books from certain destruction.

The drama had started some months earlier when the company who had stored the book for a number of years failed. The news was received too late for local committee members to act and recover our goods. When we did manage to go to the storage facility the landlord had changed the locks and we were unable to effect recovery.

Now a legal toing and froing started which lasted many months when the Society was promised access to recover its own goods but for one reason and another our efforts were frustrated. There was always a worry that any new owners would just clear out the storage facility and tip the goods in the building - they had no legal responsibility even though the items were not theirs.

So the fateful morning of Thursday 15 November dawned fairly quietly when an urgent phone call was received by Diane from a worker of the failed storage company informing her of the new owners imminent move into the property and if the third party property was not removed that morning it was to be dumped! Fortunately she was in Wensleydale and not in her home in Hampshire although she was making plans to return that afternoon when she received the news. Another piece of luck occurred when Diane managed to contact David Metcalfe

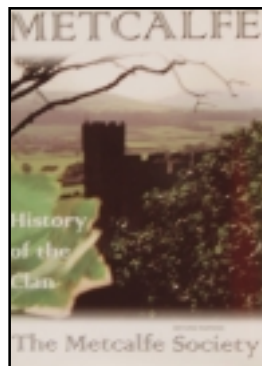
who was able to dash off immediately to Middlesbrough to hire a large enough vehicle and then drive to York (some sixty miles away) as quickly as possible.

There they met up and transferred the four pallets of books in to the transport before David drove back to our Bellerby storage facility - where additional space had to be taken - and the unloading undertaken before the van was returned to Middlesbrough.

How fortunate was that? Without the actions of Diane and David the Society would have lost a sizeable asset and the membership the opportunity to read about the Mecca Clan. Our thanks to them both and all the others who had a hand in the episode.

With the recovery now is your chance to purchase a copy of the definitive history of the Metcalfe Clan which is available only from your Society.

If you don't have a copy order one today from www.metcalfe.org.uk!



FFHS (Federation of Family History Societies) News (Extracts from) National Burial Index Records at findmypast.com

On 29 November 2007 records from the National Burial Index were published online at findmypast.com. At launch, 10.8 million records from 36 counties provided by 50 family history societies went live on the site. Currently the records span the years 1538 to 2005, although the greatest coverage is the period 1813 to 1850, a time prior to civil registration when a researcher is likely to have the greatest chance of accurately identifying his or her ancestors. The launch attracted a good deal of interest with mentions in *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, *Radio 5*, and the [findmypast](http://findmypast.com) website received twice as many visits than usual over the few days following the publicity. The Federation of Family History Societies also noticed an increase in sales of the NBI second edition on CD.

Perhaps you've come across some well-known historical figures or celebrities in your own society's burial index records? Or maybe you've found some other points of interest, such as the more than eccentric rector of the parish of Middleham in the North Riding, who allegedly added the living to his burial register if he felt they were "spiritually dead". If so, we'd love to hear about them. Just email the details to casestudies@findmypast.com, quoting "burial records" in the subject field. We'll reward the senders of the three best examples with a one year Explorer subscription to [findmypast](http://findmypast.com).

You don't need to know where in the country your ancestors came from as you can search just with a surname. Of course, knowing a first name and a county or date range will help to whittle down the results, particularly if you are looking for a common name. Viewing the details of a particular result costs one unit or is included in an annual Explorer subscription to [findmypast](http://findmypast.com). It's important to note this is an index; the results you are presented with will not contain images at the present time.

As with any research, it is always recommended to view the original source if you possibly can as the source burial record will often contain more information and it is always possible that a transcription error may have crept into the index. For further details on the original source or for a full transcription, you can contact the society or group which extracted the information (there may be a charge for this). Details of the contributing society can be found on the results page at [findmypast](http://findmypast.com).

This is part of The Federation of Family History Societies' ongoing project and over time it is hoped that more records from more counties and societies will be added to the NBI records. Future plans at [findmypast](http://findmypast.com) include supplementing these with full burial register transcriptions, memorial inscriptions, and even images of the graves, where these are available from member societies. Debra Chatfield, Marketing Manager, findmypast.com

Web: www.findmypast.com

Email: marketing@findmypast.com

Society

NEWS

Apologies for the late despatch of the December Mecca News. With changes to the volunteers in our despatch department it was decided to give more time for the new Journal despatcher - **Mrs Elizabeth Waller M1189** - to get into the job. So despatch was delayed till after the Christmas mail rush but unfortunately Elizabeth's local post

office had problems in dealing with some 600 magazines going out at once which caused the delay. We will be back to normal service next time!

The new librarian **M1692 Eileen Metcalf** is to take receipt of the books from storage at our March committee meeting and should be in a position by the summer to provide the new Library List. Eileen's contact details are on the front inside sheet.

Did you hear....???

- Barrister **Eric Metcalf(e)** of the UK Justice Department discussing the number of days suspected terrorists should be held for in the UK. *BBC Radio 4 News 10pm 7 December 2007.*
- **Harry Metcalf(e)** contributor to the *You and Yours BBC Radio 4 programme* discussion on the level of Government involvement in decision making. *Noon 19 February 2008.*
- **Both supplied by Mrs Patricia Dobson.**

In the last fifty years housing costs have doubled to nearly 20% of household budgets whilst with food and non-alcoholic drink has dropped to 15% (from 33%). Alcoholic drinks remain at 3% with tobacco down to 1% (from 6%). Another big mover is leisure with costs doubling to 20%. *(I wonder what will the budget be like in another 50 years? - Editor)* **From Office of National Statistics Report - Manchester Evening News 29/1/2008.**

MECCA NEWS DEADLINES

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

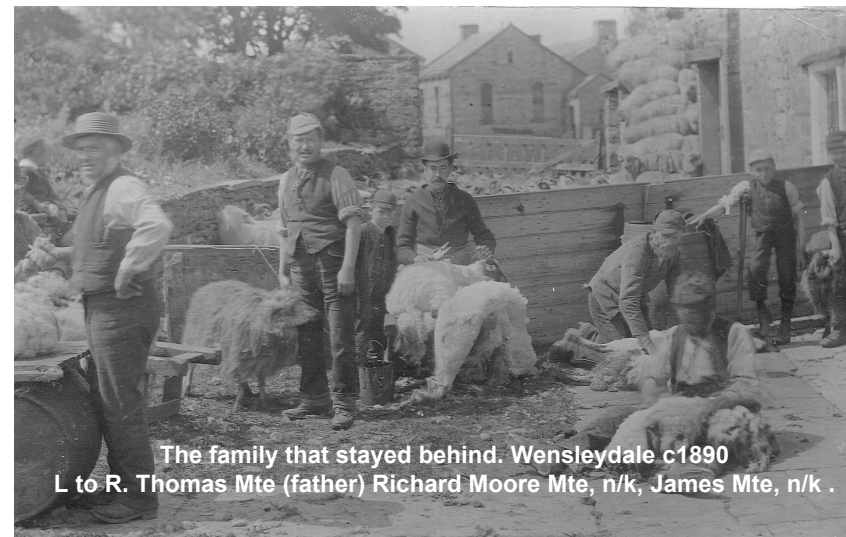
August	-	6 June
December	-	20 October
April	-	6 February

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!

