

DERBYSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY



MAR 1997

ISSUE 80

DERBYSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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SUBSCRIPTIONS become payable on joining the Society and thereafter annually on 1st January. **SUBSCRIPTION RATES** are as follows:- **BRITISH ISLES**, Individual Members £9, Joint Membership £11 (2 related persons, same address, one magazine). **OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIP - EUROPEAN** £10, **OTHER CONTINENTS** £14 one type of membership (All magazines sent by airmail). For payment in dollars or currency other than sterling please add £4 equivalent to specific amount for exchange charge.

FOR BLIND OR PARTIALLY SIGHTED MEMBERS BRANCH NEWS IS AVAILABLE ON TAPE (Contact John Ashley, 14 Holmesdale Road, Dronfield, Sheffield S18 6FB)

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CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARIES

This Service is for Members Only

Check below for the person to write to if you need advice on your research. They will not go out to research for you but will try to help from their own personal knowledge and experience. If your surname begins with 'N' then you would write to Mrs D. Jeffs, etc.

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Mr I. Care, 8 Kings Drive, Littleover, Derby DE23 6EU

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FROM THE EDITOR

This is the first issue of 1997 and, I hope, very enjoyable. It certainly seems to be crammed full this time, which leads me to a heartfelt plea for more articles please. I don't seem to get many for this issue - no doubt Christmas gets in the way - so the stockpile has nearly vanished. All contributions gratefully received!

Bridge Chapel House has been up and running for a year now and we enjoy meeting all our visitors and reading the many letters we receive. Please pop in to help, do research or just to have a cup of coffee or purchase a book - it's lovely to see you all and have a chat.

Now a tip to all of you who forget your membership number (that includes me half the time). When you receive this magazine, please rescue the envelope from the bin. You will find your number printed in the top righthand corner of the address label.

Finally for those of you using our research service. Our small band of volunteers do their best to get the answers back to you as fast as possible, but certain queries can take time. The 1891 census is currently being indexed by another dedicated band of volunteers headed by Iris Salt, but at the moment it means wading through the whole set of fiche. If you specify a certain village or town it is much easier, but you can imagine the enormous task when just Derbyshire is put down. If you have no idea which part of Derbyshire you want, perhaps it might be worth waiting a little longer until we have the indexes available. It will save your money and keep the volunteers' blood pressure under control.

Until next time, good hunting.

Helen



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 4310 Mr R. Foulk, 120 Reginald Road South, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6NH

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CHANGE OF NAME

3664 Elizabeth COOK to Elizabeth HORSELL 10 Birch Tree Close, Emsworth, Hants. PO10 7SJ

CORRECTIONS TO MEMBERS INTERESTS

4217 Mr S. Waller, 19 Ashworth Close, Lincoln, LN6 7HN

MEMBERS ADDITIONAL INTERESTS

2300 Rev. D. L. Nadin, The Hermitage, 201 Willowfield, Harlow, Essex, CM18 6RZ
 4045 Mr J. Selby, 47 Upper Marehay Road, Ripley, Derbys. DE5 8JF

