

MECCA NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE METCALFE SOCIETY

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THE METCALFE SOCIETY

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SOCIETY OFFICERS**CONTACT DETAILS****President**Charles S. Metcalfe (M305) **e-mail : president@metcalfe.org.uk****Chairman & Legal Advisor**David Lambert (M11), 22 Lime Grove, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 6PJ **e-mail : chairman@metcalfe.org.uk****Vice Chair & Editor**Peter Dobson (M69), 143 Vernon Road, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1YS
e-mail : editor@metcalfe.org.uk**Treasurer, Web Administrator & Gift Aid Secretary**Ms Carol Herbert (M1072), 22 Webster Crescent, Kimberworth, Rotherham, South Yorks S61 2BP **e-mail : treasurer@metcalfe.org.uk, webadmin@metcalf.org.uk & giftaid@metcalfe.org.uk****Sales Despatch & New Members Secretary**Mrs Elizabeth Waller (M1189), Chesney Villa, Thornton le Street, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 4DS **e-mail : despatch@metcalfe.org.uk; e-mail : memberinfo@metcalfe.org.uk ; newmembers@metcalfe.org.uk****Archivist Coordinator**Miss Margaret Hodgson (M515), 27 Middlethorpe Drive, Dringhouses, York YO24 1NG **e-mail : archivist@metcalfe.org.uk****Database Index**David Metcalfe (M46) **e-mail : database@metcalfe.org.uk****Conference Secretary**Mrs Lesley Longworth (M68), 57, Westbourne Avenue, Hull, HU5 3HW.
e-mail : muster@metcalfe.org.uk**Wills Project**Miss Margaret Hodgson (M515) **e-mail : wills@metcalfe.org.uk****DNA Project Coordinator**Martin Metcalfe (M772), 10 Swinnate Road, Arnside, Carnforth LA5 0HR
e-mail : dna@metcalfe.org.uk**Committee Secretary**Miss Margaret Hodgson (M515) **e-mail : minutes@metcalfe.org.uk****Committee Members**Jo Heron (M1042) **e-mail : jo.heron@gmail.com**
Diane Howarth (M409) **committee3@metcalfe.org.uk**
Vivienne Metcalf (M1147) **committee1@metcalfe.org.uk****Agents*** Mrs Alison Hutton (M81), 197 Highsted Road, Christchurch 8051, South Island, New Zealand **e-mail : agentnz@metcalfe.org.uk*** Miss Dianne Fox (M113), 75 Rosehill Road, Lower Plenty, Victoria 3093, Australia **e-mail : agentaus@metcalfe.org.uk*** Miss Susan C.M. Harper (M266), 4318 Emily Carr Drive, Unit 25, Victoria, BC, Canada V8X 5E7 **e-mail : agentcdn@metcalfe.org.uk**

* USA Agent. Post Currently Vacant

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	£	Euros	\$US	\$Can	\$Aus	\$NZ
UK & Europe	10					
Overseas via Air Mail.....	14	18	23	24	23	29

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

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August 2012

Issue No 97

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

The MECCA NEWS

Editor: Peter Dobson



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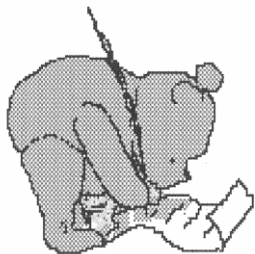
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FROM THE EDITOR



Money is always a contentious issue - usually too little or in the case of financial services personnel too much! Subscriptions enter into the same category when there are discussions on whether to increase them (I have never known them be reduced except in very exceptional circumstances ie never.).

Without income organisations will usually fail unless they have wealthy patrons (like some Premier League football clubs). Your Society has kept subscriptions at the same level for ten years but now there is a need to consider whether they should be increased. The July committee meeting will look at the position and make a recommendation for the AGM to consider. An outline of the matters for consideration is set out on page 10 together with the committee's recommendation. If you have any comments please forward them to David Lambert by email - chairman@metcalfe.org.uk or write to him at the address on the inside of the front cover.

I spent a pleasant couple of weeks in June in the Dales - the waterfalls were magnificent - plenty of rain! In between the precipitation there was plenty to do and I found myself - not intentionally - visiting three museums; one in Swaledale (Reeth), one in Wensleydale (Hawes) and the third in Nidderdale (Pateley Bridge). All three were special in their own way and gave an idea of life in the three dales over the centuries. If you have the opportunity, go and visit you won't be disappointed.

This year's AGM and Muster is to be held on Saturday 6 October at the Countryside Museum at Hawes. The Society is taking the opportunity to launch the major research project on India (carried out by **George Buxton M3**) at the event. Details are on the inside back cover. Why not come along and pick up your copy, comment on the subscriptions issue and generally see what goes on in your Society. We look forward to seeing you there.



The Zambesi Bridge

Sir Charles Metcalfe humoured his close friend Cecil Rhodes in his wish to build a bridge across the Zambesi close to the Victoria Falls so that passengers could feel the spray even though there was an easier crossing up river. The result was an amazing bridge giving a spectacular view of the falls and gorge.

The bridge was opened in 1905.

From Lambert's Railway Miscellany by Anthony Lambert 2010

KIRKBRIDE

the edge of the known world

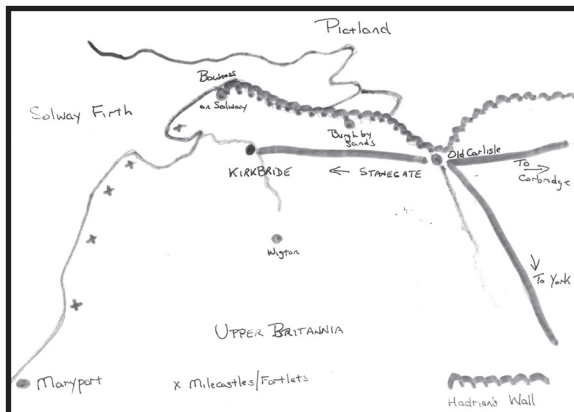
Or at least that must have been what the Roman legionnaires thought stationed on the furthest northern boundary of the Roman Empire in the closing years of the first century AD. On a cold damp wet day the view over the wide mud flat strewn estuary must have felt alien to the Second Cohort of Lingones (far from their northern Italian homeland) sent to man the defences of this unwelcoming edge of civilisation.



Julius Agricola had pushed the boundaries of the province of Britannia from the narrow boundary formed by the present day River Tyne and Solway Firth in the early 80's into Pictland (modern Scotland) but after the governor had left the later Imperial administrators found the Pictish tribes difficult to control and fell back on the Stanegate boundary that Agricola had set up from Old Carlisle (Luguvallium) to Wallsend (Segedunum).

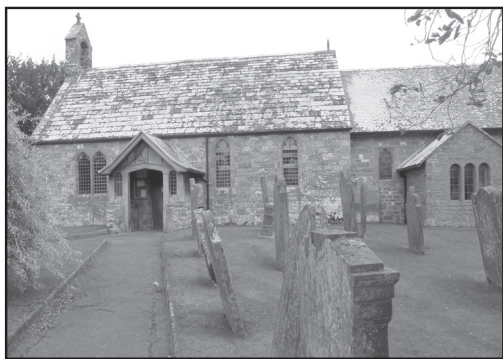
Kirkbride - possibly called Portus Trucculensis was a late first century supply fort, part of a network of forts guarding the western end of the Stanegate. Situated on the small river Wampool it may well have supplied the forts situated on the estuary of the modern day Solway Firth and north west Cumbrian coast.

Its location some five miles south of Maia (Bowness on Solway) fort on the Firth and a short days march to the milecastles and turrets north of Alavana (Maryport), (Roman legionnaires were expected to march 16 miles in a full day) lends itself to this theory. At the end of the Stanegate it could receive supplies rapidly from York (Eboracum) or the major northern supply centre at Corbridge (Coriosopitum) if required.



The fort of some 6 acres appears to have been little used after the major building work of Hadrian in the 120's when a defined wall of stone was built from the east (Wallsend) to Stanwix (Old Carlisle) after which it became a timber and turf construction. The available stone after Stanwix tended to be used for the milecastles/turrets and administration buildings. Kirkbride was built mainly of timber and turf and the building structure quickly disappeared from view as the fort's usefulness diminished.

