

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY

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Issue No 94

**The Journal of
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The MECCA NEWS

Editor: Peter Dobson



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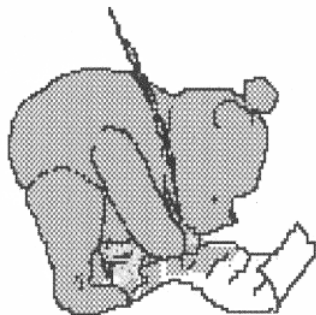
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represent the views of the Editor or the Metcalfe Society

FROM THE EDITOR



A recent visit to the Dales saw me perusing the locally produced The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter - its full of information about activities in the dale. I found mention of a Metcalfe - Janet who had taken over the running of the Bolton Arms at Redmire with a business partner. Always keen to support the clan off we went to see what was going on. We were

not disappointed. Good food, reasonable prices, plenty to eat and a friendly atmosphere - well worth the visit.

On my return I was saddened to receive the news of Warwick Metcalfe's death. I had known Warwick for many years, was distantly related, and had been involved with him in the production of the Society's book. I have fond memories of visiting him in Uppingham and I can but echo the tributes to Warwick included in this edition of the magazine.

If you have been sending e-mails to the Committee since the end of May and not received a reply it is not because we are ignoring you it is because of technical problems with the Society's e-mail. If you have had problems please resend your email.

We hope to have the matter resolved quickly.



The Annual AGM & Muster

will take place on Saturday 8th October 2011 at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes in Wensleydale from 10am till 4pm.

Further details and a booking form are enclosed with this magazine.

DON'T DELAY BOOK TODAY!

About 10 days ago BBC radio4 6-9am news prog had item about expansion of Dales National Park boundaries. They interviewed a Bert Metcalf/e (?it was radio!) whose farm will be affected. At the end of the piece he was asked to sum up his feelings. He said, "A lot better than I can say on 'ere!" which drew applause from whoever else was with him. 7.7.11.

Lesley Longworth M68

COAT of ARMS

Is there any possibility that an explanation of the Society Coat of Arms could be given in The Mecca News? Reg Metcalfe M1467.

The Metcalfe Society's Coat of Arms was first used on the Society's 25th Anniversary magazine Issue no 77 (December 2005) and has appeared on the Society's products since that time.



The original achievement (coat of arms) was granted to the Reverend Thomas Metcalfe by the College of Arms in January 1920 being described as:

Coat of Arms of a commoner's family. Reverend Thomas Metcalfe 1856-1937 of Sunnyside, Lancaster, who traced his ancestry back to James Metcalfe, founder of Nappa through Ottiwell. From Armorial Families: Fox Davies.

(a) Argent, three calves passant sable, on a chief of the last a rose of the first, barbed and seeded proper. Mantling sable and argent. Crest on a wreath of the colours, a satyr affrontee, holding on the dexter hand a club over the shoulder on the sinister the stump of a tree all proper.

(b) Translation Shield. Three black calves on a silver field, above them a silver rose with thorns and seeds on a black field. NB The shield is not impaled or quartered because the Rev Thomas has not included his wife (whose family may not have been armigerous).

Mantling Black and silver. In this case it is in profile with visor closed - sign of a commoner. A satyr, front on holding a club in its right hand resting on its shoulder, on its left the stump of a tree in natural colours.

Wreath Colours to match the mantle.

The Latin motto -*Virtutes felices sunt*
freely translates as
"Virtuous people are happy"

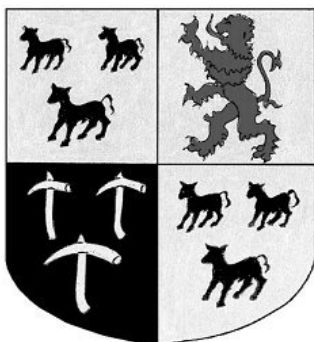
The Society has been allowed use of the arms by the Reverend Metcalfe's granddaughter Mrs Margaret Condon. *Mecca News 77 page 14.*

Metcalfes have held Coats of Arms since the Middle Ages and these are generally accepted as being a form of family recognition primarily to signify

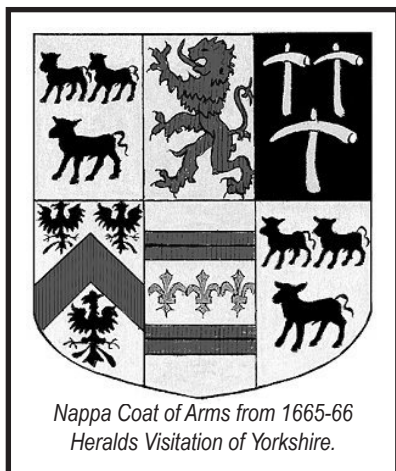
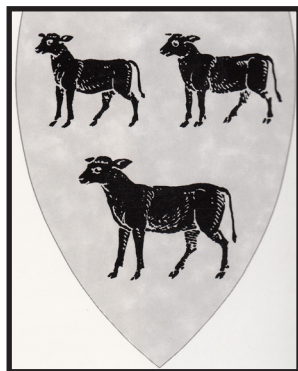
your supporters from those of other families or your enemies (especially in the heat of battle!).

There is a Chapter in the Society's book **Metcalfe - History of the Clan** devoted to the various Metcalfe Arms and their construction and a selection are shown below. Each coat of arms is unique although they can be inherited by descent in an unbroken line from the original bearer. All Arms are only be granted by the 'Kings of Arms' and are subject to approval by the College of Arms. The Arms usually have some reference to the bearer's name or occupation and commonly are a pun on the family name such as the Metcalfe device of a calf.

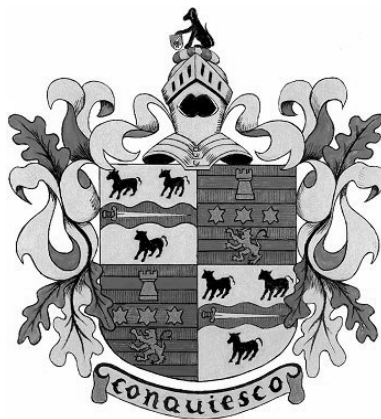
The Metcalfe Arms are first described in 1530 as 'Argent, three calves passant sable' ('three black calves in a standing position on a silver field'). They are held by the descendants of Thomas Metcalfe of Nappa 1424-1504.



Left. Arms of Sir James Metcalfe 1460-1539. With Pigott and Hertlington family arms.



Nappa Coat of Arms from 1665-66 Herald's Visitation of Yorkshire.



Above. Arms of Sir Thomas Theophilus Metcalfe 1745-1813 and his wife Selina Sophia Debonnaire 1756-1815 parents of Lord Charles Theophilus Metcalfe Governor General of India, Jamaica and Canada.

Please remember when sending in items:
articles for the magazine or to other
members of the committee to put on the
correct postage.
Changes in the last year mean that large
or thick envelopes now usually cost more
than normal first or second class postage
and incorrect postage means that the
recipient has to pay the extra
postage and a £1 handling fee!
So please check you have the right post-
age on your letters etc before sending.



Looking for a Christmas
Present?

Why not buy a copy of
Metcalfe. History of the Clan.
Available only from
your Society. See
www.metcalfes-online.co.uk

WELCOME

to two new committee members
Jo Heron and Vivienne Metcalfe.
Jo has already volunteered to be
an Assistant Archivist whilst
Vivienne is arranging a talk to a
local history group!

Yorkshire Family History Fair 2011

Again the Society had a stand at this northern fair, with Brian Metcalfe, David Metcalfe and Margaret Hodgson as your representatives, joined this year by new Committee member and assistant archivist, Jo Heron.

Those of you who have not ventured to this Fair have perhaps not realised how large and comprehensive is its coverage of genealogical issues, with stands spread over three floors of the modern centre building of York racecourse.

As previously the day was enjoyable and we were glad to welcome more members than usual to our table.

Some of those who visited were M1161 Mr & Mrs Wilson; M196 Ann Dunstan; M1088 Kathleen Robinson; M1208 Tony Hayden; M1866 Wendy Metcalfe; M1784 Trevor Metcalfe; M1737 Alyson Gibson; M303 Denny Gibson.

Sales were rather disappointing compared to earlier years but a good level of interest was shown in the Society and leaflets taken away for perusal and thus we hope to welcome some new members as a result.

Margaret Hodgson M515

**DEADLINE for the December Mecca News
is 21 October 2011**

Articles comments or snippets to the Editor.



WARWICK METCALFE

Warwick was the writer of the Society's book *Metcalfe History of the Clan* although modestly and generously he wrote in the preface to the book "I am not its author in the strict sense: that role is more accurately described as a family effort." Nonetheless without his efforts the book would not have the literary gravitas it has nor the success it is and the Society would have been the poorer.

Warwick died on 8 May 2011.

Warwick and my late husband, Bill, were two of the many Metcalfe Society members who have common ancestors in Anthony and Alice Metcalfe married in 1724, a fact they were both delighted to acknowledge, as it made them fourth cousins, twice removed! Their personal relationship, however, was far closer than this - one which grew during a period of more than 20 years and extending beyond the links brought about by the Society.

