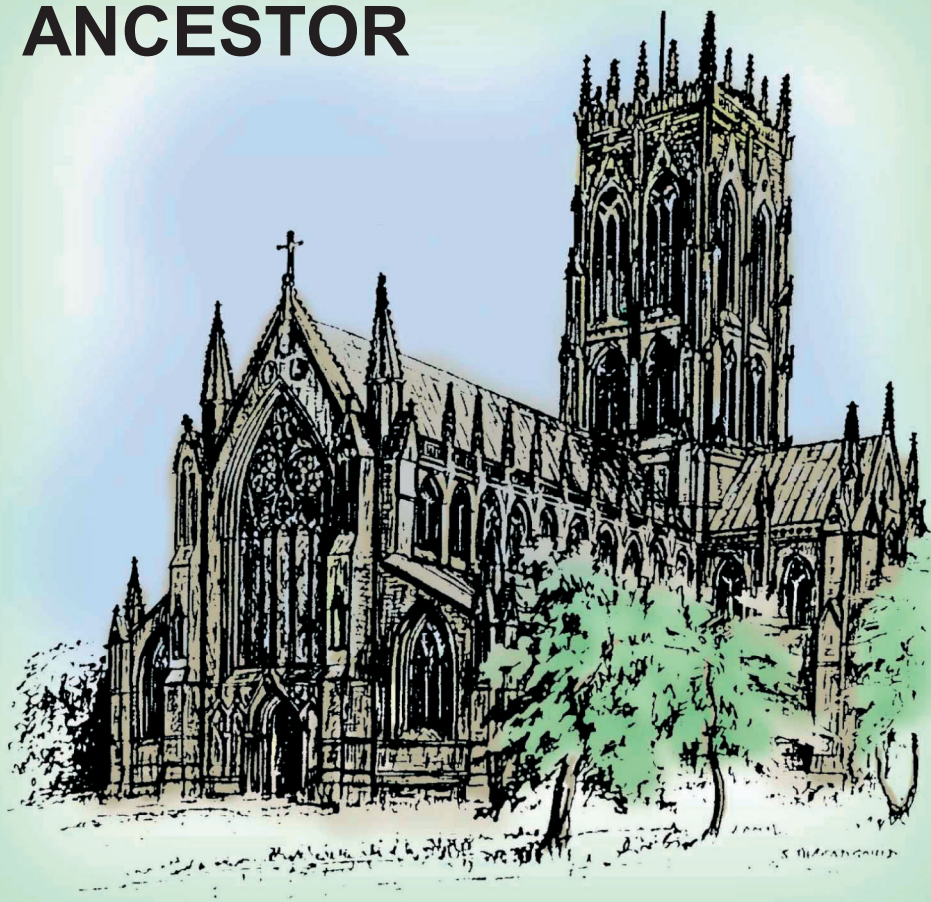


THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR

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Doncaster Minster

S Threadgould

**The Journal of the Doncaster and District
Family History Society 1980 - 2022**

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DONCASTER AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

www.doncasterfhs.co.uk

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continued on the inside back cover

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Doncaster Ancestor – Spring 2022

THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR

Journal of the Doncaster and District Family History Society

Free to Members

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Editor: Jenny Ellis
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Above is a map of Castle Park Rugby Club, Armthorpe Road, Armthorpe, Doncaster, DN2 5QB, which is the venue for our Hybrid/ Zoom meetings from April 2022.

For further details please see page 4 where all the monthly meetings are displayed.

From the Editor

Hello and welcome to the Spring edition of Doncaster Ancestor.

We have all been affected by the Coronavirus pandemic that has been with us for the last two years, some more than others, so we can only hope that the latest Omicron variant cases continue to fall as more people are vaccinated.

No doubt we have all been looking forward to the 1921 census and it finally arrived on the 6th January 2022, so I look forward to hearing your views, experience and thoughts of yet another milestone in your research. If you manage to attend the ZOOM talk given by Myko Clelland of Findmypast about the 1921 census, then do let me know if you thought it was helpful. Any tips to pass on to other members?

Once again the violin is out, which is not good as I didn't finish my violin lessons at school. A tune I remember playing/screeching, is "Wooden Soldier brightly painted". No, seriously I need your articles, book reviews, interesting finds, brick walls, thoughts on the journal, ideas, chats with the neighbours. You get the picture.

Until I decided to write an article about my great grandfather, I knew nothing about the family. All I had was a photograph of a couple that I never knew, so I decided that I wanted to know their story. Ok, so it was a lot of research, which to me was fascinating. Go on, give it a try, you might be surprised.

Jenny Ellis

doncasterancestor@doncasterfhs.co.uk

Deadline for the next edition is 8th Apr 2022 at the latest.

Please send in any articles, preferably as a Word Document.

The journal is published in February, May, August and November.

Vol 32 No2 Edition will be published in May 2022.

Disclaimer

The Editor reserves the right to edit and defer items sent for inclusion in this journal. It is the contributor's responsibility to ensure that items submitted do not breach copyright laws. Opinions expressed in this publication are those of their author and not necessarily those of the Society.

Monthly Meetings via Zoom/Hybrid

February 23rd 2022

The Mourning Brooch by Jean Renwick

In 1989, I inherited from my godmother a mourning brooch. This curious gold brooch contains a lattice of brown and grey hair and is inscribed on the back with the name of a deceased woman, her age and date of death. Elizabeth Addy, who died on 3rd January 1849 aged 39, had been the wife of a farmer living near Doncaster. So, how did the brooch arrive into the hands of my godmother who had lived all her life in Lancashire? This talk will uncover the many twists and turns that Jean encountered on her quest to obtain answers.

March 30th 2022

A Grandmother's Legacy: the early days by Jenny Mallin

How Benjamin Hardy in 1798, a seventh generation weaver ancestor of Jenny Mallin from Mirfield in Yorkshire, sails to Madras with his British Army unit, fights for the next 22 years in India and decides to settle his family there for the next five generations. Through new research I have been able to offer more on the three ancestors that have an ancestry going back to the 17th century. They were all in the British Army and came from different backgrounds. This is a more in depth look at the start of the ancestors with a storyline which brings together the reasons for my family being linked to the British Raj.

Roomers and Zoomers Unite

Hybrid Member's Meetings Starting in April 2022

We are pleased to announce the return of face to face Members Meetings.

Starting at our AGM on the 27th of April 2022 you are invited to join us at Castle Park, the home of the Doncaster Knights Rugby Football Club, Armthorpe Road, Doncaster, DN2 5QB in the Lansdowne Suite, 7pm for 7.30pm start.

Following the AGM our guest speakers will be our very own Philip Langford and his colleague Malcolm Barnsdale, with a very interesting presentation of 'Old Photographs of Doncaster'.

This will be our first Hybrid meeting where members can also join us on Zoom, so why not put your coat on and join us at this

excellent venue. There is plenty of safe parking, and we are taking all the necessary steps, with the venue, to ensure the event is safe. The venue also has a lift to the first floor.

Come and join like minded people for an interesting evening. Refreshments will be available at the bar in the room.

