

THE

City of York & District

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY



JOURNAL

June 2014

Vol.15 No.2

THE *City of York & District* FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No.1085228 - Founded 1975
Affiliated to the Federation of Family History Societies

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City of York & District

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Journal

June 2014

Volume 15 No.2

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Journal Deadlines & Index

The Journal is published in February, June and October each year and is issued at meetings or posted to those members who are unable to attend, exchange copies for other Societies being mailed shortly afterwards. Guiding deadlines for the three issues are the end of December, the end of April, and the end of August, and but material is welcome at any time.

Thank you as ever to all who respond to the call for material – **keep it coming!**

An index of last year's Journal is published on the Society website; members wishing for a printed copy should contact the Study Centre. The cost of back copies of journals to a UK address is £1.25 per issue, including p&p. For overseas orders, a single copy is £4.00 including p&p. For cost of multiple copies to be sent overseas please contact the Membership Secretary.

YORKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY FAIR

SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2014

10am to 4.30pm

ADMISSION £4.50

Free Parking

YORK RACECOURSE KNAVESMIRE EXHIBITION CENTRE

All exhibitors undercover

The largest Family History event outside London

now in its 19th year

See a full list of exhibitors on our website

www.yorkshirefamilyhistoryfair.com

National Railway Museum Library and Archives Service

The National Railway Museum, on Leeman Road, has had to change the opening hours of its Search Engine archives and library service and can no longer open 7 days a week. Search Engine is now open to the public 4 days a week, Wednesday to Saturday. The essential mission – to provide access to the NRM's archive and library collections – has not changed, and a full suite of copying services continues. We encourage users to contact us to make arrangements:

email search.engine@nrm.org.uk

For full details of the revised opening times, please see here -
<http://www.nrm.org.uk/ResearchAndArchive/about.aspx>

Study Centre Tuition Sessions

Paul Gliddon held a tuition session at the Study Centre on 2nd May 2014, attended by four recently joined members all of whom had made a start on their family history and were very keen to find out more. John Bibby also came along to help out, and Yvonne Clarke arrived and spent some time with us. Everyone seemed to be very happy with the results, a very enjoyable session for all of us.

It was followed by a session on 9th May, and Paul is willing to take more in June.

Anyone interested in taking part can contact me, or the Study Centre.

Hazel Morrill

CHANGE OF VENUE FOR MEETINGS

The Folk Hall, at very short notice, decided they can no longer accommodate our meetings. May and June meetings were relocated to:

New Earswick Bowls Club, Huntington Road, York YO32 9PX.

The Bowls Club is next to the *Flag & Whistle* and across the road from St Andrew's Church. It is a short distance from the Folk Hall via Link Road. If we, and you, like this venue, it may become our permanent meeting place.

Please check for further updates, for July meeting onwards, on our website, or contact a committee member.

Airing your Problems – Five Minute Forum

Members are now invited to stand up and raise their research problems at meetings, before the start of the talk. If put in writing, including name and membership number, these can be published under 'Help Wanted' in the following Journal, thus given a wider audience and increasing the possibility of finding a solution.

WW1 Commemorative Weekend at York Cemetery

Cemetery Road, York, Saturday & Sunday 7th & 8th June

The Friends of York Cemetery genealogy volunteers have compiled a list of all 151 people buried in the cemetery's WW1 Commonwealth War Grave Commission maintained graves. The list includes information such as rank, regiment, etc., and whilst delving into the lives of the war dead many interesting, and sometimes surprising, stories with photographs have been uncovered. All of this will be on display, along with a selection of interesting quilts and textiles on loan from the 1914-18 Commemorative Quilt & Textiles Group.

On the first day of this Friends' organised event, there will two performances of living history by Fulford School drama pupils, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Performances are based on the lives of a small number of people buried in the cemetery with an interesting connection to WW1. On both days, WW1 themed cemetery walks will take place at regular intervals and the Genealogy Office in the cemetery gatehouse will be open for enquiries from 11am to 3pm.

Medieval and Early Modern Records Seminar

Fulneck School, Fulneck, Pudsey, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS28 8DS

Saturday 2nd August 2014

09:30 am for 10:00 am to 4.30 pm

Programme

"The Way Forward in Surname Studies" George Redmonds

"England's Immigrants 1330-1550 - Resident Aliens in the Later Middle Ages"
Bart Lambert

"Wakefield Court Rolls - Seven Centuries of evidence for Family History"
Sylvia Thomas, President Yorkshire Archaeological Society

"Cause Papers in the Diocesan Courts of the Archbishopric of York, 1300 - 1858"
The Borthwick Institute

Seminar cost, including refreshments and buffet lunch, £18.00

For more information (and online booking from 19th May)
visit www.one-name.org - "Event Calendar"

We would like to ensure that any disabled delegate can participate fully in this event.
Any delegate with any special requirements please telephone: 0800 011 2182

Application Form

Name (caps) _____ If a Member No _____

Full Address _____

Post code _____ Telephone No _____

Email _____

Badge Name _____ Research Name _____

This information will be stored for Guild administration purposes only
Please reserve a place at £18.00 per head

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to: the "Guild of One-Name Studies"
to: Alan Moorhouse, [Seminar Bookings], 8 Strachans Close,
STROUD, Gloucestershire, GL5 3EB



Email: seminar-booking@one-name.org
Bookings close on 20th July 2014

All bookings will be confirmed by email, with full joining instructions, on or before this date



Charity No. 802048 Registered in England & Wales

AGM 5th MARCH 2014

(VICE) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The last Society year has been nothing if not eventful!!

We started the year with a new Chairman who decided after a very short time that the City of York & District Family History Society was not for him. Since then we have endeavoured to obtain another new chairman without a positive result. The Society has continued to function over the year due to the efforts of all members of the Executive Committee and I thank them for the support that they have given to me as the “understudy” Chairman.

What has been achieved?

In March, the Society organised an excellent Family History Fair at a new location. The event was moved to Manor CE Academy, near Poppleton, where the hall was about 40% larger than our old venue. The participating stallholders were full of praise for the new location and its facilities. However, the numbers attending the Fair were disappointing. Let us hope for more visitors on Saturday 29th March this year.

Our programme of monthly meetings continues with a varied, interesting series of speakers. It is very satisfying to see more than 70 people attending each of these meetings.

The small group of members who visit churchyards to record and photograph Memorial Inscriptions (MIs) for the benefit of all family historians continue to work at various locations in the diocese. The photographs and MI information are then made available on CDs to prospective purchasers.

In this electronic era, the Committee decided that the Society Journal would be available on line to those members who agreed to receive the Journal in this way. Apart from moving into the 21st century this arrangement will reduce the cost of printing and postage. I would urge members to look at the electronic version through the Society website which contains more and more information about the Society.

I did not intend to mention anyone by name but considered it inappropriate not to mention Margaret Tadman who, as well as being Journal Editor, has been Manager of our book sales for more years than she wants to remember, and has now passed on the staff of office.

My thanks to the committee members for their continuing support to the Society and in particular their help to me over the last ten months. Finally my thanks to you all for making the Society a success.

Neal Clarke

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Since the last AGM of 6th March 2013 there have been eleven meetings of the committee all with excellent attendance. Over the past year the Society has continued in its membership of the Federation of Family History Societies and the Yorkshire Group of Family History Societies.

Hazel Morrill, our Membership Secretary, who does sterling work in keeping track of those who join us and who sometimes, unfortunately, leave, has sent me some membership figures for the past year, 2013. For this year the total membership was 521. The 2013 figures can be broken down as follows

CITY OF YORK & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2013

			<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
	Payments	Receipts	Net	Net
Membership				
Subscriptions & gift aid		6939	6939	7136
Printing & stationery incl. Journals	1924	18	-1906	-2052
Monthly meetings	1377	160	-1217	-1565
Study Centre	6021	716	<u>-5305</u>	<u>-4231</u>
			-1489	-712
Net Income/(Expenditure)				
Publications			2060	1402
Bookstall			13	230
S/H books incl ex library			189	159
Website sponsorship			0	350
Miscellaneous income			166	245
Bank interest			19	22
Hire of tables, etc. at our Fair			548	539
Hire of tables, etc. at other Fairs			-394	-489
General Administration expenses			<u>-705</u>	<u>-1158</u>
SURPLUS FOR YEAR			<u>£407</u>	<u>£588</u>

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2013

General Funds				
Balance at beginning of year			18716	18128
Surplus for year			407	<u>588</u>
Balance at end of year			<u>£19,123</u>	<u>£18,716</u>
Represented by:				
Bank & Cash balances			20734	19962
Study Centre Bond			1150	1150
Prepayments			<u>556</u>	<u>606</u>
			22440	21718
Less Subscriptions, etc. rec'd in advance			<u>3318</u>	<u>3002</u>
			<u>£19,123</u>	<u>£18,716</u>

NOTES

- The Society owns various items of equipment for the Study Centre, project work, etc. The cost is written off in the year of purchase. In 2013, no such items were purchased. (2012 £356)
- No account is taken of the value of the stock of books, publications, library, etc. which are in hand.

C. Richardson, Hon. Treasurer.

29th January 2014

Single memberships	382
Joint “	139 (138 of 2 members; 1 of 3 members)

These figures include Honorary Life memberships (3 single and 1 joint).

Approximately 60% of the membership live in the YO and LS postcode areas. There are 23 overseas memberships.

Comparing these figures with those given at last year’s AGM it can be seen that there has been a drop in total membership from 545 in 2012 to 521 in 2013. Single memberships have declined from 445 in 2012 to 382 for 2013, a loss of 63 members. However, there has been a gain in joint memberships, rising from 100 in 2012 to 139 for 2013. A little bit of good news in what has been a woeful tale of declining numbers.

