

ISSUE

24-3

May-June 2024

Newsletter of
THE
METCALFE
SOCIETY

MECCA NEWS

Surname Variants

Metcalf

Metcalf

Medcalf

Medcalf

Metcalf

Midcalf

Medecalf

Metecalf

Metkalf

Mydcalf

Mitcalf

Mitkalf

Meytecalfe

Metcalf

Modcalf

Metcalf

Midcalf

Meatcalf

Midcalph

Me'cca' is phonetic
dialect for Metcalfe

Can you add to this
list from records you
have come across?

Please email

editor@metcalfe.org.uk



THE METCALFE SOCIETY
Established 1980

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Musings from the Chair

I was delighted to see contributions from members across the world in the last edition of the newsletter. I'm sure we all felt isolated sometimes, during the pandemic and since then live meetings almost seem to have disappeared. With a group such as ours – we are all so far apart in physical distance, it would be difficult for us all to meet up. So it is a great pleasure to hear your stories and experiences in researching your Metcalfes (however it is spelled) and I look forward to hearing more from you. It all just emphasises what diverse and interesting lives our ancestors had. It puts me in mind of my brother who got itchy feet in 1974 and headed off, overland as far as possible, to Australia. He only came back for occasional visits until the late 1990's, but enjoyed a great life in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and South America. One of his favourite tricks was to send my widowed grandmother a postcard of the most ugly men he could find – as a suggested new husband. They did not go down well.

Earlier, we posted a notice on our Facebook page, to alert readers to the discussions going on about the destruction of some of the wills held by the archives centres in the UK. While we do appreciate the difficulty of storing the vast amount of paper documents, scanning and digitising them is not really adequate security that they will be available for research in the future – and who is to choose which will is important enough to be kept in its original form, and which should be disposed of? WE have objected to this proposal as have many other Societies and await a decision possibly in June. Hopefully, the powers that be will think again and, perhaps, use the precedent set during the war and store them in one of the disused mines, so future generations will still be able to access them, even if it takes longer to do so.

Again, I would like to remind you that we do need some help on the Committee. Our Secretary resigned some time ago and our Treasurer wishes to retire at this AGM. The tasks involved are not onerous [over]

and would not take long each month – so can you help us? Since the pandemic, our Committee meetings are online, so there is no bar to you living outside the UK as the Secretary, although the Treasurer does need to live here.

We are already planning the AGM and hope to hold a short general meeting afterwards to discuss topics of interest, projects you would like to start, including the new website, so we hope you put the date and time in your diary and join us then: 14:00 (2 PM) Saturday 5th October 2024.

With the variability of the weather everywhere – we hope you keep safe and well and look forward to hearing from **YOU**.

Jo Heron M1042

Society Publication

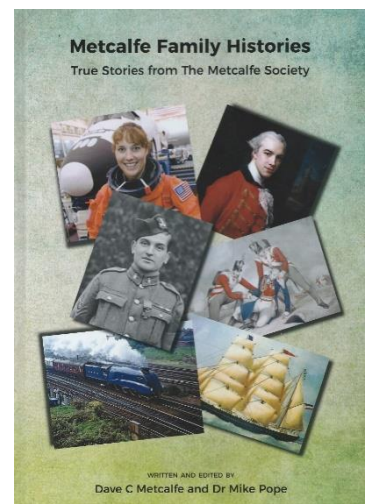
Metcalfe Family Histories

True stories from The Metcalfe Society, a fascinating book which complements our *History of the Clan* volume.

A superb selection of some of the best Metcalfe stories previously submitted by our members - most with exciting new information and up to date colour photographs! All presented in a 300 page coffee table style book, showcasing 55 fascinating stories, numerous Mecca snippets, a brief resume of how the society started and in excess of 200 photographs, many in full colour. The sort of volume you can enjoy dipping into and treasure it for years to come

This, soon to become a treasured possession, volume is on sale for £25.00 plus postage and packing, either through our Shop or through the Family History Federation at

<https://www.parishchest.com/> - look for The Metcalfe Society



Spotted in the 1871 Census

Does anyone have a concubine in their family tree?

William Metcalfe of Bradford, before 1871, had gone on a raiding party to Lancashire & brought back a concubine! Found and submitted by David Metcalfe M45.

148	129	9 th	1	Ann d ^r	Head	Mar	29	Draper (Joiner)	Spalding	Lincoln
				William Metcalfe	Head	Mar	29		Bradford	York
				Ann Pierpoint	Concubine	Mar	25		Barton	York
149	129	9 th	1	Elley d ^r	Head	Mar	25	Labourer (Milkmaid)	Christ Church	York
				William Smith	Head	Mar	25		The Field	York
				Mary d ^r	Wife	Mar	29		South Endale	York
				Ann d ^r	Head	Mar	25		Close Head	York
50	129	9 th	1	James Hall	Head	Mar	25	Labourer (Builder)	Mundelham	Suffolk
				Emma Hall	Wife	Mar	26			
6				Total of Houses..						
								Total of Males and Females..	12	13

[Further reading about the term concubine: [On-line Etymology Dictionary](https://www.etymonline.com/)]

In Memorium

I first met Joan and her husband Bill at one of the early Metcalfe Musters in the late 1980's. I had been a member of the Society for a couple of years and found out that we shared a distant ancestor – we were 6x-removed cousins! We also found out we had in common other “cousins” including Dorothy Pope and Warwick Metcalfe.

Joan and Bill were great supporters of the Society in those early days and in conjunction with their other “cousins” were an integral part of researching the Family name through the 80's and 90's in particular.

Joan became an integral part of the Society's History of the Clan Book Committee in the late 1990's and had a major role coordinating the information with Warwick Metcalfe.



Joan, and Bill until his death, assisted with many Musters and she was always cheerful and helpful. Her last attendance was just before Covid.

Since 2020 she became more house-bound but she remained positive and active with her many hobbies remaining in reasonably good health. In our last correspondence at Christmas she seemed well, however she

caught a chest infection in January and went to hospital where she died on 12 February (her 87th birthday).

A great servant to the Society and a missed friend.

Peter Dobson M69

Photos: 1) Joan Metcalfe, M63, 2014 2) Mecca Book Committee: Peter Dobson, Diane Howarth, Warwick Metcalfe, Joan Metcalfe, George Buxton 1996

A Role for You?

Are you comfortable with numbers? Do you deal with your own finances?

Have you an hour free once a month?

You have? You could be just the person to be the Society's next Treasurer!

Once a month the Society's financial position needs to be checked and the figures given to the Trustees. The Society has two main accounts; the bank and PayPal, which need to be kept up to date. This means checking the sales made from the Society's shop and making payments then checking it is in order. Usually this work takes less than an hour a month dealing with 5/10 items. Subscriptions and yearly payments made in December & January take a little longer. Not an onerous task but an important one, which can be carried out in the comfort of your home!

So if you feel you could assist your Society with this role contact Peter Dobson for more details.

treasurer@metcalfe.org.uk

Thank You

The Des Moines Postcard Story part 2

Starting with the time-line I produced for Susan to work from, you can see how many spelling variations there actually are to confuse any record research !

This is the timeline:

1880 Born - Probably on 20th March at 17, Kinmel St. Toxteth

1881 Census - John 27, Elizabeth 26, Giles 5, Sophia 3, Elizabeth C 1 at 17, Kinmel St.

1891 Census - John 39 widowed, Giles 15, Sophia 13, Elizabeth 11, Evelyn M 9 at 54, Flinders Street

1901 Census - Christina 21 as general servant domestic in household at 31, Cambridge Rd.

1903 The postcards started:

- 6 cards in Sept to Miss C. Metcalf, 17, Mulgrave St., Upper Parliament St., Liverpool
- 2 cards in Dec to Miss C. Metcalf, c/o Dr Drummond, 50 Princes Rd, Liverpool

1904

- 5 cards in March to Miss C. Metcalf, c/o Dr Drummond, 50 Princes Rd
- 10 cards in July/Aug to Miss C Metclaf, c/o Dr Drummond

1905

- 2 cards in June to Miss C. Metcalf, c/o Ms Edwards, 'Wentworth', Penkett Rd., Liscard, near Liverpool

1906

- c/o Mrs Edwards

1907

- 1 card in Feb Last one c/o Mrs Edwards
- 1 card May 18th to Miss Metcalf 97, Gt. Oswald St., Old Swan, Liverpool

1908

- 29 cards March 20th - Dec 24th to Miss Metcalf / Metcalfe / Medcalf c/o Dr Given, 'Lowood', Mossley Hill, Liverpool (some have extra line of Elmsley or Lyndhurst Rd. As a corner house 'Lowood' has gateposts on both roads.)

