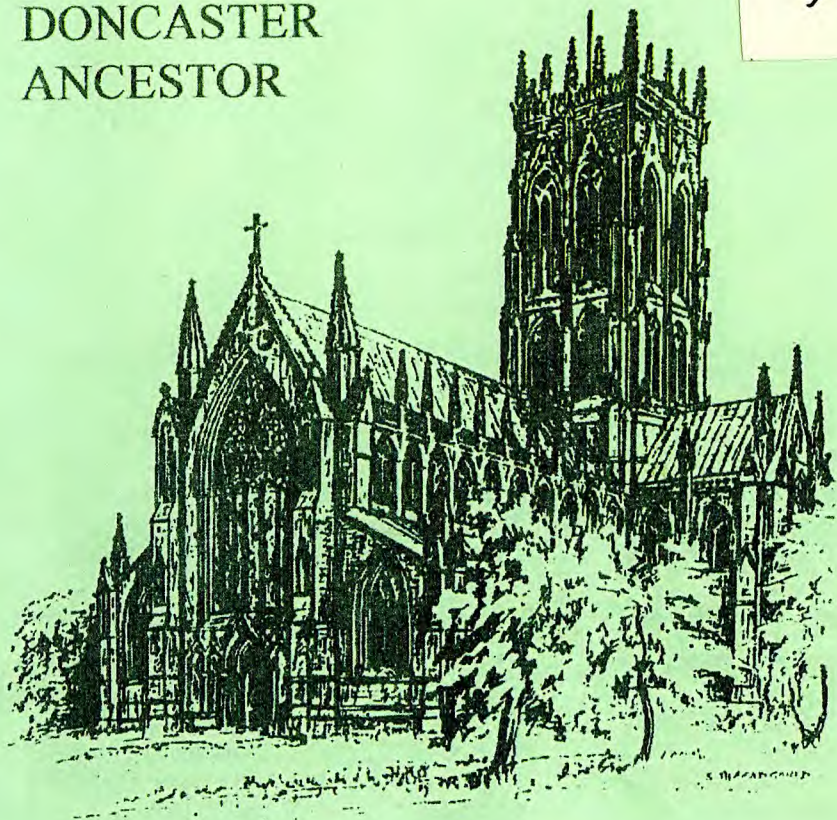


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THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR



The Journal of the
Doncaster and District
Family History Society



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THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR

Journal of the Doncaster & District Family History Society

Free to Members

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Subscription Rates 10

Editor: Brenda Robb Editorial Team: Mr P Bowden, Mrs G Jennings, Mrs S Vessey

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■ *Would you please send in any articles*
■ *which are to be published in the Summer 2001 edition*
■ *by 21 May 2001 at the latest*
■ *Other articles can be sent in at any time as usual.*
.....

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The year 2000 was, I think, our most hectic year yet, for both good and not so good happenings. The biggest problem by far was the necessary move for our monthly meetings from the Doncaster Central Library. As I said in last year's report our numbers at these meetings had been breaking the fire regulations. Unfortunately the subsequent changes of venue during the year all proved to be unsatisfactory until, finally, there was no alternative but to change our meetings from the traditional third Thursday of each month to the last Wednesday. Our February meeting this year took place in the Main Hall at the Residential School for the Deaf. We realised that it would not suit all of the members and when I arrived for the meeting I was very apprehensive about how many would turn up. By 6.50 the hall was rapidly filling up and our final count turned out to be an enormous 155. Our speaker, exchange journals, general library, help table and bookstall all proving to be very popular.

Research Room

During March 2000 we moved the GRO Indexes from the Doncaster Central Library into our very own research room. Various indexes etc have been gradually purchased - not forgetting those members who are researching in areas other than the Archdeaconry of Doncaster. There is no doubt that the research room has gone from strength to strength and has been a great success.

Because of the extra work involved with this success, Christine Wilson has volunteered to co-ordinate the day to day running of it. This is no easy task, as it is manned entirely by volunteers who have their own families to consider, and now that we open for 4 days and 2 evenings each week it means that Christine is continually looking for more volunteers. It is important to note that without those volunteers, the room cannot open.

Projects & Publications

During the last year we published a further 17 volumes of the National Burials Index. This brings the number of volumes published as at 31st December 2000 to 56. The ancient parishes of St George, Doncaster, and St Nicholas, Thorne, were so large that they had to be produced on fiche instead of the A5 booklets. Another important publication to the family historian who is researching in the Doncaster area is the Settlement Indexes: transcribed and indexed by Pamela Lindley and prepared for publication by 'yours truly'. The marriages indexes, which were published last year and covered the years 1800 - 1837, have now been extended to include a second series of 20 volumes, which include the years 1750 - 1799. This is a very valuable finding aid for marriages that took place prior to civil registration in 1837. Another first for the Society was the production of a CD. This contains an alphabetical index of all the burials that took place at St George's churchyard, Doncaster from 1557 to 1855, together with the Monumental Inscriptions which were originally transcribed in the early 1980s. The headstones themselves are no longer readable (even if they still exist).

All indexes such as these are very useful and popular finding aids, especially to our long distance and overseas members. Several of these CDs and many more of our

publications have been sold via both our own and the GENfair website. GENfair is an independent website that publicises and sells publications produced by a wide variety of societies. These can be purchased by credit card, thus saving the ordering of a banker's draft, which can prove to be very expensive and so is of benefit to all members, especially those who reside overseas.

Pamela Lindley and Wyn Bulmer have continued to work on the 1871 census. The whole of the Metropolitan Borough of Doncaster has now been completed. It is hoped to continue with further parishes and in time cover the whole of the Archdeaconry of Doncaster.

In the early part of last year Dr Brian Barber (Principal Archivist at Doncaster Archives) and myself discussed how best we, as a Society, could assist in preserving the parish registers. The biggest problem was that, due to the growing popularity of researching one's ancestors, the registers were in even greater demand. The archives staff and volunteers have photocopied and transcribed many of the registers, but hard copies take up an immense amount of space. Together we came to what we thought might be a good idea that would be beneficial to the researchers using the archives reading room, our Society as a whole, and most of all, to preserve the parish registers. Filming the registers and producing them on fiche would perhaps be the answer, but to have them filmed professionally would cost far too much money. Dr Barber suggested that if we did the work ourselves and he provided a room suitable for the filming, the work could be done to fit our budget. It was then decided to film baptisms, marriages and burials from 1814 – 1950 wherever possible. These plans began to progress nicely, but were then delayed by necessary remedial building work at the archives and the delivery of an incorrect camera. After six months delay we finally got started on the filming early in January of this year. Several parishes have now been completed and the fiches are housed in the research room in the filing cabinet, which has been specially purchased for them.

After almost 20 years of dealing with our sales of publications, Margaret Pepper has decided that it is time to hand over the reins. During this time Margaret has sent off many hundreds of our various publications and has, I know, made many friends both here and overseas. I would, on behalf of the Society, like to say a very heartfelt 'thank you'.

It is difficult to mention everything and everyone that has played a part in our Society over the last 12 months, but I would like to thank Brenda Robb, who took on the role of editor. At very short notice Brenda produced our special Millenium journal, which I am sure you will agree, was excellent. I am only too conscious of the many other volunteers, who have been transcribing documents, extracting names for indexes, inputting data onto computers, maintaining our website, writing articles, sorting data, attending committee meetings, writing minutes, preparing exhibitions, running bookstalls, manning the research room, etc. On behalf of the Society, may I thank everyone involved. In spite of the hiccups I feel we can say that the year of 2000 was an overall success.



Gwen Jennings



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, ten microfiche readers and a computer are available to our members. (See page 298 for recent acquisitions and a list of some of our resources). Entrance £1 for members

Bookings can be made for Monday evenings and Wednesday evenings, and must be made at least 24 hours in advance.

Mondays	10.00 – 4.00
	7.00 – 9.00 – (bookings only)
Tuesdays	9.15 – 4.00
* Wednesdays	10.00 – 2.00 * New
	7.00 – 9.00 – (bookings only)
Fridays	10.00 – 4.00

Bookings can also be made for all the daytime sessions, but they must be made at least 7 days in advance – no more than two readers will be booked each session – this will leave several readers available for members to just ‘drop in’.