As I have said previously we must strive to offer good value for membership in the hope that numbers will increase. The committee welcomes ideas as to how this can be achieved.

As Secretary, I have dealt with correspondence now mainly by email, but some by post, besides sending out agendas, taking, typing and circulating minutes of committee meetings. The minutes once signed and any amendments made are always available, either at these meetings or at the Study Centre.

Once again I have enjoyed carrying out this task for the Society and I am willing to stand for re-election. I can always be contacted by post, ‘phone or email, my details being shown inside the front cover of the Journal, and I will always bring to the attention of the Committee any communications that I receive.

Bobbie Bateman

TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2013 results were very similar to 2012 in that we ended with a small surplus of £407 compared with £588 in the previous year.

Membership has continued to fall so receipts of subscriptions and gift aid have decreased. As you know we are encouraging members to view the Journal on line to save printing and postage costs. As expected, the Study Centre rent increased in 2013, but we have been able to avoid further increases for a while by negotiating a rental of £4,800 fixed for six years.

There has been a good increase in sales of CDs which has more than offset the loss of sponsorship of our website. Our Fair at Manor Academy raised £906 after expenses and net receipts from our attendance at the Knavesmire Fair were £372. We continued to attend Fairs held by other family history societies and raised a further £333.

We finished the year with £19,123 in hand.

Catherine Richardson

New Chairman

At the AGM we voted in our new Chairman, Janice Wood. Janice is a very knowledgeable family historian of long standing who has served on our committee previously. She founded the Ryedale Family Group in 2005 and is Chairman of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society Parish Register Section (YPRS). We extend a welcome to Janice and look forward to working with her.

YORK PECILIARS **original probate documents available on Origins.net**

Most of the York Peculiars Probate records held at The Borthwick Institute for Archives have been digitised, and National Wills Index subscribers can now purchase images of the original documents using Pay per View credits. This collection makes available, exclusively on the National Wills Index, a comprehensive index to over 25,000 wills and other probate documents proved in the 54 Peculiar Courts of the Province of York between 1383 and 1857. The index notes which documents are currently available online for this ongoing project. Where documents have not yet been digitised, copies can be ordered online to be emailed as digitised images.

The York Peculiars Probate index usually provides the following information:

- Testator's last name and first name
- Occupation
- Places associated with person
- Date
- Document type
- Court concerned
- Borthwick Institute reference

Search York Peculiars Probate Collection 1383-1857 at: http://www.origins.net/NationalWills/Search/yorkpeciliars/NWSearch_York_Peciliars.aspx

Origins.net free search facility allows the search of any collection, either the whole site or specific collections, without the initial need to register or subscribe, only paying to view the records. Start at: <http://www.origins.net/Welcome.aspx>. For further information contact Maggie Loughran, Genealogist, Origins.net, Simon's Lee, Rackham Road, Amberley, West Sussex BN18 9NR; genealogy@origins.net.

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Twitter: @Originsnetuk
www.facebook.com/Origins.net

Origins.net advertise that “Founded in 1997, we pioneered the provision of genealogical database services on the web and offer exceptionally rich content for the genealogist, the family history researcher, and the social historian. Most of our content is not available online anywhere else. Based in the UK, we have partnerships with major content owners in the Britain and Ireland and are one of the main providers of high quality British and Irish genealogical data. New and exclusive data is regularly added to our databases and we are partnering with an increasing number of organizations who own high quality source material.

“Origins.net offers subscription access to a wealth of unique and hard to find family history records, dating back to the 1200s from Britain and Ireland. Collections include: Marriages, Burials, Baptisms, Electoral Registers, Census records, Apprentice records, Poor Law Abstracts, Passenger Lists, Griffith's Valuation, Court records, Militia records, Irish Directories PLUS the National Wills Index – the principal online resource for pre-1858 English probate material.”

Frederick Mallatratt 1779 – 1826

Part 6. Final Thoughts

Alan Mallatratt, 12 Twyford Gardens, New Beacon Road, Grantham,
Lincs. NG31 9BY; mallatratt@btinternet.com (01476 569155)

If Frederick had irritating business problems, the Davies family had a great deal more to concern themselves with. **Peter Davies** died at the age of 64 and was buried on 23rd February 1826 in St. Martin's Church, Coney Street. In his will, dated 23rd December 1825, he describes himself and his son **Robert**, a solicitor, as gentlemen. According to criteria used, perhaps Robert Davies, who was York's town clerk from 1827 to 1848, could be correctly described as a gentleman. Peter in essence left all of his worldly goods to his wife **Anne**. His Will gives no indication that his family were closely involved with Frederick's sister **Phebe**, but her will makes this point abundantly clear. It will also be shown that Frederick too was on affectionate terms in the same quarter. Phebe's Will, housed in the Borthwick Institute for Archives (BIA) at the University of York, provides the following:

"I give and bequeath to Ann Davies widow of the late Peter Davies, Cabinet Maker of the City of York, ten pounds of good and lawful (sic) money of Great Britain (sic) to purchase a ring. I also give and bequeath to Ann Alderson wife of Christopher Alderson of London and daughter of the aforesaid Ann Davies, my pearl hoop ring. I also give and bequeath to Eliza Davies daughter to the aforesaid Ann Davies the ring that is set with an eye."

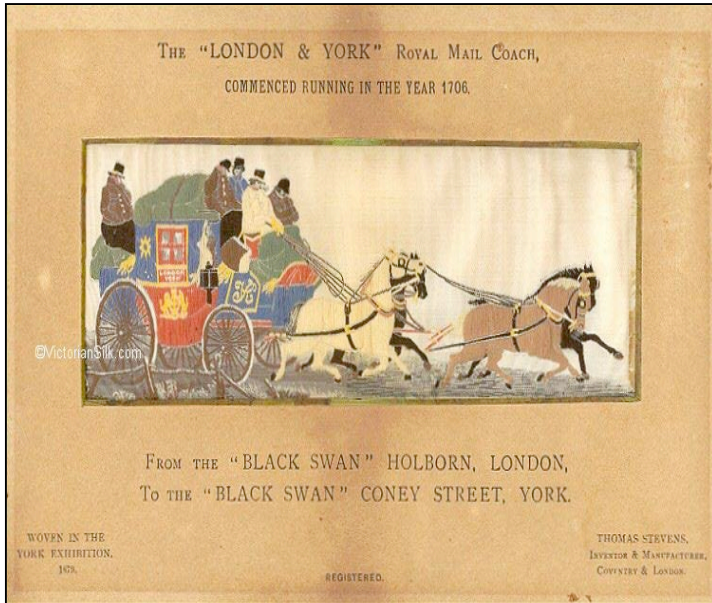
In the codicil to Phebe's will a further interesting bequest is made:

"It is my will and request to my Executors that ten pounds be paid to Mrs. Mary Thackwrag wife of Mr. Joseph Thackwrag of the Crown Hotel in Low Harrogate to purchase a ring to keep for my sake."

This bequest at the very least raises the possibility that Phebe became friendly with Mary Thackwrag (a Yorkshire name going back at least to the 17th century, and for many generations Non-conformist) as a result of accompanying her brother Frederick, at the time he expanded his business in Harrogate. It is difficult not to conclude that Phebe was closely involved in Frederick's business affairs. Considering that Frederick's siblings lived to a ripe old age, it can only be assumed that his hectic and stressful life-style took its physical toll.

Before the advent of rail travel, a journey of 200 miles to London from York down the Great North Road took days rather than hours to complete. However, Frederick was fortunate in that the *Black Swan*, York's major coaching inn, was practically on his doorstep. The first coach of the day called for early rising, as it left for Holborn Hill, London, at 5 a.m. In the age of the stagecoach Frederick's travel would have been broken at inns *en route* for refreshments, overnight stays and the changing of teams of horses. Places that Frederick was sure to have stopped at, as he journeyed to London between 1804 and 1808, would have been the *George Inn*, Stamford, Lincolnshire, and the *Haycock Inn* at Wansford, Northamptonshire. During those years his elder brother **Jeremiah** was tenant of that very prosperous coaching establishment. Despite the breaks, such journeys would have been tiring in the extreme, not only because of lack of sleep caused by the constant bustle and clatter of a busy inn, but by the constant jolting of the coach as it sped along the turnpike system.

Passengers must have felt considerable relief when they arrived at the *Black Swan*, which was described by Dr. **Stukeley**, the Lincolnshire antiquarian, as: “one of the most ancient and magnificent places for the reception of travellers in London”.



At the journey’s end there was the added stressful weight for Frederick of visiting fashion houses, selecting materials, negotiating prices and the means of transportation for his purchases. With business concluded, there was once again the prospect of a long journey back to York. Inevitably such strain would have made its mark, as would further journeying to other parts of the country. Following one such journey Frederick paid the penalty of his life-style and became seriously ill, to such an extent that he thought that he was about to die. As Frederick faced the prospect of death, he made his will (BIA), and it is from this source that we are provided with details of his wealth and his close connection with his Rhodes and Davies nephews and nieces, which otherwise would have remained unknown.

Newspaper advertisements have only indicated previously that Frederick had business interests in the York, Harrogate and London. His Will now showed that he had an interest of some kind in Morpeth, Northumberland. What that interest could be in a rural community 14 miles north of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne is difficult to imagine. Business apart, perhaps Frederick had a lady friend in that community!

