

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY



THE METCALFE SOCIETY

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FFHS
Elizabeth
Simpson Award
2007 Winner
One Name
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April 2009

Issue No 87

The Journal of
the Metcalfe Society
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The MECCA NEWS

Editor: Peter Dobson

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FROM THE EDITOR



My thanks for the positive comments I have received concerning the December issue which seems to have gone down well. I hope this magazine is enjoyable as the last.

In this edition we have the second part of the Diary of a Victorian soldier which is a contrast to a mill worker's leisure experience in the 1930's. Both bring an insight in to a small area of our ancestor's worlds.

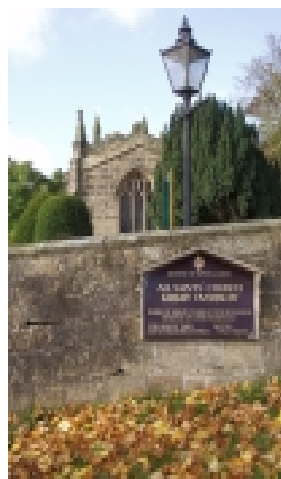
This winter has been the worst for nearly twenty years in the UK, whilst the summer in Australia has seen the highest temperatures and worst bush fires in recorded history. Extremes of climate are nothing unusual, there are reports of severe weather in the 500's due to volcanic eruptions (and more recently, in 1815 and 1883 when Krakatoa exploded) and severe storms in 1381, 1707 and 1987 (amongst others). All of these affected our ancestors who did not have the benefit(?) of modern technology to cope with the extremes. How did they survive as survive they did? Have you any family stories handed down about their experiences and how they coped? I would like to run an article on severe weather and its effects so if you have any information please send it on to me. Have a successful and hopefully- this year, a sunny, summer!



All Saints Church

Kirkby Overblow near Harrogate, North Yorkshire home of a number of Metcalfe Rectors including Thomas in 1776 and John who died in 1822.

The gravestone is of a John Metcalfe who died in 1803.



JOHN (BLIND JACK) OF KNARESBOROUGH

On Sunday 22 February 2009 the sun shone bright & warm and the Knaresborough Silver Band played beautifully to entertain a large crowd, who had gathered to see the unveiling of the life size seated statue, of one of Knaresborough's most famous sons, in a prominent position in the Market Place.



The project came about in June 2005 as the result of a suggestion in a letter to the Knaresborough Post. This led to a good response from interested residents & support from the Editor of the paper. Following a meeting of the Town Council, at which sculptor Barbara Asquith spoke, it was felt appropriate that Knaresborough Civic Society should progress the project & identify a suitable location in the town.

Thus began the hard task of raising the necessary funds. Thanks to the efforts of a spirited local community, £30,000 was raised & Barbara Asquith was commissioned to begin work on creating a clay model, which led to the casting in bronze, which was unveiled by the Mayor of Knaresborough, Councillor Pamela Godsell.

The Metcalfe Society was represented at the event by at least seven members, one of whom has sent in a family tree going back to Blind Jack which we are currently researching & two more that are almost certain to join. **Brian Metcalfe M1554**

Harry Metcalfe's Cycling Journey to John O' Groats 1932

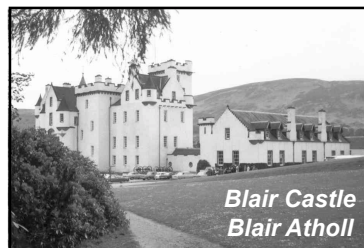
Harry Metcalfe was the uncle of Bill Metcalfe M63 who died last year. Bill's wife Joan writes "Harry although "just a weaver" in his working life was a very intelligent man with wide interests and a great love of the countryside and seeing it from the saddle of a bike. He didn't marry until he was in his mid 50's and was nearly 40 when he and a friend set off on this trip to John O'Groats. This is his diary"

Tuesday 30 August Left (From Blacko near Colne, Lancashire - Ed) after dinner today by way of Sedbergh, Tebay, Orton to Shap. Camped a few miles from Shap on roadside. Good weather. 53 miles today.

Wednesday 31 August On to Carlisle, thence the cyclists' delight A7 the 93 miles Carlisle to Edinburgh. Camped at farm 5 miles past Hawick where called last time, crippled lady lives here. Fine day. 86^{1/2} miles today.

Thursday 1 Sept On to Edinburgh. Crossed Forth Bridge on train and then we will go via Kinross to Perth where we join A9 for Inverness. Drizzled all day. 70 miles today. Camped at farm with binder past Cowdenbeath.

Friday 2 Sept Been grand day. Farmers busy in corn. Arrived in Perth on head of Firth of Tay, thence to Dunkeld, very pretty place, wide river (Tay), mountainous and clothed with trees. On to Pitlochry and Blair Athol where we commence 17 mile climb over Grampians. Have come up wonderful valleys since Perth for scenery. Through the Pass of Killiecrankie where we had tea today. Camped in croft 6 miles past Blair Athol. 70 miles today.



Saturday 3 Sept Carried on keeping the river Garry and the railway company. Wonderfully graded road. Reached the top of Drumlochter Pass, 1508 ft. Very mountainous. Going down other side good view of the Cairngorm group. Also on top enter into Inverness-shire. Near here stone erected by General



Wade who made this road 17—. Thence by Kingussie and Carron Bridge. Got another good view of the Cairngorms, 4 or 5 peaks all over 4000 ft. Inverness-shire wild scenery of mountains, rivers and heather in bloom everywhere. Spaciousness is expressed here. Arrived at Inverness about 8.30 pm. 76^{1/2} miles today but still 140 miles to John

O'Groats. Showery today. Camped at farm, dairymaid got us milk.

Sunday 4 Sept On to Beaulay and after negotiating Cromarty and Dornoch Firths arrived on coast at Golspie. Corn harvest in progress up here. Gamekeeper friend informed us what fine weather they have had up here, better than we at home. Very cool, but have had fine sunny day. Passed over

moors bathed in purple from Alness to Bonar Bridge. Came on to very



bad roads tonight. Camped at large road works, plenty of company. One old man told us about a stone inscribed "William, perished here 17—. Be ye also prepared" and the jovial soul laughed exceedingly. 80^{1/2} miles today.

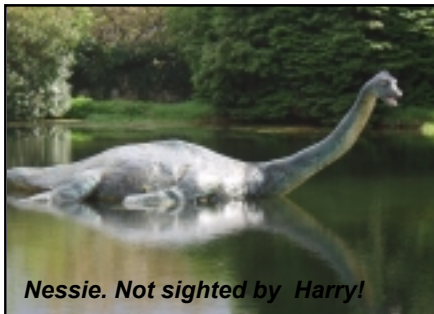
Monday 5 Sept John O'Groats at last. Distance from Blacko as registered by meter 482 miles. This morning was one of the bonniest - very mild and sunny. We have come up this distant coast from Gowerport to here, the sea on one hand and the corn and ploughed patches on the other. These crofters, as they are called, are very numerous where the land is passable along the shore. It is common to see sheep tethered also cows, these latter generally limited to one. How they make a living we cannot imagine. Each little house has its peat stack and coming along the smell of peat fires has assailed us at every turn. Travelled a little way with district nurse who seems a hardy cyclist and no wonder. Had a walk round tonight, the sea, the moor and the lighthouses near and distant made a picture. The coast is very rocky. Coming up this coast we could see across the Moray Firth the coast of Aberdeenshire and Lossiemouth about 60 miles away. Camped at NCU place. 56^{1/2} miles today.

Tuesday 6 Sept This morning very calm and mild. Had another walk to Duncansby Head, 2 miles. A keeper kindly showed us round the lighthouse there, even up the tower to the lantern. Wonderful optical work the lenses. Engines to work the syren etc. Very clean and tidy. It is possible to see 7 or 8 lighthouses at night. At night our tent was caught in the beam from D.H. every second and also from one much further off. A man pointed out to us the Skerries, the Orkneys and further away still, Kirkwall. The island of Stroma covered with the usual cottars' shacks looks only a short distance away but is 3 miles. Met Glasgow cyclist this morning who is coming along with us. Said goodbye to John O'Groats and left in fine sunshine 1 o'clock. Camped on cottar's land near Lybster. Irate lady crofter arrived to inform us it was her land. Told us a moving narrative - husband dead, son at St Andrew's University, trouble with neighbours, etc. Our cottar (nice old man) and wife provided us with bowl of milk sufficient for 3 or 4 calves. 29 miles from John O'Groats, good to be there on a fine morning.

Wednesday 7 Sept Left our kindly host and continued down the coast. Passed the village smithy at Berriedale. Scores of deer antlers on the walls provided by His Grace the Duke of Portland who had fine place near here and comes deer stalking etc. Up here is a stone to mark the killing of the last wolf 17-, also an arch over a gateway of whale jawbones, vertebrae, etc Remains of ancient Picts' dwellings along the shore. Now leaving the northern extremity of

Scotland. The innate charm, the hospitality, the industry of its people and the glimpses of its scenery are never to be forgotten. 37 miles today. Camped at Brora, by football pitch with corrugated iron surround. Still 70 miles from Inverness.

Thursday 8 Sept Off again, we two and the Glasgow friend. Breakfasted at Ragge Farm. Enough implements here to stock a dozen of our farms. One stable had 12 stalls. Dined under bridge. Wet. Dingwall Fete today, but what awful weather. Approached Inverness by fresh route. Camped behind large hoarding outside Inverness. Rough night. 66 miles.



Friday 9 Sept Inverness again after 5 days on the coast. Moderate size and busy town. Woolworth's which must be the most northerly. Left Inverness on the A82 on the 67^{1/2} miles to Fort William by Caledonian Canal all the way. Very fine scenery. This road very much under repair. For 15 or 20 miles we continually passed road gangs with pneumatic drills, light railway excavators etc. When this road is finished surely it will be unexcelled anywhere for scenery and ease of travel. At present much cut up. Arrived Fort Augustus, half way to Fort William, not more than a village but set in scen-



ery of grandeur and romance. Forge here. Owing to bad road only 35 miles today. Stopped at camping place in Fort Augustus. Railway here but not many trains.