1909

- 5 cards Jan-March 20th to 'Lowood'

This is where the US connection appears to begin!!!

- 1 card May 28th to 'Lowood' but redirected June 7th to 9, Parkfield Rd., Sefton Park
*This re-directed card is postmarked May 28 Boston, Massachusetts, and says, "What do this remind you of Love from Nellie"
- 11 cards to different people at this 9, Parkfield Road address
- 2 cards to Miss Gibbons from different people in May + Sept.
- *1 card Aug 10 to Miss Reynolds - "Had a lovely time. This time tomorrow Aye? Christine"
- *1 card unstamped just: 9. Parkfield Sefton Park - 'from Harriet Reynolds' (perhaps arrived in a letter. Photo is of St. Louis, Mo)
- *1 card Oct 21 to Miss Reynolds - text does not reveal sender
- *4 cards Oct-Nov to Miss Metcalf - all same hand, 2 signed HR which match those letters on card signed Harriet Reynolds.
 - Wont you be pleased this time two years.
 - Had a nice day, hope you will not require Boly to wash your face. (Pic is a cat + a dog licking a crying baby)
 - Having a nice time. Hope you are HR;
 - What do you think of this HR got the last doll they had
- 2 cards Dec 25th to Miss Metcalf
 - All good wishes to you A. Power - pic of park in St. Louis Missouri.
 - With love and best wishes for a very happy Christmas. H.E. Roberts

1910

- 9 cards to Miss Metcalfe c/o Dr. Crooke, 3 Warren Drive, New Brighton, Cheshire; some from the children Doreen + Muriel

1911

- 9 cards Jan-Sept 14. Two cards from Mrs. Crooke giving instructions and more cards from Doreen when they are away on holiday. (Was she now regarded as a senior member of staff?)
- 1 card Sept 25 to Miss Metcalf, 248, Binns Rd., Edge Lane, Liverpool card on Oct 23rd to Miss Metcalf, c/o Mrs. Harrison, Derwent Lodge, Wavertree

1912

- 9 cards to Derwent Lodge

1913

- 3 cards begin Jan 6th to Miss Metcalf, 'Wyncote', Allerton, Liverpool
- 1 card June 14th to Miss Christine Metcalf, 15, Woodgreen Rd., Stonycroft, Liverpool

- 2 cards in Aug to Miss Metcalf at an address in Windermere. Probably a holiday as 2nd card redirected to 42, Pulford Rd., Anfield, Liverpool
- 1914
- 6 cards from Apr 25th to Miss Metcalf, c/o Mrs. Cohen, 4, Fulwood Park, Aigburth, Liverpool
- 1915
- 10 cards from Apr 24-Dec 20th to Miss Metcalf, c/o Mrs. Cohen. 1 card to M Stern Esq at this address - Dear Daddy in a childish hand. (Was he the actual owner and Mrs. Cohen the housekeeper in charge of all staff?)
- 1916
- 6 cards to Miss C. Metcalf at Fulwood Park
 - 3 cards begin Aug 23rd to Miss Christine Metcalf, c/o Mrs. H. Cohen, 3, Curzon Rd., Hoylake, Cheshire
- 1920
- *Dec 5th arrives New York en route to Mr. Reynolds, Harrison & Leomite St., Chicago, Illinois (No such street today.)
- 1922
- Final card. Posted in Philadelphia Pennsylvania from Elmer. Sent to E.J. Reynolds, 1805 Calvert St. Baltimore, Maryland. (Why was it with her collection? Why the 6yr gap?)

*What was relationship between Harriet Reynolds met in 1909, Mr. Reynolds in 1920 and E.J. Reynolds in 1922?

For my part, I 'toured' Liverpool on Google street view to search for the houses she lived in. As they were mainly large Victorian suburban houses, they are almost all still there, though many are now divided into flats. The few which have gone were much smaller houses closer to the docks and probably went due to a mix of WWII bombing and later re-development of 'working class' poor quality housing.

1908 she worked at a house called 'Lowood'. It is not the largest house she worked in but she was still junior in her career. I've chosen it because the cards gave two different second address lines and a current street view search revealed it to be a corner house with gateposts on two streets! Pleasingly both pairs of original gateposts carved with the name Lowood are still in place.



Between 1903 and 1907 she appears to have been in a relationship with a John who went to sea. The postmarks on 20+ cards show him working on a regular route calling at Rotterdam, Tenerife and Conakry in West Africa (Sierra Leone). At this time she was in her mid-twenties, but for some reason they did not progress to marriage. There is nothing in the card texts to indicate why the correspondence stopped. Perhaps that was in the letters sometimes promised in the brief messages? In fact she did not marry until aged 40 in 1920 in New York!

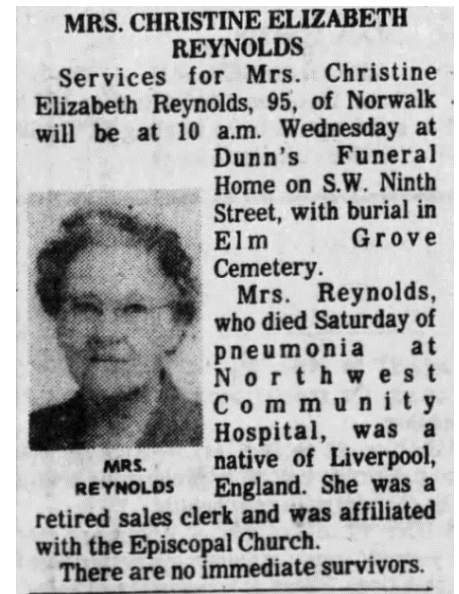


Her husband Edward Reynolds aged 43 was a fellow Liverpudlian who had emigrated some years before aged 17-18 and is recorded as living most of that time in Chicago as a sign painter. He was the older brother of her friend Harriet so they had likely known each other for many years, perhaps even from school days as the Reynolds family lived close to Kinmel St. where Christine lived as a child. Christine and Harriet were the same age so could have been class-mates. By searching passenger lists Susan has found that Harriet took their mother to America in 1907 and stayed just a few weeks, presumably to see mother settled with her son. It seems that you didn't have to be well-off to cross the Atlantic in those days.

Susan was even able to find a 1923 passport application photo of Christine and Edward when they were making a visit to Liverpool! Passport application forms are very useful in research as they also give you the persons height, build, eye and hair colour.

There are perhaps more records to find but so far they seem to have spent most of their married life in Iowa. In 1940 Edward is recorded in Polk as an artist for the US government. In 1950 they were at another address in Polk. Edward died in 1958 and sometime after that Christine moved to Des Moines (still Iowa) where she lived until her death from pneumonia aged 98 in 1978. The newspaper notice described her as a retired sales clerk, a job I believe we would know as a shop assistant in the UK.

Marrying later in life they had no children which probably explains why her possessions were put out with 'the trash' when someone cleared her home in 1978. Susan believes that sister-in-law Harriet died in 1948. It seems she married someone 20yrs older during WWI when she was in her 30s and they had just one child, a daughter given the middle name Christine - after her best friend?



Susan and I are now satisfied that we have probably found all there is about Christine herself, but there is still scope for looking for descendents of her siblings and perhaps finding someone who would like to take possession of her postcard collection. As a society we do not have premises to store Metcalfe related material, but are reliant on committee and members having space in their house, so I would like to find a home for them with a descendant they have significance for, or an institution with an interest in social history.

