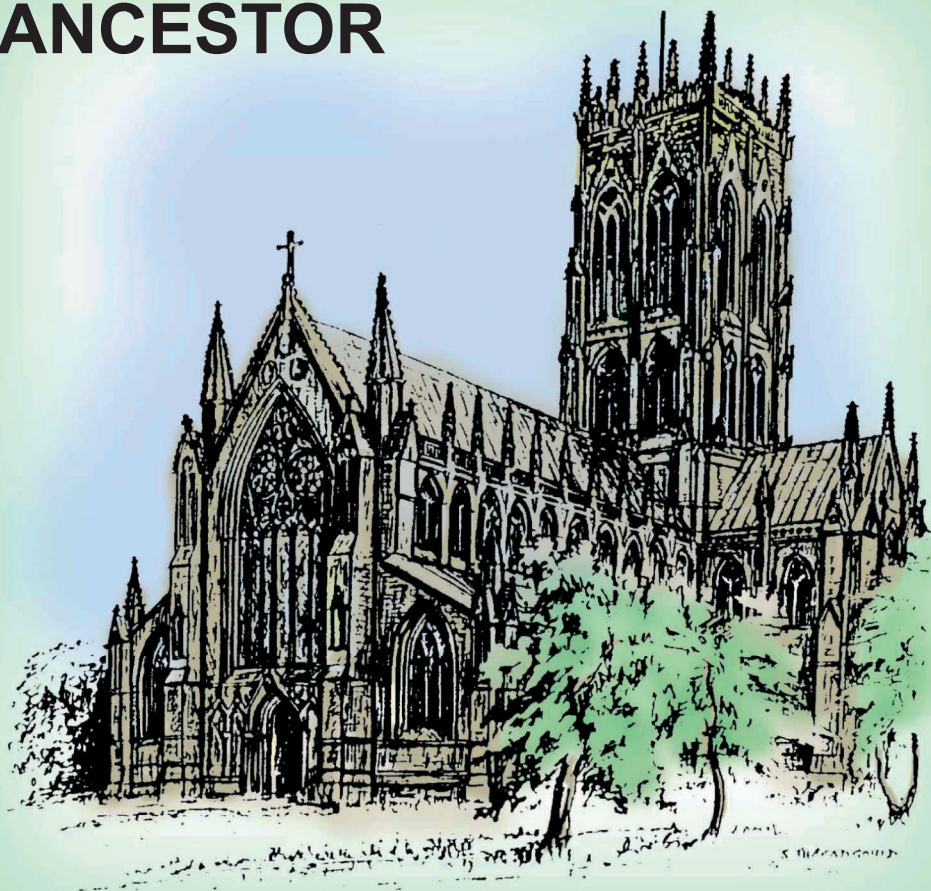


THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR

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Doncaster Minster

S Threadgould

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Family History Society 1980 - 2020
40th Anniversary Edition

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DONCASTER AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

www.doncasterfhs.co.uk

Registered Charity No 516226 Formed January 1980

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THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR

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From the Chairman



I wish you and your families the best of health, particularly during the coronavirus crisis.

Many of you will be taking the opportunity to break down your genealogy 'brick walls' or perhaps learn a new skill. I have learnt how to use Mailchimp, bulk emailing software, which has resulted in the publication of the Society's first email member newsletter.

We are told we will all have to adjust to a "new normal". Family history research is likely to be affected. This and the increasing use of the internet will create challenges for family history societies on how they deliver their activities and services. I would be interested in your views.

Because events are not allowed, the Society's 40th Celebrations, along with monthly meetings and AGM, have had to be put on hold. However, there are a number of initiatives planned, the email member newsletter being the first of them.

Member Newsletter

One fifth of the membership will not have received the email member newsletter either because they don't have an email address or because we have an incorrect email address. Others may have received the newsletter, but it landed in their Spam folder. Please check.

Several of the items in the newsletter are included in this issue of the Doncaster Ancestor, but if you want to receive future newsletters please ensure that Philip, the Membership Secretary, has your latest email address.

For the latest updates please regularly check the Society's website and social media.

George W Hiley

chairman@doncasterfhs.co.uk

1 May 2020

Deadline for the next edition is 8th Jul 2020 at the latest.

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

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

Vol 30 No 3 Edition will be published in Aug 2020.

From the Editor

Hello and welcome to the summer Doncaster Ancestor.

I would like to thank the people that have contributed to this issue and hope that you enjoy reading it. We have a wide variety of subjects and continue with our 40th Anniversary theme. Please continue to send your articles.

For obvious reasons, this Anniversary of the Society will always be remembered for the global pandemic that we are all facing, and which none of us could possibly have imagined. We can only wonder how this time will be recorded for our future generations.

When I wrote an article about my ancestors who lived in squalor in The Yards area of Doncaster, with many people dying from cholera and typhoid, I couldn't imagine what they were facing. Fast forward one hundred and fifty years and I wonder what we are facing now.

On page nine is a photo of a bookcase where you need to read the book titles from the top left hand side. I thought this was brilliant and is a message to us all.

Being this year is the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) day and Victory in Japan (VJ) day, please feel free to send me any stories about your ancestors.

Jenny Ellis

ddfhseditor1@outlook.com

Disclaimer

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

Programme of Talks for 2020

**Due to the current situation with Coronavirus,
the AGM will now take place prior to the
September Meeting**

Sept 30th Letters from a Faraway Laddie by Sue McGeever.

In 1899 Harry Gill travelled from his home in Summerbridge to visit the Holy Land on board the Steam Yacht Argonaut. His letters to his fiancée and the photographs he took were among family papers. This entertaining talk follows in his footsteps from the Nidd to the Nile.

Oct 28th Family History with a difference by Sue Clifton.

Sue tells the story of how she put her family history records down. Not on paper or computer but as tapestries for all to view and admire at the way they have turned out.

**Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at the
Doncaster Deaf Trust
Leger Way, Doncaster (opposite the Racecourse)
7.00pm for 7.30pm**

Please Note - There will occasionally be a change to the pre-advertised speaker due to circumstances beyond our control. If you are coming to hear a specific talk, please check our website before you travel or contact:

June Staniforth 07901 523 529

Entrance is free to members and £3.00 to non members

Recent Publications by D&DFHS

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

Please allow 21 days for delivery.

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

NEW DOWNLOAD AVAILABLE NOW

Canal Boat Registers for Doncaster and Thorne

Our latest download is a transcription of the Doncaster & Thorne Canal Boat Registers:

Doncaster Borough Canal Boat Register, for the Dun Navigation

1795 to 1803

Thorne Canal Boat Register for the Stainforth & Keadby Canal

1885 to 1957

If you have ancestors (often known as The Boat People) who worked on the river Dunn (Don) and the Stainforth & Keadby canal they may be registered as an Owner or Master of one of the many boats working the above waterways. The register was made necessary by an Act of Parliament of 1795. The Act required vessels used on navigations and canals to be registered with the clerk of the peace.

Our download gives the name of the Boat, the name of the Owner and the name of the Master. The download also gives some background information on the canal system developed at that time around Doncaster/Thorne areas.