METCALFE'S of FORT COLLINS

Chris Metcalfe M1480 writes "*The December 2006 issue (No 80) of Mecca News contains an article I wrote regarding my family's operation of stone quarries in the village of Burtersett, about a quarter mile from Hawes (Wensleydale, North Yorkshire). The Burtersett quarries were an important business for the people of Wensleydale, employing ten percent of the population in the area and supplying stone for construction projects as far away as Lancashire. This was a time of rapid growth and expansion fueled by the industrial revolution and the improvement in trade brought about by the railroads. The quarries had been operated by three generations of my family from the 1860's until 1907, when building stone was replaced by concrete, steel and other modern materials. The connection between my family and the stone business did not end with the closing of the mines in Burtersett, instead skills were brought to America in 1885 and were actively practised until well into the mid 1970's. The subject of this article is, therefore, the patriarch of our American lineage, William Metcalfe, the eldest son of Thomas and Mary Moore Metcalfe of Prospect House, Burtersett.*"

William was born in Gayle, a hamlet on the southwest corner of Hawes. His forefathers had been listed as miners in the 1840 and 1850 census, but as was common to this area, probably performed a variety of related jobs for extra income. One such side job must have been the selling of slate "Flags", or thick flat building stones, which lie in beds above Gayle. His grandfather is particularly noted as selling such flags as early as 1846. Sometime in the 1860's the family moved to Burtersett and began quarrying, on a full time



The family that stayed behind. Wensleydale c1890
L to R. Thomas Mte (father) Richard Moore Mte, n/k, James Mte, n/k .

basis, a higher quality of stone than that found in Gayle. In this environment of hard work and expanding business interests William grew to his maturity. He later met and married Dorothy Thwaite of Thorlby and began establishing himself as a family man as well as a craftsman and entrepreneur. The 1880 census lists him and his family as living at Prospect House in Burtersett and working as a stone dresser.

Being the eldest son, and there being ten years difference in age between him and his younger brother Richard Moore Metcalfe, one would expect that William would have been groomed as the next in line to accept management of the family's business interests. However, this was not to be. Information was circulating within the stone trade that sandstone of the finest quality for building had been found in 1878 near the town of Ft Collins, Colorado. The stone was composed of tightly compressed sand particles which could be quarried in blocks from open pits, thus eliminating the need for tunnelling as was the norm in Burtersett. The term used for this style of extraction of rock was a "Pry Quarry"; receiving its name from the fact that a group of workers could extract blocks by hand drilling a series of holes and prying the blocks from their beds by the use of large metal bars. This was before the use of dynamite, and the labour involved was gruelling and time consuming. Stone removed from these quarries had already been used by the railroads to build depots throughout Western America and a number of large hotel projects and government buildings.

The lure of opportunity and the knowledge that stone cutters were in strong demand must have been stronger than the family ties and opportunity that existed in Burtersett, because in 1885 William and Dorothy, with three children in tow, headed for the docks in Liverpool to make passage to America. Once the ship arrived in New York, William wasted no time in getting to Colorado and beginning his work.

It should be noted, the area they moved to was at the boundary between the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains and the start of the Great Plains of mid-west America. It's a land of extremes, on one side, the rich forests and cascading rivers of the Rockies, on the other, the dry seemingly endless expanse of the plains which travel for 700 miles eastward to the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. The people of these areas were also of extremes. Only ten years earlier the Native American people of the area had been pacified. The open range and huge untapped resources created men of great ambition and wealth. Only five years after William and his family arrive, the Wyoming range wars were fought between the established free range cattlemen and new homestead farmers seeking to settle the same land.

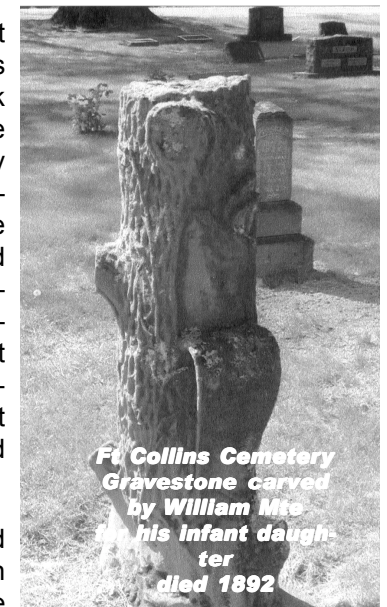
William's youngest son, Matthew, was a witness to an incident

regarding part of this conflict when he was a young lad. He told the story that he had been left in the care of one of his father's ranch hands and they had been given the task of rounding up cattle that had separated from the herd. Their wanderings brought them to the top of a ravine where below camped a shepherd and his flock of sheep. Without notice or hesitation the ranch hand dismounted, drew his rifle and shot the shepherd, quite probably dead. The only reason given for this brutal act of violence was "He knew he wasn't suppose to be here." meaning that this was cattle country and no sheep would be tolerated. I can only imagine the shock that Matt must have felt especially considering that all of his family back in Hawes owned sheep as an additional source of income.

The people of Fr. Collins were representative of this clash of cultures but also held a more eclectic group composed of farmers, ranchers, and an expanding group of academics associated with the establishment of the Colorado State University in 1875. So into this community arrived William, now 26 years old, to make his fortune.

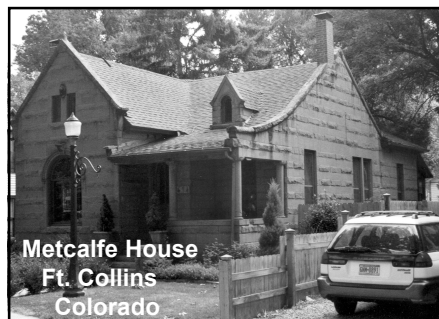
I can only believe that during the first five to ten years of his occupancy in Ft. Collins he used his skills as a stone dresser to work for one of the large firms that dominated the trade and held lease on most of the quarry properties. This was the "Hay Days" of building. The railroads had laid track directly to the quarry site and large quantities of stone had been taken to fulfill needs as far away as Kansas City. Then, in the late 1890's, a depression in building occurred which caused most of the large firms to discontinue their operations and leave their leases and equipment open for purchase to smaller businesses and individuals.

It was at this time that William secured rights to a section of the quarries which contained a distinctive deep red sandstone and in joint ventures with other independent quarrymen began negotiating for some of the larger contracts that were still available. The story is told that William was offered one such large contract to build a hotel in Denver. It was a condition of this contract, however, that he work exclusively with union labourers. To this condition he said emphatically no, he would not work where he did not have complete control over the construction process. But despite such setbacks, between 1895 and 1910, we know that two large buildings

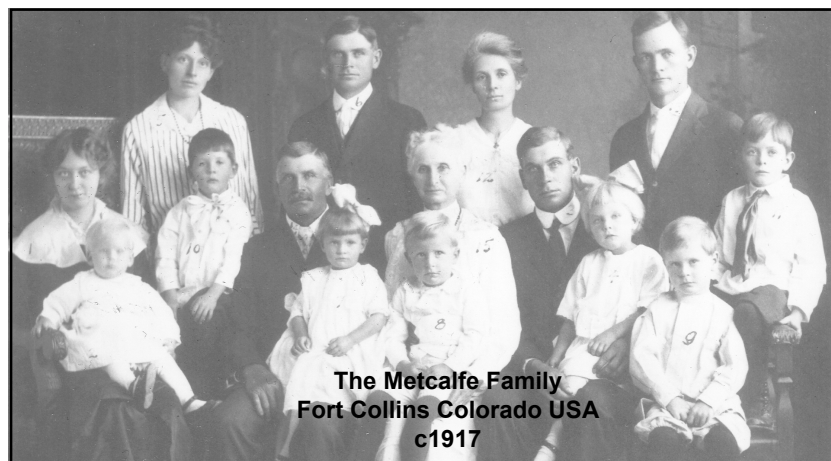


were constructed by him on the Colorado University Campus. Also, a number of hotel and office buildings were built by his hand in Denver and a cathedral for the Roman Catholic Church was constructed in Salt Lake City.

In the City of Ft. Collins his distinctive red stone can be found in all of the better homes and city office buildings. No doubt many structures were completed, however, the number is lost to time since no records exist to document suppliers and materialmen for these projects. The construction of these buildings do, however, reflect a mastery of the trade. They sit today as monuments to his hard work and talent. Perhaps the finest example of his work can be seen in the Metcalfe House in Ft. Collins. It stands as one of the most elaborate structures, built of hand cut stone adorned with carved cornices, door and window frames.