Elsewhere in this Mecca News will be found tributes to Warwick's immense contribution to the Society, especially the vast amount of work he put into the preparation of "Metcalfe: History of the Clan". It was during this time, and through my own involvement, that we got to know him well and Bill and I visited him and Jean in Uppingham, on one occasion staying overnight. It was on this occasion that we had the privilege of being shown around Uppingham School with Warwick as the 'Tour Guide' par excellence. A book I treasure is a copy of "Uppingham: A Picture Book of a Unique School" which Warwick wrote and illustrated for publication in 1995. To say 'illustrated' is to understate; every page has a beautiful drawing of a building in the school complex, intricate in its detail, and the cover shows a pictorial map of the school's situation in relation to the town of Uppingham. More recently he produced a similar, but much larger, pictorial map of the whole town, the prints of which were sold for fund-raising purposes, one of them hanging on a wall at my daughter's house in Nottingham.

His enthusiasm for the School, the town and for the county of Rutland (how could it have been part of Leicestershire?) were matched by that for the Metcalfe name and its origins. We have lost a valued friend but will always have evidence in printed form of those enthusiasms and of a very remarkable and talented man. **Joan Metcalfe M63.**

WARWICK METCALFE extracts from his eulogy by his son Alistair at a Service of thanksgiving at Uppingham Parish Church on 26 May 2011.

"Born in 1928 John Philip Warwick Metcalfe was the son of Dorothy and captain John Metcalfe a career British Army officer of the Royal Warwickshire regiment. Prep School at Fursie Close and then to The Nautical College Pangborne, chosen one suspects by his mother, for it's uniform.

Academic results adequate, and Matriculation achieved thanks to a distinction in seamanship and signals. However, Warwick failed navigation apparently positioning his destroyer on a mountain side in Burmah. Possibly as a result of this, Warwick was called up to the Army in 1946.

1948 a de-mobbed Warwick with no particular skills considers taking advantage of a government program designed to train ex-servicemen for the professions a post war Britain desperately needs. The newly appointed college principal, did not actually discourage Warwick's interest in Architecture but simply pointed out that there were also plenty of ex-servicemen taking up the opportunity to train as teachers in Art, and this might present to a young man anxious to do himself justice an opening just as challenging and possibly more flexible in the opportunities it presented than Architecture. Warwick astounded by such reasoned argument enrolled.

He soon became seriously interested in art teaching, realising it was something he could do and which offered career potential. And then there were other interests. Whilst the male students at the college were almost entirely ex-servicemen in their early twenties the female intake was drawn from the generation then leaving secondary school in Bournemouth. One young woman in particular caught his attention though it is not recorded if this attention was reciprocal. There followed an hilariously contrived "Could I borrow your bicycle" introduction - hilarious that is to anyone who ever saw Warwick attempt to ride a bike and the start of a relationship that lasted the next sixty years.

In the early fifties Art was not big in the Public Schools most had only one teacher. Warwick realised that with limited jobs available and no track record it would be an advantage to widen his teaching experience. He knew that prep school headmasters were always on the look out for younger members of staff often on short term or a temporary basis and so he focussed on this section of the Times Educational Supplement, whilst devoting some time to his own works. The strategy proved sound. In 1953 Warwick entered three watercolours for the Royal Academy Summer exhibition, all were accepted and all sold.

In 1958 Warwick and family arrived in Uppingham to take up residence in Tudor House. The new Art Master bursting with enthusiasm, the Ford Thames van with roof rack piled high with prototype easels and Art School equipment to be made in the schools carpentry shop. Unfortunately Warwick forgot about the easels as he swung under the archway of the old coaching inn in the Market place. Colonel and Mrs Ennels, proprietors of The Falcon Hotel were very kind, something along the lines of the hanging baskets were past their best and due to come down anyway.

Warwick joined Uppingham as head of a one man department with an empty art school, no formal sixth form teaching and a single 45 min period per week for the Junior classes. He targeted the juniors in order to build up a supply of up and coming talent.... He introduced oil painting on a mass basis.... deliberately encouraged the proliferation of posters for school events..... The Art School became a buzz of activity... As the word spread and the budget increased so the options expanded, pottery, carving and sculpture were introduced and specialist tutors in these subjects joined as part time staff. Warwick wrote of the time: *"A group of intelligent and highly enterprising boys now began to frequent the Art School whose stage of development made them look upon their products more as a means to an end than an end in itself.."*. Warwick was immensely proud and excited by the achievements of all his proteges...

Another means of spreading the gospel were of course the theatre sets. These presented a powerful opportunity to make an impact upon the school and could involve numbers of pupils of varying ability. Scenery would be constructed and painted in the Art School then transported across the Churchyard by gangs of boys often during the night and set up in the vast space of the great hall within 48hrs of the dress rehearsal. There are of course many apocryphal Warwick theatre stories, I was told the other day of him standing on the curtains to prevent them being opened as he made last minute adjustments.

Tom Ryland wrote to me earlier in the week: *Warwick was of course a hugely influential character to all of us involved with him. He was seen by some as slightly eccentric. His nasal twang was a gift to us naughty schoolboys given to mimicry but this was affectionate and never malicious.*

Warwick loved this place the town and it's people and of course his last great work was to immortalize its entirety in his Millennium Map. From the day he arrived Warwick knew he never wanted to work or live anywhere but here.

Warwick retired from Uppingham School in the summer of 1988. Nick Bomford the then Headmaster concluded his speech day address with *"He is unique, and we shall not see his like again.."*



Warwick with members of the Metcalfe Book Committee 1996

In the mid 1980s, through the great efforts of our then Secretary Nina Benson, I was put in touch with the late Warwick Metcalfe, who proved to be my 3rd 2 rem. cousin. For the past 30 odd years I have had a wonderful relationship with him and his wife Jean. I have had some great holidays with them in their Tudor House in Uppingham, and there I was introduced to Warwick's studio in the roof. Packed to the rafters with his drawings, paintings, books, a complete model railway, and an enormous amount of our Metcalfe family memorabilia; a treasure trove indeed.

Together we went through all the Mte. family documents dating back to the 18th century that his Uncle had left to him, and put together a story going back to the 16th century. This included details of my, and several other, Mte Soc. member's ancestors, all going back to an Anthony Metcalfe of Hardraw whose will of 1658 gave us an insight into the life of a land owning Yeoman farmer in Wensleydale in those days. Warwick and I shared the same ancestor in the Rev. Lister Metcalfe born 1740 who became the Minister of Muker church in Swaledale. Since those days there are very many more Metcalfes descended from Anthony and Anne [Hudson] of Hardraw and still they keep turning up!

Warwick was the brains behind all this work, I was just his secretary writing it all down as he dictated, before the finished family history was taken across the road to Warwick's beloved Uppingham Public School to be copied. No such modern fripperies as a computer for Warwick. His wonderful brain and great sense of humour kept me wishing I lived closer to them to enjoy their company and beautiful walled garden ably looked after by Jean.

Elsewhere in this issue Peter Dobson [also one of our line] has given details of Warwick's family life and I am sure there are many more of our members who could testify to Warwick's great contribution to the Society. Warwick will be missed so much by his wife Jean, and children Alastair and Jenny; by me and my family and all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Dorothy Pope M55.

What to say - my problem every 4 months!

First I have to report the good news that we have 2 new committee members: Jo Heron and Vivienne Metcalf. They approached us at the Muster last year and agreed to join the committee at our meeting in April. So welcome aboard! I am confident that both ladies will bring much to the committee and look forward to working with them. As you will see below no sooner than agreeing to come onto the committee Vivienne found herself volunteering to take on an important task for us!!

Chairman's Jottings

I have always felt that to do family history research properly, including a one name study, one needs also to delve into local history, as one's forebears were part of the local history of the area where they lived, worked and died. Family history and local history complement one another. At our Musters we have seen over the years how Metcalfes have been involved in local dales history and indeed we meet at the region's prime local history museum. It was with great pleasure therefore that in April I received a request from the Middleham and Dales Local History Group for the Society to make a presentation at Askrigg about the early Metcalfes and Nappa Hall.

Fortunately for us Vivienne Metcalf volunteered to give the talk on our behalf and she and Nina Benson are working on the powerpoint presentation as I write this! The event will have taken place before you read this (the actual date is 19th July) but it will I am sure be a great success, culminating it is hoped with a visit to Nappa Hall itself, which as some of you will know has been undergoing long needed restoration. Its new owner Mark Thompson has I understand given permission for the visit, which has got me and the committee wondering if he would allow our Society to make a similar visit in October during the Muster. Vivienne has kindly promised to enquire so keep your fingers crossed! If it is possible this year we will obviously notify you all.

Next some very sad news as you will see elsewhere in this edition of Mecca News. I have remarked before that it is one of the sadder parts of my role as chairman to report the passing of one's colleagues and members. One of our most revered members, Warwick Metcalfe, died in hospital in May. In English history we had Warwick the Kingmaker, well the Metcalfe Society in effect had 'Warwick the Clan maker' or at least the author and editor in chief of our 'Metcalfe: History of the Clan' book! Most of you who are reading this will own a copy but those who don't will not appreciate that he was its chief editor, planning the format of the book and writing the first half of the book. Whilst he had several collaborators I am certain that they will agree with me that we could never have contemplated starting on the Clan book without his ideas, input, expertise and enthusiasm.

In the Clan book Warwick says, after referring to the two previous at-

tempts by Metcalfes to write about their ancestry : "As the fortunate inheritor of copies of both, I suggested joining them together as the cheapest and easiest method producing a book about the Metcalfes when Nina Bensonsuggested the Society should do this for the Millennium. I pointed out that time was limited and the Society had no funds to employ a professional to research or write such a book, so inevitably saddled myself with the job in consequence." Thank goodness we did allow him to talk himself into the job, for what a tremendous result we have! He goes on to say: " In practice this has turned out not only to involve selective use of the material and a completely new text , but help from other members of the Society as well, so the book is really a co-operative product." Typically unassuming of him.