Little is recorded of the civitas that sprung up within the walls of the old fort and it is not until 1189 we find mention of the small church dedicated to St Bridgid/Bridgit of Kildare recognised as one of the three main Irish saints (along with St Patrick and St Columba) who converted the communities bordering the Irish Sea in the late 5th and early 6th centuries to Christianity. It has



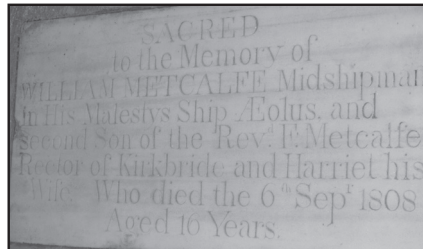
pre Conquest credentials as there are still remains of a Saxon arch although the church is predominantly Norman but with substantial Victorian modernisation carried out in the 1890's. Situated in the south west corner of the old Roman fort materials from the first and second centuries are incorporated into the building fabric.

The records from the 12th century through to the 18th century record little about Kirkbride. The manor was a parcel from the barony of Wigton (some 9 miles to the south) granted by King John and held by the Kirkbride family. They sold it on in the later 1400's with the Dalston family becoming lords of the Manor for the next 300 years. It is not until relatively modern times - 1764 - that information becomes available. It is then sold and bought by a number of businessmen until it is again purchased by a member of the Dalston family around 1790 less the advowson. The advowson (the right to the church living) was purchased by the Reverend Thomas Metcalfe stated to be the vicar of St Margaret's in Leicester.

My interest in sleepy Kirkbride was aroused by a picture on the internet of a plaque recording the death of 16 year old William Metcalfe a midshipman in the Royal Navy serving on HMS Aeolus in 1808 which was hanging in the church of St Bride in the village. Little did I know where this seemingly innocuous picture would lead.

Research shows that His Majesty's Ship Aeolus was a 32 gun frigate built in

1801 and used for convoy duties during the years of the Napoleonic Wars. In 1805 it was attached to the West Indies squadron (also part of Vice Admiral Nelson's force) which harried the French shipping and then after the battle of Trafalgar captured the remnants of the Franco-Spanish fleet. It is not known whether William was on board Aeolus at that time but as midshipmen were engaged by the Royal Navy by the time they were 12 (Nelson may have been a serving midshipman from the age of 8!) he could well have been there. It is recorded that he was buried on 6 September 1806 in Plymouth after falling from the rigging of his ship.



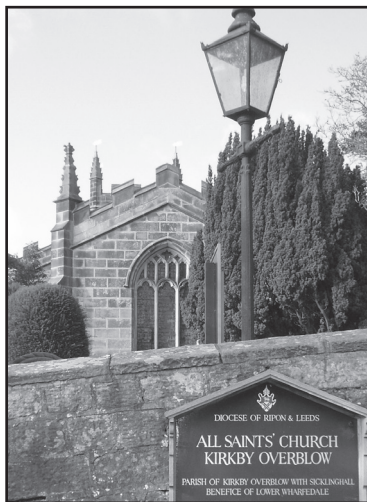
William was the second son of Francis Metcalfe and his wife Harriet. Francis was the rector of Kirkbride the same rectory purchased by Thomas Metcalfe of Leicester. Investigation showed that Francis was his eldest son born in 1752 who studied and obtained an MA at Trinity College Cambridge. In addition to the rector's position he was also vicar of Rudston in East Yorkshire (between Bridlington and Great Driffeld). From the list of rectors hanging in St Brides Francis took up his post in 1791 but as his main living was more than a hundred miles across the other side of the country his visits to North Cumberland may have been infrequent. Indeed there is evidence that his curate Joseph Hallifax stood in his stead from 1808.

When Francis died in 1822 his son, another Francis (who also obtained his MA at Trinity College Cambridge) took over the rectorship until his death in 1834. Again his attendance at distant Kirkbride may have been infrequent as his main living was as vicar of Reighton, East Yorkshire (between Filey and Bridlington).

The evidence of absent patronage is further compounded by the sale of the advowson, after Francis the younger's death, to the Reverend Joseph Hallifax the curate from 1808. Rev Hallifax continued in the post as vicar until his death in 1847 and there are a number of fond inscriptions commemorating his incumbency whilst apart from William's plaque there is nothing for either Metcalfe who had the church living for over 40 years!

The younger Francis was one of seven sons and three daughters but only three had issue (Francis, William (b1794) an ensign in the 32nd Regiment of Foot who was wounded at Waterloo and John (b1795) who became a Captain in the East India Company Army dying at Fort St George Madras in 1833).

The linkage with Thomas Metcalfe of Leicester showed a strong religious lineage. Thomas born in 1706 was also a Trinity College Cambridge MA. Vicar of Tilton in Leicestershire for over 35 years (till 1769) as well as rector of Narborough near Leicester (for nearly 30 years - till 1764 the year he was stated to be vicar of St Margaret's Leicester) before spending the last 12 years of his life as rector of Kirkby Overblow near Knaresborough. He was buried at Stokelsey church north east of Northallerton where a monument was raised.



Thomas evidently had many interests in church livings and no doubt he along with many other vicars of the time held one main living and "rented/leased" out the others bringing in a steady income. His lineage takes him back to Sand Hutton in North Yorkshire and ultimately to the Metcalfe line of Porch House Northallerton.

So from a chance find about the death of a young Metcalfe the trail led to a quiet and still quite remote area of northern England and its history back to one of the main Metcalfe lines. Such is the way of family history!

Peter Dobson M69

Sources:

The Place-Names of Roman Britain - Rivet&Smith; The Roman Wall - Frank Graham

History, Gazetteer and Directory of Cumberland 1847

Bernard Burke. A genealogical and heraldic history of the landed gentry of Great Britain and Ireland

www.wikipedia.co.uk

An Old Yorkshire Riddle

Two legs sat a' top o' three legs, one leg laid by.

In comes four legs, samums¹ up one leg;

Up gets two legs, throws three legs at four legs

An' gets one leg back.

(¹Samums - takes away)

For the answer see page 16

**DEADLINE for the December Mecca News
is 14 October 2012.**

Articles comments or snippets to the Editor.

The Annual General Meeting and Muster

will be held at
The Dales Countryside Museum
Hawes Wensleydale
on Saturday 6 October 2012
10am - 4.30pm.

Full details of the events on the day are
enclosed with this magazine together with
your invitation and reservation form.

Please complete and return before
22 September 2012.

Society
News

Brian Metcalfe M1554 our Archivist Coordinator relinquished his Archivist duties at the committee meeting in July. His duties will be taken over by **Margaret Hodgson M515** assisted by **Jo Heron M1042**. Brian also stood down from his representational activities with the North West and North East Family History Groups and fair events. **David Lambert M11** was to take over as the North West representative whilst **Jo Heron** becomes North East Group representative. We thank Brian for his efforts and help over the last seven years and wish him and Ena well in the future.

Another change involves **Diane Howarth M409** taking on a Communications Coordination role considering how to approach future publicity and communication with other groups including attending family history fairs. The Society was to attend the York Family History Fair in June.

*There have been a number of recent changes
in committee personnel and their duties (see
above). So when corresponding with your
Society please check you have the right
person (below) and use the email contact
details (postal addresses) listed on page 2.*

How to Contact Us (for correspondence and e-mail addresses see inside front cover)

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**.

All general queries and correspondence about the society to **the Treasurer**.

Send name and address changes to **the Treasurer**.

Send new member application forms to **the New Members Secretary**.

Send your Gift Aid form to **the Treasurer**.

Requests for a sales order form to purchase publications or merchandise should be sent to
the Treasurer alternatively order online at **www.metcalfes-online.co.uk**.

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**.

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 Web Administrator**.

Subscriptions

Subs are always a contentious area. If too much they drive away existing and potential members and too little they don't cover costs nor address the effort made by earlier members in producing, in our case, the wealth of family information. Before each rise in rates in the past there was a discussion (sometimes lengthy) on what was appropriate. Since 2002 Society numbers have decreased from a peak of 627 in that year when we reached an all time level to just above 400 in the current year. This decrease has not been affected by subs changes as there haven't been any for the last ten years. Other factors are evidently in play.

