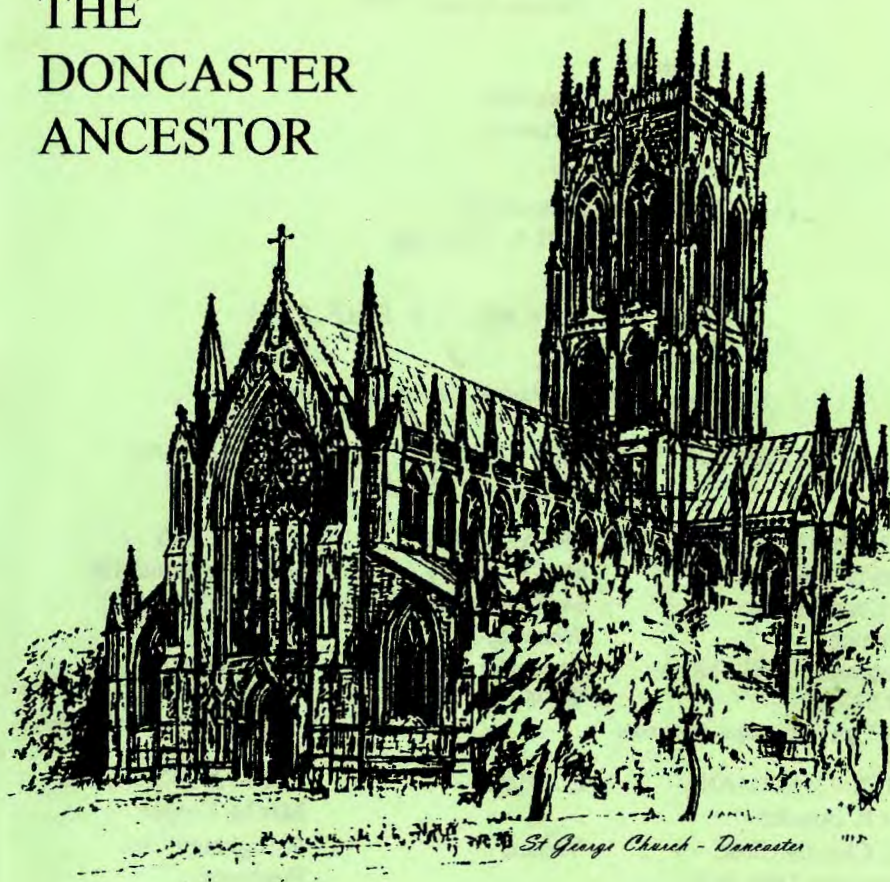


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THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR



The Journal of the
Doncaster and District
Family History Society



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No 6

SUMMER

2000

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The Doncaster Ancestor Journal of the Doncaster & District Family History Society

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Editor	Vacant
Editorial Team	Mr P. Bowden Mrs G. Jennings Mrs S. Vessey

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Welcome to the summer edition of The Doncaster Ancestor.

After many years of dedicated work, Terry Bowman has now found it necessary, for personal reasons, to retire as editor of our journal. We wish him well for the future and extend our grateful thanks for his dedication and hard work on behalf of the Society. In the meantime, the rest of the editorial team will do their best to continue to produce the 'Ancestor' until a new editor is appointed.

During 1999 it became increasingly obvious that we would need to move from the existing venue for our monthly meeting. The situation came to a climax when over 140 members attended the March meeting. With the fire regulations stating a maximum of 100 persons, we had little choice but to move - and *fast*. On April 20th we moved to the new room at the Danum Hotel and all went well, except for a disco which was being held in the basement. We have been promised by the duty manager that 'it will be looked into', so we are keeping our fingers crossed.

The Glenville Research Room is going well, with one member travelling from the Isle of Mull. (I hope he found something of benefit). The number of fiche readers have been increased from three to six, and on some days all are in use. Please note that at present G.R.O. indexes from 1837 - 1900 are available in the research room. An additional 50 years are being ordered (we are at present waiting for a price list and order form). *Hopefully* we will receive them sometime in August..

(See page 204 for more details of opening times etc.).

To make full use of the research room, Maureen Hembrecht has kindly volunteered to tutor a weekly course on 'Reading Old Documents'. This will involve using photocopies of documents from the late 19th back to the 16th centuries, learning how to read them, how to understand them, how to use them in family history, and where they can be located. Particular focus will be on Wills, Inventories, Deeds, and Manorial Papers.

There will be a charge of £1.50 per session, which will include all photocopies, coffee, and rent of room and will be held every Monday from 7.00 pm. to 9.00 pm. As numbers are limited please contact the Secretary: -

Mrs June Staniforth Tel: 01302 537922 or email: TonyJuneS@aol.com

Gwen Jennings



DONCASTER & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

PROGRAMME

2000

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
June 15th	Records of the Mormon Church	Janet Dunne, B.A.
July 20th	A Cock and Bull Story	Lorna Pearcey
Sept 21st	Mobility and Migration	Janet Guyler
Oct 19th	Wills before 1858	E. M. Wilmot
Nov 16th	Ephemera	Carol Hill
Dec	Social Evening	

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month
(no meeting in August)
at the Danum Hotel, High Street, Doncaster

commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Data Protection Act 1984

- Clubs and Societies are exempt from the requirement to register under the above Act as long as the only information which they hold about living persons concerns their own members and these have no objections to their details being held on machine processable media.
- The Society holds data about its members on computer.
- The indexing projects run by the Society contain no information about living persons.

Any member objecting to their details being held as above should contact the membership secretary and the computerised details will be deleted.

Web Page:- <http://www.doncasterfhs.freemove.co.uk>

THORNE VOLUNTEER INFANTRY 1803 TO 1811

Our interest in the Militia came about through our research into our family history. After searching the West Yorkshire Militia records without success we eventually found the pay lists of The Thorne Volunteer Infantry at the P.R.O. Reference W.O. 12 4620.

There was in 1757 a Militia Act which re-established the Militia regiments in England and Wales as there was felt to be a threat from the French and American revolutionary wars. Recruitment was by means of a ballot of adult males (aged 18 to 50, 1758 to 1762, and 18 to 45, 1762 to 1831). Each parish was required to draw up a list, The Militia Ballot List, and from this list a number of drawn men were selected. Drawn men could arrange a substitute but in 1796 this provision was withdrawn. The Volunteers were first raised as an auxiliary force in 1794 and service was entirely voluntary. The Volunteer Movement was dissolved in 1813.