Lesley Longworth M68

Spotted in the News

- In 2012, a murder investigation was launched following a fire in Harlow which killed six members of the Shakoor family. A murder investigation was launched by Essex Police, turning into one of our largest enquiries under the name Operation Shakespeare. Seven people were arrested following initial enquiries but later released without further action. On March 20, 2024, Detective Chief Inspector Louise Metcalfe appeared on BBC Crimewatch Live to continue to appeal for the public's help as part of this investigation.
- John Metcalfe is a features reporter in the San Francisco Bay Area, reporting in the Mercury News on food and drink, hiking and outdoor recreation, arts and music and other "fun" things. Most recently he reported in 5 March 2024 edition on the closure of a popular Mexican restaurant after 25 years in the Bay Area, called Chevys.
- Family makes donation to Norwood Hospice in memory of Leonard and Joyce Metcalfe – an [article from Jeff Dornan](#) in the Peterborough Examiner (Ontario, Canada), Tuesday, April 9, 2024. [Editor note: Ancestry has Leonard as a descendant of Robert Metcalfe b 1818 in Carlisle, Cumberland, England, who died in Norwood, Ontario, in 1899, and Mary Daniels b 1819 in Wigcliffe, Yorkshire; died 1901 in Norwood]

Have you spotted a Metcalfe (or variation) in your newspaper or on the news? Please send in a copy of the clipping or transcription, with date and source, for inclusion in this section.

Spotted in the Air

Just looking through some of the newspapers online and came across a Peter Metcalfe who was/is a civilian pilot and flew at a number of airshows, largely in the north in the 1980's and 1990's.

East Kilbride News. 31/05/1995 – Peter Metcalfe is as happy flying upside down as the right way up.

News Post Leader, 23/07/1992 - RAF Boulmer – Civilian display will be provided by the Pitts Special flown by Peter Metcalfe

The North of England Motor Show at Whitley Bay, July (not sure of the year) - At 3 pm Peter Metcalfe will fly the Skyshaw Pitts 220 mph by-plane. Peter is secured into the aircraft with a five point harness, as the aircraft does not have a canopy over the cockpit and it is the harness which keeps him secure when the aircraft is in inverted flight.

Is this intrepid flyer a member, or a relative? Please let us know. Jo Heron M1042

ID: 1024441	Views: 236	Aircraft	Location & Date
		Type: Pitts S-1D	Location: Bellarena
		Aircraft Reg: G-BIRD	Country: UK - Northern Ireland
		Operator: Peter Metcalfe	Date: 8th September 2007
		Picture Category: Aerobatic Aircraft	Photographer
			Paul McAllister  Contact Paul McAllister

https://www.worldairpics.com/operator/Peter_Metcalfe/

Webinar from Northumberland & Durham FHS

A new project with MyHeritage and an interesting take on the family tree. There will be a webinar on this - if you are interested.

13th May 2024 @ 10am Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project by Hilton Dawson

Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project may be the first attempt by any community anywhere in the world to map its entire family history; to create a complete, online, freely accessible record of everyone who ever lived here. This is an enormous task but we're already well on the way, with information about some 30,000 people over 5 centuries – and our records are growing every day.

However, this isn't just some dry list of names. These are real people and they all have stories which we are recovering, recording, publishing and helping to turn into books and music and more.

Many people think that Newbiggin by the Sea is a great place, full of fascinating people, many of whom are inter-related with each other. NBTSGP is helping to prove it.

We have over 100 Metcalfes living in the area - are any of you related to them?

[Northumberland & Durham FHS](#)

[NBTSGP](#)

Birth Briefs

M2236 – Paula Harris-Scully

Paula gd. Christopher Wellock & Emily Mte m. 11 March 1893 Bradford. Emily b. 29 Oct 1871 Bradford. d. John William Henry Mte & Eliza (Hardaker) m 10 Dec 1870 Bradford. John William Henry b. 25 Nov 1838 Bradford s.o. Ralph Mte & Martha (Moseley) m 6 Feb 1837 Bradford. Ralph b. 26 Jan 1816 Gunnerside s.o. Christopher Mte & Ann (Milner). Christopher b. 10 May 1789 Muker s.o. Thomas Mte & **Annas or Annis** (Binks) m 16 October 1769. Thomas b. 26 Aug 1708 Muker s.o. Thomas Mte & Margaret (Cottingham). Thomas b 29 Sep 1661 Muker s.o. John Mte

Conn. M52 M68 M217 M300 M302 M337 M438 M510 M967 M1183 M1195 M1209 M1415
M1521 M1527 M1756 M1787 M1829

M2238 – Sarah Wheatley

Gd Jack Longland & Elise Irene (Mt) m Jan 1951 Wisbech. Elise b Jul 1927 d.o. Paul Mt & Hilda (Washbrook) m Jan 1914 Woodstock. Paul b 21 Jul 1889 Great Thurlow s.o. George Mt & Julia Haycock m Jan 1888 Risbridge. George b Apr 1861 Withersfield s.o. George Mt & Amelia Jacobs m Oct 1859 Risbridge. George b 1832 Withersfield s.o. Thomas Md Withersfield & Caroline (Jefferys) m. 3 July 1830 Withersfield. Thomas b 1810 Withersfield s.o. George & Sarah (Copping) m 5 Nov 1795. George bpt 8 Jun 1763 Great Thurlow s.o. Isaac & Elizabeth (Webb) m 11 Oct 1744 Great Wrattling. Isaac b. 29 Apr 1718 Hertford s.o. Thomas Md & Anne (Woodfare). Thomas B 4 mar 1682 Thundridge, s.o. William Md & Susan, Thundridge

Conn. M323, M980, M1204, M1434, M1445, M1499

M2239 – Nancy Lovins

Ggd Benjamin Stevenson & Margaret Mte m 23 Dec 1846, Burneston. Margaret b 29 Nov 1824 Catterick d.o. Richard Mte & Anne (Herring) m 16 Feb 1824 Catterick. Richard b. Feb 1794 Londonderry s.o. Francis Mte & Margaret (Martin) m 28 Nov 1789 Burneston. Francis b. Feb 1759 Burneston s.o. Richard Mte & Mary (Chambers) m 22 Feb 1759 Gatenby. Richard s.o. Richard (no date) Burneston and Gatenby.

Conn. M268 M1173 M1642

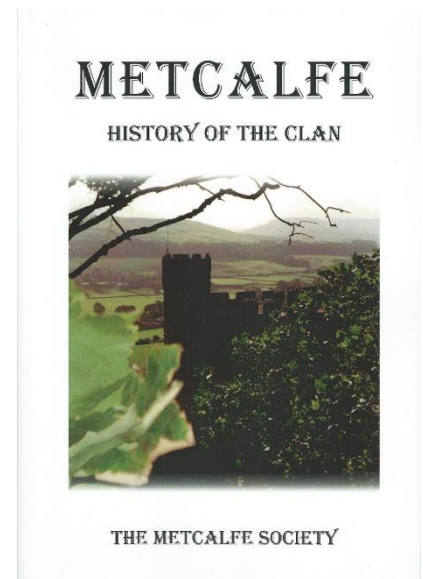
We are still awaiting birth brief information from members 2221, 2222, 2225, 2228, 2229, 2234, 2237, 2240, 2241, 2242 – some of whom are fairly new members. We look forward to you joining our main family tree.

Society Publication

Have you got your copy of Metcalfe – The History of the Clan?

It is fair to say that Metcalfes have been involved throughout the history of not only England, but the many parts of the world that people from England scattered to over the centuries. This volume aims to put the early development of this large and diverse family into a clear historical context, drawing chiefly upon two very rare books about the Metcalfes, published privately many years ago.

Additional sections deal with the development of the name Metcalfe, the family origins in the North Yorkshire towns and dales of the late 12th century, the Metcalfe coat of arms. It also includes brief accounts of the lives and occupations of earlier Metcalfes contributed by members of The Metcalfe Society, which gives some idea of the character and diversity of the past. The family trees of no less than 70 branches associated with current members of the society are included to help readers who wish to pursue research further. Through this book, Yorkshire's best known family comes to life



Obviously, the book will be a **must** for those people who find the name, Metcalfe, somewhere in their family tree - and it especially makes an ideal present to family members. In addition, those with an interest in the Dales, Yorkshire, social history and family history in general will find this book highly appealing. This appeal is certainly enhanced by the high quality of both content and presentation, with plenty of colour photographs, maps and other illustrations to enrich and support the text.