Speculation apart, it is evident that Frederick was suffering from a recurring illness, hence his statement of “*late sudden attacks of illness.*” A heart problem would be in keeping with a man who appears to have been driven to succeed. Considering that Frederick’s wife Margaret was so much older than himself, and marriage to her opened the doors to a wealthy family and business, it may have been concluded that reasons other than love motivated Frederick in seeking Margaret’s hand.

However, the first thing in Frederick's mind when he thought he was about to die was to be laid to rest "*with the remains of my late dear wife.*" Surely the sentiments of a man who had loved his wife. His Will is held at the Borthwick Institute for Archives. It is conceivable that following his wife's death, he threw himself into a routine that precluded dwelling on her loss. Clearly having bequeathed in his Will a total of £2,300 on his relatives, there was no financial reason for Frederick to have worked so hard. His brother Jeremiah, the publican, was living in London at this time, either in Piccadilly at the *King's Arms Tavern*, or in Southwark in semi-retirement. His sisters Phebe and **Susannah** as already indicated may have been sharing Frederick's home.

Also mentioned in the Will were the **Lamb** brothers and **Hannah Beresford** and **Harriett Cooper**, the sons and daughters of Frederick's deceased sister **Mary Lamb**. **Robert Davies**, who acted as Frederick's solicitor, was the son of Frederick's son-in-law **Peter Davies**. **Ann Alderson** and **Elizabeth Davies** were in addition the daughters of Peter and **Ann Davies**. The **Rhodes** brothers were the surviving children of Frederick's wife's brother, **Edward Willoughby Rhodes**. Each of the legacies shows that Frederick was mindful of his immediate and extended family. **John James Baker**, also mentioned, presumably was a personal friend, who may have treated Frederick for his illness. The fact that he was left a mourning ring would be more in keeping with friendship, rather than acting only in the capacity of an executor.

Frederick did not die in Morpeth, as he anticipated, but recovered sufficiently to return home to York. He must have continued to ail, for five months later at the age of only 46, Frederick died on 30th March 1826 and in accordance with his wishes joined his wife in St. Saviour's Church.

Following his death an advertisement in the *York Gazette* dated 15th April 1826 (York Central Library Newspaper Archive) provides a clear picture of his home, shop and business.

To Woolen-Drapers and Tailors

To be Disposed of by Private Contract, the modern and well selected Stock-In-Trade of the late Mr. Frederick Mallatratt, Woollen-Draper, Tailor, and Habit Maker; together with the Freehold Dwelling-House and Shop, lately occupied by him, situate in Coney-street, in the City of York.

The above mentioned Businesses have been carried on for several years past with considerable success. The situation is one of the most eligible in the City of York. The Premises are spacious and convenient, and in excellent repair, and are particularly well adapted for Lodgings, being capable of accommodating Families of the first respectability. A newly-erected Work-shop behind the House, and other Conveniences are attached. For further Particulars, apply to Mr. Baker, Druggist, High Ousegate; or Mr. Davies, Solicitor, Lendal, York. Persons having demands on the late Mr. Mallatratt, are desired to send an account thereof to Mr. Baker, or Mr. Davies: to whom it is requested that all Debts owing to his Estate be immediately paid."

The fact that Frederick had had a workshop newly erected strongly suggests that, although ill, he had not regarded his condition as life threatening. His successor to the business was a Mr. **J. B. Frankland**, who when he advertised the fact in the *Yorkshire Gazette* on 16th December 1826 provided a further insight into Frederick's home.

The first page of Frederick Mallatratt's will
(Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York)

Worseth Oct 17. 1825

In the name of God, Amen.

I Frederick Mallatratt of the City of York
Woolen Draper, Tailor, and Habit Maker, being
of sound mind and memory, being also mindful
from late sudden attacks of Grief, of very
Mortality, do constitute and make this my
Last Will, and Testament; at the same
time revoking all, and every former Wills
made by me, and hereby declaring this
my last Will and Testament, made the
seventeenth day of October, in the Year
of our Lord One Thousand, Eight hundred and
Twenty five, at the house of Mr. R. Dixon, Worseth,
in the County of Northumberland —
and witnessed by the following persons
whose names and seals are affixed —

“N.B. To Be Let, unfurnished Apartments, consisting of an excellent Dining and Drawing Room, three good Bed Rooms, (or part of the said Rooms), Servant’s ditto, and a Kitchen.- Apply as (One Concern).”

Phebe survived Frederick by a further five years and was buried in St. Saviour’s churchyard, where a headstone shows brother and sister shared a grave.

Beneath this Stone
Lie the Remains of
Margaret the wife of
Frederick Mallatrat
Who died August 14th 1819
Aged 50

In The Same Grave
Are Also Deposited The
Remains Of The Above Named
Frederick Mallatrat
Who Died March 30th 1826
Aged 46
And Also of His Sister
Phebe Mallatratt
Who Died May 13th 1831
Aged 69

Susannah returned to her native Huntingdonshire, where she died in 1837 and was buried in St. Ives’ All Saints churchyard on 3rd February 1837, thus bringing to an end all of the Mallatratt Yorkshire connections by this particular family.

The family are Breton in origin, but have lived and multiplied in England for 600+ years. Originally the name was spelt Malletrette both in this country and in France; and in Breton, Malestroit.

Bibliography

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Portrait of York – Ronald Willis – Robert Hale Ltd., London 1982.

Stability and Change in an English County Town: A social study of York 1801–51 – Alan Armstrong – Cambridge University Press 1974.

The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Costume and Fashion – Jack Cassin-Scott – Studio Vista 1994.

Principal Probate Registry

The Principal Probate Registry has moved from High Holborn to Court 38, Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand, London WC2A 2LL. Opening hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the search facility being unavailable between 1 and 2 p.m.

Fees incurred are to be paid within the building, and copies ordered for collection will be ready after 48 hours or sent by post within 14 working days.

Maps of the new location are available and enquiries may be directed to a member of the Probate team on 020 7947 6043.

HENRIETTA (THOMPSON) WOLFE & THE BLACK SWAN INN

*“These Registers of Long Marston Church, containing the records of the birth, baptism and marriage of the Mother of Major General Wolfe, who was formerly **Henrietta Thompson** of Long Marston Yorkshire – were today restored, repaired and rebound in honour of the visit to Harrogate of a group of undergraduates from the Canadian Universities. 14th July 1930*

*The work of binding has been done in Harrogate by that eminent firm of book binders Messrs. **Robert Ackrill**, Herald Office, Harrogate”.*

General **James Wolfe** (1727–1759) famously commanded the British forces in Canada at the siege of Quebec where, by scaling the Heights of Abraham, he won a renowned victory over the French which cost him his life. He is buried at Greenwich and has a monument in Westminster Abbey. His mother lived in what is now the *Black Swan Inn* on Peasholme Green, here in York, which bears a plaque commemorating the connection:



York's historic buildings website tells us that it is a mid-16th century merchant's mansion, possibly built by Sir **Martin Bowes** in 1560 on the site of an earlier mediaeval inn, and extended by Sir **Henry Thompson**, Lord Mayor 1663 & 1672. Residence of the Bowes family in the 15th and 16th century, it was owned by **William Bowes** who was Sheriff in 1402 and Lord Mayor in 1417. His great grandson Sir **Martyn Bowes** eventually became Lord Mayor of London and goldsmith to Elizabeth I. He had a great love for York and gave to the City a Sword of State, which is still used on ceremonial occasions.



The house later passed to the Thompson family, who also owned the *Olde Starre Inne* on Stonegate. **Henry Thompson**, Sheriff in 1601, was a wine merchant. **Edward Thompson**, born in 1670, had a country seat at the Old Hall, Long Marston, and used this house on Peasholme Green as his town house. His daughter Henrietta Thompson married Colonel **Edward Wolfe** in 1724 at Long Marston. Thereafter the couple resided at the house here on Peasholme Green, but in July 1726 moved to Westerham, Kent, where James Wolfe was born on 2 January 1727. So James Wolfe was presumably conceived in York, perhaps in the old *Black Swan*! As General Wolfe, he died taking Quebec from the French, and so laid the foundations of British Canada.

After the *Red Lion* it is the oldest building functioning as a pub in York, though not licensed until 19th century. The interior is mainly mid-17th century, with the best living rooms on either side of the front passage, the back bar being the kitchen. A very fine staircase leads upstairs to the *Trompe D'Oeil* - "deceiving the eye" - room, so called because the woodwork is painted to look like elaborate panelling.

Peasholme Green is so-called because it was once a water meadow where peas were grown.

On 26th April 1827, **John Carter**, a single man aged 23, was admitted to Bootham Asylum. His occupation was given as "post boy, Black Swan". He was discharged a couple of months later, on 28th June.

ref. (BIA) BOO 6/2/2/1

EVENTS 2014 . . .

Visit the GENEVA website at <http://geneva.weald.org.uk>.

Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day

Saturday 26th July 2014, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury HP21 7NH

Research facilities will include names database (over five million entries) and Parish Register, People and Places libraries.

Parish Register transcripts and other research aids on sale.
Expert advice on hand; guest societies and local heritage groups;
suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archival materials and more.

Admission free, with free parking at the venue.

