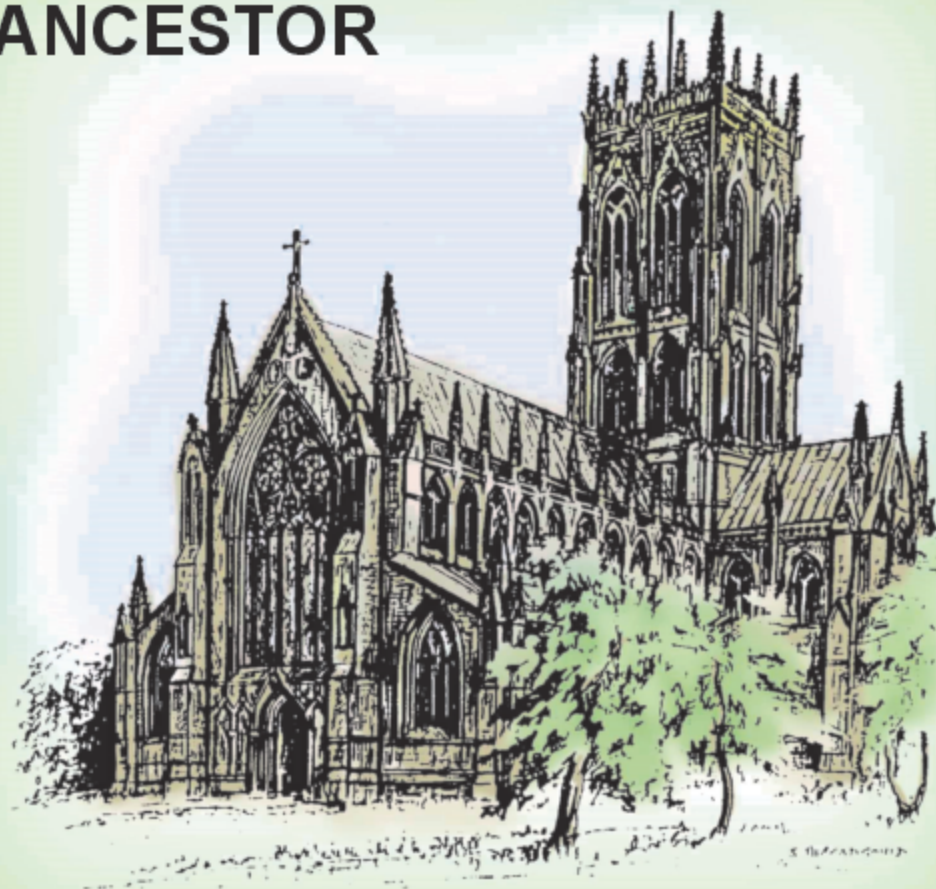


# THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR

ISSN 0144-459X



Doncaster Minster

S Threadgould

**The Journal of the  
Doncaster and District  
Family History Society  
1980 - 2019**

VOLUME 29 No 2 SUMMER 2019

# THE DONCASTER ANCESTOR

Journal of the Doncaster and District Family History Society

Free to Members

Volume 29 No 2

ISSN 0144-459X

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Editor: Jenny Ellis

Assistant Editor: Keith Crouter

Editorial Team: Karen Walker, Richard Cuell

# From the Chair



Thank you for electing me as your Chair at the February 2019 AGM. I am well aware that what the Society has achieved since 1980 is not down to one person, but a huge team effort. Even though I have been a volunteer with the Society since 2005, last year being the start of my second stint on the Executive Committee, I am not complacent in thinking that I know what all the volunteers contribute to the running of the Society. I will by the end of the year. Thank you to you all.

At the AGM, Roni Chapman was elected as Vice Chair. A big thank you is due to Roni for chairing the Society for the last three years. After giving a total of 28 years' service to the Executive Committee Carol Ackroyd, Marion Baxter, Alec Graves and Dave Valentine did not stand for re-election. Thank you all for your contributions, in a variety of roles, over many years. We wish you and your families well and hope your brick walls are few. We welcomed Keith Crouter and Philip Langford to the Executive Committee.

The Doncaster Archives King Edward Road building and therefore the Palgrave Research Centre, is planned to close next year. The Doncaster Council have made a proposal for the Doncaster Archives, Local Studies and the Society to share a Reading Room, on the first floor of the Doncaster Museum, Chequer Road. When further details are available, the Executive Committee will evaluate the proposal and advise the membership as to its viability.

The Society will also need to review how it fulfils the object of the Society, particularly with the internet continuing to impact on all aspects of our lives and that in recent months two societies have merged and one society has closed. We will consult with and advise the membership of the options available.

*“The object of the Society shall be to advance public education in family history and genealogy within area of interest.”*

The Society was saddened to hear that the Rotherham Family History Society (RFHS) ceased to exist after 31 March 2019. RFHS have passed their assets to us and consequently the Society has offered 1 year's FREE membership to

**Deadline for the next edition is 8th July 2019 at the latest.**

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

The journal is published at the end of February, May, August and November.

**Vol 29 No 3 Edition will be published at the end of August 2019.**

those members of RFHS as at 31 March 2019. See details of the offer on page twenty-nine.

The Society is due to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year and whilst the immediate future can be said to be challenging, I am sure there will be opportunities to build on the achievements of the past.

**George W Hiley**

**chairman@doncasterfhs.co.uk**

16 April 2019

## **From the Editor**

Many thanks to all of you who have sent in articles for this journal. I hope you like the article about King Edward School where the Palgrave Research Centre (PRC) is now based; this is on page twenty four and was written when the school was closing down for the first time in the eighties. Have any other readers got any stories or information that they would like to share with us about the school? I can remember one lady telling me some years ago that she went to school there and that the PRC was once the Headmaster's office. If these stories aren't told then they will be lost forever, so please share them.

This is the first time in three years that I have been struggling with articles for the journal and unless we get more articles, then it might be that the Committee will need to assess how many times a year Doncaster Ancestor is published. Please put ink to quill, pen to paper or fingers to key boards preferably. Drop me a line if you have an idea but don't know how to put it into words. I'm sure we can come up with some ideas between us. It doesn't have to be a long article. All contributions gratefully received.

Please note the new opening times for the PRC on page eight, which is due to the change of hours for Doncaster Archives.

**Jenny Ellis**

**doncasterancestor@doncasterfhs/co.uk**

### **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.

# Palgrave Research Centre

The Palgrave Research Centre is situated at  
King Edward Road, Balby, Doncaster, DN4 0NA  
(sharing accommodation with Doncaster Archives)

All D&DFHS Publications and a vast collection of resources are  
available to view and copy, using our printers only.  
Please note that unauthorised use of USB sticks, or photography of our  
resources is not allowed.

Ten computers and four microfiche readers can be booked for use and  
printer facilities are available

## Free Access to Ancestry.co.uk and Findmypast.co.uk with printer facilities

Entrance: £1 for members £3 for non-members

Monday	10.00 - 3.30
Tuesday	10.00 - 3.30
Wednesday	10.00 - 3.30
Thursday (Computer Group)	10.15 - 12.30
Friday	10.00 - 3.30

To Avoid Disappointment, Please Ring  
And Book Your Session

Research Centre Bookings:  
01302 311930

The next closure dates for the Palgrave Research Centre are:

**Saturday 24th August 2019 - Monday 26th August 2019**

Access to the PRC is by way of 4 steps. It may be possible to arrange  
wheelchair access by prior appointment.