So what is the differences between the first, second and third editions? There are an additional 4 pages, containing an index, a few minor corrections, but there are no other changes in the presentation, size, format, scope or overall content of the book. This third edition comes in a soft back to help keep costs down

1,500 copies of the two previous editions have already been sold - so do not miss out on your copy. This is the third edition of the book, published in 2023, despite rising costs, we have been able to keep the price down to £26.00 +pp either through our Shop through the Family History Federation at <https://www.parishchest.com/> - look for The Metcalfe Society

Reviews

"Brings one of Yorkshire's best known families to life.....and paints a picture of social life in the Yorkshire Dales" - The Dalesman.

"The life & exciting times of the Metcalfe clan" - Darlington & Stockton Times.

"An absolute gem of a book. A masterpiece enabling it to stand the test of time and become a precious heirloom." The Guild of One Name Studies.

Lake Medcalf, Western Australia

Lake Medcalf, located in Western Australia, was named by Henry Sutherland, a surveyor who later became the Colonial Treasurer and a member of the Legislative Council. The practice during colonization was to name wetlands and geographical features after leading colonists or those who leased the land. In this case, Lake Medcalf bears the name of an influential figure from that era.

Who was this Medcalf? Henry Sutherland was born in 1804 and died in 1855. So whoever the Medcalf was he was a likely colonist around that time. I have attempted to find out who he was without success.



The lake has been in the news lately. Lake Medcalf is part of the Medcalf Vanadium Project, which is situated approximately 470 kilometers east-southeast of Perth, Western Australia. The project, operated by Audalia Resources Limited, involves the construction and operation of a vanadium, titanium, and iron ore mine in the Bremer Range, Lake Johnston region. More recently, Lithium deposits have been mapped.

Can members in Australia, or familiar with Australian sources pursue this? It would be interesting to know and try to trace this unknown Medcalf in Australia and back to England. It seems likely that he was a “leading colonist” or “influential figure” in Western Australia and known to Henry Sutherland, who did not, I think, venture beyond WA. (Submitted by S. Harper M266)

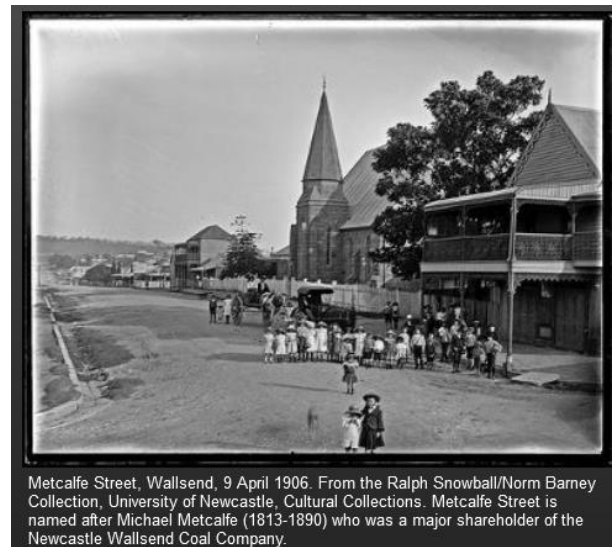
Another Ship Named Metcalfe

A ship built by Ayrshire Dockyard Co., Ltd. in Irvine, Great Britain in 1923 was originally registered in Canada and used in the Great Lakes, Canada, christened “Metcalfe” by Interlake Navigation Co., Ltd. It was propeller driven, 252 feet long, 43 feet wide, made of steel and gross tonnage was 1851. In 1927 it was sold to Canada Steamship Lines, Ltd. who changed its name to “Fairmount” and used it until selling to Marine Industries, Ltd. in 1960. It was reduced to a barge by Marine Industries, Ltd., at Sorel, P.Q., that year. Its name was changed to “M.I.L”. 495 and used it until 1970 when it was scrapped.



Source: <https://greatlakes.bgsu.edu/item/437973>

A Street Named Metcalfe, Wallsend, NSW



Metcalfe Street, Wallsend, 9 April 1906. From the Ralph Snowball/Norm Barney Collection, University of Newcastle, Cultural Collections. Metcalfe Street is named after Michael Metcalfe (1813-1890) who was a major shareholder of the Newcastle Wallsend Coal Company.

[The University of Newcastle, NSW Living History](#)

[Coal and Community](#)

Photo at right: Watson's Hotel, Metcalfe Street, Wallsend NSW, 12 June 1897; Photograph Creator: Snowball, Ralph, 1849-1925 Date: 12th June 1897.

Michael Metcalfe was born in Tranby, Yorkshire in 1813 and died in 1890 in Potts Point, NSW, Australia.. Michael was had a varied career in NSW. He was a customs officer 1837-57, auditor 1838-1881, business executive 1857-1881, company manager 1857-1890, insurance agen 1857-1890, shipping agent 1857-1890, university administrator 1860-1885, benefactor 1867-1869, public servant 1875-1890.

An Ancestry member suggests that Michael was the son of Michael Metcalfe b abt 1785 d 1837 in Hackney, Middlesex, and Ann Bell b 1788 in Leonfield and died 1864 in Hackney This couple married 1809 at Leconfield, Yorkshire. Michael junior arrived in Sydney, NSW, in July 1837 aboard the "Achilles" from London. He married Agnes Georgina Robinson in Sydney, Apr 1845. The couple had eleven children, including Charles Theophilus Metcalfe in 1860 in Newtown

Is this your family? Please send details and sources to us for our database and to update your birth brief if necessary. (Submitted by Susan Harper M266)

Old Occupations

In the latest download from FMP - there is a wisket maker & an anchorsmith.

Wisket seems to come from Scandanavian and early English. There are possibly 2 interpretations. It could be a colloquial expression for a waistcoat, or refer to a woven basket made of interwoven strips of wood, straw or fabric.

The anchorsmith is more obvious - a maker of anchors.

Did your ancestor have an unusual occupation? Please let us know.

Jo Heron M1042

[Editor note: A David Metcalfe was listed in the 1880 Morris and Co. Directory as a Wisket Maker in Broken Cross Macclesfield]

Now Then 11 – Part 2 of George Metcalfe, Slave Owner

In my article published in January 2024 I wrote at some length about what I had discovered about George Metcalfe of Rigg House, Hawes which was situated in the parish of Aysgarth. He had been a sugar plantation owner in the West Indies and owned several slaves, before returning to England, after 1808 and subsequently marrying (1814) Elizabeth Davis. She was 28 years his junior. Elizabeth was the daughter of William Davis and Margaret Routh. They [married in 1783 in Hardraw](#) where their daughter Elizabeth was born and baptised in 1785.

I attach copies (see end of of article) of transcripts of George's will with one codicil and that of Elizabeth, his widow, since by reading them together you can appreciate the family relationships better. Details of George's will were attached to Susan's article in the Newsletter issue 23-5 in September of that year page 4 but while reading this article a copy in front of you might be helpful.

His marriage was not a long one since he died, childless on 13 February 1821. I believe he knew Elizabeth's family as they lived locally and indeed there could well have been some business co-operation with her relatives as we shall see. Whilst the Will was drafted by a lawyer I feel one can sense that he was fond of her, as he refers to her as 'my beloved wife Elizabeth' and 'I further will that my dear Wife.....' then he gives a 'Bequest of the Shop at the East End of Hawes Market and my half the pew in Hawes Chapple to wife Elizabeth.' Admittedly he does say that she '....shall not marry again and that should she marry the whole of my Property shall go as heretofore devised'. This was however not unusual given that a married woman's assets effectively were her husband's as soon as they married. This changed in 1882. So if the widowed Elizabeth had remarried (she did not) her second husband would have inherited her wealth from George.

