

Barnsley
Family History
Society

Domus Historiae

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New Scarborough Public-house, Dewsbury Road.

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EDITORIAL

I hope you all had a Happy Christmas, and that your new year will be everything you hope for, Health, Wealth and Happiness in abundance. We had a quiet Christmas, with close friends visiting for a couple of days and our cats enjoying the warm hearth rug. Locally, the Forest of Dean is wrapped in early morning fogs, the wild boar appearing through the mist and giving the unwary walker a shock. The nights drew in quickly here, and on 1st November it was already dark at 5pm whilst daylight crept in about 6.30 am the same day.

After much deliberation I have made a decision to step down from the job of Editor due to the increase of other responsibilities, but it is my plan to continue to write articles for the Journal whilst the technical aspect of the publication will be taken on by Jeff who does such an excellent job with the website. If anyone would like my help with some material they would like to share with the Society, I will still be here to help.

There is always a need for material for the Journal. It is very hard to fill the pages with

interesting and informative articles that make a connection with the town. It doesn't matter how little you have written, one paragraph can become a whole page with a little help, and your research is shared with all our members who live all over the world. Lost twigs from your tree might read your material and suddenly there's a connection. Please think about sharing what information you have, we can help.

In this edition we have part three of Harry Rowson's War Diary which Harold Masters has been kind enough to share with us, only one more episode to go after this one. We are all aware of the privation and danger our troops lived through, even though we cannot truly know what it was like. But I, for one, always thought the men came home soon after Armistice Day. It has been a surprise to read Harry Rowson's experiences as this part of his diaries deal only with the period after the war was officially over!

I hope you enjoy this edition, and that your membership continues to be enjoyable and useful.

Maggie Bennett

MEMBERS FEEDBACK

October 2017, Vol. 25 No. 4

Not exactly letters, but e-mail can be almost as good. Here is a positive outcome from our October edition.

Hello Maggie,

Thank you for the latest edition of Domus Historiae. As always fascinating. Reading through it over lunch I commented to my wife that I had not seen any references to my ancestors: paternal - Gibson and Hawcroft, maternal - Smith and Charlesworth. Then to my amazement on page 12 up popped Gibson and Charlesworth. Coincidence or what? I'm wondering if it would be possible for you to connect me with the writer of the piece, Janet Gibson so that we can compare notes.

Many thanks,
Martin Gibson (1685)

I contacted Janet for her permission to send Martin's contact details to her, and this was her reply.

Dear Maggie,

I was really pleased to see the information I sent you in the journal so soon, all was as I had told you. Please pass my details to Martin, I would love to hear from him and find out if we are related.

Thanks
Janet Gibson (1595)

Although it now seems that there isn't a close family connection Janet has opened her family tree for Martin so that they compare notes online together. Amazing what can happen from one antique picture and a short note to identify it! Thanks to both of you and good luck with your searches.

Editor

Once again I ask members to supply material for Domus Historiae. I will do my best to provide an interesting and informative journal, and perhaps raise a smile or two for the readers. But without your input, however small, it becomes increasingly difficult to sustain the quality I aim to achieve.

Editor

SECRETARY'S QUARTERLY REPORT

As many of you may know, I took over as Secretary from Robert Jackson at the AGM 2016. Nearly two years into the role, I must be doing something right as **I've been approached to contribute a quarterly update from the Secretary's perspective to the 'Domus Historiae' magazine.**

In my official capacity, I take the minutes at every meeting, transcribe, and submit them to all Committee members. Where relevant, I communicate with Associations and people we are **affiliated to so I'll be able to share some of the more interesting conversations I've had in the last 3 months.**

So far, I've been able to attend every Committee meeting and, at the October session 2017, I recalled a snippet from one of my old school reports. "Margaret has a remarkable ability to say the same facts in at least five different ways." In other words, I can waffle well! The reason I recount this is that, sometimes, I shall have very little to report but will promise not to **consciously 'waffle'.** Hopefully, I have several pieces of information you may find interesting this time.

After the very successful visit to Wentworth Woodhouse – (review elsewhere in this issue) – it was **decided to have another 'club trip'** next year so I was asked to check out a number of possible venues. At the October meeting it was decided to visit **Ryedale Folk Museum at Hutton le Hole, North Yorkshire on Wednesday**

July 11th 2018 leaving Barnsley at around 09-00. Details can be found elsewhere in the magazine. Even if you have been before, the Museum prides itself on adding new elements and exhibits constantly.

As a member of the Barnsley University of the Third Age (U3A), I received some very interesting details from a colleague about an **NHS 1947 Survey from Warwick University** some of you may be able to help with. The NHS was introduced in 1947, the researchers would really appreciate written or oral memories of the few months from its inception and the impact it had on individuals. It welcomes contributions from people who worked for the NHS as well as members of the general public. This is the link I have been sent -

https://www2.warwick.ac.uk/newsandevents/pressreleases/the_first_people146s/

Some of the emails I receive from the Federation of Family History Societies are not very interesting or are very technical and not user-friendly but one really caught my eye. For those of us battling with family tree information the General Records Office is a useful, if at times costly, source of certification. They have introduced a **GRO pilot scheme** for 3 months to obtain certificates as a PDF file for £6-00 a copy. I've given a longer report with contact details

for those of you who may find this useful. (If you haven't a computer or device to receive a PDF file this is a waste of time!)

My final piece of information for you is about the recently opened building of the **West Yorkshire Archive**. I had a meeting with David Morris, the Archivist, on October 27th. I was amazed at the wealth of material that is there and the exhibitions and courses they offer. A report of my visit is to be the basis of a talk for the AGM in February 2018 but I have written a more detailed report of my visit for

the magazine, you may find interesting. Barnsley was an integral part of the old West Riding of Yorkshire so much of the material they have will be relevant to members of BFHS. So, this quarter has been quite productive and I hope you find some of the **information I've given useful and interesting** as the next quarter may be quite a fallow period with Christmas and New Year intervening.

All the best to you,

Margaret Williams

secretary@barnsleyfhs.co.uk



Barnsley Courthouse

Wednesday:- before the Mayor (Ald. MARSDEN), Messrs. J. KAYE, C. BRADY, and Col. NEVILLE.

Barnsley Tradesmen Fined:- Thomas FOSTER, grocer of Castlereagh Street, Barnsley, was fined 5s. (25p) and costs for having in his possession an 8oz. (227gm) weight for use which was 3dr. (5.3gm) against the purchaser. Geo. WALSHAW, grocer, of Gold Street, Barnsley, was fined 5s. (25p) and costs for having in his possession for use a pair of flour scales which were 2½oz. (71gm) against the purchaser. Geo. GREENWOOD, grocer, of Commercial Street, Barnsley, was fined 10s. (50p) and costs for having in his possession two 2lb. (907gm) weights 2dr. (3.5gm) and ½lb. (227gm) weight ½dr. (0.88gm) against the purchaser. John HARRISON, greengrocer, of Buckley Street, Barnsley, was also fined 5s. (25p) and costs for having in his possession, a 4lb. (1814gm) weight 7½dr. (13.29gm) against the purchaser.

Reference:

The Sheffield and Rotherham Independent, January 24th 1889, Pg. 3.

Legend:

dr. = dram.

lb. = pound.

oz. = ounce.

s. = shilling.

Barnsley FHS VISIT
RYEDALE FOLK MUSEUM
WEDNESDAY JULY 11th 2018



WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN US

Leave: **9.00 to 9.30 am.**

Return: **4.30 pm., approx (traffic permitting)**

The visit consists of **coach travel** to **Ryedale Folk Museum**, Hutton-le-Hole, North Yorkshire, **entrance** to the Museum, where you can wander for as long as you wish, **discounts** at local cafes and restaurants as well as **free time** in the beautiful village.

There is good disabled access and mobility scooters/ wheelchairs can be hired from the Museum, **free of charge**.

The cost is **£15.50** inclusive of coach and entry fee.

Full payment, please, with any booking would be appreciated.

**Please contact Margaret, General Secretary,
for further details at a members' evening, or
by e-mail to:**

secretary@barnsleyfhs.co.uk

HANNAH SPENSLEY (1853-1920): A HARD LIFE

This short article is an extract from a family history which I've been working on for years and which I hope will be published on the Society's website in the not-too-distant future. It will deal mainly with two Spenceley/Spensley families who arrived in the Barnsley area in the 1830s and the next four generations of their descendants. If you are connected or think you may be connected with these families I would be very pleased to hear from you at **ronspensley@btinternet.com**.