For information about our publications please visit our website at www.doncasterfhs.co.uk

Or for sales go to www.genfair.co.uk

From the postbag /via e-mail

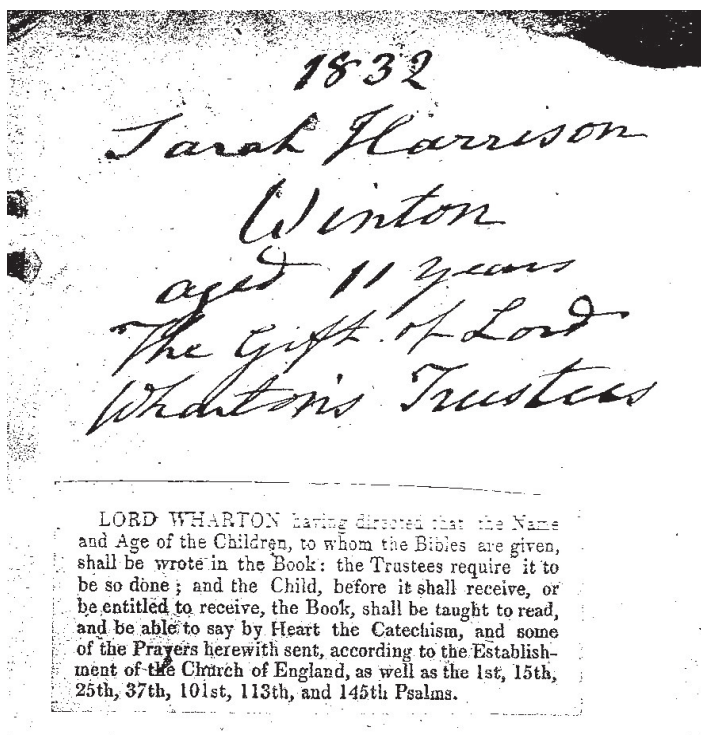
Dear Jenny,

I was most interested in the article sent in by Janet McCulloch in the Anniversary Ancestor regarding Lord Wharton's Bequest.

My husband's great grandmother was a recipient of a Bible at age eleven. I enclose a copy of the flyleaf of the Bible. Winton is a small village near Brough, Cumbria. Sarah was married in 1848 at Romalldkirk in County Durham and died in 1884 aged sixty three. She is buried in Barnard Castle Cemetery. She had eight children altogether, Sarah Ann the youngest, born in 1864, is my husband's grandmother.

Kind regards

Joan Brown, member 2533



Tips for your Research

Find my Past

British Army, Women's Army Auxiliary Corps 1917 –1920

Available online for the first time ever, uncover details of the remarkable women who served during the First World War.

British Armed Forces, First World War Disability Retirement Payments for Officers & Nurses

Another online first from the National Archives, these records are packed with information on Great War officers and nurses.

England & Wales Government Probate Death Index 1858 - 2019

A further 9.3 million records added to this useful resource, now dating back to 1858

England & Wales Electoral Registers 1832-1932

Explore the single largest Findmypast collection with approximately 220 million names of voters. The collection is made available online for the first time in association with the British Library as well as contribution from Explore York Libraries & Archives.

Changes to Document Ordering at The National Archives

With effect from 31 March 2020, the document ordering procedure of the National Archives will change.

Readers will be able to order a maximum of 12 documents for the same day, plus up to 12 documents ordered in advance (i.e. a maximum of 24 documents per reader per day).

The new procedure will run for an experimental 6-month period. More details can be seen on the National Archives website

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>



Doncaster Library has made arrangements with Ancestry for **Doncaster Library** members to be able to access Ancestry from home free of charge until 31st May 2020, when it's continuing availability during the present COVID19 crisis will be reviewed.

"Access to this resource has been temporarily expanded to library cardholders working remotely, courtesy of ProQuest and its partner Ancestry."



Doncaster Library has announced that their customers now have free access to Findmypast, similar to the arrangement with Ancestry.

"In light of the circumstances we are all facing, Find My Past are able to provide access to your library subscription via username and password.

The link and your login details will be displayed on the right once you log into the library website.

DO NOT share your login details. You will not be able to log into your personal Findmypast account to use the library subscription. Additionally, for privacy reasons, please do not start or update your own family trees on this account."

Please go to our website for further details: www.doncasterfhs.co.uk

For the members that are not local to Doncaster, it would be worth contacting your local library to see if they are offering the same to their library members.



The above picture is called **Shelf Isolation** and is printed with the kind permission of Phil Shaw. His website is <https://www.philshawonline.com/>

You need to start reading the book titles from the top left hand side.

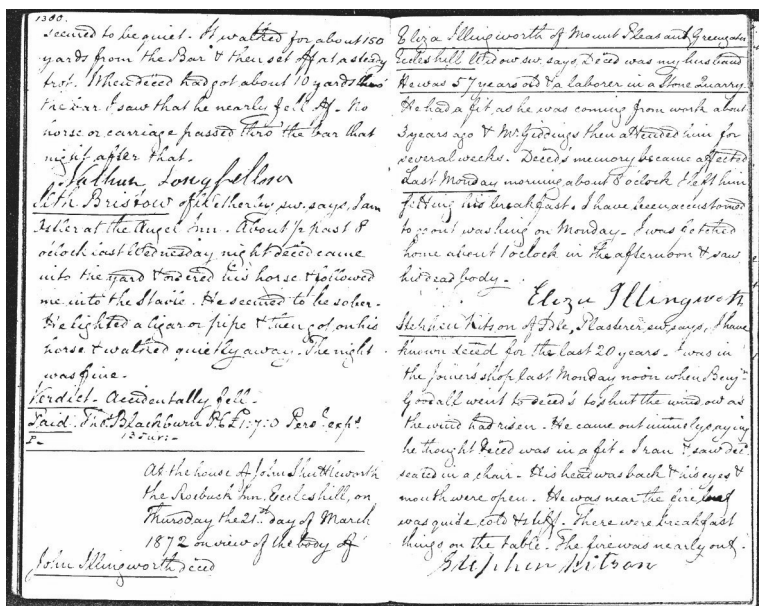
I just think that it is brilliant, and a message to us all. Editor

John Illingworth Inquest 1872

A long time ago, around 1980, I visited the West Yorkshire Record Office at Wakefield and as part of my researches I found a notebook which belonged to the West Riding Coroner. It seems the Coroner would go around the district and hold inquests in some public place local to the death and write his notes on the proceedings in the book. In it was a record of the inquest he held for my 2 times great grandfather at the Roebuck Inn, Greengates, Bradford.

The pub is demolished now but stood at the junction of Harrogate Road and New Line. A copy of the record and transcription is attached and, censuses apart, is the only time an ancestor of mine made it into public records so it was a welcome insight into a day in the life of two of them, albeit brief. The census for 1871 carries the comment that he was subject to fits.

Other members of either Society may be interested in locating this very interesting book to see if their ancestors have a similar entry.



**At the house of John Shuttleworth
 the Roebuck Inn, Eccleshill on
 Thursday the 21st day of March
 1872 on view the body of
 John Illingworth deceased**

Eliza Illingworth of Mount Pleasant, Greengates, Eccleshill, widow, sw. Deceased was my husband. He was 57 years old and a labourer in a stone quarry.

*He had a fit as he was coming from work about three years ago and Mr Giddings then attended him for several weeks. Deceased memory became affected. Last Monday morning about 8 o'clock I left him getting his breakfast. I have been accustomed to go out washing on Monday – I was fetched home about 1 o'clock in the afternoon and saw his dead body. **Eliza Illingworth***

*Stephen Kitson of Idle, plasterer, sw, says, I have known deceased for the last twenty years. I was in the Joiner's shop last Monday noon when Benjamin Goodall went to deceased's to shut the window as the wind had risen. He came out immediately saying he thought deceased was in a fit. I ran and saw deceased seated in a chair – his head was back and his eyes and mouth were open. He was near the fire but was quite cold and stiff. There were breakfast things on the table. The fire was nearly out. **Stephen Kitson***

Verdict Died suddenly from natural causes.