It is a relatively short document, dated 21 September 1820, with a codicil added at the end written by George but unwitnessed or dated, which caused some problems for the church court. The problem was resolved by two witnesses in Surrey and London giving affidavits stating that they knew the '....manner and character of handwriting and subscription having frequently seen him write and subscribe his name.....' They went on to swear (depose) that they 'verily and in their conviction believe the whole body series and contents of the said codicilto be the proper handwriting of the deceased.'

It seems odd that George did not ask his solicitor to prepare a codicil and have it properly witnessed, in Hawes, but perhaps that was typical of the man? He had lived abroad for many years, acted as President of the colonial council or parliament, and in that capacity was a judge as I explained in the previous article. He was acting governor before leaving for home and owned several plantations. I consider he was the kind of man who knew what he wanted and how to do it. Not always successfully! He wrote the codicil himself without bothering his lawyers, maybe to save himself money and inconvenience? He knew best! Whilst we will look at the codicil later, it was an important document from George's perspective, since he attempted to add a condition on how the children of two of his intended residuary beneficiaries (legatees) would receive their inheritance. He required them to change their surnames to Metcalfe before they received their share. This was what is called by lawyers a 'name and arms clause'.

It is interesting that he also gives Elizabeth's relatives various legacies, which we can deduce from the terms of her Will in 1845. More about that later but it shows the benefit of reading the wills of the two spouses together to establish relationships.

Before looking at how he distributed his estate and to whom, let us look at the individuals whom he expected to deal with his assets, in England and also in the West Indies. In selecting the four individuals he chose he turned out to be unfortunate!

George's proposed executors

I find it odd that none of the four executors referred to in the Will proved it. There was a good reason in the case of William Tierney Robarts, George's illustrious London banker friend and MP, who was also the son of an MP, a very wealthy banker, who had founded a bank called Robarts Curtis Were Hornyold and Berwick in Lombard Street, London. William's father was interestingly listed among the 'staunch friends' of the abolition of the slave trade in 1807. (See also below for a reference to William's brother Abraham Wildey Robarts).

William T Robarts perhaps unsurprisingly became a banker before he became an MP. According to the History of Parliament site [biography](#), ".....Robarts was a merchant in Old Broad Street, London from about 1810, his banker father having bestowed £20,000 on him in his lifetime and a further £10,000 at his death in 1816. He was also a director of the [family] Bank Robarts, Curtis, Were, Hornyold and Berwick of Cornhill, later of Lombard Street. Unfortunately for George's family, William Robarts died 9 Dec. 1820, three months after George Metcalfe completed his Will on 21 September 1820. I wonder if William's bank acted as bankers for George's business activities?

Three of the four executors appointed by George seem to have been connected to Elizabeth's family, at least judging by their surnames and after looking at Elizabeth's will:

'I appoint Mr John Davis of Liverpool, Anthony Davis in Philadelphia, son of Thomas [Davis], and Mr John Routh of London to be to be my executors'.

Elizabeth refers in her will, made in 1845, to her brother Thomas and her then late brother John Davis. I quote:

'I remit forgive and release to my brother Thomas Davis all such sums of money as may be due and owing from him to me' and then later she leaves a legacy to her sister-in-law Eliza Hardcastle 'heretofor the widow of my brother John Davis deceased the sum of £50'. Thomas her brother, died the following year living at Holme House Gargrave.

I am certain these are the same Davis individuals referred to by George and to whom he intended to entrust the businesses and properties which Elizabeth his widow enjoyed for her lifetime. The fact that Elizabeth cancelled her brother Thomas's debts shows compassion and clearly friendship so far as Eliza Hardcastle is concerned. Eliza had remarried in 1840 in Knaresborough after John died.

Anthony was a nephew of Elizabeth. George calls him the son of Elizabeth's brother Thomas although I have not been able to find a son with that name. There is a baptism in Stalling Busk in 1790 for an Anthony the son of Robert and Abigail Davis. Possibly George Metcalfe misremembered whose son Anthony was? Also I noted a baptism of a Thomas Davis the son of a William and Margaret. Stalling Busk is a chapelry within the parish of Aysgarth like Hawes. So it seems possible that they moved from Hardraw before undoubtedly moving to Gargrave. William Davis died there in 1815 and his will was proved in 1817. It is at the Borthwick Institute and not online so I have not been able to read it. Thomas Davis also died there as I say above.

Originally George intended to appoint Robert Metcalfe of Hawes (son of Thomas Metcalfe) as an executor but decided that as Robert was barely 20 he was 'too young' to undertake the role and his name was deleted and replaced by Anthony Davis in Philadelphia.

So far as the fourth executor is concerned, John Routh was probably an uncle or cousin of Elizabeth Metcalfe, since her mother was a Routh, before she married William Davis, at Hardraw in 1783. John Routh in London could have been involved with George's business interests. A

check on Land Tax records for 1822 shows a John Routh owning a property in Bread Street in City of London. There are references to a John Routh who was a stockbroker in 1835. There are several references to John Rouths in London in the directories, some weavers and tea dealers too.

Alternatively, he could have been known to George through his residence in Gayle, where George owned property, one being let incidentally to his brother-in-law Edmund Atkinson, who had married George's sister Agnes.

The 1823 Whites Directory for Gayle refers to a J. Routh a cattle dealer/farmer and also to O[swald] and Thomas Routh, local hosiers and land owners, who were co-owners of Gayle Mill, which they built in 1784. The two partners were Quakers. John Routh was Anglican. The Routh family was a 'pillar' of the community and certainly the Gayle Mill branch were at the forefront of technology and the industrial revolution. There is the possibility that they had interests in the West Indies since an Oswald Routh owned slaves on Jamaica. The UCL slave database refers to him but no location in England is given. The Gayle Mill website refers to the possibility too.

Earlier the mid-eighteenth century, members of a Routh family lived in the vicinity of Birk Rigg, Hawes, where George had been born and where his parents lived. A search of local newspapers on Findmypast reveals several stories involving a John Routh of Gayle, albeit not necessarily the same man. For example in May 1836 a John Routh gave evidence to a court and was described as a 'very respectable yeoman and extensive cattle-dealer from Gayle...' If you have a subscription to Findmypast here is the link to the [article image](#).

In 1842, probably the same John made a subscription of a guinea (£1 1s 0d) to the proposed Ripon Diocese Education Society, along with Elizabeth Metcalfe of Rigg House. [The Yorkshire Gazette, 12 February 1842 | findmypast.co.uk](#).

In 1846, a John Routh of West Shaw, Hawes, yeoman was listed, along with many others, as being a partner of the Knaresborough and Claro Banking Company. [The Yorkshire Gazette 07 February 1846 Page 2 | findmypast.co.uk](#)

So it's not possible to identify the John Routh whom George had selected to be his executor. It is strange and maybe significant that George did not appoint another Metcalfe as an executor especially as he decided, probably correctly, that his original choice of Robert Metcalfe was inappropriate. Maybe John Davis had business connections with the West Indies through his Liverpool location and that Anthony Davis was appointed as a substitute executor because he had recently emigrated to USA, it possibly being thought that his USA location would be helpful to the executors as it was closer to the West Indies than Hawes? It seems that the executors were chosen to give support to Elizabeth when running the three Yorkshire estates and West Indies businesses. It also seems to me that Elizabeth might well have had an influence in persuading her husband to appoint her relations as executors. He certainly favours her relatives when it came to distributing the estate.

George left each executor £1,000 sterling to be paid out of his West Indian 'Hampton Court' Estate 'as a reward for acting zealously'. They did not prove the Will so will not have received the legacy.

The legacy would today be worth approximately £57,430 according to [the National Archives currency converter](#), so not an insignificant amount to forgo, although clearly dealing with the estate would not have been simple.

So why did John Davis, Elizabeth's brother, and John Routh in London renounce probate leaving her to sort out her husband's affairs alone?

Anthony Davis, I suspect, never learnt he was appointed an executor. Letters were sent to ask him to renounce but he never replied. He was 'cited' before the application was made to the court for a grant, requiring him to say if he intended to prove the Will or not; he ignored or maybe never received the correspondence. Maybe having just left for Philadelphia the last thing he needed was to become involved with the complicated affairs of his aunts late husband so kept quiet?

I suspect he might have gone to USA a few months before George made his Will and any address the family had was a temporary one only.