Further information, including a full list of organisations attending, can be found at <http://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>

Making the Connection: Railway Records for Family History

27th September 2014, 9.30 a.m. – 5.30 p.m.
National Railway Museum & Your Fair Ladies Joint Conference
The National Railway Museum, Leeman Road, York YO26 4XJ

Morning talks:

Snow White to Stephenson: the pre-history of railways
The Railway Navy: his working life

Afternoon presentations:

Tracing railway ancestors from the UK to Sierra Leone
Making the Connections: Journeys in the NRM Archives

The Railways as “Criminal Accomplice”, a view from the archive: the fear of the railways as an aid to criminal activity in the nineteenth century

The Millions Go Forth’: railway excursions in Britain in the mid-nineteenth-century

Document displays

A chance to ‘Ask the NRM Archivists’

Book on-line and see the programme at
www.nrm.org.uk/making-connections-conference.
Telephone 01904-621261, or book in person at the NRM

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Hazel Morrill

New Members:

- 3089/ Mr. T. Pool, 48 Bramley Garth, York YO31 0NH;
3090 Mrs. H. Pool (joint membership) trevorpool1@gmail.com
3091/ Mr. S. Young, 1 Moiser Close, New Earswick, York;
3064 Mrs. I. E. Young (joint membership) youngi715@ad.com
3092 Mr. J. H. Fitch, 55 Otterwood Lane, Acomb, York YO24 3JP;
jfyork@ntlworld.com
3093 Mrs. E. Walker, 16 Burdyke Avenue, York YO30 6JW;
elizabeth.walker12@btopenworld.com
3094 Mr. M. L. Walker, 30 Bramble Dene, York YO24 2RH;
walker1malc@yahoo.co.uk
3095 Mrs. Sandra Tamburini, 12 Torrens Place, Albion Park, New South Wales 2527,
Australia dansen91@bigpond.com.au
3096 Mrs. Lynn Whitelaw, 85 Westgate, Pickering, North Yorkshire YO18 8AU;
lynn.moss29@talktalk.net
3097 Ms S. K. Doughty, 3 Wharf Cottages, Shalford, Guildford GU4 8EH;
sue@suedoughty.plus.com
3098 Mr. A. H. Overend, 38 Wold Road, Pocklington YO42 2QG;
ahoverend123@gmail.com
3099 Mr. G. Hamber, 2A Beech Grove, York YO26 5LB; georgehamber@yahoo.co.uk
3100 Mrs. J. D. Lambert, 88 Green Lane, Acomb, York YO24 4PS;
junelambert50@hotmail.com
3101 Ms E. A. Morrell, 19 The Green, Acomb, York YO26 5LL;
lizmorrell@ntlworld.com
3102 Mrs. K. Campbell, 33 The Glebe, Dunnington, York YO19 5RT
3103 Mrs. V. I. Wynne, 10 Trust Fold, Burton Salmon, North Yorks. LS25 5PG
3104 Mrs. P. L. Stephenson, 9 The Green, Wistow, Selby YO8 3FS;
pamela.stephenson@hotmail.co.uk
3105/ Mrs. S. J. Dunwell, 12 Manor Garth, Fridaythorpe YO25 9SZ;
3106 Mr. P. Dunwell (joint membership) samantha.dunwell@sky.com
3107 Mr. Christopher Barstow, Aros, 31 Courts Hill Road, Haslemere GU272PN;
Barstow_aros@btopenworld.com
3108 Mr. E. Lofthouse, 45 Otterwood Lane, Foxwood, York YO24 3JP

Change of email:

- 1985 Mr. E. Kell: edkell.1937@hotmail.co.uk
2678/9 Rev. M. J. Cruchley: michael.cruchley@btinternet.com
3072/88 Mr. & Mrs. J. Seppings: john.seppings@o2.co.uk

Deaths:

- 2478 John Gould of Fulford, husband of Judith (member 2479), died suddenly on the 30th March. Our condolences to Judith and her family.
3070 Mr. Harold J. Dobson of New Earswick died in October 2013

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Roy Evans

Contributors' Addresses:

3086 Mrs R.P.J. Grisman, 1 Beech Park, Crediton, Devon EX17 1HW;
rpjgrisman@gmail.com

3096 Mrs L. Whitelaw, 85 Westgate, Pickering, North Yorkshire YO18 8AU;
lynn.moss29@talktalk.net

Members' Interests (using Chapman County Codes):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Member</u>
Borwell/Borrell	Crambe, Harton	NRY	1750	-	3086
Borwell/Borrell	Barton Le Willows	NRY	1750	-	3086
Borwell/Borrell	Leeds	WRY	1835	-	3086
Cattle	Leeds	WRY	1700	1900	3096
Cattle	York	YKS	1700	1900	3096
Chapman	York	YKS	1750	-	3096
Emptage	Kent	KEN	1700	1900	3096
Hempsall	Doncaster	WRY	1800	1990	3096
Hempsall	York	YKS	1800	1990	3096
Lister	York	YKS	1800	1960	3096

York Irish Association

I am from Ireland and live and work in York, and am in the process of setting up York's first Irish society/association.

At this stage I am contacting people, especially with an Irish connection, living in York to see what interest there would be. I would love to hear more about the history of Irish people in York, and to trace some of the descendants of York's Irish born people, which I know made up 10% of York's population at one point.

As part of the Irish Association I plan also to set up York's first St. Patrick's weekend festival and parade in 2015. I am in the early stages of putting together my thoughts for the festival and also for the association, for which I am hoping to secure funding and have been in contact last year with the *Irish in Britain* organisation about setting this up. Most other UK cities have an Irish association, including Leeds, Manchester, Coventry and Huddersfield and have corresponding Irish festivals around Patrick's day, and so I think there is a gap in York to do something brilliant!

Any information you may have, I would be very grateful.

Brendan Tannam
Email: btannam@yahoo.ie

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTION STRAYS
Sent in by Herefordshire FHS (Golding HR1 1XD)

- Breinton: **Emma**, widow of **Robert Brooke** HASTE of Bradford and daughter of **Edmund & Elizth. WARING**, d. February 8 1913 aged 82 (other family listed)
- Belmont Abbey (R.C.): **Bernard J. GRIFFITHS** d. 17 April 1937 aged 28 interred at Grimsby. Other family listed on stone.
- Linton: **Joan** ELMHURST, born Yorkshire, educated Oxford, died 1662.
John DEAN, born Kettlewell 12 May 1746, d. Weston-under-Penyard 28 July 1837
- Bromyard: **Sarah** LINFOOT of York d. 18 January 1906 aged 62.
Mary Ann NEAT (widow of **Charles**) d. at Middlesborough 28 December 1887 aged 59
- Preston Wynne: Benefactions Board: Rev. **Jno. BIRD** of Kirk-Bramith, Yorks.
- Brimfield: **Douglas James** BARRETT 1940-2001 "A Yorkshireman"
- Hereford City (St. Martin): **Edith Sarah Ann** d. 12 April 1922 aged 47 wife of **Louis Granville** HUGHES d. 4 August 1957 aged 85, of Sheffield
- Eastnor: **Charles Wentworth** BELL born Chapel Allerton near Leeds, d. 20 January 1929 aged 71
- Yarkhill: **Jane** wife of Charles SMITH of Stonefall House, Harrogate, d. 3 January 1887 aged 44
- Castle Frome: **Robert** RAINE 3rd son of **Robert** of Thorpe, Wycliff, Yorks. 12 October 1846 – 16 June 1920 + his wife
- Fownhope: **Penelope** wife of Rev. **John BIRT**, Rector of Kirkramurth, Yorks. d. 7 September 1727 aged 45
- Leominster: **Cyril** MOSS formerly of Bingley, Yorks. 13 May 1906 to 15th April 1950 + widow (died 1988)
Hannah NEWHAM of Howden, East Yorks., 6 March 1851 to 21 September 1906
- Welsh Newton: **Julia** CUTHBERT, wife of **John Hamilton Pennyman** CUTHBERT, d. 10 January 1900 aged 72, late of Newland near Hull
- Colwall: **Charles Roberts** CHORLEY (formerly of Leeds), d. 12 November 1912 aged 88 + wife Mary **Hannah** d. 21 March 1919 aged 87
Frederick W. KENWORTH born Wakefield 15 May 1870 d. 27 October 1951 + wife **Mary Margaret** 11 February 1872 to 29 June 1947
LIVNTON? or HUNTON? of Londonderry, Yorks., related to RAPER/WALKER families (d. 1868 – WALKER)

AUNT EVELYN

Reg Chambers (member 2726)

1A Temple Garth, Copmanthorpe, York YO23 3TF



The eldest daughter of **Mary & Tom Chambers**, Evelyn was 'big sister' to my father, **Sefton** and sisters **Hilda** and **Marjorie**. Five feet six inches tall with ginger hair and blue-grey eyes, she was of average build. Very capable, forthright and kind, in later life she was an 'anchor' to the family, and all the nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews visited Aunt Evelyn. She was especially close to me and my family. When Evelyn left school at fourteen years of age, she went into service at Potterton Hall, then as a cook at Barwick (in Elmet).

Born in the 1890s, during the 1914-18 war, she worked at Barnbow munitions factory (now Vickers) on the outskirts of Leeds. She was fortunate enough to be at home when an explosion killed many women at the factory. Evelyn got a leg infection as a result of contact with chemicals from the gunpowder, and this caused a problem at times all through her life.

Before and after the war Evelyn was in-service in the big houses of the West Riding, about the only work for country girls. In the early 1930s she obtained the post of cook Bowcliffe Hall in Bramham. This was the home of the **Blackburn** family who owned the well-known Blackburn Aircraft Company, with aircraft factories one of which was at Brough, near Hull. She cooked one of the last meals served to guests at the Hall who subsequently died in the horrific airship disaster at Beauvais in France on 4th October 1930. The R101 ignited and crashed in flames, killing 46 out of 54 people on board.