Thorne Volunteer Infantry existed between 1803 and 1811. There is no indication as to when it was exactly formed but it was formally disbanded on August 24th 1812. The Volunteers consisted of two companies with a varying number of men each year. The highest number, excluding officers, being 110 in 1803 and 1809 and the lowest number 82 in 1811. All told 274 men served at one time during the life of the Volunteers, 26 of these serving the full 9 years. Looking at the names on the pay lists it would appear that men from other villages as well as Thorne were members of the Volunteers. The pay lists indicate that the Volunteers exercised for a varying number of days, the least being 14 days in 1803 and the most being 26 in 1804 and 1808.

In 1803 all the men received 1s per day pay but after this the drill sergeants were paid 1s.6d a day for a varying number of days. In 1804 it was for 234 days, in 1805 not recorded, in 1806 for 183 days and then from 1807 to 1811 for 365 days they received 5d a day. Sergeants, corporals, drummers and fifers and privates received 1s a day for the number of days they exercised. Besides this when they went on camp to Bawtry in 1804 and Doncaster in 1805 they were allowed extra money. There is no indication of what, if any, pay the officers earned.

On the 1803 pay list the Officer Commandant received £120 for uniforms for three years for non - commissioned officers and private men, one pound per man. The total amount of pay for 1803 was £77 0s 0d.

There is a note on the 1803 pay list which reads as follows "*The Thorne Volunteers establishment consists of one hundred and twenty men including sergeants, corporals, drummers and fifers whereof one hundred and ten have exercised the full fourteen days herein particular. The number of sergeants and corporals are five each, drummers two and fifers two*" There are however six sergeants listed, four corporals, two drummers and ninety-eight men which makes up to one hundred and ten.

The pay list returns run from 25th December one year to 24th. December the next year inclusive and the returns were sent to the War Office during the early part of the following year.

In 1804 the Volunteers were inspected at four different times. Firstly on April 17th then twice in September and then on October 27th. For this the sergeants were paid, per inspection, 1s 6d each, corporals 1s.2d each and drummers and privates 1s each. In April there were 5 sergeants present, 3 corporals, 4 drummers and fifers and 74 privates. In September the numbers were 3, 5, 3 and 86 and 3, 3, 4 and 76 and in October 3, 4, 4 and 81. The total paid out this year was: pay £140 2s, inspection £18 10s 6d.

Also in 1804 on the orders of Major General Morrison, dated Beverley May 27th, the Volunteers marched to Bawtry for an exercise. It took them 2 days marching there and 2 days back and they were on permanent duty at Bawtry for 17 days. This was from May 29th to June 18th inclusive. The allowance to Captains of 2 Companies for Repair of Arms was £2 10s 0d, for carriage of baggage £2 16s 0d and allowance in lieu of warrant men Guard Room £2 2s 0d. The actual amount paid out to the men or the innkeepers they were billeted on is illegible but does state the total rate per mile was 2s. The number of miles marched was 28. Taking part were 5 sergeants, 2 drummers and 96 privates.

In 1805 the Volunteers went to Doncaster on exercise. They spent three days on a march and 18 days in stationary quarters from May 8th to May 28th inclusive. One hundred non-commissioned officers, drummers and fifers and privates were present and they marched 22 miles. The carriage of baggage on the march cost £3 6s. The men were billeted on innkeepers for which they received extra pay. It is not clear whether the men received the money or the innkeepers. The sergeant major who was also the paymaster clerk received £3 16s 1½d for his 21 days service, the sergeants £1 12s. 9¾d, the corporals £1 11s 11¼d, the drummers and fifers £1 11s 11¼d and the privates £1 1s 0d. All the men received 18s in lieu of beer. This time the officers also got paid. The captains John Ellison and George Parker received £9 17s 9d each, the lieutenants Michael Pilley and Thomas Travis £5 19s 0d each, the surgeon Thomas Maples £9 17s 9d and the paymaster Michael Pilley £3 4s 9d

The Volunteers were again inspected four times in 1805. This time on April 13th, June 29th and twice in September. Numbers present this year were in April 5 sergeants, 4 corporals, 4 drummers and fifers and 73 privates. In June 5,4,4 and 73 respectively and in September 4, 4, 4 and 63 and 5, 4, 4 and 49. Pay in 1805 amounted to £143 9s 0d., inspection £15 15s 6d and stamps 5s 6d.

In 1806 we have a note on the pay lists "*amount charged for pay list £120 10s., for clothing £120, stamps 10s., inspection return £2 14s. 8d, pay of drill sergeants for 2 companies for first half year £27 6s*" There is no record of the inspection.

The 1807 pay lists only indicate £129 2s for pay but they do include a note for July 27th "*To Draft for stamps £4 7s 6d*" and for December 24th, "*Balance*

yet due for which sum I have to draw £143 5s” also added is an N.B. “Though I have debted myself for £4 7s 6d I have taken no Credit for the Inspection understanding it will not be allowed”. There is also itemised 5s 6d for stamps and 2 Drill Sergeants 365 days £18 5s. As usual signed by John Ellison, Commanding Officer residing at Doncaster.

The 1808 pay lists only indicate that £136 17s was claimed as pay.

In 1809 we have £120 8s pay. We also have a note “for 108 Men, 112 Establishment 1st. April 1808”. The total amount of Pay and Allowances was £138 13s which return was sent from the Company February 2nd 1810.

George Travis signs the 1810 returns as senior Commissioned Officer. He notes that “Captain John Ellison Commandant of the Thorne Volunteer Infantry lately residing at Thorne being dead”. He claimed £114 11s 0d pay and £18 5s contingent allowance in lieu of pay for the drill sergeants for 365 days. The return was sent to the War Office on 18th March 1811. George Travis was not formally appointed Captain Commandant until September 5th 1811.

The 1811 return is the last one available. It shows £92 1s was claimed as pay but it also shows Thorne Volunteers 1811, Drawn, Remitted – Nil. There is also a note “2 Corps August Reglts. nos only 82 Est. 111”.

The last record is a letter dated August 24th 1812 from the War Office numbered 28689.

Gentlemen,

In pursuance of a Communication from the Secutary (sic) of State for the Home Department, I am directed by The Secutary (sic) at War to acquaint you that the Services of the Thorne Volunteer Infantry have been discontinued – accounts for 1811 received.

I am Gentlemen

With accounts 1811
The superintendents
of Military Accomps.

Your most obedient
Servant

R. Brown

P.M. Thorley, J.M. Thorley and A.D.M. Thorley

N.B. There is a list of some 270 members of Thorne Volunteer Infantry. 1803 - 1811. Any member who would like a typed copy of this list please write to:
Mrs J. Staniforth

- *Grateful thanks to the staff of the P.R.O.*

WERE THEY MARRIED?