Saturday 10 Sept Completed the remaining length of Caledonian just after dinner. Words cannot describe this riot of hills, lofty mountains, mighty braes, the black-looking lochs, the fine views of water, woods and unending heights, the burns tumbling down the hillsides, and the waterfalls. A workman yesterday pointed out to us the scene of the Hambro tragedy on Loch Ness. The water here, 12 ft from shore, was nearly 400 ft deep. "The loch" said he "rarely gives up its dead". Today we have passed the Well of the Seven Heads. This is to commemorate the murder of the Keppoch family, a branch of the McDonnell clan. As feudal justice had it the heads of the murderers were



scencollected and washed at this spring before being taken to the Chief at Glengarry Castle. The monument is inscribed in Celtic, English, Latin and French and surmounted by seven heads above which is a hand holding a dagger. Nearing Fort William is the mightiest of all the mountains, Ben Nevis, but never saw it completely owing to cloud. Fort William a lively little town. On to Ballachulish, 12 miles all way on Loch Linnhe. Crossed ferry on queer tub. Camped in croft of villager amongst most remarkable scenery I ever saw. See Scotland here. A river thunders to the loch outside our door. Very rough night. 46^{1/2} miles today.

Sunday 11 Sept Left Ballachulish this morning. Raining. Increased later to torrents. Strong wind which carried us before it. Through Glencoe, the mountain and glen scenery being of the most wonderful. The Three Sisters magnificent. Even rain formed a picture. Lost road (more of an apology for one) at Kingshouse. Passed by Bridge of Orchy where we again found the right road. In familiar country again, seems quite tame now after what we have seen. Camped near Callendar in croft by river. 67 miles today. Just had supper. Our progress in the culinary art is amazing, stewed steak, potatoes and dumplings, flapjack, currant cake, cheese on the menu tonight.

Monday 12 Sept Very fine this morning. Invaded Callendarthen on 17 miles to Stirling where we stopped the afternoon. This is our third visit here but never knew it was so large a place. Woolworth's 2 floors. Very historical place. Visited the Castle (6d (2^{1/2}p)) and were informed in all its history it was never taken. Resisted the whole English army in 13 -. No wonder when you look over parapet. John Knox the martyr in graveyard. Saw soldiers on parade - part of Castle is barracks. Went to Field of Bannock burn. Chat with guide who dilated on tips and on dialects. People can't tell where we come from. One man put us down as London even. A shopkeeper cyclist voted for

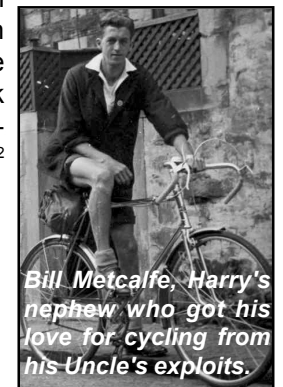


Isle of Skye. Carried on to Dennyloanhead then 17 miles to Lanark where we camped at farm. Talk with farmer who was fettleing front wheel. 36^{1/2} miles today.

Here the day-to-day diary ends with this final entry.

The little tent has behaved nobly under (sometimes) trying

conditions and kept us snug throughout. It also is impervious to the most violent language such as is occasional, by pans upsetting etc. This of course is the language of campology.



IT could be all too easy to be dismayed with life at present!

The economic situation is no better and the news about our Banking institutions is, as I write my chairman's jottings, to say the least troubling. For years the country, as a whole, has not 'enjoyed' a sustained period of really cold winter weather. Probably a lot of you like me have been plagued with a virus which 'boomerangs' back after about 14 days; I am on my third dose which started the week before Christmas leaving coughing and spluttering at irregular intervals! It reminds me that its not just computers that get viruses! In about 14 days time I celebrate (if that is the right word!) a 'big' birthday ending in a zero; another decade gone and how fast it has done so!

However, we should not despair! I found it a little warmer today and even saw the sun. The birds were searching for nesting material and I saw my first snowdrops and also crocuses which surely portends warmer weather, longer days with shorter nights and spring. Surely there cannot be hose pipe bans to come in the summer or reports of reservoirs at an all time low after the rain and snow we have enjoyed this winter!

Chairman's Jottings

I saw an interesting article in the Yorkshire Dalesman for the month of February which commented upon the absence of a hard long and cold winter, the last such being that of 1962-3. It was interesting to read that the year of 1716 was estimated to be one of the coldest on record. In 1740 the temperature never rose above freezing for 2 months. That of 1947 will be remembered by some of you as the worst in your memory I suspect. The author reminds us that 5 feet (1 ½ metres) of snow fell in Teesdale and that in Hawes there was snow piled 10 feet (3 metres) deep along the main street! Our weather records have incidentally been kept for about 300 years and if you are interested, it is fascinating to look at the Meteorological office website and records on <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/about/archives.html>

How fortunate though we are in the UK when compared with the horrendous bushfires fires in Australia, where the temperatures have been over 100 degrees Fahrenheit (40 centigrade). I hope that none of your relatives or friends have been affected by these calamitous events. A large number of Metcalfes of course willingly (or maybe unwillingly) went to Australia and New Zealand and settled there in the 19th and 20th centuries. Our local Society agents keep us in touch with them and have proved to be important links between the Society and its members especially in the days before Paypal and the internet. They eased the administrative burden on the officers of the Society in the UK when we had only a few committee members and volunteers.

The Society has for some time promised you that records would be made available on the internet via our website. I am delighted to report that Carol was able to 'go live' on 21 January with access to parts of our huge Metcalfe

Index on our Website. She refers in greater detail in this edition to what is available and how to use the facility. I am very grateful to her for making this happen. The information is for members only. The access does not make our redoubtable archivists' task redundant. You should still contact Brian for assistance and he, Nina and Edwin will delve and try to answer your query. Edwin has to have a major operation in a few days time, as I write this, so I wish him well and a speedy recovery by the time you (and he) read this.

If you have not done so, do try to use the 1911 Census which is now available, in part, 2 years earlier than planned. I thought that it would not be terribly interesting; I knew where everyone was living by then didn't I? Well no was the definite answer when I became hooked and tried to find my ancestors and collateral lines of uncles and aunts. Unexpected entries soon were revealed and details of where the head of the household said relatives were born. How long they had been married was a real boon and also how many children they had had born alive and who were still living. Employment status too is very useful, as is the number of rooms in the house. Do give it a try if you have not done so. The drawback is that you do have to pay for copies of the transcription of your ancestor's handwritten form, signed by him or her but it is less for a copy of the details in transcribed form. The search index itself is free though. See <http://www.1911census.co.uk/>. I am certain you find it worthwhile.

Likewise an investment in a place at the 2009 Muster. See the preliminary details in the Mecca News for our 2009 Muster; put the date in your 2009 diaries if it is not already there!! I think it promises to be a great event with perhaps some special local connections. The drawback of writing this before our committee meeting is that I cannot say too much as it is in the planning stage!!

We have only really just recovered from our major 25th anniversary celebrations or so it seems to me! Like me and my birthday, time marches on for next year we will celebrate our 30th anniversary! The committee is looking at ways to celebrate this next year and we will be able to make some announcements about this in the August Mecca News and certainly at the Muster in October this year.

So things are not as grim after all !!

How am I celebrating my birthday? On a whim I am going with my nephew and 2 nieces and their husband and fiancé respectively to Las Vegas for a few days. I won't be playing on the gaming tables (the £ to the \$ makes this unwise and a bit unlikely!) but my great grandfather, who married a Metcalfe wife, was a bookie so maybe there is something in the genes I ought to put to the test?

David Lambert M11

Mecca Bits & Bobs

Canadian Artist. **Eric Metcalfe** presented with a Governor General's Award in March 2008. An item appears in the Autumn 2008 edition of *Torch the Victoria Alumni* magazine. Metcalfe a somewhat colourful character and avant-garde artist describes how he became "Dr Brute". *The article can be viewed at http://web.uvic.ca/torch/torch2008f/feature_2.htm.*

Supplied by **Elizabeth Metcalfe M1648**.

Dalesman Memories 1950. 'She & I [**Agnes Metcalfe** & Roly Heseltine] were courting at start of t'war, in 1914. We'd go up Swinnergill on a Saturday afternoon and into the Kirk. I mind it as though it were yesterday.

Has t'a been there? Into the cave hidden under the waterfall? No? Look, o'er yonder.' He pointed across the valley. 'Tha can see where the gill flows into the Swale, below those old mine-workings? The kirk is way up the beck from there, above Crackpot Hall. The Puritans went up there to hold services in the bad times around the Civil War when Church of England good as went Roman. It's since those days that main of dalesfolk are Chapel - we learnt it all at Muker School.' *The Dalesman November 2008.*

Supplied by **Charles Metcalfe M305**.

Wise Investments. Commenting on North East Local Authorities investment losses in the Icelandic Bank Crash - Dr **Hugh Metcalf** of Newcastle (upon Tyne) Business School. *Tyne Tees Television News, 9 October 2008.*

Unfortunate incident. Accidental death by falling down a precipice on 24 February 1813 - **Charles Metcalf** of Gunnerside, Swaledale. *From North Yorkshire Quarter Sessions - Coroner's Inquests List.*

Malham Free School

In 1828 the poster advertising the vacancy for a master gives the salary for teaching the children of Malham as £77 per annum out of which the Trustees were to allow the retiring Thomas Hurtle a pension of £16 per annum for the rest of his life. This poster also states that the candidates must be "competent to teach the Greek, Latin and English Languages; Writing, Arithmetic, etc, etc."

The examination of the candidates was to take place on Wednesday, 17th December at the house of Mr Harrison, the Buck Inn, in Malham. We do not know for certain who was appointed to succeed Thomas Hurtle but it is likely to have been **James Metcalfe** who on the 14th of May 1836 was given three months' notice by the trustees '*in consequence of the many complaints laid against you on account of your intemperate habits and of your taking in a number of Boarders and thereby neglecting your Duty to the children of the inhabitants of Malham*'. Extracts from the Kirkby Malhamdale local and family history pages at <http://kirkbymalham.info/index.html>.