Paid Frederick Turner P.C £1:0:6 Personal Expenses

David Myers, Member 1768 & Bradford 1155

Davis sent me another email with the following.

I'm behind the times! Just discovered this book is available to view online here. Need to do some more research myself now.

<https://www.ancestry.co.uk/search/collections/6067/>

Doncaster Family History Society

Forty years ago two things converged and set me off on a wonderful voyage of discovery. The second was the appearance of an advertisement by Derek Palgrave inviting anyone interested in forming a Family History Society in Doncaster to an exploratory first meeting. We didn't get to that meeting for some reason, but I do believe we, my wife and I that is, attended the very first organised open meeting.

The first thing, rather before that meeting, was a young male relative in Canada getting in touch to say he was coming to England and could he visit. We soon discovered that he was keen to do some family history research, and in particular to try and find what he called tangible evidence of their existence. He had some names and he had some ideas about where to search.

Fred, who stayed with my sister for a week, is the great grandson of my mother's auntie, and he had the name **Booth** prominently in his notes, which confused him because my surname is **Booth**. What we found out very quickly was that his great grandmother's maiden name was **Booth** and that the Booths in that line came from the Peak District not far from Sheffield. As a matter of interest Auntie Kitty as our mother always called her, and her husband, were restless souls, having five children each one born in a different town in England before emigrating to Canada in the 1890s. They were pioneer settlers on the prairies of Saskatchewan, building their own log cabin with, reputedly, wolves on the roof, howling, at night!

We had a great week with Fred and managed to find gravestones, all in excellent condition, for two generations of Booths. For at least three generations (1764 to c1850) they were farm workers living in a cottage close to Strines Reservoir, and two graves are in the churchyard at High Bradfield. They (that is, Auntie Kitty's parents, my great grandparents on my mother's side), moved to Rotherham from Bradfield in the late 1850s (some forty years before my paternal grandad moved to Rotherham from farming at Mansfield Woodhouse) and their memorial in Masbrough Cemetery in Rotherham is beautifully preserved.

I wish Derek Palgrave had placed his advert two years earlier so that when Fred came we were better prepared to assist him; but he left us happy, and we have communicated a lot since that time.

Early meetings of the DFHS were held in the Chequer Road museum, and I can recall some interesting speakers. I can recall a lady from I think York, coming and enthusing us a good deal. On one occasion the Earl of Scarborough spoke and rolled out a very long scroll of his lineage down the centre aisle. The only names I can recall were Tim **MacQuiban**, who was vice-chair, Dorothy **Bramley**, who I think was treasurer at some stage, and a gent called **Bonser** who I'm pretty sure was secretary. Dorothy was a teaching colleague of mine for a while, Senior Mistress and housecraft/art teacher which explained not only her beautiful botanical water colours but also her equally beautiful embroidered family history charts (I wonder where they are now?)

I only made two inputs of any significance to the life of the society at that time; apart from the fact that there seemed to be plenty of enthusiastic people offering their services, we were engaged in a great many other extra-curricular activities. However, I did make a significant contribution to a display we did to advertise the society in the vestibule of the Waterdale library, and I was

eternally grateful (not!) to Dorothy for asking me to do a vote of thanks at the very last minute for perhaps the only speaker we had who didn't manage to set the audience alight!

I had a long break from Family History and got absorbed in many other activities, but came back to it about five years ago and re-joined the society. At nearly 83 I'm too old and too involved elsewhere to commit to very much now, but I think it is an excellent society and I sincerely hope that there are some younger folk and/or energetic oldies out there who can and are prepared to do what's necessary.

David Booth, Member 4068

Memories of the Early Years

Members will have seen the letter from our President, Derek Palgrave, in the previous *Doncaster Ancestor* recalling the events on the day which resulted in the formation of a Family History Society in Doncaster. There is now, 40 years later, a very small group of us who can say that we were present at that inaugural meeting in January, 1980.

I remember that Derek's plans for a new Society were greeted with considerable enthusiasm as I believe that most of the people present, myself included, were interested in their family history but had no idea how to proceed. A proposal to form a Society was passed unanimously.

Prior to the meeting a steering committee had been formed to take on the various executive positions and these were confirmed. Unfortunately I recall that within a short time the person who had agreed to be the first Secretary disappeared without warning never to be seen again.

Monthly meetings began straight away with speakers giving talks, often on basic research topics, which we as beginners found so informative at the time. After all these years I think it is amazing that there have been these regular monthly meetings for so long with very little repetition. "Several various venues were used in the early days for different reasons and one in particular was somewhat different from the others. I think we were at The United Reform Church in Hallgate where unfortunately, when the booking was made; we had not been informed that the local Scout Band held their practise night at the same time. This without doubt was the shortest stay of all."

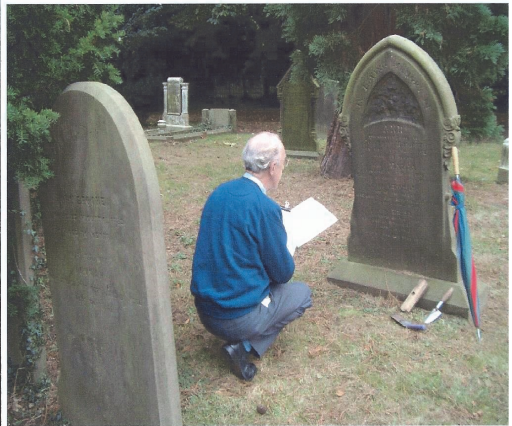
The first major project undertaken was the recording of monumental inscriptions which is wonderfully described in detail by Joan Grundy in the previous *Ancestor*. In the article there is a photograph of me recording the inscription from what appears to be one of the easy to read memorials. They were not all as clear as that as many were badly worn over years of weathering and required the use of scrubbing brushes, trowels and

enthusiasm. The observant amongst you may have noticed the umbrella leaning against the headstone. Such was our enthusiasm for the project that we were not deterred by a passing shower but on those occasions the use of a pencil produced a better result than a pen on damp paper.

After a few months attending the monthly meetings I was approached by a member of the committee who asked if I would like to join them. As I had very little experience this was totally unexpected and sensing my apprehension I was informed "you won't have to do anything". The meetings were held at Mr and Mrs Palgrave's home. I was straight away given the job of Speaker Finder (now more grandly named Programme Secretary). After two years Mrs Dorothy Bramley, the first treasurer, indicated that she would like to relinquish the position and at that time I offered to take over. Twenty seven years later, I decided to give someone else the chance "not to do anything".

In the early days there was little information readily available to aid research and after first talking to older family members and, if you were lucky, obtaining copies of any available certificates etc. or if you were very lucky identifiable family photographs, the next step usually involved travel. I remember when the Society hired a coach for a trip to London mainly for members to search the GRO indexes which at that time were housed at St Catherine's House. These were contained in large books, each covering a period of three months for each year from 1837. The rooms were usually crowded with competition from other researchers to use the books which were quite heavy. Forty years on we can now obtain everything at the press of a button.