By 1910, William was beginning to feel the effects of his age and heart related problems, which are common to our family. The State of Colorado offered this year to grant title to 160 acres of prairie land to anyone who would build a home and settle the land. For William and his two sons this was perfect. They already owned cattle that were pastured on the open range and now with a combined 480 acre ranch they could move full time into the livestock trade. The land they sought to settle was a stark inhospitable place about fifteen miles from town. Their daughter, Mary, remained in town and married Harvey Riddell, whose family was well known and established.



The Metcalfe Family
Fort Collins Colorado USA
c1917

For an additional thirteen years, until his death, William and his wife lived on the prairie close to their two sons, Thomas and Matthew. Numerous first hand stories have come down to me from their grandchildren, many of whom were born at the ranch houses, and hold fond memories of their grandparent's eccentricities and fugal natures. Perhaps the best description came from a family member who tells of William and Dorothy's weekly journey into town aboard a horse drawn surrey. Each would be well dressed, but in particular William would always sport a pair of white gloves. While in town, there was never the address of "Hello William" or "Hi Bill", but always "Hello Mr. Metcalfe". Due respect would always be given the man who had for so long been the quarry master and builder for the City of Ft. Collins.

The NorthWest Group of Family History Societies Annual Spring Conference

will be hosted by the
Manchester and Lancashire FHS
at the Old Fire Station, The Crescent, Salford
on Saturday 26 April 2008

The Conference's theme is
WHAT DID THEY DO BEFORE 1837?
The Parish and its Records

Speakers will be
Peter Park - The Parish Chest
Fr David Lannon - Roman Catholic Records
Alan Rose - Methodist Records
**Richard Bond - Records from the Local Studies Section,
Manchester Central Library Archives and Local Studies.**

Admission is by advance booking only.
A non-returnable payment by cheque of £18 per person which includes a buffet lunch plus morning and afternoon tea/coffee and biscuits should be made payable to Manchester & Lancashire FHS.

Applications to or further information from
Manchester & Lancashire FHS
Clayton House, 59 Piccadilly, Manchester M1 2AQ
☎ 0161 236 9750

Mrs Vera Adams

13.02.1923 - 30.12.2007

It was a sad beginning to the New Year to hear that Vera had died at the end of December after suffering a heart attack.

Vera, together with Mary Metcalfe, founded our Society in 1980, and invited interested people to join the ranks by mentioning the progress in the magazine of the Yorkshire Family History Society.

Making the same mistake as many others, I thought I didn't know enough about my Metcalfe line to join immediately so it wasn't until the following year that I became M29.

Vera edited our Mecca News from the very beginning and set the standards which have served us so well over the years.

It wasn't until 1985 that Vera handed over that particular set of reins to Valerie Metcalfe M61. But that wasn't the end of Vera's support, she continued to attend our Committee meetings, quietly giving us the benefit of her experience and providing guidance that ensured we were on a firm foundation to carry us into the future.

I was personally proud to attend Vera's funeral service and to also represent our Membership. It was a comforting family affair with beautiful hymns and music and I'd like to share with you a piece by William Blake that was printed in the Order of Service.

*"To see a world in a grain of sand
And a Heaven in a wild flower,
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand
And eternity in an hour".*

It was a great pleasure to work alongside Vera and she will always be remembered with fondness and gratitude.

Nina Benson M29.



Vera Adams (on right) with Mary Metcalfe at the Society's 25th Anniversary Celebrations in September 2005

Vera Adams

Vera Adams (nee Metcalfe) was born in Morley 13th February 1923, the eldest of 3 children of George & Clara Metcalfe. The family moved to Drighlington where she attended the local school until transferring to Morley Grammar School, excelling in English literature and language.

After leaving school at 16, Vera started work as a shorthand typist for the Midland Railway in Bradford and it was here that she met Jack, marrying in 1948 and producing 3 daughters (Joan, Susan and Caroline). At Drighlington she helped run the Young Wives Group, became Brown Owl and attended Morley local history society.

After fulfilling her ambition to train as a teacher, the family moved to Garforth in 1974 and Vera helped to form the local history society. Taking an interest in family history, she joined Yorkshire Archaeological Society and had the idea of forming a Metcalfe Society.

In 1980, she contacted anyone with Metcalfe connections with this idea and about a dozen people showed an interest. As I lived within 3 miles of Vera we met and made a start, she as secretary and editor of the newsletter, whilst I acted as printer, distributor and treasurer.

Being too polite to make herself member number 1, she gave me this honour - though really it was her "baby". 13 people met for the first Muster at Claremont, Leeds, in 1982 with Nina Benson as Secretary. Through Vera's enthusiasm and hard work, the Society grew and flourished and gradually we handed over responsibility to younger members. I know she was delighted with the success and growth of the Society.

After her husband Jack died in 2006, Vera found life difficult and following heart attacks, she died in December 2007. We have lost a conscientious, caring and modest friend.

Mary Metcalfe M1

I have completed this tribute to Vera with the cooperation of her eldest daughter.

ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

I am delighted to report that Nina Benson (M29) is now fully on-line and undertaking valuable research on behalf of members. Her knowledge about the "Clan" is quite amazing & has been greatly missed. I would like to place on record my grateful thanks to Edwin Metcalf (M980), for having shouldered a great deal of the extra work, during Nina's unfortunate absence. If our replies to your enquiries have taken a little longer than usual, during what has been a very busy period, please accept my apologies. My thanks also go to David Metcalfe (M46) who, through his continual work on our database, has provided the corrections & additions, which are printed below.

Would those of you whose briefs have shown connections to other members, please note that I am no longer indicating, as "XM", people who, at the time of writing, are ex members of the Society. With people rejoining after a period away, the situation can change rapidly, making the information inaccurate. Therefore, if you wish to contact a member, whose details are not revealed in the Birth Brief Booklet, please contact me. I can establish their current membership status & if necessary seek the permission of non members for contact to be made. We have to do this in order to comply with the Data Protection Regulations.

Meanwhile, please keep your enquiries pouring in. Remember that we may already hold information about your ancestors, which will save you a lot of time, when researching your family history.

BRIAN METCALFE (M1554)

DELAYED BIRTH BRIEFS, CORRECTIONS & UPDATES

NEW ADDRESS

M3 George Buxton 20 Smisby Road, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire. LE65 2JL g_buxton@talk21.com

CORRECTIONS TO EXISTING BRIEFS

M866 Mr John Lewis Metcalf 19017 Newhouse Street, Canyon Country, California, 91351-2834 USA. jlmetcalf@dslextreme.com
S.o. John Samuel & Muriel Lovina (Trubey) Mt m 24/12/1944 Tampa, Florida, USA. John Samuel b 30/07/1922 Hampton, Iowa, USA s.o. Walter & Linda Livingstone (Norris) Mt m 10/01/1912 Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Walter b 11/07/1880 Keelby, Lincs. S.o. Samuel & Sarah (Stamp) Mt m 26/05/1863 Newton-by-Toft, Lincs. Samuel b 09/06/1835 bpt 11/07/1835 Keelby s.o. Joseph & Ann (Taylor) Mt m 01/03/1808 Kirmington, Lincs. Joseph bpt 05/09/1784 Keelby s.o. Joseph &

Elizabeth (Taylor) Md m 13/09/1774 Waltham, Lincs. Joseph bpt 25/07/1753 Great Limber, Lincs s.o. William & Mary (Button) Md m 31/01/1748 Great Limber.

Conn. M85 M161 M544.

M966 Mr Michael J Metcalfe The birth brief shown in the booklet does not apply to this ex member. Please delete it and also note a slight correction to his middle initial.