Provided by **David Lambert M11**

Mecca Muster 2009

AGM & Muster

Saturday 10 October

(NOT 3 October as incorrectly stated in Mecca News 86)

10am - 4.30pm

at the

Dales Countryside Museum
Hawes, Wensleydale
North Yorkshire

Muster Secretary:

Mrs Lesley Longworth
57 Westbourne Avenue
Hull HU5 3HW

+44-(0)1482 322516

e-mail: muster@metcalfe.org.uk

Reservation Form and full details with
the August Mecca News.

Note the date in your diaries, now!

NORTH WEST GROUP OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

32nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SATURDAY 18TH APRIL 2009

"THE FAMILY AT WAR"

HOSTED BY NORTH CHESHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

at WOODFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE, WOODFORD, CHESHIRE.

Speakers: Peter Park - "A Bomb in your Back Garden"

John Hartley - "6th Battalion Manchester Regiment at Gallipoli"

George Cogswell - "The Home Front"

Apply to Mrs Rita Walters, "Windy ridge" Jacksons Lane, Hazel Grove, Stockport
Cheshire, SK7 5JW . Cost £21 (inc lunch & refreshments); £9 without.

Cheques payable to North Cheshire FHS.

Website Update

It's been quite a struggle, but the first batch of records from The Society's mammoth Computer Index are now available online through the Members Only area at www.metcalfes-online.co.uk/members/. Access is restricted to current members and you will need a username and password. If you have forgotten yours, or need ones issuing, please contact webadmin@metcalfe.org.uk

- not forgetting to provide your name and membership number (if you can't find this please also provide your address).

The conversion from the old system has to be done manually and therefore takes some time, but I will be working slowly through the alphabet and hope to release a new batch of records at least once every month.

Carol Herbert M1072, Web Admin

LISTS Transcribing of Mecca entries from the recently released Divorce Lists at The National Archives is underway. **Liz Waller M1189** is carrying out the task. If you wish to help to enter other lists contact the Editor.

Metcalfe - History of the Clan has been entered for the Guild of One-Name Studies (GOONS) Guild Publication Award. The award open to all one names societies is for any publication relating to the society. It was decided to send in our Clan History which we feel, I know we are somewhat biased, is a splendid book and worthy of consideration. Closing date was 14 February 2009 and results were due to be announced at the GOONS AGM in April. Fingers crossed! If haven't got a copy of the book why not? Rectify the omission by contacting our sales staff.

Wills Project continuing apace.

Wills database numbers now approaches 500!

Edwin Metcalf (M980) the Wills Project Coordinator and his band of helpers have been extracting and transcribing Mecca wills at a prodigious rate, so much so that the numbers of Mecca wills held by the Society has risen from under three hundred to nearly 500.

Financial support from the North West Group of Family History Societies has enabled **Margaret Hodgson (M515)** to copy over fifty wills from the Lancashire Record Office at Preston with more promised.

If you would like to help the Wills project team in transcribing Mecca Wills contact Edwin (details on the front inside cover).

Society

NEWS

Newspaper Cuttings

David Metcalfe M46 has started on the scanning and listing of newspaper cuttings and other printed matter with a Metcalf/e aspect. Further volunteers to scan and collate the wealth of newspaper cuttings accumulated by your Society are still needed. If you can spare some time contact Carol Herbert for details. (See front inside cover).

Gift Aid Check

The following current members have previously completed a Gift Aid form confirming that they are UK Tax Payers and wish their subscriptions to be counted as Gift Aid, thereby enabling The Society to claim back the tax paid to the Government.

Would any member on this list who is no longer a UK Tax Payer please contact treasurer@metcalfe.org.uk as soon as possible so our records can be updated.

Alternatively, if you are a UK Tax Payer and are not on the list, please consider completing a Gift Aid form - details can be obtained on our website at www.metcalfes-online.co.uk or via the Treasurer treasurer@metcalfe.org.uk. **Carol Herbert M1072**.

0003, 0011, 0013, 0015, 0016, 0046, 0055, 0057, 0068, 0069, 0083, 0123, 0125, 0126, 0133, 0134, 0148, 0153, 0155, 0158, 0164, 0169, 0187, 0218, 0231, 0256, 0269, 0305, 0312, 0316, 0331, 0336, 0343, 0363, 0386, 0393, 0409, 0410, 0424, 0437, 0451, 0462, 0472, 0493, 0494, 0509, 0513, 0515, 0519, 0525, 0529, 0553, 0557, 0566, 0567, 0581, 0590, 0604, 0607, 0630, 0645, 0694, 0730, 0756, 0772, 0792, 0800, 0816, 0854, 0870, 0882, 0884, 0885, 0902, 0923, 0931, 0973, 0987, 0997, 1000, 1020, 1037, 1061, 1066, 1070, 1082, 1105, 1120, 1129, 1156, 1170, 1180, 1188, 1189, 1226, 1274, 1286, 1294, 1307, 1313, 1314, 1318, 1323, 1351, 1352, 1381, 1389, 1396, 1399, 1404, 1407, 1411, 1414, 1415, 1429, 1430, 1439, 1446, 1448, 1450, 1464, 1468, 1487, 1510, 1513, 1516, 1521, 1537, 1539, 1554, 1562, 1563, 1566, 1585, 1597, 1603, 1609, 1617, 1618, 1619, 1620, 1647, 1650, 1651, 1661, 1668, 1672, 1696, 1698, 1699, 1700, 1709, 1712, 1716, 1720, 1723, 1724, 1727, 1736, 1738, 1745, 1748, 1758, 1765, 1768, 1775, 1778, 1781, 1783, 1784, 1787, 1788, 1792, 1794, 1796.

FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS

The Society will be attending three Family History Fairs this year.

Why not come along and see your Society's stall at:

Pudsey Civic Hall, Dawson's Corner, Pudsey - 4th April 10am-4pm

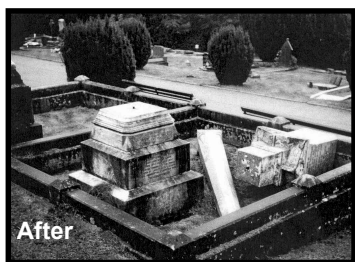
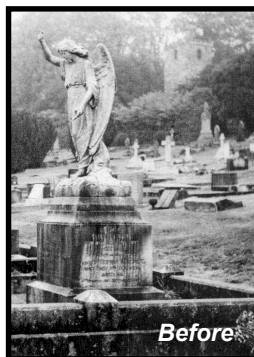
York Racecourse - 27th June 10am-4pm

Liverpool St George's Hall - 24th October 10am -4pm.

A FAMILY OBELISK from Dr Christopher Metcalfe M590

Our significant family obelisk (c15 feet and made of marble) presented a very sorry sight when, some years ago along with many others in the Pateley Bridge Cemetery, it was dismantled by the Harrogate Borough Council.

The cemetery was opened in 1874 with my great grandmother Isabella, first wife of George Metcalfe (1826 -1898), interned in 1879; the names of many other family members were added, the most recent entry that of George Metcalfe's last grandchild, Dr John Christopher Hesketh (1919-2006).



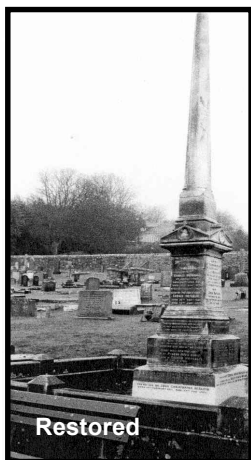
However the obelisk was recently restored (in November 2008) by HA Green & Sons of Ripon after Mrs Margaret May of Thirsk - Dr Hesketh's eldest daughter (who had assumed responsibility for the family's graves) - spent a considerable amount of time and energy

dealing with the Harrogate Council and more recently our chosen restorer. The very considerable expense has been shared between the great grandchildren of George Metcalfe. The council has offered £45 towards reinstatement!

It is interesting that a short article has just appeared in The Daily Telegraph of 17 January 2009 headed 'Ministers Attack Graveyard Tinkering'. Fresh guidance has now been issued by the Ministry of Justice to relevant authorities demanding that headstones only be moved as a last resort, to avoid "unnecessary distress" - (and expense!).

Another Metcalfe House for Sale

The 400 year old Porch House at Northallerton North Yorkshire is for sale. Once used to house King Charles I after his capture in Scotland during the English Civil War and owned by the Metcalfe family from 1584 until 1988 is being sold by its current owners with a price tag of £500,000. From *The Northern Echo* 15 January 2009 provided by **Liz Waller M1189**.



THE PARISH CLERK by John Lowry originally appeared in the Hampshire Family Historian November 1992. Reprinted by permission.

There can be few of us who have not been helped by the work of a parish clerk during our searches, and we may have stopped to wonder who clerks were and what they did. The answer is that, as the incumbent's chief lay helper, they did whatever he wanted them to do. Originally they were in minor holy orders and performed some of the less important functions during divine service. The emphasis of their duties was more on the liturgical than the lay side. After the Reformation this tendency was reversed but they were still expected to lead the singing (particularly the metrical psalms), make the responses, and say the "Amens". The essential qualification, that they should be literate, remained.

As the variety of parishes, incumbents, and clerks was infinite, so too was the variety of jobs done by clerks. In theory they should have had a sexton to help them. He dug graves, rang the bell, and did maintenance repairs to the church building. But there must have been poor parishes which could not, or did not, employ a sexton if they could push his work on to the clerk. Family historians probably think the clerks' most important job was keeping the registers. Some were kept impeccably in neat handwriting while others were scrawled and sprinkled with blots. As we know, they were not always accurate and sometimes committed the sin of writing up a register after the ceremony had taken place when they had forgotten some of the details. It is charitable to think the clerk was old or ill who wrote an entry I came across, "Isobel son of John Smith baptized..." or perhaps he had come to the church after a long business lunch up at the Rectory.