Some of you will recall, during its gestation of probably two years, Warwick reported to the members at the Muster where matters stood and gently asked for confirmation that we were content with publishing the book in the form it ultimately took. It would not have happened without him. Several members are related through the same line of ancestors as Warwick and will have their own stories of his kindness, sagacity and help to them in their research. Warwick was a charming, quietly-spoken, erudite gentleman. He was a talented artist – indeed he was the school art master at Uppingham School in Rutland. In latter years through ill health he was been unable to attend our annual Muster, something that he much regretted. We also have him to thank for us being permitted to use the Metcalfe Coat of Arms we show, since he asked Mrs Condon if she would allow us to use the Arms and obtained her blessing. We have been extremely fortunate that he was associated with the Society and played for much of its existence an active role. It was a pleasure to have known and worked with him. Our condolences go to his widow and family at their loss. I much regret that we were unaware of his death until recently and were unable to attend his funeral or the Service of Thanks for his life. It would have been fitting to have attended.

Whilst reading the above passages in the Preface to the Clan book my eyes alighted also on these words: "All knowledge and discovery begins as speculation, and speculation is an act of faith that truth may eventually come to light". A fitting summary of what family history research is about I think!

In a few weeks time we will be mustering again and I hope that many as possible will be able to visit Hawes in October for our annual gathering. The committee meeting in 3 weeks time will finalise the programme which you will be able to read about in this Mecca News. I am hoping that we might agree to introduce a few changes to the day's activities, nothing too dramatic I assure you. The committee might not agree of course!

Hope to see you all there!

David Lambert M11

your e-mails & letters

When I joined the Metcalfe Society in the early 80's Nina Benson sent me a beautiful family tree (in turquoise ink) starting with Richard Metcalfe b circa 1670, I still haven't located his birth details out of the several that could be him. The children of his first marriage to Elizabeth were all baptised at Whorlton, North Yorkshire. Elizabeth died in 1716. Richard's 2nd marriage 1723 & later family were still in Whorlton. This came as a complete surprise as we lived 4 miles from Whorlton, having chosen this part of North Yorkshire to move back to after some years living in London, having passed and remarked about Whorl Hill & the ruins of Whorlton Castle just about every time we came back on regular visits to family. We knew the family had been in the Helmsley area for generations but had no idea about Whorlton at the other end of Bilsdale. Seemingly the route at the time between Whorlton / Rievaulx / Helmsley was the old Drovers Road, only passable now by 4x4 I'm told.

It was a very moving moment to discover, in the graveyard at Old Whorlton Church, the small gravestone of Elizabeth, Richard & Elizabeth's daughter born August 1698 died October 1710, we haven't come across others for the family.

Years later I obtained copies of the entries in Whorlton Parish Registers of Richard's 2nd marriage to Mary Sweet of Swainby and the baptism of their son James, our forbear. The Vicar who officiated at these events was the Vicar of

Rudby, Rev'd Michael Lythe, which came as another surprise because we now lived in Hutton Rudby and had no idea that Whorlton had been a Chapelry of Rudby Parish up to the 18th Century being served by the Vicar of Rudby.

In 2009 the Vicar of Rudby conducted the marriage of our daughter Sarah and the baptism of their first child, William James Metcalfe Dawson in December 2010. I have counted the generations carefully and with the baptism of James Metcalfe in July 1730 and our Grandson William this spans 10 generations over 280 years.

I love it that in 17th/18th century Richard and his family would never have imagined that would happen or that their descendants would even know their names and be interested in their lives.

Val Metcalfe M61



I have finally solved the mystery of who my namesake was in my ex-husband's family! All through our courtship and marriage I would hear about Bill Cambray's "Great-Aunt Liz" whose name was the same as mine. As I have a subscription to FindMyPast.co.uk I offered my children the opportunity to let me know any data they have on their father's side so that I could create a family tree for them as well as an ancestor chart. As it turned out, my son Robert Cambray had quite a lot of good information which proved to be very useful to find my namesake (all I knew was that Great-Aunt Liz lived

in Lincolnshire). I used FindMyPast's new "MarriageFinder" tool, and found that one of the brothers of Bill's grandfather, Frank Herbert Cambray, had married Elizabeth Metcalf. The marriage was registered in Louth, Lincolnshire, which confirmed that I had the right marriage since Louth is where the Cambrays had moved to from Gloucestershire many years before. If anyone is interested or thinks this is a link to their tree, the GRO reference is as follows: GRO Marriage 1922 Q1 Louth 7A 1023. **Elizabeth Metcalfe M1648**

My Great Uncle, Cecil R Metcalfe, celebrated his 100th birthday on the 13th April 2011, I wonder if you might publish a small piece to commemorate this milestone? I have attached a couple of photographsalso included a short passage describing his life etc:

"Cecil Ross Metcalfe celebrated his 100th birthday on April 13th 2011. He was born in Saltburn-by-the-sea in 1911. He was the second youngest in a family of seven children. His father, Tom Metcalfe, worked as the Head gardener of the Valley Gardens and the family lived in a Victorian house which overlooked the Italian Garden down below. There was a woodland beside the house so it was a lovely place to grow up. He was lucky enough to attend a Grammar school in Coatham, Redcar and then at the age of sixteen, he started work at the Dorman Long Steelworks at Grangetown as an analytical, metallurgical chemist. He retired after about 46 years at the same steelworks which by that time were run by British Steel.



He married Edna Carter in 1935 and they raised three children and had been married for 62 years when Edna died. By then, after living in Redcar for all his working life, then retiring first to Scarborough and then to Malton, they had moved to Rushden in Northamptonshire to be near one of his daughters. He lived in a sheltered bungalow and enjoyed attending St.Mary's Church in the centre of Rushden for several years until he decided to live in an MHA residential home in Rushden.

He takes part in the weekly religious service there and reads the lesson every week and he delighted everybody by doing this on his birthday last week!!! He was touched to receive many cards, including the special one from the Queen and had a surprise visit from several family members and friends in the afternoon. Now he says he is looking forward to the London Olympics!!" **David Reece, M1562.**

MECCA Bits & Bobs

I live in Canada and was watching the three-part 1930's version of Upstairs Downstairs on the US Public Broadcaster, KCTS 9, Seattle, WA. At the end of the show financial supporters are listed "who made this show possible". One of them was **Barbara and Paine Metcalf**.

Supplied by **Elizabeth Metcalfe M1648**

Moving from proportionate consolidation to equity accounting will affect each of a company's financial statement line items notably decreasing both revenue and gross assets. **Mike Metcalf**, KPMG's technical partner commenting on the International Accounting Standards Board standards for off balance sheet activities and joint arrangements. **Accountancy Magazine June 2011**

People's Choice Award Winner. **Lorelei Medcalf** won the 2011 award at the Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition for her steel plate etchings of impractical inventions. From *The Advertiser* (14-19 March 2011) *South Australia*. Supplied by **Pat Pearson M1596**

Providence, Rhode Island Buildings

Wanskuck Mill (1864): The Wanskuck Company established by **Jesse Metcalf** and Henry Steere in 1862 was one of the many woollen mills formed early in the Civil War when cotton was scarce and army uniforms and blankets as well as civilian clothing were in great demand. Steere and Metcalf bought the land and water privileges of a small abandoned cotton mill on Branch Avenue. In 1930 the various mills of the company produced 1,300,600 yards of worsted goods. By the 1950's, however, the worsted market had declined so greatly that most remaining worsted companies either re-invested in other kinds of firms or moved south where textile production was cheaper because of lower-paid workers and less expensive energy sources. The Metcalf's sold all of their stock in the Wanskuck Company which subsequently was reorganized as the Wanskuck Corporation

Jesse Metcalf Building (1896): Named for the founder of the Wanskuck Mills and owned as an investment property by his daughters, Eliza Raedeke and Sophia Baker, the Jesse Metcalf Building was built especially for jewelry-manufacturing businesses. The 5-storey brick structure with cast-iron storefronts, large segmental-arch windows, pier-and-spandrel articulation on the upper stories, and a corbeled cornice was divided into numerous rental units, each equipped with the latest, improved forges and windpipes. In 1920, the Metcalf Building was bought by a realty company. It is now owned and partially occupied by the J. I. Manufacturing Company, a jewelry manufacturer. Several other small or moderately sized jewelry companies occupy the *(remainder of)* Metcalf Building.

Various internet sources

The Discovery of The Chronicle of Private Henry Metcalfe

Isn't it strange how members of our Clan seem to 'pop-up' at regular and significant occasions in the great historic times through which our Empire and nation have progressed? It is easy, therefore, even without great study or knowledge, to say a Metcalfe was present at Agincourt it was a Metcalfe who was responsible for making Napoleon's coffin; the Metcalfes fought the last inter-family war in England, and Private Henry Metcalfe played a part in, and was involved with, the Indian Mutiny which began, without the initial 'help' of Henry, on Sunday May 10th 1857 at Meerut in northern India. It was really the beginning of the sub-continent's determined effort for freedom from Great Britain which only ended with the inhabitants gaining their independence in 1947. In actual fact the initial uprising was quelled and peace restored to India by new agreements and treaties in July 1859.

We have all, present and recent schoolchildren excepted, heard of the Indian Mutiny and the Black Hole of Calcutta, but how did it all kick-off? The reasons are many and varied. In their simplest form, it was surely just that of a nation no longer being prepared to be subjugated by another. A favourite reason, represented by some historians seeking a more dramatic 'moment in historical time', was noted and reported that, on that fateful Sunday at Meerut, eighty-five sowars (native horse soldiers) of the 3rd Bengal Light Cavalry, refused to accept the British made and supplied cartridges for their Enfield rifles for, it was said, the cartridges, which had to have their tips bitten off before loading, were greased with pork or beef fat forbidden by their respective Muslim or Hindu religions.