After my Grandfather died she became the mainstay of Grandmother and me, providing us with many a titbit from her kitchen at the Hall. In those days of no welfare state, my Grandma's only income was 10 shillings a week, 50p in today's money and no children's allowance which certainly developed the character of us now 80 + 90 year-olds.



In 1932 Evelyn married **Jack Clevely** from Thorpe Arch, a joiner by trade who played cricket for the Yorkshire Colts pre-1914. He was severely wounded in the war, and also gassed, and was consequently in and out of hospitals. Evelyn cared for him when partially recovered from his war wounds until he had to go into Scotten Hospital permanently, where he died in 1941. She also cared for her parents Thomas and Mary Chambers until they died in 1929 and 1935 respectively.

During the Second World War, 1939-45, Evelyn worked as a security policewoman at Thorpe Arch, and in the factory there where munitions were manufactured in bunkers. From 1940 to 1942 she had two girl evacuees living with her. She died in 1985.

Sadly they no longer breed her kind.

CATTERICK GARRISON ORIGINS

Following the successful completion of the Garrison Voices Project in September 2013, a further bid to the Ministry of Defence's Community Covenant Scheme has raised funding for a follow up project, known as Garrison Origins. As the name suggests, the focus will be on the early years of Catterick Camp, set up following the outbreak of World War One, and the area of focus will extend to cover other linked and associated camps, such as Ripon, that were established around the same time.

Led by the County Record Office and working with a number of partners, the Garrison Origins Project will continue to gather information in the form of written, visual and spoken records of the army camps in their first 30 years of life. It will also work with local schools, developing resource kits for use as teaching aids by primary and secondary level teachers, and engaging a video artist to compile a commemorative film recording a living history of the army encampments.

The Feelgood Theatre Company will be commissioned to deliver creative writing workshops as a preliminary to producing three full performances of the highly acclaimed play *Not About Heroes*. Based on the relationship between **Wilfred Owen** and **Siegfried Sassoon**, two war poets who fought (and in the case of Owen, died) in the First World War, the performances will take place at three different venues in the Catterick and Ripon areas from 15th to 17th September 2014.

The Project will leave a lasting legacy in the form of a listening post to be installed at Catterick Garrison Library. Oral history recordings of military personnel and civilians associated with Catterick Camp during the one hundred years of its life will be available, alongside the exhibition created by the Garrison Voices Project.

It will be a fitting testament to the thousands of people whose lives have been touched by Catterick Camp, and to the British Army's infantry soldiers who now receive their basic training at Catterick.

For more information, please contact North Yorkshire County Council Record Office by telephone: 01609 777585 or by email: archives@northyorks.gov.uk

YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY RECORDS

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Job</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Type of Record</u>	<u>Source of Entry</u>
BLACA	Alice	F	York	None	1476	Corpus Christi	SS/57
BLACKAR	Roger	M	Sandall	None	1524	Lay Subsidy	YAJ2/
BLACKER	Thomas	M	Sandall Magna	None	1516	Will	YASRS/11/APP I
BLACKER	Robert	M	Yorkshire	None	1530-1539	Wills	SS/106 P.61
BLACKER	John	M	Deanery of Pontefract	None	1546	Chantry Survey	SS/92 P. 319
BLACKER	John	M	Deanery of Pontefract	None	1546	Chantry Survey	SS/92 P. 321
BLACKER	Thomas	M	Deanery of Pontefract	None	1546	Chantry Survey	SS/91 P. 207
BLAKA	Catherine	F	York	None	1457	Corpus Christi	SS/57
BLAKA	Joanna	F	York	None	1494	Corpus Christi	SS/57
BLAKA	Agnes	F	York	None	1494	Corpus Christi	SS/57
BLAKA	Domp Margaret	F	York	None	1517	Corpus Christi	SS/57
BLAKA	Christopher	M	York	None	1545	Corpus Christi	SS/57
BLAKA	none	F	York	None	1545	Corpus Christi	SS/57
BLAKAR	Ralph	M	Cryggilston	None	1524	Lay Subsidy	YAJ2/
BLAKER	Isabel	F	Houghton	None	1537	Will	YASRS/11
BLAKER	Isabel	F	Castleford	None	1537	Will	YASRS/11
BLAKESTERE	Alice le	F	Forest of Pickering	None	1334	Coucher Book	NRRS/4/P. 26
BLAKKER	Robert	M	Sandall	None	1458	Will	YASRS/6
BLAKKER	Thomas	M	Sandall	None	1486	Will	YASRS/6
BLAKKER	Agnes	F	Yorkshire	None	1480-1489	Will	SS/45 P.295
BLAKKER	Joan	F	Yorkshire	None	1480-1489	Will	SS/45 P.295
BLAKKER	John	M	Yorkshire	None	1480-1489	Will	SS/45 P.295
BLAKKER	Richard	M	Yorkshire	None	1480-1489	Will	SS/45 P.295
BLAKKER	Robert	M	Yorkshire	None	1480-1489	Will	SS/45 P.295
BLAKKER	Thomas	M	Yorkshire	None	1480-1489	Will	SS/45 P.295
BLAKKER	Thomas	M	Yorkshire	None	1509-1519	Wills	SS/79 P.18
BLCKERS	Henry	M	York	Baker	1741	Freemen's Register	YCA Freemen's Register
BLCKERS	John	M	York	Whitesmith	1721	Freemen's Register	YCA Freemen's Register
BLECHE	John	M	York	Gentleman	1435	Inventory	Stell & Hampson
BLECHE	John	M	Yorkshire	None	1450-1459	Will	SS/45 P.148
None	Blakkr	M	Yorkshire	None	1086	Domesday Book	DB VOL. 30

HELP WANTED



Rod Blaker, The Blaker Society, Ottawa, Canada; rod.blaker@gmail.com

Yorkshire BLAKER, BLACKER and variants

I am an amateur genealogist and family historian and with a number of other volunteers have been doing a One Name Study of the name BLAKER. We are registered with and members of The Guild Of One Name Studies (GOONS).

Our concentration has been on Sussex, where over time the greatest concentration of BLAKER was to be found; and we have been able to link all the Sussex Blakers by means of DNA testing.

I have some pre-parish records entries from York Minster, and already have some BLAKERS in Rawcliffe, but want to make sure that I have any potential variants so am enclosing the Yorkshire Archaeological Society records (*opposite*) showing the names which were thought to be possibly related to one another and/or to Blacker or Blaker.

We will shortly be listing all the Blacker/Blaker, variants and deviants, to be taken from the white pages, so that we can telephone them from England and ask them to participate in a free DNA testing. I hope therefore that I can obtain the historical information before writing to and telephoning them.

I very much appreciate your assistance and look forward to any replies.

*Shirley Williams, Museum Education Officer, RWF Museum;
email rwfmuseum1@btconnect.com*

Royal Welch Fusiliers WW1 photographs

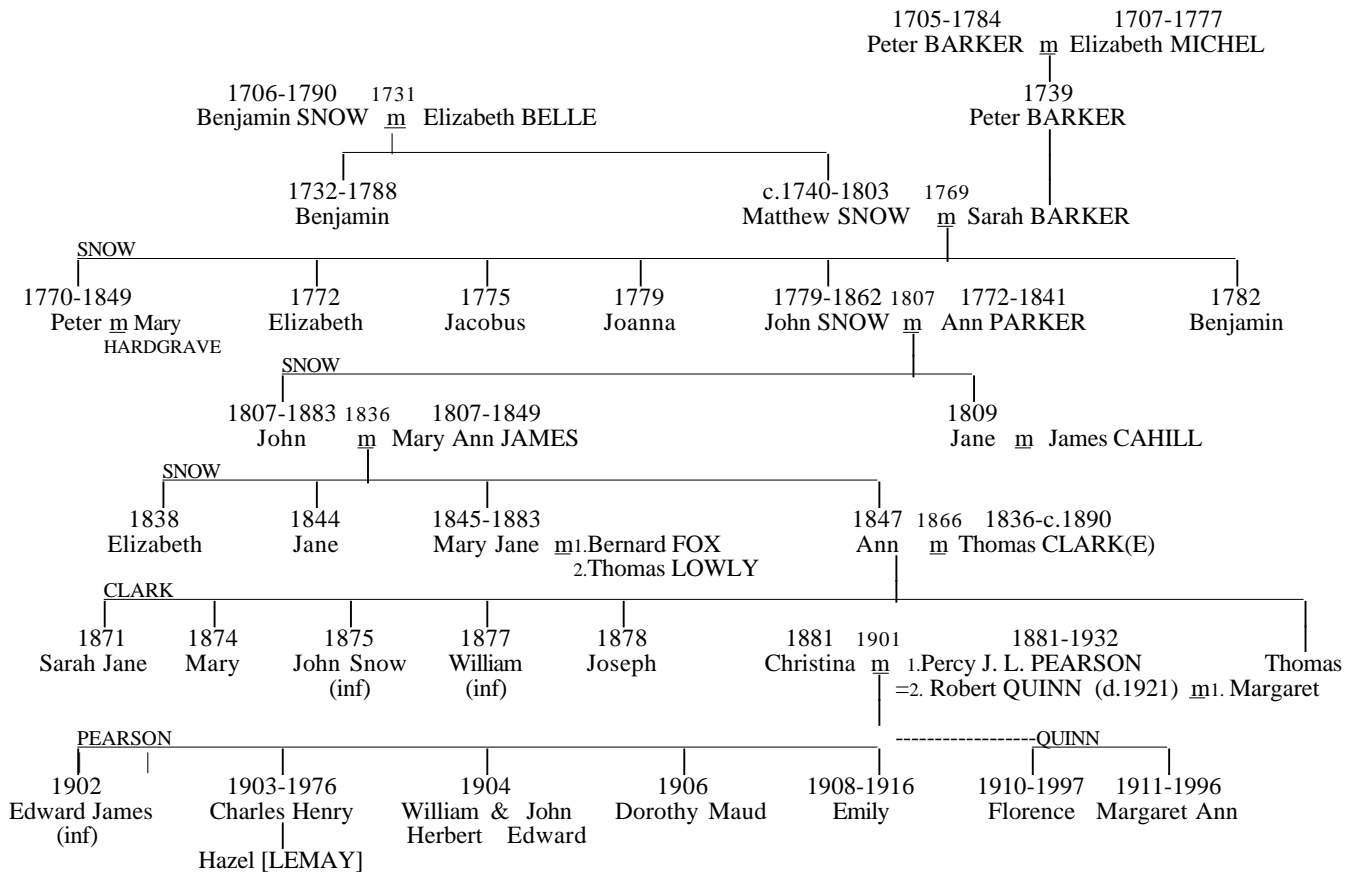
We at the Royal Welch Fusiliers Museum in Caernarfon are starting the mammoth task of looking for photos of individual soldiers from the RWF who were killed in the Great War. We are trying to put each man's name on display on a screen on the centenary of his death and would dearly love to be able to add a photograph of each man to go with his name. It is a huge undertaking as there were over 10,400 men from the RWF that were killed; but even if we only get a fraction of the photographs we believe it is worth doing.