If you are interested in attending the venue in person (Roomer), then please contact June Staniforth either by: -
telephone: 07901 523529 or email: events@doncasterfhs.co.uk

For those who wish to attend the meeting on Zoom (Zoomer) registration will open on Friday the 8th March 2022

May 25th 2022

Pursuing Surnames by Julie Goucher

This is a fascinating talk of the discovering of surnames, facts that impact on how we see and hear surnames which in turn affects our genealogical research. We also look at types of surnames and what a One-Name study is, causes that are typical reasons for starting a study, how a study can help you. We also consider the “global” implications of surnames.

June 29th 2022

The Plague Doctor by David Bell

In the 1600s the odds were stacked against most people when it came to surviving a pandemic. There was no 'science', 'flattening the curve' or lowering the 'R number'. It was a case of 'que sera sera' and getting on with life . . . getting on with the mundane, irritating ailments of the day such as water infections, bladder-stones, itching haemorrhoids and acute constipation. So, brace yourself - clench your buttocks - and see how a 17th century doctor coped !

July 27th 2022

Liverpool Cowkeepers — A Family History by David Joy

All ZOOM meetings will start at 7.30pm, although you will be able to use the link that you will be sent via email from 7.15pm

Any queries please contact June Staniforth on 07901 523529

Recent Publications by D&DFHS

Society publications can be purchased by post (see inside back cover or our website for full details) or through GenFair at www.genfair.com

Please allow 21 days for delivery.

Goods can be returned within 14 days of receipt of order only if found to be faulty, or if you have been sent a different item from that requested.

Stainforth Parish

(Published Nov 2021) Ref
1151

St Mary

Baptisms 1885 to 1924

Marriages 1885 to 1924

Wesleyan Baptisms

1845 to 1929

Primitive Methodists Baptisms

1920 to 1934

Stainforth Cemetery

MIs & Register, also Trade Directories

Kilnhurst Parish

First Published September 2019, Revised January 2022

St Thomas Church

Baptisms 1859 to 1926

Marriages 1861 to 1942

Burials 1859 to 1951

Monumental Inscriptions

War Memorial, Universal Directory 1791, Baines' Directory 1822



White's Directory 1838, Kelly's Directory 1893 & 1927

From Rotherham FHS (ref 303)

Kilnhurst

School Log Book and names index 1888 to 1921

School Admissions 1921 to 1928

Swinefleet St Margaret **Revised 2022 Ref: 1099**

Baptisms 1813 to 1915

Marriages 1845 to 1941

Burials 1813 to 1948

Monumental Inscriptions

Baines' Directory 1822

White's Directory 1838

Hearth Tax 1672

Also Includes: **Eastoft St Bartholomew**

Baptisms 1855 to 1940

Marriages 1856 to 1940

Burials 1855 to 1995

White's Directory 1838

Reedness

Directories:

Hearth Tax 1672

White's 1838; Kelly's 1857

Ousefleet

Kelly's Directory 1857

Fockerby

White's Directory 1838

Haldenbury

White's Directory 1838

Doncaster & District Family History Society would like to thank all of the volunteers, past & present, whose hard work has made these publications possible.

We would also like to thank present and former staff of Doncaster Archives for all their assistance.



Book Reviews

The Foundlings, A Genealogical Crime Mystery

by Nathan Dylan Goodwin

This is the ninth book in the Morton Farrier, Forensic Genealogist Story.

Morton faces many challenges, as he tries to find the answers in this very challenging subject. He is very thorough using different genealogy sources, which he explains as he goes along. Then he has a dilemma in how much information to pass on to the foundlings.

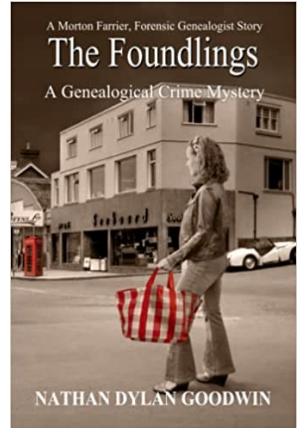
Nathan has produced another brilliant book that combines family, mystery and genealogy.

I always look forward to reading Nathan's books and wasn't disappointed this time. You almost feel that you are part of the story, and the only disappointment is when you come to the end of the book.

Thank you for another brilliant book Nathan.

Jenny Ellis

ISBN-13 : 979-8481041421



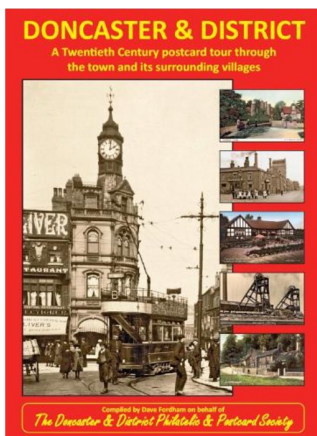
Doncaster & District

A Twentieth Century postcard tour through the town and its surrounding villages

**Compiled by Dave Fordham on behalf of
the Doncaster & District Philatelic & Postcard Society**

When Dave told me that he'd published a book about postcards, I was as giddy as a kid at Christmas. I couldn't wait to have a look. And like the perfect Christmas stocking – or in my case, a pillow-case, Dave's book is full of surprises. And, for the experienced local and family historians who are muttering that they don't need another Doncaster book, I shall do my best to prove you wrong.

I'm not a postcard collector, I'm just an amateur researcher who loves to help other people with their family history and I tell everyone who will listen, that without my daughter's superb collection of local postcards, my hobby would be a lot harder and not so rewarding. Some of us are lucky enough to have some family photos, but I have often helped a person who had none and that's where postcards come to the rescue. I've had to explain that topographical postcards are photographs. I'd never found a postcard of Moorends until I met Dave at the Doncaster History Fair and I bought every copy that he had. That was years ago, but I still show them to other researchers, when I explain how postcards of familiar streets can illustrate a family history.



On page 69, among the Hyde Park cards, is one of my favourite Scrivens' photographs of Carr House Road. I enlarged it to A4 for an old gentleman who had no idea that he had Doncaster roots. Using census records, I placed his great-grandparents somewhere in that view. In the far distance is a chapel and for a researcher, that is a bonus. Parish Church cards are easy to find but if your ancestors were married in a Methodist Church, you have a thankless task looking for a good view. But Dave's tour guide will show you to look down the familiar streets and you might find the side view or a bit of the façade.

The book is full of streets so look for other businesses that might connect you with your past. And don't ignore the local tavern, even if grandpa was a teetotaler, because a century ago, that's where all local meetings took place – everything from the allotments associations, unions and local sports teams to Oddfellows and Masons.

And finally but most importantly, a "Thank-you" to Dave and his colleagues who have been more than generous, not only for sharing some of the "specials" from their collections, but pooling their knowledge for the early chapters of the book, especially the Postcard Publishers' biographies. I can't wait for Volume Two!

Pauline Stainton

ISBN: 9781916109711

From Workhouse to Academy

The Story of the Hexthorpe Schools

By Donald Reasbeck

The book starts off with a short history of early Hexthorpe or “Estorp”, as the settlement was recorded in the Domesday Book. Going through the centuries it was finally described as an idyllic place to live, with acres of meadowland, very few houses and Doncaster Workhouse.

The Workhouse opened in 1840 and although there were very few records available, some information is taken from census records, the Doncaster Gazette and Historical Notices of Doncaster and makes interesting reading.

We continue with the various schools in Hexthorpe and a variety of information was recorded in the school log books. This made fascinating reading and gives so much information; this included names of pupils and teachers, attendance, different diseases that were prevalent at the time and the days that children went to another child's funeral. That must have had a profound effect on the whole school. In 1901 the schools closed for Queen Victoria's funeral.