Retention of members is crucial to the future development and financial well being of the Society. The membership list shows that nearly 17% (167) of those who joined up to 2000 still remain with the Society. Of the 670 who joined between 2000 and 2006, 97 (14.5%) remain. There are 116 who joined the membership since 2007 including those who have joined since 1/1/2011 (37) (As at 1.4.12). The figures indicate a general retention figure of around 15% after five years of membership. It appears that we lose more than half and perhaps more after two years. The situation seems that we have those joining for a short while (one or two years), with the next crucial period after five years after which numbers stabilise and generally only reduce slowly.

This reinforces the committee's earlier discussions and findings on the requirements of potential and existing members. There are those that are only seeking a "quick in and out", those that will stay awhile longer but need something to retain membership after 3/4 years and those who remain because they are attracted by the social/presentation/longer research/etc aspects of the Society.

The question is how to deal with an evidently changing environment to maximise income (subs) but without further reducing membership numbers (or income). Is change necessary? Or is a different approach necessary since online access is changing family history research? Are we making a reasonable charge for our data? A pay as you go charge or a larger one-off payment may be more appropriate? Similar charging structure to online sites such as Ancestry? Tiered subscription rates?

LATE UPDATE! The committee deliberated long and hard on the approach to take and how to reflect the changing family history environment without overly affecting the services provided to existing members.

The conclusion? Your committee will recommend to the AGM that there be no change to the annual subscription of £10 but there should be a change to the first year fee. The proposal is to increase the first year charge to £25 (including the subscription) to reflect the value to new members of the Society's information and cover initial joining costs.

If you wish to comment on the proposal and can't make it to the AGM please send your thoughts to chairman@metcalfe.org.uk.



SANDI'S SERENDIPITY

*(In Mecca News 96 Dorothy Pope M55 wrote about making a happy and unexpected discovery by accident. **Sandi Walton member 541** of Canada shares her serendipity moment below.)*

In March 2012, I received an email from a Josephine Roberts living in Scarborough, Yk. She had found my name and family research online and was given my email from someone in New Zealand whom I had communicated with last year.. An extended family is discovered via Josephine!

My grandfather, Benjamin Metcalfe came to Canada in July 1907 on the Empress of Britain. His sister, Maud Armitage and her daughter Maud Metcalfe Armitage (b1900) came over to Canada in 1908 from Leeds along with Maud's mother Annie Louisa Metcalfe. Maud left behind her husband, Joe Armitage and never returned. There's always two sides to a story so I won't go there!

The grandparents and Maud Metcalfe Armitage returned to Leeds for a few years so Maud was close to her father. There is a record of Maud Metcalfe Armitage coming back to Alberta Canada in 1919 where she married Thomas Miller and moved to California. They had 2 children in California.

In 1930 a divorce was granted to Joe Armitage and Maud Armitage and both carried on with their lives. We had no knowledge of what happened to Joe Armitage.

According to Josephine Roberts, Joe Armitage remarried in Leeds and he and his 2nd wife moved to Scarborough in 1934. They had 1 son Joseph Roy Armitage who inherited the house in Scarborough and when this Joe Armitage died, his daughter Josephine Roberts inherited the family home. She found a family chest in the attic with many photos of Maud and our family and many letters that their daughter Maud had written to her dad from California.

The wonders of the internet has brought our 2 families together and Josephine and I will be meeting this fall in San Francisco. Hopefully, I will be in England in May 2013. She is so excited to share this family history with her two brothers. With a little more research, we may find Maud Miller's daughter Vivian Miller (b1920) still alive in the USA.

Josephine said the last overseas trip her dad took was to Victoria, BC. Ironical, as his dad's 1st wife, Maud (Armitage) Legge, is buried in the cemetery of the church I attended in Victoria. Auntie Maud died in 1953.

It did not come as a surprise to me to learn that June 2012 was the wettest month on record since 1860! Also that the amount of rainfall since April is shall we say unseasonal! July so far does not seem much better either! I do hope the weather will improve for the Olympic Games, which should be underway when you read this.

Chairman's Jottings

The Diamond Jubilee weekend will long be remembered I suspect as much for the atrocious weather on the day of the water pageant, as for the boats themselves serenely sailing down the Thames. The bedraggled choir who sang exposed to the full fury of the weather will linger long in my memory. Probably theirs too!

The support given to the Queen by the numbers joining in events, cheering and calling out 'God Save the Queen' and trying to catch a glimpse of her is for Republicans no doubt perplexing. For Monarchists it's a demonstration of the affection they have for her and a 'thank you' for what She does as our Head of State. It will be interesting to see if she will be able to reign for longer than Queen Victoria.

Thinking about how to link our family with Jubilee celebrations and the Olympics I have discovered one interesting fact. A Metcalfe was important in 1935 when King George V celebrated his Silver Jubilee. Did you know one Percy Metcalfe (born in Longfield Terrace, Alverthorpe, Wakefield, Yorkshire on 14 January 1895 and died on 9 October 1970 in Hammersmith, London) was a celebrated designer of coins and medals? He is especially remembered for designing the Irish currency in the 1920s and The George Cross in 1940. According to the Royal Mint he also designed the crown piece of 1935, to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George V. They say it ".....provided Metcalfe with a handsome canvas on which to display his stylised St George dressed in full armour...." They also add that: "....the Portrait punch of Metcalfe's St George has a remarkable resemblance to the artist himself...." [If you are interested on learning more see 'Percy Metcalfe', Mapping the Practice and Profession of Sculpture in Britain and Ireland 1851-1951, University of Glasgow History of Art and HATII, online database 2011.]

Turning next to Olympic medal winners so far as members of our 'clan' are concerned, UK actual medal winners are a little thin on the ground. We have to go back to 1964 when Adrian Metcalfe took the Silver medal in the 4 x 400 metre relay. Adrian was also a junior world record holder at 400 metres in 1961 and in the same year he was voted British male athlete of the year by readers of Athletics Weekly. Adrian was born in 1942 in Bradford.

Another renowned Olympian was the American sprinter Ralph H. Metcalfe who for 4 years up to and including the infamous Berlin 1936 Olympics



*David Celebrating the
Queens Coronation 1953*

was known as "The World's Fastest Human." Ralph Harold Metcalfe was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on May 29, 1910, to Clarence Metcalfe, a stockyard worker and Marie Attaway who worked as a seamstress. He served after many years in politics as Democrat Congressman for Chicago in 1971 to 1978. [Extracted from Black Americans in Congress website]

Whilst researching for my jottings I discovered to my surprise that at the Olympic Games in 1928 a Lambert (not my family) won a silver medal.....for town planning and a bronze one too for..... architecture! Odd though it seems to me and maybe you, from 1912 to 1948 Art competitions were held during the Games in which category town planning and architecture were included, along with music and literature. There is now a non-competitive art and cultural festival associated with each Games.

Coming back to 2012 I see that at least one torchbearer with our surname has proudly carried the Olympic flame on its travels through Yorkshire-Ryan Metcalfe. The 25 year old did so on 18 June 2012 at Brotton, Guisborough. He sounds a very deserving and until now unsung hero. In the words of his nominator Ryan: "...is a complete inspiration He is now training to be a learning disabilities nurse. He always puts the needs of those with disabilities ahead of himself and will fight for their respect and dignity whenever he can.He brings a smile to everyone's face, those he cares for, their parents and his fellow volunteers, with his zest for life and passion for helping others with great fun and enthusiasm. This is his life and his vocation....."

This is his life and his vocation' :whilst not in the same context, nevertheless there are several members of our Society about whom the above words could equally be said. With the AGM and Muster not too far distant I would like to thank Brian Metcalfe who has attended his last Family History Fair for us. At the Muster he will be retiring as our Archivist, a task he took over so admirably after Nina Benson stepped down. Many thanks Brian for all your committee work for the Society. We wish you a long and happy retirement.