When completed, my history will not contain any information about persons who are still alive.

Hannah Spensley, my great-great aunt, was born in the hamlet of Partridge Dale near Silkstone Common in May 1853.¹ She was the last child of Thomas Spensley, who had migrated from Swaledale to the Barnsley area in about 1832, looking for work in the local coal mines. He married Mary Shaw of Stainborough about a year after his arrival, and the couple had ten children, four of whom died in infancy and one as a young adult. This number of births and infant deaths in families was not unusual at a time when the age of marriage was falling, effective contraception **didn't exist, and common childhood diseases often proved fatal.**

By the beginning of the 1870s **Thomas and Mary's surviving children had all married and left**

home except for Hannah and her youngest brother, Robert. They and their parents were then living in Dodworth, a rapidly growing mining village about two miles east of Partridge Dale. Hannah, then in her late teens, was described in the 1871 census as a "domestic servant" – in other words, she lived at home but earned money by working for local families as a charwoman.

In early 1874 Hannah gave birth to a daughter, Mary, but there was no mention in either the birth or **baptism records of the child's father.**² Later the same year a hearing took place before the Barnsley magistrates at which it was claimed on her behalf that the father was John Jones, an unmarried Dodworth miner. His Cheshire-born parents and he, like **Hannah's own father and hundreds of other people, were economic migrants to the village.**³ During the hearing before the magistrates "evidence was called showing that the parties had 'kept company' for some time and that they were in the habit of taking long walks and conducting themselves as lovers normally do." The magistrates adjudged that John was the child's father and ordered him to pay Hannah three shillings a week maintenance. He decided to contest the decision and his appeal was heard at the Sheffield Quarter Sessions in January 1875.⁴ It was

unsuccessful. Whether Hannah ever received the maintenance I **don't know.**

Hannah had a second child, Ann, in early 1876.⁵ At that time she seems to have been living at Dodworth Green, on the western **side of the village.** The child's father was again not recorded, and this was also the case when her third, Margaret, was born in November 1878.⁶ In January 1878, however, about a month before this child was conceived, Hannah had been assaulted by James Bowden, a Dodworth miner, who had gone on the rampage in the village during a drunken Saturday night out. The press were present when he appeared before the Barnsley magistrates, and a later newspaper report included the following:

. . . Before being apprehended he [Bowden] broke into a house where a young woman named Hannah Spensley lived, knocked her down, kicked her several times whilst she was on the floor and threatened to cut her throat. He also assaulted the girl's father [Thomas] who went to her assistance.⁷

Bowden was sentenced to three **months' hard labour for his attack** on Hannah, and a further three months for various other offences which he had committed that night. What his relationship with Hannah was or had been it is impossible to say.

Later in the same year that she was attacked by Bowden, Hannah

and her first two children, Mary and Ann, were admitted to the Barnsley Union workhouse, and it was there that her third child, Margaret, was born. The child died within a year - from malnutrition, according to the doctor who certified the cause.⁸ Matters then quickly became even worse for Hannah. Within only a **few days of her daughter's death** the Barnsley magistrates convicted her of stealing clothing - from the workhouse presumably, since the term "disorderly pauper" was later applied to her. She served two **weeks' hard labour in Wakefield** prison for this offence, being discharged on December 2, 1879.⁹ The only two details that we have about her physical appearance - that she was five feet eight inches tall, and had brown hair - are contained in the prison's register of names.

After her release from prison Hannah spent a further two years in the workhouse, being recorded there in the April 1881 census return. Also an inmate at that time was John Woffenden, an unemployed colliery labourer.¹⁰ Soon afterwards both were discharged, and in July of the same year they married.¹¹ **Ann Wood, Hannah's** married younger sister was a witness at the ceremony. Their father, Thomas, who had tried to defend Hannah when she was attacked by Bowden, had died two months previously.

Born in April 1847 in Albert St.,

central Barnsley, Hannah's husband was the son of Thomas Woffenden, a blacksmith, and his wife Mary née Hall.¹² After Thomas died at a relatively young age in January 1851, Mary and her children moved a short distance across the town to live with her parents in Summer Lane.¹³ Her father, James, worked in the linen industry, operating a machine called a calender, which was used for smoothing and dressing the cloth in the final stage of its manufacture.¹⁴ He may have worked at the Union linen mill on Summer Lane or at the nearby Hope linen works.

After the three-year-old John moved with his family to Summer Lane there is an almost thirty year period during which I have been unable to find anything certain about his life. There is one possible reference. A person called John Woffenden, who said that he was a horse driver at the Oaks colliery in Barnsley, appeared before the Barnsley magistrates in December 1871. He had been found by a police constable at 2.30 am asleep in the boiler room of the Mount Osbourne Colliery, where legally speaking he had no right to be. No charge was made against him, the magistrates appreciating perhaps that the need to avoid freezing to death was sufficient to excuse the trespass, and he was simply cautioned. While he was being questioned, however it transpired that he had previously been an

inmate at the Barnsley workhouse. Was this the John Woffenden who would marry Hannah? Did he move in and out of the workhouse on more than one occasion as he found work to support himself but then later lost it? Possibly, but not enough personal detail is given about the John who appeared before the magistrates to be sure.¹⁵

Back to John and Hannah after their marriage. Their only child, Sarah Ann Woffenden, was born in January 1884, when they were living in Boundary Street, Barnsley and John was working as a colliery labourer.¹⁶ For Hannah, after the turbulence and suffering of her earlier life, some sort of balance seemed at last to have been achieved, but it proved to be temporary. Her life with John came to an end only seven years later, when he died of pneumonia.¹⁷ He was in the workhouse again at that time, and this may have been because Hannah lacked the resources to provide for both him and their child when he became unable to work.

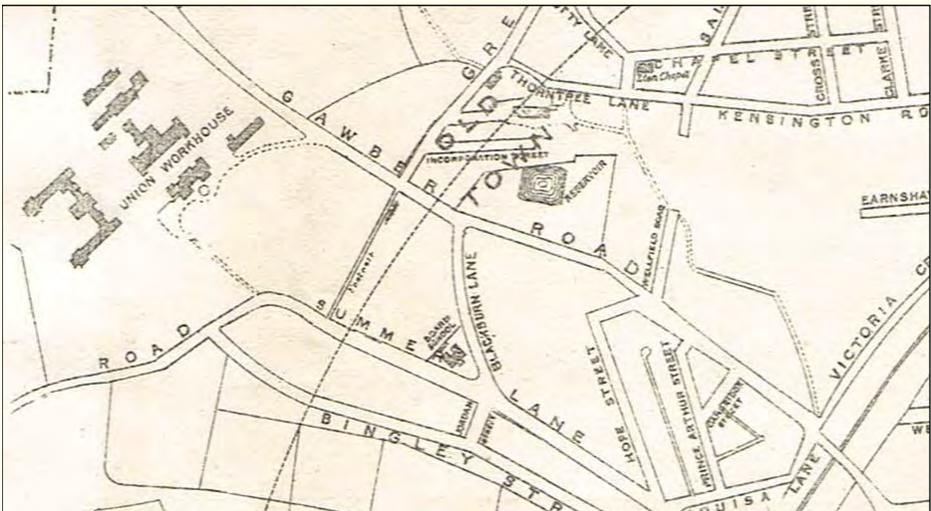
How Hannah supported herself and Sarah Ann in the decade **following John's death is uncertain** but she is most likely to have continued to work as a charwoman/ domestic servant, which was almost the only form of paid work available to her. Some widowed or single women without support earned a living as dressmakers, but Hannah may not have had that skill. Other difficulties beset her. In February

1895 she was living in Savage's lodging house in Barnsley, having recently separated from a James Dodd with whom she had previously been living. Dodd had gone in a drunken state to the lodging house and begun shouting at her. When, according to Hannah, she told him to be quiet because another woman living there was ill, he struck her and kicked her on the leg. Her complaint against him was upheld by the Barnsley magistrates, who fined Dodds ten shillings and costs, **with the option of a month's imprisonment.** Two years later Hannah herself, then living in **Mence's Court, Barnsley was fined** by the magistrates for striking a woman neighbour during the course of a dispute between them.¹⁸ These reported incidents of violence are unlikely to have been the only ones in which she was

involved during this stage of her life.