The various school boards are mentioned and how that affected the schools as we move through two World Wars and up to present times.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book, even though I have no links with Hexthorpe. It was an interesting insight into the education system and life over the years through the eyes of Hexthorpe Schools. I always say that I would like to go back in time and for a brief while I did. I especially liked all the information recorded in the School Rolls.

It is obvious a lot of research has gone into this book, and numerous pictures are included.

Jenny Ellis

Available from: The Dell Cafe, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster DN4 0HY or Donald on 07935 326626 or [**donaldreasbeck@gmail.com**](mailto:donaldreasbeck@gmail.com)

Joe, Tommy and the Mallard

At long last I do believe that Doncaster is waking up to its railway history after 83 years by the recognition of finding the whereabouts of the graves of the driver and fireman of the steam locomotive Mallard and by giving them decent headstones so that future generations may visit and marvel at their achievement of taking the locomotive to 126 miles per hour. Also, by bringing two locomotives on loan from the National Railway Museum to the new museum and library on Waterdale that were built at the Doncaster Plant works, the Atlantic class Number 251 and V2 class Green Arrow.

As a former fireman myself working at Doncaster Carr Loco in the 1950s and early 60s, working my way from cleaner to main line fireman. I can imagine the effort that Tommy Bray had to put in to fire the engine knowing what was expected from him. I will try and explain what I mean. As they were approaching the start of the run Tommy would be building up the fire with as much coal as possible to last during the run because once they neared the 100mph mark Tommy would not be able to place the coal in the right place in the firebox due to the suction of the exhaust at the chimney: it would just suck the coal off the shovel before he had time to place it; he did a good job.

Working at the loco I did come across Tommy from time to time but it wasn't until late in Tommy's career that I did get with him as his fireman, but by then he had come off the main line due to health reasons and was doing loco duties. I was booked on duty one week as a spare fireman, this was in case someone knocked sick or there was a special train popping up. The job was working on the ash pits where the engines after their run went to, to have their fires cleaned or dropped out by a set of men, it was our job then to return them back onto the loco shed ready for their next run. Tommy and I would take it in turns to drive them back. I wish that I could have fired for him on the main line, but it wasn't to be. The last time I saw Tommy he was walking with two sticks, very sad. I never saw his Driver, Joe Duddington, he had retired before I started on the railway.

Thinking of it now, if they had done it today perhaps they might have

been awarded in the Queens Honour list, who knows.

During my time as a fireman I did on a couple of occasions fire Mallard between Doncaster and Peterborough, but she was just one of her class that I set foot on in my career. To me they were Sir Nigel Greasley's ultimate design of steam locomotives. I am glad to have been part of that area, happy memories.

Tony Shooter, Member 2410

Gift Aid Reminder

As we are now getting round to subscription renewal time, can I ask that if you have previously allowed us to claim Gift Aid on your subscriptions and you are no longer a UK tax payer you inform Philip Langford, our membership secretary. Similarly, if you are unsure whether you have allowed us to claim on your behalf, please contact Philip to find out.

ddfhsmemberships@doncasterfhs.co.uk

Thanking you for your cooperation.

Sheila Cave, Treasurer

Project Organiser

Jon Finegold has resigned as the Society's Project Organiser and Philip Langford and Trevor Betterton have agreed to jointly take on the role. We thank Jon for his contribution to the work of the Project Team.

A Family's Memories of Melrose School

From being three and half years old our eldest son spent more time in hospital than at home, as he was a severe asthmatic. Andrew had tried from being four and half years old to attend the local school, but it wasn't very successful, so it was decided that he would attend Melrose School for Disabled Children from September 1968, when he would be five years old.

On his first morning his taxi driver (for the next six years) Percy, explained that he collected other children from Norton, Toll Bar, Arksey and sometimes Woodlands. So, the children didn't get bored he changed the route to school and home almost daily; so, Andrew would be collected and returned home at slightly different times, however if a child wasn't very well he was taken home first.

All the children had to stay for school dinners because they were all taken there by bus or taxi, and very nice dinners they were. The children sat seven to a round table with a dinner lady or teacher. They were served their dinners as many of the children were in wheelchairs. The vegetables and potatoes were placed on the table in serving dishes, so they could help themselves. Some children needed help with this and others wanted their meals cut up. I helped once or twice on the day the school held the school concert to allow a teacher to assist with concert preparations. Children who missed their school dinner because of a hospital or doctor's appointment knew that their dinner would be saved for them and would have the privilege of eating it in the school kitchen – if they were lucky they might even eat their meal with the kitchen staff and dinner ladies and there would always be seconds saved if they wanted them!!

The teachers in the main stayed with the same class for two or more years. I suppose this was because so many of the children spent a great amount of time in hospital or at home (including Andrew). When they returned to school they knew that they would still be with their friends and a teacher known to them. It also helped the teachers to know each child's educational needs. How the teachers coped with children of different ages, different abilities and educational needs, I will never know, but they did. All I know is they were outstanding and went far beyond their duties not only to help but give the children as happy a time in school as they could. Mrs Clarke, the teacher Andrew spent most time with, once told me that although she had taught at Melrose for several years, she had never had a full complement of pupils in class!

After dinner time (or when needed), the children on medication and back slapping for the asthmatics visited the two nurses on duty. Then they were allowed out to play and a great time they must have had. Andrew may come home with a miserable face and when asked why the answer could have been “we’ve been stopped playing football until next week because we have broken too many windows”, or “the wheelie kids have broken too many windows”. On the other hand, his description of his playtime could have been “had a great time having wheelchair races”, those able to run or walk would push those in the wheelchairs. Sometimes someone falls out, but we just help them get back in and carry on with the race!! One time I can remember was one winter when he was extremely breathless. He kept coming home from school with his trousers and anorak covered in mud and when I asked him how this had happened he said “as he couldn’t run he played goalie and all goalies end up on the ground to save the ball!! The nurse had told him not to go outside as it was so cold and damp, but he used to manage to sneak out!

On school outings a hall was always booked, complete with chairs and tables, for the children to eat their sandwiches and for medications to be given and medical treatments carried out.

Every year the school gave a concert for parents and friends. Unfortunately, I don’t remember them all, including one of the early ones Andrew took part in – to his disgust. He apparently was a soldier and I had made him a jacket from an old sheet and died it red. He tells me he played all summer in this ‘jacket’ pretending to be Wyatt Earp, his horse being a low brick wall. The imagination of youngsters. I do however remember Hansel and Gretel and Old McDonald had a Farm. Old McDonald had a Farm was the last concert Andrew took part in before he left. In their concerts the whole school took part one way or another and all the wheelchairs were dressed up accordingly along with of course, their occupants. Not only did all the children take part in the concerts they also helped the teachers, (I think perhaps mostly Mrs Clarke, my apologies to the other teachers if I am wrong), to write the concerts and make the stage and wheelchair props and decorations.

Andrew was to play Old McDonald himself. As usual we helped him to remember his words. He was to sing unaccompanied “I’m leaning on a lamppost” one of George Formby’s songs. He had trouble with part of the tune, so Mrs Clarke let him borrow her tape recorder on which she had sung the school version of the song. He was very proud she had

trusted him with her tape recorder and he did before the concert manage to sing the tune correctly. He of course practiced the song Old Macdonald as he had been chosen to play the farmer.