As ever I ask if there are any more of you who read this who might be interested in coming onto the committee or helping in the background by supporting say our archivists or Wills transcription work. If so don't be shy! There are so many leads one can follow up using the internet it is to me mind boggling! If you don't want to help on committee work you may find out snippets when 'surfing' the web. Do let us know what you find about the family. We record what we discover and it is added to our database. Tell what you discover! Peter is always looking for articles and snippets to include so please keep them coming. Please also come to the Muster in October. The committee will be finalising the plans for the day at the end of this month, too late to include them in these jottings as the editor wants these immediately!

Details of the Muster and an application form will be included with the Magazine. Lets hope for a drier autumn!

David Lambert M11

On TV recently, there was a 3-part series about the Queen's Palaces, hosted by Fiona Bruce.

The other day I was watching the Windsor Castle episode when a **Stephen Metcalf**, The Royal Collection was identified on-screen. He was giving Fiona Bruce the background information/history as to the musket ball that killed Horatio Nelson, and how it came to be in the Royal Collection at Windsor Castle.
Elizabeth Metcalfe M1648

your e-mails & letters

I would be happy for the Mecca News to be more article related & the e-newsletter be used for more general information.

I was delighted to read about the launch of 'Metcalfes in India' as I know that there are India connections in my family but didn't know where to start. This is something that makes the society invaluable. We can share related information.

I enjoy the articles about aspects of lives and work, as in the engineering photo on the cover of the magazine.

I saw our surname on a park and some warehouses in Sydney. This may be an area where overseas members can provide information about their history.

Advice about using record offices and libraries would be useful to me as well as areas where others would welcome information. The swapshop at the AGM is a good idea.

Thank you very much for the work that goes into producing the Mecca News. **Glenys Pengilly M1878**

We are surprised that the Committee has been able to maintain the level of subscription for so long without any increase.

As regards Mecca News – we find it to be a very good publication with about the right frequency. It's size and content is good as well. The quality of presentation is good and it would be a pity to compromise that too far with less heavy paper or a lower grade cover unless absolutely necessary.

We suggest as possibilities:-

1. Increase the subscription for 2013 by a reasonable amount.
2. If at all possible for those who like hard copy, maintain Meccas News "as is" .
3. Send all enclosures by email where practicable.
4. Add the extra postage for overseas members to the subscription.
5. Include an option for members to receive the publication electronically at a reduced subscription – this may have implications for cost of the hard copy though as usually the larger the number printed, the lower the cost per copy.

With every good wish – and keep up the good work!

Pearl (and Rod) Tedds M0149

Re your comment on grandparents. I can claim a grandparent near to 1837 as follows:-

Annie Metcalf born 9 October 1847 Copgrove and died 26 July 1906 Harrogate. My father was **Squire Priest Metcalf** born 13 April 1867 Knaresborough and died 3 March 1960 in Nottingham.

Pearl Tedds M149

Ottawa, the capital of Canada, should be on everyone's list of "places to visit".

I was there May 16-22nd, 2012 for the Canadian Walking Convention. Unfortunately, with 31c temperature, I only did one 10km walk. Instead, I enjoyed the many tourist attractions in this wonderful city built on the Ottawa River and World Heritage site, the Rideau Canal.

Metcalfe St. is a downtown arterial road in Ottawa. It is named for **Charles Theophilus Metcalfe** who was Governor General of the Province of Canada 1843-1845. Just south of Ottawa there is a town called **Metcalfe** named after him.

The Canadian Tulip Fes-

tival takes place in Ottawa approximately May 4-21st. The festival is a celebration founded on international friendship with Holland. In 1945, a presentation of 100,000 tulip bulbs came from Princess Juliana of the Netherlands to the city of Ottawa.

Members of Holland's Royal family found safe haven in Canada during WW II and every year they send more tulips. The tulip festival also celebrates Spring with over 1 million tulips in 50 varieties blooming in public spaces especially near Dow's Lake and the Rideau Canal.

It was wonderful to see so many young folks jogging, walking and cycling along these waterways in spectacular scenery.

Sandi Walton M541.

See Sandi's picture of the tulips on Metcalfe Street on the back cover - Editor.

Brian Metcalfe M1554 our Archivist writes:

*I was contacted by Diana Penton, who is attempting to trace the history of Vere, which was owned by her father in the 1950s. At the time of Dunkirk it was owned by **William Charles Gatward Metcalfe**, who was involved, along with his ship, in the rescue of soldiers from there (Dunkirk).*

Diana heard about our Society from Robert Metcalfe of Welwyn Garden City, who is M1207, & suggested that we might be able to help.

I have been able to trace W.C.G.Mte, the brother of Peter Alan Metcalfe, M1381's grandfather. I have been able to arrange contact between Diana & Peter.

Vere is currently in a boatyard in the Isle of Wight, where she is being restored to her former glory. Her hull is still in good order, due to the timbers initially used when she was built. A grant to complete the work, has been applied to the National Lottery.

The full story is still to be completed, but I wondered if you might want to ask if anyone can provide any further info. (Can anyone? - Editor)

Brian further adds:

I came across information on <http://adls.org.uk/t1/> having put in "Dunkirk Little Ships". It says that Vere, a naval pinnace built in 1905 is credited with saving a total of 346 men from the beaches.

A Marriage Mug for Benjamin and Elizabeth Medcalf

Andrew Oddy M1886

At the sale of the Norman Stretton collection of ceramics held at Phillips New Bond Street Saleroom in London on 21st February 2001, lot 274 was described as "A Wedgwood Creamware Mug, circa 1770, of plain cylindrical form, printed by Sadler with a river landscape, with cottages on the far bank and mountains in the distance, the near bank with a tree on a grassy knoll, a fisherman, a horse drinking at the water's edge and a man with a scythe, inscribed above the print 'BENJ. and ELIZH MEDCALF'. This is, presumably, a 'marriage mug' celebrating the union of Benjamin Medcalf and his wife, Elizabeth.



Ht 152mm Diam at rim 109mm tapers upwards – wider at bottom
Marked Wedgwood

An Old Yorkshire Riddle-Answer

See page 8.

A man with a leg of mutton is sitting
on a three legged stool and a dog
attempts to steal the meat.

From *Folk Tales of Yorkshire*
by HL Gee 1952

Olympic torch bearers 2012

18th June thro' Brotton

Ryan Metcalfe aged 60 from
Guisborough

6th July thro' Basildon

Jon Metcalf aged 52
from Greys (Essex)

From **Lesley Longworth M68**
& **Edwin Metcalf M980**

So who were Benjamin and Elizabeth Medcalf and why am I interested? The second question is easy to answer; my mother's maternal Grandmother Brown was born Margaret Metcalf in c.1848, (no.65168 in the society's index) the second child of Robert (c.1818-1916) (no.83057 in the society's index) and Ann Metcalf then living at Nesfield near Ilkley. Margaret Brown (née Metcalf) died on 12 October 1924, aged 77, and is buried at Undercliffe Cemetery, Bradford. Hence, for someone interested in Family History, the name Medcalf rings a bell.

The first question about the identities of Benjamin and Elizabeth Medcalf is less easy. The International Genealogical Index has one marriage of a Benjamin Medcalf to a wife called Elizabeth between 1760 and 1800 - Benjamin Metcalf married Elizabeth Pannell at Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, on 16 August 1767. Benjamin Metcalf is no.11421 in the society's index. He and Elizabeth (no.6630 in the society's index) had seven children and he died in 1822, aged 77, and was buried at Gainsborough. Further investigation of the IGI reveals the probable birth of Elizabeth Pannell (or Pannal) at Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, on 19 July 1743. Her parents were John and Rebecca Pannal. Of the origins of Benjamin Metcalf there is no obvious trace.

What does the marriage mug tell us? First, it can be deduced that the bride and groom were sufficiently well off to commission the painting of their names on a creamware mug, and second, based on the image on the jug, that they may have been involved in farming. Hence some confirmation of the lifestyle is needed. Do any members have access to the Gainsborough parish registers where the occupation of Benjamin may be recorded with the entries of his marriage or death or at the baptisms of his seven children?