Christine Wilson – Research Room Co-ordinator

**New telephone number for bookings:
01302 751808**

DONCASTER & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

PROGRAMME 2001

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Apr 25	I was a Stranger, Researching from Afar	Norma Neill
May 30	Workshop and Resources Evening	
Jun 27	Private Family Papers : the story of the Green-Armytage MSS	George Redmonds
Jul 25	Digging up your Ancestors	John Lockett
No meeting in August		
Sep 26	Voices from the Past	Anne Batchelor
Oct 31	Yorkshire Oddities	Paul Kenny
Nov 28	Slander, Immorality and Fraud	Maureen Hambrecht
Dec 12	Christmas Social Evening	

Meetings are held on the **last Wednesday** of each month

at the Doncaster College for the Deaf

Leger Way, Doncaster (opposite the Racecourse)

commencing at 7 pm

TRIP TO LONDON – AUGUST 2001

Monday 20 August to Friday 24 August 2001

Accommodation at the LSE Hall of Residence, Rosebery Avenue

Price per person for 4 nights B&B and coach

Single Room	£128	Single Room – Mydleton Wing	£148
Economy Twin	£ 98	Twin – Large twin or Mydleton Wing	£116

Bookings, with deposits of £20 per person now being taken

Places will be limited to 53

**therefore it is regretted that bookings can only be taken from
DDFHS members and the New Beginnings Family History members**

Philip G Place, 21 Church Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster, DN3 1JY
Tel: 01302 886273

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

GLENVILLE RESEARCH ROOM

Recent Acquisitions *(See page 296 for opening times)*

Electoral Registers (fiche)

Don Valley 1918, 1921

Doncaster 1899, 1903, 1907, 1911, 1915, 1920

Parish Registers (fiche)

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Baptisms</i>	<i>Marriages</i>	<i>Burials</i>
Arksey	1813-1961	-	1813-1929
Askern	-	1853-1951	1852-2000
Barnburgh	1813-1913	1813-1968	-
Braithwell	1813-1994	-	1813-1994
Brampton Bierlow	1855-1952	1856-1952	1855-1956
Cowick	1852-1971	1854-1964	1854-1950
Hensall cum Heck	1854-1954	1856-1950	1854-1951
Hexthorpe	1894-1964	1901-1954	-
Pollington	1854-1951	1854-1963	1855-1951
Snaith	1813-1951	1813-1950	1813-2000
Thorne	1813-1951	-	-

Marriage Index (A5 books) Archdeaconry of Doncaster 1750-1799 - see pages 328/9

Many resources are available, including the 1881 Census for the whole of the country, 1992 version of the IGI, Hyde Park, Mexborough and Conisbrough Cemetery Registers, Monumental Inscriptions taken from churches and churchyards within the Archdeaconry of Doncaster, Marriage Indexes, Burial Indexes and much more.

**NB: The Glenville Room is also now open on
Wednesdays from 10.00 – 2.00**

Volunteers always needed

If you have not yet used the Room for your research, come along and have a look at what resources we have. The volunteers, who so generously give their time, will help and advise. Car parking is free. There is a seating area for refreshments and tea or coffee at 50p a cup. Entrance £1 for members, £2 for non-members

Christine Wilson, Research Room Co-ordinator



From the Editor

Thank you for sending such a variety of articles for the Journal, I am sure that there is something here to suit everyone. Keep sending – we still need more!

We have a couple of innovations this time. We are trying out the inclusion of photographs. Depending on how they look when they are printed we hope to include more in the future; so if you like the printed result look out some interesting ones and send me a *good photocopy or scanned copy – not the original*. The other innovation is an Internet Section. With many members being on the Net we hope to be able to give a few interesting sites, so please send in any which you think may be of use to us.

When you come across *anything* of interest please share it with us by sending it to me – handwritten, typed, on a floppy disk, or by email and I will try to publish it. Remember that we rely on *you* for the Journal's content and to make it interesting for all. *Brenda Robb*

Family History Research in the Future?

Now that we have successfully reached the year 2001 without Millennium Bugs troubling us, it has made me think a little deeper into the advancement in the methods of research which are available for Family Historians.

The Internet, e-mail and CDs are now firmly established and are supplementing the St Cath's Index (sorry, I mean GRO), Census returns and Parish Records, but what about the future? As well as the IGI will we have an International DNA Index? Will carbon dating be of use to us?

Recently a cousin of mine visited a churchyard in Somerset and found a grave of an ancestor of ours; as it was well maintained and with flowers on it, my cousin left a note under a stone on the grave. A week afterwards she had a phone call and another relative was found who supplied us with many photos. This was a case of communicating 'through' the deceased, so why not carry this a little further and communicate direct by Spiritualism and therefore cut out the middleman!

Will the future family historians find that these modern scientific advancements make research easier? Then, on the other hand, with the modern trend of births before marriage or probably no marriage anyway, perhaps the future historians will have a more difficult time.

The answers to these questions will no doubt be revealed in my ancestor's article in the Millennium issue in January 3000!

Phil Pleace Mem No 638

BIGAMY !

As well as helping with genealogical research, one can sometimes find fascinating tidbits in the Marriage Indexes (see pages 328/9 for our new ones)

The registers of Snaith show the following:

George Thistleton of East Retford, Ntts, married **Sarah Spivey** on 8 Aug 1788 at Snaith,

However, there is a second entry for this same couple, which shows that they were married here again on 16 April 1797. This second entry reads: *The above couple were married 8 Aug 1788, the man had at that time a wife who died a year ago.*

The registers of the parish church of St Lawrence, Hatfield, show that **Joseph Scholfield** married **Martha Wrigglesworth** on 10 Feb 1789.

The registers then state: *This marriage annulled. Scholfield being proved to have another wife.*

Did You Know?

There are more acres in Yorkshire (3,723,724) than there are letters in the bible (3,566,480 forming 773,692 words) and that the old West Riding alone was larger than Lincolnshire!

Wyn Bulmer

Zeppelin over Swinton in 1917

My uncle Eddie Trowbridge, the Swinton builder, died in America in his 103rd year. His daughter is sorting his papers, a big task because he was a hoarder of mementos, and has sent a few to me. The description of the air raid on Swinton in 1917 is interesting on many counts. The original is written in pencil and my uncle must have decided to edit it soon after. The second version is also in pencil and as well as making minor alterations adds some errors of its own.

I have used the original version making the revisions that my uncle made. His hand is flowing with many capitals to words which he thought important, or perhaps it was customary at that time to so emphasise. Some of the capitals might be particularly florid lower case letters but it is difficult to tell. Punctuation is different to modern usage, commas abound. I would be interested in comments about the punctuation (letters to the Editor please, let us all enjoy them).

Also any additional details about the raid would be interesting and when was the first raid? Who was the Mr South?

Mike Trowbridge Member No 1292

“I was awakened by a terrible bang ...”



During the Hours of 2 & 3 o'clock on Tuesday Morning, I was awakened by a terrible bang which made my home shake, Thunder I said to my-self, and listened for a few minutes, the Bang was repeated time after time, 12 in all I believe; I jumped out of bed, Dressed my-self, and made for the Street. The first thing I saw were two Search-Lights, one from Thrybergh, and the other from a place called Rosehill. Rosehill lies a Mile S-E of Swinton. Well, I must continue my experience, after gazing at the Search-Lights for a few minutes, I made my way down the crowded Streets of Swinton, I had not got very far, before I met Mr South a Friend of mine, we at once started discussing the Raid. After chatting for a short time, who should come up to us but two Special Constables and we immediately got into facts about the Raiders. My Friend and I were told that the Raiders crossed the Coast near Hull, and made straight in Land.

The next we hear of them is when they drop Bombs on Barnsley, a town 13 Miles N of Swinton, the Raiders then visited Wombwell, Bolton, Goldthorpe & Highgate, the Raiders then flew over Manvers Pit and Swinton was reached, after dropping about a dozen Bombs on our town, they headed for Sheffield but did not get any further than Rawmarsh. At the top of a very High-Hill (I believe 600 feet above Sea Level) near Rawmarsh, or commonly known as Rosehill, previously mentioned, stands an Anti-Air Craft Gun, this Gun opened fire on the Raiders and drove them seawards. It appears that it is the first time the Gun has been used, it made a terrible

noise, in fact worse than the Bombs. The Gunner told me that he fired 5 shots, 2 Over Swinton and 3 over Kilnhurst, he also said that the Raiders were flying at an altitude of 15,000 feet, or nearly 3 Miles. I heard several people say that they had seen a Raider, but I doubt it very much, by the way. The Gunner told me that the Raiders were invisible, because of the mist. Well I must get along.