Those of you who have taken advantage of the extensive resources at the Palgrave Research Centre may be interested to know how it all began. The first purchase by the Society was a series of microfiche of the International Genealogical Index (IGI) which were made available to members together with a portable viewer on a weekly basis. These were pre-booked and collected from our house on Sundays and returned on the following Saturday. This arrangement was replaced when we obtained the use of a filing cabinet in the local studies department at the Central Library. Various other locations followed over the years until a permanent "home" was made available at Balby and named after our founding President.



John Vessey recording monumental inscriptions in a churchyard

I have seen the development of the Society including the large number of people who have taken up membership over the years, the financial success (£42 in the bank at the end of the first year to the funds held at the present time), the acquisition of a vast amount of research material including an extensive library (unfortunately not currently available). This has all been achieved solely by the work carried out by a large number of volunteers performing numerous and varied tasks often, in some cases, spread over several years. I am pleased to have been involved and I suppose that I have established a long service record. Volunteers will always be needed to continue to take the Society forward and as is said, records are there to be broken. How about having a go, I am sure that you will find it interesting and worthwhile.

John Vessey, Member 38

Armthorpe, But Not As We Know It

It is sometimes difficult to imagine what life was like for our ancestors when we are doing our research, but I recently came across a map of Armthorpe, which my husband said was given to all the residents of Armthorpe and published by the Parish Council. On the back of the map there was a lot of information written about the village, which I thought would be interesting to share, and also give me a better understanding about the life of my earlier ancestors.

I should mention that the notes are the work of John Goodchild during his service with the old West Riding County Council, and he was also the first curator of Cusworth Museum in 1966.

Armthorpe was settled prior to the Norman Conquest and one of the earliest settlers was called Arnulf and the name of the village means "Arnulf's outlying farmstead." The present Armthorpe has been known by a variety of spellings: Arnethorpe, Ernethorpe, Arnelthorpe, Ernalthorpe, Hernoldsthorpe, and Ernulfesthorpe. Now I know where Ernelsthorpe Lodge gets its name from.

The village is mentioned in the Domesday Book which was completed in 1086 and in the reign of Edward the Confessor, Ulchel had been the lord of the village. The manor spelt "Ernulstesthorpe" was described as "well wooded". Ernuin, who was a priest, owned land in Armthorpe but the reference is not clear as to whether he was the priest in Armthorpe. He owned land in Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire & Lincolnshire. Armthorpe was a very small agricultural village and only eight inhabitants are mentioned in the Domesday survey.

The remains of a Roman village and farm were found on Nutwell Lane and through the centuries Armthorpe was known for its rich farming activities. It is probable that there were people living in the area from much earlier times.

Another ecclesiastical body owned considerable land in Armthorpe as the monks of Roche Abbey had established a Grange here by 1186. The Abbots of Roche later became lords of the manor exercising the principal medieval civil jurisdiction and Henry III granted those rights of hunting.

Little is known of the medieval village, with a few houses meandering eastwards from the church, and farming in the surrounding open fields. The woodland would be useful for rough pasture and also firewood. Indeed by the reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603) the agricultural produce of Armthorpe was being sold in Doncaster. The manor came into the hands of the King after the reign of the Abbots of Roche, and was probably leased out to land dealers.

Early in the 17th Century the manor was granted to Sir Robert Swyft of Streetthorpe (Edenthorpe) the neighbouring estate, and remained in the hands of the owners of this estate for three hundred years. My ancestors were living in the village at this time, as my five times great grandfather **Samuel Dob's** children were baptised in Armthorpe between 1781-1796.

According to John Goodchild "in 1823 the manor was purchased by George Parker, who lived at Streetthorpe and was sold by his descendants to Lord Auckland in the early 1870's". It was sold off at auction in the 1950's. The auctions make interesting reading and give the names of the farms with their size and how much they were rented for. I did find a Shepherd's Cottage for sale, which got me excited at first as my ancestors were shepherds, then reality set in, as my ancestors were very poor and were unable even to pay the fee for the baptism of some of their children.

The village in 1838, according to White's Directory, consisted mainly of scattered houses with three hundred and sixty eight inhabitants in an area of three thousand eight hundred and ten acres. **Elizabeth Howarth**, my four times great grandmother had died in 1832 but her husband **Edward** was still alive. I don't know if their children were still in the village at this time.

Less than a century after Domesday, the village had its own church and was the Chapel of Ease for Kirk Sandall. Parts of the older building incorporated within the present church are early Norman. The ancient church wasn't altered much until the 1880s, though a gallery was built when more room was required in 1785. Miller described it as a "small mean building", with nothing worth noticing in the inside. Having no tower was unusual but it had two bells in an octagonal turret and a mass-dial which was a sundial on the side of the building for telling the hours of the church services. The seats were almost all privately owned until the early nineteenth century, when over one hundred were purchased and made free.

My four times great grandmother **Elizabeth Dob** was baptised in this "small mean building" in 1783 and so were her eleven siblings. She also married her husband **Edward Howarth** in the church after banns in 1803 and their three children were baptised there between 1805 and 1809. I did read that only people who had been baptised, or going to be baptised were allowed into the

church and that the font was originally close to the door. This picture of the church in the early 1900's is taken from Church Street, with Brook House Farm on the left, before the bend was removed and the road altered.



The parish registers started in 1653 and the parish was unusual in having endowments for the parish clerk and sexton. This provided each of them with a cottage and a shared barn and possessing land, of which the rents were used for repairing or replacing the bell ropes. I also found the following: "The Bell Rope Land is an allotment of 1 acre 16 poles, in lieu of land, appropriated from ancient time to the funding of church bell-rope". Now I know why there is Bell Rope Acre in Armthorpe.

"The Burial in Woollen Acts 1666-80" were the Acts of Parliament of England which required the dead, except plague victims, to be buried in pure English woollen shrouds to the exclusion of any foreign textiles due to the decline of the woollen industry on which so many places in this country depended. The Act of Parliament was intended to create a new market for woollen cloth. It was a requirement that an affidavit be sworn in front of a Justice of the Peace (usually by a relative of the deceased or some other credible person) confirming burial in wool, with the punishment of a £5 fee for noncompliance.

Parish registers were marked with the word affidavit or with a note '**A**' or '**Aff**' against the burial entries to confirm that affidavit had been sworn, or marked '**naked**' for those too poor to afford the woollen shroud. Some affidavits survive such as the following one taken from Armthorpe Parish Registers. **At Armthorpe, on July 26 1735, "Mrs Elizabeth Newsome widow aged about 80 buried and affidavit brought"**.

My five times great grandfather, **Samuel Dob**, was recorded as a shepherd in 1781 when his first son was baptised, so I would like to think that the wool from his sheep was used to make the woollen shrouds. This legislation was in force until 1814 but apparently was generally ignored after 1770. These related records are generally regarded as a source of genealogical information, and can help provide evidence of economic status and relationships that may be unavailable elsewhere or ambiguous. The 1666 Act was repealed by the Statute Law Revision Act 1863.

I don't know how long **Samuel Dob** was a shepherd in Armthorpe, as I have very little information about him, and know that they were poor. Apparently a fee was paid for baptisms until 1872, when the "Baptismal Fees Abolition Act"

came into force. I believe this amounted to a few old pence but couldn't find any further information for this area. I do know that in 1792, when his 7th child John was baptised, they were poor and so no duty was paid for the baptism. If they couldn't afford this amount for a baptism, I wonder why they had eight children.

In 1697 **Widow Shaw** kept the only alehouse in the village and in 1720 there were two tipping houses but by 1821 there was only one called The Board. The names changed considerably and in 1838 there was the Hart in Hand, so perhaps **Edward Howarth** my four times great grandfather used the pub, as he didn't die until 1852. In 1872 there was the Horse and Groom and the Plough. I know that the Horse and Groom is still a public house but not sure if there are any more still functioning.