If you have managed to trace your ancestor back to 1660 or thereabouts you then could run into difficulties especially when trying to find a marriage.

A law passed in April 1653 stated that anyone wishing to marry should give their names, addresses, parents, guardians, etc. to the Registrar in the place where they lived. He should publish the banns for three weeks in the church after morning service, or in the Market place *'three weeks successively between the hours of 11 and 2 on a market day, if the parties desire it'*. The Registrar then gave them a certificate enabling them to marry. The couple had to come before a Justice of the Peace, or, occasionally, some other civic dignitary. He married them according to a formula contained in the Law, and *'no other marriage whatsoever within the Commonwealth of England after the 29th of September 1653 shall be held or accounted a marriage according to the law of England'* Such was the wedding, on June 11th 1654, when John Smith and Margaret Inford

" - both of the parish of Arksey, were this day married together at Doncaster by Thomas Lee, a justice of the peace for the said borough: the banns having been first published for three several market-days in the Market-place at Doncaster, according to the Act of Parliament, and no exception made"

In 1656 the law was amended, and the clause, stating that all other marriages were void, was wisely left out. From that time Civil marriages declined and couples returned to the church

But one **can** find marriages in the Parish Registers for the period 1653-6. Sometimes clergymen, probably having read the banns in church, recorded the marriage in his register, though it was not performed by him. On other occasions, the couple probably preferred to have had a marriage, which may not be legal in law, but was valid in the sight of God.

But their descendants need have no fears regarding the legitimacy of any of their offspring - after Charles II became King in 1660, Parliament declared all these marriages to be legal after all !!

Maureen Hambrecht

SNIPPET

In 1745 an attempt was made by the 'Jacobites' to depose the Hanoverians and restore the Catholic Stuarts to the Throne. The activities of the Rebels, as they moved south into England, gave rise to this note in the Parish Register for Mickleover, Derby, at the end of the entries for 1745: -

"In the year '45 the Rebels arrived at Derby and many poor people lost their shoes."

Margaret Pidcock-Burns

A SUNDAY IN SNAITH

Henry Clarkson, a young surveyor, visited Snaith in 1821 when he was working on the Badsworth Hunt Map. This is part of his own account of that visit -

“Lord Downe, of Cowick, near Snaith, was considered the most polished and polite man in the district, and the deference shown him was sometimes carried to a ludicrous point. I well recollect, early in the year 1821, paying a visit to Snaith for the first time on a Sunday, and going to the old Parish Church. We had got pretty well on in the service when the Vicar - old Dr. Bracken - made a solemn pause; this continued, and on turning round I saw Lord and Lady Downe, followed by a footman carrying an array of prayer books and other comforts, walking with slow and stately pace up the aisle. As they approached the pulpit, the Vicar made a profound bow, which was most politely returned by Lord Downe, who then entered the family pew, and reverently placed his face, as was then the custom, within his hat; then having comfortably settled themselves, and calmly found the places in their books, the service - which had been completely suspended, was allowed to proceed. This seemed to excite no surprise in the congregation, and I was told afterwards that it was a thing of ordinary occurrence. Before the sermon, I recollect the banns of an intending happy couple were published by the Doctor, when an angry voice from the congregation said, “I forbid that!” Dr. Bracken, nothing discomposed, said politely, “Very well, my good man; Meet me in the vestry after Service.” I never heard whether the course of true love ran smooth again or not.”

I wish I had been at that service - perhaps some of your ancestors were!!

[Taken from “Memories of Merry Wakefield” - 1889]

Eileen Piper mem.042



A LOTTERY WINNER, 1846 STYLE

Dyson Wilson, who was born about 1840, probably at Stainforth, is just the kind of ancestor we would all like to have.

(In the following, younger members and overseas members will need to keep in mind that until 1971 a pound contained 20 shillings and a shilling contained 12 pence).

In 1846 three cottages at Hatfield Woodhouse, near Doncaster, came up for sale in a raffle. They were judged to be worth £90, so 90 subscribers at £1 each were sought. This was beyond the means of a group of people at nearby Stainforth, who clubbed together at a shilling each to buy a ticket. There were only 19 takers, however; so the twentieth share was split again and sold as penny shares to twelve local boys. The draw was held and the winning ticket was the one which had been split, so a further draw was made between its twenty

shareholders. Almost inevitably, it was the ticket held by the twelve boys which was drawn, making a third draw necessary. The final winner was 6 year old Dyson Wilson, who for a penny had become the owner of three properties worth 21,600 times that.

The story is recounted in "Annals of Yorkshire" by John Mayhall, published in about 1860, a history of Yorkshire in 720 pages, written mainly from a Leeds perspective, and full of anecdotes of this kind. *Ian Cameron*



FIRST MAKE YOUR INK

Have you ever been frustrated over faded parish register entries? I was when struggling to decipher the poor writing on the film copy of the parish register for St. Helen's, Darley, Derbyshire. However the next page contained a surprise, for there in beautiful clear writing was a recipe for making ink. In 1778 the incumbent of the parish decided that, due to "bad ink" being used, the parish registers were in a poor state. He had them transcribed, by 'volunteers' (!), during the period of Lent, using ink made to his own recipe.

'A Receipt for making the Ink with which the following Register is written. Boil six ounces of dark Galls beaten into fine powder in three quarts of soft water till one quart is consumed. Strain and put the remaining two quarts into a stone bottle that will hold three. While it is warm put into it two ounces of Copperas well powdered. Stop it close and shake it well two or three times a day during a fortnight. Put into it six ounces of Gum arabick, continuing to shake it a week or a fortnight longer, or the Gum and the Copperas will clog together and not dissolve. Ink should always be well stop'd. They who are very nice, when the Galls are boiled pour the Liquor into a jug and let it stand till the next day, and then pour off two quarts clear, warming it when it is poured into the Stone Bottle and the Copperas added to it.'

It was very good ink, for the writing is still fresh, and I was able to check my notes made from the original entries against the transcript.

[Note of warning: In this case the entries I checked in the transcript matched those in the original register. However in a previous case, where a nineteenth century copy had been made, by the incumbent, of an earlier parish register into a new register, both I and the Archives archivist agreed that a name in the copy register was not the same as that in the original register. If I had worked just on the later (easier to read) version I would have missed a vital link in the family tree. Also the name in the copy register was the one perpetuated in Phillimore's transcription. Just one further example of why we must always work back to the original documents wherever possible.]