# Palgrave Research Centre

## New Acquisitions to our Library & Research Centre

The only magazines retained will be 'Who do you think you are'

### ACQUISITIONS FOR THE LIBRARY

Shelf A (January - March).

**Please note these books are for reference only whilst in the research room.**

The books are filed in alphabetical place name order and are numbered if there is more than one book per location.

Please use "spacer card" when using to indicate where the book was taken from. If you are unsure where to replace the book after use, please place in box for filing by librarian.

There is a list of books to view; those in red indicate that they have not been returned to shelf after use!

### Shelf B – (January - March) Reference Only

Heritage Doncaster – Annual Review 2017/2018

### New Library Books to Loan

- AF/A49** Order of Service & Procedure for Dedication of Memorial to K.O.Y.L.I.
- AF/A50** A Short History of Yorkshire's Redcoats to Riflemen.
- C/YKS 350** Ardsley, Stairfoot & Hoyle Mill, Photographic Reminiscence by T. Heald & M. Chance.
- C/YKS 351** South Yorkshire Yesterday by Melvyn Jones.
- C/YKS 352** History Makers (Hunter Family)
- D/243** A Wadworth Childhood by Dennis Walker.
- H/K09** Dictionary of Medical Related Terms for the Family Historian

**Thank you to everyone who has donated**

**Keith Crouter, Librarian**

# Programme of Talks for 2019

**29<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Reflections on a Great War by Paul Grimley.**

**26<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

**The History of Mining by Pat McLoughlin.**

**31st July**

**Story Tellers from the Workhouse.** Come & listen to more of the tales of the workhouse with the story tellers in costume acting the parts.

**August 2019 No Meeting**

**25th September 2019**

**The History of Liquorice by Tom Watkins.** Hear his story of the Wilkinson family the biggest growers of liquorice in the country. He was one of the last apprentice liquorice boilers to the firm.

**30th October 2019**

**A Funny Kind of Coffee Shop by Jane Price.** Jane will tell the story of a unique kind of coffee shop, how it started and what is it all about? Come along and find out more.

**27 November 2019**

**Pit Banners by Anne Bradley.** Hear all about the origins of mining banners, from their links to the trade unions, to their use on gala day. The talk covers the development of commercial banners, symbolism and how the ones are cared for by the National Coal Mining Museum where Anne is from.

**December 2019 No Meeting**

**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**

## 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](http://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.

### Hatfield Saint Lawrence Parish Records

Revised 2019 now available as download or CD

Baptisms 1567-1939

Marriages 1566-1940

Burials 1567-1943

Monumental Inscriptions

War Memorials

Old Workhouse

Pigot's Directory 1828/29

White's Directory 1838

Kelly's Directory 1857

Kelly's Directory 1927



**CD 1085 V4 Price £12 + P&P available on [www.genfair.co.uk](http://www.genfair.co.uk)  
Downloads are £10**

Also available at Palgrave Research Centre or the monthly meetings.  
See our website for more details [www.doncasterfhs.co.uk](http://www.doncasterfhs.co.uk)

#### **Please note: Monumental Inscriptions on all our CD's & downloads**

The monumental inscriptions were taken from churches and churchyards within the Archdeaconry of Doncaster. They were originally transcribed and typed between 1980 and 1990 and have not been edited or added to since. As may be expected, many of the inscriptions are no longer readable due to the passage of time, weathering, subsidence and vandalism. For safety reasons some of the headstones may have been taken down.

# Change of Opening Hours

**Palgrave Research Centre,**

## **Doncaster Archives & Local Studies Library**

Due to the Doncaster Archives making a change to their opening hours as from 15 April 2019, the Society is required to make a change to the opening hours of the Palgrave Research Centre as follows:

### **The Palgrave Research Centre**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10.00 - 15.30hrs

Thursday (**Computer Group**) 10.15 - 12.30hrs

### **Doncaster Archives**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.00 - 16.00hrs

### **Local Studies Library**

Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday & Saturday 10.00 - 16.00 hrs

## **Computer Group**

The Computer Group continues with some very interesting talks and interactive sessions. We have had interesting talks from different members on a number of subjects and understanding birth and marriage certificates in detail, Ancestry and family trees on Ancestry to name a few, have been the topics lately. Family history is something that we are all passionate about and it is good to share information with other members. It is surprising what you can learn from these sessions, and enlightening to see the different ideas that people have for displaying their family history.

**Jenny Ellis, Editor**

## **Thank You**

Doncaster and District Family History Society would like to thank Mr & Mrs David Barker for their kind donation of equipment to the Palgrave Research Centre

## From the Postbag / via e-mail / Facebook

Hello Jenny,

I did enjoy "A Blast from the Past" from Denise Lane in the Winter 2018 edition. I do hope it encourages more readers to put pen to paper and share their small but important recollections from the past. They might be true and the truth might have got lost in translation, but we have so much information available now that family researchers such as Denise have the chance of finding the answers to family mysteries.

The enclosed photo is of my great grandmother Mrs John **Butler** nee **Burdett**. I was always told that she was called the "Angel of Hexthorpe". She died in church and was carried home on the vestry door. I did the family research many years ago and she was a struggle because of her Christian name. She was registered and baptised Georgeanna but by the time she married John **Butler** she had become Georgey Hannah. No wonder that I couldn't find her burial.



**Georgey Hannah  
Butler nee Burdett**

In desperation, I visited the annual family history fair at York Race Course & a lady on your stand found Georgey's Hyde Park burial for me. She was recorded as George (f) H. And she is in a Non-Conformist plot. I was deflated! Where did the myth originate. It certainly had been drilled into me.

I found the answer by sheer accident, only a couple of years ago, when I was searching the newspaper site for some Doncaster local history. I saw the

### SAD INCIDENT AT DONCASTER.

A sad incident occurred in St. Mary's Church, Wheatley, last night. A woman named Sarah Aspinall, who resided in Stanhope Road, was taken ill on the way to the church, and died a few minutes after her arrival. She complained of shortness of breath on the way to church, and had previously suffered from palpitation of the heart. The body was removed to the Church Room, which adjoins the church. Deceased was 55 years of age, and was the widow of Mr. Harry Aspinall, who was for many years manager of the Doncaster Corporation Baths. Death was due to heart failure, and no request will be necessary. Deceased was accompanied to church by two of her children.

SHEPHERD EVENING  
TELEGRAM  
12 NOV 1906

name **Aspinall** out of my eye corner. Georgey's daughter Lucy Emily married William Gathorne **Aspinall** so I had to check out the article. Now I understood, Mother had got her Grandmas mixed up which is understandable because she didn't know either of them. So, the grandma bit is right but it's great grandma Sarah **Aspinall**, my granddad's mother, and the church death is right.....I wonder if the tale about the vestry door is true too?

There are answers out there and we just need to find them and it's much more fun than writing dates on family trees.

Looking forward to the spring edition.

Best wishes,

**Pauline Stainton**

This article was received after the spring Ancestor had gone to print.

### **For Trevor Betterton and Phillip Langford**

Both ... Thank you for your time and hospitality when I visited the Palgrave Research Centre last Monday. With help from Lynne and Becky in the Archives and a visit to the library in Waterdale, I tracked down my Grandfather's mineral water business as "Slater & Co, Back Lane, Balby" which seemed to operate from 1910 to around 1915. The location of "Back Lane" was a bit puzzling until we discovered that it was the old name for Sandford Road! So one mystery solved and another half dozen raised!