After leaving our Friends, the Special Constables, I said to Mr South, come let us visit the Bomb Craters, so after having a good wash etc, we made for the Part of Swinton where the Bombs had fallen. We were the first to explore 3 Craters, after looking round and digging up the Ground, we found parts of the Bombs. Day-Break was just beginning to appear when we left No 3 Crater, the Craters were about 4 Yds deep and 7 Yds across, fortunately all Bombs fell in fields, 3 of which did not explode, and these were handed over to the Police. I saw two of them the following night.

My friend said let us continue our journey, so we made for Rawmarsh, a Town 1½ miles from Swinton, the damage done there included a School which had all Windows at one side Shattered, and part of the Boundary Wall blown down. A Row of Cottages had practically all Windows at the back broken, even Clay and Bricks could be seen on the Roofs. One Bomb was dropped in a back garden, but pleased to say, did very little damage, with the exception of Windows and part of the Boundary Wall. After exploring all we could, my friend and I caught a Car for Home, and to my surprise it was only 7-30 a.m. when we passed Swinton Church.

After leaving my Friend I proceeded home, explained the Raid to my Parents, and showed them parts of the Bombs I had found. In conclusion, this is my second experience of Air Raids & I hope it is the Last as they are so frightful and dangerous.

Sept 25th 1917

E. G. Trowbridge

*My Experience of the Air Raid on Swinton
Sept 25th 1917*

*During the Hours of 2.50 a.m. on Swinton Farming was
ravaged, by a terrible Blast.*

*In conclusion, this is my second experience of
Air Raids I hope it is the Last, as they are so frightful and
dangerous.*

*Sept 25th 1917
E. G. Trowbridge*



11 September 1731
 From The Universal Spectator and Weekly Journal
Dr RICHARD ROCK's Tincture
for Curing the TEETH

WHICH makes the foulest teeth most beautifully white at once or twice using ; and speedily cures all Disorders of the Gums or Teeth whatever. It gives immediate Ease in the most violent Pain, and Prevents it's Return; it preserves the Teeth against growing rotten, and fastens those that are loose; it perfectly cures the Scurvey in the Gums causing them to grow up to the Teeth again to Admiration, and is exceedingly good for an Illscented Breath.

It is likewise a most excellent Beautifier of the Face, that infallibly kills Worms, takes away Freckles, Spots, Wrinkles Pits or Marks of the Small Pox &c and speedily clears plumps, nourishes and whitens the Skin to a Miracle. To be had at the Hand and Face near Black-Friars Stairs, at Mr Bagshaw's at the Piazza, Billingsgate, at Mr Barrs, a stocking maker by Leicester Gate, Leicester Fields, at Mr Brooks, the Essex Serpent in Kingstreet, Covent Garden, and at the Rainbow Coffee House at Fleet Bridge. Price 1 s. the bottle with Directions

N.B. Advice will be given gratis, in most difficult Distempers from One o'Clock till Five and from Eight till Ten at Night

From the same issue of the Universal Spectator

Diseases Died of This Week

Diseases : Aged 23, Consumption 46, Convulsion 198, Dropsy 26, Fever 72, Small Pox 90, Stillborn 12, Teeth 27.

Whereof have Dy'd

Under Two years old	128	Forty and Fifty	17
Between Two and Five	48	Fifty and Sixty	25
Five and Ten	27	Sixty and Seventy	15
Ten and Twenty	20	Seventy and Eighty	14
Twenty and Thirty	39	Eighty and Ninety	6
Thirty and Forty	45	Ninety and Upwards	1

Derek Smith Mem No 1372

DDFHS Subscription Rates Jan 1 2001 – Dec 31 2001

Individuals	£ 8.00	<i>Please make all cheques/postal orders etc payable to:</i>
Family (in same house)	£11.00	
Seniors (60 and over)	£ 6.50	Doncaster & District Family History Society Send to Membership Secretary – see back page or use the secure credit card payment system at www.genfair.com
Students	£ 6.50	
Institutions	£10.50	
Overseas	£10.00	

The Boston Tragedies – Were they connected?

I have hesitated to make this information public as, when I found it some two years ago, it was most upsetting to me and I am sure it would be to relatives of the other family concerned in the incidents. However, as I have a serious doubt as to whether things were exactly as they seemed, I have decided to publish the information I have in the faint hope that the mystery might be solved, even after 100 years.

The tragedies concern a murder and suicide which took place at Boston during late March 1901, and my family history researches, together with an intimate knowledge of the area concerned and of the railway industry, suggest to me that the victims were at the very least known to each other, and that one incident might have precipitated the other.

Virtually all of the evidence is based on the very full coverage given to the two incidents and the resultant inquests in the local press.

Chapter 1 – The Murder

The headlines in the Boston Independent, 30th March 1901, were both graphic and horrific: WIFE MURDER AT FRITH BANK, SIBSEY: Deed committed with a razor: Head nearly severed from the body: Terrible experience of a young girl: Murderer attempts to commit suicide: Overpowered after a terrible struggle.

At Frith Bank, some three miles north-west of Boston, there is a group of cottages, originally built by the Great Northern Railway, next to what was then the East Coast Main Line (Kings Cross to Doncaster via Peterborough, Spalding, Boston, Bardney, Lincoln and Retford) for the use of their on track staff. The murderer was William Kirk, aged 55, who had been a platelayer with the GNR until an operation some eighteen months before for the removal of an abscess from this neck had left him *'Queer, and not really the same since that time'*. The victim was his wife Ellen, aged 48, who was the daughter of F Mountain, blacksmith, of Blue Street, and sister of R Mountain, landlord of the Vine Inn, Broadfield Street, both of Boston.

On the Tuesday of the week, a neighbour Mrs Robinson who lived a quarter mile away, but on the other side of the Frith Bank drain, had her baby and Mrs Kirk went to nurse, to the resentment of her husband who went to the house two or three times to urge his wife to return home. About 7 am on Friday morning Kirk again went to the Robinsons' home to see his wife. He went inside and stayed for nearly two hours. Mr Robinson, at work in the yard, heard the Kirks *'fratching'* about something but, as he had heard them quarrelling before, took little notice. About 9 am Mrs Kirk came downstairs from attending to Mrs Robinson and went into the rear yard. Kirk at once jumped up and followed her. Amy Barber, Mr Robinson's servant, immediately heard Mrs Kirk screaming and, on running into the back yard to find what was amiss, was horrified to find Kirk in the act of cutting his wife's throat with what she (Amy) thought was a pocket knife. The terrified girl at once ran screaming to find Mr Robinson who was carrying out farm work on the other side of the house, but only 40 to 50 yards away.

Mr Robinson, who had also heard the commotion, at once rushed to the scene, where he found Mrs Kirk lying on her back amongst some firewood, with her husband standing over her ferociously hacking at her with a razor. He noticed that the woman's head was almost severed and attempted to intervene, when Kirk attacked him with the razor saying *'I will serve you the same'*. Robinson picked up a manure fork and kept him off. Kirk then left and Mr Robinson sought assistance. The first person on the scene was a Mr Bedford who worked at a nearby brickyard, and was known to Kirk, who by this time had returned to the yard. Kirk at once asked Bedford *'Where's that devil gone?'* meaning Robinson. Bedford told him Robinson had gone to Frith Bank; Kirk then said *'Goodbye'*, quietly left the premises and returned home. The doctor attending Mrs Robinson arrived on a routine visit a few minutes after the murder; he found the victim quite dead. Amy Barber confirmed Mr Robinson's story, saying that this had all occurred after she had the three elder of Robinson's other five children off to school, and after she had ran to Mr Robinson had shut herself in the house. She said that on the previous Wednesday night, after the house had been locked by Robinson, she had heard Kirk feeling all over the door as though he was trying to gain entry.

Kirk lives near to Mr and Mrs Taylor; on his way home he met their son Jack to whom he observed *'Well, I have killed the Missus. I've cut her b... head off'*. He then went home and told his small son who told Mrs Taylor that his father had killed his mother. Shortly afterwards Kirk was seen to go into a field near the railway. There he was seen rambling about for a long time excitedly. There were several workmen in the neighbourhood who saw Kirk take the razor from his pocket and attempt to cut his own throat. Five or six of the men seized him and after a terrific struggle, managed to over power him and take the razor away. He was then taken to the Taylor's house where he was detained until the police arrived. When they arrived, two superintendents, two sergeants and one constable, Kirk appeared perfectly calm and offered no resistance when he was handcuffed.