Margaret L. Pidcock-Burns MA

HE'S MOVED AGAIN!

It's happened to us all. We go in search of an ancestor and he's not where we expect him to be. He's moved again. But why should we be surprised? Before we curse our ancestor perhaps we should examine our own expectations and recognise that, in the past, communities were not as static as we have come to believe.

History has long recorded some migratory people: - crusaders, pilgrims, traders moving about around the markets and fairs etc. Throughout the middle ages there was a slow decline of the manorial system and many civil disorders, quarrels with the Irish, squabbles with the Scots, Wars of the Roses, and how many times did we fight the French ...or the Spanish ... or the Dutch etc. Armies draft men into their ranks and wars dislodge people from their homes.

The Poor Laws were established in the early 1600s and with subsequent amendments, allow for the removal of 'strangers' to their home parish. With rules to determine who was a 'stranger' and the administrative practises to be followed, this was a comprehensive system and was applied nation-wide. Surely such a system would not be created unless there were a sufficient number of people moving around the countryside to justify it. Remember, the Civil War was fought in the mid 1600s.

A civil disturbance apart, Britain was an agricultural nation and agricultural work is seasonal. Short term contracts to cover lambing or harvest season was common and then the labourers would have to move on and seek other work. Some occupations, by their nature, were migratory, such as canal and waterway workers and the well-documented Scottish Herring Fleet.

People migrate for many reasons. Whilst employment is the greatest cause, factors such as dying trades, family disputes, evasion of the law and bastardy proceeding all contribute to migration, while some just wanted a bit of adventure as witnessed by the California Gold Rush for example.

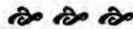
Migration can be for personal reasons but it can also be driven by national events. In the 1700s improved crops and animal husbandry transformed farming and increased the demand for land enclosure, which reached a peak in the second half of the century with over 3000 acts of parliament for enclosure of land. Some farmers benefited from this, but for others the ties to their land and village were broken. All this at a time when the population soared from just over 5 million in 1700, it doubled in the next 100 years and then doubled again in the next 50 years, reaching 38 million by 1900. So with people starting to leave the land, where did they all go?

The new factories of the Industrial Revolution, together with the demand for coal and iron drew in the extra labour supply, but these industries were not located in the fertile agricultural belt across middle England but elsewhere. Liverpool/Lancashire - the Lancashire cotton towns, Notts/Derby/Yorks - coalfields and the adjacent steel producing towns together with those of South Wales. The railway boom from 1840 on, created a vast railway network and by 1900 travel was quicker and easier than ever before with most of England within reach from London within a few hours rather than the two or three days.

Throughout these two centuries the British Empire had grown dramatically and it too had its attractions for people wanting to see something different. A large navy and army was needed to protect British interests. Companies developed overseas trade and civil administration - all attracted the British to leave this country and move overseas often for extended careers, but eventually to return home.

The 200 years between 1700 and 1900 changed Britain from an agricultural and rural economy into an urbanised and industrial one and our ancestors had to adapt their lives in many ways. In our search for them, we also need to be flexible in our ideas and expectations.

Janet Guyler Member 1302



THE MILLENNIUM DEBATE

‘When in Rome do as the Romans do’ is good advice, but this Millennium issue is ‘all Greek to me’.

The final chapter . . .

Three people are responsible for the calendar, as we know it today. The Romans introduced the Julian calendar in 44 BC, and in what was to become the year 532 AD Dionysius Exiguus (the Greek) developed the BC/AD system. This method was ratified by the Ven Bede in the 8th century. Pope Gregory XIII (Gregorian calendar) amended the calendar with astronomy knowledge not known earlier. The result is our current calendar with leap years and centuries divided by eight (not four) to keep us in time with the universe.

However I feel Dionysius should have the last word on the subject because his ‘method’ of BC/AD dating has caused all the millennium confusion.

When asked for his views, he replied - - - - “It seemed a good idea at the time”.

Terry Bowman

WESTLAND

The following is an extract from a diary which my Gt. Grandfather, John Hillary, kept when he emigrated with his family to New Zealand in 1879. The family came from Tow Law, Co. Durham, but the diary gives such an insight as to the conditions on board a sailing ship full of emigrants I am sure that those of you who have ancestors who emigrated will find it of interest.

Thursday 27th November. `First day on board. All excitement making ready to start. Anchor weighed, during the singing by the sailors of "Goodbye, Farewell etc." and at 12 noon the fine ship "Westland" towed by the steam tug "Secret" started her long and perilous voyage to the Antipodes. Passed by the Eddystone Lighthouse and very soon the breeze catching our ship the tug was no longer needed. We one after another began to feel "Oh! my," and hurried to our bunks below all drunk without drink. When I got down the hatchway I said "Kind friends, I'm feeling very queer", and was soon to my bed. Had a rough night and were most of us very sick. The constables came round with slop pails and another utensil which I shall not more minutely describe than by saying it resembled in shape "grandfather's hat". These utensils were soon in great demand. Cries and groans proceeded from all sides, not only from the children but from strong men and women as though caught by a terrible panic or epidemic; others lay still as pallid as death.`

Friday 28th November. (First day's sail of 24 hrs.) 296 miles. `We all spent this day in bed being very sick and ill, Mamma and Edith especially so. We are now in the Bay of Biscay and are experiencing heavy weather. Many who had long neglected now lifted their voices to Him who "calms the roaring seas" for protection. The ship rolls and pitches fearfully, seas break over her and quantities of water come pouring down the hatchways. The few who can keep up are kept busy ministering to the wants of the sufferers who are thankful for a drop of cold water. Some are very ill, their upheavals being distressing to hear. "Barney", cries a big Irishman, "she's going down". "Let her go", responds the other, "I don't care where she goes, I'm dying". "Dennis, fetch here a bucket", cries another, "for I'm vomiting my pluck". "Jim", cries a woman in the next bunk to ours, "we are going down this time, Lord have mercy on us". The hatchways are covered with tarpaulin to keep the seas out, and the effluvia between the decks on account of the sickness is becoming very unpleasant.`

Saturday 29th November. (Second day) 306 miles. `After a terrible night about 6 am we passed out of the Bay which has been the awful destruction of so many gallant ships and the winding sheet of so many emigrants not the least the Rev. D. J. Draper of the "London". Whiting and I lifted up our hearts to God in thankfulness for His mercy. Are doing 13 knots per hour with strong

side wind and the sea is very tempestuous. The sailors say we have already done as much as some vessels have done in 23 days and are promising to make a very quick passage. A quarter to 4 p.m., sighted a French ship which being lightly laden is fearfully tossed by the furious waves. Sometimes she seems almost swallowed up and gone and then she rises like a cork and is upheaved almost to the clouds. Those on deck are holding on to anything they can seize for life. Many of our adult passengers are still very sick and also many of the children. Doctor Russell has a busy time of it. Mrs. H. being helpless I have had to wash some of the baby linen this evening. Mrs. C. Neill has presented her husband with a baby while coming through the Bay, it is named Westland after the ship.