Thanks once again ... with best regards

**David Brown**

**Hello Philip**

You may perhaps recall our meeting last November when I was looking into my Grandfather's Balby based mineral water factory, Slater and Co. We eventually traced it to Back Lane which subsequently became Sandford Road.

In the family annals I recently ran across this 1981 submission to the "Weekend Post" and thought you, and indeed other members of the D&DFHS, may be interested to read about Balby life in the 1920s

The author, Kathleen **Brown** (néé **Slater**) was actually my mother who was born in Albany Road in 1916, lived in Balby all her married life and died in 2002.

Interestingly Mum actually says that Sandford Road was previously called "Back Lane". It would have saved me a few hours work had I been able to read her article beforehand!

With best regards

**David Brown**

**Please turn to page 24 for the article**

## **The Federation of Family History Societies is rebranding as Family History Federation**

Rebranding to Family History Federation will officially launch at Family Tree Live in April 2019 along with a new-look website.

The rebranding to Family History Federation acknowledges that the membership of the Federation is wider than just family history societies, encompassing a range of associated organisations. 'Family History Federation' also reflects how its focus is firmly on family history: the primary purpose being to encourage, educate and support all family historians. For more information:

**[www.ffhs.org.uk](http://www.ffhs.org.uk)**

## **Tips for your Research**

### **Findmypast acquires RootsFinder Inc.**

Findmypast, has acquired RootsFinder Inc. and their critically acclaimed RootsFinder family tree product, including new features to help customers analyse their DNA results.

Findmypast will look to make use of a number of RootsFinder features in the development of the new tree including data storage, enhanced gedcom uploads, community collaboration, DNA visualisations, error checking and 3<sup>rd</sup> party hints. They say that these features will enable family historians to improve accuracy and uncover new leads through collaboration with fellow researchers.

There are no plans to change the features and services RootsFinder users currently enjoy and RootsFinder will continue to operate as a standalone product for the foreseeable future.

**[www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)**

**[www.rootsfinder.com/](http://www.rootsfinder.com/)**

**Findmypast** have also recently added thousands of new additions to their Yorkshire baptism, banns, marriage and burial records.

Website **[www.deceasedonline.com](http://www.deceasedonline.com)**. All data is supplied by the Local Authority across the UK. It is free to search once you have registered but there is a fee to view.

# 1921 Census

**THE 1921 CENSUS**

**Coming soon:  
The 1921 Census**

Our unrivaled collections of **British** and **Irish** records continue to grow, boasting:

- Over twice the **Irish records** of any other site
- The largest online collection of **UK parish records**
- Travel and migration records you won't find anywhere else
- Exclusive **British military records**

**We're thrilled to be digitizing the 1921 UK Census**

This landmark project will bring you tens of millions of new records, never before available online. Ask a member of the Findmypast team at booth 1004 for more information.

**Download our new app**

Findmypast has announced via Roots Tech that the 1921 census should be released in 2022, and is covered by the 1920 Census Act. This is great news for everyone who is interested in family history, as this will fill some gaps.

Under the '100 year rule' it is UK Government policy that the **1921 census** remains unavailable to the public until 2022. There is a growing clamour among family historians for the records to be released early. ... Unlike the 1911 census however, the 1921 census was taken after the enactment of the 1920 Census Act.

The censuses from 1921 onwards were taken under the Census Act 1920. The 1921 census and later censuses are held in the custody of the UK Statistics Authority. It will take some years and considerable financial outlay to prepare and digitise the original 1921 Census paper records for release online in January 2022.

We will give out further information as it becomes available and it will also be available on our website.

[www.doncasterfhs.co.uk](http://www.doncasterfhs.co.uk)

# Book Review by Keith Crouter

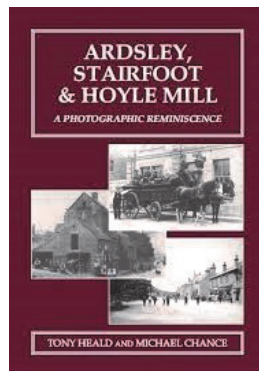
## Ardsley, Stairfoot & Hoyle Mill

By Tony Heald & Michael Chance

The follow on book to Ardsley & Stairfoot Revisited by the same authors with the forgotten part of Stairfoot and Hoyle Mill added. The first book can be found in the Society Library under reference D/92.

The book acknowledges the number of contributors who have helped with their photographs and reminiscences and also extracts from Barnsley Chronicle which has enhanced the story of the three locations.

Two other books “Ardsley in Times Past” in 1982 and a combined publication in 1987 “Ardsley & Stairfoot in Times Past” both now sadly out of print.



“Ardsley and Stairfoot has been victim to numerous sweeping changes since the 60s – many fine buildings lost and development has destroyed areas and their inhabitants uprooted – as the authors claim all in the part of ‘slum clearance’: but sadly this too has been repeated elsewhere.

**ISBN 978-1-78926-927-7 price £15.99**

**[www.tonyheald.info](http://www.tonyheald.info)**

## Help Wanted

You may remember in the last Ancestor, Estelle was looking for information regarding Engine House, Low Grounds, Hatfield.

A couple of members were in touch with me and I was able to tell Estelle that the area is now called Huggin Carr. This topic also came up at a Computer Group meeting and someone said that they knew the area, and someone else said that they thought the name rang a bell from some subscribing.

Further investigation was not positive on this occasion. Estelle, said thank you to the kind members concerned, and she appreciated what had been done for her. She also said that with family history she was used to chasing down leads that weren't always successful and it was part of the thrill.

## The Timms Family of Highfields

'I can make that cat do anything I say!' announced my outrageous Great Uncle, Jimmy **Timms**, as he picked up his mother's pet and chucked it unceremoniously in the general direction of the fireplace! As the cat landed on the hearth, Jim shouted, 'Come here!' and was rewarded by the swift return of an enraged moggy, who sprang at him, spitting and clawing, fur flying in his face. Great Grandma **Timms** was none too pleased either and admonished him with a cuff about the ear. Great Uncle Jimmy was a notorious rogue. He had survived the First World War by keeping his wits about him and looking after himself and his younger brother Harry, first, above all else. Harry would tell the tale of the Captain, who blew his whistle as the troops leapt 'over the top', shouting, 'Follow me chaps!' To which Jimmy had made the aside, 'Silly bugger! Thee follow me Harry and keep thee head down!' An image of the contemporary Bruce **Bairnsfather** cartoon: 'If you knows of a better hole, go to it!' springs to mind.

Following the war, Great Uncle Jimmy, like all his brothers, was employed as a miner at Brodsworth Colliery. Mining was a protected occupation during the Second World War, and therefore he was exempt from the draft, this time around. It meant that the British Army no longer required his person, although the local constabulary frequently did, as he was often involved in dubious dealings on the Black Market. His brother, my grandfather, once opened the door in the blackout to find Jimmy on his doorstep carrying a large suitcase. He was not leaving home. 'Here, shove this under your bed, will you?' Jimmy demanded, thrusting the case towards Granddad, 'there's half a pig in there, wants hiding!' My Grandfather Charles Redvers **Timms** was none too pleased! Granddad was named after General Sir Redvers **Buller** VC who was famous for his part in the Zulu Wars and infamous for his part in the Boer War, which gives some idea of Granddad's birthdate. General Redvers **Buller** was at one time the hero of the hour, however, history books reveal that he later lost credibility with his fellow officers and was forced to resign. Meanwhile, the Boers maintained a crippling campaign of guerrilla warfare.