M1497 Mr Frank Metcalfe 10 Brook Road, Leicester, Leicestershire. LE5 2HD frankmetcalfe2007@yahoo.co.uk. Matthew Wintersgill Mte is s.o. Francis & 1st wife Mary (Beckwith) Mte **not** 2nd wife Mary Jane (Rayner) **Con M8 et al**

M1522 Maureen Alison Metcalfe 4 Barncroft Way, St Albans. AL1 5QZ m.a.metcalf@ntlworld.com D.o Christopher James & Olive (Kennedy) Mte m 1st Q 1939 Hull not grd d.o. Also James b 02/05/1849 m Jane Ann (Manners) 23/08/1875 not simply Ann.

M1571 Mrs Colleen Dorothy Gray "Sunnybank" Gwernllwynchwyth, Heollas, Swansea. SA7 9DS dollygray@btopenworld.com. Elizabeth b 1858 Burtersett **not** b c1857

REVISIONS & ADDITIONS TO EXISTING BRIEFS

M52 Mrs Margaret Metcalfe 17 Duxbury Street, Earby, Barnoldswick, Lancashire. BB18 6RG. 2 x grt grd d.o. George & Elizabeth (Mte) Appleton m 05/06/1831 Richmond. Elizabeth bpt 06/06/1806 Gunnerside d.o. Reuben & Isabella (Lockey) Mte m 14/05/1802 Grinton. Reuben bpt 12/09/1779 Arkengarthdale s.o. Thomas & Annas (Binks) Mte m 16/10/1769 Grinton. Thomas b c1745. **Connects M217 M300 M302 M337 M438 M510 M967 M1183 M1195 M1209 M1415 M1521 M1527**

Thomas ? s.o Richard Mte of Gunnerside. Richard b c1727 Grinton par. s.o Anthony & Ann (Wharton) Mte m 13/01/1718-19 Grinton. **Conn. M119 M255 M701 M782 M1081 M1371**

Husband Alfred s.o. Fred & Mary Alice (formerly Mte nee Lovatt) (**a**) Mte m 24/03/1921 Skipton. Fred b 05/10/1888 Kilnsey s.o. William & Mary (Emmott) Mte m 12/05/1886 Skipton. William b 04/02/1859 Threshfield s.o. William & Ann (Hesledon) Mte m 01/09/1855 Horton in Ribblesdale. William b 23/03/1835 Stainforth s.o. William & Hannah (Marsden) Mte m 14/12 1826 Clapham. William b 07.10.1801 Selside natural s.o. Jane Mte. **Conn. M4 et al.**

(**a**) Mary Alice Lovatt m Robert Cecil Mte 16/10/1915 Blackley, Lan. Robert Cecil b 1895 Haslingden, Lan s.o. Edmund Dixon & Ada Christabella (Holden) Mte m 15/11/1894 Haslingden. Edmund Dixon b 25/06/1868 Starbotton s.o. Robert & Isabella (Dixon) Mte m 23/03/1865 Aysgarth. Robert bpt 26/05/1844

Aysgarth s.o. Robert & 2nd wife Rosamund (Thwaite) Mte m 29/05/1843 Aysgarth. Robert bpt 29/11/1807 Halton Gill s.o. Thomas & Rose (Preston) Mte m 20/03/1793 Arncliffe. Thomas bpt 19/10/1774 Arncliffe s.o. Robert & Isabel (Simpson) Mte m 13/05/1751 Arncliffe. **Conn. M46 et al.**

Also 3 x grt grd d.o. William & Annas (Mte) Pratt m 30/04/1799 Grinton. Annas bpt 05/01/1782 Muker d.o. Thomas & Annas (Binks) Mte m 16/10/1769 Grinton. Thomas b c1745 (as above)

M684 Mr Paul Graham 10 Battersby Close, Priory Park, Yarm, Cleveland. TS15 9RX paul.graham9@ntlworld.com. S.o. Robert & Anne Lorraine (Mte) Graham m 4Q 1933 Stockton, Co. Durham. Anne L b 1Q 1916 Stockton d.o. Thomas Arthur James & Annie Lorraine (Patrick) Mte m 4Q 1900 South Shields, Dur. Thomas A.J. b 01/02/1878 Jarrow, Dur. S.o. William & Margaret Ellen (Barnett) Mte m 07/01/1878 South Shields. William b 1Q 1858 Stockton s.o. James & Jane (Turnbull) Mte m 2Q 1853 Stockton. James b c1832 Yorks -? Swaledale s.o John Mte.

M1630 Miss Linda Anne Cunningham 3 Hollywell Dene, Glasshoughton, West Yorkshire. WF10 4RG. To John & Alice (Mte) Dobson **add** m 3Q 1878 Hunslet.

M1639 Ms Penelope West 14 West McDougal Road, Cochrane, Alberta, T4C 1L3, Canada. westden@telusplanet.net. To read grd d.o. Robert & Ethel Fleming Cuthill (Mte) West m 23/05/1908 New Brighton, Wallasey, Chs etc.

M1648 Ms Elizabeth Metcalfe 303-3400 Quadra Street, Victoria, British Columbia, V8X 1G6 Canada. emmetcalfe@shaw.ca. William b 1752 could be William bpt 27/04/1752 Soham, Cam s.o. Richard & Mary (Collin) Mte m 06/06/1745 Soham.

M1664 Mrs Belinda Egginton 102 Cobham Road, Fetcham, Surrey. KT22 9JS. belinda.egginton@ntlworld.com. Grt grd d.o. Robert & Eliza (Mte) Woodley. Eliza b 1875 Bermondsey, Ldn d.o. Thomas & Emily (?) Mte m 1868 Newington Dist, Ldn. Thomas b c1838/9 Bermondsey s.o Thomas & Eliza (Balmer) Mte m 25/12/1838 St Peter, Walworth, Surrey. Thomas bpt 19/03/1815 St Mary Magdalene, Bermondsey s.o. Thomas & Esther (Kelly) Mte m 17/04/1808 Aldgate, Ldn

M1666 Mr A.T.Sparling 129 Cooden Sea Road, Bexhill on Sea, Sussex. TN39 4TA. atsparling@tiscali.co.uk. William b 1752 (as shown above for M1648)

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 b1899 Orton, Westmorland

s.o. Christopher & Margaret (Bell) Mte m1880 Westmorland. Christopher b 1Q 1857 Appersett s.o. Christopher & 1st wife Elizabeth Mabel (Fothergill) Mte m 13/10/1840 Aysgarth. Christopher bpt 26/06/1821 Hawes s.o. Christopher & Mabel (Burton) Mte m 01/04/1815 Hawes. Christopher bpt 09/02/1779 Hawes s.o. Thomas & Eden (Tennant) Mte m 29/03/1775 Hawes.

Conn. M603 M1126

M1672 Mrs Maureen Patricia Theobald Yew Trees, Phoenix Way, Windermere, Cumbria. LA23 1BZ. maureen.theobald@virgin.net. Add to Anthony **b 22/03/1885 Aughton, Lan** s.o. Edmund & Mary (Bibby) Mte.

At the end add to Thomas bpt 15/08/1736 Hawes s.o. Michael & Ann (Plews) Mte m 15/11/1735 Hawes. Michael bpt 18/11/1709 Hawes s.o. Matthew & Alice (?) Mte. Matthew s.o Richard & Mary (Smith) Mte. Richard s.o. Matthew Mte. Matthew b 09/11/1620 Appersett. **Conn. M53 M121 M390 M969 M970 M971 M1176**

BRIEFS FROM EXISTING MEMBERS

M1670 Mr Michael Anthony Metcalfe 19 Albany Villas, Hove, Sussex. BN3 2RS. michael@michaelmetcalfe.orangehome.co.uk. S.o. Bernard Dominic Patrick & Nellie (Kelly) Mte m 2Q 1942 Westminster. Bernard D.P. b 19/10/1916 Toxteth Park East, Sefton Park, Liverpool s.o. John William & Lucy Anastasia (Quinn) Mte m 09/08/1914 St Marie, Southport. John William b 10/07/1885 Toxteth Park, Liverpool s.o. John William & ? Mte. John William b c1854.