*Private
32nd Foot*

The sowars were stripped of their uniforms, shackled and led away to be imprisoned to begin a ten year sentence. This angered their compatriots and regimental brothers who stormed the prison, released their comrades and then went on a killing spree of all the Christians, Europeans and their servants they could locate before heading off to Delhi. Word arrived there of the advancing mutineers, and the British Officers in the garrison called their native troops to arms to repulse the expected attack. The response to the order was for the sepoy (native Indian soldiers) to turn their weapons against their officers and join the insurgents. These together went on a looting and murdering spree until Delhi was entirely in their control less than a week from the start of the mutiny.

From this scant account of the mutiny which affected the whole of India, we are able because of the ever-present 'Metcalf', to put some real 'flesh' on some of the most cruel and vicious actions which took place. This is entirely due to Private Henry Metcalfe, a member of Her Majesty's 32nd Regiment of Foot, who enlisted on the 7th July 1848, aged 13 and one sixth (younger even than 'Adrian Mole, aged 13 and three-quarters') but, like Adrian, he kept a diary!

The story of the 'finding' of this Diary is a story of mystery, detection and discovery, equalled only by the crime-solving carried out by that master detective, Sherlock Holmes. The two most significant differences being that the opium which stimulated Sherlock, according to Conan Doyle, was not required in the hunt for Private Metcalfe's Diary and, secondly, the former is the figment of a very intelligent author, while the latter is the exact, reported truth of an English Infantryman in action in the India of over 150 years ago. As General Sitwell, the American commander of the Chinese troops serving under the 14th Army in Burma said, when asked to write a message for the celebration of 'Infantry Day', in the States, "Why have a special day? Every day in war is the Infantryman's Day!" So reported Sir William Slim in the Forward to Henry's published Diary.

The ending of World War Two gave Lieutenant General, Sir Francis Tuke, already a published author, time to consider the many high-ranking soldiers whose families had spent generations of service to, and in, the Indian sub-continent. But who should he write about and how could he research the subject?

Fate was 'peeping over' Sir Francis's shoulder that day for he had been complimented on his writings of life in India in the summer of 1947, and the author became connected with a major whose family seemed to 'fit the bill' having spent much distinguished time in India. The family was, at the time living in Somerset, and the head of the family, Major Kirkland, became interested in the project, and contacted many likely friends and relations for documented evidence of time and action spent with, or in, the British Army in India.

These actions led Sir Francis to Captain Widnell in Beaulieu and the spur he needed to carry on sleuthing. The Captain had received part of a typescript from a Lady Armstrong, a relation of the Dashwoods of Beaulieu. This was real progress, as the typescript seemed to report in diary form on the Siege of Lucknow in 1857. It had been chronicled by Private Henry Metcalfe, but detailed only the end of our relation's period of service during the 'troubles'. It covered the 'clearing-up' - after the siege and the setting

sail for Blighty aboard the 'not so good' ship 'Pomona' in 1859, after a decade of Indian Service. The 'Pomona' was soon berthed back in Calcutta, not Portsmouth, scourged with cholera. After a good 'bow to stem, gunwale to bilges, scrubbing and hosing, she was ready for inspection. The diary of Henry Metcalfe ends, "However, by the time the General Doctor came on board and saw the arrangements he said we could not....."

Did it end there? Did Henry succumb to cholera? If this was the end, where was the beginning? Perhaps Conan Doyle's Holmes should be 'put on the case'!

Sir Francis Toker felt somewhat thwarted, since all his contacts had no knowledge of an earlier typescript being seen. Eventually he was able to decipher a rough note at the very bottom of the last page of the diary. It was of amazing value to him for it made reference to 'The Lucknow Baby'. This was an infant born at the height of the siege of the city. The child, born in the Residency in 1857, was Mr Arthur Dashwood. In the United Kingdom in adult life he, in 1936 had broadcast on the BBC in a series of programmes entitled 'I Was There', and it was following this that Henry Metcalfe's Diary portion came to light.

The broadcast had been heard by Henry's daughter, Norah Metcalfe, and she had sent the diary section to Arthur Dashwood. He had subsequently died and all trace and connection with Norah had been lost. Sir Francis Toker was not to be put off at this stage so, engaging his tactical and intelligence-gathering Army-trained skills, he checked initially the Army List. This revealed that Henry Metcalfe's 32nd Regiment of Foot was now the 1st Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Henry's service record and any pension rights should be housed either in the Battalion Depot or their Records Office.

not far removed ^{12.3} from one, and his gestures
to his men in the boat were something grand.
It was to one of these Islands that the old
King of Delhi was transported after being
Captured after the fall of Delhi for his complicity
in the mutiny. It was here also that Lord Mayo
was assassinated by one of the natives who was
transported to there, when he Lord Mayo was then
on an official visit.

Diary Extract

Persistence paid off and the name of Henry's daughter, Norah, was soon discovered, since she had worked as a nurse in the Potteries. However, her recent death had been recorded in the weeks during which Sir Francis had been

sleuthing ever closer to his 'goal'. His search now 'dead in the water', he was comforted by helpers who assured him that it was 'probably only the back page of the Diary which was missing and this had long gone in the constant handling of the document'.

The last remaining ace in Sir Francis's hand was the fact that he knew Henry Metcalfe had completed his Army career with the Cheshire Regiment. So onward and upward the search went on, via the Territorial Association, to the Chief Constable of Cheshire. At last connection was made with Henry's grandson, Norah's nephew, Arthur Metcalfe, living in Macclesfield, Cheshire. Arthur was most eager to help, and he would not only search through his recently deceased aunt's papers and records, but would do the same through his father's. His father was Thomas Christopher Metcalfe. It was thought that there was little likelihood of anything new emerging, but no stone was to remain unturned!



Henry Metcalfe in later life

Sir Francis had put little hope in anything turning up from the Metcalfe family. However, through the post came a letter from Arthur Metcalfe revealing that, at a reunion of the Territorials of the 7th Cheshire Regiment, the request went round asking if anyone knew of the relatives of Henry Metcalfe. Evidently, when cleaning for a move, a trunk was emptied and at the bottom a diary was discovered. Arthur was put in touch with the finder and this was how his Aunt Norah came to possess the diary. Almost coinciding with Norah's receipt of the Diary, she was listening to a BBC broadcast by Mr Dashwood entitled "I Was There," and the two made contact.

It would seem that from this point on the Diary began to get lost or mislaid! When it was sent to the 'Lucknow Baby' (Mr Arthur Dashwood) he put forward the idea that it should be shown to the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry museum in Bodmin, Cornwall. Norah had agreed and received back from the museum part of the original Diary not covering Henry's time in India, plus a bound copy of the original part retained by the Regimental museum.

Problem solved! Sir Francis Toker now knew the whereabouts of the two sections of Henry Metcalfe's Diary, and how the parts had, quite in-

nocently, become parted.

From the museum records of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in Bodmin, he was allowed to study the original Diary along with other contemporary reports and evidence. These were much needed in order to verify the general facts as well as the small details covered by the manuscript.

Much later in time there have been scandals concerning other, far more famous, War Diaries. For example, there was a great furore when Adolf Hitler's private diaries were 'unearthed' and the discovery made a great "to do" in the literary world, until learned experts made a thorough study of them and found them severely wanting. They were, in fact, complete fakes.

Earlier in time Sir Francis was determined to authenticate our Henry's work. This he found quite easy, for details from the Diary regularly confirmed, and vice-versa, the other facts held by the museum. One of the most emphatic facts came about when he was sent a published copy of 'A Lady's Diary of the Siege of Lucknow' by a Mrs Harris, who happened to be the wife of Garrison Chaplain, Revd. J. P. Harris. In this publication Mrs Harris was upset that the family dog 'dear old Bustle', who had been making a nuisance of himself, threatened with the possibility of being 'put down' when, "A soldier of the 32nd called Metcalfe, has taken charge of dear old Bustle for us." In Henry's Diary he reports that he had offered to take care of 'Bussle' (spelt differently), the dog belonging to the Garrison Chaplain.

Thus the Diary of Henry Metcalfe, covering his life as a career soldier in the British Army, was rediscovered and verified ready for publication. It also provides the family insight into another of its members and the daring-do of his soldiering life. **Leon Metcalfe M320**

The Chronicle of Private Henry Metcalfe was published by Cassell in 1953 and includes additional material and letters relevant to the Indian Mutiny. A second article "The Life of Henry Metcalfe During The Period of His Military Career" will appear in a future edition of the Mecca News.

.....
Kensington County Middlesex Parish Register 1539-1675

(Printed 1890 by The Harleian Society)

Burials. January 23, 1585/86 (Regina 27) **Jane Medcalfe**,
a poore travilinge woman.

May 6, 1586. **Jone Medcalfe**.

September 30, 1615. **George Meadcalfe**, the Lady Bartletes porter.

ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

It was nice to meet a number of existing members of the Society, at the York Family History Fair, in June. David Metcalfe was able to deal with many queries from both current & potential members. David is constantly updating & where necessary, correcting any discrepancies in our online data. This is an extremely time consuming task, which needs to be completed, before I can deal with some of the questions posed by many members. Please be patient, you will all be answered as soon as possible.