Not surprisingly, James **Timms** was never married, (although he always kept one or two lady friends in tow), and he lived with his parents at Staincross House on Market Street in Highfields, Woodlands, near Doncaster. Staincross House was actually a shop, divided into two premises: on one side there was a grocers and sweet shop, the other side being a butchers, (with a large cellar, where the pig was slaughtered). William and Mary Esther **Timms**, my Great Grandparents, were the proprietors there, living with their fourteen children, the eldest being Gert, (Gertrude) and the youngest being Tott, (Dorothy). My Great Grandmother made pork pies, sausages and other savoury dishes to sell in the shop and on a stall at Doncaster Race Course when race meetings took place. My Grandfather was one of the youngest in the family and the story goes that after a number of sons had been born, the family had, 'run out of names', hence his famous nomenclature. A further distinction came later, when he was the only family member who could play the pi-

ano. Great Grandma had purchased a piano, something of a status symbol in those days, and she insisted that one of the children should learn to play it: the task fell to Charles Redvers.

Charles Redvers **Timms**, known as 'Reddy', was an exceptional scholar who loved music and had a marvellous singing voice. He played the piano with a light and delicate touch, unlike my mother, (his eldest daughter Mary) who thumped at the chords, thrashing and beating the instrument into the submission of a tune. In later life, Granddad would listen to classical concerts on the radio, studiously following the music in a large manuscript book. During this process, he concentrated carefully and insisted on absolute silence in his household. Any of the children who interrupted the programme with giggles or other outbursts were removed from the room. His long suffering wife, Grandma Elizabeth, became rather deaf as she grew older and allegedly often turned off her hearing aid when the music of the household became too much for her.

As a boy, Granddad was a church chorister who had the opportunity to train in a cathedral choir, and he even wrote his own hymn tune, 'Belmont' which was played at family religious ceremonies for many generations. To supplement the family income, over the years, Reddy played the piano at 'The Cabbage' the local allotment holders' club, and 'The Bomb', the local ex-servicemen's club. He also accompanied various local singers, gave piano lessons and entertained at 'Workers' Playtime' in local factories. However, at the age of fourteen, Granddad had been forced to leave school and join his brothers down the pit in order to contribute to the family income. This was despite the recommendations of The Reverend Mr **Howard**, the Vicar of Chesterfield, who had heard Granddad sing when invited to preach at Woodlands. Down the pit, the Timms brothers worked in a team together. Young Reddy was given the task of carting the heavy baskets of coal, once full, and replacing them with empty baskets as quickly as possible. If he worked too slowly, he was likely to be given 'a thick ear' and was even threatened with being 'chucked off' the team and replaced! It is fair to say that he hated the hard, solid, back breaking work and sympathised with the pit ponies that he observed jumping for joy and kicking their hooves high into the air when they were taken to the pit surface and allowed into the field.

'Reddy' married my Grandmother Elizabeth **Stephenson** in 1922. My mother told the tale that in common with several of his brothers, her father was forced to elope because old Mrs **Timms** did not like to lose her sons and more importantly, she did not like to lose their contribution to the family income. The very first time that Grandma Elizabeth met her future mother-in-law, my Great Grandmother was less than welcoming. She opened her budgerigar's cage, allowing the bird to fly around the room and perch on Elizabeth's shoulder which was very disconcerting. Great Grandma **Timms** loved animals and had many pets beside the budgie: a dog, a cat, and even a young orphaned lamb which one of the local farmers had given to her to rear. Their household was very busy and noisy and this coupled with piano practice often caused

the next door neighbours to bang furiously on the walls in indignant protest. The neighbours were a Mr and Mrs **Rothwell** who had a fish and chip shop, and later went on to premises in Doncaster Town Centre. Mrs **Rothwell** was quite a force to be reckoned with, as was Mrs **Timms**, and they were often in dispute. When Mrs **Timms**' beloved budgerigar went missing, Mrs **Rothwell**'s cat was targeted as the culprit. In retaliation, Uncle Jimmy sought revenge by taking the **Rothwell**'s cat down the pit with him in order to resolve an infestation of mice. The cat was never seen again! Despite this, my Great Aunt Phillis **Timms** eventually married Sonny **Rothwell** and went on to build up the fish and chip business with him. A truce may have been called, but an uneasy peace reigned, and their parents were never very friendly.

Following the family tradition, great uncle Harry also eloped, and he married a woman named Sally. She had escaped from an alcoholic husband, taking one of her daughters with her and leaving the other behind. Harry loved her dearly and later when she sadly passed away, he lay prostrate on granddad Reddy's settee wailing, 'She was my right arm Reddy!'

Crippled by rheumatism and many years of hard labour down the coal mine, grandfather Reddy died at the age of sixty, only a month before I was born. I never knew him and often asked what he was like. My mother and aunties told me that he was a much loved dad; however, he had a terrible temper when provoked. When my Uncle Howard, (named after the Reverend Mr **Howard**), was born and Grandma Elizabeth was busy with the new baby, Granddad Reddy had the task of getting the three little girls ready for school. My Auntie Audrey was blessed with beautiful long auburn curly hair which would tangle up in the night. As her father tried to get a brush through it in the morning, she screamed and struggled and the brush became entangled in her hair. In exasperation, Granddad Reddy grabbed hold of the scissors and chopped it all off! Another time, one Christmas, the girls were all given dolls, dressed by Grandma Elizabeth, in different coloured outfits. Aunties Audrey and Barbara argued because they both wanted the same one, and again, in a fit of temper Granddad Reddy threw all three dolls onto the fire!

Auntie Audrey later went on to marry Douglas **Williams**, a pit overman, and he was indeed a man of few words. He always thought very carefully before he spoke and often replied to a question hours after it had been asked. My Dad once went down the pit with him and a colleague greeted Douglas, 'Hey Up Doug!' It was only on the return circuit of the pit that Douglas replied, 'Hey Up!' One day Auntie Audrey decided not to speak to him until he spoke first. It was midday before he actually spoke to her and asked her to put some coal on the fire!

In contrast, my Auntie Barbara's husband, Derek **Wood**, was a much chattier cove who resembled a cross between the comedians Jimmy **Jewel** and Henry **Cooper**. Uncle Derek was a draughtsman who worked for British Coal. They lived in a beautiful bungalow in Burghwallis, named 'The Hollies' and I spent many happy times with them when I was a child. I would sleep over at weekends, often sleeping in between them in their bed and being told that I was a

'little wriggle bum!' because I could not keep still! Uncle Derek would go across the road to the Burghwallis Club and return with packets of crisps and a Double Diamond for Aunty Barbara and lemonade for me. We would watch 'I Love Lucy' and 'The Billy Cotton Band Show' before Aunty Barbara would put her 'pins' (hair curlers) in and we would go to bed.

Aunty Barbara made the best Sunday dinners and the very best Yorkshire puddings in the world. They melted in the mouth and were both crispy and light. I loved staying for Sunday dinner and would eat every little bit with great gusto. On one fateful occasion, Uncle Derek was late returning from the club for his meal and a huge row ensued. Harsh words were spoken at the culmination of which, Aunty Barbara was so furious that she threw Derek's dinner on the fire, then, to my horror she threw her dinner on the fire as well! I clung onto my plate for dear life in fear that mine would go the same way before I had chance to finish it!

When I tell my children these family stories, they are horrified by some of their relatives' behaviour and indeed shocking those people seem when we look at them from present perspectives. Yet, we can't judge the people of the past with present day values. Life was hard and days were different. Throughout all the tears and laughter, somehow a loving family survived war, poverty and hardship and continues to tell the tale.