Parish clerks were part-time and paid, but as a rule the amount they received only compensated them for loss of earnings in their own occupation. If he wished, the clerk could extend the musical content of the service to include hymns for the congregation perhaps with the help of a small choir. If he played an instrument he might accompany the singing or get together a band of players. Thomas Hardy in "Under the Greenwood Tree" describes such village church music which might have been inspired by the parish clerk.

In some ways the parish clerk could exercise considerable power over his incumbent, as he was essential to the smooth running of the parish. Who else was there to bring parents and babies, brides and grooms, mourners and deceased together with the clergyman to have their most important rituals performed? There must have been many a young and inexperienced curate who went in fear of his clerk. Such a robust clerk is described by Flora Thomson in "Lark Rise to Candleford" where, in the 1880's in an Oxfordshire

village, Clerk Tom's responses drowned the subdued murmur of the congregation, and trod on the heels of the rector before he had finished while prolonging his own final syllables. He threatened to lock the church door on latecomers after the bell had finished ringing. Tom also stoked the coke stove, warmed the water for winter baptisms and having no sexton, dug the graves.

Other clerks took a more relaxed attitude towards their work. One can be seen in an 18th century engraving by William Hogarth. He is wearing scholars' bands, and is sitting holding his glasses in a kind of mini-pulpit under the main pulpit during the sermon. Like the rest of the congregation he is sound asleep.



Today, clerks are still appointed by parochial church councils but as a result of legislation introduced in 1844 and 1894, most of their responsibilities have been taken over by church officials or local administration. In London, the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks has been in existence since the mid-13th century.

There are examples of Metcalfes carrying out the role and from our database (my thanks to Brian Metcalfe our Archivist) we have the following:

George Mte Bapt: 20/08/1795 Great Langton d: 04/08/1869 Great Langton Married: 06/03/1819 Susannah of Scorton at Ripon Cathedral. 1851 Census publican, blacksmith & **parish clerk** age 58 living at Blacksmiths Arms.

James Mte bachelor & **parish clerk** of Leake parish - married: 19/06/1764 Anne nee Langdale spinster of & at Leake.

William Mte bc1709 d19/02/1795 age 86. MI Spofforth Churchyard 1795. Schoolmaster & **parish clerk** for many years at Spofforth. 03/1795 will in Borthwick Inst.York.

Thomas Md b 02/11/1851 Hundon,Suffolk. bd 22/02/1928 Somersham,Hun age 76. Married: 4th Q 1871 Frances (c1849-1921) in Hundon, Sfk Census 1861 age 9 living at **Church St.** Hundon, Sfk. Census 1881 **parish clerk** & groom age 29 living at Bubble Rd.Cottages, Hundon.

And an Almost! **Metcalfe Graham** bc1827 Askrigg. d 26/04/1902 age 75 buried St Oswald, Askrigg. Father John Graham (c1792-) shoemaker, Askrigg Census 1881 **parish clerk** & farmer of 18 acres age 54 living at 8 Market St. Askrigg.

FFHS NEWS

The Halsted Trust is hosting the next national Family & Local History conference 'Open the Door & Here are the People'. It is being held at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, 28th to 31st August 2009. The event will cover a broad spectrum of subjects of interest to the family, local and social historian with experts, information and speakers including military historian, broadcaster and author Richard Holmes; historians and authors Kate Williams and Sarah Wise; TV genealogist Nick Barratt; George Redmonds, leading authority on English surnames plus speakers from The Galleries of Justice, Institute for Name-Studies, King's College, London, The Library & Museum of Freemasonry, The Media Archive for Central England, The National Archives, National Maritime Museum, National Monuments Record, Parliamentary Archives, Royal Geographical Society, The Royal Observatory, The Women's Library and the Society of Genealogists. The Halsted Trust is also hosting the Federation of Family History Societies General Meeting as part of the conference activities.

The Family Records Centre is now closed and the General Register Office (GRO) no longer provides a facility for customers to apply for and collect certificates in central London. All certificates are issued by post via the General Register Office based in Southport, Merseyside. The service provided by local register offices remains unchanged.

Temporary closure of Caird Library, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. Work will begin earlier than initially planned on the £35 million redevelopment of the National Maritime Museum, to include a modern research and reading room and improved storage for the paper-based collections. The move of the archive and library collections currently stored in the South West Wing of the museum to temporary offsite storage will therefore begin earlier, with the Caird Library closed to all users until late spring/early summer 2009.

The 1911 Census became available online on 13th January 2009 on a pay per view website in a partnership between FindMyPast and The National Archives. The site will not be part of the FindMyPast system and will not be available for viewing as part of their subscription services, although log-in details and pay per view credits will work on either site.

London Metropolitan Archives & Guildhall Library Manuscript Section in partnership with Ancestry are to launch the first records on Ancestry.co.uk early this year as part of a digitisation program to make available a range of genealogical sources. It is expected that Parish Records, Poor Law documents and London school admissions – records from 843 individual London schools dating from early Victorian times through to 1911 will be among the first to be launched.

Since the Society began nearly thirty years ago members have been recording occurrences of the Metcalfe name in all its variances on lists.

Initially they were handwritten or typed lists but as computers and more particularly Personal Computer's came into their own the diligent Society collectors compiled the details on paper and media.

The lists were scrutinised by our various list holders and archivists before being entered into the family database. At the last count there were some 2500 lists of varying length and detail. Some are of census returns, BMD's from parish records, wills, monumental inscriptions, a list of seafarer's from the National Archives, whilst others are from little known sources that individual family researchers recorded whilst looking for that elusive breakthrough.

Some of the lists are short and have only a few entries whilst others run to many pages. All are of interest and usefulness - they might just give that piece of information which makes sense of the family conundrums we all tend to have at some stage.

With the coming of the internet and the placing of more information on line the potential for finding that missing piece of information (or the opportunity for greater confusion!) arises. So over the last few months your Society has looked to access information appearing on the Internet and get it onto our database. A start has been made on listing the divorce records from the National Archives and there are other lists awaiting transcribing. Our List Coordinator also ensures that the lists go onto the database and over the next few months we are hoping to

extract more information from the pre-1850 period.

Where do you fit in? Well in a number of ways.

If you have information which you have gathered and not shared with the Archivist team in the past why not send it in to Brian Metcalfe, the Archivist coordinator?

If you you have gathered wills details concerning Metcalfes (from either Metcalfe or non-Metcalfe wills) have you sent them to Edwin Metcalfe for copying?

Have you checked out the List of lists on the Society's web site? You may be surprised at what there is. Why not have a look and if there is anything of interest then contact our List Coordinator, Anita Metcalfe.

LISTS

Griffiths Valuation of Ireland 1848-1864

Surname	First Name	Townland	Parish	County
Medcalf	Stewart	Brannock	Ballymore	Armagh
Medcalf	George	Loughanstown	Delvin	Westmeath
Medcalf	George	Loughanstown	Castletowndelvin	Westmeath
Medcalf	Frederick	Platin	Duleek	Meath
Medcalf	Francis	Mary Street	St Mary's	Dublin
Metcalfe	Thomas L	Churchland Qtrs	Donagh	Donegal
Metcalfe	Cyrus	Goosegreen	Clonturk	Dublin
Metcalfe	Anthony	Crehelp	Crehelp	Wicklow
Metcalfe	William	Cross St	Athenry	Galway

These are the Md / Mte extracts from the website there are another fifty or so Metcalf's on the list. The above is an example of the information becoming available on a regular basis.

If you have a few spare hours (alright minutes) to copy information into a computer layout (it is a straight copying job of putting particular details into particular boxes on a form - the information can make it more interesting than it sounds!) or perhaps you would enjoy seeking out information from the new web sites coming on line (you would need to check with the Archivist/List coordinator or the Editor to ensure no duplication).

It all adds up to more information thus increasing the opportunity to find that missing link. Why not look at what information you have already and send it in or make time available you never know what benefits it might bring?

Contact details are on the front inside cover. We look forward to hearing from you.

NOT TO BE MISSED OPPORTUNITY

A CD with over 17,000 connected individuals is available to Members (2,300 entries added since V1)

The Multi - Mecca Tree (V2)

*This many branched tree includes a connection to the Royal Family
via a marriage between the Harewood House Lascelles and the Porch House Metcalfes
- and more fittingly - a connection to Stan Laurel, alias Arthur Stanley Jefferson,
to whom all below are related.*

Members known to be connected to Multi-Tree:- 4, 6, 11, 28, 29, 33, 39, 41, 44, 46, 50, 52, 54, 55, 62, 63, 65, 66, 69, 70, 73, 77, 84, 86, 90, 97, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 106, 108, 119, 129, 132, 133, 135, 141, 142, 155, 159, 173, 177, 178, 180, 186, 195, 199, 211, 212, 217, 235, 242, 246, 248, 255, 256, 257, 267, 268, 275, 277, 280, 282, 288, 292, 296, 297, 300, 302, 305, 307, 311, 317, 321, 331, 337, 338, 353, 371, 384, 397, 398, 400, 403, 406, 410, 415, 419, 423, 427, 428, 439, 446, 449, 458, 466, 475, 484, 510, 512, 517, 521, 528, 538, 539, 546, 547, 549, 550, 553, 554, 581, 591, 594, 597, 601, 606, 608, 623, 631, 637, 639, 654, 668, 670, 675, 676, 678, 701, 712, 720, 731, 769, 772, 777, 782, 783, 790, 791, 806, 821, 824, 839, 847, 849, 850, 855, 856, 859, 860, 870, 871, 875, 883, 887, 896, 897, 905, 908, 916, 918, 957, 958, 964, 967, 987, 988, 992, 993, 997, 999, 1004, 1015, 1025, 1036, 1042, 1076, 1077, 1103, 1122, 1141, 1043, 1150, 1066, 1082, 1129, 1139, 1156, 1169, 1173, 1183, 1195, 1197, 1209, 1218, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1265, 1272, 1274, 1276, 1278, 1280, 1291, 1295, 1319, 1323, 1324, 1345, 1354, 1364, 1371, 1375, 1379, 1386, 1391, 1392, 1393, 1415, 1419, 1430, 1446, 1450, 1455, 1521, 1527, 1550, 1558, 1562, 1604, 1700, 1713, 1721, 1729, 1737, ...