The day of the concert arrived, unfortunately it was to take place in the afternoon, so I was the only family member present. I had been helping with the school dinner, but I had been told to stay away from the classrooms. Somehow or other I was given a seat in the hall by the centre aisle. We were all waiting and wondering how the concert would start. Suddenly the school hall doors opened, and an unaccompanied voice started to sing the song Old McDonald had a Farm. All heads turned, and I realised with a start that it was my son singing. He led the whole school down the aisle and up onto the stage. It was one of the proudest moments of my life and I still have that same shivery feeling whenever (such as now) I think of it. Later in the concert he again sang unaccompanied I'm Leaning on the Lamp Post at the Corner of the Street. The words had been rewritten by the School, as it was sung as a tribute to Mrs Ormiston, a much-loved Head Mistress, as she was retiring at the end of the term. Later in the day Andrew told me that all the school had been sworn to secrecy as to how they were to begin the concert and he certainly kept his important secret. He flatly refused to take part in any other school concert after he left Melrose.

Andrew left Melrose at the end of the summer term following his eleventh birthday in 1974, to return to the local school for a year before going to the comprehensive school, not such a drastic change we thought, as going straight to a very large comprehensive school. By this time, he had almost stopped going into hospital and having weeks off school. He found when he joined his new school he was ahead in some subjects and slightly behind in others, but long before he went to the Comprehensive School he had caught up on the appropriate subjects.

We believe that the school was pulled down in the 1980s. Andrew used to have a photograph showing him sitting on a motor bike (which he owned in the 1980s) in what had been the Head Teachers office. When I was asking Andrew for his memories of Melrose his face lit up and he told me, not for the first time, that the six years he spent at Melrose, although struggling with ill health, were THE BEST YEARS OF HIS SCHOOL LIFE.

Jean Rounthwaite, Member 3664

Being Adopted (Part 3)

Meeting My Birth Family

My sister Mary was the first person who phoned me. She said that I was the image of our mother and told me about my brothers James and Tony. Mary was married with one daughter; James was married and he had two sons. Tony never married and at the age of sixteen he joined the Merchant Navy. He lived in Spain and Cyprus and worked in London for about seventeen years. We had a long chat about everything and they all couldn't wait to meet me; they were all in a state of shock and absolutely stunned. My brothers both phoned as well and again both said that it was a complete shock to them. Arrangements were made for us all to meet up in Warrington and we were to stay with my brother James and his family.

My sister had told one of her friends about me, but she already knew about me and had known for years, as her mother and my mother were friends. She assumed that my sister knew all about me, incredible.

The day came for me to go to Warrington. I must admit I was quite nervous meeting all the family but excited as well. Tony came through to Doncaster and picked us up and gave me a couple of photos of my mother; this was the first time I had seen what she looked like and also a couple of photos of my grandparents James Gernon and Elizabeth Carey; beautiful photos.

We arrived at my sister's house; it was very overwhelming, I did take my adoption file with me for them to read. It did upset my sister, especially the letter where my mother took me to London. We all got along very well and talked about everything. In the evening we all went out for dinner.

While I was there I did ask my sister if she knew my father's side of the family; which they all did. They used to live round the corner from them and it was a big family.

Since my first meeting with my family I have been back a few times and also keep in contact via social media. Sadly my brother James passed away in 2009. I managed to see him before he passed and my brother Tony passed away in 2015. I am glad I met them and got to know them.

Finding my real family got me interested in finding out more about the

Gernon family and that is how I got interested in family history. I did have contact with Mark **Knight**. He was my 3rd cousin and he contacted Roy **Gernon** who is my 2nd cousin 1x removed and Roy sent me 60 digitalised photos of my ancestors which I was absolutely thrilled about. So now I can put quite a few names to faces, not all, as Roy couldn't remember all the names but they have given me an insight into the family.

Roy **Gernon** emailed me, and he knew my mother quite well as our mothers were close friends. Also he gave me quite a lot of information about our family history.

I have managed to trace my **Gernon** family back to my 3rd great - grandfather Thomas **Gernon** who was born in Ireland. My 2nd great - grandparents James **Gernon** and Ann **Cash** were both born in Dublin, Ireland, they had six children, Henry my great - uncle and James **Gernon** my great - grandfather were born in Dublin, Ireland. The rest of the children were born in Warrington.



These are photos of my mother, my grandfather James Gernon with my mother and my uncle James and Elizabeth Carey with my uncle James. My grandmother died at the age of 40.



Regarding my father on the **Byrne** side of the family, I had nothing to go on, so Frances Pawley said she would take a look. The name **O'Hara** kept coming up and I had no idea about that. I just did not know. All I had was the name, date of birth and the address that the **Byrne** family lived at in Warrington.



Eventually Francis found Elizabeth **Bostock** and spoke to her at great length and Elizabeth confirmed that they were born in Ireland. And then later they came to England and later settled in Warrington. My father had two sons.

A letter was written to one of my uncles and it was a detailed letter. Sadly my father died the same day that the letter was written to my uncle, 23rd February 2005. In the letter my uncle gave the details of my grandparents and the details of my uncle and aunts.

My father was one of eleven children. Six of the children, including my father, were born in Wicklow, Dublin, Ireland, the rest were born in Liverpool and then settled in Warrington.

I did write to my uncle and he thanked me for a lovely letter. He told me all about my father who was heavily involved in the Construction Union and fought regularly for workers' rights with the management and he was blacklisted and found it very hard to find work in Warrington. Also my father was in the Army and was part of the D Day Landings and also spent five years in the Merchant Navy. He had been married three times first to an Irish girl no children. She went back to Ireland. My father went to London and changed his name to James **O'Hara** so he could find work. He married again and then eventually returned to Warrington where they had two sons, Paul & Ian. Paul was tragically killed on his motorbike when he was quite young; his mother is buried with him. My uncle also enclosed a photo of my father.

The **Byrne** family also knew nothing about me. If they had known what was going to happen to me, my grandparents would have stepped in and brought me up. I do now have some lovely photos of my grandparents and my uncle and aunts and of course my father.

To conclude all this I did meet up with my brother and his family a couple of times, but unfortunately it didn't work out too well. I think possibly the timing of all this and the death of my father which was still raw, was the reason.

My Thoughts

It has been quite a journey, but not always a happy one. A lot of adopted people feel a sense of loss, anger and not belonging anywhere like I did, but that anger went away when I found out the reasons why I was put up for adoption. I was told to be careful and go into it with an open mind and expect nothing. You also have to consider that your birth family might not want anything to do with you and I know that is hard but it does happen.

Everyone has the right to know where they come from. I know I should have done this a long time ago when my birth parents were alive, but when I was younger I did not want to know them. It was my mistake and one I have had to live with. I have no regrets, I know who I am, who my family are and where I come from.

Sapper William Haywood 157684: Royal Engineers

Whilst cataloguing papers held by the Doncaster Grammar School Railway Society, I came across a file concerning William Haywood who worked on the Railway as a clerk at Wirksworth Station, Derbyshire. These papers contained his call up during the first World War during 1916.

The file was contained amongst over 400 other letters which had been sent to the Station Master at Wirksworth from various railway departments mainly in Derby between the years 1912 and 1926.