Please email any information about Benjamin and Elizabeth, or thoughts on other possible identifications for Benjamin and Elizabeth Metcalf, to waoddy@googlemail.com

Newspaper Sightings - David Lambert M11

The Scotsman Magazine March 2012 page 40. Reference in the Glasgow Graveyard Guide to Cathcart Cemetery: '.....the book guides us through Cathcart Cemetery, the last resting place of one **MADGE METCALFE**, mother of the legendary Stan Laurel ...'

Metro News 26th June 2012. '...Kathy Burke's walking and talking with star in the making **AMI METCALF** as the teenage Burke.

It's a nostalgic blast, the late 1970s and adolescent insecurity seen through a pair of DayGlo X-Ray Spex.....'

BMD web sites from Ian Hartas, UKBMD.

A quick note to highlight the need for caution when accessing the various BMD web sites. The majority of the site under the UKBMD project all end with ".org.uk". One exception is the Shropshire BMD web site which is a ".info" site.

Recently the domain name CheshireBMD.com has been registered. It is nothing to do with the BMD web sites - it's a scam site set up purely to trap the unwary.

So, as usual the safe and recommended way to access all of the BMD sites is to have <http://www.UKBMD.org.uk/> in your browser's favourites list and always click on the "Local BMD" menu button.

This way you will always be guaranteed to see the full list of BMD web sites and that the link from UKBMD will take you to the correct site.

From NEGFHS via Brian Metcalfe M1554.

Kent Probate Indexes 1440-1857

Kent has the largest collection of probate records of any English county but there are as yet no published indexes to much of this material. Indexes to all of these records will become available on the National Wills Index in 2012. www.origins.net

Oz Soldiers

Bernard Metcalfe M221 from Australia has just deposited listings of WWI & WWII soldiers from Australia.

Details soon to be available via Society website www.metcalfe.org.uk

Indian Photographs

A century-old collection of photographs of India has been discovered in the RCAHMS (Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Scotland) archive.

The rare and fragile glass plate negatives, which date back to around 1912, show life on the subcontinent at the high point of the British Raj. The 178 negatives were found in a shoebox and were stored in their original five-by-eight-inch plate boxes, wrapped in copies of The Statesman newspaper dating from 1914.

Highlights from the imagery include celebrations for the visit of King George V and Queen Mary to Calcutta in 1912 – the only visit by a British monarch to India as Emperor of the subcontinent – with the city's buildings lit up at night in tribute; ships arriving at the Chandpal Ghat, the main landing place for visitors to Calcutta along the Hooghly river; pilgrims gathered for a religious festival on the Maidan, the large urban park at the centre of Calcutta; and merchants selling their wares outside the eleventh century Jagannath Hindu temple in Orissa.

The photographs can be viewed at the online gallery at <http://www.rcahms.gov.uk/>.

From www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

A new source of Yorkshire records has become available via the web -
Cause Papers in the Diocesan Courts of the Archbishopric of York 1300 - 1858.

The web site says:

"This on-line resource allows the York collection of Cause Papers, that is the case records created by the ecclesiastical courts of York 1300-1858, to be searched by type, date of case, names of individuals involved in the case as witnesses or parties and places mentioned in the records.

From July 2011 images of the records are available for download.

Cause papers are the papers of individual cases heard in the church courts: in this case the ecclesiastical courts at York.

The original records are held in the Borthwick Institute for Archives at the University of York, and are the most extensive records of their type in the United Kingdom. They offer an extremely valuable resource for family and local historians and scholars interested in social, ecclesiastical, economic and legal history.

The catalogue is designed to enhance access to the papers by presenting key information about each cause and by allowing users to search these details. The Basic and Advanced Search functions can be used to search for information about people and places involved in the cases and to refine searches by factors such as date and type of case. Alternatively, you can search quickly by using the keyword box at the top right of this page. The database can also be used to order copies of original documents."

www.hrionline.ac.uk/causepapers

A quick look at the site shows there is mention of some 42 Metcalf's; 103 Metcalfe's; 4 Medcalfe's and one Medcalf. Some of the entries relate to cases directly involving a Mecca whilst some (see below) refer to peripheral involvement. Why don't you have a look and then let the Society have the entries you have found?

CP.H.4497 / Reference:CP.H.4497 /Repository:Borthwick Institute GB 193

Court:undefined. Case:Defamation (character)

Details:1 Pieces; Has deposition; No libel; No sentence

Outcome: Date:1680 — 1700

Participant:Charles Matthew [Matthews] / Role:plaintiff / Details:male

Participant:Jonathan Kendal [Kendall] / Role:defendant / Details:male

Participant:**Grace Metcalf** [Metcalf] / Role:witness

Details:female; 45; wife of **John Metcalf**

Location:Leeds (YorkshireWestRiding)

Place(s):Woodhouse (Great Woodhouse) : undefined

Associated Places: Location: Leeds - Yorkshire West Riding Place(s):

Jacob's Well. Leeds : ecclesiastical parish

METCALFES in 1983

In Mecca News 11 (December 1983) Jean and Frank Bradley provided a review of Dr George Redmond's book "English Surnames; Series 1 Yorkshire West Riding". In the book Dr Redmonds commented that Metcalfe was a distinctive surname and was well established in "the mountainous country where Yorkshire meets Westmorland and most of them had already been established in North West Yorkshire by the Poll Tax of 1379." Jean and Frank went on to carry out a survey of their own on the distribution of the Metcalfe surname (and its derivatives) in 1983 using telephone directories. Their findings follow below. Editor

"Where Are they now? " was the question prompted by Dr. Redmond's description of the outward movement from the northern heartlands. He had made considerable use of 1965 telephone directories in his study of modern surname distribution and increases in the proportion of homes with telephones since 1965 make the directories an even more complete source of information. Certainly they are the nearest thing we have to a comprehensive list of names and addresses, which is readily available.

So we went through all 99 directories and listed all the Metcalfes, including variants, in each together with the numbers of pages in each. By calculating the number of Metcalfes per 100 pages for each directory, it is possible to get a figure for each which allows for the big differences in directory sizes. Thus there are 219 in the main London directories compared with 108 in Harrogate but the index figure is seven for London and 84 for Harrogate area, so the proportion of Metcalfes in Harrogate is twelve times that of London. In fact Harrogate has the highest figure at 84, with Middlesbrough second at 80 followed by Cumbria (65) and Bradford (63). This is not surprising these directories contain the original heartlands areas in the northern Pennine Dales and the areas of early migration immediately adjoining them.

The concentrations drop steadily over the outer ring around this area Index around 50 for York, East Yorkshire and Durham; 30-40 for Hull and Leeds; 20-30 for Tyneside and Northumberland and for North East Lancs. down to Manchester, South Lancs. and Liverpool. South Yorks. Nottingham, North Derbyshire and Lincolnshire give results in the 15-20 band, still well above average, with Norwich and, surprisingly, the Kent fringe of London just below this figure.

Most of the Midlands, East and Southern England are in the range 7-10; South-West England around 6 with Birmingham and Bristol below their general district averages. Perhaps there's an inborn tendency not to like big cities! And no doubt it has always been easier to get from Wensleydale to London than to Birmingham and Bristol. Scotland, of course, is generally thin, apart from the Borders and the extreme Southwest. Around Glasgow

the Index is down to 1; and we can spare a thought for the sole Metcalfe in the Highlands and Islands directory, Index 0.45.

One spelling curiosity is noticeable - MET predominates to the extent of about 93% nationally and is about 98% in the north. In a strip of Eastern England from the Essex side of London up to King's Lynn, about one-third spell MED. Presumably there were comparatively few families in this area originally and they perpetuated their own accepted spelling almost free from pressure of numbers to conform to the more usual one.

The other question which our investigation seemed to raise was how many Metcalfes are there in the UK currently? All that can be estimated directly is the number of people currently having this surname; by assuming that all the Mrs Metcalfes who acquired the name by marriage is likely to be very close to the number of Miss Metcalfes who lost theirs by marriage, the same figure ought to cover all those born Metcalfe currently living in the U.K.

We hope that members overseas and those whose ancestry is a little more remote, plus all the current sons and daughters of Metcalfe mothers will think the estimate is of interest. In fact we counted altogether some 6,750 Metcalfes in directories containing nearly 52,000 pages of names and probably around 17 million individual names. This equates to around 20,000 'born Metcalfes' in the UK at present. The original Midcalf might well be astonished!