Many of the RWF were from all over so we are asking please could you help? Many families have photographs tucked away so this might prompt them to seek them out. We accept scans or copies and any that appeared in newspapers, which often carried obituaries including photographs.

We need as much information as possible to go with the photo to make sure we fit the right photo to the right man – but sometimes a name and date of death might be all we need.

Email us on for more details or to send us a photo. You can also follow our progress on Twitter, Pinterest, Flickr and Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Royal-Welch-Fusiliers-Museum/146060182083938>



A FAMILY STORY

Hazel W. LeMay (member 2639); hazel@johnsmay.net

My records date from 1706 when **Benjamin Snow**, a combmaker, was born. He married **Elizabeth Belle** at St. Olave's Church, Marygate, York, in 1731. It appears he moved to Sheffield, where his son **Benjamin** was born and baptised in 1732. The family returned to York, the father Benjamin being buried at St. Michael's Spurriergate aged 84, in 1790. The younger Benjamin lived near Ousebridge in York, worked as a brickmaker and died around 1788. His brother **Matthew** (1740-1803) in 1769 married **Sarah Barker**, daughter of **Peter Barker** (b.1739) from Saxton-in-Elmet. They married at Holy Trinity Church Micklegate. Peter's parents were **Peter Barker** (1705-1784) and **Elizabeth Michel** (1707-1777).

Matthew and Sarah had several children, one being my 3xgreat-grandfather **John Snow** (1779-1862). He and **Ann Parker** were married in 1807 at St. Martin & St. George Church, but John was baptised at the Catholic Church of St. Wilfrid in Little Blake Street, York. John worked as a paver most of his life. Among their children were **John** (1807-1883), who married **Mary Ann James** in 1836 at All Saints North Street, and **Jane**, who married **James Cahill** and went to live in Trinity Lane. This John paid during his lifetime for a memorial headstone, now in York Cemetery, in memory of his father and mother and his daughter **Mary Jane Lowley** (formerly **Fox**, née **Snow**) who died aged 39 leaving step-children who had to go into a home. The Cemetery Register entry shows that John, a labourer residing on Trinity Lane, died of natural decay aged 74, and that the grave holds five burials – the two Johns, two infants **John Snow Clark** and **William Clark**(e), and Mary Jane.

Ann, younger sister of Mary Jane, was only two years old when her mother Mary Ann (née James) died, and was taken in by her aunt Jane and uncle, James Cahill, who lived nearby in Trinity Lane and apparently had no children of their own.

In 1866 Ann Snow, my great-grandmother, married **Thomas Clark** at St. George's Church. On the marriage certificate he is described as a boot and shoemaker at Fulford Barracks. He was Irish and both were Catholics. They had five children: **Sarah**, **Mary**, **Joseph**, **Christina** (my grandmother) and **Thomas**, as well as two boys who died as babies and were interred in the family grave in York Cemetery. I haven't managed to trace the lives of any of the other children, but Christina married **Percy James Leigh Pearson** (b.1881), my grandfather-to-be who was with the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers, in 1901 at the Church of the English Martyrs, York. Percy was the son of watchmakers, also Catholics, living in London, formerly in Coventry. The married couple were aged 20 and 19 respectively.

Their first child was **Edward James Pearson**, born 1902 in Dale Street, York. By then Percy had come out of the army and sought work, which was scarce at that time for unskilled men. They went to Newcastle-on-Tyne, where Percy briefly worked as a painter and decorator, but returned to York after Edward died aged 5 months.

The next child was my father, **Charles Henry Pearson**, born in 1903 at Christina's mother's home. The following year, in December, boy twins were born (I have not been able to find birth records for them), called **William Herbert** and **John Edward**. Next came **Dorothy Maud** (b.1906 but again no birth record found) followed by **Emily** in 1908. Although Emily's father's name is on her birth certificate, the marriage appears to have broken up and Percy had rejoined the Northumberland Fusiliers.

My father Charles never spoke of his early life but I have been able to discover some of the facts. On the 1911 census I found him with the twins William and John in the York Workhouse. From their records, I was told by York Archives, they were transferred later in 1911 to St. Vincent's Boys' Home in Hull, where they appear to have stayed until going out in to the world. Of the other children, Dorothy Maud in 1911 was living in a small home for girls in Penly's Grove, York, aged 4, while Emily was with her mother Christina and another baby, **Florence**, in Walmgate, with a **Robert Quinn**, Florence having been born in 1910. It seems probable that Florence was actually Robert and Christina's child. Another child, **Margaret Ann**, was born later in 1911.

Around 1915 the three girls were taken to Nazareth House, Middlesbrough, and put in the care of the nuns. The Middlesbrough Nazareth House was for homeless children, one of several around the country. It is a Grade 2 listed building still standing opposite Albert Park, where Florence remembered being taken for walks, so her son told me. The regime was harsh by modern standards but the girls had basic schooling and were trained for domestic service. Florence was sent back to York at 14 to work for a doctor and his family in Mount Street. She later became a cook, keeping in touch by letter with Nazareth House until she married. A couple of years ago I was contacted by her son and we arranged to meet. Of the other girls, poor Emily died of pneumonia in 1916, whilst Margaret Ann, like her sister, went into domestic service in York at 14, married and eventually became a nurse, having five children and settling in Leeds.

I have been unable to find any traces of my grandmother Christina's life after she had Margaret Ann in a maternity hospital in Ogleforth, York. On the birth certificate she gave her name as Christina Mary Quinn, formerly Clark. She was not in fact a Quinn as Robert Quinn already had a wife and Christina still had a husband, Percy Pearson. Robert died of tuberculosis in 1921 with 'M. Quinn', in attendance, which would appear to be his wife Margaret. Robert did try to join the army in 1914 but after six months was discharged as being medically unfit. As the girls were put in Nazareth House in 1915 it's possible that there was a break-up between Robert and Christina around then, and Christina would have been destitute and had to go back to work as a servant.

My father Charles was sent to work on farms when old enough and at 18 joined the Durham Light Infantry in 1922. He went with them to India and China – a very happy time for him as he enjoyed the experiences of travelling abroad. He returned with them in 1930 and went to London looking for work. He trained as a psychiatric nurse, a job he did until retiring, and eventually married twice.

Percy, my grandfather, who had been in India with the Fusiliers in 1911, came back with them by 1914, ready to go to the war. They were among the first to go over to France and into Belgium, and I learned from the regimental archives that he fought in the Battle of Mons and was part of the retreat from there back into France. It was apparently a long and gruelling march, and Percy succumbed to rheumatic fever which caused him to be invalided out the army and sent home. He was given the Silver War Badge as well as the British and Victory medals. He went back to live near his old home in London, lodged with his sister-in-law and worked as a clerk for the War Office until his death at 50 in 1932.

Postscript: The family may have some connection with the physician and discoverer of the source of cholera, **John Snow** (later Sir John), who was born to a poor family in the North Street area, perhaps some way back in the 17th or 18th centuries.

MEETING TALKS REPORTED

Lorna Begley

February – Ken Haywood The Chocolate Letters

For Christmas 1914, **John Bowes Morrell**, then Lord Mayor of York, and his Sheriff sent a few thousand tins of Rowntrees chocolate to all serving soldiers who were from York. They were sent out to soldiers based in York, to the Western Front and elsewhere in the world. It is thought that the Lord Mayor and Sheriff funded these gifts personally. At that time chocolate was expensive and considered a great treat. In return many letters of thanks were sent to the Lord Mayor from the recipients. These letters have become known as the ‘chocolate letters’.

Ken and his wife, Linda, had the task of cataloguing and indexing the letters of thanks. The letters referred to York in terms of affection as ‘dear old city’ and reflected the soldiers’ appreciation of being thought of ‘back home’. Many of the men writing at this time believed that the war was not going to last too long and that they would soon be home. Despite that, receiving those tins of chocolate meant a lot to them. A sailor enclosed his cap ribbon with his letter of thanks as a gesture of appreciation. The letters were written in formal, informal and humorous terms and are particularly moving when we consider what these men still had to endure. Sadly not all those who wrote did return home.