**Ruth Scott – Chambers, Member 4292**

## **St Nicholas Church, Bawtry**

The following unusual notices appeared on a page of the parish register of St Nicholas Church.

*Bawtry May 30<sup>th</sup> 1773*

*In the Church & in the Presence of the Minister & Clark & wardens I do acknowledge myself to be the lawfull wife of Thomas **Chambers** of East Stockwith Preventive Officer & that we are separated by the consent of both Parties as witness my Hand*

***Sarah Chambers***

*In the Presence of*

*Edw Mason Minis[ter] Saml Maw & Sam Brooks Church Wardens William Dean Clark*

*I have Three Times in the Markett being May 19<sup>th</sup> June 2<sup>nd</sup> & June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1773 and acknowledged to be the lawfull Wife of Thos **Chambers** of East Stockwith in the County of Lincoln as Witness my Hand*  
***Sarah Chambers***

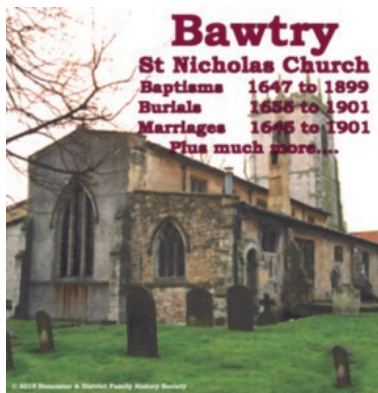
*I do acknowledge that Cousen John **Becudas** in Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London is my right & Lawfull Heir at Law and that I never will acknowledge any other to be as witness my Hand June 21<sup>st</sup> 1773*

**Sarah Chambers**

*Witness Sam Maw Church Wardens Wm Dean Clerk*

Sarah **Chambers** was born Sarah **Jackson** and baptised on the 8<sup>th</sup> Mar 1715 (1716) in St Nicholas Church. (Father: Mr John **Jackson**). She married Thomas **Chambers** of Gainsborough on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 1768 in St Helena's Church at Austerfield.

She was aged fifty two when she married and by that time both her parents were dead. However it seems that as early as 1770 (the date of an indenture) she was either ill or was preparing to separate and planning to give her property to her cousin on her death. She made a will which was deposited at the Borthwick Institute in York. The salient points are: ... *This is the last Will and testament of me Sarah **Chambers** Wife of Thomas **Chambers** now or late of East Stockwith Preventive Officer... My Will and desire is to be Buryed in a decent manner in the parish Church of Bawtry in a Lead Coffin within the same Vault where my dear Mother was Buryed... by an Indenture dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1770 between my said husband and myself ... power to (give) my messuages, lands and tenements in Awkley (Auckley) and Finningley... Unto my Cousin John **Becuda** of Southampton Row in the parish of Saint George, Bloomsbury Gentleman .... Fifty Pounds to be paid to my Cousin Hannah **Fretwell** ... and five guineas to my nurse for her care and attention.*



The will is dated 28<sup>th</sup> August 1773 and as the witnesses are all in London it seems that Sarah went there to be cared for, sometime after the Bawtry notices in June. She died the next day on the 29<sup>th</sup> August but was brought back to Bawtry for burial. She was buried on the 10<sup>th</sup> Sep 1773 in the family vault that is in the floor of St Nicholas Church and which has the following inscription:  
*Here lies the body of Elizabeth / the daughter of Mr John JACKSON / mercer who died Decr the 2nd / 1723 aged 4 years. / also the body of Mr John JACKSON / who died Novr the 18th 1725 / aged \* years. / also the Elizabeth daughter / of Mr John JACKSON who died / May the 13 1748 aged 22 / also Sarah the wife of Mr John / JACKSON who died Apr 19th 1758 / aged 67 / and also of Sarah / CHAMBERS daughter of / the said John and Sarah / JACK-*

*SON who died the / 29th of August 1773 / aged 59 years.*

Other information from DDFHS records and the National Archives:

John **Becuda** (the cousin mentioned) was baptised on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1711 at Finningley (father Peter **Becuda**). He married Mary **Vincent** in a clandestine marriage on the 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 1734 in Westminster and was buried in 1788 at St George the Martyr, Queen Square, Holborn.

Marriages by a form of ceremony conducted by an ordained clergyman, but without banns or licence, and generally not in a church or chapel and usually away from the parish of the bride or groom were termed clandestine marriages. The main appeal of clandestine marriages was usually for reasons of cost but other reasons included the avoidance of the need to obtain parental consent, and also to conceal embarrassing pregnancies.

John **Becuda's** marriage took place at the Fleet Prison. Although this was primarily a debtors' prison that stood on the east bank of the Fleet River in what is now Farringdon Street, London, by the 1740s, over half of all London weddings were held there (over 6500 per year).

The marriages performed at the Fleet involved all classes from London and the surrounding counties, but mainly catered for artisans, farmers, labourers and craftsmen from the poorer parishes of London, soldiers (including Chelsea Pensioners), and particularly sailors.

From the late 1720s, clandestine marriages commenced at May Fair Chapel which eventually became only second to the Fleet in terms of notoriety for such marriages. May Fair marriages were performed at St George's Chapel, Curzon Street, Mayfair, near Hyde Park Corner and was used by professional classes and the aristocracy for marriages, including the Dukes of Cleveland and Hamilton, Lord **Stanley**, and Lord George **Bentinck**.

All clandestine marriages were made illegal by the Marriage Act 1754; although couples were still able to travel to other areas of the United Kingdom i.e. across the border into Scotland (e.g. Gretna Green).

### **Philp Langford, Member 1702**

\* Please note that there is no age given for John Jackson who died in 1725 and we cannot find a baptism.

**St Nicholas Church Bawtry is available as a download or CD from the Society**

# Mormon Missionary in Japan



Joseph Henry **Stimpson** was a son of William Page **Stimpson** who had undertaken the incredible journey from Norfolk via Liverpool to Boston and then on to Utah in 1856.

The journey was funded by the Latter Day Saints led by Brigham **Young** to boost the Mormon population. **Young** had designed a handcart, rather like a wheelbarrow, to replace horse drawn wagons. A man could pull the cart with minimal provisions for five persons and horse drawn wagons would carry provisions and tents for communal sleeping. Beset by difficulties from the start, one hundred and forty five perished on the journey including William's two year old son, William, his wife Rebecca and her newly born son.

William and his four year old son, Frederick, completed the journey and William settled in Weber where he had a polygamous marriage to two women.

Joseph Henry **Stimpson** was born on 12 June 1885, the youngest child of William Page **Stimpson** and Ann Mary **Christensen**, one of William's two wives. Joseph was baptised by his father, aged 14, in 1893 and was ordained as a church deacon in 1897 and as a church elder in 1904.

Between 1904 and 1906 he taught as a teacher in Ogden before being sent to a Mormon Mission in Japan for six years. Upon his return he married Mary Emeline **Allen**, his only wife, as the Mormon Church no longer permitted polygamy. In 1914 he was ordained as High Priest and returned to the Japanese Mission where he remained until 1921.

During the first World War Joseph was living in Washington, acting as an interpreter of Japanese for the FBI. After the war he returned to his home town of Ogden in Utah where he was



Joseph & his family circa 1919

employed as bookkeeper for the Consular Cigar Company of Ogden.