By 1901 she was working as a "housekeeper" for William Riley, a widowed coal miner in his sixties, who lived with his daughter and **grandson in Day's Court, Old Mill,** an industrial hamlet close to the river Dearne and the Barnsley canal. It was inhabited by miners, colliery labourers, and workers for the Barnsley gas company and a local paper mill.¹⁹ It is impossible to know how long Hannah kept a job such as this, or how many similar ones she had during these years. She may have entered the workhouse again, but I have no evidence that she did, and she did not remarry.

Ten years later Hannah was living in Dodworth with her eldest daughter, Mary, who had married Ben Parker, a colliery engine driver,



Barnsley Union Workhouse - late 19th-century.

Courtesy of Ron Spensley.

and she may have stayed with them for the remainder of her life.

The 1911 census, however, also recorded her on the same day as a visitor at the home in Barnsley of her youngest daughter, Sarah Ann, who had also married, so perhaps she lived at different times with both families during her later years.²⁰ Both entries indicate that she was still working as a char-woman.

Whether she was in contact at this time with her second daughter Ann, who had married outside the Barnsley area in 1899 but had later settled in Dodworth with her own family, I don't know.

Hannah died of "chronic bronchitis" at the Parkers' home in Barnsley Road, Dodworth, in December 1920.²¹

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- ¹ GRO, Births, Wortley & Penistone RD, Cawthorne SD, May 8 1853, No.30.
² GRO, Births, Barnsley Union RD, Barnsley SD, February 23 1874, No.303; Dodworth St John Baptisms Register, August 5 1874.
³ 1871 Census Dodworth RG10/4648, f.17, p.30.
⁴ Sheffield and Rotherham Independent, Friday January 8 1875, p.4.
⁵ GRO, Births, Barnsley Union RD, Barnsley SD, March 5 1876, No.396.
⁶ GRO, Births, Barnsley Union RD, Barnsley SD, November 24 1878, No.307.
⁷ Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, Tuesday January 15 1878, p.5.
⁸ Barnsley Cemetery Burials, Margaret Spenceley, November 6 1879, Age 11 months.
⁹ Wakefield Prison Records, Nominal Register, 1801-1914, December 1879, No.3481 Hannah Spenceley. Accessed at ancestry.co.uk, 3/4/2015.
¹⁰ 1881 Census Barnsley, RG11/4605, f.173, p.13.
¹¹ **GRO, Marriages, Barnsley RD, St George's Parish Church, July 25 1881, No.304.**
¹² GRO, Births, Ecclesfield RD, Barnsley SD, April 17 1847, No.282.
¹³ GRO, Deaths, Barnsley Union RD, Barnsley SD, January 6 1851, No.464.
¹⁴ 1851 Census Barnsley, HO107/2332, f.411, p.1. See also J. Donald (ed.), **Chambers' Etymological Dictionary of the English Language, London, 1869;** and P. Baines, *Flax and Linen*, Shire Publications, 2003, p.30.
¹⁵ Barnsley Chronicle, December 9 1871, p.6.
¹⁶ GRO, Births, Barnsley Union RD, Barnsley SD, January 14 1884, No. 386.
¹⁷ RO, Deaths, Barnsley Union RD, Barnsley SD, February 15 1891, No.325. See also 1891 Census Barnsley, RG12/3774, f.26, p.33.
¹⁸ Sheffield Independent, February 3 1895, p.5 & July 30 1897, p.7.
¹⁹ 1901 Census Barnsley, RG13/4317, f.119, p.34.
²⁰ See 1911 Census Barnsley, RG14/PN27596/RG78/PN1578/RD507/SD2/ED37/SN139, & RG14/PN27582/RG78/PN1578/RD507SD2/ED23/SN5.
²¹ GRO, Deaths, Barnsley RD, Barnsley SD, December 6 1920, No.114.

Ron Spensley

Barnsley Family History Society
Notice is hereby given of the
32nd Annual General Meeting

To be held on Tuesday 20th February 2018
at Buckley Street Methodist Church Hall, Union Court, Barnsley.

S70 1JN at **7.30pm**

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Chairman's opening remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 21st February 2017
4. Matters arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Acceptance of 2017 Accounts
8. Election of officers

**Please note that only fully paid up members of the society
can take part in, and cast their votes at the AGM.**

POLITE REMINDER

**THAT THE 2018 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION
WAS DUE ON THE 1ST JANUARY 2018**

We hope you have enjoyed membership of Barnsley Family History Society.

To continue your membership, if you've not already done so, could you please complete and return the forms that were printed on the centre pages of the October 2017 edition of the journal. You will also find all payment options and a standing order mandate.

Please send your subscription to:

**Elaine Jackson, Barnsley FHS Membership Secretary,
7 Honeywell Street, BARNSELEY, S71 1PR**

You can also pay your membership subscription through the
Genfair website:

<https://www.genfair.co.uk/supplier.php?sid=2>

MEMBERS VISIT TO WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE

Wednesday June 7th 2017



The Committee decided in April that it was time to reinstate an annual visit to an attraction that may be of interest to our membership. Several venues were discussed but we settled on Wentworth Woodhouse because (a) it is reasonably local, (b) members are possibly familiar with its existence and history and, this is important to canny Yorkshire folk, (c) we could also travel in our own cars thus saving on transport costs!

The Wentworth Woodhouse website is very informative and well worth visiting as a first port of call to any interested party which is what I did. There are good directions and a map as to how to get there, which is useful, as local byelaws state that no signage for the location of the House can be erected!

Wentworth Woodhouse was the largest privately owned house in England but at the end of March 2017 the owners, the Newbold family, who had embarked on preservation of some rooms and the most needy parts of the roof, sold it to SAVE and the Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust for

£7 million thus securing the future of the building for posterity whilst embarking on staged refurbishment of the rooms and fabric of the building. In 2013 the repairs were costed at £42million so this will be an absolutely massive undertaking.

Building of the House, as it stands at present, was commenced by the 1st Marquis of Rockingham in 1725 in the Baroque style then from 1734 the 2nd Marquis built on a second section in the Palladian style. The Palladian style is very evident in the pillars and ornate decoration in the rooms. Apparently, there are around 200 rooms and the impressive frontage, longer than Buckingham Palace, is 180m long! All this is not to discount the Stable Block, which is situated to the right of the main house. This is very large and, surely, ripe for development, possibly as accommodation for tourists/visiting film crews.

The Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust has embarked upon a programme of opening to the general public so we were helping to contribute by our visit, every little helps as they say.

There are 3 Tours available at present, (shortly to become 6,) so we chose the Fitzwilliam Tour at £25 a head. This is the most comprehensive tour they currently offer, it comprises 23 rooms, 3 staircases, 2 corridors, the Well Bedroom, Chinese Bedroom and Dressing Room, and 57 acres of **garden. We didn't count them all** but can testify to the length and detail included in the tour!

"How much?" I hear you cry It was worth every penny!

So it was, that after torrential rain the previous two days, the day was fine and reasonably sunny to greet the 16 intrepid BFHS souls and friends who congregated in the Tea Room at 1-00pm. One has to visit the loo before the planned tour time of 2pm after the delights of tea and biscuits.

It has to be said that the Ladies loo is an attraction itself! It is more a plush Victorian lounge with two armchairs with rugs to the floor but incorporating a, (thankfully), very modern flush toilet which is housed in a traditional mahogany surround with circular holes for seats. It has to be experienced to appreciate it! I cannot speak for the Gents!

On arrival we noticed there were removal vans, mini buses, film crews, make-up artists, catering vehicles and a 1920s car plus about 40 people wandering around. As well as our Tour, we had the added bonus of being on a Bollywood film set with filming for

an action movie which is scheduled for release in India around Christmas 2017.

Back to business. We met Reg., our guide, in the impressive, pillared ground floor entrance; the main entry for the nobility and revered guests is on the first floor! Reg., proved to be a real fount of knowledge, able to answer any question, however obscure, with ease, he is a fantastic and enthusiastic ambassador for Wentworth Woodhouse.

We travelled through the Tudor beginnings of the house, through chandelier topped, high ceiling rooms, extremely long corridors, which the servants must have found a nightmare, up flights of stairs with surprising sights at every turn. There is evidence throughout of the House of every stage of its history right through to the lease to Lady Mabel (PE) Teacher Training College in 1949 to 1988 when the costs made its use as a college no longer viable.

Personally, I was aware that Wentworth Woodhouse is used increasingly as a TV and film set, Reg was able to explain and point out the interior locations used in **shows on TV such as 'Victoria', Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell, King Charles 3rd**. I think our group disappointed him a little as few of us had seen the shows he mentioned! I have King Charles 3rd on Catch-Up, it was a revelation and exciting to watch and to be able to pick out the rooms and

artefacts we had seen once I returned home.