The chocolate was sent to many distant countries, some particularly hot places such as Nairobi and Cairo. Chocolate was made to a different recipe at that time and had a lower melting point. It is interesting to consider the condition it would have been in when it arrived! One of the tins of chocolate that was not eaten is kept at the Mansion House where it can be seen on request. It is not known why it was not eaten by the recipient or in fact if it was received. It remains untouched and is stored in a lined box.

Ken, with the support of his wife Linda, gave us an informed introduction to these ‘chocolate letters’ which gave us an insight into the optimism at the start of the war.

This correspondence is held at the City Archives which is temporarily closed. My enquiry about accessibility of the chocolate letters brought the following response from the Justine Winstanley-Brown BA (Hons) MA, Archivist (Civic & Public Records) City of York Council Libraries and Archives, tel: 01904 553227

‘Thank-you for your enquiry about the ‘Chocolate letters’. We have both the original set and a physical surrogate set.

*At the moment **both the original letters and the surrogate set** are available as part of our Local History service in the Marriott Room at York Explore. Anyone can see them by contacting us and booking in the normal way. They won’t be available between **June and December 2014** during the Explore building closure, but we intend to digitise them during this period and use them as a basis for a volunteer project to launch online access to them in 2015. This hasn’t been yet confirmed but is our intention.*

*During the building closure we will be maintaining access to the **surrogate set** at one of our other libraries, most probably Acomb Explore where we plan to relocate our microfilm readers. When the plans are finalised the information will be on our website or available through enquiry at any library.*

March – Capt. Stephen Upright The Company of Merchant Adventurers and their Hall

Local residents of York are aware of the Merchant Adventurers Hall in Fossgate, but the history of the building may be less well known. Captain Upright, Clerk to the Company of Merchant Adventurers, gave us a fascinating talk about the history of their ancient building.

During the Black Death pandemic many people became very frightened and felt the need to be charitable in an effort to 'buy' salvation. In York three merchants came together to pray for each other and to do good works. They formed a religious society called the 'Guild of Our Lord Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary' and were joined by other influential people. In 1356 it was recognised that a meeting place was needed. The land on Fossgate was purchased and, in 1357, the construction of the Hall began. It was a very large building for its time.

At that time the River Ouse was busy with ships coming to unload their wares from the North Sea. King's and Queen's Staiths were important ports. In 1430 the name of the Guild was changed by royal charter to the 'Mistry of Mercers'. The Guild had increased in importance and controlled trade in York. Over time trading became more difficult due to the silting up of the river and the reduction of ships able to access York. Queen Elizabeth I gave the group a new charter and they became known as the Merchant Adventurers. The company were then able to trade in anything apart from salt and fish, and flourished. At that time members were required to have a father who had been a member, be an apprentice or able to buy membership.

Business was carried out at the Hall, which was also used to treat the sick and do good works, whilst the Chapel was used for prayer. The construction materials were all locally sourced. The beams were assembled flat and marked according to where they fitted. They were then transported to the building where they were assembled according to the markings. The timbers were chosen for their shape. Many of the beams in the building are still original. There was no glazing in the windows and no fireplaces in the building, which was heated by braziers and lit by tallow candles.

The undercroft was sub divided into room spaces and used as an almshouse and hospital until 1900. Captain Upright showed us a picture of the undercroft when it was flooded in 1982. Evidence has been found of the undercroft floor having been raised in previous times, presumably also to prevent flooding.

Over the past centuries the Hall has been altered and extended considerably, providing accommodation for staff, extra meeting rooms, store rooms and raised stairs for the merchants. Silver artefacts, art and furniture from the early days of the building are on display. Major restoration work was undertaken in the 1930s and now, under the careful watch of the staff, has only needed routine maintenance.

Original written records are complete from 1581 and are available for academic research by arrangement. Copies are also available at the Borthwick Institute

Today there are 170 members of the Company of Merchant Adventurers who come from North and East Yorkshire. No longer a trading association, to be a member you must be a freeman of the City of York. The company is involved in Education Outreach, encourages enterprise and supports the Mystery plays in York. The Hall is run as a museum, although the Guild still holds meetings there. The chapel was licensed in 1411 and is still used for services. Entrance fees and rents from hiring out the Hall and buildings which they own on Fossgate fund their activities.

This proved to be a very enlightening talk about a building that is a significant landmark in our historic city.

April – Chris Cade Arthur Walker’s Great War

What a fascinating evening this proved to be, a great insight into the horrors faced by our ancestors who fought in the First World War.

Chris Cade started the evening by playing *Keep the Home fires burning* on his mouth organ. He adopted the persona of Arthur Walker who tried to join up at the age of 16, saying that he was 18 years old, but was turned down and told to return when he was 19. As the war escalated and recruitment campaigns grew he reapplied and was accepted in the Army Reserves and then the 15th Battalion, West Yorkshire Leeds Regiment. He was sent to Pinderdales near Masham and then to Ripon where he acquired a uniform.

At this point Chris Cade encouraged us to sing the rather upbeat “*Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag*” and “*It’s a long way to Tipperary*”, reflecting the optimistic view that the war would be over by Christmas.

In 1916 he was sent to the Somme. He faced the awfulness of life in the trenches where the soldiers were up to their knees in water, cold, wet, shivering and shaking. They constantly anticipated a sudden death or a long agonized one. Their diet consisted of bully beef and hard biscuits served in billycans which, at times, smelt of petrol and creosote. They were infested with fleas, flies and lice. It was commonplace to suffer from diarrhoea, stomach ache, and ‘trench foot’ caused by their feet being continually wet. Despite all this they were expected to go ‘over the top’ to face the enemy in columns as if on parade. Those that were killed were brought back under the cover of darkness to their comrades. The belief that they were fighting for a just cause kept them going.

On the 27th March 1918 at 7.30am they were commanded to drink a tot of rum before going into battle. They soon realized that they were almost surrounded and were commanded to surrender. They then became Prisoners of War and were marched to Villiers where they were herded into railway trucks and taken to a POW camp near the Swiss border. Their circumstances in the camp, with beds and wash houses, appeared luxurious in comparison to the trenches and they almost felt safe. They also had work to do. When Arthur was taken prisoner his mother received a letter to say that he was missing, probably taken prisoner and that he had conducted himself well.

When the guns fell silent on 11th November 1918 the POWs were unaware. They were released and brought home by the Red Cross.

By the time the Second World War broke out Arthur Walker was married. He had his own plot of land and enjoyed digging in his garden. He did not like sauerkraut and would not eat cabbages. He saved his regimental tie, cap badge, medals and a letter from the king thanking him for his service and welcoming him home. Unfortunately he had to pawn a medal to get through the depression. The nightmares remained, as well.

This very graphic account of one man’s war brought history alive and gave us an insight into the reality of a well-known event.

Thank you Chris Cade for a very interesting evening.



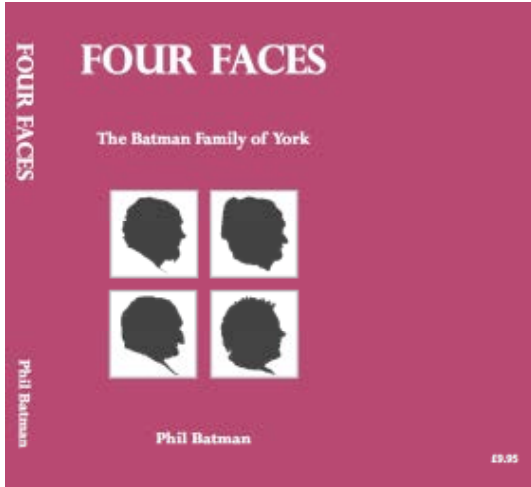
BOOKSHELF



Books may be borrowed from the Library, viewed at the Study Centre or purchased from the Bookstall at meetings. Postal enquiries should be addressed to the Bookstall Manager (address inside front cover).

Four Faces: The Batman Family of York –Phil Batman, 2014 (£9.95) – ISBN:978-09928-7550-3

Available from: www.ypdbooks.com



From life ploughing the fields to satisfy a greedy sulking landlord to self-made men of the industrial revolution, from scratching a living from a few scruffy acres to squandering a fortune of as many whole farms, and from the Battlefield of Marston Moor to the Battle of Berlin, this is the story of the people of a corner of England over four hundred years.

The plot pivots around one day in the village of Copmanthorpe of 1841, then focuses on the lives of a handful of people and their descendants.

This is a social history of a rural then urban community as seen through the eyes of one family. The Batmans of a Yorkshire village, Copmanthorpe, were indeed a solid family tree. Living there at the time was a handful of my ancestors in a small community. We look at the links that had kept many of the old families in the village since the beginning of recorded history until that day. And then we look at how and why these old core villagers stayed in their ancestral home or emigrated far and wide in the second half of the turbulent nineteenth century and beyond.

The family tree shows the direct line of my ancestors from the early 1600s into the late 1900s. Family trees are always incomplete, and this one is no exception. Every person who appears on the tree, however, has played some part in our story. The maps in the book shows most of the places in and around York where this history unfolded. Finally, I should state at the outset that this saga is indeed a story; all of the events certainly took place, but just how they unfolded and affected lives is spiced with a liberal sprinkling of imagination.

What is important to me is that I have set down in words my thoughts on all those people who have given me and my family our lives. This book is my legacy then and, in a sense, my family's immortality.

Phil Batman

Professor Phil Batman is a retired pathologist who was born in York and has studied his own iconic surname there for 30 years. The story of the village has been told in an earlier book: C. Appleby, P. Batman, M. Harrison, M. Rogers (eds.) From Coppenthorpe to Copmanthorpe: Aspects of life in an Ainsty village (South Ainsty Archaeological Society; York, 2010).