WR MITCHELL ARCHIVE PROJECT

A recent news release said:

"This is a ten month HLF funded project set up by Settle Stories, digitising a proportion of 300 taped interviews with Dales folk by Bill Mitchell, formerly editor of Dalesman. At the moment we have digitised 10 tapes and are working on recruiting volunteers for background research of the individuals, transcription, cataloguing, archiving, blogging about the project and so on. You can find out more about the project at <http://www.settlestories.org.uk/> and <http://www.hlf.org.uk/news/Pages/SettleStorieswinnsupport.aspx>."

The recordings include interviews with Craven and Wensleydale residents. The contact is Gillian Waters, WR Mitchell Archive Project Officer, Keighley, West Yorks BD20 6RP Phone 01535656570 Mobile 07531304181
wrmitchellarchive@gmail.com

Correction

In the April Mecca News (MN96) p33 I gave Jam Jarmaine's membership number as 61 when it should have been 123. Apologies. **Editor.**

ARCHIVIST COORDINATOR'S REPORT

They say "that time waits for no man" and so by the time you are reading this, Margaret Hodgson will be your new Archivist Coordinator. Margaret has been involved in research & other duties within the Society for many years and will bring far more experience to the role than I will ever have. Margaret has agreed to continue as a researcher, in addition to her duties as Archivist, ably assisted by Jo Heron. Between them, they will provide our members with the support and knowledge which they have acquired during many years of involvement in genealogy.

Thank you for having relayed so much information to me, during the time I have been involved as your Archivist. It has been a pleasure to deal with it and particularly to meet so many of you at our annual Muster. I hope to continue to enjoy that for as long as possible.

Please send in your family history, so that we can produce your birth brief, after checking the information you have provided. We may be able to add some facts of which you were unaware, and possibly some members who are connected to your line, but whose existence was unknown to you.

Due to earlier problems with my computer system, I am still working my way through a backlog of emails from many of you. They are mainly concerning minor details and will be answered as soon as possible. Meanwhile please accept my apologies for the delay.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Muster in October.

Brian Metcalfe M1554

BIRTH BRIEFS FROM EXISTING MEMBERS (INCLUDING UPDATES)

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

D.o. Robert Gamble & Lilian Elsie (Hasenkamp, née Meyer) Mte m 27 Sep 1930. Robert Gamble b 26 Nov 1900 Kensington s.o Kennard Golborne & Fanny Christie (Gamble) Mte m 20 Dec 1894 Kensington. Kennard Golborne b 22 May 1858 Little Shelford, Cambs s.o **Revd Frederick & Harriet (Kynaston) Mte m 4 Oct 1853 Greenwich, Kent. Frederick bpt 2 Sep 1824 Fowlmere, Cambs** s.o Revd William & Susanna (Golborne) Mte m 13 Sep 1814 Ely, Cambs. William b 25 Dec 1785 s.o Revd William & Anna Maria Harwick (Chadd) Mte m 16 Nov 1780 Ely, Cambs. William b 8 Mar 1752 s.o Robert Mte a farmer.

Connects to M1666, M1696.

(I have highlighted Frederick & Harriet Mte above because they may be the link between M1918 and Elizabeth's brother and her line.)

M1758 Mrs Alana Metcalfe 48 Rochester Close, Etherley Dene, Bishop Auckland, Durham DL14 0RJ metcalfe453@btinternet.com

D-in-law James & Mary Anne (Whitworth) Mte m 29 May 1946 Witton Park. James b 10 March 1924 s.o. Robert John Thomas & Elizabeth (Slater) Mte m 22 Sept 1923 Witton Park. Robert s.o. Amelia Bertha Mte b 1878 d.o. Robert & Emma (Walker) Mte m 21 July 1867 Manfield, Yorks. Robert b c1841 Ellington, Yorks.

M1857 Mrs Gail Newbury 10 Glen Place, Hazelwood North, Victoria 3840, Australia jgnewbury@efel.com.au Grd d.o. **Harry Josiah & Doris (Mte) Hartley m 28 Nov 1936 Barnett, Hrt.** Doris b 17 Aug 1903 Newbiggin in Bishopdale d.o. John & Margaret Agnes (c) (Cockburn) Mte m 16 May 1896 Aysgarth. John b 24 Jul 1870 Thoraby s.o. Jeremiah & Ann (Bushby) Mte m 25 Feb 1865 Aysgarth. Jeremiah b c1843 Carperby s.o. John & Judith (Horn) Mte m 2 Dec 1839 Aysgarth. John bpt 8 Mar 1818 Stalling Busk s.o. William & Sarah (Dinsdale) Mte m 18 May 1811 Stalling Busk. William b 7 Feb 1789 Stalling Busk s.o. William & Anne (Tomlin) Mte. William b 18 Sep 1757 Marsett s.o. John & Barbara (Mte) (a) Mte m 12 May 1756 Hawes. John b c1727 Marsett s.o. William & Margaret Mte.

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

Conn M28 et al

(b) Alice b c1704 Hawes d.o. Philip & Alice (Jackson) Mte m 31 Jul 1698 Hawes. Philip bpt 18 Feb 1676-77 Askrigg s.o. Thomas Mte of Hawes.

(c) Margaret Agnes Cockburn b 1872 Bainbridge d.o. Thomas & Agnes Mason (Mte) Cockburn m 7 Oct 1871 Askrigg. Agnes Mason Mte bpt 2 Feb 1851 Askrigg d.o. John & Margaret (Blenkhorn) Mte m 11 Dec 1847 Hawes. John bpt 28 May 1820 Askrigg s.o. John & Sarah (Dinsdale) Mte m 18 Apr 1809 Askrigg. John bpt 2 Sep 1780 Askrigg s.o. James Mte of Bainbridge.

Conn M939

M1928 Mrs Ann Sandra Davies 2 Greenslopes Drive, Raymond Terrace, New South Wales 2324, Australia ray.dav@bigpond.net.au

D.o. James & Emily (Mason) Mte m 5 Jan 1946 Hunslet, Yorks. James b 6 Oct 1924 Hunslet s.o. John Leinster & Ada Jane (Whitlam) Mte m 1919 Hunslet. John b 1877 Hunslet s.o. George & Hannah (Leinster) Mte m 1875 Hunslet. George b 1830 Hunslet s.o. James & Sarah (Woolley) Mt m 24 Feb 1814 St Peter, Leeds. James bpt 13 Aug 1792 Hunslet s.o. John Mt of Hunslet. **Conn. M204, M210, M213, M215, M362, M925, M1868.**

NEW & REJOINING MEMBERS

M1486 Mr Christopher Metcalfe 17 West Mount, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire LS24 9LB emet279@yahoo.co.uk

M1930 Miss Pauline Powell 55 Amberley Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO2 0TQ pepowell@rad.claranet.com

M1931 Mrs Sharon Grace 6 Rufford Bank, Yeadon, Leeds, Yorkshire LS19 7QY sharon1402@btinternet.com

M1932 Mr Paul Bellis 298 Liverpool Road, Irlam, Manchester M44 6AN paul@bellisfamily.co.uk

M1933 Mrs Patricia Anne Heywood 7 Ben More, 5 Oak End Way, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire SL9 8DX anneheywood@itsjustit.co.uk

M1934 Mrs Heather D Robb 42 Beacon Avenue, Sedgefield, Durham TS21 3AD hdmedcalf@btinternet.com

M1935 Mr Roberto Taglienti Unit 68/1 Millenium Cct, Pelican Waters, Queensland 4551, Australia rob.taglienti@me.com

M1936 Mrs Barbara Rudd 42 High House Road, Bradford, Yorkshire BD2 4EX barbara.rudd@sky.com

M1937 Mrs Alice Gedge 2201 West 13400 South, Riverton, Utah 84065, USA adgedge@burgoyne.com

M1938 Mrs Helen Boulton 55 Coondoorroopa Drive, Macleay Island, Queensland 4184, Australia helen@boulton.id.au

MECCA SIGHTINGS

Yorks Archaeological Journal Vol 83 2011-page 212

Article by William Marshall entitled 'An Eisteddfod of Yorkshire' refers to

JOHN METCALFE of Baildon a wool merchant.