In the Whistlejacket Room, named after a racehorse apparently, an Indian lady was sitting on a window ledge waiting for her cue to perform. She asked about our group, where we were from and about the location. Apparently, according to Reg, she is **one of India's top film stars**. Our group was consorting with filming royalty!

Perhaps the most jaw-dropping 'room' is the double height Marble Salon with its first floor gallery all the way around. To get some idea of the scale, Reg informed us that this room was used as indoor badminton courts when the house was used as a training college!

We ended our indoor tour with the chapel and walls incorporating the Tudor foundations then it was through a 17th-century arch and onto the Gardens...

Wow! Everything within the walls are classed as 'garden' but the estate – just like the Spencer Stanhopes at Cannon Hall, Barnsley – reaches as far as the eye can see in every direction. There are lakes, monuments such as Keppel's Column, Needle's Eye, the partially hidden Rockingham Mausoleum.

The gardens are at their best in May and June, apparently. Everywhere you go there are different styles of garden including a walled garden by a modern garden designer. The Bear Pit sounds worth a visit but it is the other side of the garden wall in the Garden Centre so you have to go there to see it!

Victorian conservatories and some garden areas are in need of restoration but, again, I suspect that the house must take priority.

Perhaps, the most devastating event to affect the gardens was the decision by Emanuel Shinwell (Minister of Fuel and Power) in



Open-cast coal-mining at Wentworth Woodhouse (1947)

1946 to introduce open-cast mining on to the estate to provide fuel in the immediate post war years. Lord Peter Fitzwilliam was devastated but could only watch as the gardens and surrounding estate were ripped apart to mine coal. The open cast workings came within metres of the West Front of the house while the resultant subsidence caused havoc to the fabric of the building. Nature has **its own way of repairing mans'** actions and there is now, 70 years later, little evidence that any mining activity took place.

The gardens and views they provide are stunning, there is plenty of seating, too if you need to rest and recharge from the Tour. It is fascinating to see the monuments and artefacts that you come across by chance as you wander around.

Our tour commenced at 2-00pm and was scheduled for 2 hours but it was 5-15pm when it finished because we were never hurried and all our questions were fully answered. We were treated like honoured guests.

Our thanks must go initially to Reg for his patience, understanding and knowledge, to Andrew who was so helpful with our booking and to all the staff for whom nothing was too much trouble.

We all had a fantastic time and, without exception will definitely come back to visit.

Wentworth Woodhouse is a real asset to the South Yorkshire Community, thank goodness it is being lovingly treated for future generations.

The last word goes to the Indian film star who told me:

"What a fantastic place this is, you are so lucky to have it here and we all feel privileged to be able to work and perform within its house and grounds. I have never been anywhere as stunning as this and, probably, never will again."

Margaret E. Williams

The history of the family and house can be found in:

Bailey, Catherine. Black Diamonds: The Rise and Fall of an English Dynasty, London: Penguin Books. (2008) ISBN 978-0141019239

Now it's your turn. Everyone has a story to tell!

If you've enjoyed reading the articles in this issue, why not write a piece for a future issue of the journal? Please contact the editor, Maggie:

editor@barnsleyfhs.co.uk

who will offer any assistance, or encouragement you might need.

Remember, every journey starts with the first step.

TIMELINE JANUARY 1st 1918 TO MARCH 31st 1918

- January 1** Arab forces begin Actions for Et Taffile.
- January 2 Air Ministry formed in Great Britain.
- January 3 The Air Council takes over functions of Air Board.
- January 4 British hospital ship "Rewa" sunk by submarine in Bristol Channel.
British Government in message to the King of the Hejaz declare intentions with regard to future status of Palestine.
Allied request for handing over of Dutch ships in Allied ports formulated.
- January 5 British Prime Minister (Mr. David Lloyd George) in speech to Trade Union delegates outlines British War Aims.
- January 8 Qasr-i-Shirin (Western Persia) occupied by British forces.
President Wilson delivers Message to Congress laying down the "Fourteen Points" .
- January 10 British Government assure Russian Bolshevik Government of their support in the creation of an independent Poland.
- January 12 Latvia declares independence.
- January 14 German destroyers bombard Yarmouth.
- January 20 Naval action outside the Dardanelles. German cruiser "Breslau" and British monitor "Raglan" sunk, "Goeben" strikes mine and is beached.
- January 24 Count Hertling and Count Czernin (German Imperial Chancellor and Austrian Foreign Minister) make public replies to statements of President Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George on War Aims.
- January 29 Lieut.-General Sir L. E. Kiggell, Chief of the General Staff, British Expeditionary Force, France, resigns.
Lieut.-General The Hon. Sir H. A. Lawrence appointed Chief of the General Staff, British Expeditionary Force, France.
- February 1** Extension of the British East Persia Cordon into Khorasan begins.
- February 3 British Government announce enlargement of powers of Supreme War Council at Versailles.
- February 5 British S.S. "Tuscania" carrying United States troops, sunk by submarine off Irish coast.
- February 11 President Wilson delivers Message to Congress laying down four additional Points.
- February 15 Third German destroyer raid in Straits of Dover.
Representatives of Allied Governments arrange establishment of the "Allied Maritime Transport Council".
- February 16 Dover shelled by German submarine.

- February 18 Armistice terminates on Russian front. Hostilities resumed. General Sir W. Robertson, Chief of the British Imperial General Staff, resigns.
- February 19 General Sir H. H. Wilson appointed Chief of the British Imperial General Staff .
- February 20 British Foreign Minister (Mr. Balfour) informs Polish National Committee that Great Britain does not accept the treaty between The Ukraine and Central Powers.
- February 21 Jericho taken by British forces.
Ministry of Information formed in Great Britain.
- February 23 Inter-Allied Labour and Socialist Conference in London pass resolution as to War Aims.
- February 25 Kirmanshah (Western Persia) occupied by British forces.
- February 26 British hospital ship "Glenart Castle" sunk by submarine in the Bristol Channel.
- March 1** Treaty of Peace and Amity signed between the Finnish Social Republic of Workmen and the Russian Federal Soviet Republic.
- March 7 First German aeroplane raid on England undertaken at night.
- March 10 British hospital ship "Guildford Castle" attacked by German submarine in Bristol Channel, but reaches port.
- March 11 First meeting of the Allied Maritime Transport Council.
- March 13 Odessa occupied by German forces.
- March 20 Allied Blockade Committee formed.
- March 21 First Battles of the Somme 1918 or German Operation Michael begins with Battle of St. Quentin.
Destroyer action in North Sea between Allied and German flotillas.
Dutch ships in British ports requisitioned by British Government and Dutch ships in United States ports requisitioned by United States Government.
- March 23 Paris first shelled by long-range gun (from Crépy-en-Valois, 75 miles distant).
- March 24 First Battle of Bapaume: Bapaume and Péronne taken by German forces.
- March 25 Battle of Noyon: Noyon taken by German forces.
German airship raid on Naples from the Dalmatian coast.
- March 26 "Doullens Agreement" concluded. Decision taken to appoint General Foch to co-ordinate efforts of British and French Armies.
- March 27 Battle of Rosières.
Montdidier taken by German forces.
First British attack on Amman (Palestine).
- March 28 First Battle of Arras.

WEST YORKSHIRE HISTORY CENTRE: WAKEFIELD



'Preserve the past, serve the present, protect the future.'

For those of us in BFHS some of our family records will still be held in the West Yorkshire archives although South Yorkshire now holds many of the old West Riding records in Barnsley, Sheffield, Rotherham and Doncaster. Many of you use the Barnsley Archives and BFHS has its own archive and publications you can tap into. The fact that Barnsley was in the old West Riding of Yorkshire means we have access to additional resources in the new Wakefield centre.

I began researching my family tree in January 2015, my family roots are in Calderdale or the old West Riding, so it was with interest I watched the new West Yorkshire History Centre building – WYHC – take shape at the bottom of Kirkgate.

The building, which looks like a giant cheese wedge, opened in early 2017, it is at the bottom of Kirkgate, only 300m from Kirkgate Station where you can park for free. (There is limited disabled parking on the WYHC site.)

There is also parking in the New Brunswick Street council car park just behind the Centre for which a **fee is payable although it's not that easy at present negotiating the left turn in the roadworks!**

In my role, as General Secretary of BFHS, I arranged a visit and an appointment with David Morris, the Archivist, so on Friday, October 27th off I went.