Tracing your coal mining ancestors, Brian Elliott – Pen & Sword Books (£11.24) – ISBN 9781848842397

The book launch on 18th June 2014 at The National Coal Mining Museum for England, New Road, Overton, Wakefield WF4 4RH will begin with tea and coffee from 10.30 a.m., followed by Chair of the Museum, David Hinchliffe, introducing the author at 11.00 a.m.

Barnsley born Brian comes from a long line of miners, having grown up in the mining community of Carlton. He is a regular contributor to *Memories of Barnsley* magazine and his knowledge and enthusiasm for local and family history has led to him to write over twenty books. He will talk about his book and from 11.40 a.m. there will be an opportunity to ask questions about finding your coal mining ancestors. You will be able to purchase the book Brian will sign copies. So that he can answer your questions fully on the day, please email your questions **before** the event to **info@ncm.org.uk** and label your question *Brian Elliott question*.

This is a free event, but as it will be popular it is advisable to book in advance. Please email david.cross@ncm.org.uk to book your place at the launch, and visit the museum library from 1.00 p.m. onwards to see the Library Store - the hidden collection at the museum. The Library will be open until 4.00 p.m. to see what coal mining family history resources we have.

The National Coal Mining Museum tells the story of coal mining and its communities. Visitors can descend 140m below ground on an underground tour, explore the original colliery buildings and dig deeper into mining history in the fascinating galleries. Meet the ponies in the Stableyard, take a stroll along the Nature Trail, let off steam in the adventure playground – then enjoy a 'pit stop' in the Cafe. Throughout the year take in special exhibitions, family events and activities, talks, tours and living history sessions.

Contact at t: 01924 848806 / e: info@ncm.org.uk / w: www.ncm.org.uk

Pilgrims: New World Settlers and the Call of Home, Susan Hardman Moore, Yale, 2008 (£25)

I came across a review of this book at the time of its issue in 2008, in *Seven*. The book explores what emigrants actually found when they reached America in the 17th century, as against the expected:

'sunlit refuge from corrupt kings, cruel bishops and oppressive institutions', asking, as the reviewer says,

'why be a European peasant supping gruel when you could thrive in a new Eden?'

The article observes that:

‘motives of piety and prosperity did not conflict’, and that

‘would-be migrants studied their inner lives, searching for providential guidance. Until the 1630s the typical migrant had been an unskilled adolescent working his ticket in the Virginian plantations. The New England pioneers were unlike this; theirs was the most family-centred migration in America’s history. They were also higher in social status, more skilled, literate and pious, with greater expectations’

but *‘disillusionment followed disorientation’*, furious rows developing over the attitude of the church to their new parishioners.

‘The end to Charles I’s Personal Rule in 1640 revived hopes of England’s salvation, prompting a homecoming, and when war broke out in 1642 zealous types returned whilst others, fearing mayhem, delayed until parliamentary victory in 1646. The disruption of shipping had left New Englanders short of supplies and news, a reminder of just how dependent they were, morally and materially, on the motherland. In the 1650s Cromwell deemed the colonial enterprise ‘a project that had outlived its usefulness’ and things were never the same again’.

Historians have found that of the first great wave of around 21,000 English migrants in the 1630s, many came home again for good; indeed, the author reaches the conclusion that after 1640 more people left New England than arrived there – in all, about a quarter of all settlers having, it seems, lost heart. Many left behind friends and family as well as property and did not forget America, as witnessed by:

‘a blizzard of letters blowing west and east. Seventeenth-century America was not yet exceptional; indeed, it had no discrete cultural identity. Returnees saw New England as a component of their wider experience, not an epiphanic endpoint. Even those who stayed felt more ambivalently than that and well into the 18th century’.

The book is described as *admirably erudite, more than half of it taken up with scholarly apparatus’*.

Not to be seen as a good read, then, *‘the story – and it is terrific – occupies just 147 pages’* (of a total 316) *‘for a public passionate about history’*.

Reg Chambers (member 2726)

Poor Rates Book, Great Shambles, York, 1844.
Borthwick Institute ref. Y/HTK (Holy Trinity, King’s Court)

The unfortunately named Mr. **Ralph Smelt** owned a house next door to the slaughter house, which was occupied by Mr. **William Holgate**. This was next door to the piggery, occupied by Mr. **James Wilkinson** . . . no air miles involved in getting bacon then!

Beryl Ridsdale

City of York & District

FAMILY- HISTORY- SOCIETY

PROGRAMME SUMMER 2014

**Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month at
The New Earswick Bowls Club
Huntington Road, York YO32 9PX**

- doors open at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. start until 9.30 p.m. -

Prospective new members and visitors are welcome.

Advice and help from other members.

Bookstall. Library. Disabled access. Free car park. Refreshments available.

* * * * *

July 2nd The Man behind the Mirror Anne Batchelor

August 6th My Life at Terry's David Meek

Sept. 3rd Voices of the First World War York Oral History Society

**October 1st York Conservation Trust –
Custodians of the City's Buildings Philip Thake**

* * * * *

Subscriptions -

Annual membership (home)	£ 12.00
Annual joint membership	£ 14.00
(one copy of Journal only)	
Annual membership (overseas)	£ 15.00
New Member's Joining Fee	£ 2.50
(includes a Starter Pack)	

A renewal form is sent. Payment, preferably by cheque, should be made to the Membership Secretary.

* * * * *

The work done by members over the years for the Society has made it what it is today, a thriving and energetic Society. We are extremely grateful for all their hard work and dedication, and hope that members will continue to support the Society in the future. It should, however, be noted that all work carried out on Society Projects by members is the property of the City of York & District Family History Society. The Society owns the copyright so that we are able to use, publish and display that material in any way that the Society feels appropriate.

City of York & District

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YORK FAMILY HISTORY STUDY CENTRE
The Raylor Centre, James Street, York YO10 3DW
Manager: Pam Elliott
(details on back cover)

NEW ADDITIONS

Books

Kelly's Directories for 1949-50: 1957: 1959: 1961: 1963: 1965: 1969: 1975.
Cleveland FHS Journals 2011 & 2012

Family History

Letters of Tom BARSTOW, Royal Artillery 1915-1918

GLEANINGS FROM EXCHANGE JOURNALS

Jeanne Baxter

Members may borrow up to three books per month. The following is a selection of material from recent arrivals:

Get more from West Yorkshire Archives

Calderdale FHS. The Scrivener, No.145, December 2013

Irregular border marriages

Northumberland & Durham FHS. Journal, Vol.38, No.4, Winter 2013

Know your parish: Kirby Wiske. Part 1

Cleveland FHS. Journal, Vol.12, No.5, January 2014

List of patients who lived and died in Billington Asylum, 1740-1842 (including **Henry Strangeways**, **Mary Birdmore** and **Mary Peacock** formerly from York)

Lancashire FH & HS. Vol.36, No.1, February 2014

Tips when searching online digital newspapers

Glamorgan FHS. Journal No.113, March 2014

Spotlight on Withernsea

and

Withernsea family history sources at the East Riding Archives & Local Studies Service

East Yorkshire FHS. The Banyan Tree, No.137, February 2014

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS ↔ ↔ ↔ PROGRESS IN PROJECTS

Would you like to join in? Please make yourself known to the project organiser.

YORK BMD (Births, Marriages & Deaths) : <http://www.ukbmd.org.uk>

The indexing work on York marriages for the website www.yorkshirebmd.org.uk continues. So far this year there have been six updates to the website under 'York' with marriages dating from 1988-1991. Happy hunting.

Pam Elliott

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTION RECORDING

Nearing completion are the MIs of Malton Cemetery (with the help of Ryedale F.H. Group) and our own work at Healaugh and Wighill. We now have a collection of over 50 CDs available for sale, at very reasonable cost considering the work involved in compiling same; all the MI CDs come with full colour photographs of the memorials, views of the Church and area views, with the exception of York Cemetery where the photographing of York Cemetery is a task we are not able to undertake due to its size (unless you know different).

All our CDs are available at our meetings, the Study Centre and at any of the Family History Fairs we attend. We will be working at Rufforth in the next few weeks. If you have a local parish not yet covered please let me know and it will be considered for completion in the near future.

Mike Smith
mikeinhaxby@gmail.com

INDEXING AT THE BORTHWICK INSTITUTE FOR ARCHIVES

Jeanne Baxter with

Mary Clarke, Sheila Elmer, Catherine Bower, Beryl Ridsdale, Margaret Tadman

The Retreat

Work has resumed on later books of these records, taking them up to 1914 and beyond (subject to 100 year closure), for eventual publication on the internet.

Hospitals

The long-term project of indexing patients in York County Hospital records continues, retarded by the difficulty of reading doctors' handwriting.

Poor Rates

The 26 books of Poor Rates for Holy Trinity Kings Court go through to 1873. Those up to 1842 have been indexed and checked and are now to be typed into a database. They give addresses and description of properties (house, shop, stables, tenement, etc.) with names of owners and occupiers.

York Water Rents (Old Company)

Ref. YWC3/4/1

Indexing of this one-off book covering Lendal and North Street for 1795 which shows street numbers and names of occupiers, occasionally with occupations and the name of a former tenant, is now completed ready for the BIA to publish on the internet. It is particularly useful as there are few street directories for this time, and those generally give tradesmen rather than ordinary house dwellers.

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 10 Beans Way, Stockton Lane, York YO31 1HU

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