The village school was mentioned as early as 1689 when money was left for teaching some children free of charge. In 1743 the rector stated that there was no "publick school" but the school and schoolmaster were mentioned in an award eleven years later. I wonder whether my four times great grandmother **Elizabeth Dob** was lucky enough to be a pupil at the school, as she was born in 1783.

By 1838, **Thomas Gibson** who was the master was receiving £6.00 annually from endowments for which he taught ten free scholars. A few years later the church authority began to take an interest in the school and in 1845 land was acquired for a new school and with a grant from the National Church of England, and a simple brick building was erected.



By kind permission of Doncaster Archives

The population of Armthorpe from the start of the national censuses in 1801 changed little until the twentieth century. In 1801 there were 273 inhabitants and in 1811 there were 62 inhabited houses in the village which contained 65 families. I now know that my four times great grandparents and their three children were one of those families.

Miller stated that Armthorpe contained 50 families, with 2000 acres of ground, 700 acres of grass and 300 arable. Rotation of crops in this village were 1st, turnips, 2d, barley two thirds, and oats one third, 3d, clover, 4th, wheat, fallow. He also said that there were very few houses here of any consequence, the largest containing about twelve people including all the servants. By 1911 there were 86 houses with 381 people.

The following picture would be early 20th century and those people who know Armthorpe will recognise the building on the right.



Between 1921 and 1931 when the colliery got to work and the pit houses were built the figure rose enormously to 6135 and Armthorpe had ceased to fill its ancient role of a completely agricultural village. It had become an important colliery village but still with a great deal of agriculture.

It was interesting to compare maps, and the National Library of Scotland has maps of Armthorpe from 1854 up to 1930 so that you can compare the growth of the village. The maps are copyrighted, so I was unable to copy them.

This has been an interesting journey for me, as I now know a little bit more about how my relatives lived, although my three times great grandfather **Samuel Howarth** was born in Armthorpe, he married in Kirk Sandall in 1831, so can only presume that this is when he left Armthorpe.

Not only do I know more about my ancestors but I also learnt about The Burial in Woollen Acts 1666-80 and The Baptismal Fees Abolition in 1872, which previously I knew nothing about. (I have led a sheltered life!) This tiny village of one main street and very few houses back in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries grew significantly with the opening of the pit and even more with the closing of the pit. The bustling village of Armthorpe now, bears no resemblance to when my distant ancestors lived there. With the help of local and social history, I have a clearer understanding of how difficult life must have been for them.

Jenny Ellis, Editor April 2020

Thanks to Philip Langford for all his help and supplying the photos.

Also to Audrey Parrish, a family friend and long-time resident of Armthorpe.

Bibliography:

Armthorpe Parish Registers

1838 White's Directory West Riding Yorkshire Vol II Armthorpe

Armthorpe, a Farming Village by A. Dodson

Armthorpe Church & Village Leaflet

St Leonard & St Mary Armthorpe

The History of Doncaster (1804) Edward Miller

The late Kenneth A Johnson

With the death of Ken Johnson in January this year, Doncaster and District Family History Society lost a member whose personal knowledge of Doncaster from the 1930s onwards, was second to none. Born in Doncaster in 1924 he had a wonderfully clear memory of growing up in the town which he loved, and was always happy to share his knowledge with others.

The eldest of three brothers, Ken was employed by the British Ropes Company after leaving school. With the outbreak of the second world war, he was engaged in the manufacture of cables, used to anchor barrage balloons over targets likely to be subject to bombing raids. Although working five twelve hour shifts each week he was not satisfied that he was “pulling his weight” in the war effort. Being under age for military service, he felt that he could do more and so he volunteered for duty with the local Fire Service. He was accepted and so found himself occupied with duty on Saturdays and Sundays as well as his normal employment at “Ropes”!

In due course Ken’s call up papers arrived and he found himself in the R.A.F. training to be a wireless operator / air gunner. He found that he had problems with the Morse code but as there was a growing need for air gunners in Bomber Command, his position was assured. On completion of his training he was assigned to 61 Squadron at Skellingthorpe near Lincoln with the rank of Sergeant, soon to become a member of the crew of a Lancaster bomber.

During the second half of 1944, Ken and his crew completed a tour of thirty missions and should have been stood down from front line service. They completed another three missions before being offered the chance to stand down. However the alternative to the stand down was to transfer to another squadron and Ken and most of the crew moved together to fly Lancaster bombers with 9 Squadron at Bardney, where they completed another nine missions before the war ended. By this time Ken had been promoted to Warrant Officer..

Before leaving the R.A.F. Ken returned to Doncaster and married his fiancée Joan in September 1945. Sometime later he joined International Harvesters at their tractor plant in Wheatley Hall Road, subsequently moving to employment at Mining Supplies until his retirement in 1986.

Ken became a member of the R.A.F. Association but took no part in any activities. He concentrated on other aspects of his life, including his family, bird watching and conducting nature walks around Levitt Hagg for local school parties.

In 2005 Doncaster Council organised an event to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War Two. Ken received an invitation to take

part but was reluctant to do so. However some of his ex-service pals managed to persuade him to go and this opened up a new chapter in his life.

The anniversary event included numerous guests and some thirty two ex-R.A.F. service men and women and as a special guest a former Luftwaffe night-fighter pilot. On the first of the three days covered by the event, the guests were taken to East Kirkby in Lincolnshire, where a restored Lancaster bomber gave members short trips along part of the airfield's perimeter track. Ken was lucky enough to be offered a place on the first of the Lancaster's runs. Associated with the event both B.B.C. and I.T.V. television crews interviewed various ex-servicemen and Ken's interviews were shown on Television News that night. Next day his neighbours were anxious to tell Ken that they had seen him on the "tele" and could they have his autograph!

The friendships which Ken made through attending this event lead to his becoming part of a team of former WW2 aircrew who autographed prints and books at various Air Displays and other events in many parts of the country, fundraising for various organisations over a period of several years. It was not unusual to see Ken sitting alongside film star Richard Todd, who played the part of Guy Gibson in the famous film "The Dambusters", signing autographs.

After joining Doncaster and District Family History Society in his later life, Ken enjoyed attending the monthly talks and other events and helping with the administration of other clubs' magazine.

In 2016, Ken was one of the British servicemen to be awarded the French Legion de Honneur in recognition of his services in the liberation of France in World War Two.

At his funeral service, Ken's coffin was borne into the Chapel by serving R.A.F. personnel in uniform.

Ken Johnson was one of "Natures Gentlemen" and will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him and sharing his company.

In the winter 2011 edition of "The Doncaster Ancestor" Ken wrote about his aircraft being hit by falling bombs from another Lancaster flying above. Sadly, one of the bombs killed his friend, Canadian Carson Foy, their tail gunner. Whenever we discussed this event, Ken always referred to the fact that he could see the bombs which were about to strike their aircraft (and perhaps Ken himself in the exposed position of mid-upper gunner) were all rusty and dirty. This really upset Ken and he was quite disgusted. He seemed to be of the opinion that as these were "our" bombs they should have been clean and polished and the situation would have been more acceptable.