The first problem was getting into the building! Wakefield Council **has major road 'improvements'** directly outside with a newly laid pavement having been dug up! The roadworks will continue until Summer 2018. I felt that I needed a hard hat and high vis. jacket just to approach the site! If you come from Barnsley, get the train to **Kirkgate Station as it's only a short and easy walk to the Centre** or catch a bus to alight opposite the building. There is pedestrian access across **the road although it's not the easiest pathway to negotiate.** The Centre is also on the route of the Wakefield Free Bus.

How did I get there? On the no 59 Stagecoach bus!

The WYHC is, obviously, state of the art; it houses West Yorkshire Archive Services for Bradford, Calderdale, Leeds, Kirklees and Wakefield. The WYHC collects and preserves millions of records of all kinds dating from the 12th-century to the present day – over 800 years of history. There is an exhibition of **local interest as you enter, it's on** the mining industry, currently and the impact mining had culturally, socially, emotionally and physically. The subject of the exhibition changes regularly.

I met David, who was so patient and helpful, in the Search room which fronts on to Kirkgate; there is free open walk-in access for simple, non-bookable, research using computers and microfiche as well as records on rolling storage of Deeds from 1704-1970.

There are areas within the main restricted Search Room such as large tables, lots of computers, which can be accessed free of charge, although to use these you need a CARN - County Archive Research Network – card or bring personal ID with name, address and signature which will mean you are issued with a CARN card on the day. The Centre offers free access to the Ancestry website which includes Church of England and Non-Conformist registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, electoral registers and probate records as well as Census records.

The ethos of the Centre is free and easy. I was impressed by the staff who were unflinchingly pleasant and helpful, always ready to help. They made me feel welcome and valued. The staff is always ready to assist and all areas are invigilated.

For more detailed, personalised research David suggested that booking is essential so staff can have the documents you need for your research ready and are able to offer advice and encouragement. There are over 40 miles worth of records stored on the 2 floors above so records cannot be retrieved on demand! Bring some paper, your pencils, you can leave food, drink, coats and bags in the corridor lockers provided then you should be good to go.

Archive surgeries are offered to anyone whose research may have hit a brick wall. Is there anyone **whose research hasn't suffered that fate?** These are 45 minute slots with a dedicated member of the Archive team available using the WYHC extensive collections. (£15 fee from 1st January, 2018)

The Centre has its own Conservation team who undertake preservation work and treatments on a wide range of archive documents. They operate in a huge room with many windows so people outside can watch the work in progress at any time – **it's good to be nosy!** It was fascinating watching one operative removing grime from a very delicate

parchment, I could have watched for ages. Conservationists also run courses on various techniques such as marbling, caring for photographs etc.

There is a 6 monthly rolling programme of events, courses run from January to June and July to December each year, many courses are free, just drop in although booking is required for others, usually the courses with a fee. For instance, Palaeography was a 2 hour bookable course at £12 per **adult. No, I couldn't pronounce it and had no clue what it was either! Apparently, it's for beginners – that's me** – looking at quirks of 17th and 18th-century handwriting to enable you to read and transcribe documents from that **time. I hope it runs again as I'd** love to have a go at that as it also offered hands on practice.

You can call in for an Events brochure or look on the website. I will bring some brochures to the AGM in February 2018 for anyone who may be interested.

I know that several BFHS members transcribe material for the Society and for Barnsley Archives as well. WYHC runs a similar volunteer system of transcription, once you are accredited work ranges from individual documents to parish registers. Volunteers come and go as they wish, there are set days, with lots of variety on offer so if you find you would rather watch

paint dry than work on certain documents then you can change to another type and style. Volunteers are welcomed with open arms. **Perhaps, when I've done the Palaeography course, I may be of some use...**

David took me on a guided tour of the building with the main work and research being done on the ground floor with floors 1 and 2 dedicated to storage which was simply mind-boggling. Every storage box has a barcode which identifies its contents and there are boxes of every shape and size imaginable as well as many scrolls, the longest of which is 16 feet by **15 feet in old money, it's the boundary plan for the Halifax Borough!**

You may be interested to know that the largest document in the whole WYHC stored collection is from Barnsley! It is an application for a licence at a Barnsley theatre, containing over 11,000 signatures.

It is only when you speak to the people who work at WYHC you realise how much has been done, how much still needs to be done and the diversity of documents on offer, it is staggering.

It was a real privilege to meet David and some of the staff; they are true ambassadors for an **excellent addition to Wakefield's** heritage. I loved spending time at WYHC; it is my intention to continue to visit.

Why don't you go and see for yourself?

West Yorkshire History Centre, 127 Kirkgate, WAKEFIELD. WF1 1JG

Email: wakefield@wyjs.org.uk

Tel: 01924 782030

The Centre is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9-30am to 5-00pm and the 2nd Saturday in each month 9-30am to 5-00pm. It is closed Wednesdays, Sundays and Bank holidays.

Margaret E. Williams



Federation of Family History Societies

Useful update - October 12th 2017

Below, I have attached the details I received from the FFHS regarding the General Records Office initiative I mentioned in my BFHS General Secretary quarterly report. This sounds as if it may be worth pursuing if you want copies of Birth or Death records. I have checked with the GRO, marriage details are not available – as yet.

I am going to check it out and will report back in the next issue.

Margaret Williams

The GRO has launched a further Pilot Test of certificate data in PDF format effective from the 12th October 2017. The announcement appears on their website at:

<https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/login.asp>

but details are shown below:

General Register Office (GRO) - PDF Extended Pilot.

The GRO is piloting a service from 12 October 2017 to provide portable document format (PDF) copies of digitised historical birth and death records. The pilot will run for a minimum of 3 months to enable GRO to assess the demand for this service over a prolonged period.

Applications for each PDF cost £6, must be made online, and include a GRO index reference. England and Wales records which are available as PDF's in this extended pilot include:

Births: 1837-1916.

Deaths: 1837-1957.

Note: A PDF is not a certificate and has no "evidential" value, and therefore a certificate is required for official purposes, e.g. applying for a passport, driving licence or giving notice of marriage.

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BIRTH, MARRIAGE AND DEATH CERTIFICATES

Over the years members have donated BMD certificates to Barnsley FHS to help other members with their research. These certificates have been available at members' evenings. The committee have decided to open up this service to all members of the society.

Please look through the listing, and if you wish to purchase a scanned copy of a certificate by post, please contact the search co-ordinators, Elaine and Kathryn at: search@barnsleyfhs.co.uk e-mail the **Ref. No.**, **Surname**, your membership number, and your address details. Scanned copies cost £2.00 each plus postage. Payment by cheque.

PDF copies of certificates are also available online from the Barnsley FHS page on the Genfair website: <https://www.genfair.co.uk/supplier.php?sid=2> Simply jot down the **Ref. No.**, and **Surname**, go to the Genfair site and enter these details, your membership number and contact details. PDF copies cost £3.00 each.

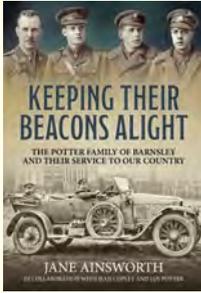
DEATH CERTIFICATES

Ref. No.	Surname	Forename	Age	Year	District
DC001	ARMITAGE	Elizabeth	14mo.	1861	Barnsley
DC002	BERRY	William	77	1907	Barnsley
DC003	DENNIS	Thomas	50	1887	Barnsley
DC004	DENNIS	William	21	1853	Barnsley
DC005	GELDER	Mary Ann	64	1936	Barnsley
DC006	GLEDHILL	James	27	1878	Barnsley
DC007	HARRISON	Elizabeth	77	1841	Worsbrough
DC008	HARRISON	Mary Eleanor	34	1895	Barnsley
DC009	HARRISON	William	74	1891	Barnsley
DC010	HARSTON	Eliza	63	1906	Barnsley
DC011	RICHARDSON	Mary Ann	44	1890	Barnsley
DC012	SENIOR	Ann	75	1904	Barnsley
DC013	SENIOR	Margaret	2da.	1923	Barnsley
DC010	SMITH	Eliza	63	1906	Barnsley
DC014	SWALLOW	Hannah	9mo.	1862	Barnsley

Note: DC010 Eliza HARSTON alias Eliza SMITH.