"...[Prof. Frederic] Moorman's volume of Yorkshire plays was slightly preceded by a similar publication entitled Bunderley Boggard and Other Plays by the dialect writer JOHN METCALFE of Baildon a wool merchant, Justice of the Peace and fellow member of the Yorkshire Dialect Society...."

Moorman wrote a preface to John Metcalfe's publication in 1919.

Moorman also wrote a poem entitled : "**Mary Mecca**" in his work

Songs of the Ridings page 59:

"Mary Mecca, Mary Mecca,
I'm fain to see thee here,
A Devon lass to fill my glass
O' home-brewed Yorkshire beer.
I awlus said that foreigners
Sud niver mell on me;
But sike a viewly face as thine
I'd travel far to see".

Craven Herald December 2011

Winnie Metcalfe celebrated her 100th birthday on 14 December 2011 at Neville House in Skipton, North Yorks. Winnie who married **Fred Metcalfe** at St Andrews Gargrave has four grand daughters and eight grandchildren.

David Metcalfe M46

Attending Fairs is one way of spreading the word about the Metcalfe Society and recruiting new members. Experienced at this task is our Archivist coordinator **Brian Metcalfe (M1554)**. Brian has attended many fairs (seen here at (L-R) NWGroup FHS fair in Manchester in October 2011 and North Yorks County Record Office Event March 2012 and recently attended the Yorkshire family history Fair at York - see picture and report below. He is now standing down to allow time to concentrate on other interests.

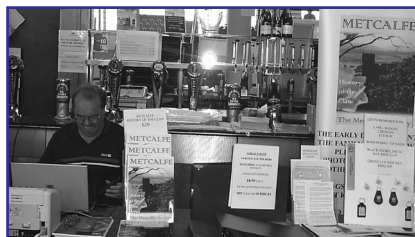


York Family History Fair 30th June 2012 - Brian Metcalfe (M1554)

Once again, the Racecourse Pavilion at York was the venue for what is, without doubt, the biggest Family History Fair in Yorkshire. It is probably even the biggest one in the North of England.

The Metcalfe Society was represented by David Metcalfe, who is responsible for our computer index and who ensured it's availability on our stand. In between assisting the many visitors who enquired about an assortment of "Metcalfes" during the day, he filled in the gaps by continuing to work his way through the database, correcting some of the many errors which were due to the conversion from a DOS system to an online version. As there are in excess of 112,000 entries on the database, this is a very time consuming task.

Ena Metcalfe and her husband Brian, our Archivist Coordinator, looked after the sales of the many items we have available, in addition to answering some of the questions posed by those with Metcalfe connections. Many of the visitors to the stand took leaflets detailing the benefits of membership and it is hoped that, in addition to the advice they were given, they will eventually create some new members for the Society.



David Metcalfe M46
- filling in the gaps.

Not sure about the bar behind our stand!- Editor

MARSDENS STORY (Part III)

Marsden Peter Holden M1513

(In Mecca News 95 & 96 Marsden described his search for the source of his forename. He had researched four generations back and in this episode he finds the originator of his name.)

Generation 5

James and Marsden (of generation 6) had a brother - second son and third child - John Metcalfe. John was born in 1827 and baptized on Christmas Day that year. He married Agnes Blades on 17 November 1853 at Hawes. They had eight children, one being our sixth Marsden. He was born on 19 February 1865 in Hawes and baptized on the 28th. His father was then a miner. Unfortunately this Marsden was to be another with a short life. He died on 10 January 1871, not quite 6. He was buried on the 14th. The cause of death is entered as Morbus Coxae which Google advises me is "Tubercular disease of the hip joint". His father was still a coal miner and they were still in Hawes.

Another of the brothers of James, John and Marsden was Thomas (8th child and 4th son). He was to have 11 children by his wife Mary and the last of these was named Thomas Marsden Metcalfe. Born in 1879 at West End, Burtersett he seems to have lived a roller coaster existence. The 1891 census has him living at Prospect View Burtersett and describes him as a cripple. By 1901 Thomas, the father has died and his widow, 3 daughters and Thomas Marsden have moved to 7 Barkerhouse Road, Nelson. Two of the daughters are cotton weavers and Thomas Marsden is a clogger.

The 1911 census provided useful help in moving his story on. He has married - on 4 November 1905 - Anna nee Heaton who was born in Radcliffe. At that time he was a clogger and living at 75 Every Street. One of the witnesses was Sarah Alice Metcalfe - Thomas Marsden's sister. They were married at St. John's Church, Great Marsden but the attachment to that church doesn't seem to have been significant as their children weren't christened there. The census shows that they have had two children. He died on 30 April 1936 at the Victoria Hospital in Burnley due to cardiac failure following an operation for carcinoma of the pelvic colon. His son Tom was present at the death and was the informant. I paid an unsuccessful visit to Earby Cemetery to see if I could find a grave. A short time later, Pendle Council kindly provided me with a plan to show where plot 856 was. It contains just Thomas Marsden and his wife Anna. A further visit confirmed that I hadn't missed anything as the grave is located under the grass - another Marsden in an unmarked grave.

Generation 6

I have already mentioned this Marsden Metcalfe. He was born on

14 February 1840 and baptized on 18 March both at Hawes. The 1841 census shows him at Force Head, Gayle. On the 1851 census, at the same address and at the age of 11, his occupation is described as "Collier, brings coals from mine for hire". All the adults in the family were working – the men as colliers and the women as knitters. On 28 November 1863 he married Isabella nee Metcalfe in Hawes. He lived at Gayle on his marriage and was occupied as a labourer. They had 6 children between 1863 and 1880. The 1871 census shows them living at East End, Gayle and he is a coal miner. They have 4 children and his nephew, William (son of brother William), is living with them. He has the same job 10 years later when all 6 children are at home which is Forss Head. By 1891 he is living on his own means at Harrop Green, Diggle nr Saddleworth with his 4 youngest children. The 2 boys are working as boatmen. He died on 27 June 1896 aged 57 and there is a memorial inscription at Hawes that shows he was resident in Keighley at the time. This was the first marked grave I found.



The book "Under Wetherfell The story of Hawes Parish and People" contains specific references to this Marsden. In the chapter on Mines and Quarries we read that the 1851 census has 22 people employed at Storth pits. Most of them lived at Gayle. Fathers clearly took their sons to the pit and Marsden and Harry Allen were the youngest. The book suggests that they probably had charge of donkeys or ponies and that is not incompatible with the census entry. In the period 1871-75 Marsden and John (presumably his brother) paid between £3 and £5 a year royalty to the Manor of Bainbridge.

Generation 7

We now arrive at the founder of the Marsden as a Christian name dynasty. James, John, Thomas and Marsden were the children of William Metcalfe and his wife Elizabeth nee Marsden. Elizabeth lived from 1796 to 1876. William was baptized on 30 September 1792. He was buried at Hawes on 26 June 1866. He was an agricultural labourer and collier at the birth of Marsden. Elizabeth and William were married on 6 October 1817 at Slaidburn and Elizabeth was described as from Sykes in Bowland. As the photo shows this is as beautiful a place as Wensleydale where William lived. One of the questions I am unlikely to have answered is how a couple from homes such a distance apart got together. I'm glad they did.



The 1851 census gives the place of

birth of Elizabeth as Slaidburn. The couple were at Gayle near Hawes at the time of Marsden's birth. The 1851 census has Elizabeth as a knitter – but then weren't all Wensleydale women. At the time of that census, and the 1841 census, they were living at Forss/Force Head. I couldn't see her at the family home on the 1861 census but found the reason whilst following up the children's whereabouts. Her eldest (of 10) child, James, had lost his first wife Margaret and been left with 5 children. Betty had moved in with them. By 1871 her husband William had died, James had remarried and she was living with her (2nd) son William at Beckstones.