Robin Platt, Member 1968

Levitt Hagg, Warmsworth



It may be best known in recent years as the name of a landfill site - but Levitt Hagg has a rich history dating back hundreds of years. It is probable that the name was first given to a clearing below the Warmsworth Cliffs on the south bank of the River Don. The earliest known reference to the area is a rental paid in 1629. The clearing was in the parish of Warmsworth, one mile from Warmsworth village and half a mile from Sprotbrough Church. During the mid-18th century, Levitt Hagg was adopted as the name for a house erected on part of the site of the clearing. Later, when more buildings were constructed and a small village was formed, Levitt Hagg was used for the name of the whole settlement. **John Battie** began quarrying operations at the base of Warmsworth Cliffs in the 1750s. He had entered the quarrying business because the growth in population in the 18th century had created a demand for stone to build more houses. The increase in population also led to higher food prices and a need for more food growing areas. This in turn initiated the establishment of lime burning at the quarries as lime was essential in the reclamation of marginal land for agriculture.

The company then witnessed an era of great expansion and productivity. Other quarries in the Warmsworth Cliffs, owned by the **Aldam** family, were leased, and by 1850 the annual total from all the quarries was quoted at 13,000 tons of lime and 22,000 tons of stone. A large amount of this output was distributed by boat, but when the South Yorkshire Railway Company's line was extended through Warmsworth Cliffs in 1849, it enabled a considerable proportion of the stone and lime to be conveyed by rail.

The settlement took its name from Hagg, an archaic word which meant 'broken ground in a bog, and from the **Levett** family, an Anglo-Norman family prominent in Yorkshire for centuries.

Today Levitt Hagg is the site of an abandoned quarry and landfill site,

providing refuge for four species of bats, including whiskered, long-eared, Daubenton's and Natterer's. (The bats and their habitat are protected by law).

The village of Levitt Hagg began to grow around 1815 when the company of Lockwood, Blagden and Kemp constructed six cottages, known locally as 'White Row.' Four more houses had been constructed before 1851 when, according to the 1851 census, the dwellings were occupied by 60 people. During 1875, six more houses were constructed. Each one contained a living room, two bedrooms, an attic and a kitchen. At this time the village population was nearly 100, and in 1878 a small Mission Hall cum Reading Room was built on a site given by Cusworth Hall Estate owner William Battie-Wrightson.

During 1925, the County Medical Officer made a report on the sanitary conditions at Levitt Hagg, and his findings were that many of the houses were in a state of disrepair, water had to be obtained from wells and drainage was discharged into the river and whenever the river overflowed the houses were prone to flooding. The unsanitary conditions and the badly polluted state of the river led to all the Levitt Hagg houses being condemned as unfit for occupation and by 1957 the area had been cleared.

The Levitt Hagg landfill site is run by Waste Recycling Group who have restored 2 acres to calcareous grassland and installed equipment to supply gas from the site to the grid.

Keith Crouter, Member 1623

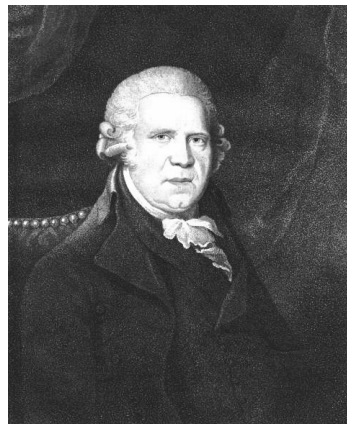
Edward Miller D.Mus. Organist of Doncaster

In 1804 **Edward Miller** published a large book entitled, *The History and Antiquities of Doncaster and its Vicinity with Anecdotes of Eminent Men.*

Edward Miller was himself an eminent man of Doncaster. He was organist at Doncaster Parish Church (now Minster) and held the post for over fifty years.

In order to complete his book Miller visited every church and village of which he wrote. He consulted **Edward Chorley**, a doctor of physic, regarding the natural history of the area and had copious correspondence with **Robert Wilde** of Wickersley and Mr **Joseph Hunter** of Sheffield; and he also acknowledged the help he had from the clergy of the various churches which he visited, and from the Deanery of Doncaster.

Edward was born in 1735 in Norwich and married **Elizabeth Lee** in Doncaster on 15th February 1763 when she was only 17 years old. Ten children followed in quick succession. Only three of the children reached adulthood and sadly his wife died in 1773 when she was only 28. By the time Edward died in 1807 aged 72 only one of the children from his first marriage survived him. He did however have two sons who were born illegitimate and had the surname **Brailsford**. Isaac the elder of these succeeded Edward as the organist at Doncaster and the other son was also a musician. His surviving son by **Elizabeth Lee**, William Edward, became a clergyman.



Painting of Edward Miller by
Thomas Hardy

Late in life Edward married again to **Margaret Lloyd Edwards** by special licence on 29th December 1796 at Doncaster parish church. She outlived him by many years and died near London in 1838.

Elizabeth inherited the house that they lived in next to the church and it still stands in the churchyard and bears a blue plaque. Her family had held the house since the 17th century and her father Thomas was a barber and peruke (wig) maker. Both of her parents died before Elizabeth married Edward.

Edward's father was a paviour in Norwich and it had been assumed that Edward would follow in his father's footsteps but he left home and learnt his musical skills from **Dr Edward Burney** (father of **Fanny Burney**, the writer) of King's Lynn, although **Burney** seems to have been a seasonal visitor to London where they met **Handel** and Edward later played flute in Handel's Orchestra. He became very skilled with a number of instruments and performed in many places before he was appointed organist in Doncaster on July 25th 1756. He published many books about different musical instruments. He was very friendly with the **FitzWilliam** family at Wentworth and the **Copleys** in Doncaster. The latter set aside one day a week for music which involved Miller. He joined the local militia and also became a freemason of Doncaster. He travelled widely and had many students. He was awarded a Doctor of Music degree by Cambridge University in 1786. He wrote the famous hymn tunes Rockingham and Galway and published books on several instruments including guitar, flute and pianoforte and wrote a book of folk songs. He organised concerts during Race Week which were performed either in the Mansion house or in the church. What a busy man!

Here are a few jottings from his major book about our area which you might find interesting.

In 1804 the population of Doncaster was 5697. There were 1246 houses, 2477 males and 3220 females The Parish register for the year March 25th 1801 to March 25th 1802 showed 172 baptisms, 95 male burials, 77 female burials and 68 marriages. By 1804 the population and number of houses had increased greatly.

Earlier data shows:-

1551 There was a great plague in Doncaster.

1563 England was engaged in the slave trade. A great plague in Doncaster.

1582 A great plague in Doncaster. 908 persons died.

1583 Tobacco first brought to England.

1585 Rice was first cultivated in Ireland.

1605 Plague continued for over a year. Gunpowder plot discovered November 5th.

1608 A great frost began December and continued until April.

1610 A great frost for five months from December to April.

1617 A great snow. Friars Bridge broken down by a flood. The gallows were taken down.

1625 A great plague.

1634 A great snow.

1639 A sturgeon taken in the Mill Pitt Doncaster.

1665 100,000 victims of plague died in London.

1670 Sturgeon taken at Docken Hill.

1683 A severe frost continued 13 weeks.

1690 Rice first cultivated in England.

1698 Great snow on 3rd May and a severe frost the following night.

1719 A fiery meteor March 19th at 8pm. Workhouse established in Doncaster.

1727 A sturgeon taken near the Engine Dam in Doncaster.

1735 Gin shops in London amounted to 7000.

1749 February 8th an earthquake in London and another more dreadful one March 8th.

He described various crops grown around Doncaster:-

Fine Asparagus, of a superior weight, was sold to various markets as far away as Newcastle on Tyne.