If you have any unwanted certificates that you wish to donate to the society for inclusion on this page in future issues, and on the website we would be pleased to accept them. Contact: search@barnsleyfhs.co.uk

BOOK REVIEW



Keeping Their Beacons Alight: The Potter Family of Barnsley and their Service to our Country

Jane Ainsworth

in collaboration with Jean Copley and Ian Potter

Following on from the success of her first book, 'Great Sacrifice', Jane digs a little deeper into the background of one of the families mentioned in her previous title, the Potter family.

After publication of her first book, Jane was contacted by Jean Copley, a descendent, by marriage, of two of the Potter brothers, who are mentioned in the book.

Jean has in her possession a 'family history' comprising of letters, documents, and photographs, to which she's allowed Jane access. The core of the history is fifty personal letters preserved by Elsie, elder sister of the brothers.

It soon became apparent to Jane, whilst transcribing the letters that the fascinating Potter history had to be told.

In this revealing family history, the reader is guided, step-by-step on a journey from the origins of a Barnsley building dynasty.

After completing meticulous and careful research, Jane commences the Potter story in 1817 with the marriage between Thomas Potter

and Mary Wood.

In thirteen chapters we follow members of the family, each chapter bringing to life individual stories, using documents, extracts from letters, contemporary newspaper cuttings and photographs, to piece together a completed jigsaw by the final chapter. A family history cannot be just about one family this is true with Jane's book.

Over generations other families become interweaved, by marriage, by business, and also by friendship, etc., so relationships with the Burn, Dunk, Flinn, Fox, Fretwell, Glasby, Goodyear, Greenfield, Hewitt, Huggard, Moorhouse, Noble, Quest, Raley, Reasbeck, and Wood families enhance the Potter story.

Jane's book gives a fascinating glimpse into the history of the Potter family from its Victorian roots, through the war years, to the present day.

Jeff Chambers

ISBN: 978-1-912390-36-6

Published by: **www.helion.co.uk**
Pbk. 376pp. 156 photos. Family trees.
price £25.00

HARRY RAWSON'S, DEMOB DIARY: PART III

On Feb 10th 1919 we moved by train to IMMIGRATH across the RHINE about 10 miles the other side of COLOGNE. During the last 5 weeks I had repeatedly applied for my demobilization as it was getting very serious to me, the result so far being nothing but disappointment.

All this time the English Newspapers were telling how proud we men were to have the Honour of being in occupation in Germany. I was already 6 weeks overdue for leave and I had only had one leave in 27 months.

There were only two men in our battalion who could speak the German language, and they were both Privates. One was made a Corporal and appointed interpreter to the battalion. There was always, somebody requiring his services either for seeking billets, or if the Officers were wanting a Train to COLOGNE or DUREN, this man had to go to the station and do all the talking.

Upon arrival here in the evening, I was ordered to take the canteen goods to a certain house, and to claim the front sitting room as a canteen. It was a large house situated in a good locality, and I could not speak German. I asked the MAJOR for the interpreter, but was told to go to hell out of it. I knocked at the side door and when the lady came I was unable to make her understand my meaning, but when I began to carry in the

goods she seemed to realize that I had come to stay. She was kind but annoyed I could see, but she insisted on making a fire in the front room and both her and her husband brought a mattress down and spread it on the floor. Next morning she did all she could to oblige, she took me into the kitchen and handed me a towel.

Evidently the COLONEL and the MAJOR had taken a fancy to this house, and wanted it for the Orderly room, because I had to clear out the next day. I was sitting at dinner this first day (Bully Beef Stew for another change) but I had to leave it to go cold, as I could hear the MAJOR call out at the top of his voice Private R-----. I immediately ran out to him, and he said fetch our B----- rifle and follow us. I wondered what the matter **was and couldn't understand what the game was.** The COLONEL and the MAJOR were walking together down the middle of the road, each carrying a revolver, the REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR had his revolver, a SERGEANT and CORPORAL with their rifles and the Interpreter had his rifle.

We walked for some distance down this road, and then they led the way into a Chemists Shop, the MAJOR saying to me **"this will be the canteen tomorrow"**. I realized at once that their object was to frighten the shop keeper.

The man was out however. The whole crowd of us was stood in the shop when a young woman came in carrying a young baby only a few months old. The interpreter spoke to her in German explaining that we wanted the shop for a canteen, and that she must have everything **moved out by 10 o'clock** the following morning. The woman could see that we all carried arms and she began to cry and plead that she might be excused as she had a young family of nine. Then the interpreter explained this to the COLONEL he glared at the woman and began swearing, of course the woman could not understand him, but she was given to understand that we were coming in next morning.

The interpreter told me afterwards that he felt very sorry for the woman, and as I have lived in this place until my demobilization I am able to say that they were a most respectable family. We were always invited into their kitchen in the evening, and we would have a **game at "LUDO" or CARDS, and the** children were always pleased for us to be there, and if we happened to be out on certain evenings they would be sure to ask for us.

One day the battalion was out for a march, and in marching through this village, a German civilian was coming in the opposite direction. The German civilians were expected to raise their hats when meeting British Troops but this man had either forgotten to do so or perhaps did not intend to, but

our Colonel swung his horse round right on to the pavement, lashed out with his riding whip and caught the man full in the face. I think that man will carry the marks on his face for as long as he lives. The Colonel carried on like a madman and I have seen him do this kind of thing upon one or two occasions.

Instructions were given to the cooks to save all the fat or dripping that they could, and one day a notice was placed in the Orderly room window in German saying that dripping dripping would be sold to the village residents at 3 marks per lb. The civilian people were quite pleased about this, as they had seen no fat for such a long time. Long queues of women were waiting in the road, and they got so excited thinking they were going to miss their turn that they started fighting amongst themselves and **pulling one another's hair. I was so** surprised to see this, because they were quite respectable well-dressed class of women, but they could not keep their heads. There was a shortage of certain foods in England but nothing to be compared with this.

The time is drawing near when I shall get my discharge from the Army and I am full of worry and excitement. I again want to point out however that I have given a true version of what actually happened during my Army Career, and I can assure the reader that all that I have written for good or bad is the absolute truth.

Now there are just one or two incidents I wish to name before closing. The first is in regards to another of our Majors. I will call him the Good Major. The one I now refer to is the one I have mentioned previously. He has risen from Captain to Major. He has been a good friend to me, and I was never more in need of a friend than when in the Army, and he was a complete stranger to me when I joined the Battalion. I never heard one man speak disrespectfully about him. There have been times when I have felt that I could not carry on any longer; but just when I have been on the point of giving way this kindly Officer has seemed to come to my aid. It was a glorious opportunity for any Officer to gain respect, and his kindly actions will never be forgotten by any soldier who had any dealings with him. In fact it is impossible for me to give sufficient praise to Major C-----.

One morning I was standing alone behind the counter of the Canteen, when the good Major came in with a pleasant smile and said good morning R-----, I felt as I had often felt before that he was wanting to do me a kind action. He told me that there was a batch of men to be demobilized within the next few days, and he asked me if I had been warned for this, and when I answered no, he promised to do his best for me. Later in the day I was called before the Colonel.

I stood outside his room for a little while and the Regimental told me that he would call me to attention when required. Suddenly he called out "shun" "Quick March" "Right Turn" "Left Turn" "Holt". The Colonel was sat at a table and there seemed to be a whole pack of Officers there. The Adjutant, the BAD MAJOR (Second in command) and my friend the good Major.

The Colonel started off like this **"So you want to go home do you"** **"Yes Sir"** **"So do I"** and he kept me standing there without putting any further questions to me. I felt very nervous, and very much humbled, and I could easily have broken down, but I felt that this was my chance and that a lot depended on what I had to say. I explained to the Colonel that my firm had written several letters asking that I may be released, and that a few of these letters were lying in the Orderly room. I also mentioned that I had made many applications to the Orderly Room Sergeant without success, and that things were now getting desperate and if I was refused this time it would probably mean ruination to me. **And I finished off by saying "you are the gentleman who can do it and I am entirely in your hands.** The Colonel simply nodded his head and said nothing. I glanced at the Good Major and at once saw that he was with me. I was then marched out by the Regimental in the same way as I had entered.

The GOOD MAJOR sent me a message with his servant in the evening saying that he wanted to see me in his billet after dinner, and when I got into his room he told me that my name would appear on orders the next morning for demobilization, and that I might be prepared for the MEDICAL Officers examination. Before leaving his room he held me by the hand (Major and Private shaking hands) saying that it would probably be the last time we would meet again, and that I had unconsciously during the time I had been with the Battalion convinced him that there was too big a line drawn between Officer and Man, and that he believed he could get all the discipline required in the Army by being strict but kind.