Joseph Henry **Stimpson** died of natural causes on 22 April 1964 in a hospital in Salt Lake City.

His obituary states that he was commended personally by J. Edgar **Hoover** for his outstanding service in connection with the Japanese War Trials.

**Ann Bibby, Member 3539**

## From Schoolhouse to Workhouse

The Doncaster Workhouse Creed Registers have a wealth of information for the family historian as in most cases the Inmates last known address and next of kin's addresses, along with year of birth are recorded. Whilst researching these records I came across some very interesting stories, here is just one.

**Charles Newbound** born c.1830 in East Bridgford, Nottinghamshire was the son of Charles, a cordwainer (shoe maker) and **Mary Newbound**. In 1851 Charles was living with his parents in East Bridgford and had become a cordwainer like his father.

By 1861 things had changed and Charles was now a widower (marriage unknown) and was living in Scothern, Lincolnshire where he was a school master. Also living with him was his daughter **Ann Mary Eliza Newbound** aged four and twelve year old niece **Ann Newbound**.

Ten years on, Charles was now living in Barnby Dun with his daughter, he was a school master and Parish Clerk. By 1881 Charles was now living alone in Barnby Dun.

In 1891 Charles was still a school master living at the Schoolhouse, Barnby Dun with his now married daughter **Mary Ann Eliza Lapidge**, her husband Henry, a railway plate layer, and their son **Charles Henry Lapidge**. Also lodging with the family was **Matilda Dibnah** (born Hambleton, Yorkshire) a school mistress.

I was unable to find Charles in the 1901 census, but in 1911 he is once again living alone in Barnby Dun where he is now the verger at the parish church.

So how did **Charles Newbound**, a school master and verger, end up dying at the age of eighty nine of bronchitis, in the Doncaster Union Workhouse; a sad end for a respected member of the community and church in Barnby Dun.

Charles was admitted to the Workhouse on 29 August, 1919, giving his

nearest relation as his Grandson Mr. **Lapidge** of 8 Malton Street, Denaby Main. Charles died on 4 September 1919 and was buried in Barnby Dun on the 9 September 1919 by the Union Workhouse.

**Jean Walker, Member 4092**

## The Family Tree

The family tree, the family tree,  
who shall we put in the family tree?  
There's grandma and grandad,  
they're in for a start,  
and old auntie Mildred,  
she too plays a part.  
Then there's that uncle Silas,  
a bit of a card,  
we'll miss him off though,  
it wouldn't be hard.  
It wouldn't be hard, and great grandad Tom,  
who ran off to sea,  
he's just got to be – in the family tree.  
One aunt never married,  
but she wasn't a prude,  
she still had six children  
did great aunt Gertrude.  
There are uncles and aunties  
and cousins galore,  
and Henrys and Rachels  
and Freds by the score.  
Just who is entitled to roost in our tree?  
Oop's there's one I forgot  
I had better put me.

Anon

**Dave Valentine, Member 3391**

## A Good News Story

Some time ago my friend **Freda Hardy** asked me if I could find the date of birth of her father. She had been listening to a programme on the radio when a 100year old veteran from WW2 was celebrating his 100th birthday. This made her wonder if her father would have been 100 and if so, when.

Freda was born several months after her father's death, in France, in May 1940, and she had never thought to ask her mother, who is now deceased, about his birthday. Her father **Frederick Charles Botham** was born in Liverpool and had enlisted in 1939. Sadly he was killed shortly after he went to France.

Shortly before Christmas 2018 I sent for the marriage certificate of her parents and the birth certificate of her father. Freda was delighted to discover that his birthday was in February and this year she and her family celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a special cake made by one of his grandchildren. The decoration was made from the only photographs Freda had of her father and these were transferred to an edible ribbon. So it was that on February 21<sup>st</sup>2019 his daughter, grandchildren and great grandchildren celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.



**Pattie Birch, Member 3232**

The following was found by one of our transcribers.

26 Nov 1885 Arthur Edward Henry **Beer** s/o Arthur Henry & Ada Bessie of 61 Bennetthorpe

Father's occupation – Brewer's Clerk

**Trevor Betterton, Member 1209**

# Were these the Good Old Days?

As Balby (King Edward Road) Junior School prepares to close, a window opens on the past ...

Life, they say, is made of memories, some good, some sad, some funny, some happy; yesterday I took a trip down the Happy Lane when I called in at Balby Junior School prior to its closure.

I was an "Infant" there in the early 1920's; three of my four elder sisters had preceded me; on my first morning I hid behind my mother's skirt as the head-mistress, **Mrs. Gundry**, greeted us and said "Hello **Mrs. Slater** I see you've brought us another little rosebud". Well, I knew I didn't look anything like a rosebud, so came out to see who so kindly thought I did.

Yesterday that school hall looked much smaller than it did when I was five years old, well it would wouldn't it? Just as today policemen look younger, electric light bulbs dimmer and the bus steps steeper.

My first teacher I remember was **Miss Wilkes**, I'm sure she was really kind, even so I was terrified of her, she seemed very old, but in retrospect I suppose she was about thirty-five. Later I moved on a class to **Miss Simmons** and was very much happier and soon learned my three R's and enjoyed school to the full.

I'm pleased to say lots of people turned up on this open day, the staff and pupils made us all very welcome; I saw many familiar faces, but looked in vain for a few I'd have loved to see again. **Florrie Grice, Edna Bell, Kathleen Woods, Mary Senior**, whose expressive eyes I've never forgotten, they were the colour of rich deep brown velvet; **Camilla Firth** who was so pretty I was sure her mother must have snatched her from the top of the Christmas tree.

But then behold I came face to face with **Gracie Webster** who had lived in the same street as me in those far off days, the years had hardly changed her at all, she looked just the same, as if she'd stepped out of a bandbox. We chatted of old times, old friends and not least our late mothers and the early days in Albany Road which was full of kind friendly people, the **Copes, Ferns, Firths, Suttons, Daughtrys, Mullets, Applebys, Hiblings**, oh, and many more.

**Sandsbys** fish and chip shop at the end of the street - fish two pence and chips a penny, - **Smiths** "Beer-off" at the other corner; every day the women swept the pavement in front of their own house, washed the porch and steps and did the edges with donkey stone. Windows shone and curtains were mostly blue or fawn casements; gas lamps lit the street in those days and a man came at dusk every night with 'a long pole to open the case and light the mantle.

All the children attended Balby Schools and in the 1920's there were no school dinners, no free milk, no family allowance, but many one parent fami-

lies - not due to a permissive society, but because the fathers had been killed in the First World War. The mothers of these children had a fierce pride, never ever admitted poverty and sent their children to school neat and tidy, who in turn grew up to become good Doncaster citizens. Alas many of these perished in the Second World War as their fathers had in the first.



Florence Avenue, circa 1910 showing the school in the distance

In the 1920s there was still "Fisher's Park" (now

Westfield) with a large house in the grounds. We had Balby Feast every July down the back lane (now Sandford Road) it lasted for a week. Trams rattled along Balby Road, the terminus was at Taylor and Colbridge's (St Sepulchre Gate). The fare was 1½d adults, one penny children - old pence of course, a two shilling pass available for as many journeys in a week as one wished.

Balby cinema was a weekly treat. They were silent films, a pianist played suitable accompanying music, and seats were sixpence, nine pence and one shilling. Balby Church had a popular vicar, the Rev. Edwin Castledine. We all attended Sunday school wearing our best clothes and shoes. There was also a Girls club meeting once a week in the Church Hall.