Included in the file was a letter sent by William (4th May 1916) after his call up from the Royal Ordnance Depot, Longmoor Camp, Hampshire regarding his life in the Army, to the staff at Wirksworth Station.

His letter has been typed and is given below: -

For God, For King & For Country

Y.M.C.A.

H.M. FORCES ON ACTIVE SERVICE

PATRON

Y.M.C.A NATIONAL COUNCIL

H.M. THE KING

PATRON

MILITARY CAMP DEPT.

H.R.H. DUKE OF
CONNAUGHT

Reply to.....Company R.O.D.....Bat.....
R.E.....Regt....

Stationed at.....Longmoor Camp.....

May 4th 1916

Dear All of You,

Perhaps you will have wondered how life is with me in this part of the Country and how I am taking it.

Well, I will try and explain, and first of all will say that as regards to myself it is A1. Practically nothing to do and all day to do it in.

We get up at 7.0 am and turn out for physical exercise from 7.15 to 7.40.

Breakfast 7.45 to 8.45.

8.45 to 9.45	squad drill.
9.45 to 10.45	semaphore signalling.
10.45 to 11.45	Recreation or rest.
11.45 to 12.45	Rifle instruction. (To defend ourselves).
12.45 to 1.45	Dinner

In the afternoon we are given an Ambulance Lecture and then we have finished for the Day.

Tea 4.40 Supper 8.00 ...

Wednesday and Saturday afternoons off also every Sunday.

No turns about this job. When I go to bed at night there is no need to bother about which turn I am on, and as regards the day of the month, I have lost that altogether. I did not know it was April 30th on Sunday, so you would have looked nice if you had relied on me to take the tickets off and balance up. My bit of money takes a bit of balancing up now. I can tell you. If you saw the palaver we have to go through when we fetch it you would think it was worth 1s/8d a day to do that only. March up, salute, one pace forward, hold out the left hand (that's the best thing amongst it), one pace backward, salute, right about turn, and then clear off, and very glad I am when the last process comes.

Our food is very good indeed and also very varied, and I say again as regards myself I am in clover

Now let me give you a tip. If there are any of you who should have to go, take my advice and try for the R.O.D. There are a lot of older men here off our Company and these tell me they have been applying since last Nov. It beats either Cavalry or Infantry for the meals we get.

Breakfast one day, bacon and tomatoes, next day 2 boiled eggs, next bacon & eggs

Dinner one day, potatoes, mutton, peas, jam pudding, next day potatoes, beef, haricot beans, tapioca pudding, next, potatoes, mutton, turnip or parsnip and sago pudding.

Tea, Jam, salmon, cheese, spring onions, watercress.

Supper, cheese, butter, jam.

I hope you are all going on well. Please give my kind regards to your wife and family (of course I mean those who can boast of such) and also to Harold's missus and Ben's missus.

Shall be pleased to hear from any of you if you can find time to drop me a few lines.

With best of wishes to you all.

I am still your old friend

Billy

Sapper Haywood

157684

Hut 3

R.O.D.R.E

Longmoor Camp

Hants

Realising the significance of the letter and the opportunity to deliver it to the family of William Haywood - contact was made with Chris Barron, the Project Manager of the re housing of artefacts and documents held by the Grammar School Society - he agreed that the letter belonged to Haywood's family - and the source of the letter is duly recognised as such.

Trevor Betterton (Society Member) also helping with the cataloguing was able to obtain the history of William and his family up to 1971. Details of subsequent birth, marriage and death are given below.

First Name: William Surname: Haywood

Incident Details:

Sickness, Age on Discharge 28.

Information: Particulars Furnished: 19(b) Tavistock Square, London, WC1, 17/08/1918.

Rank: Sapper

Service Number: W.R.206173 (previous Service Number 157684)

Service from Date: 15/04/1916

Service to Date: 02/09/1918

Silver War Badge Number: 443460

War Office Ref. Number: RE/2275

Reason for Discharge:

Paragraph 392 King's Regulations (xvi) No longer physically fit for war service. Army Order 265 paragraph 2b - those who, having served as soldiers and being still of military age, have been discharged under the conditions set forth at (i) and (ii) in (a): (i) after service overseas in the armed Forces of the Crown, on account of disablement or ill-health caused otherwise than by misconduct or (ii) after service at Home, and have been medically examined and finally discharged from liability to further military service under sub-section (5) of section 1 of the Military Service (Review of Exceptions) Act 1917, as permanently and totally disabled, otherwise than from misconduct. (i) 10/08/1917

Overseas: Yes

Service: British Army

Primary Unit: Royal Engineers

Secondary Unit: Railway Troops Depot

Archive Reference: SWB/2997

In 1911 William was living at Steeple Grange, with his parents and younger sister.

William was born 29 Oct 1889 according to 1939 Registration and Edith 16 Mar 1890



He married Edith MOULD at Wirksworth Independent Chapel in 1915. They had one child, Celia, b 6 Dec 1916.

In 1939 the family were living at 11 Cromford Rd Wirksworth. William was a railway clerk, as was Celia. As far as we can tell he died 7 May 1971, in Llandudno; death reg. Jun

quarter, Conway.

Edith died 10 Oct 1977 in Derby.

Following on from Trevor, Margaret subsequently traced William's great - niece via William's brother Hubert, as Williams daughter had no family.

The information relative to William has been passed to the Derbyshire Family History Society at Matlock, for inclusion in their local history section.

On Thursday 23rd September 2021 myself and Peter Fisher (Society Member) and railway colleague also involved with the Grammar School collection, visited Diane Walker at Matlock and passed on to her the letter written by William. She was highly delighted, she was able to show photos of her extended family.



Sources: -

Doncaster Grammar School Railway Society, Trevor Betterton & Margaret Jackson (Society Members).

Keith Crouter, Member 1623

A House Through Time, Woodlands (Hall)



I've often wondered about the Georgian house that can be seen in the distance when travelling along the old Great North Road at Woodlands, so I decided to do some research and found that over 150 years it had many interesting owners.

Adwick Hall (not this one) was built in 1673 by **Richard Washington** (part of George Washington's family tree) owner of the Adwick estate and nearly all the land from the village to Doncaster.

By the latter part of the 18th century the Adwick estate was owned by **Charles Slingsby Duncombe** a younger brother of Baron **Feversham** of Duncombe Park, Helmsley. Charles was living at Adwick Hall and 3 of his children were baptised at Adwick church.

In the 1780s Duncombe sold the estate to **Thomas Bradford**, a Capital Burgess of Doncaster who had married **Elizabeth Otter** in 1769. He built this house which is usually referred to as The Woodlands, Woodlands House or simply Woodlands. Thomas's eldest son, also called Thomas, (1777-1853) had a distinguished career in the army,

including fighting in the Peninsular War (1808-1814) and became Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Bradford KCB.

In about 1791, the house was bought by **George Wroughton** who had made his fortune in India, and married **Diana Denton** in 1787 in Bengal. Ten of their children were baptised at Adwick. Diana's mother Anne Denton, widow of the Rev Thomas Denton of Ashted in Surrey, died at Woodlands in 1779 and is buried in Adwick churchyard.

By 1804 'Woodlands' is in the ownership of **Christopher Waterton** born 1746 at Walton Hall, the uncle of the renowned traveller, naturalist and conservationist **Charles Waterton**. Christopher's son, Robert, was still at 'Woodlands' in 1822.