M1689 Mrs Monika Butler 11 Millholme Rise, Embsay, Skipton, North Yorkshire. BD23 6NU. buttermillholme@btinternet.com. Grandson is Christopher Mte b 31/08/1987 Grassington s.o. Clive & Jennifer (Hutchinson) Mte m 31/03/1984 Grassington. Clive b 15/02/1960 s.o. Neville & Brenda (Sunderland) Mte m 09/08/1958 Slack Baptist Chapel, Todmorden. Neville b 28/12/1933 Heptonstall s.o. George & Lily (Hartley) Mte m 11/01/1920 Wesleyan Chapel, Heptonstall. George b 07/07/1896 Sowerby, Thirsk s.o. William & Louisa (Smalley) Mte m 23/04/1892 Sessay. William b 14/01/1869 Sowerby s.o. George & Mary (Appleton) Mte m 31/03/1855 Ripon Cathedral. George (of Studley Roger) bpt 07/04/1833 Ripon Cathedral s.o. William & Hannah (Tinsley) Mte m 06/01/1833 Ripon Cathedral. William bpt 1806 Ripon Cathedral s.o. John Mte.

M1697 Mr Gordon Quigley 148 Lindeman Road, Beerwah, Queensland, 4519, Australia. gquigley@aapt.net.au. Grd s.o. Albert George & Alice (Mte) Quigley m 26/12/1917 Queensland, Australia. Alice b 22/06/1898 Gympie, Queensland d.o. John James & Minnie Louisa (Bentley) Mte m 04/05/1892 Gympie. John James b 29/08/1871 Gympie s.o. Cornelius Robert & Elizabeth Catherine

(Parker) Mte m 26/05/1869 Gympie. Cornelius Robert bpt 24/03/1844 Gainford, Dur s.o. Joseph & Elizabeth (Eales) Mte m 28/10/1843 Gainford. Joseph b 02/08/1822 Barnard Castle, Dur s.o. Cornelius & Martha (Railton) Mte m 31/07/1813 Barnard Castle. Cornelius b 19/04/1789 Danby Wiske, Yks s.o. Enos & Elizabeth (Nelson) Mte m 11/01/1773 Pickhill with Roxby, Yks. Enos b c1740 s.o. Enos & Hannah Mte. Enos bpt 10/01/1699 Kirby on the Moor, Yks s.o. Leonard & Margaret (Weatherill) Mte m 19/02/1697 Kirby on the Moor. Leonard b c1666. **Conn. M152 M543 M695 M1113**

M1699 Mr Neale Walker 109 Fox Lane, Leyland, Lancashire. PR25 1HB. nealewalker001@yahoo.co.uk. 5 x grt grd s.o. John & Betty (Mte) Hutchinson m 24/02/1817 Bolton cum Redmire. Betty bpt 11/10/1795 Aysgarth d.o. Christopher & Jane (Pearson) Mte m 08/01/1795 Aysgarth. Christopher bpt 29/03/1769 Aysgarth s.o. Christopher & Elizabeth (Dinsdale) Mte m 27/08/1756 Aysgarth. Christopher bpt 26/07/1730 Askrigg s.o. George & Isabel (Pratt) Mte m 14/01/1721 Askrigg. George s.o. George Mte. **Conn. M27 M483**

M1700 Mr Ian Scott 138 Wycombe Lane, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. HP10 0HH. ian.paigescott@btinternet.com. S.o. Peter Talbot & Olive (Mte) Scott m 4Q 1948 Scarborough. Olive b 07/05/1922 Hull d.o. James & Emily (Nicholson) Mte m 2Q 1917 Hull. James b 1890 Burnley s.o. Matthew & Alice (Emmett) Mte m 1Q 1888 Burnley. Matthew bpt 12/04/1868 Askrigg s.o. James & Mary (Dinsdale) Mte m 20/01/1866 Hawes. James bpt 05/09/1841 Askrigg s.o. Matthew & Elizabeth (Chapman) Mte m 12/09/1840 Aysgarth. Matthew bpt 07/07/1811 Askrigg s.o. John & Margaret (Blades) Mte m 31/01/1803 Askrigg. John bpt 21/02/1781 Askrigg s.o. James Mte of Askrigg. **Conn. M54 M242 M296 M297 M400 M403 M410 M597 M639 M720 M918 M1133 M1419**

M1702 Mrs Janette Blackhurst 9 Vicarage Lane, Ennerdale, Cumbria. CA23 3BE. jan.gradwell@btinternet.com. 7 x grt grd d.o. Thomas & Christian (Mte) Carter m 30/04/1711 Aysgarth. Christian bpt 15/05/1687 Aysgarth d.o. Roger & Margaret Mte. Roger s.o. John & Christian (Simpson) Mte. John s.o. James & Ann Mte of Nappa Scar. **Conn. M163 M965 M979 M1223 M1734**

M1711 Mr Jan Van Geen St Janstraat 33, Laren NH, 1251KZ, Netherlands jvg@vgbholding.nl. Grt grt grd s.o. William & Hannah (Mte) Yeoman m 12/12/1850 Aysgarth. Hannah bpt 21/11/1821 Bradford d.o. James & Ann (Hill) Mte m 08/07/1818 Atcomb, Yks. James bpt 15/03/1795 Hawes s.o. John & Ann (Whaley) Mte. John bpt 23/12/1767 Muker s.o. Christopher Mte of Oxnop, Yks. **Conn. M226**

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

Vera (Mte) Brocklehurst m 1Q 1937 Bucklow, Cheshire. Marjorie Vera b 16/01/1906 Hale, Ches d.o. Richard Moore & Lena (Riley) Mte m July 1905 St Peter's, Hale. Richard Moore bpt 07/10/1877 Hawes s.o. James & Rose (Moore) Mte m 06/06/1863 Hawes. James b 14/11/1835 Dent s.o. James & Ann (Mte) Mte m 19/03/1825 Lunds. James b c1797 Hawes. Ann bpt 04/12/1803 Ravenstonedale, Wes. d.o. John & Margaret/Peggy (Blades) Mte m 31/01/1803 Askrigg. John bpt 21/02/1781 Askrigg s.o. James Mte, Askrigg. **Conn. M54 M242 M296 M297 M400 M403 M410 M597 M639 M720 M918 M1419**

M1714 Mr Peter Myers 23 Rempstone Drive, Hasland, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 0YB. m4myers@btinternet.com. Grd s.o. William & Nellie (Wright) Mte m 1918 Sheffield. William b 1887 Sheffield s.o. William & Ellen (Frith) Mte m 1886 Sheffield. William b 1858 s.o. Elizabeth Mte. Elizabeth bpt 05/10/1823 Wensley d.o. James & Ann (Leyburn) Mte m 23/07/1810 Wensley. James bpt 23/10/1787 Wensley s.o. William Mte of Preston-under-Scar. **Conn. M537 M578 M835 M893 M990**

M1716 Mrs Katherine Appleton 15 Bransdale, Guisborough, North Yorkshire. TS14 8JR. katherinetct@yahoo.co.uk. Husband John Philip Appleton is 3 x grt grd s.o. George & Elizabeth (Mte) Appleton m 05/06/1831 Richmond. Elizabeth bpt 06/06/1806 Gunnerside d.o. Reuben & Isabella (Lockey) Mte m 14/05/1803 Muker. Reuben bpt 12/09/1779 Arkengarthdale s.o. Thomas & Annas (Binks) Mte m 16/10/1769 Grinton. Thomas b c1745. **Conn. M46 M52 M217 M300 M302 M337 M438 M510 M967 M1183 M1195 M1209 M1415 M1521 M1527**
Thomas ? s.o. Richard Mte of Gunnerside. Richard b c1727 Grinton par. s.o. Anthony & Ann (Wharton) Mte m 13/01/1718 Grinton. **Conn. M119 M255 M701 M782 M1081 M1371**