Tickhill was famed for its walnuts.

There were quarries at Roche Abbey, Sprotborough, Mexborough and Brodsworth.

Roche has a very white limestone; Mexborough has a gritstone suitable for kerbstones of pavements. Most houses in Doncaster are built from Sprotborough stone which comes down the river.

Pipeclay comes from Rawmarsh Common. Swinton clay is not suitable for pipes.

At Cusworth Hall there are two sources of Gypsum, one brown and the other white which when mixed together give a flesh colour. Mr **Wrightson** recently sent ten tons of this to Mr **Papera**, an eminent modeller, in Marylebone Street London. It could also be used as manure and Mr **Wrightson** used large amounts for such.

Ruddle or raddle is found at Micklebring where Messrs **Gleadhall** and **Sheppard** have mills for grinding it and have a considerable trade.

Peat at Hatfield where solid enough is ploughed by horses to grow rape but where it is soggy it is formed into sods to light household fires. It is used instead of splinters of deal which are used in London. Many poor families in Hatfield support themselves by cutting and forming turf into sods the shape and size of bricks, some loads of which their master takes to Doncaster every week to sell to the inhabitants at four pence or five pence a score.

There are not many minerals and on the road from London to Doncaster there are no coal mines, but from Rotherham, Denaby and Mexborough and other towns contiguous to the River Don coal is freighted to Hull and its vicinity.

Iron is found immediately above the coal from which large quantities of iron are made. Lime is present at Sprotborough and used for building, but if burnt is used for mortar. Warmsworth produces the best lime for mortar but it is also of so excellent a quality as a manure for land, that for this purpose farmers

convey it a considerable distance.

Birds of the area:- Osprey, Moor Buzzards, Peregrine Falcons, long eared Owls, short eared Owls, great ash coloured Butcherbirds, Royston Crow, Nuthatch, King's Fisher, Crested Heron, Ruff, Green Sandpiper, Water Rail, Ring Ouzel, Bohemian Jay and Nightingale.

In the river Don you could find Barbel, Perch, Pike, Bream, Dace and Eels but no Salmon. Small streams at Tickhill, Sandbeck, Firbeck and Adwick-le Street produce very fine trout. On the right side of the River Don bridge there is a large meadow called Bentley and Arksey Ings, containing about 1200 acres which after being cut for hay is pastured in common from 10th September until the 25th March.

South of Doncaster some farmers cultivate woad for the use of dyers and the seed is sown with red clover. When the woad is in full bloom the women and boys go before the mowers to pull the plants. They are then placed in small heaps with the tops uppermost and when completely dried they are put into the barn and sold to dyers from 1s 3d to 3s a stone.

The preceding is just a much abbreviated account of the life and times of Edward Miller who was renowned throughout the country and remembered in a Memorial Concert in the Parish Church in 1937, which was very well attended by a large number of his descendants. However, one of his most well - known descendants was not present as he was unaware of the service. He was the American, **Ernest Miller Hemingway**, who was the great, great, great grandson of **Edward Miller**. Perhaps he hadn't been doing his family history!

Sources:-

1. Edward Miller. Organist of Doncaster His Life and Times by Frederick Fowler 1979
2. The History and Antiquities of Doncaster and its Vicinity with Anecdotes of Eminent Men by Edward Miller 1804

Thanks to Philip Langford for the photograph of Church House.

Pattie Birch, Member 3232

**A Table of Kindred and Affinity
Wherein whatsoever are related, are forbidden in scripture
and our laws to marry together**

A man may not marry his	A woman may not marry her
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandmother • Grandfather's wife • Wife's grandmother • Father's sister • Mother's sister • Father's brother's wife • Mother's brother's wife • Wife's father's sister • Wife's mother's sister • Mother • Step mother • Wife's mother • Daughter • Wife's daughter • Son's wife • Sister • Wife's sister • Brother's wife • Son's daughter • Daughter's daughter • Son's son's wife • Daughter's son's wife • Wife's son's daughter • Wife's daughter's daughter • Brother's daughter • Sister's daughter • Brother's son's wife • Sister's son's wife • Wife's brother's daughter • Wife's sister's daughter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandfather • Grandmother's husband • Husband's grandfather • Father's brother • Mother's brother • Father's sister's husband • Mother's sister's husband • Husband's father's brother • Husband's mother's brother • Father • Step father • Husband's father • Son • Husband's son • Daughter's husband • Brother • Husband's brother • Sister's husband • Son's son • Daughter's son • Son's daughter's husband • Daughter's daughter's husband • Husband's son's son • Husband's daughter's son • Brother's son • Sister's son • Brother's daughter's husband • Sister's daughter's husband • Husband's brother's son • Husband's sister's son

The article on the previous page is from The Book of Common Prayer

Alec Graves, Member 1729

From The Byrth of Mankynde

by Eucharius Rosslin printed in English in 1545

At the end of the book he gives a few interesting concoctions for common ailments so here are a couple.

It is written in Old English so I have altered one or two spellings to make it more readable.

To do away freckens or other spottes in the face

These freckens & such other spots in the face or othere where in ye body may be taken away by often annoynting them thoyle of tartar to be found always at the apothecaries & surely that oyle is soveraygne for ye purpose. Item take Eleborus & seethe (soak) of it an ounce in halfe a pynt of strong white vinegre tyll halfe be consumed: then mixte therewith hony, iii sponefuls & the waight of a peny of mercury sublymd, (to be had at the apothecaries) & seethe these together agayne tyl it becum thick: with this annoynt ye frekyns & it wyll destroy them: this is also very good for the morpheu, and other discoloration or staynyng of the skin.

To destroy warts and such lyke exerescensys on the face or elsware

For this purpose nothing is so excellent as every day once, the space of iii or iiij dayes to drop one drop of stronge water called aquaforis on them for this destroyeth them in very short tyme. Item ye juyce of a red onion, & the juyce of marygolds is very good for the same. Item dissolve a lytyll Mercury sublimid in fayre water and therewith drop the warts and they wyll soone wither and consume awaye.

Makes you wonder that we are all still here!

Joan Grundy, Member 4

The Mayflower 400th Anniversary

On the 6th September 1620 the Mayflower with 102 passengers and a crew of 30 sailed for the New World. The voyage took 66 days and they arrived at Cape Cod on 9th November 1620. There were 37 passengers off the Speedwell, which had collected the passengers from the Separatist Leiden congregation. The Speedwell having sprung a leak and passengers and provisions were transferred over at Southampton. The Mayflower had left Rotherhithe during July 1620.

Do you have any family links to this historic event? Were any of your ancestors on board the Mayflower? If so we would love to hear from you?

A booklet "The Pilgrim Heartland Trail" has been produced by Doncaster & Bassettlaw Councils and is available from Doncaster Tourist Centre, Queens Buildings, Worksop, and The Hub, Retford. The booklet lists the places associated with the Mayflower and there is a synopsis below.

Retford the Hub Visitor Centre houses a Pilgrim Room.

Babworth All Saints Church closely connected to the religious separatism in the area as Richard Clifton was the rector from 1586 until 1605. Due to his views Clifton was deprived of his living and was a non-conformist. He is thought to have been 'housed' at Scrooby Manor where for a time he was the spiritual leader of the Separatist congregation.

The Brewsters, Jacksons and William Bradford all heard Clifton speak.