For the Multi-Mecca Generations disc Mult2, send a £10 cheque, made out to
'The Metcalfe Society',
to Mr B Metcalfe, 11 Hillcourt Road, High Lane, Stockport, SK6 8HN

Multi-Mecca is designed to be run by 'Generations Family Tree'
which runs under 'Windows XP' and which is obtainable from:
Suppliers of Software for Family Historians, 5 Mexborough Business Centre, College Road,
Mexborough, South Yorkshire, S64 9JP Tel 01709 580066

http://www.twrcomputing.co.uk/store/Generations_Family_Tree.html

Purchasers of Mult1 only need to send £2 to obtain this later version.

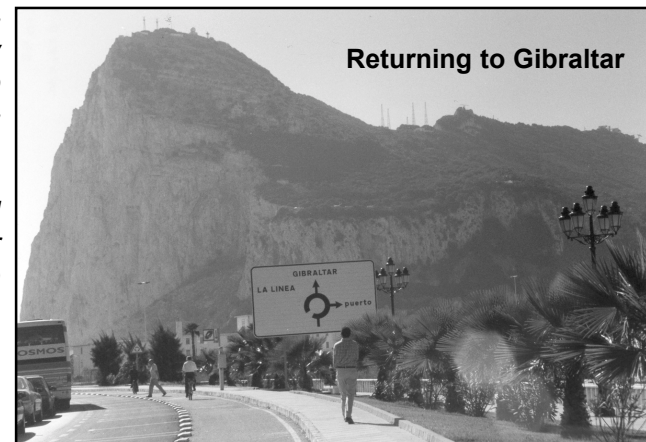
**DEADLINE for the August Mecca News
6 June 2009.**

Articles comments or snippets to the Editor.

Diary of a Victorian Junior Officer - Part 2

In part 1 (see Mecca News 85 August 2008) Lt Col G C Jones, wrote: "Booth Hay Metcalfe was born in 1843 ... went to Cambridge and after going down his father purchased a commission for him in the 83rd. .. Warwick Metcalfe (M256)came across his grandfather's diary for 1868. The entries are short and concise but nevertheless give an insight into the life of a subaltern when the 83rd was stationed in Gibraltar and on leave in UK. I have extracted a selection of entries which are intended to give an impression of his duties, recreation and lifestyle." Part 1 covered the first six months of the year.

Now back in Richmond Booth Hay went to York to watch cricket visited Scarborough and then to London where he watched Eton v Harrow prior to returning to Gibraltar.



Tue 7 Jul. Started by 9.30 train to "Scarbro" with Fitz

MacPherson & Mrs M Philip & Ada S. had a very jolly day. Not so many people as I expected. Met Mr & Mrs Dyer. Gerald Wilson left by the 4.30 train & got home about 10.30 - very hot.

Sat 11 Jul. Pitt breakfasted with me & saw me off by mail to Southampton. Very hot again - met Perrot, Templeman on board "Mapillia" Same ship I came home in. Left Southampton about 3.p.m

Thu 16 Jul. Arrived in Gib this morning about 5.a.m. after a very fair passage. Landed about 7.30 with Gus. Bond(?) sent young Perrot on board the (?) for Cadiz. Lent him 2 sovs.

Wed 29 Jul. Adjutants drill under Capt of day. "Moi" on gun-drill. Fawcett started early in The Yacht

with Frank for Algeciras en route for England via Spain & France. Rather astonished the natives - exciting interview with Mortimer.

Thu 30 Jul. Ft (Fawcett?) returned last night having changed his plans - Frank (*Frank seems to have been his boatman*) came back this morning from Algeciras with a letter to Ft very hot day - no wind - gun drill in evening.

Fri 31 Jul. Persuaded Ft to leave today by Steamer "Mandeg" (?) for Harve by way of Cadiz & Lisbon. Flat calm not a breath of wind - on gun drill - Powell & Marriott went on board with Ft a great loss to Regt.

Tue 11 Aug. Wind changed to W. Prince Consort left for Malta in evening - young mid. left prisoner at

Algeciras for riding over old woman - Gun drill - squad examined by Instructor and passed - not at all sorry. Mess & band in evening.

Sat 22 Aug. CO's Parade at 6.a.m under Major Forster. Back about 7.30. Theoret instruction at 11. Then Kit Inspection. Afternoon went out for a sail with Fawkes & Powell - nice breeze. Went Europa Point Ramps. Paid Frank £5.

Sat 5 Sep. C.O.'s parade under the Chief till 7.30 slight shower & then cleared off. Theoret Instruction under Gore but went in fact to inspect coal at Chief's quarters instead. Went fishing in afternoon with Wyndham & Chocera - caught about 150. Wind still in E.

Thu 17 Sep. Breakfast and then took over A Coy from Wyndham. Frank still on sick list. Went down St Michaels Cave with F.K.W - Sparkey & Powell wonderful sight well worth going to see. All the Sergts of the Garrison there with their wives etc - evening turned out the Club.

Fri 18 Sep. On Guard N Front with CLS seedy after late night - very bad d - - - got some physics from Robinson after which better. Frightfully wet night not very pleasant walking round by the Devil's Tower.

Tue 22 Sep. Adj't's Parade under Capt of day. Calpe Hounds out for cub hunting first time. Not much sport..... in Spain ~ "Viva Prim" great excitement at the lines ~ much smuggling ~ after tasting many sherries ~ went down to Catalan Bay with J.de.M & Stewart no sport ~ no birds too early.

Wed 23 Sep. Great excitement in Gib re revolution in Spain ~ much smug-

gling still going on ~ in fact free trade. Arrival of Prince... (?) at Algeciras & two frigates "Villa de Madrid" & "Saragossa" walked out to North Front with Wyndham. Great excitement in The Lines.

Sat 10 Oct. On Duty again. Mail from Malta in 3 days. Wonderfully quick passage "Ceylon". Wrote a long letter home - Field day in honour of Admiral Farragut. Jolly day. Wyndham & Stewart out for a sail in the Yacht - light breeze.

Fri 16 Oct. Shooting again commenced about 9.a.m. Wind began to rise about 12.30 so knocked - off as men began shooting very badly. Back to I barracks about 2 p.m. " pretty well tired. Not so hot.

Tue 20 Oct. Heavy night last night ~ rather dead this morning - volley firing - finished by 12 o.c. and then racing commenced - very little excitement - nothing extra in the racing line. Very hot in the sun.

From 25 Oct to 7 Nov Booth Hay went on short cruises on a yacht to Malaga, Ceuta and Tangier.

Tue 27 Oct. Still in sight of The Rock about 6 miles from shore - splendid morning hardly a ripple - about 2pm. a nice breeze which took us into Malaga about 4.30 pm - moored - dined on board & went on shore and had a look round.

Fri 30 Oct (At Ceuta). Breakfast & went on shore about 10.30. Visited the "Citadel de (la Reina) (?)", Castle, Convict Prison etc Sailed about 2 p.m. for Gib with fair breeze - good run of 2 hrs (?) on the Samara(?) & came on shore.

Sat 31 Oct. Breakfast on board the "Whirlwind" with P Cuthbert &

McWhinnie. J de M there - then "Muster parade" Renewal of leave for seven days for another cruise - P.C. M de M dined with me - & then rounds - turned in about 3.30.

Tue 3 Nov. Went on board the "Leda" at 9.a.m. to breakfast - weighed anchor and started for Tangiers. Nasty thick rainy morning - but cleared up when round Capita(?) Point - made a capital run to Tangier - went on shore & called on Sir John Hay.

Wed 4 Nov. turned out all the bazaar - R invested heavily in old silver. After lunch went for a ride in the country with Sir J & Lady Hay - very pleasant. In the evening dined with them. Very pleasant evening - played billiards then turned in

Fri 6 Nov. Blowing fresh from W. With (?) more shopping & after lunch called on Sir J H to leave PPC's. Went on board the Leda about 5.30 intending to sail for Cadiz but came on a regular gale with a tremendous sea running - rather a lively night.

Sat 7 Nov. Much better night than we expected - heavy seas still running - cleared out about 10.30 intending to beat up to Cadiz - but when two miles to W of Tangier bout ship and made a splendid run into Gib of 3 hrs weather moderating - wind N.

Tue 10 Nov. On duty(?) blowing fresh from N. W. in evening to a gale. Rochefort still here. Dined with me & then went to Convent - great (?) on. Many people there - turned in about 12.30 very tired

Sat 28 Nov. More Position drill & judging distance. Field day on N Front Regt out - didn't go being on musketry. Had a walk as far as the Almeda. Then went to see C.L.S. on

Main Guard. Turned in early.

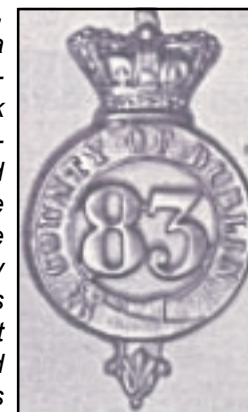
Thu 17 Dec. Off Guard relieved early (check) for 28th Ball by F Karslake & Anderson. Afternoon Presentation of Colours to 28th - home about 5pm. pretty well tired - not many at mess. Fri 18th Dec. Regt Ct Martial at 9.30 finished about 11am. then breakfast full account of the 28th Ball - great success - most of fellows back about 6.a.m. Sergt's Hop in evening went to opera "Masta" (?) very good.

Fri 25 Dec. Xmas Day began to rain very heavily about 8am & went on at intervals till 12.o.c. came off guard about 11.30. Chief went round Xmas dinners. Rooms very nicely decorated.

Thu 31 Dec. Orderly Room - had to wait 1/2 an hour for Evidence then muster parade - breakfast - finished arrangements for Spain Drove out to Spanish Lines - mess - Sergt's Ball - so finished the year 1868.