The Kirks had seven children, ranging in age from 25, in America, to age seven, attending school. As Kirk was being driven away in custody he saw two of them crossing a bridge and shouted to them *'Goodbye, your grandfather will look to you!'*

The murdered woman was the eldest of eight living children of Mr Mountain, a blacksmith aged 73, working in the engineers department of the Great Northern Railway and his wife, aged 70, residing in Blue Street. Kirk and his wife lived in a pleasant, plain brick cottage near to the railway line and, as they had their own garden, two pigs in a sty, and a rent of only £5 per year, they lived *'passing well'*. Since his operation for the neck abscess his recovery seems to have been very slow, and he had become more and more surly and of a bad temper. However, it was anticipated that these moods were only of a passing kind, and their friends expected to hear weekly that he had resumed work. Mrs Kirk was described as a little, fresh-coloured woman.

Kirk appeared before magistrates at Spilsby, where no evidence was offered, and he was remanded in custody to Lincoln prison, where he was taken by train.

The inquest on the victim was held the following day at the local public house, the Malcolm Arms, in accordance with what was then the law of the land. Inquests and funerals were then held within a very few days of the incident. The reason when we stop to consider it is self evident: one hundred years ago there was very little refrigeration available at mortuaries, particularly so in a small provincial town like Boston, so bodies would deteriorate rapidly, particularly in the warmer months. In his opening remarks the Coroner stated '*Gentlemen, as the body of Ellen Kirk is a material part of the evidence it is necessary in this enquiry that you should view the body. Your first duty will be to view the body and then we will take the evidence*'. The jury then viewed the body which had been moved from the scene of the tragedy and placed in an outhouse adjoining the Malcolm Arms Inn. On their return evidence was taken.

(I believe it is appropriate at this stage to make a brief comment: the Coroner referred to the jury as Gentlemen; this was before universal women's suffrage, so all the coroner's jury and, indeed, all juries would consist entirely of men. However, my research has shown, somewhat surprisingly perhaps, that up to 15% of voters were, in fact, women, principally widows who had inherited their late husband's estate in the absence of any other beneficiary, and who had not remarried. They had the vote in local elections, but not for Parliament.

At that time it was part of the proceedings for the jurors to view the body before an inquest. In the case, with the body being placed in an outhouse, the circumstances were a little less macabre than usual: common practice was for the body to be placed in a room in the public house, a small bar perhaps, and the inquest to proceed with the usual noise of a public bar taking place on all sides.)

One of the Kirk's elder children, Fred aged 15, who was in farm service locally, said that he visited his parents twice weekly and was aware there had been '*unpleasantness*' between them. On the previous Thursday when passing Robinson's house, he had seen his mother at the gate and she had complained of his father's conduct towards her. This conversation had been interrupted by his father who had said '*What lies is she telling you now?*'.

Further witnesses stated that Kirk believed his wife was having an affair with Mr Robinson. The Police Superintendent, Wood, told the inquest '*She was old enough to be Robinson's mother. There is no ground for it at all.*'. The medical evidence was then taken, confirming that Mrs Kirk had been killed by a large wound on both the front and back of her throat, consistent with that which would be caused by a razor. In his summing up the Coroner stated that it was not necessary for the jury to enquire into the state of mind of the killer, as a Coroner's jury had only to enquire into the state of mind of the deceased; but to return a verdict of wilful murder it is necessary for you to be satisfied that the cutting of her throat was not done by accident, but deliberately, wilfully and with malice aforethought.

The jury did not need to retire but immediately returned the verdict that Ellen Kirk has been wilfully murdered by William Kirk.



The following day, Sunday, the scene was visited by scores of cyclists, and large numbers of pedestrians walked the two and a half miles from Boston to look at the house and premises where the murder took place. A neighbour of the Kirks, Mrs Taylor, told a reporter that a few weeks ago Mrs Kirk had told her she had dreamed of her husband chasing her over a field with a razor, and that he caught her and cut her throat.

After the inquest the body was moved to the Vine Inn, Boston, to await burial. The funeral took place the following Tuesday afternoon, starting from the Vine Inn. Several hundred people followed the procession to the grave.

In the next chapter I shall recount the details of the other sad incident, which occurred the day after the murder, draw readers' attention to similarities between the two cases and attempt to draw conclusions from the evidence I have outlined.

Roger Luffman Mem No 1254

A Cautionary Story



for Transcribers!

A monk in the Abbey had been engaged for many years transcribing documents.

One day when the Abbot stopped to ask him how he was getting on with his work he expressed concern that in copying out the rules of the Order he was working from earlier copies and not from the originals.

The Abbot agreed that this was a problem and said that he would check the original document in the library.

When an hour later he had not returned the monk went into the library and found the Abbot sitting down and crying copiously.

When asked what was the trouble he answered *'The word should have been CELEBRATE'*

This appeared in the November 2000 issue of 'The Greenwood Tree', the journal of the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society and is reproduced with their permission. It was submitted by Arthur Monk who not only researches his family name but collects anything connected with the name or word 'Monk'.

Phil Pleace Mem No 638

From the Registers

On 27 January 1828, the following baptism is entered at Burghwallis:
"Sabrina and Phalaria (twin girls) daughters of Israel and Mary BOSWELL, Travellers and Trampers Pot carriers, Tinkers &c. These children were born under a tent or awning fixt upon some waste land on the west side of the North Road and in the parish or township of Hampole."

Gwen Jennings



YORKSHIRE SOLDIERS IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE

Taken from a lecture given by Lesley Wynne-Davies
at the November meeting of the
Yorkshire Consortium of Family History Societies (London Group)



When Charles II was restored to the Throne in January 1649 one of his first acts was to set up England's first standing army.

Some 20 years later, as the first soldiers were discharged, there was a need to provide pensions for those old soldiers. Where money was involved, bureaucratic paperwork followed, to the great benefit of genealogists.

The documents are filed under Section WO97 (British Army, other ranks). The papers before 1873 are filed under regiments, while the 250,000 names covering 1873 to 1914 are alphabetical and indexed. The earliest existing record is for John Tate, Royal Irish Dragoons, who was discharged after serving for 10 years.

The PRO's 'best kept secret' is WO121 in which discharge documents are kept in bound ledgers; also WO12 which contain muster lists. These can be very helpful to family historians as they record at 6 monthly intervals (and occasionally monthly intervals) where soldiers were stationed. This means that, when searching for marriages of soldiers, researchers should first find out where they were stationed before investigating local parish records. Finally in this section is WO25 Description Books and Miscellaneous. There are great gaps in these records, but they represent a 'gold mine' if you strike lucky.

Two thirds of the WWI papers stored at Hayes, Middlesex were destroyed by a bomb in WW2. These were subject to the 75 year rule, but had started to become available since 1995. The officers are complete, but other ranks have reached R.

The battle of Minden in 1759 gave rise to 'Minden Day', also known as Yorkshire Day which is celebrated on 1 August. Taking part were the 51st Foot which later became the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (KOYLI) who still celebrate this battle. There do not appear to be any records of soldiers who had fought at Minden, but there are extensive records of KOYLI and the Household Cavalry. Leslie wondered why were there so many men from Halifax in the Household Cavalry? (minimum height 5ft 11in), and what social events correlate with the enlistment from various districts – for example, why were there so many weavers recruited in the early 1800s?

Ron Riley

The PRO provide a comprehensive list of guides in the form of numbered leaflets (eg Military Record No 5)



Visitors to the PRO are advised to obtain guides prior to their visit to save time on the day.



National Burial Index (NBI) for England and Wales



The NBI is an index of burials taken from parish, non-conformist, Roman Catholic and cemetery registers. It includes entries from England and Wales dating from the 16th Century to modern times although, to start with, not all locations and dates will be covered. The first edition, with more than 5.3 million names, will be published shortly on CD ROM and it is hoped to publish a cumulative NBI every three years or so.