NEW & REJOINED MEMBERS, WITH OR AWAITING BIRTH BRIEFS

M1262 (Rejoined) Mrs Treena Mary Hemsworth 7 Wentworth Court, Beech Grove, Harrogate, West Yorkshire. HG2 0EL. D.o. George Reginald & Ida Alice (Brown) Md m 16/05/1921 Carlton, Nottingham. George Reginald b 11/02/1899 Carlton s.o. George William & Louisa (Long) Md m 24/12/1888 St Paul's Church, Hyson Green, Nottingham. George William b c1869 Bishopsgate, London s.o. George William & Sarah (Cawdon) Md m East London, June 1864. George William b 07/09/1841 Feering, Witham, Essex s.o. John & Mary (King) Md. John b c1806 Feering s.o. John Md b c1781 Feering. **NB.** Mrs Hemsworth was shown as new member 1712 in the December Mecca News. When her brief was submitted, we realised that she was a previous member and is now reassigned to her original number.

M1712 Mr Tim Metcalfe 130 Derwent Drive, Slough, Berkshire. SL1 6HW
rhyn_essence@postmaster.co.uk

M1717 Mr Anthony Metcalfe 33 Swallow Road, Larkfield, Aylesford, Kent.
ME20 6LE tonymetcalfe@blueyonder.co.uk

M1718 Mr Shaun Jones 11 Christ Church Mount, Epsom, Surrey. KT19 8LU
shaun@shaunjones.co.uk

M1719 Mr Steve Allison 9 Skerne Road, Driffield, East Yorkshire. YO25 6SF.
steveallison@myself.com

M1720 Mrs Bessie (Betty) Lyness 29 Timothy Grove, Coventry. CV4 9BU
D.o Harry & Mary Isabella (Isabel) (nee Mte) Adcock m 14/01/1911 St
Bartholomews Church, Bowling York. Mary I. b Fearby bpt 30/09/1888 Healey
d.o. Stephen & Ann Elizabeth (Mawson) Mte m 10/01/1882 Armley Church,
Leeds. Stephen b 21/09/1857 bpt 07/10/1857 Masham s.o. William & Hannah
(Robinson) Mte. William bpt 27/09/1829 s.o. William & Isabella (Morland) Mte
m 27/09/1828 Wath, Ripon. William b & bpt 06/10/1805 Masham s.o. Stephen
& Elizabeth (Hartley) Mte m 25/11/1802 Masham. Stephen bpt 05/09/1773
Hornby nr Catterick s.o. Stephen & Phillis (Swales) Mte m 27/07/1766 Catterick
Stephen bpt 27/10/1742 Patrick Brompton s.o. John of Arrathorpe nr Hunton,
Bedale. **Mother of M1647**

M1721 Mr & Mrs Christopher & Bernie Clements 2 Greenwood, Kendal,
Cumbria. LA9 5ED. Chris is grd s.o. Anthony & Jane (nee Metcalfe) Smith.
Jane bpt 19/10/1880 Sedbergh d.o. Christopher & Jane (Dinsdale) Mte. Chris-
topher b 20/05/1843 Garsdale s.o. John Thomas & Isabella (Wightman) Mte
m 03/06/1830 Garsdale. John Thomas bpt 28/05/1809 Sedbergh s.o. William
& Mary (Taylor) Mte m 10/02/1806 Sedbergh. William bpt 08/09/1783 Garsdale
s.o. John & Emma (Sedgwick) Mte m 11/05/1773 Garsdale. John bpt 03/04/
1748 Garsdale s.o. Thomas & Mary (Archer) Mte m 25/05/1746 Garsdale.
Conn. M106, M321, M353, M883, M1122, M1288, M1645 & M1685.

M1722 Mr Martin Val Baker Rainyday Gallery, 22 Market Jew Street,
Penzance, Cornwall. TR18 2HR. iinfo@rainydaygallery.co.uk. 2 x grt grd s.o.
William & Ann (Mte) Baker. Ann bpt 31/12/1822 Westward, Cul. d.o. Thomas
& Isabella (Mathews) Mte m 08/11/1817. Thomas b 18/10/1797 Cowslow, Cul.
s.o. James & Ann/Nancy (Sawyer) Mte. James bpt 15/08/1756 Crosscanonby,
Cul. s.o. Simon Mte b c1715 of Crosby, Maryport, Cul. **Conn. M26, M89, M250,
M1006, M1038 & M1399.**

M1723 Mr Ian Metcalf 18 Latchett Road, South Woodford, London. E18 1DJ
Ian.Metcalf@haymarketifa.co.uk. Born Lambeth s.o. Leonard & his 1st wife

Ellen May (Brown) Mt m 20/12/1952 Kennington. Leonard b 16/06/1928 Lam-
beth s.o. Edward Leonard & Ellen May (Burke) Mt m 08/05/1921 Lambeth.
Edward Leonard b 02/11/1891 St Saviour, Ldn s.o. Edward & Rosina (Emerson)
Mt m 30/07/1879 Glanford Brigg, Lincoln. Edward b c1846/7 Southwark s.o.
Henry Mt d pre 1879. NB. YES, Ellen May is the name of TWO wives!

M1724 Mrs Linda Ellis Sycamore Cottage, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne,
Canterbury, Kent. CT4 5EX. ellis490@btinternet.com

M1725 Mrs Wendy Wise 12 Rue des Laines, Fontaine Chalendray, Cahrente
Maritime, 17510, France. wendywise3@hotmail.com

M1726 Mr Robert Metcalf 2 Eton Road, Somerton Park, South Australia,
5044, Australia. metcalf01@adam.com.au

M1727 Mr Peter Phillipson Crocadwr, Welsh Newton, Monmouth,
Monmouthshire. NP25 5RY. Peterp@waitrose.com. Grd s.o Harold & Mabel
(nee Metcalfe) Townley m 19/04/1930 Kendal, Wes. Mabel b 05/11/1908
Reagill, Wes. d.o. William Richard & Annie (Blackstock) Mte m 26/12/1900
Crosby Ravensworth, Wes. William Richard b 13/02/1876 Reagill s.o. John &
Jane (Dobson) Mte m 19/10/1861 Morland, Wes. John bpt 03/01/1836 Crosby
Ravensworth s.o. Robert & Mary (Fawcett) Mte m 15/02/1825 Crosby
Ravensworth. Robert bpt 11/10/1795 Orton, Wes. s.o. Anthony & Mary
(Sanderson) Mte m 21/08/1786 Orton. Anthony bpt 15/04 1758
Ravenstonedale, Wes. s.o. William & Elizabeth (Blades) Mte m 21/10/1766
Ravenstonedale. **Conn. M117, M719, M805 & M1022**

M1728 Mrs Christine Sykes 27 Granville Terrace, Binchester, Durham. DL14
8AT. christine.s@mypostoffice.co.uk

M1729 Ms Janet Broderick 96 Main Street, Felton, Morpeth, Northumberland.
NE65 0PX. jan.broderick@bopenworld.com. Grt x 4 grd d.o. John & Eliza-
beth/Betty (nee Metcalfe) Broderick m 11/05/1831 Aysgarth. Elizabeth b 03/
10/1798 Foxup bpt 13/10/1798 Halton Gill d.o. Thomas & Rose/Rosamund
(Preston) Mte m 20/03/1793 Arncliffe. Thomas bpt 19/10/1774 Arncliffe s.o.
Robert, yeoman of Foxup & Isabel (Simpson) Mte m 13/05/1751 Arncliffe.
**Conn. M46, M608, M678, M839, M958, M1043, M1082, M1129, M1156, M1218,
M1265, M1272, M1291, M1323, M1391 & M1393**