Your Society will also have a stand at the Family History Day Fair, organised by the North West Group of FHS, at Bowlers Exhibition Centre, Longbridge Road, Trafford Park, Manchester M17 1SN, on Saturday, 29th October 2011 – 10:00 to 16:00 hrs. Free parking is available. It promises to be a well attended event & I look forward to seeing some of you there.

Could the member who emailed our Treasurer, asking if the Multi Mecca Disc was still available, please contact me. I think that he was based in either Canada or the USA, but unfortunately his email, which was forwarded to me, got deleted by accident. Our President, Charles Metcalfe, who produced the disc, has been busy downsizing from a large house to an apartment. Despite coping with such an enormous task, he found time to provide me with copies of the disc. If anyone does require one, please contact me.

As you will observe from the following list of new members & birth briefs, there have not been many to deal with recently, though we have been kept busy with other tasks. Should any new or existing members require assistance with their research, and/or the preparation of their birth briefs, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am delighted to welcome Jo Heron to our team of archivists. Jo has volunteered to undertake the duties of Assistant Archivist, previously performed by Nina Benson. Nina has fulfilled many tasks during the very long time she has been involved with the Society. Her knowledge of "The Clan" is amazing & I am extremely pleased, that despite the need to reduce her workload, Nina will still be available to dispense some of that knowledge, gained throughout the years spent digging into the past of so many of us. I am sure that all members, particularly those who have had the privilege of dealing with her, over the years, will join me in saying a huge "Thank You Nina".

Our Archive Team will be on duty at our Muster in Hawes on Saturday, 8th October, ready & willing to offer any assistance you might require.

Brian Metcalfe (M1554)

BIRTH BRIEFS FROM EXISTING MEMBERS

M1894 Brian Metcalf 1 Drake Close, Lytham St Annes, Lancashire FY8 2EX bryannmetcalf@tiscali.co.uk

S.o. Harold & Marjorie (Hardman) Mt m 3Q 1931 Great Eccleston, Lancs. Harold b 2nd Apl 1899 Rochdale. s.o. William Watts & Mary Ann (Winterbottom) Mt m 2Q 1896 Rochdale. William Watts b 2Q 1867 Bury s.o. James & Sarah (Watts) Mt m 2Q 1861 Bury. James b 6th Dec 1826 Walmersley, Bury s.o. James & Nancy (?) Mt. James b 1794 Bury.

NEW MEMBERS (WITH OR AWAITING BIRTH BRIEFS)

M1897 Mr Alan Geoffrey Parks Freshfield, Cardinals Green, Horseheath, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB21 4QX parks@horseheath.com
S.o. Vincent Blake & Hannah (Mte) Parks m 17 Oct 1932 Waterloo. Hannah b 13 Jul 1905 Marsett d.o. George B & Miriam (Coates) Mte m 1902 Aysgarth. George b 13 Aug 1867 Easington Lane, Co. Durham s.o. John & Alice (Blenkiron) Mte m 22 Mar 1864 Wensley. John bpt 23 Jul 1843 Askrigg s.o. William & Margaret (Sill) Mte m 15 Oct 1836 Askrigg. William bpt 18 Nov 1816 Askrigg s.o. John & Margaret (Blades) Mte m 31 Jan 1803 Askrigg. John bpt 21 Feb 1781 Askrigg s.o. James Mte of Askrigg. **Conn. M54 M242 M296 M297 M400 M403 M410 M597 M639 M720 M918 M1419 M1700 M1713 M1869**

M1898 Mrs Eileen M Hampshire 11 Fairfield Close, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 2PL gehampshire@uwclub.net

M1899 Mr Stephen Paul Chater Arbrogue Orchard, Arbrogue Chase, Esher, Surrey KT10 9ES stephenchater@btinternet.com

M1900 Mr Robert Metcalfe 12 Gerrie Court, Whitby, Ontario, L1N5Y2 Canada rpm48@rogers.com

S.o. Leslie Martin & Mary Elinor (Gallagher) Mte m 1944 Toronto. Leslie b 7 Jun 1922 Milton, Ontario s.o. Alfred Wellington & Lillian Victoria (Loveday) Mte m 1918 Toronto, Ontario. Alfred b 18 Sept 1898 Milton, Ontario s.o. John Cecil & Emily Catherine (Wyley) Mte m 14 Nov 1895 Milton, Ontario. John b 20 Sept 1870 Nelson, Ontario s.o. Thomas & Jane (Burt) Mte m 23 Jun 1870 Hamilton, Ontario. Thomas b 7 Mar 1837 Otonabee, Ontario s.o. Joseph & Elizabeth (Howson) Mte m Otonabee, Ontario. Joseph b Dec 1808 Alkborough, Lincolnshire s.o. John & Sarah (Sowerby) Mte m 28 Feb 1803 West Halton. John b Feb 1780 West Halton, Lincolnshire s.o. William & Mary (Smith) Mte m 27 Dec 1774 West Halton. William b1754 West Halton, Lincolnshire s.o. John & Ann (Leedham) Mte m 1738. John bpt 25 Sep 1715 Alkborough, Lincolnshire s.o. Peter & Elizabeth (Tomlinson) Mt m 12 Apr 1702 Appleby. Peter bpt 26 Feb 1675 Appleby s.o. Peter & Ann Williamson

Mt m 5 Jun 1672 Appleby Peter bpt 23 Apr 1648 Appleby s.o. Peter Mt.

Conn M67 M168 M1416

Elizabeth Howson b May 1815, Dent, Yorkshire d.o. John & Eleanor (Ellen)
(Mte) Howson m 30 July 1814 Dent

Conn M89 M1038

M1901 Mrs Susan Short 40 Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, West Midlands
B67 5EA sueshort@hotmail.com

M1902 Mrs Maureen Heseltine Hideaway Cottage, Kettlewell, Skipton,
North Yorkshire BD23 5QX maureen.heseltine@btinternet.com

M1903 Mr Paul Medcalfe 28 Loveclough Park, Loveclough, Rossendale,
Lancashire BB4 8QA paul.medcalfe@fentons.co.uk

M1904 Mr Edward Metcalfe 21841 River Road, Maple Ridge, British Co-
lumbia, V2X 2B9 Canada ejamesa@telus.net

M1905 Mr Richard Metcalf 68 Ridgewood Drive, Boardman, Ohio, 44512
USA cruxus@aol.com

M1906 Mr Leslie Green 19 Waterside Gardens, Oughtibridge, Sheffield,
South Yorkshire S35 0JS lesdori@waterside3133.freemove.co.uk

M1907 Mr William Metcalfe 1018 Metcalfe Lane, Crystal Springs, Missis-
sippi 39059 USA williammetcalfe@bellsouth.net

M1908 Mr John Metcalfe 7975 Hobgood Road, Fairburn, GA 30213 USA
Fender135@juno.com

It is with regret we inform members of the deaths of

JPW Metcalfe M256

Died 8 May 2011

Eldred I Medcalf M829

Died 22 May 2011

We extend our condolences to family and friends.

GETTING STARTED

If you have been carrying out family history research for some time look away now (although you may find something of interest). This piece is primarily for those new to family research.

So you have the bug and have started looking for your ancestors and the stories behind the names. You have of course:-

- a) Written down all the relevant names, dates, relationships, locations etc you can remember
- b) gathered all the photographs, documents and papers together
- c) spoken to all your relatives and extracted as much information from them
- put a), b) & c) together in some kind of order to see what sense it makes and
- d) decided on a filing/retrieval/storage system and identified a software package to display your family tree.

Now it is time to venture forth.

Today most researchers (for that is what you now are) start with the internet. If you don't have computer access you may be able to get it at your local library (and even if you do your library may have access to providers at no cost). There are a number of internet providers including Ancestry.co.uk, TheGenealogist.co.uk, findmypast.co.uk. These and others generally allow free access to their indexes (but then charge for more detailed information) which means you can see if the person(s) you are seeking are recorded.

The first step is to obtain a birth or marriage certificate (death certificates are usually less useful) (BMD's). From the indexes you will be able to find the appropriate reference to obtain the certificate from the General Record Office (GRO) (www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content). This is where you start paying. Once you have your certificate and are satisfied it is the right person you start to build your family tree using BMD's. However check your information at each stage. I know someone who relied solely on the indexes from the internet, was back to the 1860's in an afternoon only to discover at a later stage that the information which "almost" matched and had to be the right person didn't it - wasn't!

Some times you wont find what you are looking for - or there may be too many results. Think sideways - look for older or younger siblings, look for different spellings or omitted forenames. Remember death certificates only have details provided by the informant and they may have it wrong or were misinformed. Marriages from 1837 to 1860's may be non-conformist

and sometimes the details recorded locally but not forwarded to the GRO. Spouses gave incorrect ages whilst birth registration was not compulsory until 1875.

Once you are back in the early 1900's you can start to use the census returns. Census returns are available from 1841 to 1911. The ten year surveys were first taken in 1801 but the earlier ones were mostly destroyed or give few details. The 1851, 1881 and 1911 censuses are often considered the most useful although all should be consulted. The internet providers tend to have the census records and these should be used in conjunction with the BMD's to build up family groupings, relationships and places of birth.

Now you have exhausted these sources (and are not too exhausted yourself) you need to move on to other records. By far and away the most useful are parish records (the BMD's of their day) and wills (especially for those with land owning antecedents). If your ancestors were non-conformists or Catholics your task will be harder but sometimes even these BMD's are recorded in parish records. Again the internet providers have holdings but it is often better to seek out the relevant county record office as they are often holders of parish records and wills and these may be available on line.