"Wireless" came into being in the early 20s we sat with earphones on and listened in to music and the Ovaltinies on Daventry and 2LO - whatever that was; even so pianos still tinkled in many front rooms and I took piano lessons with a Mrs. Pitts over the road from my home. Once a year we had a holiday in Scarborough and brought three penny sticks of rock back for all our friends.

Am I looking at those 1920s schooldays through rose tinted spectacles? Perhaps - but, mark this there was no vandalism, no muggings and a little girl could skip happily in a street without fear of her being molested. Can I say the same for my grandchildren in this strife torn world of the 1980s? How I wish I could.

**Kathleen Brown, Weekend Post July 18th 1981**

# Work in the Lancashire Cotton Mills in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

Many people will have weavers in their family trees and they might be interested to see the sort of conditions that they had to accept. The following were the rules and regulations for a Burnley Cotton Mill Office in 1852.

1. Godliness, cleanliness and punctuality are the necessities of a good business.
2. This firm has reduced the hours of work and the clerical staff will now only have to be present during the hours of 7.00am to 6.00pm on week-days.
3. Daily prayers will be held each morning in the main office. The clerical staff will be present.
4. Clothing should be of a sober nature. The clerical staff will not disport themselves in raiment of bright colours, nor will they wear hose unless in good repair.
5. Overshoes and topcoats may not be worn in the office, but neck scarves and headwear may be worn in inclement weather.
6. A stove is provided for the benefit of clerical staff. Coal and wood must be kept in the locker. It is recommended that each member of the staff brings four pounds of coal each day during the cold weather.
7. No members of the clerical staff may leave the room without the permission from Mr Rogers. The calls of nature are permitted and the clerical staff may use the garden below the second gate.
8. No talking is allowed during business hours.
9. The craving for tobacco, wines and spirits is a human weakness and, as such, is forbidden to all members of the clerical staff.
10. Now that the hours of business have been drastically reduced the partaking of food is allowed between 11.30 am. And noon, but work will not on any account cease.
11. Members of the clerical staff will provide their own pens. A new sharpener is available on application to Mr Rodgers.
12. Mr Rodgers will nominate a senior clerk to be responsible for the cleanliness of the main office and the private office, and all boys and juniors will report forty minutes before prayers and will remain after closing hours for similar work. Brushes, brooms, scrub bars and soap are provided by the owners.
13. The new increased wages are hereunder detailed:

Junior boys (up to 11 years)	1s 4d per week
Boys (up to 14 years)	2s 1d per week
Juniors	4s 8d per week
Junior clerks	8s 7d per week
Clerks	10s 9d per week
Senior clerks (after 15 years with owner)	21s 0d per week
How times have changed!	

**Pattie Birch, Member 3232**

## Project Team Update 2019

The Project team have worked very hard again this year, transcribing Parish records that have not previously been transcribed, e.g. Bawtry, and updating others, like Hatfield, that are much larger Parishes. Older as well as more recent baptism, marriage and burial data have been added. All the records transcribed are added to the database, available in the Palgrave Research Centre, which now has almost one and a half million entries. Those researchers who have already used the database have found it much faster than trawling through fiches and discovered relatives in Parishes that they hadn't thought to check out. It can be faster than looking on the large websites too.

School transcriptions are progressing slowly as I only have a few, dedicated volunteers, transcribing our school records. The intention is to put the collection together on one file, which is why none have been advertised as available yet.

Our latest project is to check the Area Health Authority registers which were previously transcribed in the 1980's but which contain some errors that need correcting before publishing.

To produce all this valuable information, put it into an orderly and publishable format; advertise the information and sell the finished product takes a dedicated, experienced and determined team. Luckily I have just that.

There are twenty volunteers who give some of their free time to our cause. Four of these are new volunteers who responded to my advertisement in the last Ancestor for help with the Health Registers. Transcribing and checking is a very time consuming and tedious, though interesting occupation. The original records are often virtually unreadable, letters unrecognisable and often just spelt wrong (which is why some researches can't find a relative), but experience counts and we usually get there in the end.

Philip & Trevor also arrange the transcriptions, add on, take away (double entries) and generally reorganise the material to produce the files that many of you will have taken advantage of on our CDs and downloads. They have a lot of headaches! A volunteer produces the finished CD's for us.

Dave and Marion advertise our sales on Facebook, (our Society volunteers attend Fairs and advertise our publications there also).

George, our Webmaster and now Chair, updates and maintains our sales on Genfair and our advertisement on the Society website. All orders find their way back to me for completion.

The Society has received publications from Rotherham Family History Society, which unfortunately folded in March. These will be available along with Doncaster Family History Society publications shortly.

Downloads rather than CD's appear to be the most popular method of obtaining information and we try to move with the times.

I would like to say a big thank you to the whole of the project team, welcome to our new volunteers, and please keep on doing what you do so well.

**Lynn Snowden, Project Coordinator**

## **Peter Staple Heritage Group**

The PSHG is a genetic family study supported by genealogy lineages for descendants and ancestors of Peter Staple (c1642-1719), Piscataqua Pioneer, who arrived from England at Kittery, Yorke County, Massachusetts Bay Colony by 1671 (now York County, Maine, USA) according to his first land grant.

**Do you share or descend from the surname Staple or Staples, or know someone who does?**

Please contact **[PeterStapleHG@gmail.com](mailto:PeterStapleHG@gmail.com)** or visit our website

**<https://peterstapleheritagegroup.com/>** to make contact and learn more!

## Membership Offer:

### Ex Rotherham Family History Society Members

The Doncaster and District Family History Society (D&DFHS) was saddened to hear that the Rotherham Family History Society (RFHS) ceased to exist after 31 March 2019.

RFHS have passed their assets to the D&DFHS and consequently the D&DFHS would like to offer 1 year's FREE membership to those members of RFHS as at 31 March 2019. This offer to close 30 June 2019.

Please forward a completed Society application form to our Membership Secretary. You can download a Society application form from the Society's website.

Any member of RFHS, who is also a member of D&DFHS will need to complete a Society application form. If they have already paid their D&DFHS subscription, a refund will be made.

## Merger of Two Yorkshire Family History Groups

**Wharfedale Family History Group** and **Keighley Family History Society**, both of which have been in existence since the early 1980s, are now known as the **Airedale and Wharfedale Family History Society**.

With three branches, Burley in Wharfedale, Keighley and Threshfield, the society is open to anyone interested in tracing their ancestry.

The new society will take in Wharfedale, Airedale, the Forest of Bowland and all towns and villages to the borders of Lancashire and Cumbria.

<https://awfhs.org.uk/hub/>

# Water Wheel on the Cheswold



The Doncaster Times 'Then and Now' March 2001 ran a story concerning the water wheel situated over the River Cheswold.

“Water carry on” – water, water every where and not a drop to drink. That really was the situation for many poor families in Doncaster in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

There were nearly four thousand people living in over nine hundred tiny terraced houses in very narrow alleys or courts near the parish church and off Frenchgate, who had open sewers running a footstep away from their doors and who had no proper water. They had no back doors and only the luckiest had a hand pump indoors by the stone sink. They shared privies and cess pits and everyone, including the luckiest people who used wells, virtually used the same water supply which came from the River Cheswold.

In 1703 a water wheel was built over the Cheswold in an effort to make drinking water safer after a lethal typhoid epidemic in 1700. It remained in use with amendments to the pumping house, up to 1916. The river water was still the cause of a great deal of illness despite attempts to improve the filtering and purification.