M1730 Mr Adrian Metcalfe 19 Branksome Drive, Shipley, West Yorkshire.
BD18 4BB. adrian@adrian-metcalfe.co.uk

M1731 Mr Trevor Hudson 47 Hawthorn Avenue, Armthorpe, Doncaster, South
Yorkshire. DN3 2EY. tj0758@aol.com

M1732 Mrs Anne Irvine 2 Beech Villas, Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire. HX6 2NU. annesabina@hotmail.com. D.o.Alan Lester & Doris Winifred (Witt nee Holmes) Mte m 1946. Alan Lester b 25/10/1915 Lymington s.o. Albert Edward & Annie/Ann Louise/Louisa (Keeping) Mte m 1909. Albert Edward b 1886 s.o.George & Sabina (Cook) Mte m 08/05/1879 Patrington. George bpt 18/11/1838 South Otterington s.o. William & Ann (Harker) Mte m 16/05/1836 North Otterington. William bpt 16/10/1808 Kirby Knowle s.o. William & Mary (Coverdale) Mte m 12/07/1806 Kirby Knowle. William bpt 21/08/1778 Cold Kirby s.o. Thomas & Mary (Clarke) Mte m 13/09/1763 Stamfordham, Nbl. Thomas b c1730 s.o. Thomas & Elizabeth (Stillington) Mte of Cold Kirby.
Conn. M149 M434 M950 M1420 M1609

M1733 Mrs Elizabeth Sargeantson Copyhold Cottage, Kettleburgh, Nr Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP13 7JX. sarges@talk21.com

M1734 Mrs Celia Pollington 3 Eskdale Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent. CT11 0PD celia@mrspolly.wanadoo.co.uk. Descendant of Matthew & Margaret (nee Metcalfe) Hutchinson m 24/04/1762 Aysgarth. Margaret b 02/06/1735 Carperby d.o. Bryan & Margaret (Lupton) Mte m 30/10/1725 Aysgarth. Bryan bpt 21/08/1698 Aysgarth s.o. John & Grace (?) Mte. John 1662-1737 s.o. Bryan of Carperby. Bryan s.o. John & Christian (formerly Metcalfe nee Simpson) Mte. John s.o.James & Ann (?) Mte of Nappa Scar. **Conn. M163 M965 M979 M1223 M1702**

M1735 Mr Robert Evans 190 Springwood, Cardiff. CF23 6UG. bobevans190@hotmail.com

M1736 Mrs Susan Catling 22 Churchfield Road, Outwell, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. PE14 8RL susancatling@tiscali.co.uk

It is with regret we report the deaths of
Vera Adams M2

Greta Metcalfe
wife of our President
Charles Metcalfe M305

and

M394 Raymond Metcalfe
on 31st January 2007

We extend our sympathy to relatives and friends.

Metcalfe's Missing Millions

Brian Benson M438 writes: "I've long had it in mind to write this bit about my early life. A recent article about a Metcalfe inheritance (*Mecca News No 82 p36*) made me think someone else knew about the attached (*see story below*) but it proved not to be the case. Excuse the fact that this is a bit of a fantasy tale. I keep hoping the full truth and details will one day come to my possession."

He continues "I was born in Tyersal, Bradford in 1932, the second son of Ada Benson nee Metcalfe and told to be "proud to be Yorkshire" by my Yorkshire parents even though we lived in Leicester. My widowed Grandma Metcalfe came for long stays with us particularly in my earlier years. She was a real character and made a deep impression on me, hence my pride in really being a secret Metcalfe.

War came with it the departure of many young men including several friends' fathers and some new arrivals; new friends evacuees from comparatively more dangerous places. One new friend was a one eyed Russian lad whose favourite party trick was the removal of his false glass replacement. For us lads life was pretty pleasant. Much later I came to realise that for the adults it was very different.

Leicester is very close to Coventry. Every night the sirens went at 7 p.m. Some nights we could see the glow in the sky from Coventry's fires but often a few stray bombs would land on Leicester by mistake. Mums reaction was to accept one of the many offers from her Bradford sisters and for us to spend literally every school holiday with them.

Now we come to my choice of title. I hope you had the patience to read till now.

Every Christmas the Metcalfe sisters, their variously named husbands and children, my cousins, would meet to celebrate. Towards evening two of my uncles, Uncle Herbert and Uncle Harold would hold us lads spellbound with fantastic tales of the Metcalfes. We heard all about "The five hundred white horses" and other tales, but the one that gripped us most was one they were directly involved in.

Background first. Grandma and the Metcalfe sisters lived in Tyersal, Bradford. A few miles away lived three other Metcalfes believed to be their only other close relatives. These Metcalfes however were very different. They were rich and unmarried. Grandma decreed that the Tyersal branch should keep its distance. "We don't want them to think we're after their money."

The other Metcalfes were part of a family who had been involved in large civil engineering works including the construction of several reservoirs in the Sheffield area. Grandma believed her family were the only other surviving relatives. The three lived on a large

estate - I've heard it called "Peckover"; one corner of which is the Thornbury Territorial Airbourne Barracks and part Bradford University playing fields. The estate had two lodge houses both still intact, one on the Leeds Road and one with housing for estate staff on Woodhall Lane. A drive led in from Woodhall Lane to the Grange where the three lived. I was told that The Yorkshire Show was once held on the estate and had what, at the time was a record attendance. Nearby is a lake with a small central island still in existence.

To continue my story. Uncle Herbert returned from the first World War minus one kidney, Uncle Harold minus one arm. They had seen a lot and civilian life must have seemed dull by comparison. They heard that the three Metcalfes had died all within a short space of time and decided to do something about it. They bribed the keeper of the Leeds Road lodge and

By the way, does anyone know where I can find a cheap metal detector?

PS How much of this story is fact, how much fiction, remains to be discovered. I would be most grateful to any members who can throw some light on what must otherwise remain a childhood fantasy. I can't recall the Metcalfe sister's names, but Mariah sounds good."

started a systematic night time search of Woodhall Grange. One night they came upon a diary which, so their story (with considerable embellishing detail) went. The diary contained the following entry: (By this time us lads were agog)

"At dead of night Mariah and I got out the boat, rowed to the island and buried it there"

In addition to whatever was buried, my Tyersal ancestors waited patiently expecting to inherit a considerable fortune. Alas they waited in vain. The solicitors responsible searched the archives and advertised. After a considerable time some closer relatives were found to receive the inheritance. Uncle Herbert was left with his one remaining dream. He would one day have enough money to buy the island, buy a metal detector and live in luxury ever after. Sadly Grandma, the sisters and my two uncles died long ago and I am left with my thoughts.

1851 Census strays in Norfolk

METCALF, James Head Aysgarth/YKS 1803

METCALF, John Head Wakefield/YKS 1809

METCALF, Thomas Lodg Clayton/YKS 1795

METCALFE, Cecilia Daur Bradford/YKS 1838

METCALFE, John Head London Derry YKS 1801

METCALFE, John Son London Derry YKS 1835

METCALFE, Margaret Daur London Derry YKS 1831

METCALFE, Miles Head Bentham/YKS 1794

Books

The Family History Partnership was established in March 2007, to provide a new way for family and local history authors to get their books into print. It is a 'service' cooperative comprised of authors wishing to avail themselves of the services provided, and contractors providing those services.