If your research concerns Metcalfe ancestors (and given you are likely to be reading this as a Metcalfe FHS member they will be!) a lot of this work has already been done for you. The Society has recorded all BMD's since 1837 and extracted the census returns for the family name. Where possible our archivist team has made the links into the various earlier family trees. ***Metcalfe - History of the Clan*** book follows the main lines from the 12th century and lists documented trees from later periods.

As you go back beyond the 1800's sources become smaller in number and tend to reside in the National Archives, British History Online, county/local record offices, universities and local libraries amongst others. You can often find local histories, diaries etc from old books - copies in the British Library or through your local library service.

At each stage during your family history search check out your information. It is often said unless you have three independent sources don't accept the details as being correct! So check your findings and Good Hunting!

Moving up the Popularity Stakes.

In 1881 there were 6838 Metcalf(e)s

in the UK making it the 597th most used surname.

By 2011 the number of Metcalf(e)s had risen to 11696 and the name was 494th in the list of surnames. **www.familytreeassistant.com**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

North West Group of Family History Societies

Are proud to present a

Family History Day Fair 2011

"Tracing Family Trees"

At Bowlers Exhibition Centre
Longbridge Road, Manchester M17 1SN

On Saturday, 29 October 2011 - 10:00 to 16:00

A once in a lifetime opportunity to meet the experts and join in this unique event, featuring: Family History Societies, Record Offices, Professional Researchers, Maps, Books, Postcards, Railway Index, Help Desks, Publications and Lectures and The latest Technology in Computers and Software at a Computer market
With
Talks by invited Celebrity Speakers

Admission is £3:00 on the door or £4:00 for those visitors wishing to hear a talk. Please note seating for the talks is limited to 60 and tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis. Young persons under 16 will be admitted free to the Hall if accompanied by an adult.

Organised by;

MANCHESTER & LANCASHIRE FHS, THE CATHOLIC FHS (NORTH WEST),
FHS of CHESHIRE, CUMBRIA FHS, LANCASHIRE FH & HERALDRY SOCIETY,
LIVERPOOL & SW LANCs FHS, NORTH CHESHIRE FHS ORMSKIRK & DISTRICT FHS
N MEOLS (Southport), FHS THE METCALFE SOCIETY and THE RIMMER SOCIETY

Affiliated members of the Federation of Family History Societies

Saturday 10 September. The National Family History Fair, Newcastle
Central Premier Inn, Newbridge Street,
Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 8BS
10am-4pm Admission £3

Saturday September 17. FFHS Autumn General Meeting will be held
at the Quaker Meeting House, 22 School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BT.

Theophilus John Metcalfe 5th

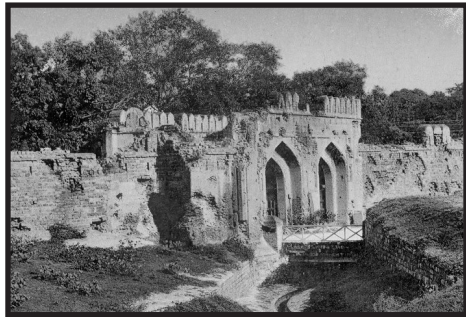
The Demise of Metcalfe House, Delhi

(A previous article in Mecca News 93 (April 2011) records the life of Thomas Theophilus Metcalfe and sets the scene for his son Theophilus John's experiences.)

The problems that were to cause so much trouble for Theophilus John 5th (Theo John) were not of his own making but that of his father Thomas Theophilus 4th (Thom Theo). After the death of Charles Theophilus the new Baronet Thom Theo 4th inherited Fern Hill near Windsor with all its contents. The gold and silver and anything of any value was boxed and sent to him in India. There he had everything of any value placed in a bank in Delhi.

Theo John was born 1828 and was accepted in 1844 into the Military East India College at Addiscombe. He must have decided that the military life was not for him as in 1846 he was a student at Haileybury the college for the East India Company Civil Service. In July 1848 he was appointed to the Civil Service and set sail for India. In 1851 he married Charlotte Low, who died in childbirth in 1853.

When the Indian Mutiny started in May 1857 Theo John was driving in his buggy to take over command at one of the gates. One of the native personnel told him the mutiny had started the day before at Meerut. He drove to another gate to warn the office in command to be prepared to receive a large number of mutineers. It was agreed Theo John would go to the small water gate and close it off. About half way



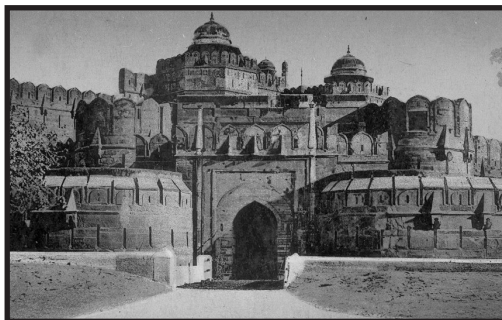
Kashmiri Gate, Delhi

there he meet a large body of mutineers inside the old walled city of Delhi. He was attacked by a section of the mutineers but they only succeeded in wrecking the buggy. Theo John tried to return to his buggy and managed to meet a company of mounted police. In his capacity as a local Magistrate he ordered the mounted police to charge the mutineers, which they refused to do. He went in search of a senior officer only to be told all the European Officers had been killed. He rode round the old city issuing orders to the native officers, during this time he was knocked unconscious.

After he recovered a close native friend had him moved and supplied him with native clothes giving him a degree of safety for a few days. However with no rescue in sight his friend moved him to a cave. His friend obtained a horse so he could get to the Nawab of Juger, his friend. Upon arriving at the

house of the Nawab he was shown into a small room to await an audience. Eventually Theo John was told the Nawab was unable to see him however he was supplied with a new horse and told to leave.

On arriving at the large encampment of the relieving English force he had difficulty in convincing the English officers he was who he claimed to be and not an imposter as he was still dressed in the native clothes he had been given in Delhi.



Agra Fort

General Anson arrived at Agra with an English army and Theo John with his local knowledge was appointed as an intelligence officer with the troops to track down the mutineers. He was to remain with the army for several months, but received no recognition from the government. It appears he was too eager to hang men who he suspected of, rather than those who he knew to be, actual mutineers.

On his return to Delhi he found Metcalfe House built by his father, had been used as target practice by the mutineers. The bank where all the gold and silver and other valuables had been kept for safety had been looted and burnt to the ground. So he did not own anything, not even the clothes he stood up in. The government at Westminster only paid out a nominal sum in compensation. He died in Paris in 1883. **George Buxton M3.**

MORE FAIRS & HISTORY EVENTS

Saturday 24 September 2011, 10am North Yorkshire County Record Office. Family history skills day. Includes: getting the best from the internet; approaches to Latin and palaeography (old handwriting); and family tree recording software. The cost £25, including light refreshments and a buffet lunch. 01609 777585 or e-mail archives@northyorks.gov.uk

Saturday 1 October. Oxfordshire FHS Open Day at The Marlborough School just outside Woodstock. 10am to 4pm.

Saturday 1 October. 10am to 4pm. East Yorkshire Family History Society. Hull Family History Fair at the Costello Sports Stadium Boothferry Road. £1.

Saturday 8 October Metcalfe Society Muster & AGM at Dales Countryside Museum Hawes Wensleydale.
For further details see enclosed invitation.

Books

RFG Hollett & Son Finkle Street Sedbergh Cumbria.

Suggested by M316 Jean Metcalfe.

METCALFE, Frederick Rev. CHARICLES:

[First edition] John W.Parker, 1845. £65.00

METCALFE, John. YORKSHIRE DIALECT PLAYS. Pp. 160. Scarce.

[First edition] Heath Cranton, no date [c.1919]. £30.00

METCALFE, Philip. 1933. Pp. 316, illustrated.

[First edition] Bantam Press, 1989. £15.00

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www.thefamilyhistorypartnership.com

57 Bury New Road, Ramsbottom, Bury, BL0 0BZ

The National Burial Index for England and Wales (Third Edition) £29.95

Births and Baptism Records for Family Historians. Stuart Raymond £6.10

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Marriage Records for Family Historians. Stuart Raymond £6.10

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Stuart Raymond £7.95

Poor Law Records for Family Historians. Simon Fowler £7.95

My Ancestor Was a Coalminer (Second Edition 2010). David Tonks £11.80

My Ancestor Was an Apprentice. Stuart A Raymond £11.00

other family history book sites

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/bookshop

www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

www.countrysidebooks.co.uk

My brother was recently telling me how some farmers turn
the cattle registration process into a farce.

This happened the last time an inspector came to one of our cousins
to check his records. B told him he had them on computer
and the man's eyes lit up as he voiced relief that it
would speed up his visit.

He said, "Is it in the house or do you have an outside office?".

B tapped his head and replied, "Nay lad, it's in 'ere!"

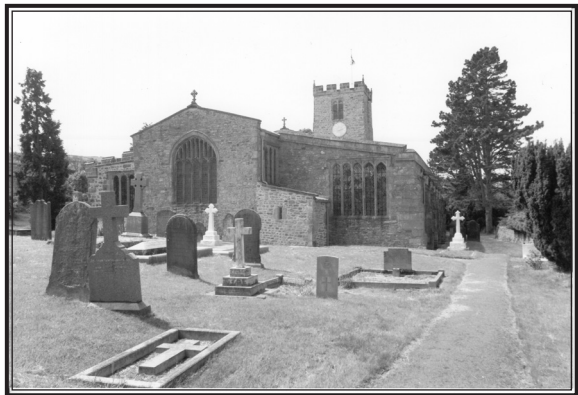
Lesley Longworth M68

THE CORPSE ROAD

At the top of Swaledale, about a mile and a half east of Muker and west of Gunnerside along the B6270 there is a footpath sign for a narrow lane heading north. The lane goes through a copse and then reaches the river Swale where a high hump-backed bridge takes you across the water and on to the hamlet of Ivelet. A prosaic description suited to a guide book? This bridge has a much more interesting story to tell. It forms part of a 16 mile green track known as the Corpse Way.