A Health Inspector's report in 1850 referred to stables, manure heaps, pig sties and stagnant pools of foul water full of animal and vegetable matter, close to house windows and doors and to slaughterhouses among peoples homes. All the waste, including human excrement, eventually went into the River Cheswold along with sewage from the tan yard. Everything from upstream congested in the vicinity of the waterwheel and so the usefulness of the equipment was to a great extent diminished. It was particularly bad during and after floods, and there were times when people extracted such muddy

water from wells and pumps that they had to let it settle in buckets or pots for hours before they could sieve the top layer of water through muslin or linen, and yet they considered this to be better than taking water from the river itself.

The waterwheel and forcing wheel was situated just north of the North Bus Station (now demolished), and water was pumped to a cistern in Hallgate from where it was distributed through lead pipes to various parts of the town. One waterman, a Mr Pilkington, lived in the engine house and controlled the pumps and sluices for over forty years.

Up to 1775, the twenty-eight foot diameter wheel and engine house, which contained six 8" diameter pumps, were privately owned, but from 1775 they were controlled by Doncaster Corporation who in 1794, built a new cistern at the junction of South Parade and Thorne Road. The wheel and pumps could raise nineteen thousand, two hundred gallons per hour and by 1850 they were distributing water to over two thousand houses. The cistern or reservoir could hold twenty eight thousand gallons and when it became full the water ran through a drain to Horseshoe Pond (where the racecourse roundabout is now located).

One attempt at improvement by the Victorians was the installation of a horizontal twenty five horsepower steam engine in 1866 and a boiler and three more pumps to drive the wheel when the river level was very low. More water would have been driven into the pipes along with more contaminated silt.

This was a particularly bad year for cholera when twenty-seven people living on Milner's Yard died within a week of the St Leger. About eighty yards away there was a basin for canal boats, and into this emerged one of the main sewers of the town.

In 1880, work began on the Thrybergh reservoir and improved water supply. The water wheel, however, was still used for drinking water up to 1916. From then up to the 1950s the river water was only used to flush streets and for firefighting. The Cheswold was culverted and the wheel and engine house were demolished to make way for the bus station in the 1960s.

**Keith Crouter, Member 1623**

## Unwanted Certificates

The Society will be pleased to receive your unwanted certificates. These can be sent to the Unwanted Certificate Co-ordinator, see inside back page for contact details, brought to the Palgrave Research Centre or taken to a monthly meeting. A list of donated unwanted certificates is available on the Society's website [www.doncasterfhs.co.uk](http://www.doncasterfhs.co.uk)

Donated certificates can be purchased for a fee of £1 plus postage. Please contact the Unwanted Certificate Co-ordinator for further information.

### Birth Certificates

22 January 1928                      Jean Rylatt daughter of Edwin **Lee**  
and Florrie **Rylatt**, Doncaster WRY

### Marriage Certificates

23 October 1867                      John **Partington** and Hannah  
**Smith**, Bolton LAN  
12 July 1926                          Edwin **Lee** and Florrie **Rylatt**, Don-  
caster WRY

### Death Certificates

29 April 1958                          Edwin **Lee**, Doncaster WRY

## Membership Renewals Form

Alec Graves has asked me to thank people for pointing out about the semi-colon at the end of people's e-mail addresses, on the Renewal Form. This is for Society purposes only, and doesn't affect the e-mail address

# 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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Member</b>
Flowers	LND	London (City)	1800-1950	2207
Flowers	WRY	Sheffield	1800-1950	2207
Gleadall	WRY	Tickhill	1700-2010	2207
Lister	WRY	Fishlake	1780-1880	2207
Naylor	WRY	Tickhill	1840-1900	2207
Roberts	LIN	Grayingham	1850-1950	2207
Shepherd	WRY	Barnsley	1800-1900	2207
Webster	WRY	Tickhill	1800-1900	2207
Wilkinson	WRY	Barnsley	1800-1950	2207
Beardsley	STS	Dudley	1800-1900	3662
Beardsley	STS	Tipton	1800-1900	3662
Blay	LIN	Pinchbeck	1750-1850	3662
Blay	LIN	Pode Hole	1750-1850	3662
Coulson	CAM	Peterborough	1750-1850	3662
Coulson	HUN	Woodston	1750-1850	3662
Fisher	RUT	Clipsham	1750-1880	3662
Hargreaves	WRY	Rawmarsh	1790-1850	3662
Holmes	LIN	Castle Bytham	1790-1850	3662
Holmes	RUT	Clipsham	1790-1850	3662
Tutill	ERY	Goole	1770-1900	3662
Tutill	ERY	Hook	1770-1900	3662
Bradwell	DBY	Bradwell	1600-1900	4367
Bradwell	DBY	Hope	1600-1900	4367
Bulman	CUL	Carlisle	1790 onwards	4367
Cowlshaw	WRY	Sheffield	1750-1899	4367
Fielding	LAN	Blackburn	1790 onwards	4367
Handley	DBY	Dronfield	1780 onwards	4367
Handley	WRY	Doncaster	1820-1850	4367
Oliver	WRY	Leathley	1800 onwards	4367
Simpson	DBY	Dronfield	1780 onwards	4367
Tunstall	NRV	Burneston	1810 onwards	4367
Watkinson	WRY	Tickhill	1800-1900	4369

# Dates For Your Diary

## June 2019

### The Family History Show

York Racecourse

York, YO23 1EX

**22nd June 10.00 - 4.30**

*Doncaster & District Family History Society will have their bookstall at  
The Family History Show*

## August 2019

### The Guild Of One Name Studies - Maritime Aspects of Yorkshire

The Community House

Porthome Road

Selby YO8 4QQ

Booking available after 11th May

**3rd Aug 9.30 - 5.00**

## October 2019

### Doncaster & District Family History Fair with Crafts

Doncaster Deaf Trust

Leger Way, Doncaster DN2 6AY

**12th October 10.00 - 4.00**

For **Doncaster Mansion House** programme of events, please visit their web-site. [www.doncastermansionhouse.co.uk](http://www.doncastermansionhouse.co.uk)

**Remember to check with the organisers before you travel**

## D&DFHS Subscription Rates 01 Apr 2019 - 31 Mar 2020

Please make all cheques/postal orders etc. payable to:	Individuals	£10.00
<b>Doncaster &amp; District Family History Society</b>	Family in same house	£12.00
Send to Membership Secretary	Institutions UK	£12.00
- see back page	<b>Overseas</b>	
or <b>www.genfair.com</b>	Electronic journal	£12.00
	Paper journal	£15.00
	Journal by airmail	£20.00

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

## D&DFHS Research Service

Research is defined as a “look-up” service (see form for full details) and is limited to items held in the D&DFHS Palgrave Research Centre.  
(including the D&DFHS publications and CDs)

**All applications must be made on the prescribed form - download a form from the website [www.doncasterfhs.co.uk](http://www.doncasterfhs.co.uk) or contact:**

### **Cost for members**

UK applications £5, Overseas applications £7  
(one event, one record)

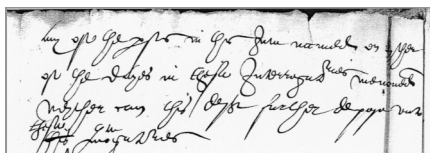
Price includes postage and provision of a print (up to 3 sheets A4 size)

### **Separate charges apply to non-members**

(see website for details)

## Transcription Service

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



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

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

**Philip Langford**