I checked the immigration registers available on Findmypast and think an Anthony Davis who took a ship to Philadelphia in 1819 might have been Elizabeth's relative. An Anthony Davis is listed on the manifest and list of passengers, who travelled as a passenger in steerage with two chests only, on the Vessel 'Tuscarora' built in Philadelphia. She sailed from Liverpool and was owned by the Cope Brothers line. There were at least two vessels with this name in the nineteenth century and this was the first one.

In the Cabin		In the Steerage	
Mr. Hannah	36 Packages, Trunks, Chests, Cases, & Bedding	John	2 Chests
Mr. Henry	11 Packages, Trunks, & Boxes	Richard	3 do. 2 Trunks
Mr. John	4 Packages	George	1 Chest, 2 Trunks, & Cases
Mr. Thomas	2 Trunks, 1 Case, 1 Portmanteau	Sarah	2 Chests
Mr. Graham	2 Trunks	Agnes	4 do.
Mr. Whittle	2 Trunks	William	1 Trunk
		John	1 Chest
		Ann	2 Chests
		John	1 Chest
		John	1 Chest
		John	1 Chest

The possible passenger list entry for 1819 is to be found in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Passenger Lists Index, 1800-1906 and the above image is from [FamilySearch US Migration Records](#). You will need to log in to see the images there.

Further searches on Family Search suggest that this Anthony might have married and in 1820 s had several children baptised, such as [Anthony Davis, 1821](#) (from Pennsylvania Births and Christenings, 1709-1950", database, FamilySearch.)

I have found an Anthony Davis living in Philadelphia in the US 1830 census return for that city, with probably a wife and several children. Unlike UK censuses the USA return for 1830 does not name anyone save the household head. It gives a range of years of age for those living as part of the household.

I also found a death in 1858 for an Anthony Davis in "Pennsylvania Deaths and Burials, 1720-1999", FamilySearch [Entry for Anthony Davis](#), 25 May 1858. This might be him. If so, he was buried in Philadelphia at the Laurel Hill Cemetery.

The grave is photographed on the [Find a Grave site](#). The grave refers to his wife MARY DAWSON DAVIS died 1848, ANTHONY DAVIS died 25th May 1858 aged 68 years. A child Mary Dawson Davis who died aged 2 in 1835. Anthony could have been born in Stalling Busk Yorkshire in 1790 and this would tie in with the age shown on the grave inscription.

Elizabeth refers in her will to her two brothers Thomas Davis and John Davis (deceased by 1845) but does not refer to her nephew Anthony in her will suggesting that there was no contact with him once he left these shores.

George may have very carefully selected his executors, as I describe above but ironically none actually proved the Will, meaning that his widow Elizabeth took out a grant of Letters of Administration, with the Will annexed, rather than a Grant of Probate. This type of grant of representation has been explained in previous articles.

The Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC) issued the grant to Elizabeth on 21st February 1822. PCC was the highest ecclesiastical church court based in London, used by the wealthy often when the family did not want their family's affairs to be known by everyone locally. It also often proved wills which included overseas property.

George's pecuniary legatees

Before looking at the distribution of George's residuary estate after Elizabeth's death, which I will do in another article, let us look briefly at the individuals who received cash legacies or specific bequests. Elizabeth's Will to an extent mirrors George's gifts but 20 plus years later individuals have died or remarried.

George's will:

- Margaret Coats was given £50.
- Nancy Atkinson was given £100 and 'if she married well a further £100'.
- George Atkinson was given a shilling a day for the rest of his life. Why? Seems a strange payment. Did George feel he would fritter away the cash if he was given a legacy of a single amount?
- Isaac Atkinson, living in Dominica, received £10. The slavery database records that an Isaac Atkinson managed one of the plantations for George.

Elizabeth's will

She describes the following persons as 'My relations' which makes it clear that the Atkinsons and Coat[e]s were her relations and not George's other than by marriage to her.

- To Peggy Coates of Gayle widow £200. Different spelling and the name 'Peggy' for Margaret but surely the same person?
- To Nancy the wife of Oswald Allen of Widdale Foot £100. So did Nancy Atkinson marry well? Maybe this was the way that George's additional legacy if she had done was dealt with. At the end of the day it was Elizabeth's decision to determine if she had married well! She was George's unexpected personal representative.
- To Isaac Atkinson of 35 Westminster Road in the County of Surrey £100 and 'my late husband's gold watch'. It seems likely that Isaac had moved back to England from Dominica. I assume the road must be in London although the will did not describe the city or town in Surrey.
- To Robert Metcalfe Atkinson brother of the said Isaac Atkinson £100
- To Thomas Coates the son of Peggy Coates the sum of £100

By reading the widow's will one can appreciate that George favoured her relatives rather than the Metcalfes.

Elizabeth's will continued at some length to leave further legacies to her married sister Jane Benson and her family and made them her residuary beneficiaries. She still owned interests in Dominica and gave to her nephews a sixth share each thus: 'my estates and property and shares and interests of and in estates and property situate and being in the Island of Dominica in the west Indies with the cattle mules machinery impliments and utensils rights members appendages and appurtenances thereunto belonging....'

Interestingly she 'particularly and earnestly' requested her executors (two of her nephews) '....carefully to preserve and keep all deeds instruments written books letters accounts papers and writings whatsoever in my possessionand not to burn deface or destroy the samefor the space of twenty years at least after my decease.' Quite why this was necessary I cannot say. Presumably George's books, accounts, deeds and similar articles would be included as they would be in her possession and the clause does not say, as well it could have, 'my deeds instruments etc...' so will include anyone's such items which were in her possession!

She also, I suspect in the light of experience with George's will, hers provides : '....if thetrustees hereby appointed....shall happen to die or be desirous to be discharged from or shall decline or become incapable to act ' then the trustees can 'nominate substitute or appoint any other fit person to be a trustee....' She also limits the liability of new trustees to the value of monies passing through their hands whilst trustees.

Whilst I readily accept that there are not too many Metcalfes referred to this time, nevertheless I hope you will find that by delving into the identities of the beneficiaries referred to in the two wills, one can see how surprisingly intermingled the affairs of several local families were. Gayle and Hawes in the 19th century might not be the first places you would think of having connections with Colonial government, slavery, banking and merchant partnerships in London and possibly Liverpool, together with associations with wealthy MPs.

I will conclude the story in the final third part explaining what happened when slavery in the colonies was abolished and how the family of George Metcalfe and his beneficiaries benefitted.

David Lambert M11

Will Transcriptions – George & Elizabeth Metcalfe

Transcript prepared by David Lambert of the Will and Codicil and related Court papers of GEORGE METCALFE deceased downloaded from The National Archives being document PROB 11/1653/333

folio 91 323 [PCC] GEORGE METCALFE RIGG HOUSE HAWES

THIS IS MY LAST WILL I am in tolerable health but think it necessary to have a Will to give and bequeath all my property of whatsoever kind Real and Personal to my beloved wife Elizabeth for and during her natural life and at her decease I bequeath the Birk rigg Estates Rigg House Estate Mosdale Moor Estate, Gayle Estate with all my property in Hampton Court Estate Negroes and all my Estates Negroes and Houses in the Island of Dominica to Robert Atkinson now in Richmond to Thomas Davis now in Gargrave and to Isaac Metcalfe now in London each one-third as Tenants in Common with this proviso that Robert Atkinson & Thomas Davis assume and bear the name of Metcalf and qualify at the Heralds Office before they enter into possession and subject to pay the following legacies viz Margaret Coats fifty pounds Nancy Atkinson one hundred pounds and if she marries well one hundred pounds more 1s per day to George Atkinson during his life and Ten Pounds to Isaac Atkinson now in Dominica. I appoint W.T. Roberts Esq. of London Mr John Davis of Liverpool Mr Robert Metcalfe of Hawes (son of Thomas) [*note Robert's name is deleted and replaced by*] Anthony Davis in Philadelphia and Mr John Routh of London to be executors and I bequeath one thousand pounds sterling to each from the Hampton Court estate as a reward for acting zealously and I further will that my dear Wife shall not marry again and that should she marry the whole of my Property shall go as heretofore devised and bequeathed the Shop at the East End of Hawes Market and my half the pew in Hawes Chapple to wife Elizabeth for Ever and to her Executors Her Heirs and adm[inistrat]ors And further it is my will that the mortgages and

other disbursements shall be paid prior to the Legacies and the Legacies to my Executors shall be the last paid.