In the electoral register of 1832, 'Woodlands' is now occupied by **Joseph Edward Greaves Elmsall**. With more detail available in the first census of 1841, Joseph is there aged 45 with his wife Hannah Mary aged 44, son William 16 and daughters Mary 15 (she was married in Adwick church in 1845), Lucy 13 and Georgiana 12. All the children having the middle name of de Cardonnel after their mother. There are also 9 servants.

Joseph is still at 'Woodlands' in 1851, Major & JP, with wife Hannah, Lucy & Georgiana. This time there are 11 servants (but only 4 are from the local area). Georgiana was married at Adwick in 1852 to **Charles Banatyn Findlay** Esq of Easter Hill, Lanarkshire and from 1872 they lived at Boturich Castle overlooking Loch Lomond. Joseph died in 1851 and Hannah in 1854 and both are buried in Adwick churchyard. Joseph's inscription states that he held the rank of Major in the army and served in the campaign of 1815 with the first Dragoon Guards. He was present at the famous action of Quatres Bras and the battle of Waterloo. As he was in France at the same time, it is likely that Joseph knew the above **Sir Thomas Bradford**.

After the house was sold we find that in 1861 **Lucy A de C Elmsall** aged 33 is staying at 15 South Parade (now known as 'Denison House') the residence of our famous railway man **Edmund Denison**. Lucy is probably a friend of his daughter, Augusta, aged 37. In 1867 Lucy married **James Findlay** aged 48 who was the brother of Georgiana's husband **Charles Findlay**. James & Lucy had a son, **Captain Robert de Cardonnel Elmsall** (b 1868) who was killed in action in 1915. James died on the 23rd December 1904, Lucy on the 26th December and both were brought to Adwick for burial.

In about 1859, Joseph's son **William de C Elmsall** sold the house to **Thomas Walker**, banker & magistrate, but he did not move in straight

away as in 1861 he was living at Hall Cross House, South Parade, Doncaster. This building later became Hill House School.

In 1871 **Thomas Walker** is by then living at 'The Woodlands' aged 62 with wife Anna 64 and 9 servants and he is still there in 1881 but is now a widower, Anna having died in 1877. Thomas Walker died in 1891 and both are buried at Adwick.

The house was then bought by **James Braithwaite Garforth Tottie**. He married **Mabel Hall** in 1886 in Westminster and in 1891 they are both at Woodlands. He is aged 30, JP, Captain in the Militia & farmer and Mabel is aged 27. There are 9 servants including a French maid.

In 1901 Frances Tottie 77 year old widow (mother of James), is at Woodlands with her daughter Catherine 37, grandson Richard 12 and 7 servants. In 1911 James is living at the ancestral home of Coniston Hall nr Skipton.

James sold the estate in 1904 to the Trustees of **Herbert Thellusson** of Brodsworth, for the development of the pit and miners housing described as the 'Model Village', and in 1911 'Woodlands' became the Miners Institute.

Philip Langford, Member 1702

The Silver Link



Dear Jenny

The article in the Summer journal about the Treasures in the Tower with the mention the Silver Link railway engine brought to mind my Dad, Eric **Walshaw**, and his involvement in the making of the model of this engine as an apprenticeship piece. He recalled that it was made

to go in the Paris Exhibition in 1936.

When he was researching the family history he started to record his early recollections and wrote about the Silver Link model and wondered what had happened to it. I had no idea where or how to start helping him. Sadly, it was after he died in 2002 that I too wondered what had happened to the model and sometime elapsed before I approached the National Railway Museum in York to find to my surprise that it was housed there and on display.

On 15th July 2015 (which was coincidentally the 13th anniversary of my dad's death) my sister Pamela and her husband accompanied me to visit the NRM and to meet with John Clarke, at that time assistant Curator of collections, who told us where we could find the model which had not always been on display. He said that it had been in the Museum director's office for many years prior to being put on display.



My sister Pamela viewing the Silver Link

As an apprentice Eric moved around to get experience of the work at the Doncaster Plant, some good and some not so good experiences. It was when he was moved to work in the "R" shop that he found he had been assigned to work with skilled tradesmen which involved doing experimental work and when maintenance work was slack they would manufacture gauges, jigs and small tools for the rest of the factory and in consequence they carried a good selection of precision tools. This he said was an important consideration when it came to later war work. One project he was immediately involved in was the building of the scale model (non-working) of the Silver Link Locomotive. His job was to finish off the springs on the tender and the Silver Link name plate. This was a brass casting which was subsequently chromium plated. Other departments were involved, i.e. The Pattern Shop supplying the patterns from which brass and aluminium castings were made in the Brass Foundry, the

Paint Shop giving the finishing touch to the model and the joinery Department providing a wooden base and the frame of a glass container to house the model.

When I last enquired about the model it was “out on tour”.

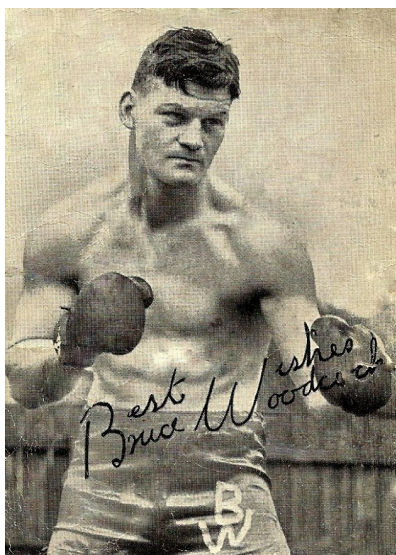
My dad had a lot of memories of his early working years. This memory might provide some interest in the journal.

Dad was working in the “D4” Shop under an operator of a machine designed for dealing with long components that needed machining at both ends. Working alongside him on an identical machine was another apprentice who was a year older than my dad. He was **Bruce**



Dad at work at the Plant

Woodcock, who aged 16 was already the Railway Champion heavyweight boxer. He was to later make his mark at both National and International levels. He became the British Empire Champion when he beat Jack London but his attempt at the World Championship ended in disaster when he fought the American **Joe Baski**. An early punch broke his jaw and he fought on, probably not knowing how serious it was. Bruce retired from fighting and became a publican back in the Doncaster area.



I think the photo of Bruce Woodcock came from the Bygone Conisbrough

collection – but I haven’t made a note of that. The Silver Link model photo was supplied to us by the NRM and it was photographed at Doncaster when it went on display there – I think in 1938.

Pat Horton, Member 1276

Thank You William Dade

William Dade was a 18th Century Church of England clergyman in Yorkshire. Around 1777 when entering information in the Parish registers William Dade included additional information in baptisms e.g. grandparents, even great-grandparents, abodes and professions. The Archbishop of York approved of Dade's additions and requested other clergy adopted this system, though few actually complied owing to the increased workload and gradually the practice died out in about 1812.

I had been struggling with my Granddad's side of the family for a while, they had come from Burn near Brayton and had moved to Bradford in the 1860's and then moved back to Burn in the 1870's. Their surname was Holey, which seemed to be prevalent around the Selby area.

I could not believe my luck when I came across the **Dade Registers** on FMP when I discovered two more generations back of Holeys, and that they resided in Gateforth and Hillam, Monk Fryston. The spelling variations did not help but I managed to match them all up eventually! Namely Holey, Holley, Hauley, Hawley, Halley, Houler and Holah as no one could read or write (except the vicar) it must have been due to the local dialect?