Some time back, this MAJOR was

ACTING C.O. and a private was brought before him for doing something wrong, I don't remember what, but the Private was all on a tremble, and the GOOD MAJOR spoke to him in a kindly way saying, "Now you are not afraid of me, you are evidently afraid of my clothes. Pull yourself together and be a man. I will do you no harm, and I should like to hear what you have to say." He put the man at ease at once, and he was then able to make his statement and got off with slight punishment.

The way most Officers addressed the men was something like this fashion. "Have you got anything to say" "Yes Sir I was coming -----" "Shut up damn it I don't want to know whether you were coming or going".

to be continued...

Harold Masters




Barnsley
Family History Society

NEEDS YOU!

For personal reasons **Maggie Bennett** has relinquished the position of Journal Editor with immediate affect. Maggie has served as Editor and Sub-Editor of the journal for the past five years and over that time has upheld a very high standard. The Society will miss Maggie.

Are you prepared to take up the challenge?

For more information about the position, please e-mail:

editor@barnsleyfhs.co.uk

NEW MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

We welcome the following new members to our Society and hope they find their membership useful and productive as well as enjoyable.

Mem.No.

1738 Mrs. Sandra **Rajan**

sandra.rajan@btinternet.com
www.barnsleyfamilyhistory.com

Booth	Higham	WRY	ENG	1857-1940
Booth	Holmfirth	WRY	ENG	1824-1886
Booth	Wooldale	WRY	ENG	1794-1871
Collins	Boherbue	COR	IRL	1783-1850
Cuttell	Holmfirth	WRY	ENG	1785-1865
Exley	Harewood	WRY	ENG	1780-1850
Exley	Kirkheaton	WRY	ENG	1822-1872
Kelly	Silkstone	WRY	ENG	1803-1835
Marshall	Cadeby	WRY	ENG	1813-1897
Smedley	Attercliffe	WRY	ENG	1878-1963
Smedley	Eccleshall	WRY	ENG	1840-1900

1806 Mrs. Wendy **Roberts**

wendy@barnsleyfamilyhistory.com
www.barnsleyfamilyhistory.com

Allen	Darton	WRY	ENG	1770-2017
Ball	Darton	WRY	ENG	1750-2017
Bourne	Rotherham	WRY	ENG	1800-2017
Bretner	Darton	WRY	ENG	1750-2017
Britner	Darton	WRY	ENG	1750-2017
Dickinson	Carr Green	WRY	ENG	1830-2017
Dickinson	Swallow Hill	WRY	ENG	1830-2017
Richards	Darton	WRY	ENG	1850-2017
Townend	Darton	WRY	ENG	1780-2017
Townend	Mapplewell	WRY	ENG	1780-2017
Townend	Swallow Hill	WRY	ENG	1780-2017
Townsend	Darton	WRY	ENG	1780-2017
Townsend	Mapplewell	WRY	ENG	1780-2017
Townsend	Swallow Hill	WRY	ENG	1780-2017
Wilson	Rotherham	WRY	ENG	1800-2017
Wroe	Darton	WRY	ENG	1770-2017

NEW MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

Mem.No.

- 1855 Miss. Sharron **Webster**
sharronwebster@btinternet.com
sharronwebster@gmail.com
- | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Burden | Oxford | OXF | ENG | 1760-1830 |
| Charlesworth | Barnsley | WRY | ENG | 1700-1800 |
| Eley | Barnsley | WRY | ENG | 1700-1800 |
| Talbot | Macclesfield | CHS | ENG | Pre. 1850 |
- 1856 Miss. Sandra **Owens**
sandraowens@btinternet.com
sandraowens@bt.com
- | | | | | |
|------------------|------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Platts | Hoyland | WRY | ENG | 1701-1900 |
| Platts | Tankersley | WRY | ENG | 1701-1900 |
| Platts | Wentworth | WRY | ENG | 1701-1900 |
| Sanderson | Hoyland | WRY | ENG | 1701-1900 |
| Sanderson | Tankersley | WRY | ENG | 1701-1900 |
| Sanderson | Wentworth | WRY | ENG | 1701-1900 |
- 1857 Mrs. Maureen **Mitchell**
maureenmitchell@btinternet.com
maureenmitchell@bt.com
- | | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Jubb | Thurgoland | WRY | ENG | 1750-1800 |
| Jubb | Barnsley area | WRY | ENG | 1750-1800 |
- 1858 Mrs. Lynn **Lucas**
lynnlucas@btinternet.com
lynnlucas@bt.com
- 1859 Mr. David **Moody**
davidmoody@btinternet.com
davidmoody@bt.com
- | | | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Moody | Wombwell | WRY | ENG | 1850-1929 |
|--------------|----------|-----|-----|-----------|

Please remember to provide your areas of interest so that we can let our members know if anyone out there is researching the same names. Sharing information and research can sometimes eliminate those notorious 'brickwalls' and put you in touch with long-lost relatives you didn't know you had!

There is also a mine of information on our Surname Interests page on the website, easy to access and full of lovely old Yorkshire names.

CAN YOU HELP?

I am compiling notes regarding my memories of Ardsley in the 1950s, which was the birthplace and home of three generations of Galleys before I arrived, and have a couple of issues that I would like explained/confirmed:

I was given by my grandfather this 3cm. lapel badge inscribed "Ardsley Volunteer Corps 1914."

Can you throw any light on this group or organisation, please?



After visiting Ardsley, my father and I would return towards Barnsley on a single decker, brown/purple liveried (?) bus operated under the name of **Laurie Pepper**, who ran a small service between Barnsley and Doncaster.

Can you please confirm the name of this company?

Michael Galley

Forthcoming items to watch out for in the April Journal

More BMD certificates.

The last instalment of Harold Masters "Demob Diary, Part IV".

Worsbrough Hall.

What the Papers Said.

Timeline April to June 1918.

'AWPORTH

Whear is this daddy, doy? Whear is this mam?

What are ta cryin' for, poor little lamb

Dry up thi peepies pet, dry yer wet face

Tears o' thi little cheeks seem aht o'place

What do they call thi lad? Tell me thi name,

'Ev they bin ooinin'¹ thi? Why it's a shame,

Here, tak this 'awpny an buy thi sum spice,

Rocksticks, or 'umbugs, or summat 'at's nice,

Then run off hoam agean, fast as tha can,

Thear, tha'r't allreight agean, run like a man.

The poem above was sent in by Harold Masters, and as I read it I could almost hear my grandfather's voice, thanks for this memory Harold!

Grandad was born in 1882 and he was probably one of the last generation **not** to suffer the effects of radio or television on his lovely dialect. It was a musical sound, especially when talking to children. When I knew him my grandfather was soft-spoken though I think he may have been a bit of a carouser in his youth!

Comparing notes with my older sisters it seems we all benefitted from his knowledge of the natural world, though he spent his working life underground, ripping coal. Sadly, as is the case with too many people, none of us listened closely to the stories he told about his childhood, or his youth. For us he

had always been old, a bit rickety, a bit awkward and grumpy at times, but I don't remember him ever brushing us off if we cried. There was always a sympathetic word or two, even if we were in trouble with our parents, then he would point out that we'd earned the slap or the ticking-off.

He was the only grandparent I ever knew, the others having died young and I often envied those children who talked their 'grannies'. The year my grandad died at 78, I was about fifteen years old and it took me thirty years to realise how much oral history I had missed out on. Still, I know that I'm not alone in this, we know everything when we're in our teens! Thanks again Harold.

Harold Masters

¹ ooinin: deprivation of food.

CAN YOU HELP?

I have been researching the history of my great uncle William Galley (1851-1929) and his wife Prudence (sometimes entered as 'Providence' in Census forms) née Cox (also 1851-1929). Corresponding with two other researchers with whom my family tree crosses produced the following information, which in places seems to contradict or at least confound. Collectively we came up with the following:

William and Prudence had 9, probably 10, children, although where in the sequence the missing child occurred I have yet to discover.

Their marriage certificate shows that they were married at Holy Trinity, Leeds in 1893, the year after the birth of their 9th (or 10th) child, Percy. The 1901 Census lists Prudence as wife. The 1911 Census indicates that they had been married for 36 years. At that time, of Percy's birth, William was listed as living in Cleckheaton, whilst Prudence was at Bradford, but their wedding certificate has them both in Leeds.

William was a hairdresser. Galleys were not hairdressers but carpenters and wheelwrights and later miners, but I suppose one renegade is allowable.