You will not be surprised to learn that John Hillary was a Wesleyan Lay Preacher. The diary has been published, together with comments, and the book is entitled "Westland".

Joyce Hillary Needham (Mem No. 1072)



YORK MINSTER LIBRARY

York Minster Library has a data bank of more than half a million entries relating to Yorkshire men and women, mostly before 1550. The earliest entries are from the second century, but the main bulk of entries start in 1086 with the Domesday Survey. The sources include: Probate records such as wills, inventories and monumental inscriptions; membership of Religious Guilds; lists of Freemen; civic officials; parish registers and muster records; charters; local and national government records; legal records; taxation returns; accounts and, finally court and ecclesiastical records. Some of the material is taken from original manuscripts that are not readily available to the public. A search for a place or an occupation can also be carried out. The Minster is a non-profit making organisation, and any surplus funds are ploughed back into research. A search for a surname and its variants costs £10 or its equivalent in any major currency, but there is no charge for an unsuccessful search.

Enquiries with return address should be sent to: -

The Minster Library, Dean's Park, York.

Cheques payable to: - Dean and Chapter of York.

Cheques drawn on an American, Canadian or New Zealand bank are welcome.

York Minster

GOOLE & MARSHLAND GAZETTE

I find that old newspapers are fascinating to read, but they are also a good source of information. Even small reports, like these, can give us a much broader picture of the lives our ancestors led. Most items contain names and with luck we may come across one of our own ancestors.

Goole Police Court - before J. Wells Esquire

Oct 1st 1870

Neglecting Family - Isaac Gantry, hawker, of Rawcliffe, was brought up in custody, charged on the information of Mr Wilson, relieving officer, with allowing his family to become chargeable to the Goole Union. He left some time ago and was this week apprehended in Derby by PC Blezard - he was committed to prison for a month. *M. Corke*

Oct 29th 1870

An overnice pauper - James Ryan, an inmate of the Goole Workhouse, was charged by Mr Waite, the Master, with destroying his clothing. The man, who was a tramp, was admitted to the vagrant ward last Saturday, and during the night he tore to pieces the clothing he was wearing with the hope, no doubt, with getting a suit of fresh "togging". These however took the shape of the unusual coat of many colours - quite the "correct thing" - he was brought up to answer his misdemeanour. He was sent to prison for a month. *M. Corke*
That's one way to get a new summer outfit - but not to be recommended!!

14th May 1870

Reckless Drivers - A warning

Isaac Chaffer and Joseph Golding, farm workers, in the employ of Mr Bladworth, Whitgift Hall, were charged with driving two wagons and horses through Swinefleet on the 4th inst. - the case having been proved. Mr Wells adverted to the frequency of these instances of furious driving and they must be put a stop to - Fined £1 and costs. *M. Corke*

Sept 17th 1870

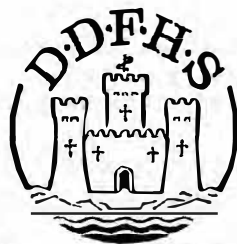
Impudent Theft

Late on Thursday night week or early on Friday morning, some impudent person broke a pane of glass in the window of Mr William Flower, shopkeeper, and took there from a quantity of bacon, herrings, onions and other articles exposed for sale. We believe the audacious thief has not been apprehended; but we cannot but think that he must be some tramp or other, and not an inhabitant of the village. *M. Corke*

Gwen Jennings

- By kind permission of Boothferry Family and Local History Group who first published these extracts.

FAMILY HISTORY DAY



Registered Charity No 516226

Saturday 28th October 2000
at
Residential School for the Deaf
Leger Way, Doncaster
9.45 am – 4.15 pm

Ian Dewhurst
'Crime in Victorian Yorkshire'
Sensational crimes of the Victorian era

Lizzie Jones
'I am England'
A new dramalogue
for the Millennium

Marjorie Dunn
'Families Afloat!'

- Research Facilities from our own Resources
- Access to Computer Databases
- Help Tables
- Displays & Exhibitions
- Stalls of other Societies
- Large Bookstalls
- Laminating Service (to protect your valuable documents)

Entrance £7.50
£11.75 inc. Lunch
Ample Free Parking
Disabled Facilities

For further details contact:- Mrs J. Staniforth

FAMILY HISTORIANS ALPHABET

J - M

J.

Journeyman – was a day labourer who had completed his apprenticeship, but was not a ‘master’. The journeyman had no connection with travelling.

K.

Knobstick Wedding – was a marriage, which was about to take place under pressure from the parish vestry, possibly of a single pregnant woman to the putative father to be. It was attended by the churchwardens who ensured that the ceremony was performed. The name Knobstick derives from their staves of office, which had a knob on the end.

L.

Latin - some documents up to the 18th century and sometimes beyond were written in Latin, especially ecclesiastical, manorial and legal records, eg Wills. There are a number of guides published for the family historian, one of which is the short McLaughlin Guide is simple Latin for Family historians. (Price £1)

Letters - are one of the most important aspects of family history, but don't forget to always enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

M.

Manorial records – can be very useful when tracing back to pre-parish registers. In manorial records court rolls can be found and records were kept of the court proceedings. The court met periodically, and all the tenants were bound to attend these meetings. From these records, much useful background information about your ancestors can be found.



WISHING

While doing all my research, I wish that I could find,
An ancestor who's someone or a villain, I don't mind,
Instead they're all just ag labs, shoemakers and such,
Just a tingle of excitement, I don't ask for too much.

It would surely look much better if I could put upon my tree,
Someone who was famous, that I would be proud to see,
But really I suppose that I should be feeling glad,
That they were all honest folk and not really bad.

They were all so hard working and I suppose that I could say,
It's their genes that have made me what I am today.

Margaret Wilson

GLENVILLE RESEARCH ROOM

The Glenville research room is situated in the grounds of the Doncaster College for the Deaf (opposite the Race Course Exhibition Centre). At present all Society resources and six microfiche readers are available to our members on: -

Mondays 10.00 - 4.00

Tuesdays 9.15 - 4.00

Fridays 10.00 - 4.00

Also Wednesday evenings 7.00 - 9.00 (bookings only)

If you are travelling to Doncaster from a distance, ring at least a week in advance and a reader will be reserved for you.