Scrooby Location of the 'Pilgrim Fathers Inn' and opposite is St Wilfrid's Church (400 years ago known as St. James) where William Brewster and Susanna White-Winslow were baptised. Both Brewster and Richard Jackson were prominent figures in the Pilgrim story they were fined for non-attendance at Scrooby's Parish Church - arrest warrants were issued but the pair had fled to Holland.

Susanna White-Winslow was a prominent figure in the Pilgrim story. She was one of three women who boarded the Mayflower pregnant, subsequently giving birth to the first Pilgrim child. Her husband William died soon after arriving in America. Susanna later married pilgrim Edward Winslow; they were the parents of the future Plymouth governor Josiah.

Clarbrough was the birthplace of Separatist preacher Robert Southwith and cousins Edward & Thomas Southwith who were Leiden church members. They were all baptised at Parish Church of St John the Baptist. Edward did not sail on the Mayflower and died shortly after the sailing. His wife Alice Carpenter-Southworth later married widowed Governor William Bradford in 1625: Alice's two sons Constant and Thomas also later settled in the colony.

Bawtry birthplace of George Morton brother-in-law to William Bradford and

was a Leiden Separatist in Bawtry. The Masonic Lodge, Bawtry contains the remnants of the Hospital Chapel of St Mary Magdalene, where many members of the Morton family were buried.

Austerfield birthplace of William Bradford in 1590, baptised in St Helena's Church. William was orphaned early; his uncle Robert Bradford was later his guardian. William became a follower of Richard Clifton and joined the Scrooby Congregation.

Sturton Le Steeple was the birthplace of John Robinson, who was the spiritual leader of the Separatist Congregation in Leiden. He entered Cambridge University in 1596, whilst there he embraced the Puritan movement. He entered the Anglican Church in 1603, married and settled in Norwich. In the wake of the crackdown on radical Puritan ministers he lost his living. Upon returning to Nottinghamshire he became an active member of the Scrooby Separatists and in 1608 he fled with them to Leiden, Holland. John later died in Leiden in 1625.

Mayflower passenger Katherine (White) Leggett-Carver, the sister of John's wife Bridget White was born in Sturton. She later married John Carver who was elected the first governor of Plymouth Colony.

Doncaster It's believed that William Brewster attended the old grammar school, which once stood near the site of the present day Corn Exchange. William's mother Mary resided in the town with her first husband, John Simkinson, and William's half siblings were baptised at the Minster.

Hatfield was the birthplace of Mary Simpkinson, and she was baptised in the Parish Church of St Lawrence, Hatfield. Her first husband John was an Alderman and twice mayor of Doncaster.

Braithwell Richard Jackson the father of Susanna White-Winslow came from Braithwell. Richard was a school teacher there, and his father John served as the Constable. Inside the Parish Church of St James are examples of church furniture by Robert 'The Mouse Man' with his trademark carved mouse.

Arksey William Bradford's family roots lay in the village, with the family name quite prolific in the Arksey Parish Register. However, today no Bradford family memorials of any great age survive within the church.

Tickhill has two distinct Pilgrim connections, firstly with Susan (Jackson) White-Winslow and then to William Bradford. William's great grandfather Robert Bradford of Wellingley was buried on 14th December 1553 in St Mary's Parish Church

Keith Crouter, Member 1623

Obituaries

Leri Morton

I have known you for several years. We got on quite well, all because I walked into the research room to look for my family, of which I knew very little.

We got on so well, we went on several holidays together. We shared a room but NOT a bed, no, no. One night you were fast asleep but woke me by shouting at your pupils. I'm quite glad I was not in your class... You remembered nothing. After that we decided that with you shouting and me (apparently) snoring we'd have separate rooms.

We've been to Scotland by train up to the Kyle of Lochalsh, beautiful, went on the Falkirk Wheel, seen the Kelpies. Another holiday we saw the Tall Ships. We went on a five day holiday and on five different steam trains in Yorkshire. Great.

Now what? You leave me to have a holiday on my own. Well I won't be going without you of course.

It's only a week since you died but the pain is not getting any easier. I miss you but at least I have many memories. God Bless you.

Maureen Dossier, Member 2757

George Cooper

We have been informed of the death of George Cooper earlier this year, by his wife Joyce. We send our condolences to his family and friends.

New Members

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

Mem ID	Title	Initial	Last Name
4431	Mr	D	Fordham
4432	Mrs	K	O'Halloran
4433	Ms	C	Rhodes
4434	Mr	R	Jackson
4435	Ms	H	Ramsay

Members' Interests

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

Members' Interest Enquiries (see inside back page).

Please note that Chapman codes have been used for counties. Full details of the Chapman Codes can be found on our website, If you do not have access to the internet, please contact a committee member to obtain a written copy.

Please note that there are no members' interests this time.

Don't forget to review your members interests occasionally, as they will change as you continue with your research. They are available from the members area of the website and are in alphabetical order.

I will take my own advice, as I haven't changed mine since I joined the Society.

D&DFHS Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Wednesday 30th September 2020

The 2020 Annual General Meeting of Doncaster & District Family History Society will take place in the main hall of Doncaster College for the Deaf, Leger Way, Doncaster on **Wednesday 30th September 2020 at 7.30 pm.**

The main business of the meeting will be to receive the Annual Reports, to approve the 2019 Accounts and to elect the Honorary Officers for 2020.

In accordance with the Society's Constitution, **nominations for the posts on the Committee should be sent to the Secretary a minimum of 14 days prior to the AGM.**

Members wishing to raise questions at the AGM should submit them to the Secretary, in writing, not less than 28 days before the meeting, so that they can be placed on the agenda. See front cover or email:

honsecretary@doncasterfhs.co.uk

Society Vacancies

The Society needs to recruit volunteers to fill the following positions:

- **Executive Committee Members**

Current Vacancies:

- **Bookstall Co-ordinator**
- **Fair Co-ordinator**

If any member would like to assist any of the Society's current post holders or requires further information please contact the Chairman, chairman@doncasterfhs.co.uk

Dates For Your Diary

The Family History Show, York

They are holding an online virtual event on the 20 June 2020 that will provide the features of the physical show

<http://createsend.com/t/j-BEAFD3E74EE51A932540EF23F30FEDED>

Sept 2020

Chesterfield Family & Local History plus Heritage Fair

6 September 2020

Proact Football Stadium

Chesterfield, S41 8NZ

Please note the new date

October 2020

Doncaster & District Family History Fair with Crafts

3 October 10.00 - 16.00

Doncaster Deaf Trust

June 2021

The Family History Show, York

19 June 10.00 - 16.30

The Knavesmire Exhibition Centre,

York, YO23 1EX

DN2 6AY

Remember to check with the organisers before you travel

D&DFHS Subscription Rates 01 Apr 2020 - 31 Mar 2021

Please make all cheques/postal orders etc. payable to:	Individuals	£10.00
Doncaster & District Family History Society	Family in same house	£12.00
Send to Membership Secretary	Institutions UK	£12.00
- see back page	Overseas	
or www.genfair.com	Electronic journal	£12.00
	Paper journal	£15.00

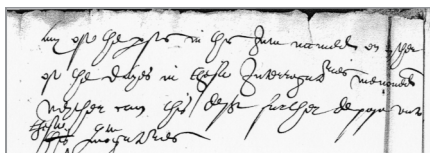
New Members who join January - March can receive up to 3 months membership free

D&DFHS Research Service

Please note that this service is under review at present and details will be on our website and via Facebook when available
www.doncasterfhs.co.uk

Transcription Service

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



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

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

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