I discovered **Richard Holey** (Gt Granddad x 4) b.1777 in Hillam had married **Elizabeth Tunningley**, in 1799 in St Wilfreds, Brayton, her parents being **John Tunningley** and **Elizabeth Wilkinson** leading to me finding one more generation back of Tunningleys and Wilkinsons. John Tunningley's parents being **Peter Tunningley** and **Elizabeth Longbottom**. Elizabeth's parents being **William Wilkinson** an Inn-keeper of Selby and **Jane Claberon**.

Also, **William Holey** (father of Richard) b. 1739 in Hillam (Gt. Granddad x 5) had married **Ann Jolly** in 1765 in Ledsham daughter of **James Jolley**.

Jean Walker, Member No. 4092

From the postbag / via e-mail

Dear Jenny,

In The Doncaster Ancestor volume 31 No 4 Winter 2021 edition 'From the Post Bag' section, Pauline Stainton gave a couple of book suggestions and asked the question "What on earth is a Steam Punky".

We came across some examples of the Steam Punk Art at their Headquarters in 2013 during our holiday around New Zealand. We visited a town called Oamaru, I have attached a few examples here and will forward a few more. I hope they go part way to an explanation for Pauline.

Wishing you and the team at DDFHS a very Happy Christmas from us down under and thanking all you for all your hard work.

Barbara and Richard Wood, Members 4253



One example of Steam Punk

Dear Jenny ...

Just a note to congratulate you and the contributors to the recent edition. I found it really interesting; thanks and well done!

Kind regards.

David Brown, Member 4357

(Left Donny 55 years ago; finally settled down in Hertfordshire!)

Pillared House, South Parade & Frank Lockwood



Facing down Thorne Road and adjoining the Conservative Club is the Pillar House, dating from early 18th century, it was originally designed as three separate houses for the gentry of that period. Each house boasted a fine bow window on the second floor, and had a pleasant original design, with

its raised ground floor upon which stands an elegant colonnade of six slender columns supporting the upper floor.

Notable claim to fame was in September, 1806, when Prince Regent (later George IV) and his brother, Duke of Clarence (afterwards William IV) were accommodated there whilst receiving the Freedom of Doncaster.

Another notable with connection to the building was Frank Lockwood, who was born on 15th July 1846 in one of the houses. His great grandfather and grandfather were both mayors of Doncaster and Frank's father Charles Day Lockwood, was in the family business of quarry owner at Levitt Hagg. His grandfather and one of his sons, uncle to Frank, officiated in turn for many years as judges at Doncaster Race meetings.



Frank inherited his skill as an artist from his father. In his boyhood, we are told by his sister, "Frank was continually drawing.....battles, fights and stirring scenes, talking all the time rapidly as he drew" After home lessons from a Quaker governess, he was sent to a school kept by a clergyman who took only a few pupils – possibly Doctor Sharpe, Vicar of Doncaster. He later went to Mr Lane's well known school at Edenfield, Thorne Road, the head of which according to his sister "was much attached to him and always foretold

that one day he would make his powers felt”.

In 1863, Lockwood left Doncaster for Manchester, where his parents had gone to live three years before, and had two years in the Grammar school of that city before going on to Caius College, Cambridge. Frank was called to the bar in 1872, and he secured with his first brief a place in legal history by making the last joke ever made in the High Court of Chancery. As an advocate on the old midland circuit he made occasional appearances at Doncaster Quarter Sessions.

In those early days Lockwood laid the foundations of his fame as a law cartoonist with personal sketches. He was constantly making on briefs or in note books, or on scraps of paper or on the desk before him – sketches which “the very judge himself had been known to insist upon being handed up to him as if they were documents in the case”.

Originals of some of his sketches were kept in the Beechfield Museum gallery.

In 1879, Lockwood was given a “dock brief” at Leeds Assizes for the defence of the murderer Charles Peace. In the same year he entered politics as the Liberal candidate for King’s Lynn, and in 1885 he became M.P. for York. He had been appointed Recorder for Sheffield in the previous year. In Parliament he became a “figure” not by virtue of his oratory, for he spoke seldom, but “by the delightfully simple process of being himself”.

When on his merits as a lawyer, Lord Roseberry selected Lockwood as the Solicitor General in 1894, the appointment was very popular. He was also knighted in 1894. Following the election of 1895, in which Frank kept his seat for York although his party lost its majority he had the unique experience of remaining for some weeks as Solicitor General under a government he was in opposition to – this was owing to the difficulty raised by his successor over a question of official salary and fees.

Within two years Frank had been seized by the mysterious wasting illness and a physique that seemed to promise hale and vigorous old age, and before the end of Diamond Jubilee year he was dead. There is a full length portrait of Frank in Doncaster Mansion House.

During the 1920’s, Pillar House was used as a nursing home, and later the three houses were converted into four business premises. Currently the building is to be converted into flats.

Sources: Doncaster Gazette Special Reprint of 150 years of History, 15th October 1936.

Changing Face of Doncaster – Reproduction of series of articles from The Doncaster Free Press by Colin Walters.

Keith Crouter Member 1623

D&DFHS Annual General Meeting 2022

The 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Doncaster and District Family History Society will take place at Castle Park, Armthorpe Road, Doncaster on **Wednesday, 27 April 2022 at 7.30 pm**. Members will also have the option to attend via Zoom as it will be a hybrid meeting.

Agenda

The main business of the meeting will be to receive the Annual Reports and Accounts for 2021 and to elect the members of the Society's Executive Committee:

Nominations

Nominations for any of the Executive Committee posts should be sent to the Secretary by **Wednesday 13 April 2022**.

A Nomination Form is available in the members' area of the Society's website or from the Secretary.

Questions

Members wishing to raise questions at the AGM should submit them, either by post or email, to the Secretary by **Wednesday, 30 March 2022**.

See the inside front cover for the Secretary's contact details.

Registration

Registration for the AGM Meeting, for members attending via Zoom, will open on the Society's website on **Friday 8 April 2022**

Reprint of a Notice First Published in the Winter 2021 Edition of the Doncaster Ancestor

The Executive Committee, in accordance with the Society's Constitution clause 8 Subscriptions, is giving notice of 'Changes to Classes of Members and Levels of Subscriptions', effective 1 April 2022, including the rationale for making the changes.

Class	1 April 2022
Paper Journal	
UK Individual	10.00
UK Family (in same house)	12.00
UK Institution	12.00
Overseas (Individual or Institution) Air Mail	15.00
e-Journal	
UK & Overseas - Individual or Institution	5.00

Rationale

- To simplify the subscription structure and improve the administration of the collection process.
- To recognise the lower costs incurred by the Society in the publication and distribution of the e-Journal version of the Doncaster Ancestor.

To summarise:

- There are to be no increases in membership subscriptions.
- We will no longer offer an Overseas Surface Mail class. The preferred option of our Overseas members is to receive the journal via Air mail.
- A new unified UK & Overseas e-Journal class of membership at £5.00.

New Members

Listed below are the names, and membership numbers of members who have recently joined the Society. We extend a warm welcome to them and wish them good luck in their personal research.