Conclusion

I grew up with no appreciation of family traditions and responsibilities. When I completed the investigation and realised that I may be the last of a run of 7 generations of Marsden running back 200 years I was quite sad. I have learned a lot, seeing where we came from and have got to. These little insights into the lives of one's family can only improve understanding, appreciation and toleration and I am glad I took the opportunity. I also thank those who helped in any way.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Metcalf Society Annual AGM & Muster

Saturday 6 October 2012 10am-4.30pm

at The Dales Countryside Museum Hawes Wensleydale North Yorks.

For full details see the enclosed programme invitation and information.

BOOK NOW!

February 22-24 2013 Olympia, London. Who Do You Think You Are?

Guild of One names Societies (GOONS) Conference 2013

will be held in Cardiff at the Copthorne Hotel, Copthorne Way, Culverhouse Cross, Cardiff CF5 6DH from Friday 5th - Sunday 7th April 2013, with the AGM on Saturday at 9am.

North Yorkshire County Record Office

Local and Family History Day 2013

Following the success of the 2012 Local and Family History Day we are pleased to announce that a further event will be held on Saturday 16th March 2013, at the same venue: The Pavilions of Harrogate, on the Great Yorkshire Showground.

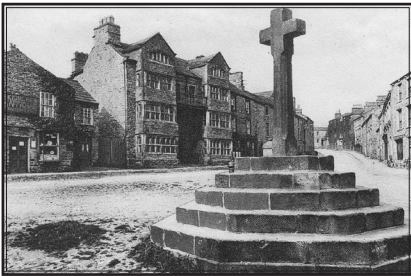
Further events and fairs can be found at
<http://geneva.weald.org.uk>

A NEWCOMER TO ASKRIGG

Some of us who were at the Mecca 2005 anniversary in Wensleydale will have known or discovered interesting things about Askrigg: for example its nearby Gill Force, the famous woodworkers, the 15th century parish church replete with countless Metcalfe graves, "All Creatures Great and Small" and of course Nappa. But how many of us had heard of the Padre of WWI who visited Askrigg often and was in love with it but died aged 33 in 1915 while serving in Egypt?

He was the Rev Capt Oswald Chambers born in Perth one of nine children of a Scottish minister. He followed in his father's footsteps but discovered a gift of evangelism and the instilling in others in his enthusiastic and attractive way of a vibrant appealing Christianity.

After college and travels in Japan, Egypt and America and marrying "Biddy" they settled in Clapham to run an open house for enquirers and searchers for faith. But what of Askrigg you ask? Well such was



the intensity and the heart searching demands of his ministry they sometimes needed a break! What better than a long summer holiday in the Dales? Chamber's eyes finally fell on Askrigg. It is believed that the lodgings he and Biddy rented for their holiday group was once a clockmaker's house in the Market Place near the Cross. No doubt some Metcalfes were usually in the party.

Mrs John Skidmore has written of the period before 1915 and recalled OC's ringing laugh and how some of his jokes proved unequal to his students' humour. With

15 months old Kathleen in his back pack he loved taking the group regularly across the fields and down to the river meadows. Some found the quietness and peace a foretaste of heaven, though one resident considered the leader "the most irreverend Reverend I have ever met".



His enthusiasm and joy were later put to good use in his chaplain's duties among British Forces in the Middle East until his untimely death. But scores of his students and friends cherished the memories of finding God by the banks of the River Ure. **DRH Major M324**

Wills *newly transcribed and now available to view in the
Members Only section of the website*

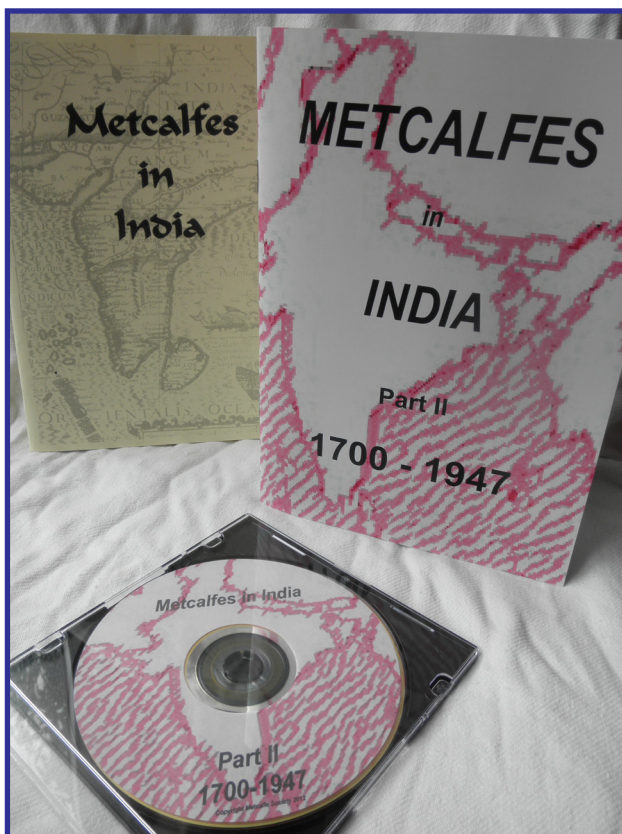
*The date here is the date of probate. Wills are often earlier than the
year of probate so it is best to use the search + or – 2/5/10/20 years
if not found immediately by name or place.*

- 1803 John Metcalf of Harrington, Cumberland
- 1804 Ann Metcalfe of Northallerton
- 1804 Ralph Metcalf of Malton
- 1806 James Metcalfe of Craike, Yorkshire
- 1807 Jeremiah Metcalfe of Hebden
- 1809 James Metcalf of Myton, Kingston upon Hull
- 1814 Christopher Medcalf of Brandesburton
- 1817 Thomas Metcalfe of Richmond
- 1818 John Metcalfe of Coxwold
- 1818 William Metcalf of Horton
- 1818 Rev Richard Metcalfe of Norton
- 1819 Christopher Metcalf of St Ann's, Soho
- 1819 Thomas Metcalfe of Gargrave
- 1820 Andrew Metcalf of North House, Ripon
- 1820 Hannah Metcalfe of Pontefract
- 1821 George Metcalf of Easingwold
- 1822 John Metcalf of Lockton, Middleton, Yorks
- 1822 John Metcalfe of Kirby Overblow, Yorks
- 1822 John Metcalfe of Little London, Leeds
- 1823 Thomas Metcalfe of Ripon
- 1824 Thomas Metcalfe of Princes Square, Middlesex
- 1824 Robert Metcalfe of Stokesley
- 1825 John Metcalf of Stockton on Tees
- 1825 Francis Metcalfe of Horton in Ribblesdale
- 1826 George Metcalfe of Stockton
- 1828 Francis Metcalfe of Kirkbride, Cumberland
- 1828 Thomas Metcalf of Shireoaks, Worksop
- 1829 Joseph Metcalf of Osmotherly, Yorks
- 1832 Matthew Metcalf of Masham
- 1832 Christopher Metcalfe of Foxup, Halton Gill
- 1833 Rev. William Metcalfe of Bishop Wilton
- 1835 Elizabeth Metcalfe of Hawes
- 1836 Elizabeth Metcalfe of Leeds
- 1843 Thomas Metcalfe of Thirsk
- 1843 Christopher Metcalfe of Hawes
- 1864 Henry Metcalf of Masham
- 1893 Alexander Metcalfe of Gober, Ingleton

Margaret Hodgson M515

A NEW PUBLICATION

It is not often that a major new source of Metcalfe family history information becomes available but this one of those times!



Due to the efforts of **George Buxton M3** the Society is pleased to announce the launch at the AGM & Muster on Saturday 6 October 2012 of part II of **Metcalfes in India.**

The 64 page booklet outlining the British involvement in India and stories concerning the Metcalfe family will be available with an accompanying disc listing hundreds of Mecca individuals over some 828 pages.

Only 50 booklets have been produced so it is very much "first come first served."

To reserve your copy of this exciting new release send your details to

Mrs Liz Waller at despatch@metcalfe.org.uk

or better still come to the Muster and pick up your numbered issue on the day.

The booklet and disc will be available together with Part I for £9.99 plus p&p

If you already have part I - part II and the disc are available at £7.99 plus p&p.



*Canadian Tulip Festival
Metcalfe Street
Ottawa May 2012
Picture by
Sandi Walton M541*