Doncaster and District Family History Society have been working on this project for the last 3 years and have contributed a large number of entries to this important Index and *we will have a copy of the NBI in the Research Room when it becomes available.*

Each entry will present the following information (if available in the original source): Full name of the deceased; date of burial; age; parish or cemetery where the event was recorded; the county of the parish or cemetery (pre-1874 list of counties) and the society or group which transcribed the record. *(Note that the decision to exclude certain useful items of information from the NBI such as relationships, abode and occupation was a demand of certain family history societies at the initial planning stage and does not necessarily reflect the wish or intention of the Federation of Family History Societies.)*

Clearly the NBI does not contain full transcriptions of the burial records – it is simply an abbreviated finding-aid based on records that were sometimes difficult to read. As with the IGI, searchers are therefore discouraged from accepting the details of an entry at face value and should check the original source record. Those searchers who do not live close to the necessary County Record Office or repository will be able to contact the Family History Society or Group who transcribed the record in full.

Some records which were unchecked at the deadline will be included in the NBI – but these unchecked records will be clearly marked. If errors are observed by searchers after publication, an amendment will appear in the subsequent edition of the NBI, at the discretion of the Family History Society or Group and the NBI organisers.

It is hoped that the first edition of the NBI will prove to be a useful signpost to these important parish records and will greatly encourage hundreds more to continue this worthwhile work in the future.

NBI. *It has been brought to our notice by the FFHS that the tables published in the January NewsFlash, the February edition of Family Tree Magazine and the March edition of Practical Family History are in error. The corrections placed in the March edition of Family Tree Magazine, under the advert inviting individuals to pre-order the NBI CD ROMs at a pre-publication price, are correct.*

It is confirmed that in the NBI data Cheshire has 255,000 burial entries, not 25,000, and the country of Montgomeryshire should read Monmouthshire.

The Federation apologises for these errors and for any inconvenience caused.



FROM THE POSTBAG

Dear Editor

Register of Vessels – Name of Master

In Gordon Jackson's book *Hull in the Eighteenth Century: A study of Economic and Social History* (1972) he mentions on page 25 the existence of a register, c1805, of ships in the Inland Navigation, and in Appendix One he lists the number of tonnage of vessels named in the register and their usual destinations. Seventy-four went up the Don, including twenty-five to Thorne and ten to Doncaster. Three went up the Aire to Rawcliffe, twenty-four to Knottingley. Seventy-five went to Leeds, possibly via the Selby canal.

This list is in the Kingston upon Hull City Record Office under reference MS M445, and I am pretty certain that it is in fact a Register of vessels under an Act of Parliament of 1795 (Geo III c58). One matter that Jackson does not mention is that besides the description and tonnage of the vessel, the name of the master is also listed.

I have transcribed the Selby entries. Perhaps someone with an interest in water transport may decide to transcribe more of this useful list.

Roger A Bellingham

27 Garths End, Pocklington, York YO42 2JB email: roger.bellingham@which.net

Dear Editor

Move from Kilners to Denaby Powder Works, Conisbrough?

I read with great interest the article 'Spotlight on Conisbrough' as my ggrandmother MARY ELIZABETH PROCTOR (Marriage Certificate spelling) was born in Conisbrough in 1870.

According to the 1881 Census the family lived at Glass Works, Conisbrough and her father JOHN ROW PROCTER (Census spelling) was a carpenter. However, by the time of her marriage to my ggrandfather FRED PERKINS of Spalding, Lincs on 4 March 1896 her father's trade was Primer.

My father and I have been trying to work out if there was a trade in the glass making industry of Primer, but the article may have answered our query and we now wonder if my ggrandfather moved from the glass works (presumably the Kilner works) to the Denaby Powder Works?

Are there any records available that may help me verify my findings? The full family in 1881 were John Row Procte(o)r aged 40, Elizabeth Procter aged 36, and children Fanny 14, Mary 11, William 9 and Jane 1.

I have looked at the 1891 Census at the FRC but couldn't find the family listed.

Sue Pearson Mem No 1492

Dear Editor

War Memorials

I found the article 'Memorial Magnetism' of outstanding interest and it caused me to cast my mind back some sixty years, or more.

I remembered my father taking me to the Town War Memorial near Elmfield Park Gates on Remembrance Sunday and a few years later I was parading there with the Army Cadet Force.

I also remembered two other Doncaster war memorials – one was a wood and glass frame affixed to a house on the western side at the end of Somerset Road, at its junction with Apley Road. Inside the case there was an illuminated scroll bearing the names of men from the road who had lost their lives in the First World War. I used to see it when I was coming home from Beechfield School, in Chequer Road, and I left that school in July 1939. I cannot recollect seeing any similar memorials in other roads. I doubt if it will have survived, but perhaps someone may know what happened to it.

The other, more significant, memorial is the one in the Library of Doncaster Grammar School (now Hall Cross School) in Thorne Road. I remember being shown this stained glass window on an initial tour of the School, which I joined in September 1939. The window, which so impressed me that I have a continuing interest in stained glass, was designed by C Rupert Moore, a former pupil of the School, and commemorated the Old Boys who were killed in the First World War and their names were listed on a plaque under the window. I believe that another plaque was erected to the memory of Old Boys killed in the Second World War.

Frank Broomhead Mem 328

Dear Editor

Any Relatives called Woolhouse and Day?

I have purchased a huge box of letter, photos and personal items which relate to one family; I did this because I could not bear them not to reach a family member.

The surname on the letters is Woolhouse and Day and seem to cover correspondence through two generations – one generation was in the Army and one was in the RAF. There are wedding photos and receipts and other large function photos and birthday cards. The majority of letters are written to an address in Sheffield and date from 1944 to 1965.

If anyone related is interested I would like proof of their family connection and a reimbursement of the £6.60 auction cost (this will allow me to pay for future auctions).

If the items are not claimed I will put them in the Pass It On section of the Family Tree magazine.

Sue Parrish Mem No 1489

9 Edgbaston Way, Edlington, Doncaster, DN12 1SQ

Doncaster Ancestor – Spring 2001

27



(Or the world wide search for descendants of the Clark and Branch Families of Sprotbrough)

I had a fair knowledge of the Clark family of Cusworth near Doncaster from a family Bible and various records. My ancestor was **William**, the eldest son (second of their nine children) of **Matthew Clark** and **Ann Branch** who married in 1829. I have contacted descendants of this family and their Branch cousins now living in the UK, North and South America, Australia and New Zealand. Each contact has contributed some information, some had photographs and stories. Most had no knowledge beyond their immediate grandparents or great grandparents, and have appreciated the larger picture that resulted from the ongoing co-operative effort.

Family Trees of the Clark and the Branch Family

Contact no 1 was in 1982 in pre-internet times. Vincent Clark, a member of the DDFHS, contacted me. His ancestor was John, the fifth child of Matthew Clark and Ann Branch; he had inherited family trees for both the Clark and Branch families. These trees showed that Ann Branch's three brothers, Richard, John and William, born in the early 1800s, had emigrated to America, also that Ann, the second daughter of Matthew Clark and Ann Branch, had married her cousin Joseph Wild Branch (Richard's second son).

Earlier this year contact no 2 was made through a posting on a Yorkshire surname list, from Argentina, now in Michigan, USA. She was the descendant of Edward John Clark the youngest son of Matthew Clark and Ann Branch who went to Argentina. Her father has both names Clark and Branch!

Descendants of Richard Branch

Contact no 3 came from Seattle, USA, located through a Branch surname list. He knew that his grandfather Jefferson Tyler Branch (Richard's youngest son) was a sawmaker in St Louis, Missouri, and that the family originally came from Yorkshire. He had information from both the Sheffield and New York censuses about various family members, but was unable to sort them out. He had a photograph of the sawmaker's company. We joined a Missouri mailing list and found a collector of tools who supplied an early catalogue of the Branch brothers' company in Missouri, which gave us more family information.

Contact no 4 came from Minnesota, USA, and was made through the RootsWeb World Connect site – a tree submitted by somebody researching a member of the generation born in St Louis. Except for names and dates, all they knew was that one of their ancestors went back to England to bring his bride back to St Louis (we presumed this was Joseph Wild Branch and Ann Clark). An article was found at the library on Joseph Wild Branch stating that he came to the USA in 1844. We then looked at census records and we managed to find nearly all of Richard's descendants mentioned the 'Branch Tree' either in the New York area or in St Louis.

Contact no 5 was an Australian, the grandson of Richard's third son John Wild Branch. He knew that his grandfather came from Cusworth, Yorkshire and the names of his great grandparents. He had tracked down over 300 of his descendants in Australia and New Zealand. He knew that there were relations in the USA. From immigration lists we found that John Wild went from the USA to Australia in 1852.