Given under my hand and seal at Rigg House this twenty first day of September One thousand Eight hundred and Twenty

The words between Isaac and Metcalfe being first crossed out and the words 'Robert Metcalfe' who is too young crossed out and Anthony Davis of Philadelphia interlined

George Metcalfe (signed) Signed Sealed and acknowledged in the presence of **Chris Moor, Alexander Metcalfe, Mary Hunter.**

A Further Will by way of Codicil that the male heir of each of the Legatees shall be entitled to the estates after the death of their father, and if it descends to a person not named Metcalfe that then the said person shall qualify and take the name of Metcalfe before he shall enter into possession and I recommend to each of the three principal Legatees to entail by Will the said properties to the Heir Male of each and I give power to my Executors to sell my Dominica Property except the Negroes that may be removed to Demerara.

Appeared personal [sic] **James Laing** of Streatham in the county of Surrey and **Skeffington Robinson** of New Broad Street Mews London Merchant and made oath that they knew and were well acquainted with George Metcalfe late of Rigg House in the County of York Esquire deceased and also with the manner and character of handwriting and subscription having frequently seen him write and write and subscribe his name and having now carefully viewed and perused the paper writing hereunto annexed purporting to be and contain the last Will and Testament and Codicil thereto of the said deceased the said Codicil beginning thus "I further will by way of Codicil that the male heir of each of the Legatees" ending thus "except the Negroes that may be removed to Demerara" but without any subscription thereto these deponents lastly made oath that they verily and in their conscience believe the whole body sense and contents of the said Codicil beginning and ending as aforesaid to be of the proper handwriting of the said deceased *James Laing* on 16th November 1821 the said James Laing Esquire was duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me *John Daubeny Surr* [surrogate] Prert C Bedford N *Skeffington Robinson* on the 17th day of Novr 1821 was duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me *John Daubney Surr* Prert C Bedford N P

On the 21st February 1822 Admon (with the Will and Codicil annexed) of the goods of George Metcalfe late of Rigg House in the County of York Esquire deceased was granted to Elizabeth Metcalfe widow the lawful Relict and universal legatee for life named in the said Will being first sworn (by comon [sic]) duly to administer William Tierney Robarts Esquire one of the executors having survived the said deceased but has since departed this life without having taken upon himself the Probate and Execution of the said Will and John Davis and John Routh two of the surviving executors having renounced the Probate and Execution thereof and Anthony Davis the other surviving executor having been first duly cited to accept or refuse the probate an execution of the said Will as by acts of court appears.

THE WILL OF ELIZABETH METCALFE OF RIGG HOUSE 1845

This is the last Will and Testament of me ELIZABETH METCALFE of RIGG HOUSE IN THE PARISH OF AYSGARTH IN THE COUNTY OF YORK, Widow I remit forgive and release to MY BROTHER THOMAS DAVIS all such sums of money as may be due and owing from him to me at the time of my decease and all interest thereon I give and bequeath to MY NIECE MARGARET MOLYNEAUX THE WIFE OF MATTHEW MOLYNEAUX the sum of One hundred pounds and to MATILDA HER DAUGHTER and to each of her other children the sum of Nineteen pounds and

nineteen shillings apiece to be paid to them respectively when and as they severally attain the age of twenty one years I give and bequeath to ELIZA HARDCASTLE heretofor THE WIDOW OF MY BROTHER JOHN DAVIS deceased the sum of Fifty Pounds I give and bequeath to MY RELATIONS PEGGY COATES OF GAYLE Widow her executors and administrators the sum of two hundred pounds to NANCY THE WIFE OF OSWALD ALLEN OF WIDDALE FOOT the sum of one hundred pounds to ISAAC ATKINSON OF NO. 35 WESTMINSTER ROAD IN THE COUNTY OF SURRY the sum of one hundred pounds and my late husbands Gold Watch to ROBERT METCALFE ATKINSON BROTHER OF THE SAID ISAAC ATKINSON the sum of One hundred pounds and to THOMAS COATES THE SON OF THE SAID PEGGY COATES the sum of One hundred pounds I give and bequeath to MY SISTER JANE BENSON the interest of One thousand pounds for and during the term of her natural life to be paid to her by two equal payments at Martinmas and Mayday in each year and from and after her decease I give and bequeath the interest of the same sum of One thousand pounds to HER HUSBAND ROBERT BENSON and he assigns in case he should survive her for and during the term of his natural life to be paid to him as aforesaid I hereby expressly direct that the several legacies and bequests above mentioned shall be paid out of my personal Estate exclusively and in exoneration of my household furniture and such monies as I may have invested in public funds and in case my said personal estate exclusive of such household furniture and landed property shall not be sufficient for payment of the same then I do hereby charge all my real estates in England with the payment of so much of the said legacies and bequests respectively as my said personal estate exclusive as aforesaid may not extend to pay I give and bequeath all such sum and sums of money as I may have at the time of my death invested in the Three pounds per centum Consolidated Annuities or in any other of the Government funds of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to MY NEPHEWS ROBERT BENSON and DAVIS BENSON their executors administrators and assigns Upon trust that they the said ROBERT BENSON and DAVIS BENSON and the survivor of them his executors and administrators do and shall pay and apply one moiety or half part of the interest and dividends thereof to or for the sole and separate use of MY SAID SISTER JANE BENSON for and during the term of her natural life and do and shall pay and divide the other moiety of the said interest and dividends unto and equally between MY NIECES ELIZABETH BENSON and JANE BENSON GRANDDAUGHTERS OF MY SAID SISTER JANE BENSON for their respective sole and separate use during the natural life of my said SISTER JANE BENSON and from and after her decease do and shall pay the whole of such interest and dividends unto and equally between my said NIECES ELIZABETH BENSON and JANE BENSON for their respective sole and separate use for and during their respective natural lives And I do hereby expressly declare that the interest dividends and money respectively bequeathed to and hereinbefore directed to be paid to my said SISTER JANE BENSON and her said GRANDDAUGHTERS ELIZABETH BENSON and JANE BENSON or any of them shall not be liable to the debts contracts or engagements nor subject to the intermeddling or control of any husband or husbands of them my said Sister and Nieces respectively and that the several receipts of my said Sister and Nieces respectively whether married or sole shall alone be good and sufficient discharges to my said Trustees and Trustee for such interest dividends and monies so to be severally from time to time paid to them respectively as aforesaid And from and after the decease of either of them my said nieces Upon trust that they my said Trustees or Trustee do and shall pay and divide the principal sum arising from one moiety of the said Three pounds per Centum Consolidated Annuities stocks funds and securities (subject to the trust hereinbefore declared in favor of MY SISTER JANE BENSON in case she shall be then living) unto and equally amongst all the children of my said Niece so first dying as aforesaid and the lawful issue per stirpes of such of them as may be then dead leaving such issue to be paid to them respectively when and as they severally attain the age of twenty one years or as soon after that event as the death of my said SISTER JANE BENSON will admit of the interest thereof in the meantime to be paid and applied for and towards the maintenance and