Prior to his marriage, William lived in Barnsley (1861 Census), then in Bishop Auckland with the family of a hairdresser (1871), Bowling (1891) and Leeds (1911). Subsequently, moves were made to Surrey, Bristol, and Birmingham, before moving back to Barnsley, the Galleys were not an adventurous breed and rarely moved out of the Notton-Ardsley area in 200 years!

Even more strangely, William went under the family name of Walters (1861 Census) and the first eight of his children were also registered and mostly baptised under the family name of Walters (more exclamation marks), but subsequently as Galleys (1901 Census). There do not appear (so far) to be any references to the children under the Galley name prior to the 1891 Census.

What is going on here?

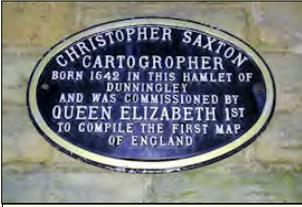
We are sure that we are dealing with just the one and not two families. The only suggestion is that William might perhaps have been trying to escape from something in his past.

The confusion deepens as we learn more. All suggested explanations welcome.

Michael Galley

Polite Reminder to return your Nomination for Committee slips to the Membership Secretary.

CHRISTOPHER SAXTON c.1542 - c.1610



© David and Vicky Furness

Elizabethan cartographer who in 1579 published the first atlas of the counties of England and Wales consisting of thirty-five coloured maps.



October, 2017

A plaque sponsored by Mrs. J. G. Bramley of Lofthouse, Wakefield was unveiled on 15th April, 1987 by the Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Mrs. Rose Lund at the New White Bear Hotel, Tingley, Morley, near the village of Dunningley, where Saxton had lived.

With the demolition of the New White Bear Public House, a new Yorkshire Rose plaque has been commissioned by the Yorkshire Society dedicated to Christopher Saxton, Cartographer.

I was invited to attend the unveiling and re-dedication ceremony at the New Scarborough, Tingley, on Thursday 12th October, 2017.

Prior to the unveiling and re-dedication ceremony, an introduction was read out by Dr. J. Clive McManus representing Morley Community Archives, and Morley Local History Society, who fought the weather, to chart the life and work of Christopher Saxton, Cartographer, who had lived at Dunningley for many years. The introduction was followed by a brief discourse by Keith Madeley, Chairman of the Yorkshire Society, with reference to the new Yorkshire Rose Plaque before handing over to the Mayor of Morley, Councillor Robert Finnigan who carried out the official unveiling of and re-dedication of the Yorkshire Rose plaque.

The ceremony was well attended by the Mayoress, Mrs. Lisa Finnigan, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Roger Bell, Cllr. Judith Elliott, MBE, other dignitaries, and local residents. A splendid buffet followed.

The Christopher Saxton, Yorkshire Rose plaque can be seen to the right of the main entrance door before entering the New Scarborough Public House, 47 Dewsbury Road, Tingley, Leeds. WF3 1LH.

Plaque details:

Welsh slate 350mm x 350mm x 20mm.

Inscription reads "This plaque was erected by the Yorkshire Society. Christopher Saxton, Cartographer, born nearby 1542. Commissioned by Queen Elizabeth I to compile the first Atlas."

Jeff Chambers

POST OFFICE INFORMATION (1889)

Rates of Postage.

To and from all parts of the United Kingdom for prepaid letters

Not exceeding 1 oz.	1d
Exceeding 1oz but not exceeding 2oz	1½d
Exceeding 2oz but not exceeding 4oz	2d
Exceeding 4oz but not exceeding 6oz	2½d
Exceeding 6oz but not exceeding 8oz	3d

And so on at the rate of ½d for every additional 2oz.

A letter posted unpaid will be charged, on delivery, with double postage, and a letter posted insufficiently prepaid will be charged with double the deficiency. An inland letter must not exceed one foot and six inches in length, nine inches in width, and six inches in depth, unless it is sent from or to a Government Office.

Registration

By the prepayment of the fee of 2d, any letter, newspaper or book packet may be registered to any place in the United Kingdom or British Colonies. The Post Office will not undertake the safe transmission of valuable enclosure in unregistered letters: and unregistered letters found to contain coin will, on delivery, be charged with a registration fee of 8d. If a registered article be lost the Post Office is liable to the extent of £5.00.

Registered Letter Envelopes

Are sold at all Post Offices, and by rural messengers, according to size, from 2½d to 3d.

Postage on Inland Registered Newspapers

Prepaid rates- for each registered newspaper, whether posted singly or in a packet-½d; but a packet containing two or more registered newspapers is not chargeable with a higher rate of postage than would be chargeable on a book packet of the same weight, viz, ½d for every 2 oz or fraction of 2oz.

Unpaid rates - a newspaper posted unpaid, or a packet of newspapers posted unpaid or insufficiently paid, will be treated as an unpaid, or insufficiently paid, book packet of the same weight.

Whitham's Historical Almanack, A. Whitham, Barnsley, 1892.

SEARCH SERVICES

The Society is offering all members six free searches during the year. You don't have to use them all at once, they can be spread out over the year. Arrangements for non-members remain the same.

Elaine LEWIS

Baptisms

Barnsley Ebenezer	
Methodist New Connexion.	1862-1973
Barnsley St. George.	1832-1844
Barnsley St. Mary.	1813-1837
Barnsley Wesleyan.	1839-1910
Bretton Chapely.	1813-1840
Cawthorne All Saints.	1800-1844
Darton All Saints.	1813-1822
Royston St. John.	1813-1831
Silkstone All Saints.	1813-1840
Wentworth Wesleyan.	1849-1980
Wortley St. Leonard.	1813-1856

Marriages

Barnsley St. George.	1832-1837
Barnsley St. Mary.	1800-1837
Cawthorne All Saints.	1800-1837
Darton All Saints.	1813-1822
Penistone St. John.	1800-1837
Royston St. John.	1799-1837
Silkstone All Saints.	1800-1837

Burials

Barnsley St. George.	1832-1850
Barnsley St. Mary.	1800-1840
Bretton Chapely.	1800-1840
Cawthorne All Saints.	1800-1845
Darton All Saints.	1800-1845
Denby Chapely.	1800-1856
Dodworth St. John.	1848-1934
Hoyland Nether St. Peter.	1813-1861
Penistone St. John.	1800-1856
Royston St. John.	1800-1837
Silkstone All Saints.	1800-1840
Tankersley St. Peter.	1813-1858
Worsbrough St. Thomas.	1859-1903
Wortley St. Leonard.	1800-1854

National Probate Calendars / Wills Index 1858 to 1943

Please give full name and year of death. Because wills were not always proved immediately we will search up to three years after the death.

National Burial Index; Third Edition

England & Wales. Please give full name, year -range and county if known.

Soldiers who died in the Great War

Please give full name and age if known.

1851 Census, Barnsley Area

Please give surname and forename(s) if known and age. or request all occurrences of a given surname.

1891 Census, Barnsley

Please give surname and approximate age. 1891 Search results supplied as copy of enumeration page.

For searches or enquiries please contact:

Elaine LEWIS

e-Mail: search@barnsleyfhs.co.uk

If applying by post please enclose
a large SAE

**If applicable please include your
membership number.**

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998

Members' names and addresses are kept on a computer file. If you wish to see the information held with your name, please contact the Membership Secretary.

DIARY DATES

- January 16th GUEST SPEAKER
Barbara Dixon: My Criminal Ancestors.
- February 20th AGM
Margaret Williams: West Yorkshire Archives.
- February 28th **DEADLINE for articles for the April Journal.**
- March 20th GUEST SPEAKER
Richard Wimpenny: 'The War of the Roses, Towton, Britain's bloodiest Battle.'
- April 17th GUEST SPEAKER
David Scrimgeour: Early Asylum Life-Evolution of Patient Photography.
- May 15th **Members Research Evening.**
- June 19th GUEST SPEAKER
Jane Price: A Funny Thing Happened...
- July 11th SUMMER EXCURSION
A Visit to Ryedale Folk Museum.
- July 17th SUMMER RECESS
No meeting.
- August 21st SUMMER RECESS
No meeting.

BARNSELY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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e-mail: editor@barnsleyfhs.co.uk, by 28th February.

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Meetings of the Society are held at Buckley Street Methodist Church Hall, Union Court, Barnsley, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7.30 - 9.30 pm. There is no meeting in December. Free parking is available and there is full wheelchair access. The venue is within easy reach of Barnsley town centre.

For more information visit the website at **www.barnsleyfhs.co.uk**

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*Barnsley
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Society*