Descendants of John Branch

With Richard and family mostly accounted for, we hunted for John. We found him in the Sheffield 1841 Census, married with two children. The 'Branch Tree' stated that he died in 1868. As I could not find him in British Death Records I presumed he also 'went to America'.

Descendants of William Branch

Contact No 6 was from New Brunswick, Canada. Her ancestor William Walcroft Branch was first recorded in the New Brunswick area in 1831. The age matched, and Walcroft was our William's mother's name, so it is presumed, until proved otherwise, that he too is our family.

I have traced the Clark family back to the early 1600s to Felkirk, and I am now trying to find out where the original Richard Branch came from. A lot of information has been gathered and shared; it has been fascinating watching the story unfold.

I have gained an insight into genealogical records in other countries as well as gaining cousins from all over the world – *all through posting my interests in this Journal!*

Evelyn Hodgson

Little Gables, 15 Linersh Wood Close, Bramley, Guildford, GU5 0EG

Count Your Blessings

This was collected some years back in Canada and I keep it by my washing machine to remind me to count my blessings.

Receipt for Washing Clothes

1. Bild fire in backyard and put on kettle of rainwater.
2. Set tubs so smoke don't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. Shave one hole cake of lye sope in biling water.
4. Sort things in 3 piles: 1 pile white, 1 pile cullard, 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. Stir flour in cold water to smooth, then thin down with hot water.
6. Rub dirty whites on board. Scrub hard then bile.
Rub cullard but don't bile. Jest rench and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with branch, then rench, blew and starch.
8. Wash britches and rags after scrub. Rench.
9. Spread towels on grass. Hang rags and britches on fence.
10. Pore rench water in flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. Turn tubs upside down.
13. Go put on cleen dress, smooth hair with side combs.
14. Make cup of tee – set and rock a spell. Count Blessings.



Win Eshelby, Chadbury Cottage, Evesham, WR11 4TD

Doncaster Ancestor – Spring 2001

HELP WANTED

Looking for Charlie! And was Aunt Ethel in jail?

I am looking for help with my pursuit of certain family members who had connections to the Doncaster area. I know little of those I am tracing, but it was their particular snippets which sparked my interest in my forebears.

The youngest sister of my maternal grandfather was born ETHEL BROWN (23.4.1889-29.6.1955). I know she died in Doncaster, and have faint memories of my mother driving my grandpa and me to Doncaster, twice in close succession, in her little Morris 8, in the rain. I probably would not have recalled this at all except that shortly before her death I was asking my mother about a certain tea set and she said it came from Aunt Ethel's in Doncaster and then, in passing, said she knew little about her but that she had been to jail! I missed the opportunity to question her about this, and other things, never realising how short the time left was!

My researches have put me in touch with previously unknown second cousins, who have confirmed the jailbird story though, as yet, we don't know which jail, or for what, or if she ever married.

Two of my maternal grandmother's brothers moved to Doncaster – TOM CLARK, possibly born 1863, became a Plymouth Brethren, and FRED CLARK, born 1878, who was an engine driver and was killed in a motorbike accident, at Retford?

Whilst going through my mother's bits and pieces, I discovered the following letter written in pencil, which had been sent to my Grandma (born Clark):

Dear Auntie & Uncle

*I am just dropping you a line or two hoping to find you in the best of health as I am in the pink soldiering is a good life but not enough to eat although it is good food. I had not been in the army a week before we did 8 miles march full pack & only one rest. I was glad to get in to camp again. I have passed a trade test for the ASC & got through alright. I shall have to be eighteen and eight months before they transfer me to it I have come across a lot of pals I know but the worst of it is that we are six miles from anywhere & I have never seen a girl since I left home & when you have been used to going out & taking them for a walk it makes us feel lonely. We are on the top of a very big hill & it is cold first thing in a morning we can look out of our hut window & see the mountains that divides England from Wales & they are about ninety miles away. I am on burren fighting & rifle firing & it is a tiring job. Well I have no more news so will close
from your nephew Charles*

*Pte C C CLARK 89547 6th I.R. Battn B Company
Hut 24 M Lines Brocton Camp Staffs*

hope to hear soon

Then, for some reason, on 11.11.1998 (spooky?) I was having a final 'go-through' Mum's effects and found the following, again in pencil, no date:

Dear Auntie & All

Just to say I am in the pink. I have been home for five days but a wire got there before me to say that I was to return at once. It was my last leave & going to France Thursday night but ... I shall be back soon with a gold stripe up & my ticket. I have some good pals to go with & some good officers. Well I have no more to say & will write when I can.

love to all from Charlie

I had to start to try to find Charlie!

So far I have had no success, being unable to find him through his Army number and SSAFA. I think he came from Doncaster and do have unnamed photos * of a young WWI soldier who I think may be Charlie taken by FJ Scaman, photographer Doncaster. I have been contacted by a member of Lincs FHS who remembered a Charlie Clark, a guard with LNER in the 1940-50s, who used to visit his family in Grantham when he had time to kill. I think that several of my questions will be answered in Doncaster and I hope to be 'down to Doncaster' as soon as trains become reliable again! I don't intend to visit Doncaster as my grandma did, by bike from S Lincolnshire!



* one of the photos

*Mrs MMA Cullen Mem No 1567
17 Obthorpe Lane, Thurlby, Bourne, Lincs. PE10 0ES*

Looking for Thomas Smith and his Family

My grandfather was THOMAS SMITH, born about 1884, my grandmother ISABEL MAY HARPER. They married in 1906 in Worcester when Thomas was in the Army but were back in Yorkshire by about 1910. I've been told that Thomas' father was Charles and that Thomas had brothers and sisters Harry, Jack (married Sue Clark), Joe, Charlie, Susan (married George Davis), Pat (married ? Oates), and Sarah (married ? Davies).

Thomas and Isabel's children were Florence (Rushton), Sue (Hynes), Amy (Metcalf), Elsie (Gamling), Lilian, Thomas, Henry, Alfred, Matthew and Pauline (my mother). All the children were born in and around Doncaster.

Thomas and Isabel lived at Shaftesbury Ave, Intake, for many years until they died: Thomas in 1943 and Isabel a few years later. None of the family know anything about Thomas' parents or where they came from.

If anything or anyone sounds familiar I would love to hear from you.

*June Chan Mem 1417
Box 743, Gordonvale, Qld 4865, Australia.
e-mail: Mai-ling@eisa.net.au*



James Walton

JAMES WALTON was married to FRANCES SHILLETTO, of Tickhill, at Rossington in 1804. They had several children, the last one being a THOMAS, bapt/born on 16 February 1823 at Rossington. James was referred to as though he was still alive at Thomas's wedding in 1849.

Can anyone help to find the burial of James and his place and date of birth. James did not appear in the Rossington registers after 1823.

John Lindley
3 Grasmere Road, Conisbrough, Doncaster, DN12 3HT
email: john.lindley@ntlworld.com

Highfield Descendants

My grandfather ARTHUR HIGHFIELD was the first child born to WILLIAM HIGHFIELD and ELLEN (née FITZSIMMONS) at Worsbrough Bridge in 1891. There followed another 15 (?) children and the family lived mainly in the Edlington area.

I would love to hear from the descendants of my grandfather's brothers and sisters and share with them our family tree back to 1800.

Kathleen Bell Mem 1579
1 Belgrave Gardens, Ashington, Northumberland, NE63 9SW
email: kathleen@bellk30.freereserve.co.uk

Roberts Family

After years of searching in Doncaster and Chester for my ROBERTS family, I have found some new information in an old Bible.

ROBERT, son of EDWARD and JANE ROBERTS of Bwlch Gwyn, was baptized in Corwen Church on February 12 1783.

I know Robert Roberts' son JOHN was born in Chester in 1819 and married HANNAH GILL in Doncaster in 1840.

If anyone out there can add to this information I would be most grateful.

Dorothy Sawyer Mem No 930
Villa 7 'Timbertops', 66 Fawcett Street, Glenfield, NSW 2167, Australia

Blyborough Through Time

Do you have any ancestors in Blyborough? We are researching the parish history for an exhibition in Spring/Summer this year, so we are trying to contact as many people as possible who may have had ancestors in the parish.

If you have any connections with Blyborough we would be grateful for any information, and of course if we can help with anyone's research into a family in the parish, we would be happy to do so.