Many resources are available, including the 1881 census for the whole of the country, 1992 version of the I.G.I., Hyde Park, Mexborough and Conisbrough Cemetery Registers, Monumental Inscriptions taken from churches and Churchyards within the Archdeaconry of Doncaster, Marriage Indexes, Burial Indexes and lots more.

If there is a need and we can find sufficient volunteers to man the room, we have the option, in the future, to open an extra day.

Entrance £1.00 for members For bookings tel. 01302 537922

STRAYS

16 April 1816

Found in the Marriage Registers HOLY TRINITY - HULL

Hugh Parker of Doncaster married **Frances Burrows**

ooOoo

Inscription found in Ilkley Cemetery - formerly from Doncaster.

"In loving memory of **Elizabeth Dey** elder daughter of **Charles and Hannah Dey** of Doncaster who died in Ilkley June 30th 1906 in her 90th year.

Mel Towler, Harrogate, North Yorkshire

ooOoo

Stray Memorial Stone

This memorial stone was found located in a roadside dyke on the B1396 three miles east of Blaxton.

"This stone was erected by subscription
to mark the place where
Thomas Wagstaff, John Whitehead and Sarah Binks
were killed on the night of the 11th February 1860
by a cart in which they were returning from Doncaster

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

Crowds gathered in Waterdale on Tuesday April 4th, passers by asked whether a celebrity was expected, but were told that it was the first family history trip of this year to London and were waiting for coaches to arrive. Shortly afterwards two coaches were ready to depart, it was an emotional scene, friends and relatives waving goodbye, many husbands with tears in their eyes, and as the coaches headed for the motorway a few husbands were seen with hands raised giving a Churchillian V sign in farewell.

Speeding along the motorway the party consisted mainly of members of the Doncaster & District Family History Society and the New Beginnings Family History Group, supplemented by a number of normal people with hobbies such as art, rambling, dancing or knitting. We welcomed many new members as well as many of the old stalwarts, (not in age) including Maureen Hambrecht who has had to cancel a few times for medical problems. Welcome back Maureen. The last trouble you had was when you fell on a milk bottle – are you sure it was milk!!!

It was not long before one could hear the conversations; saying mystic words and numbers such as G.R.O. and P.R.O., 1881 and 1851, the non family history people condescendingly looked and listened with a sort of pity.

After settling down in our rooms, it was not long before we were all in the Family Records Centre and in a short while the silence was broken with shouts of “Eureka, I’ve found Uncle Sebastian”. Later in the various pubs in the locality, whilst consuming bar meals and drinks our finds were discussed. Some of the local residents thought it was an anglers outing when they heard our comments about our “catches” and the “ones we couldn’t net”. Three of our lady members went into a pub with a certain reputation, they told me it was a mistake – no comments!!

At breakfast one morning I sat with a few family history friends and another couple (not family history). One lady said “I enjoyed that programme”. Not quite being with it, I said “which programme”? and she replied “Hi De Hi.” I replied she had said I.G.I. This took a lot of explanation and finally they said that they were coming to the find some of *their* family history. Later, I saw them coming out of the FRC, badly bruised after being knocked down by an over keen researcher lifting down a Birth Register Index, they were mumbling “they must be nutters”. *I fully agree.* *Phil Pleace*

NEXT TRIP is planned for -

Monday 14th August to Friday 18th August 2000

Accommodation at the L.S.E. Hall of Residence, Rosebery Avenue

Prices for 4 nights B & B and coach: -

Single Room £126

Single Room (Mydleton Wing) £146

Economy Twin £94

Large Twin or Mydleton Wing £114

Deposit £20 per person by June 1st, balance by July 1st 2000

Contact P. G. Pleace - Tel: 01302 886273

THE PARISH CHEST - Constables Records [2]

The Militia

In the last Journal we looked at the many and varied tasks that the Constable had to perform, including the inspection of Ale-houses and keeping the Parish Bull. But, he had other duties which were even more important and time-consuming.

One of these was in respect of the Militia. England had no standing army in peacetime until the mid-18th century, when volunteer companies were raised. The 'defence of the realm' depended on the local militia - and the militia depended on the constable. Each parish had to provide a certain number of men, chosen usually by lot. They had to serve for 3 years, or provide £10 for a substitute. They were mustered at set times and for set periods for training - this to be paid for from the County Rate. In addition, the more wealthy property owners had to provide horses and wagons with men to work them.

The Constable compiled the Militia Lists of those entitled to serve and those excused, he mustered the men and took them for training with money for their maintenance, and collected the County Rate to pay for it. He also had the care of the Parish Arms, kept in the Armoury - often a small room above the porch in the village church. This could range from an extensive collection of weaponry, including firearms, to a few age-old pikes and halberds!

Militia Lists can still occasionally be found in the Parish chests. There is a particularly interesting one from Snaith, which gives reasons why certain men were excused - one was too small, one had several children and several had sent their servant instead!

The Constable's time was also greatly taken up with the problem of 'itinerant strangers', particularly in parts of our area lying on or near the Great North Road. Under the Poor Law, people with a pass were allowed to pass unhindered through the parish, but they were moved on as speedily as possible. Some were given lodging for the night and money for food. The Arksey accounts for 1713, for example, show

<i>Given to a Souldr with a pass</i>	<i>0- 1- 0</i>
<i>Paid R Barke for a Souldr one night</i>	<i>0- 0- 8</i>
<i>Paid R Barke for 2 men & 2 women 2 nights</i>	<i>0- 4- 8</i>
<i>Given to a woman & for carrying her to Adwicke</i>	<i>0- 1- 6</i>

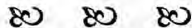
The soldier had possibly been fighting for the King in the Jacobite Rebellion in Scotland and the North, and had been left to make his own way back home again. R Barke presumably kept a lodging house or an inn, where the Constable arranged lodgings. The woman had to be 'carried' to Adwicke, the

next parish. Any such traveller who was ill or infirm was very swiftly transported from the parish in the 'cripple cart' in case they died and had to be buried at the parish's expense. All this was the responsibility of the Constable. But vagrants without a pass - beggars, rogues and vagabonds - were apprehended, taken before a magistrate, and whipped before being sent on their way. (Women suffered this fate until 1742 as well). This, too, was the job of the constable.