Carrying a corpse from the place of death to the place of burial along a defined route, was believed by the Vikings, to mirror the journey to the afterlife. Where the nearest church was up to 20 miles away, some of these paths continued in use in different parts of the country into the 19th century, when there was an upsurge in church building nationally. Whatever county they were in they were mostly known as "the Corpse Way", and would be marked by regular resting places. Some of these are large slabs of stone laid alongside the path and known as Coffin Stones, where the coffin (probably a wicker basket) could be set down respectfully whilst everyone had a short break. They also used small buildings along the route for longer, sometimes overnight stops and these were known as Dead Houses. There is such a path at the top of Swaledale. First used by local Vikings, it became obsolete for that purpose about 1580 because a chapel of rest was built at Muker, but it has remained in continuous use as a 16 mile single track green pathway to the present day.

Grinton Church used to have the only piece of consecrated ground in the upper dale, although there was a substantial population inhabiting numerous hamlets and farmsteads between there and Keld at the head of the Dale and just beyond. This meant that when anyone died, their friends

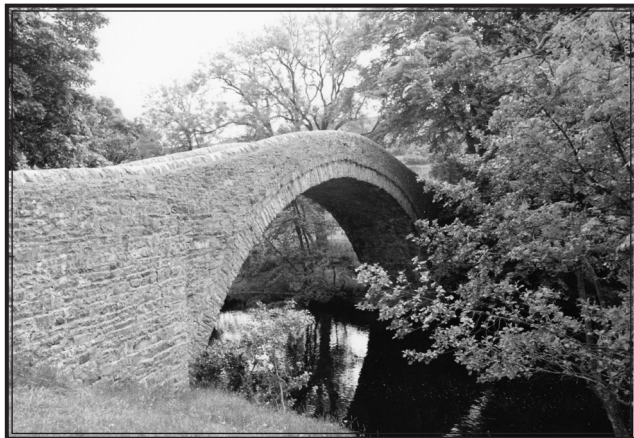


Grinton Church

and relatives had to carry the body up to 16 miles down the dale to Grinton for burial. Some of the stone-built barns along the route may well have also

been used as "coffin houses" but there is a purpose built one still in existence at the back of the Punchbowl Inn at Feetham.

Probably the most attractive feature of this pathway is the bridge crossing the Swale close to the hamlet of Ivelet, which I began with. This narrow bridge is just wide enough to be crossed with care by present day motor vehicles, but about 1830 the "road"



Ivelet Bridge

was diverted to use the nearby newly built Swale Bridge so the Ivelet bridge has remained green. It's not certain what year the Ivelet Bridge was completed, but it is sited at an important fording place along the Corpse Way.

The river level rises quickly during and after rain and it was thought to be unseemly for a coffin to be at risk of being lost as the bearers waded through the fast flowing water if the river was in spate. The single arch is very elegant, higher and much closer to a semicircle than usual. Alongside the path at the north side there is a large flat Coffin Stone just before the bridge. In his 1972 book, "Discovering Ghosts", Leon Metcalfe says that a headless hound (a recognised portent of death symbol) can sometimes be seen to leap from the parapet of the bridge into the river below!

Although there is no evidence yet in the Society's records, that any of our ancestors travelled this Corpse Way to their burial, quite a few of us probably have family members who used the route for some other purpose in their life, such as visiting relatives or taking livestock to market.

Lesley Longworth M68

Saturday 22 October. 9am-4pm. Archives Open Day at the
Treasure House, Beverley, ERY.

Saturday 12 November. The Huddersfield & District Family History
Society. Family & Local History Fair. 10.00am - 4.00pm. Batley Town Hall,
Market Place, Batley, WF17 5DE. Admission £2.00

THE ROYAL CONNECTION

Edward Dudley Metcalfe

In the last eighteen months I had been to a local theatre group's production of the abdication of Edward VIII and then the recent film "The King's Speech" with Colin Firth and Geoffrey Rush brought back memories of papers seen concerning Metcalfe involvement with the monarchy at the time of George VI's accession and his brother Edward VIII's abdication. The stories were somewhat "popular newspaper" level and seemed more tittle tattle than actual. However I decided to see if there was anything of interest for the Mecca News. As they say truth is stranger than fiction.

The circumstances around the abdication of Edward VIII are relatively well known and presented as a modern love story - the love of a prince for an commoner - fighting against the tyrannical administration which was hell bent on thwarting their union. Or so it seemed.

The episode has to be placed in the context of the turbulent times of the 1930's - the return from victory after the Great War had given way to major social upheaval in the 1920's shown by the Great Strike of 1926 and the rise of the Labour Party. This was followed by the economic crash of 1929 and the depression of the 1930's and the rise of communism and fascism. All adding to the ongoing social upheaval across Britain, its Empire (primarily India) and Europe.

The returning soldiers found that the predictable pre-Great War employment situation had changed - many men had been lost in the years of war and the women were not just content to return to their previous occupations. The ruling elite was not immune to these changes either. Many of the brightest had been lost in battle and a number of those in power did not like the new emerging social order.

Some were attracted to the revolutionary communism which had resulted from the fall of Czarist Russia whilst others saw salvation in the fascism emerging in Germany. The Royal Family was not immune to these upheavals. One of those attracted to the authoritarian nationalistic political movement was the then Prince of Wales.

The heir to the throne had a somewhat of a playboy image in an era of general austerity and this was reflected in his circle of friends who were mainly of the upper echelons of the aristocracy. In to this circle came a somewhat older, good looking and amusing Edward Dudley Metcalfe.¹

We know little of the early life of Edward Dudley Metcalfe. He was the only son of Edward and Edith Maud Mary (nee Howard-Hamilton) Metcalfe⁵ born in 1887 in Rathfarnham, County Dublin but we have little else about his antecedents in our database. In 1907 he joined the British Indian Army and was promoted to lieutenant in 1909. During WWI he saw service in France and Mesopotamia being awarded the Military Cross in 1917⁴. The Military Cross is the third highest military award for gallantry.

Military Medal



Edward Dudley known as 'Fruity' to family and his circle of friends, returned to India and continued with his military service. It was there in late 1921 when the Prince of Wales was making a visit to the sub continent that the pair first met. The Prince was so impressed by Fruity's knowledge of horses that they struck up a friendship. The relationship must have been strong as a letter from Sir Lionel Halsey in 1922 expressed concern about the Prince's character and the "influence of Major Metcalfe"⁶.

Fruity continued his military service in India being promoted to major in the year of the Prince's visit. He struck up a growing friendship with Lord George Curzon the Viceroy of India's daughter Alexandra Naldera Curzon. Born in 1904 Alexandra known as Baba was intelligent, imperious, a beauty and rich (from monies inherited from her mother)¹. Their friendship blossomed and in 1925 she married the much older Fruity. They lived in Simla⁷ during the remaining two years of their stay in India before Fruity resigned his commission in 1927 and returned to England.

The friendship with the Prince of Wales must have been strong as Fruity was quickly made a member of the Prince's personal staff.² The Metcalfes then entered a social circle which was heavily influenced by the fashionable national socialism of Sir Oswald Mosley, (who was related to the Curzons) which grew in the 1930's, attending meetings of the January Club and Blackshirt events². Baba and her other Curzon sisters were leading lights within the British Fascist movement and their involvement is well documented.

Into this circle appeared Mrs Wallis Simpson a divorcee who had been married only a few years earlier to her current husband. The Prince of Wales had a reputation built up during the 1920's and early 30's of being a compulsive womaniser with a number of associations with older married women. The Prince became a close friend of Mrs Wallis and this affected Edward's position. His friendship had resulted in him becoming the Prince's equerry but his relationship was not particularly close with Mrs Wallis. Nonetheless Fruity remained loyal to the Prince. The Prince's relationship with Mrs

Simpson caused problems, within the Royal Family and disquiet amongst the government of Stanley Baldwin, which came to a head after George V's death in January 1936.²

1 936 was a year of constitutional disruption. The Prince of Wales now Edward VIII had yet to be crowned but was seen to be involving himself in political matters whilst not spending enough time on the more royal administrative requirements of government. Also his relationship with the still married Mrs Simpson was becoming deeper much to the anxiety of the administration. It was obvious by late summer that the King and Mrs Simpson intended marrying when her divorce papers were laid before Ipswich Crown Court. Matters came to a head in December when the British Government and the Empire's Governments indicated they could not condone Mrs Simpson as Queen as the Church of England and the people would not agree to a divorcee on the throne and gave the King an ultimatum. To avoid a constitutional crisis Edward abdicated.

The following year, Edward now the Duke of Windsor married Wallis Simpson in France. The ceremony held in a Chateau near Tours was poorly attended as George VI and the government had banned any official attendance. One of the few to break this ban was Fruity. He still remained a firm close and one of the few friends of the Duke. A rebellious Church of England minister the Reverend Jardine from Darlington³ performed the marriage and Major Metcalfe was best man.