Comments: There is little mention of the soldiers, not even his soldier servant, only a few comments about "Frank" who seem to have been responsible for his yacht. The opposite sex gets scant mention just

his mother, the wife of a brother officer, a walk with the ladies in Ireland and once 'Alice'. He was an only child and it is possible that Alice had been his nanny.



ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

Writing this towards the end of February, I realise that the period since my last report, includes the end of our membership year, along with Christmas & the New Year. A part of the year when there is often little time for personal tasks. Bearing this in mind, I am delighted to be able to list so many new & rejoined members. I hope that those who have not done so already will soon avail themselves of our research facilities.

Our database is continually expanding, thanks to the information which so many of you have provided. We welcome any facts about our Metcalfe ancestors. Something which one member can confirm, could well be the "missing piece" which has eluded another member. Please keep sending us anything which you know to be accurate, either to David Metcalfe, who looks after our computer index, or me. Even if you have already sent in your birth brief, or perhaps do not intend to do so, we will be glad of any facts you may have.

My thanks as always, to our two researchers, Nina Benson & Edwin Metcalf. I know that those of you who have had dealings with them, appreciate the time & experience which they give so generously. By the time you read this, Edwin should be recovering from major surgery. I'm sure that you will all join me in wishing him well & a speedy return to good health.

Happy researching. **Brian Metcalfe (M1554 Archivist Coordinator)**

AMENDMENTS & BRIEFS FROM EXISTING MEMBERS**AMENDMENTS**

M655 Mr Walter H Metcalf 23 Eleanor Walk, Woburn, Bedfordshire MK17 9QY. S.o.Charles Halliday & Ena May (Snaith) Mt m 14/03/1925 Gateshead. Charles Halliday b 20/04/1903 Burnopfield, Dur. s.o.Charles Aaron & Martha Halliday (Cardwell) m 15/10/1902 Newcastle, Nbl. Charles Aaron b 05/12/1880 Burnopfield s.o.Aaron & Elizabeth (Carruthers) Mid m 27/04/1874 Newcastle. Aaron b 05/05/1848 Allendale, Nbl s.o. Joseph & Elizabeth (Varty) Mid m 11/06/1835 St.Peter's, Sparty Lea, nr Allendale. Joseph b c1804.

M667 Mrs Jacqueline Thornton 67 Goose Cote Lane, Oakworth, Keighley, West Yorkshire BD22 7NQ

jacqueline.thornton@btinternet.com Add at the end of the existing brief; Jonathan bpt 13/09/1750 Kirkby Stephen, Wes. s.o.William & Isabel (Fothergill) Mte m 02/05/1748 Kirkby Stephen. William b c1717. **Connects M117, 719, 805, 1022 & 1727.**

M1389 Mr Harold Arthur Metcalfe The Saltings, Llangain, Carmarthen SA33 5AJ admin@haroldmetcalfe.plus.com Add at the end of the existing brief; Jonathan bpt 13/09/1750 Kirkby Stephen, Wes. s.o.William & Isabel (Fothergill) Mte m 02/05/1748 Kirkby Stephen. William b c1717. **Connects M117, 719, 805, 1022 & 1727.**

EXISTING MEMBERS

M1668 Mr Stephen Carr Bell Mount House, Dalguise, Dunkeld, Pert & Kinross PH8 0JU. 3 x Grt grd s.o. David & Mary (Mt) Slingsby m 21/02/1841 Claverley. Mary bpt 28/12/1817 Skipton Holy Trinity. Mary d.o.William & Ann (Beckwith) Mte m 02/08/1813 Skipton Holy Trinity. William bpt 12/08/1792 Skipton s.o.Thomas & Mary (Smith) Mte m 07/11/1785 Skipton. Thomas bpt 09/05/1761 Bolton Abbey natural s.o.Jane Mte of Eastby. Jane bpt 29/01/1737-38 Skipton d.o.Thomas & Elizabeth Mte of Embsay. **Connects M674.**

M1771 Ms Xanthe Leilani Ellis 348 West 56th Street 4C, New York, 10019 USA. Xellis7948@aol.com Born Burbank, Los Angeles, CA, USA grt.grd.d.o Loo Pun & Ida Kawaihoonui (Metcalf) Loo m c1891 Honolulu, Hawaii. Ida b 05/04/1871 Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii d.o. Frank & Alice (Forsyth) Mt m c1870 Hana, Maui, Hawaii. Frank b c1853 Honolulu, Hawaii s.o.Theophilus &(his 2nd wife) Mt m c1850 Honolulu, Hawaii. Theophilus b c1819 Gorham, Ontario, New York s.o.Irving & Fanny (B? 3rd wife) Mt m Gorham, Ontario, New York. Irving b 08/06/1779 Naples, Ontario, New York s.o. Capt Jabez & Elizabeth (Tenney) Mt m 28/12/1775 Mendon, Worcester, Mass. Jabez b 02/04/1747 Bellingham, Norfolk, Mass. s.o.John & Mary (Fisher, 1st wife) Mt m 31/07/1728 Boston, Suffolk, Mass. John b 31/03/1704 Dedham, Norfolk, Mass. s.o.John & Mehitabel (Savel) Mt m 29/01/1701 Dedham, Norfolk, Mass. John b 20/03/1677/8 Dedham, Norfolk, Mass.s.o. Deacon Jonathan & Hannah (Ken(d)rik) Mt m 10/04/1674 Dedham, Norfolk, Mass. Jonathan b 21/09/1650 Dedham, Norfolk, Mass. s.o.Michael & Mary (Fairbanks) Mt m 02/04/1644 Dedham, Norfolk, Mass. Michael b 29/08/1620 Norwich, Norfolk, England s.o.Michael & Sarah (Ellwyn) Mt m 13/10/1616 Heigham/Hingham or Tatterford, Norfolk, England. Michael b 17/06/1586 Tatterford, Norfolk, England s.o. Rev Leonard & Amy (Thurston/Thursby) Mt m c1582 Tatterford, Norfolk, England. Leonard b c1545 Tatterford, Norfolk, England s.o. Brian & Joanna (?) Mt. **Connects M283 et al.**

M1774 Ms Anne Baker 825 Broadmore Circle, Lexington, Ky 40509, USA anairene@insightbb.com Desc of Lawrence/Laurence & Anne (Mte) Routh m 24/05/1683 Hawes in the house of Richard Routh (Quaker). Lawrence/Laurence d 1690 Chester Co., Pennsylvania. Anne Routh (nee Mte) m Humphrey Johnson. Anne b c1663 Hawes d.o. Francis & Elizabeth (Routh) Mte.

M1779 Mrs Frances Bentley 16 Kings Drive, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 8EE kentdance@hotmail.co.uk Grt. grd.dtr of Henry Jonas & Mary Jane (Heskett) Mte m 5/8/1906 St Johns Church, Sunderland. Henry J.b 2nd Q 1873 Monkwearmouth, Sunderland s.o. John & Ann (Mte)(a) Mte m 20/3/1858 Crakehall, nr Bedale. John b c1833 Crakehall s.o. James & Catherine (Pevy/Perry) Mte m 21/5/1825 Bedale. James b 18/5/1800 Rookwith s.o. James & Ann (Ford) Mte. Banns only at Thornton Watlass on 22,27/04 & 04/05/1794. James b c1776. **Connects M319 M529 M1020 & M1189**

(a) Ann bpt 21/8/1838 Bedale d.o. Jonas & Dorothy (Stelling) Mte.m 14/10/

1837 Bedale. Jonas bpt 24/2/1810 Haughton le Skerne, Dur. s.o. Thomas & Margaret (Hunter) Mte m 23/11/1805 Hornby nr Catterick. Thomas b c1776 Askrigg.

M1781 Mrs Pamela Jackson Field House Farm, Burnham Road, Barton-on-Humber, North Lincolnshire DN18 6ED david.jackson55@goosemail.com Grd d.o. Fred & Kate Ellen (Hickling) Mt m 4Q 1899 Louth. Fred b 1Q 1874 Grainsby s.o. Joseph & Charlotte (Wilkinson) Mt m 2Q 1871 Caistor Dist. Joseph b 10/3/1844 Ludborough s.o. Michael & Frances (Milson) Mt m June 1841 Louth Dist. Michael bpt 10/12/1809 Ludborough s.o. William & Hannah (Cowper) Mt m 28/10/1793 Sherburn nr Scarborough. William bpt 14/4/1765 Humberston s.o. Robert & Ann (?) Mt. **Connects M995.**

NEW & REJOINED MEMBERS WITH OR AWAITING BIRTH BRIEFS

M149 Mrs Pearl Tedds 8 Beresford Place, West Moonah, Tasmania, 7009, Australia. rtedds@iprimus.com.au

M1618 Mr Nigel J Metcalfe 22 Northvale Road, Timperley, Cheshire WA15 7RR. n.metcalfe@tayloryoung.co.uk Born Kendal, Cumbria s.o. Jeffrey Jackson & Eleanor Joyce (Shepherd) Mte m 17/07/1973 Methodist Chapel, High Bentham. Jeffery J. b 28/12/1949 Aughton, Nth. Yorks. s.o. Gilbert (Gill) & Peggie (Jackson) Mte m 27/09/1947 Low Tatham. Gilbert b 08/07/1921 Aughton Hall Farm, Lancs s.o. Edmund & Elizabeth Mary (Makinson) Mte m 26/11/1919 Lancaster area. Edmund b 05/02/1887 Aughton, Lancs s.o. Edmund & Mary (Bibby) Mte m 06/06/1882 Over Kellet, Lancs. Edmund b 17/01/1855 Over Kellet s.o. Anthony & Mary (Tomlinson) Mte m 21/07/1844 Over Kellet. Anthony b 02/12/1819 Old Hall Farm, Over Kellet s.o. Anthony & Margaret (Rallinshaw) Mte m 20 or 30/09/1805 Tunstall, Lancs. Anthony's parentage is under investigation. **Connects M53 et al.**