The Partnership's first four publications are now in print:

- 'Netting Your Ancestors – Tracing Family History on the Internet', by Stuart A. Raymond; A5; ISBN (978 1 906280 00 0); 144pp; Price £9.95.
- 'Irish Family History on the Web – A Directory', Third Edition (2007); by Stuart A. Raymond; A5 Landscape; ISBN (978 1 906280); 144pp; Price £7.95.
- 'Marriage Indexes for Family Historians', Ninth (2008) Edition, by Jeremy Gibson, Elizabeth Hampson, and Stuart Raymond; A5; ISBN (978 1 906280 03 1); 36pp; Price £3.50.
- 'Quarter Sessions Records for Family Historians – A Select List', Fifth Edition (2007), Compiled by Jeremy Gibson; A5; ISBN (978 1 906280 02 4); 40pp; Price £3.50.

They have a programme in place to publish further new books over the coming months and are keen to be advised by societies of gaps in the market, and happy to talk to new authors wishing to get their work into print. They are also developing a balanced catalogue of quality books produced by other publishers.

For more details contact:

The Family History Partnership

PO Box 502

Bury

BL8 9EP

Tel: 01706 281088 or 01706 825557

Email: sales@thefamilyhistorypartnership.com

Website: www.thefamilyhistorypartnership.com

BLIND JACK UPDATE

- Further to our coverage in the December 2007 issue (No 83)
- Professor Kellet is still trying to locate Blind Jack's violin. He apparently has a teapot and walking stick of Jack's but no sign of the fiddle.
- Professor Kellett's book to be printed by Tempus is now expected to be released in July 2008 and it is hoped that the Mecca News will have the opportunity to undertake a review for inclusion in the August 2008 issue.

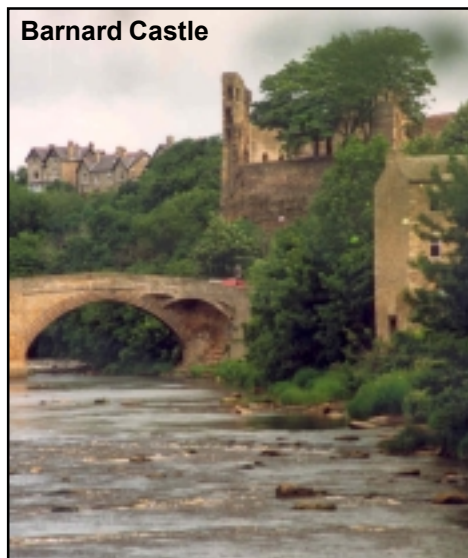
The Weavers of Barnard Castle

Barnard Castle was built around 1135 having previously been a Norman settlement from the latter part of the 1090's. It took its name from its builder Barnard Baliol who also obtained a market charter for the growing town.

Situated on the River Tees on a natural crossing from Yorkshire into County Durham the town used the water to power flax mills mentioned in a commissioners report in 1594, then woollen products in the 18th century.

At the end of the Napoleonic Wars unemployment rose and the demand for woollen garments dropped. To save the town from economic disaster the local owners turned the mills over to carpet weaving.

The new venture was so successful that by 1851 some 70% of the workforce was employed in the business. Initially workers were recruited locally but as the trade grew workers were taken on from outside the area some coming from the traditional carpet weaving areas of the West Midlands. Barnard Castle is only some ten miles from Swaledale and some Dales families were also attracted to the profitable activities.



Barnard Castle

From the 1851 Census there was at least one Metcalfe family engaged in the trade. William Metcalfe worked as a tailor whilst his thirteen year old son James was classed as a weavers draw boy. At the same time in Durham City James Metcalfe with his wife Sarah and seven children was working as a carpet weaver having been born in Barnard Castle and worked there until the mid 1840's. Evidence of at least another family in Barnard Castle comes from the Darlington & Stockton Times in May 1852 which reported that a George Metcalf died after getting his legs trapped in a weaving machine.

By the end of the 1800's the sector was in decline and by the beginning of the first world war the carpet weaving industry had all but disappeared. There are remnants of the carpet weaving times in the town with weavers cottages (now updated houses) still evident as are some of the mills such as Thorngate Mill - a large four storey building (at one time a book store) - located downstream from the Castle. The industry and its workers has been researched by Bowes Museum and detailed information has been obtained.

Society Committee Members (l to r) Brian Metcalfe, Margaret Hodgson & Ena Metcalfe at the Southport Fair.



The NWGFHS Fair was held on August Bank Holiday Saturday in 2007 and was attended by the Society.

The 2008 Fair is to be held at St George's Hall Liverpool on Saturday 1 November as part of the Liverpool City of Culture 2008.

Why not come along. Further details in the next issue of the Mecca News.

From Hull City Archives

- 21 July 1884. Ship Iris no 79010. Crew - **John Metcalfe**.
- 3 August 1886. Ship Shoaymyo no 88142. **JH Metcalfe** cook was sent in from sea ill 10 June 1886 we were without a cook until he returned by cutter 22 June 1886.
- 20 March 1889. Ship Young Tom no 88172. Crew **George Metcalfe**.
- 19 July 1889. Ship Wilberforce no 77477. Crew - **G Metcalfe**.
- 18 August 1890. Ship Vine no 73188 - Crew **George Metcalfe**.
- 20 January 1893. Ship Egeria no 93116. **T Metcalfe** 4th hand.
- 25 July 1893. Ship Egeria no 93116. **Thomas Metcalfe** 2nd engineer.
- 26 January 1894. Ship Egeria no 93116. Crew - **Thomas Metcalfe**.

David Metcalfe M46

with one of the Metcalfe History of the Clan books he helped rescue. The 550+ books are now safely in the Society's storage facilities at Bellerby Wensleydale. For the full story see page 12.



MALTESE MECCA'S?

Here are a series of e-mails from **Frans Beerling M488** in Australia about a possible Mecca link to the island of Malta.

- While e-mailing you, last Sunday, I happened to listen to the Malta news, in which a chap by the name of MICALF was speaking. I thought, could it be one of mismanaged Metcalfe names? I immediately looked in the Perth phonebook, and would you believe it, at least 10-12 names by that name

- Thanks very much for your e-mail, and I just want to let you know, that I am on the trail of that name already, by phoning a member of the Maltese Club here in Perth, who said that tonight, around 7 pm the Maltese Consul will be at the club. I will phone and try to speak to the Consul. I'll let you know the result, as soon as I can.

- Just, half an hour ago, I had a chat with the Maltese consul, who is a doctor here in Perth, and after explaining to him about the possibility that, may be, both names might mean the same thing(!). He mentioned to me, that he had a lot of books on Malta, and will investigate, just in case. Let us see what he might come up with.

- Yesterday I phoned the consul, and according to him, the Micalfeff name is purely Maltese. It seems to be quite a big family, or family name in Malta. Well, that's the end of speculations, I am afraid.

Kind regards from Perth.

It's a pity we could not have established a link. Malta is a beautiful place to visit and carry out research! - Editor.

Can you cast some light on the following?

On page 37 of the March 2008 issue of the *Family Tree Magazine* there was an article concerning witnesses at weddings and one of the names mentioned was **CORLOGALETER Metcalf**.

We have checked the database and there is no match with the name or anything similar.

It might be that the name is misspelt(!) or written phonetically but so far we have not come up with anything.

Does anyone know who this is?

Any suggestions to the Editor please.

Beneficiary In the will of Reginald Orton, gentleman of Kirkby Stephen dated 24 November 1824 £5 was left to his servant **Elizabeth Metcalfe**. He died on 20 July 1829 and the will was proved on 10 June 1830 valued at under £450.

Ancient Ties

York - St Crux Church 1584.

Marriage of John Alderson to

Mary Metcalfe.

From Alderson Roots February 2008.

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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 to the Treasurer (for UK sterling payments), to your local Country Agent (for local currency payments) or go online for all payments to

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Send name and address changes to the Membership File contact.

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