He continued as the Princes aide de camp staying in France with the couple after their marriage. Fruity's relationship with the Windsors must have been sound even if he did not see eye to eye with the new



*Medal of the
Royal Victorian
Order*

Duchess as one of the actions taken by Edward as King was to make him a member of the Royal Victorian Order (MVO). The order is a reigning monarch's personal gift for distinguished personal service by the recipient and is not subject to government approval. The Windsors briefly returned to London after the Declaration of War in 1939 staying with the Metcalfes before returning to France. On the invasion of France in 1940 it is said they left in such a hurry they left Fruity behind to make his own way to

safety. The Windsors then set up home in Lisbon but Churchill (now Prime Minister and a previous supporter of the Duke) fearful of Edward's fascist leanings and the possibility of him being used by the German Reich sent him to the Bahamas as Governor. At this time Fruity joined the Royal Air Force as pilot officer⁸ in an administrative role. He became a flying officer the following year but resigned his commission in 1942.²



Edward Dudley's relationship with his wife Baba seems to have been unconventional. Whilst they had a son (who was the Duke's Godson) and two daughters, Baba had many admirers with subsequent rumours. Eventually the marriage failed and the couple divorced in 1955. Fruity only lived a further two years dying at Buckingham Gate London in 1957.¹

¹ The Independent 9 August 1995; ² <http://en.wikipedia.org> ; ³ www.thenorthernecho.co.uk

⁴ London Gazette 24 August 1917; ⁵ www.crafftpeerage.co.uk

⁶ National Army Museum papers 1920-24 5201/33-88;

⁷ University of Birmingham Special Collection 1925-26 XOMN/A/1/7

⁸ London Gazette 12 November 1940



EXTRACTS
taken from the
CRAVEN HERALD NEWSPAPER

1853 January. Advertisement :

“**Mr METCALFE** (Professor of Music—Bradford) attends Skipton and immediate vicinity every Monday for the purpose of giving instructions on the Piano Forte. Piano fortes tuned”

1853 April. Advertisement :

“Manchester. Fire Assurance Co.

Auditor **William METCALF** (with John Holgate)”

1853 November. Death announcement

“20th October **ELEANOR wife of Mr Thomas METCALFE**
of Skipton aged 52.”

1854 March Death announcement

“14th February (Tuesday) **JAMES second son of JOHN METCALFE**
butcher Skipton 17 years ”

1855 June. Hubberholme

“We are glad to announce that the liberal sum of £13-12s -0d [£13.60p]
has been collected (per **Rev. W R METCALFE**) at this place
on behalf of the Patriotic Fund”

1855 August. Craven Agricultural Show.

On 16th ult there was held at Skipton Town Hall [a meeting] forming an
Agricultural Society. General committee: Threshfield - **W METCALFE**

1855 October. Craven Agricultural Show – an illumination of the Fall of
Sebastapol and the anniversary of the battle of Alma

1857 The beginning of May 1857 will be remembered by the farmers of
Malham and neighbourhood as a season when through the prevalence
of cold east winds they lost some of their best lambs

English Sewing Cotton Ltd-Long Service Awards

G Arthur METCALFE 1903-1962

Jane E METCALFE 1899-1952

[extracted by David Lambert M11]

Matthew Metcalf 1727

Master Gunner of Blockhouse Point, Gosport, Hampshire.

In the Name of God Amen I **Matthew Metcalf** Master Gunner of Blockhouse Point being in bodily health and of Sound and Disposing mind and memory and Considering the Perrills & Dangers of ye years & other uncertainties of this Transitory life (Doe for avoiding controverse after my death) make publish and Declare this my last Will and Testament in manner following (That is to say) First I commend my Soul to God that gave it and my Body I Commit to the Earth or Sea as it shall please God to Order And as for and remaining all my Worldly Estate I Give Bequeath and Dispose therof as followeth (That is to say) All my Sallery Wages Summe and Summes of Money Lands Tenements Goods Chattels and Estate whatsoever as shall be any wayes due oweing or belonging unto me at the time of my Decease I doe Give Devise and bequeath the Same unto my Son **Edward Metcalfe & Daughter Ann** to be devided Equally between them And doe hereby Nominate and Appoint Elias Arnaud of Gosport Distiller Executor of this my Last Will and Testament hereby Revoking all former and other Wills Testaments and Deeds of Gift by me at any time heretofore made And I doe ordaine and Ratify those present to stand and be for and as my only Last Will and Testament
In Wittness whereof to this my said Will have Sett my hand & seal the Twenty Eighth Day of December Anno Domni 1726 And in the thirteenth Year of the Reigne of his Majesty King George over Graet Brittain Etc

Matthew Metcalfe

Signed Sealed and Published

In the presence of us

Abraham Boothe

J Marshall

Probate 28/ /1727 Held at Winchester Record Office on fiche 1727P/40

When **Edwin Metcalf (M980)** handed me the above will at the last Muster and said "Perhaps you can make an story out of this." I had no idea what was available from the Society or whether it would make anything of interest. Here is what I found out (or didn't!).

Metcalf's are not heavy on the ground on the south coast of England especially before 1750 and we had nothing of significance in our database so that left me seeing what the will had to offer. Matthew was a master gunner of Gosport Hampshire and had a son and daughter. No mention of a wife. His will was to be executed by an Elias Arnaud and was witnessed by two others but no indication of who or what they were.

So the first port of call (!) was to see if there was anything on Mat-

thew anywhere. There is a mention of a Matthew of HMS Oak marrying an Elizabeth Walden in 1724 (*Hampshire Marriage Licences*) but he is said to be a bachelor. There are other bmd entries for Metcalfe in the Gosport area around 1727 (which can be explored to see if anything further comes to light) but nothing specifically concerning Matthew and the national archives doesn't seem to have any naval records for him - although it has for a Matthew in the 1730's who is a purser.

A master gunner is a Royal Navy Warrant Officer dating from the early days of naval history. Blockhouse Point was known as Blockhouse Fort and was the main fort protecting the entry to Portsmouth harbour. (*Information from Wikipedia.org*) His role and location could be useful for further investigation.

Elias Arnaud was French coming to England in the late 1600's. He was an Officer of Customs as well as a distiller and there is quite a bit on his family! He went bankrupt in 1742 and died in 1744 and seems to have been executor for a number of naval wills.

So where does that leave our investigation. Not very far. What the exercise has shown is that you can expand will information by looking sideways at the other details contained in the document and you may get an idea of further sources to explore. Perhaps HMS Oak has possibilities - there is a lot of information concerning the ship and its activities around the period.

However without being able to identify Matthew or his son Edward we have come to a brick wall - nothing unusual there but there are other possibilities by searching for naval personnel records for the period and the more usual parish records for Matthew's demise or his offspring. Perhaps Matthew is in your family tree and you already have the answer!

• • • • •

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, Canadian scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 200 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 150 years ago.

Not to be outdone by their neighbours, in the weeks that followed, an American archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story published in the New York Times:

"American archaeologists, finding traces of 250-year-old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network 50 years earlier than the Canadians".

One week later, the British authorities reported the following: "After digging as deep as 30 feet in North Yorkshire, Jack Arkwright a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely (nothing at) all.

Jack has therefore concluded that 250 years ago, Britain had already gone wireless."

Doesn't it make you proud to be a Yorkshire-man!

Brian Metcalfe M1554

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Where to send your subscription

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

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

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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

www.metcalfes-online.co.uk/members.

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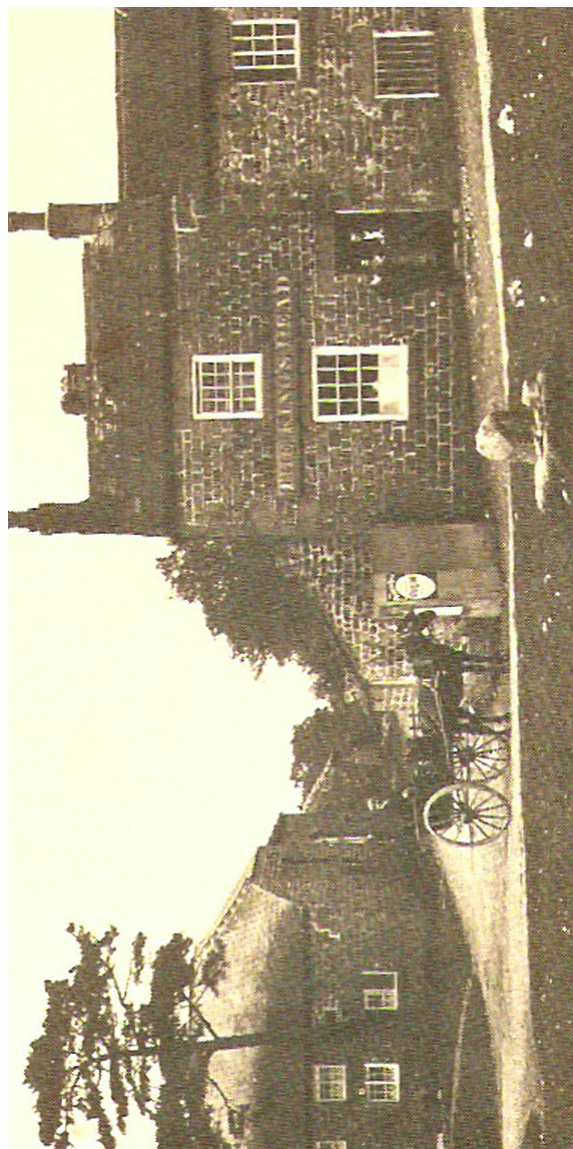
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Metcalfe Tenant. The Kings Arms Fearby Cross Masham
Supplied by **William Lyness M1647**