M1785 Mr George Metcalfe 81 St Julian's Farm Road, London SE27 0RJ GeorgeFMetcalfe@aol.com

M1786 Mrs Janet Slade 125 Walton Road, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DR jangels49@live.co.uk

M1787 Mr David Romano Silver Birches, Water Lane, Little Whelnetham, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 0DU david.romano@romano-critchley.com Wife Joan is 4 x Grt.grd. d.o. John & Ann (Metcalfe) Tattersall m Bradford, Yorks. Ann d.o. Thomas & Annas (Binks) Mte m 16/10/1769 Grinton. Thomas b c1745 s.o. Richard Mte & 1st wife (unknown). 2nd wife was Monica nee Sunter m 15/1/1749/50 Grinton. Richard b c1727 Grinton s.o. Anthony & Ann (Wharton) Mte m 13/1/1718 Grinton. **Connects M46, 52, 217, 246, 255, 300, 302, 337, 408, 438, 510, 631, 701, 782, 967, 1081, 1183, 1195, 1209, 1280, 1369, 1371, 1415, 1521, 1527, 1586, & 1716.**

M1788 Mr David Metcalfe The Subwarden, Cryfield 3, University of Warwick, Coventry, West Midlands CV4 7AL d.metcalfe@warwick.ac.uk

M1789 Steven C Metcalfe 78 Merridale Road, Woolston, Southampton, Hampshire SO19 7AD stevenmetcalfe@yahoo.com

M1790 Mr John Cottingham 5748 Beckridge Court, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45247, USA John.Cottingham@ThompsonHine.com

M1791 Mr Liam Metcalfe 161 Coolevin, Ballybrack, Dublin, Ireland. liammetcalfe@gmail.com

M1792 Mr Philip M Smith 12 Lindeth Road, Silverdale, Lancashire LA5 0TX s.smith440@btinternet.com Grd s.o. Annie Elizabeth Mte b 21/11/1899 Bootham, York. d.o. John & Annie (Benson) Mte m 1/1/1898 at St Sampson, York. John bpt 22/3/1870 Sharow s.o. Christopher & Jane (Pinkney) Mte m 7/11/1857 Ripon. Christopher bpt 9/9/1833 Arkengarthdale s.o. Richard & Jane (Yoeman) Mte m 23/11/1826 Aysgarth. Richard bpt 6/5/1804 Kirkby Stephen s.o. Richard & 1st wife Sybil (Whitfield) Mte m 20/3/1793 Kirkby Stephen. (2nd wife Ann (Bushby) m 25/5/1829 Aysgarth.) Richard bpt 17/1/1773 Askrigg s.o. John of Low Cote c1750. **Connects M144, 145, 389, 658, 807, 810, 1044, 1161, 1549, 1554, 1594, & 1605.**

M1793 Mr A Rayner 37 Mount Drive, Marple, Stockport, Cheshire SK6 7BA alabet1@ntlworld.com

M1794 Mr Stephen Metcalfe 1 Shelley Drive, Welling, Kent DA16 3NY spmet@aol.com

M1795 Mrs Linda Metcalfe 17 Houndtrail Drive, Waterdown, Ontario, LOR2H3, Canada. l_metcalfe@cogeco.ca

M1796 Mrs Linda Power 9 Roe Croft Close, Sprotbrough, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN5 7QB.

M1797 Mrs Susan Bartlett Rosas, 24210 Ste Orse, France. stewart-malcolm.bartlett@orange.fr

M1798 Mrs Lynne Barnett, 13 Rutland Road, Bingham, Nottinghamshire NG13 8DT. lynnib.barnett@ntlworld.com

It is with regret we inform members of the deaths of

M239 Mrs Nellie M Keens

on 14 October 2008

and

Ex Member **M135 Edward Dawson**

who died on 11 February 2009 aged 78.

We extend our condolences to family and friends.

A new website was launched in January called
Family Photographic Index.

Operating on line at www.ancestral-routes.co.uk it provides surnames from its large collection of photographs (which are not on line) featuring people from the 1850's to the 1930's.

The Index can be searched on a pay per view basis
for £2 for each successful search.

If a match is found photographs can be purchased separately.

AUSTWICK COINCIDENCE

The article about Austwick in the December MN (No 86), reminded me of a surprising occurrence last year. Returning home from a meeting of the Society in Hawes, Ena & I called at Austwick. I knew from the 1891 census that my granddad James Metcalfe, was a farm servant, age 18, living & working at the White House, Austwick in John & Isabella Bradley's household, John being a farmer.

Enquiring from an elderly lady in the village street, if the White House still existed, I was delighted when she replied in the affirmative & also gave excellent directions to it. It was a short drive out of the village & was well signed at the entrance of the drive leading to the house. It is a lovely property, which has obviously been well maintained. I knocked on the door, to ask if it I might take some photographs, & was greeted by the lady of the house, with whom we had a pleasant conversation about the reason for my visit. The first surprise came when she revealed that her husband was a Metcalfe! We do seem to have spread our wings. I eventually took some photographs and we continued our journey.

The second surprise concerning Austwick came some months later, when a new member sent details of his ancestors, so that we could prepare his birth brief. Reading through his notes, my eyes lit up when I read that his parents lived at the White House, Austwick. His mother being the lady to whom Ena & I had spoken some months earlier!



The White House Austwick

In addition to the present day connections, Austwick features greatly in the early days of the "Clan". As our wonderful book "The History of the Clan" reveals, Austwick was the southernmost stronghold held by Earl Maldred. It then passed to his son, Gospatrick II, who eventually handed it over to his son Dolphin. It was Dolphin's grandson, known originally as William de Dent, whose lands occupied Middleton Calf Top, becoming known as William Medecalf de Dent, literally William of the middle hill in Dent. Thus did our family name come into being around 1175.

Brian Metcalfe (M1554 Archivist Coordinator)

CLIPPIE!

Conductress **Kitty Metcalfe** pictured at the United Bus Depot, Durham next to a 1924 Bristol 'B' type bus which ran the route from Ferryhill to Darlington in 1929. Conductresses were first taken on during the Great War due to men being conscripted. Provided by **Mrs E Howells M529**.

Books

New Publications from **The Family History Partnership**.

Terry Walsh Sales and Distribution Manager comments "I am pleased to announce the availability of a number of new books published under the Family History Partnership imprint, two of which are completely new, and four old favourites returning as reprints or new editions":

Gibson Guides for Genealogists, Family and Local Historians

'Coroners Records' in England and Wales (Third Edition)', by Jeremy Gibson and Colin Rogers; ISBN 978 1 906280 13 0: Price £4.50. Mail order prices: UK - £6.30; EU - £6.80; RoW - £7.45

'Victuallers' Licences: Records for Family and Local Historians (Third Edition)', by Jeremy Gibson; ISBN 978 1 906280 14 7; Price £4.95. Mail order prices: UK - £6.75; EU - £7.50; Row - £8.35.

New Titles

'The Census 1801-1911: A Guide for the Internet Era', by Stuart Raymond; ISBN 978 1 906280 16 1; Price £5.95. Mail order prices: UK - £7.75; EU - £8.35; RoW - £9.10.

'Parish Registers: A History and Guide', by Stuart Raymond; ISBN 978 1 906280 17 8; Price £5.95. Mail order prices: EU - £7.75; EU - £8.35; RoW - £9.10.

New Edition

'Researching Brewery and Publican Ancestors (Second Edition)', by Simon Fowler; ISBN 978 1 906280 12 3; Price £5.95. Mail order prices: UK - £7.75; EU - £8.25; RoW - £8.90.

Reprint

'A Latin Glossary for Family and Local Historians' (Reprint 2009), by Janet Morris; ISBN 987 1 906280 18 5: Price £3.50. Mail order prices: UK - £5.30; EU - £5.80; Row - £6.15.

Order direct from 'The Family History Partnership LLP', PO Box 502, Bury, BL8 9EP. There is a downloadable order form on the website at www.thefamilyhistorypartnership.com, alternatively order by telephone on 01706 825557, using credit or debit card facilities.

If members mention 'The Metcalfe Society', a commission will be paid to the Society on the value of the publications ordered.

Interested In Swaledale? Why not visit www.gunnerside.info?

For those of you with Metcalfes married in the Upper Dale since the end of World War I you may find a photograph of the event on a CD sold through the site for £5.

For further information contact davidcrapper@yahoo.co.uk.

(From Alderson Roots February 2009)

I was interested to see the photograph (MN86) of the tomb of Charles Metcalfe, my great great grandfather. (It was his father, also Charles, who founded the extant Norwich law firm Metcalfe and Copeman in 1801.) My great grandfather, Fenwick Metcalfe, was his fourth son, a surgeon in the Indian Medical Service, who was killed in India about 1874 by being blown off a cliff riding his horse. Charles Metcalfe was a multi millionaire and left 12 manors, but my great grandmother, Augusta, a descendent of Admiral Lord Gardiner only inherited about £4000 and was pretty hard up. He had three sons, Brig-Gen Fenwick Henry Metcalfe DSO Royal Artillery (my grandfather), Brig-Gen Sydney Metcalfe and Gerald Fenwick Metcalfe, an artist and an ARA.

George F Metcalfe M1785.

You "so do" have a Metcalfe link in Malta (MN84). My 1st cousin Emily White and I are descendants of John Metcalfe 1776, Hawes, and Margaret Wilson, Hawes. Married Dec 27 1786. Hawes. In the late thirties Emily a R N left Denton Yorks for a position at Mile End Hospital London. There she met eminent Doctor John Craig of Malta. They got married and moved back to Malta. They had 3 girls and a boy. John was one of the Doctors on call for the then Princess Elizabeth when Prince Phillip was stationed in Malta. Later on a hospital on the Isle of Gozo is or was named after John. As far as I know the 3 daughters still live in Malta. The son in London.