Mrs Sarah P Taylor
2 Hillside Cottages, Blyborough, Gainsborough, Lincs, DN21 4HG
tel: 01427 668810. email: Sarahptaylor@btinternet.com

HELP OFFERED

'My Favourite Album'

I purchased a box of books from an auction and came across 'My Favourite Album': a little book which devotes each page to a single person. Most pages have a small photo at the top with a list of headings: My Favourite: Study, Poet, Author, Hobby, Dance, Flower, Colour etc. Each page is signed and dated.

Names included are: **Winetta Hutt** 26 Aug 1912 (first entry – possibly the owner?); **May Sands** 31 July 1912; **Geo Stanley Baker** 2 Nov 1913; **H Robinson** (f) 2 Nov 1913; **Arthur S Baker** 2 Nov 1913; **Frank Lilleker** 6 Sep 1914; **G Russum** (m) 29 Apr 1915; **W Lilleker** (m) 30 Sep 1914; **A D Baker** 2 Feb 1941 (no photo). and **K Baker** 11 Oct 1943 (no photo).

On the page signed by G Russum is a later entry – *Schoolfriend lost at sea May 6 1918*. All the photos are of young teenagers.

If anyone is related to any of the entries and would like to contact me, I will willingly send them the book.

*Sue Parrish Mem No 1489
9 Edgbaston Way, Edlington, Doncaster, DN12 1SQ
email: sueparrish@sueparrish.free-online.co.uk*

Knott and Hewitt

I have 2 birth certificates as follows: EDITH MARGARET KNOTT in Doncaster 1897 and JEAN MARY HEWITT in Doncaster 1897. Also marriage of Edith to HORACE LEA HEWITT in Moseley. If anyone is interested I would be happy to send them on.

*David J Hiscock
Beacon House, Back Lane, Marazion, Cornwall, TR17 0HE*

Back Numbers

I have the following back numbers of FHS Society Journals, and if any are of use please contact me.

East Yorks FHS Banyan Tree, from Bo 25, 1986
YAS Family Historian, from Vol 1, 13, 1987

*John Freeman
33 Ferrers Road, Doncaster, DN2 4BU*

Nothards/Northards

I have a large database of NOTHARDS/NORTHARDS on my Web Page at www.nothard.freemove.co.uk

*Malcolm A Nothard
24 Cedar Drive, Sutton at Honey, Dartford, Kent, D14 9EN
malcolm@nothard.freemove.co.uk*



Names in Doncaster 1763

I have a list of names which is too long to print here, taken from an Act of Parliament, Statutes at Large Vol 9 1762 to 1764, which I am willing to share.

'4 Geo III 1763, Cap 40. An Act for the more easy and speedy recovery of Small Debts within the Borough and Soke of Doncaster, in the County of York; and for Lighting the Street, Lanes, and other open Passages and places within the said Borough. pp 219-227 XXXII Sections.

Section I – Names the Commissioners (starting with the Mayor of Doncaster) and finishing ... Esquires and Gentlemen, shall be and are hereby appointed Commissioners.'

Alan Longbottom

email: Alan@historydb.force9.co.uk

Bawtry Parish Magazines

I have copies of Bawtry Parish Magazines for the late 1890s to 1900s and am willing to look up anything for researchers. I also have Constable's Records which need transcribing.

Olive Jackson

Hawthorn Cottages, Fenwick, Doncaster

Tel: 01302 702655

J W Chafer Ltd – Centenary

This year is the centenary of the establishment of J W Chafer Ltd in Doncaster. Derek Palgrave (our President) is writing an historical account of the founder J W Chafer and the company. He would like anyone who worked for the company and who may have special memories to please get in touch with him.

Derek A Palgrave MA FRHistS FSG, Crossfield House, Dale Road, Stanton, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP31 2DY. email: DerekPalgrave@btinternet.com

These monumental inscriptions were taken from the Doncaster Review of May 1896

In a Sheffield churchyard lies a scissor grinder called John Knott. Over him reads:

Here lies a man that was KNOTT born,
His father was KNOTT before him;
He lived KNOTT, and did KNOTT die,
Yet underneath this stone doth lie.
KNOTT christened,
KNOTT begot,
And here he lies,
And yet was KNOTT

Formerly at the south-west corner of Sheffield Parish Church, this stone disappeared when the churchyard was levelled:

Remember man, as thou pass by,
That as thou art, then so was I;
That as I am, so thou must be,
Therefore prepare to follow me.



Margaret Frost

Book of Local Interest



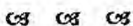
I found a book called *Echoes in the Playground* in the Maradon Centre (Catholic shop) on Netherhall Road, which is a history of St Peter's Catholic School in Doncaster. It covers the years from 1833 to 2000. is very professionally written by Anne Whitehead and mentions lots of pupils, nuns and teachers for every era.

The blurb on the back of the book reads as follows:

'Little is known of the origins of the school community and an account of its history is long overdue. The history will interest those seeking their own place in Doncaster's long history, through that of their school. Its story also reflects the integration of incomers (particularly the Irish), and the revival of English Catholicism in Doncaster, as well as the great social and educational changes taking place in Britain during the last two hundred years.'

I can recommend the book, it is well written and there are lots of photographs. The price is £5.00 and it is published by Bogdanovic Books in Exeter.

Sue Parrish Mem No 1489



Strays and Snippets

Found amongst the headstones in the churchyard at St Barnabus, Weeton, near Leeds, W Yorkshire:

In memory of **Sarah COWPER** late of Doncaster who died at Weeton House, January 29 1878, age 69 years.

Mel Towler, Harrogate

Found in the Parish Registers of Sutton in Ashfield in Notts:

Marriage - 16 May 1749 **George WRIGHT** of parish of Rawmarsh in the Country of York and **Mary BERRY** of this parish were married by banns.

Annette Watson, Australia

Found at Allerton Bywater church:

In loving memory of **Kate**, wife of **Fred ATTACK** (of Woodlands, Doncaster). Died 5 March 1923 age 36. Also **Edna Mary**, daughter of above, died 25 Oct 1918 age 5.

Mrs J Weir Mem No 1505

Taken from the Mexborough and Swinton Times dated Saturday 28 August 1915:

On Sunday morning at about 10.15, **William TETLEY**, horse dealer, was found in the River Don at Marsh Gate Bridge, Doncaster. He was rescued, and artificial respiration tried by Dr Corbett, but all efforts proved unsuccessful. The body was removed to the mortuary. The deceased was 47 years of age, and his home was in Cherry Lane, Marshgate.

Mr **A H KERRY** of Bolton-on-Dearne, Assistant Master on the staff of Goldthorpe Council School, has been appointed to the Headship of the Barnburgh School, vacated by the decease of **Mrs DORSEY**.

Jean Neal Mem No 1201

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY DDFHS

BURIAL INDEXES (A5 BOOKS)

of

Parishes within the Archdeaconry of Doncaster

Because of the large number of burials in Darfield churchyard it has been necessary to divide the database into six separate books. The contents of each booklet is as shown below. In almost every case *all* information from each burial entry has been included.

Vol 55	Darfield - All Saints	A - F	1598 - 1807
Vol 56	Darfield - All Saints	G - Q	1598 - 1807
Vol 57	Darfield - All Saints	R - Z	1598 - 1807
Vol 58	Darfield - All Saints	A - F	1808 - 1900
Vol 59	Darfield - All Saints	G - Q	1598 - 1900
Vol 60	Darfield - All Saints	R - Z	1598 - 1900

Price £2.00 per volume + postage (UK 50p Overseas Airmail £1.00)

MARRIAGE INDEXES (A5 BOOKS)

In January 2000 we published 21 volumes of marriage indexes dating from 1800 to 1837 (see Vol 10 No 4 page 137), and many of you have found these of great help in your researches. Linda Peabody has further transcribed and indexed all the marriages which took place between 1750 and 1799 and these have now been published in a further 22 booklets.

In each volume every marriage is listed twice - once under the groom's surname and again under the bride's. Some variations of the same surname have been listed together but, as in every index, you should look for all possible spellings etc.

Each entry comprises surname, first name, 'W' (if a widow/widower), stated parish of origin (if different from where the marriage took place), forename and surname of spouse, 'W' (if a widow/widower), date and parish in which the ceremony took place, and 'L' (if marriage by licence).