education of such of the said children and issue respectively as may not then have attained the age of twenty one years and from and after the decease of the survivor of them my said NIECES ELIZABETH BENSON and JANE BENSON do and shall pay and divide the principal sum arising from the remaining moiety of the said three pounds per centum Consolidated Annuities stocks funds and securities (subject nevertheless as aforesaid in case my said SISTER JANE BENSON shall be then living) unto and equally amongst all the children of such survivor and the lawful issue per stirpes of such of them as may be then dead leaving such issue to be paid to them respectively when and as they severally attain the age of twenty one years or as soon after that event as the death of my said SISTER JANE BENSON will admit of the interest thereof in the mean time to be paid and applied for and towards the maintenance and education of such of the said children and issue respectively as may not then have attained the age of twenty one years And in case my said NIECES ELIZABETH BENSON and JANE BENSON or either of them shall happen to die without leaving lawful issue then I do hereby give and bequeath the share and interest of her or them so dying without issue of and in the said Three pounds per centum Consolidated Annuities stocks funds and securities unto and equally amongst my three NEPHEWS ROBERT ROBINSON BENSON WILLIAM BENSON AND GEORGE BENSON (BROTHERS OF MY SAID NIECES ELIZABETH BENSON and JANE BENSON) and their respective lawful issue I give and bequeath to my SISTER IN LAW SARAH ELIZABETH DAVIS my best Silver Tea Pot I give and bequeath all my beds bedding plate (except as last aforesaid) linen china glass books prints pictures and household furniture of every description to such persons and in such manner and proportion as I may hereafter set forth in or by any Schedule to be annexed to this my Will or in or by a separate writing under my hand and in default of any such Schedule or Writing I do hereby give and bequeath the same to my said SISTER JANE BENSON her executors or administrators I give devise and bequeath all the residue and remainder of my personal and real estates whatsoever and wheresoever situate in England unto and equally amongst my said NEPHEWS ROBERT BENSON and DAVIS BENSON MY NEPHEW GEORGE BENSON and the said ROBERT ROBINSON BENSON WILLIAM BENSON AND GEORGE BENSON the three Sons of my late NEPHEW WILLIAM BENSON deceased and their respective heirs executors administrators and assigns share and share alike as tenants in common I give devise bequeath all and every my estates and property and shares and interests of and in estates and property situate and being in the Island of Dominica in the West Indies with the cattle mules machinery impliments and utensils rights members appendages and appurtenances thereunto belonging unto and equally amongst the said ROBERT BENSON GEORGE BENSON and DAVIS BENSON and ROBERT ROBINSON BENSON WILLIAM BENSON AND GEORGE BENSON and their respective lawful issue (per stirpes) share and share alike I appoint my said Nephews ROBERT BENSON and DAVIS BENSON Joint Executors in trust of this my will and I particularly direct and most earnestly request my said Trustees and Executors and each of them carefully to preserve and keep all Deeds Instruments written books letters accounts papers and writings whatsoever in my possession at the time of my decease and not to burn deface or destroy the same or any of them for the space of twenty years at least after my decease And I do hereby expressly declare that if the said several trustees hereby appointed or any of them their or any of their executors or administrators or any future Trustee or Trustees to be appointed in the place or stead of any of them as hereinafter is mentioned shall happen to die or be desirous to be discharged from or shall decline or become incapable to act in the trusts powers and authorities hereby vested in him or them at any time before the same shall be fully executed and performed then and in such case and so often as the same shall happen it shall be lawful for the continuing or surviving Trustee or Trustees jointly with any such retiring Trustee or Trustees or in case of his or their declining to join in any such appointment of the proper authority of such continuing or surviving Trustee or Trustees or for the executors or administrators of that last continuing or surviving Trustee (if it should be deemed expedient so to do) by any ?? writings under his or their

hand and seal or hands and seals attested by two or more credible Witnesses from time to time to nominate substitute or appoint any other fit person or persons to be a Trustee or Trustees in the stead or place of the Trustee or Trustees so dying or desiring to be discharged from or becoming incapable or declining to act in the said trusts powers and authorities as aforesaid and that when and so often as any new Trustee or Trustees shall be nominated substituted or appointed as aforesaid all the said moneys stocks funds and securities and other the trust estates and premises whatsoever for the time being shall thereupon with all convenient speed be assigned transferred and assured by the Trustee or Trustees thereof for the time being who are and is hereby fully authorised and empowered in that behalf so and in such manner and form as that the same shall and may be legally and effectually vested in the surviving or continuing Trustee or Trustees jointly or wholly in such new Trustee or Trustees as the case may be or require to for and upon such and the same trusts intents and purposes and with under and subject to the same powers provisos and declarations as are herein expressed and declared of and concerning the same or to for upon and subject to such and so many of them as shall be then existing undetermined and capable of taking effect and that all and every such new Trustee or Trustees shall and may in all things act in the ?? of the trusts hereof as fully and effectually and have the same powers and authorities to ?? interests and purposes whatsoever as if he or they had been appointed a Trustee or Trustees ?? as the Trustee or Trustees in whose stead or place he she or they shall respectively ?? succeed is or are enabled to do or exercise or could or might have done or exercise by virtue hereof if then continuing in the trusts aforesaid and not in any other manner And I expressly declare that no one of my said Trustees or Executors shall be in any manner answerable or accountable for the other or others of them nor for the acts receipts or defaults of the other or others of them nor for more money than shall actually come to his or her hands by virtue of the trusts hereof nor for any involuntary loss of the said trust property not happening through his or her wilful neglect or default and that my said Trustees and Executors severally shall and may out of the moneys that shall come to their or his hands by virtue of the trusts hereof reimburse himself or themselves and allow to the other or others of them all such sums of money costs charges and expenses as he or they may pay sustain or be put unto or which may be incidental to the execution of the trusts hereof and also a reasonable compensation for their respective trouble and loss of time in and about the execution of the same trusts I hereby revoke all and every other Will and Wills and other testamentary instruments by me at any time heretofore made and declare this only to be and contain my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I the said ELIZABETH METCALFE have to the first three sheets of this my Will contained in four sheets of paper written on one side only set my hand and to this fourth and last sheet my hand and seal the thirtieth day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty five _ ELIZABETH METCALFE (SS) _

Signed sealed and published by the said ELIZABETH METCALFE the Testatrix as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in her presence at one and the same time have hereunto subscribed our names as Witnesses - the words "in the County of Surrey" in the Seventh line of the first sheet being first interlined and the words "give and bequeath to my SISTER JANE BENSON" in the fourteenth line of the same sheet "or" in the eleventh line and "nieces" in the last line but one of the second sheet and "Trustees" in the twelfth line of this last sheet being severally written on erasures _ GEO. WINN Solicitor ASKRIGG WILLIAM METCALFE OF RIGG HOUSE Quarry Man _ Passed 9th June 1846.

Society Officers & Contact Details

President: Mr. David Lambert, email: president@metcalfe.org.uk

Vice-president: Mrs. Margaret Hodgson

Trustees

Chair: Mrs. Jo Heron, 17 Bailey Walk, Wakefield WF4 3QW. email: chairman@metcalfe.org.uk

Treasurer: Mr. Peter Dobson, email treasurer@metcalfe.org.uk; giftaid@metcalfe.org.uk

Database Index: Mr. David Metcalfe, email: database@metcalfe.org.uk

Trustee: Mr. David Lambert, email: d22lam@hotmail.co.uk

Trustee: Dianne Fox, email: agentaus@metcalfe.org.uk / diannefox8@hotmail.com

Extended Team

Membership, Enquiries & Sales: Mrs. Jo Heron, emails: membership@metcalfe.org.uk; enquiries@metcalfe.org.uk; shop@metcalfe.org.uk

DNA Project: Mr. Martin Metcalfe, email: dna@metcalfe.org.uk

Wills, Membership & Enquiries Assistant; Mrs. Liz Waller, email: wills@metcalfe.org.uk

Facebook Co-ordinator: Mrs. Lesley Longworth, email: committee1@metcalfe.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: Susan Harper, email: editor@metcalfe.org.uk or journal@metcalfe.org.uk

Overseas Agents

Australia: Dianne Fox, 20 Old Eltham Road, Lower Plenty, Victoria, Australia 3093, email: agentaus@metcalfe.org.uk

Canada : Susan Harper, 820 Rogers Crt, Victoria, BC, Canada, V8X 5L4, email: agentcdn@metcalfe.org.uk

I hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter. If you have any comments, research questions or articles you wish to contribute, please contact editor@metcalfe.org.uk

If you use social media, please 'like us' on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/metcalfe.org.uk) to keep up to date on our news and events.

Our website: <http://www.metcalfe.org.uk>

Email: membership@metcalfe.org.uk | Telephone: +44(0) 1924 260926

Post: The Metcalfe Society, 17 Bailey Walk, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF4 3QW, UK

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