George M White M1303.

your e-mails and letters

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES

William Musham Metcalfe, born York, 14 September 1840, son of John Metcalfe and Hannah Musham. Educated at St George's Wesleyan School, York and New College London. Was an assistant teacher at the Wesleyan Training College, Westminster, before going to the Free Church Training College, Glasgow. Teacher in the West End Academy, Dundee where he met Cecilia daughter of James Simpson, Dundee whom he married on 1 June 1869.

Ordained into the Church of Scotland and became minister of the Congregational Church, Ayr, 23 December 1868. Later appointed minister to the South Parish, Paisley. He died 8 August 1916.

Children: William, b 21 June 1870, Cecilia, b 5 September 1872, Hannah, b 11 March 1876, Alice b 4 November 1878, James Alexander, born 12 April 1881.

A prolific writer penning many church related books and articles as well as writing - A History of Paisley 600-1908; A History of Renfrewshire and Specialities of Scottish Literature 1325-1835.

Metcalfe's and the GAR



Grand Army of the Republic, dating from the rebellion of 1776. So I decided to look into these Metcalfe men.

In September 2008 I was wandering round the burial ground of the Methodist Chapel in Benton Wisconsin USA looking for my Buxton stones when I became aware of two small markers; one was for Thomas Metcalfe and the other was for Leonard Metcalfe. They had a small metal marker quoting GAR. I asked our friends what GAR stood for, they informed me they stood for



Leonard Metcalfe

Leonard Metcalfe was 30 years old, born in England and a miner, he died August 1871. He was married with 5 children.

Thomas was 24 years old but his service in the GAR was short as he was taken ill and died at Nashville on 16th May 1865.



Thomas Metcalfe

Both joined the 96th Regiment of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry at Benton on the 2nd March 1865, then Company A at Russellville Tennessee. When the 96th was mustered out they were transferred to Company B 21st Illinois.

Four more Metcalfe's were also uncovered

Christopher aged 21 years old born England; miner subsequently he became a farmer at Centre Grove Dubuque County Iowa
James aged 22 years old became a druggist at Benton. His place of birth was given as Glimerside England. (I think this should be Gunnerside, Swaledale.)
John aged 23 years old he became a banker Paulina O'Brien County Iowa
(Thomas, James & Christopher seem to be brothers. Their parents were James & Margaret Metcalfe. If that is the case other members of the family were Frances; Margaret; Mary Ann; Mathew; Mary; From the 1850 Federal Census.)

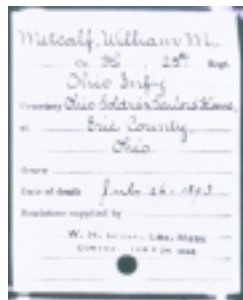
Corporal Josephus Metcalf aged 26 years old was born Pecatonica Illinois, engineer enlisted Galena, wounded at Chickamauga and fell into enemy hands. He was taken to Richmond Virginia where he remained two months; then taken to Danville, where he was kept for five months and ten days when he was exchanged.

Returning to the regiment he was left at Chattanooga to guard supplies. While on his way to rejoin the regiment at Palaski he fell off the cars and sprained an ankle. He was sent to hospital at Nashville and from there to St Louis. He returned to the regiment and was promoted to corporal. Before enlisting into Company A he was with the 3rd Missouri Cavalry. He became a stationary engineer at White Oak Spring Wisconsin.

Other Metcalf's involved in the Civil War were:

R M of the 4th Regiment Iowa Calvary
Zabedour 17th Regiment Missouri Infantry
Rigdon 96th Illinois Regiment
William M 25th Ohio Infantry
Simeon 1st Vermont Calvary
W E 11th Illinois Calvary

George Buxton M3



Joining docket of
William M Metcalf

THE HYPOCHONDRIAC

I woke this morning with a coryza which gave me dysorexy and a certain degree of debility or is it decrepitude? I am staying in bed and hoping that it doesn't lead to grippe, ague or worse - winter or lung fever. On the other hand it could be quinsy. Perhaps I am over reacting and it is only diary fever.

What I need is a holiday! But when you go overseas there are all those other nasties like Stranger's fever, sudor anglicus, sprue or dengue. It would be better just to draw the covers up, stay in bed and fight the symptoms with a little vino - as long as I don't overly imbibe and end up with cholelithiasis or podagra. No a touch of delirium tremens will take my mind off the problem!

Ever wondered about those conditions described in old documents? The above ailments were taken from The A to Z of Death which appeared in The Cheshire Ancestor in 1998. If you want to know what the above conditions are see page 36.

HAVE YOU TRIED TO SEARCH THE ACCESS TO ARCHIVES WEBPAGES FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES?

**A SEARCH AGAINST METCAL * REVEALS THERE ARE 2900
REFERENCES TO METCALF(E). SOME MUST BE YOURS!!**

David Lambert reports that "At random I chose this page - ironically there is even an entry for the Museum at Hawes."

Bond

Of **Christopher Metcalfe** of Oldford, Middlesex, esq., to Henry Ingilby of Killinghall, esq., in £500 to observe the covenants of an agreement.. [West Yorks, Leeds, Ingilby Records]

Seashore: business - Chairman's dinner - Councillor **Metcalf**. [Crimlisk Fisher Archive, Filey Heritage Collection...]

Mortgage by Lease and Release (grant bargain sell alien release and confirm) Parties 1. James Holmes of Westfield Gate in the parish of Leeds, husbandman, 2. **Timothy Metcalfe** of Rothwell, yeoman, and Clement Burton of Potter Newton, Leeds, yeoman. Conson £60 Parcels: an undivided moiety of a messuage barn lands &c., in Westfield

Enriquez. Colin Metcalfe. b 1884. Major. author. pen-name Theophilus
Published volumes and unpublished manuscripts by Colin Metcalfe Enriquez, who often published under the pen-name Theophilus. Enriquez was born in 1884, joining the Indian Army in 1905, serving with the 21st Punjab in Northern India and with the Kachin Source:

Dales Countryside Museum: Metcalfe Family School Records

School exercise books used by **Thomas Metcalfe** and **John Metcalfe**, with arithmetical problems and writing practice. [Dales Countryside Museum, Metcalfe Family School...] Metcalfe, Thomas, fl 19th century, of Redmire; Metcalfe, John, fl 1865;

Robert Benjamin Metcalf, Merchant

Will (2 Miscellaneous.) Diocese: Llandaf Parish: St Woolloos Township: Pillgwenlli County: Monmouthshire. [National Library of Wales, Welsh Probate Records...]

If you do obtain any items from the National Archives or any other source please forward the information to the Archivist or Editor so they may arrange for the details to be added to the family database.

MECCA TREASURE ISLAND?



In Mecca News 84 (April 2008) **member 438 Brian Benson** wrote of a missing fortune believed buried on an island in Bradford, Yorkshire. For those of you who thought that this tale was one of those family bed time stories you may have to think again for there is an island, in the area as described!

Woodhall Park was originally purchased by Daniel Peckover a wealthy 19th century Quaker banker in the 1830's and during a period of high unemployment he arranged for local people to create a fishing lake.

He lived in a large house

close by which was taken down sometime in the middle of the 20th century but there is no mention of the Metcalfe's.

No doubt in the spirit of buried treasure it wouldn't take much to resolve the mystery assuming the local council were amenable. The island is not very large and the eastern side is only some 20/25 feet from the lake edge but access would have to be by boat as recounted in the tale. Currently it is covered in immature saplings, trees and thick bushes so there would be work involved but nothing ventured.....

Now where did Brian say he could get a metal detector?

Stan Laurel Memorial Bishop Auckland

From **David Metcalfe M46.**

David writes "When Stan was a small boy his family moved to Bishop Auckland because his father ran the music hall there."



Stan's mother was a Metcalfe - Margaret - born in Hawes in 1860. Daughter of George & Sarah who moved to Ulverston by 1871. She married Arthur Jefferson an actor, manager & playwright at Ulverston in 1884. Stan - real name Arthur Stanley Jefferson - was born on 16 June 1890.

A proposed statue of Stan for his home town of Ulverston Cumbria had a mixed reception during a discussion on street art on the You & Yours programme on BBC Radio4 (29 January 2008). You can't please all the people!

Seaman's Wills at the National Archives

John Metcalf, Mariner, Ship *Veteran* Pay Book no 123.

25 November 1793. Ref ADM/48/60.

James Metcalfe, Able Seaman, Ship *Aigle* Pay Book No 273.

5 June 1798. Ref ADM 48/62.

William Metcalfe. Ship *Asia* - 26 March 1802.

Ref ADM 48/64.

Champion Cyclist The Sixth Annual **Arthur Metcalfe** Charity Bike Ride was held on 28 September 2008 around Easingwold near York. The event has been run and organised by Hartlepool Cycling Club since 2002 in remembrance of Arthur's achievements in road racing during the 1960's and 70's. He rode in the Tour de France twice and won the national road race championship and British best all-rounder time trial. All monies raised go to Macmillan Cancer Support. *From Evening Gazette 13 September 2009* provided by **David Thompson M1603**.

Sage Observations from the 1500's!

From **Lesley Longworth M68**

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying *It's raining cats and dogs*.

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. *That's how canopybeds came into existence*.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, *Dirt poor*.

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance way. Hence the saying *a thresh hold*.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or *the upper crust*.

Old Medical Terms (see page 32)

Coryza - a cold; dysorexy - reduced appetite;
debility - lack of movement/staying in bed;
decrepitude - feebleness due to old age;
grippe - influenza like symptoms; ague - chills;
winter or lung fever - pneumonia; quinsy - tonsillitis;
diary fever - one day fever; stranger's fever - yellow fever;
sudor anglicus - sweating sickness; sprue - intestinal disorder;
dengue - infectious African fever;
cholelithiasis - gall stones; podagra - gout
and delirium tremens (dt's) - hallucinations brought on by drink!

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To check the status of the despatch of any items ordered contact Sales Despatch.

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

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



Bear Park

**Bear Park
Aysgarth
Wensleydale**
Original Home of
Junior Branch of Metcalfes
(See Metcalfe -History of the Clan)



View up Wensleydale from estate