He not only had to whip vagrants. When any of his fellow parishioners were sentenced by the Magistrate to be whipped, that, too, was his task. It paid him not to use the whip too harshly, for fear it might be his turn later!

It is little wonder that the job of Constable was one of the most disliked of the Parish Offices. His duties, particularly in places such as Adwicke, Rossington and other parishes which were situated on major routes, were many and varied, and very time-consuming. One wonders how they managed to fit them in with earning a livelihood for themselves and their families. Did neighbours and relatives help with their land, I wonder, or did the work rest on their wives? Unfortunately the Constable's Accounts, though fascinating and informative, do not tell us that!

Maureen Hambrecht



MILK FOR HEALTH!

*"Milk, owing to its nature, could not be transported more than ten miles, so dairies were situated near or actually within the large towns, but London's butter came from as far afield as Suffolk, Yorkshire and Newcastle, although Epping butter was highly popular. The milk for the city was sold from town dairies or direct from the udders of cows driven through the streets. Hygiene was not an advantage of this system as Smollett's account makes clear."*¹

The milk was -

*"Carried through the streets in open pails, exposed to foul rinsings discharged from doors and windows, spittle and tobacco quids, from foot passengers; . . . dirt and trash thrown in by roguish boys for the joke's sake and finally, the vermin that drops from the rags of the nasty drab that vends this previous mixture, under the respectable denomination of the milkmaid."*²

¹ from "The Agricultural Revolution 1750 - 1880" by J.D. Chambers and G.E. Mingay

² from "The Expedition of Humphrey Clinker (1771)

Ray Clay

SPOTLIGHT ON WATH upon DEARNE

The ancient parish of Wath-upon-Dearne comprises the five townships of Wath, Brampton Bierlow, Nether Hoyland, Swinton and Wentworth. It is situated five miles from Rotherham and three miles from the magnificent Palladian mansion and estate of Wentworth Woodhouse, the home of the late Earl Fitzwilliam. As its name implies, it lies on a river, but this is not immediately apparent to a visitor.

White's directory of 1837 calls Wath-upon-Dearne "*a fertile and extensive parish, roughly 6 miles by 4, and bounded to the south by Rawmarsh, Greasbrough, Kimberworth and Chapeltown, to the west by Tankersley, to the north by the parishes of Darfield and Adwick, and on the east by the River Don.*" It contained some 11,000 acres and had a population in 1801 of around 4,000. By 1831 this had increased to just under 7,000. Earl Fitzwilliam was lord of the manors and owner of most of the land, as well as estates in Northamptonshire.

The manor of Wath was given by the Conqueror to Roger de Busli, from whose family it passed to the Flemings and then to the Wentworths. After the death of the last Marquis of Rockingham it passed to Earl Fitzwilliam.

All Saints Church in the village of Wath had much work of Norman origin, including the base of the tower and the north arcade of the nave and chancel. The rest of the tower, which houses six bells, and its spire are 15th century, and the south aisle, arcade and some of the windows are 600 years old. The doorway in the old porch is a little older, as is the big chapel, with an aisle and some Elizabethan bench ends. One of two old chests has ironwork and chain handles, and a bell of Armada year stands under the tower. Its registers date from 1598 and are held by Doncaster Archives.

The living (worth £315 p.a. in 1831) is a discharged vicarage in the gift of the dean and chapter of Christ Church, Oxford who hold the tithes by a grant from Henry VIII. One vicar, the Rev. Henry Partington, held this post for 64 years during the 19th century.

Wath's second church dedicated to St. James dates from 1902, and the other four townships each had their own churches as they grew in size, although All Saints continued as the mother church. Brampton Bierlow had Christ Church, founded in 1855. In Nether Hoyland, St. Peter's has registers from 1741 and St. Andrews from 1916. Swinton St. Margaret's has registers from 1800 but was apparently built on the site of an older building as it incorporates many earlier features, and at Wentworth, Holy Trinity church dates from 1654.

Close to All Saints Church is a very old and dilapidated building which was the local gaol. It had two windowless stone cells for drunks and troublemakers, and a police constable's room above. A wood near the village is said to have evident marks of a Roman road but this has never been confirmed.

Kelly's West Riding directory for 1867 tells us that Wath had a National school for boys built in 1663, and endowed by the Rev. Thomas Wombwell, a late vicar of the parish. The building of a girls' school was much later - in 1858 - with money raised by subscription. There were three chapels for Wesleyans, Wesleyan Reformers and the Primitive Methodists. Servant hiring statutes were held on 24th November each year. William Addy, a pioneer of shorthand, was born in the village, and had a shorthand bible published in 1687.

There were extensive potteries, coal and iron works, stone quarries and various factories providing work in the area. From around 1745, when the Rockingham Works was established by Brameld & Co., the area around Wath became famous as the principal seat of china and earthenware manufacture in the north of England. Rockingham and the Don Pottery produced pottery on a grand scale which is still much sought after by collectors all over the world. A kiln still stands today on the site of the Rockingham Works.

Until recently, Wath was a mining community, with Manvers Main and Wath Main collieries providing employment for thousands in the area. Now this has all gone, and the land is being re-developed to build new factories, shops and leisure facilities. There are still a few farms, both dairy and arable, many old inns and a weekly market. A small hospital originally built to care for fever and T.B. patients now caters very well for geriatric patients, while Rockingham College of Further Education provides courses of all kinds for all age groups.

Margaret Frost

- Burial Indexes for Wath upon Dearne have recently been published in A5 booklet format, but with over 8,600 entries from 1598 - 1900, it has been necessary to split the entries into different volumes. (See page 211 for more information)



NATIONAL BURIAL INDEX

Many more entries have been added to the database of burials, with a total of entries exceeding 158,000. Enclosed with your journal is a leaflet which shows exactly which years of which parishes are included in that database. Work is continuing to include many more. Please send your queries to Mr C. Norton (address as on leaflet)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY DDFHS

BURIAL INDEXES (A5 BOOKS)

of

Parishes within the Archdeaconry of Doncaster

We continue with the series of burial indexes. Each parish covers all entries from the start of the register to at least 1900. In almost every case *all* information from each burial entry has been included.