The parishes included in this compilation index are:

Adlingfleet, Adwick le Street, Adwick upon Dearne, Airmyn, Arksey, Armthorpe, Barnburgh, Barnby Dun, Bolton on Dearne, Braithwell, Brodsworth, Burghwallis, Campsall, Cantley, Clayton with Frickley, Conisbrough, Darfield, Doncaster, Edlington, Fishlake, Hatfield, Hickleton, High Melton, Hook, Hooton Pagnell, Kirk Bramwith, Kirk Sandall, Loversall, Marr, Mexborough, Owston, Rawcliffe, Rossington, Skelbrooke, Snaith, Sprotbrough, Stainton, Thorne, Thurnscoe, Tickhill, Wadworth, Warmsworth, Wath upon Dearne, Wentworth and Whitgift. *(See back page of this journal for map)*

We hope you will find these new volumes as much, or even more, help, than the earlier ones.

Gwen Jennings (Project Co-ordinator)

MARRIAGE INDEXES (A5 BOOKS)

Taken from parish registers in
Archdeaconry of Doncaster 1750 – 1799
Indexed in Surname Order

Volume	Surname beginning	Price	UK p+p	Air p+p
1	A	£1.50	40p	£1.15
2 (part 1)	B – Bl	£2.00	60p	£1.55
2 (part 2)	Bo – end	£2.00	60p	£1.55
3	C	£2.00	60p	£1.55
4	D	£1.50	40p	£1.15
5	E	£1.50	40p	£1.15
6	F	£1.50	40p	£1.15
7	G	£1.50	40p	£1.15
8 (part 1)	H – He	£2.00	60p	£1.55
8 (part 2)	He – end	£1.50	40p	£1.55
9	I and J	£1.50	40p	£1.15
10	K	£1.00	35p	£1.15
11	L	£1.50	40p	£1.15
12	M	£2.00	60p	£1.55
13	N and O	£1.50	40p	£1.15
14	P and Q	£1.50	40p	£1.15
15	R	£2.00	60p	£1.55
16 (part 1)	S – Sly	£1.50	40p	£1.15
16 (part 2)	Sm – end	£1.50	40p	£1.15
17	T	£1.50	40p	£1.15
18	U and V	£1.50	40p	£1.15
19 (part 1)	W – Wh	£2.00	40p	£1.55
19 (part 2)	Wi – end	£1.50	40p	£1.15
20	Y	£1.50	40p	£1.15

Addition to Society Library

'A Ragged Schooling' by Robert Roberts (Kindly donated by Mr John Archer)

This autobiography is set in Salford in the years before the First World War. It provides useful background reading for anyone who may have had ancestors in the area, or indeed in any of the northern industrial towns.

Christine Adams, Society Librarian

Please note: for all postal sales of publications contact:
Jean Wade, 6 Melford Drive, Balby, Doncaster, DN4 9AT

*Please allow up to 21 days for delivery by post and up to 15 days for delivery by GenFair
Goods can be returned within 7 days of receipt of order only if unopened, or if found to be faulty.*

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Federation of Family History Societies

Family History on the Web: An Internet Directory for England and Wales –
Stuart A Raymond

A well annotated list of web sites – full of surprising sites that do not come to light in Internet searches, with comments about the type of information they contain. For anyone starting on Internet genealogy, a good explanation of what is available. For anyone who thought they knew it all, here are some extra sites worth investigating. Altogether a very useful book.

A5 (landscape) pbk 71 pages

Price: £4.95 (£5.90 incl UK pp), £7.15 airmail, £6.00 surface mail.

Available by post from: FFHS Publications Ltd, Unit 16 Chesham Industrial Centre, Oram Street, Bury Lancashire, BL9 6EN

NEWS AND DIARY DATES FROM OTHER SOCIETIES

Oxfordshire Family History Society Open Day 2001

Saturday 6 October 2001, 10 am to 4pm.

Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road,

Didcot,

Oxon, OX11 7JN

Free admission. For details:

*Paul Gaskell, Publicity Officer
email: publicity@ofhs.org.uk*

Yorkshire Consortium of Family History Societies

9 June 2001 Case Histories and Problem Solving Volunteer Members

8 September 2001 Yorkshire: It's Battles and Military Traditions Ken Dival

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

All meetings start promptly at 10.30 am.

For further details contact the Secretary:

*Ron Riley
20 Avon Close, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD2 6DN (SAE appreciated)*

Keighley & District FHS – Family History Fair

Saturday 12 May 2001 – 10 am to 4 pm

The Salvation Army Hall,

High Street, Keighley

For details: *Mrs S Daynes, 2 The Hallows, Shann Park, Keighley, West Yorks, BD20 6HY*

Berkshire FHS – Open Day 2001

Saturday 19 May 2001 – 10 am to 4 pm

Larkmead School

Faringdon Road

Abingdon

Free Admission



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

DONCASTER ARCHIVES now have an excellent web site at:
www.doncaster.gov.uk/education/document.asp?WSDOCID=413

CHESHIRE Births, Marriages and Deaths <http://CheshireBMD.org.uk>

Over the last few months, the Family History Society of Cheshire and South Cheshire Family History Society have been working with Cheshire County Council's registration service to make the indexes to the County's Births, Marriages and Deaths freely accessible on the Internet. They have just launched their new combined website. This contains approximately 276,000 birth records and 123,000 marriage records between 1837 and 1950.

It is now possible to scan the indexes of the County's three register offices simultaneously, and also to produce printable application forms to order certificates by post. The gaps in the records will be steadily filled in as more of the old hand-written indexes are computerised.

ENGLISH ORIGINS <http://www.origins.net/>

Origins.net, in collaboration with the Society of Genealogists, has launched the English Origins web site, which will operate on a similar pay per view basis to the Scots Origins site. Access to the database is by credit or debit card, via a secure payment system. The charges are: £6 for 48 hours continuous access over 2 days to the database (you may come and go during that period using your registered user-name), with hard copies of original documents (which can be ordered online) costing £10. A free surname search facility is available to determine whether there are any potentially interesting records for a given surname.

The database currently includes over one million names from 1568 to 1850 and includes the following indexes:

- Vicar-General Marriage Licence Allegations Index, 1694 – 1850
- Faculty Office Marriage Licence Allegations Index, 1701 – 1850
- Bank of England Will Extracts Index, 1717 – 1845
- London City Apprenticeship Abstracts, 1568 – 1850
- London Consistory Court Depositions Index, 1703 – 13
- Archdeaconry Court of London Wills Index, 1700 – 1807

Many other records will be added over the course of 2001.

DDFHS Members with an email address who have not received our Newsletter please send an email to Glenys - Subject: Re. emails. Just give name, membership number and email address.

SEARCH & PRINT SERVICES

1851 Census Master Index

(taken from all 50 indexes currently published by the Society)
Please state name [including forename(s)] and approx year of birth
Search Fee: £2.00 for all likely matches

Death Registers (Doncaster only) 1875 - 1928 (including cause of death)

Please state name(s) including forenames and approx year of birth
Search Fee: £1.00 per name or £2.00 for all entries of that surname and an SAE

Bawtry Cemetery Index

Monumental Inscriptions and Names of Unmarked Graves
Search Fee: £2.00 for all entries of one surname

For searches of the above databases

Contact: *Gwen Jennings*

4 Chapel Lane, Branton, Doncaster, DN3 3NG.

email: gwen@jennings55.freemove.co.uk

1871 Census and 1891 Census

many parishes within the Archdeaconry of Doncaster

Please state name [including forename(s)]

We will supply a copy of the full household

Search Fee: £2.00 per name

Contact: *Mrs W. Bulmer, 57 Valley Drive, Branton, Doncaster, DN3 3NB*

1881 Census Index

All English & Welsh Counties, Isle of Man, Channel Isles and the Royal Navy
and

1851 Census Index

for Devon, Norfolk & Warwickshire

(i) please give as much information as possible

(ii) please state name and county

£2.00 per surname per county for first page and 30p for each subsequent page

Contact: *John Surtees, 53 Brecks Lane, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster, DN3 1NL*

National Burial Index

within the Archdeaconry of Doncaster

Over 135,000 named individuals. Many of the parishes are included,
most from the start of the registers to at least 1900

Please state surname required, and if known, burial place/forename

Search Fee: £1.00 for first page, £2.00 up to four pages, 30p each additional page

Contact: *Mr C. Norton, 58 Cherry Tree Drive, Dunscroft, Doncaster, DN7 4JZ*

Please make all enquiries to the relevant person

All cheques should be made payable to: D & D F H S

Please enclose a large stamped self addressed envelope (or two IRCs).