4476	Ms	M	Shearing
4477	Mrs	E	Feasey
4478	Dr	B	Beeley
4479	Mrs	V	Rodwell
4480	Mr	T	Armstrong
4481	Mrs	K S	Bate
4482	Ms	J	Bailey
4483	Mrs	S	Jones

Members' Interests

Detailed are new or revised "Members' Interests". At the end of each line is the membership number of the person researching that name. The names and contact details for each member are available from:

Members' Interest Enquiries (see inside back page).

Name	Code	Place	Dates	Member
Greaves	WRY	Kirk Bramwith	1700-1850	4476
Greaves	WRY	Hatfield	1700-1850	4476
Greaves	WRY	Snaith	1700-1850	4476
Scholey	WRY	Marr	pre 1700-1880	4476
Waite	WRY	Fishlake	1700-1760	4476
Brewster	WRY	Doncaster	1790-1950	4477
Claxton	WRY	Doncaster	1860-1950	4477
Franklin	WRY	Doncaster	1870-1900	4477

Dates For Your Diary 2022

RootsTech 2022 online

03 March 2022 @ 10:00 am - 05 March 2022 5:00 pm

Sheffield & District Family History Fair

Crowne Plaza Royal Victoria Sheffield Hotel

Victoria Station Road, Sheffield

10.00am - 4.00pm

The Family History Show

York Racecourse

Saturday 25th June 10.00 - 4.30

D&DFHS Subscription Rates 01 Apr 2022 - 31 Mar 2023

Please make all cheques/postal orders
etc. payable to:

**Doncaster & District Family
History Society**

Send to Membership Secretary
- see back page
or **www.genfair.com**

Individuals	10.00
Family in same house	12.00
Institutions UK	12.00
Overseas	
Paper Journal via Air Mail	15.00
e-Journal UK & Overseas	
Individuals or Institutions	5.00

**New Members who join January - March can receive
up to 3 months membership free**

DDFHS Research Enquiry Service

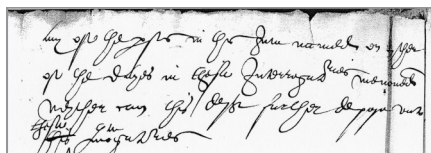
Due to the closure of the **HELP DESK** & to celebrate the Society's 40th Anniversary we are offering a limited free email Research Service.

The Research Service is primarily a "look-up" service and is limited to one surname search of the Society's 1.5 million transcriptions database. Any additional research will be at the discretion of the Society's Research Enquiries Coordinator, Trevor Betterton. **researchenquiries@doncasterfhs.co.uk**

If you are not a member we will endeavour to assist, but ask you to consider joining the Society as an appreciation of the time spent by our volunteers.

Transcription Service

**That will you have ordered or downloaded
Can you read it? We can!**



The Old Documents Reading Group are offering a Transcription Service of wills, inventories, deeds, indentures and other old documents, including ones that you have part-transcribed but just cannot make out that last bit.

Competitive charges. Send a photocopy of your documents (NOT the original) for an estimate of the cost to:

Philip Langford, 45 The Avenue, Bessacarr, Doncaster, DN4 5JZ
Tel: 01302 539194 or email readolddocs@aol.com

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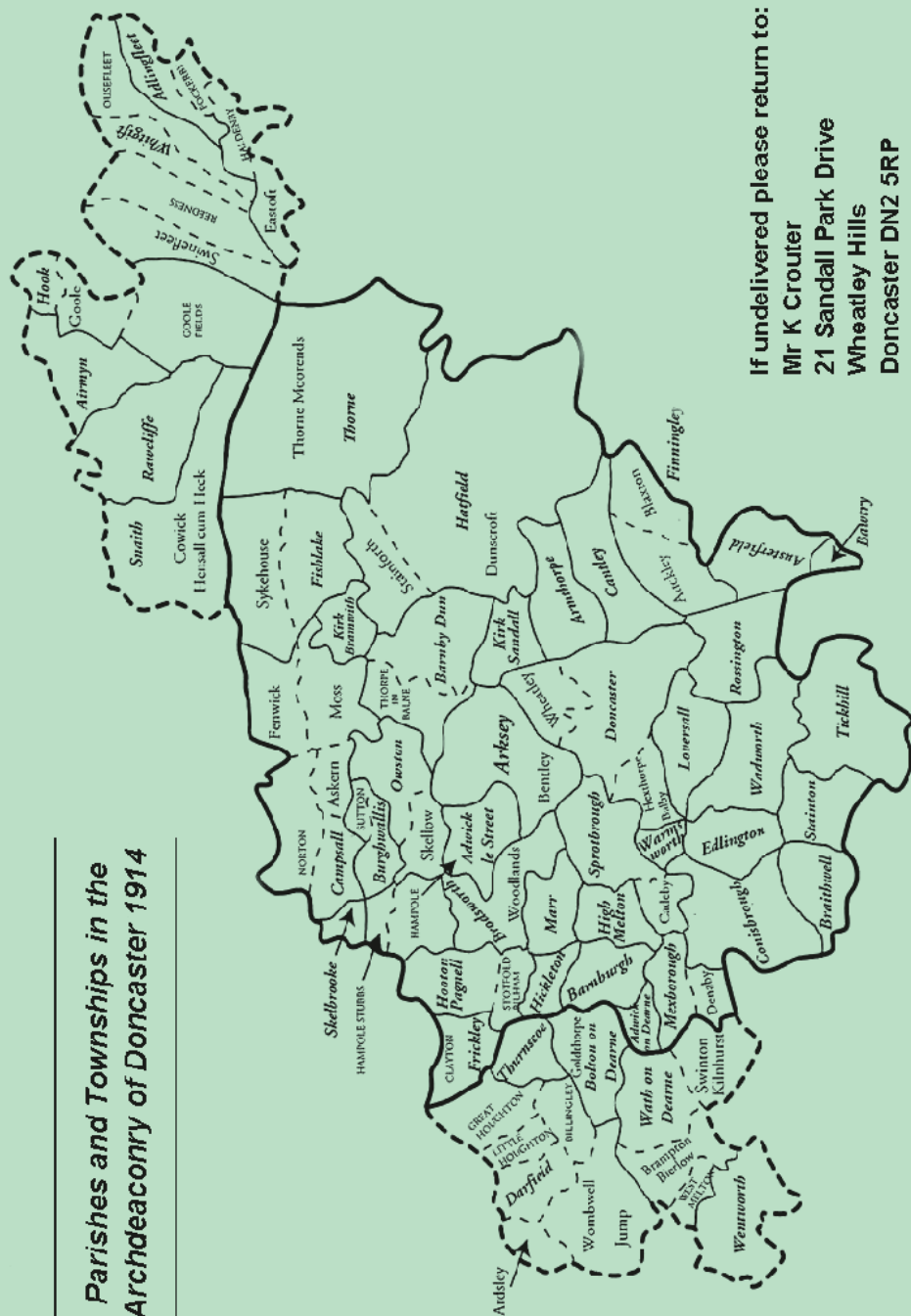
Members' Interests Enquiries/

Website Co-ordinator

George W Hiley membersinterests@doncasterfhs.co.uk/
webadmin@doncasterfhs.co.uk

***Please do not telephone Committee Members
and Volunteers after 9.00pm***

Doncaster Ancestor – Spring 2022



If undelivered please return to:
Mr K Crouter
21 Sandall Park Drive
Wheatley Hills
Doncaster DN2 5RP