Vol. 41	Hickleton - St Wilfrid	1626 - 1940
Vol. 42	Askern - St Peter / Moss - All Saints	1852 - 1941 1875 - 1955
Vol. 43	High Melton - St James	1538 - 1911
Vol. 44	Wath on Dearne surnames A - F	1598 - 1794
Vol. 45	Wath on Dearne surnames G - N	1598 - 1794
Vol. 46	Wath on Dearne surnames O - Y	1598 - 1794
Vol. 47	Wath on Dearne surnames A - F	1795 - 1900
Vol. 48	Wath on Dearne surnames G - N	1795 - 1900
Vol. 49	Wath on Dearne surnames O - Z	1795 - 1900

Price £2.00 per volume + postage (U.K. 50p Overseas Airmail £1.00)

1891 CENSUS (FICHE)

~ NEW ~

Set 3871/513

Sub -district Swinefleet covering the following areas: -

Adlingfleet, Eastoft, Fockerby, Garthorpe (Lincs), Haldenby, Luddington (Lincs), Ousefleet, Reedness, Swinefleet, Whitgift

Set 3874/513.

Sub-district Snaith covering the following area: -

Snaith, Cowick, Rawcliffe, Gowdall, Pollington

These are a full transcription complete with references and folio numbers.

*Set 3871/513 2 fiche Set 3874/513 2 fiche
£3.50 per set + 25p p&p (U.K.) 65p p&p (Airmail)*

*All of the above publications are available from: -
Mrs M. Pepper (See inside front cover)*

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Federation of Family History Societies Yorkshire Library Guides - Stuart Raymond

Vol. 2 Yorkshire Parish Registers, Monumental Inscriptions & Wills
A5pbk 80 pages £6.50 + p&p 75p (U.K.) £1.20 airmail

This volume lists Parish registers, monumental inscriptions and wills which have been published as books or microform, and which are available in libraries.

Vol. 5 Yorkshire Occupations: a genealogical guide
A5pbk 48 pages £4.60 + p&p 65p (U.K.) £1.55 airmail

Some members of your family are probably listed somewhere by the occupation they pursued, and it is well worth knowing where such information is to be found. This new guide lists hundreds of potential sources of information.

Vol. 6 Yorkshire Family Histories & Pedigrees
A5pbk 96 pages £6.50 + p&p 85p (U.K.) £1.25 airmail

This volume lists innumerable family histories and pedigrees from Yorkshire.

Nuts & Bolts -

Family History Problem Solving through Family Reconstitution Techniques:
Andrew Todd (2nd Edition 2000) A5 pbk 64 pages.

The process of using records to identify all children born to a couple with their birth dates, marriage and death/burial thus rebuilding family units, can solve major research problems and produce interesting social history background. The 'how to' is clearly and carefully explained in the author's well known user-friendly style with informative diagrams, document examples & sound advice.

Price: £3.50 + 60p p&p (U.K.) £1.30 (airmail)

The above books are available from our bookstall at our monthly meeting or by post from: - Pat Surtees, 53 Brecks Lane, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1NL or from FFHS Publications Ltd, 2-4 Killer St, Ramsbottom, Bury BL0 9BZ

Aunt J - Jessie Millar Wilson M.B.E.

Edited by Joan E. Duncan. Price £7.50 + £1.00 p&p.

Jessie Millar Wilson was born in Bradford. She went to France in the summer of 1915 to work with the YMCA in one of the huts set up for the troops near a transit camp. Her work in this Hut ended after the Armistice - by this time she was known by many of the soldiers she had helped as "Aunt J" - but she stayed on with the YMCA, returning to England in 1922. It was then that Aunt J wrote her reminiscences which form the main part of this book.

This book may be obtained from: Grove Bookshop, Ilkley.

JOHN HAYES ST LEGER

About 6 months ago I came across a portrait by Gainsborough of a **John Hayes St Leger**. I looked at the portrait and wondered what he must have been like. Since then I have been on a quest and I have had a little luck, but have not got what I want. I have found out that he was a friend of George IV. He had a notorious brother Anthony St Leger who encouraged the Regent in some of his rowdiness. I found a record of a Major John St Leger who served under Wellington. I found a book by **Moya St Leger** on her family history and the races of St Leger, but it is no longer in print. Somewhere out there, there must be something on Colonel John Hayes St Leger, I don't see how someone who was a friend of George IV and had his portrait painted by Gainsborough can just have disappeared. And yes, the portrait is part of the Royal family's collection. Is it possible someone can help me or direct me someplace?

Kay Spears USA

CARVER

I am researching my family which I am told dates back to Robert Carver b: 1570 Doncaster, Yorkshire. He was the nephew of John Carver who came over on the Mayflower. Robert came to America on a ship called Welcome in the year 1634. I am told by another family member that he landed in Marshfield, Maine and was given a land grant in 1638. I would love to find anything about him or his ancestors in the U.K. and would like to know if there are still Carvers in the U.K.?

C. Cassady Florida 34266

HELP OFFERED

CROWCROFT

If anyone would like help with the **Crowcroft** family, I have a very large database of approximately 1000 entries.

D.R. White, Gwent

PARNHAM

Help offered to anyone researching the **Parnham** surname. We have a very large data base of Parnhams, many in family trees dating back to the 1500s. We will gladly share this information with anyone who is interested in the name. The vast majority of the early Parnhams seem to have originated in the Vale of Belvoir villages. If you are interested please contact: - *Carol Beadle or Kath Hession,*

Web site address: MBE.comms@virgin.net

DONCASTER ARCHIVES

Because of essential building work at Doncaster Archives, a restricted service will be necessary during July. Indexes, transcripts and microforms will be accessible to readers, but no original documents can be produced.

If in doubt, please contact: 01302859811.

NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

The National Army Museum is staging a series of special weekends as part of its contribution to London's 'String of Pearls' Millennium Festival. Taking place on the first weekend of every month until the end of the year, each weekend will look at aspects of the life of the British Soldier past and present. Thursday Lunchtime Talks have been themed each month to complement this 'Special Events' programme and take place at 1.00pm.

Further information telephone: *Education Department 0207 7300717 ext. 2228*

NEWS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES

YORKSHIRE CONSORTIUM of FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

Future programme:

2000

10th June The IGI and Ancestral File in 2000 Elder Leonard Olds

16th September Yorkshire Sources old and new in the SoG Library

Susan Gibbons

25th November Yorkshire Soldiers in the P.R.O. Lesley Wynne-Davies

Meetings are held at the SoG, 14 Charterhouse Place, Goswell Rd. London EC1.

All meetings start at 10.30am.

For further details contact the secretary:- *Ron Riley*

WHARFEDALE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Exhibition and Fair

Grassington Town Hall

Saturday 5th August 2000

10.00 am - 4.30 pm

Free Admission

Further details from: *Rita Berry*

LINCOLNSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Weekend Conference - Roses to Roundheads

Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln

Further details from: *Mrs B. Webster*