SEARCHING

NAME	PARISH	CTY	DATES	NO.	NAME	PARISH	CTY	DATES	NO.
(H)ORRIDGE	Cotmanhay		18c	4309					
ADAMS	Sheffield	Yks	1800-1900	4302	BRITTLEBANK	Matlock		1800	4263
ALCOCK	Cheadle	Chs	<1815	4045	BROADBENT	Owston	Lin	1750-1850	4302
ALLCROFT	Staveley		<1850	4267	BROOKES	Derby		1850-1900	4268
ALLCROFT	Manchester	Lan	Any dates	4267	BROWN	Ilkeston		17c & 18c	4309
ALLGROFT	Salford	Lan	Any dates	4267	BRUNT	Ellaston		1756>	4252
ALLDREAD	Kilburn		1857>	4255	BUCKLES	Chesterfield		Any dates	4264
ALLDREAD	Denby		<1857	4255	BUCKNALL	Melbourne		1711-1741	4286
ALLDREAD	Disley		c1890	4255	BULL	Kingsgrove	Sts	<1900	4256
ALLDREAD	Bakewell		1936	4255	BULL	Kilburn		<1890	4310
ALLEN	Mayfield		Any dates	0346	BUTTERFIELD	Smisby		1850>	4281
ALLEN	Ellastone		Any dates	0346	BUTTERFIELD	Any parish	Ham	1850>	4281
ALLEN	Stanton		Any dates	0346	BUTTERFIELD	Clay Cross		1850>	4281
ALLEN	Belper		1820-1845	4045	CARLIN	Bleakhall	Ntt	1836-1846	4045
APPLETON	Billingham	Dur	1820-1870	4282	CARTER	Stanley		<1851	4289
ARDENERE	Cottesford		1620>	4252	CARTER	Foston	Sts	<1851	4289
ASHTON	Hayfield		1810	4283	CASSON	Huddersfield	Yks	<1900	4292
ATKINSON	Sheffield	Yks	1870	3499	CHAPPELL	Youlgreave		<1780	4240
ATKINSON	No parish given	Lin	1870	3499	CHATTERTON	Snelston		Any dates	0346
BAGGALEY	Chesterfield		Any dates	4264	CHILDS	No parish given	Hrt	<1900	4292
BAGGALEY	Dronfield		Any dates	4264	CHILDS	No parish given	Gls	<1900	4292
BAGGALEY	Bakewell		Any dates	4264	CLAMP	Linton		1811>	4250
BALHATCHET	No parish given	Dev	1777>	4287	CLAMP	Hanbury		1811>	4250
BARBER	Shirland		1865	4285	CLARK	West Hallam		<1850	4289
BARTRAM	Chesterfield		Any dates	4264	CLARK	Heanor		<1850	4289
BEARDSLEY	Ilkeston		18c	4309	CLARK(E)	Mapleton		Any dates	0346
BEDFORD	Ripley		1895-1920	4045	CLARKE	Duffield		<1900	4239
BENNETT	Newhall		1797	4247	CLUETH	Kilburn		1800-1850	4255
BENNETT	Tideswell		1750-1890	4304	COCKING	No parish given		1800-1900	4295
BENTON	Vange	Ess	1700 & 1800s	4290	COGGIN	Ferry	Lin	1799-1820	4260
BESWICK	Bolton	Lan	Any dates	2300	COLLETT	Islington	Lnd	1800	4290
BETTRIDGE	Measham		1750-1830	4260	COLLIER	Melbourne		1715>	4286
BIGG	Luton	Bdf	1700 & 1800s	4290	COLLINGE	Oldham	Lan	<1881	4265
BIRCH	Nottingham	Ntt	1800-1850	4302	COLLUMBELL	Any parish		18c & 19c	4297
BIRCH	Cubley		18c	4309	COLLYER	Melbourne		<1910	4306
BIRCHALL	Chesterfield		Any dates	4264	COOK	Breadsall		<1881	4289
BIRCUMSHAW	Ashbourne		1593>	4252	COQK(E)	No parish given	Ntt	19c	4241
BIRDS	Youlgreave		1725>	4252	COOK(E)	Ockbrook		18c	4309
BISHOP	Falmouth	Con	<1861	4283	COOPER	Winshill		Any dates	4244
BLACKWELL	Balckwell		1590>	4252	COOPER	Ticknall		Any dates	4244
BLASTOCK	Melbourne		1684-1740	4286	COULSON	Marske by Sea	Clv	1800-1900	4270
BLOOD	Hilton		1820	4266	COX	Manea	Cam	1800-1850	4263
BOAR	Clay Cross		1845-1865	4045	CROXALL	Church Gresley		1600-1840	4260
BODEN	Matlock		1850	4263	CUTTS	Clay Cross		1820-1840	4045
BODEN	Derby		1850	4263	DALE	Youlgreave		<1780	4240
BODEN	Wirksworth		1850	4263	DALY	Macclesfield	Chs	1790-1900	4260
BOSTOCK	Ilkeston		18c	4309	DAVENPORT	No parish given	Lan	1800	4266
BOTH	No parish given		1905-1915	4287	DAVEY	Hull	Yks	1800-1850	4282
BOURNE	Birmingham	War	Any dates	4284	DAVIES	No parish given	W.Mids.	1900	4287
BRAMHALL	Sheffield	Yks	1800-1900	4302	DAWSON	Malton	Yks	<1900	4248
BREA(R)LEY	No parish given		No dates given	4257	DAWSON	Tideswell		1700>	4304
BREED	Lilley	Hrt	c1800	4245	DAYKIN	Blackwell		Any dates	4264
BRIDFORD	Bakewell		<1745	2300	D(E)AKIN	Taddington		1755-1836	4275

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D(E)AKIN	Buxton		1818-1826	4275	HANSLIP	Ashwicken	Nfk	c1772	4245
De FRESCHVILLE	Staveley		1400-1500	4293	HANSLIP	Lynn	Nfk	c1772	4245
De FRESCHVILLE	Crich		1200-1600	4293	HARLEY	Birmingham	War	Any dates	4284
DENNIFF	Any parish		Any dates	4302	HARPER	Derby		1820-1880	4282
DILKS	Long Eaton		1800s	4277	HARRIS	Chesterfield		Any dates	4264
DONNELLY	St. Pancras	Lnd	1700 & 1800s	4290	HARRIS	Swanwick		1890>	4288
DONOVAN	West Hartlepool	Dur	1800-1900	4270	HARRISON	Salford	Lan	<1801	2300
DRABBLE	Eyam		<1780	4240	HARRISON	Curbar		1801>	2300
DRURY	No parish given	Irl	1811	4242	HARROP	Moltram		<1830	4247
DUFFIELD	Wirksworth		<1826	2300	HASELDINE	Any parish	Any	Any dates	4262
DYKAR	Any parish	Any	Any dates	4260	HASLAM	Bolton	Lan	Any dates	2300
EARNSWORTH	Clay Cross		Any dates	4281	HASTINGS	No parish given	Lei	1770-1800	4278
EDEN	Any parish	Any	Any dates	4262	HAYFIELD	Swadlincote		No dates given	4257
EDWARDS	Belper		1800-1900	4045	HAYWOOD	Burton on Trent	Sts	1750>	4296
EDWARDS	Milford		1800-1900	4045	HAYWOOD	Ripley		1800>	4296
ELLIOTT	Kiburn		Any dates	4255	HEAFIELD	Swadlincote		No dates given	4257
ELLIOTT	Denby		Any dates	4255	HEAP	Burnley	Lan	Any dates	4255
ELLIS	Belper		1750-1850	4303	HEAP	Kendal	Wes	Any dates	4255
ELLIS	Derby		1750-1850	4303	HEAP	Settle	Wes	Any dates	4255
ERRINGTON	No parish given		No dates given	4244	HEAP	No parish given		No dates given	4257
FATORINI	Malton	Yks	<1900	4248	HENSHAW	Ilkeston		18c & 19c	4309
FAULKNER	Derby		1700 & 1800s	4290	HENSWORTH	Clay Cross		<1880	4281
FAULKNER	Hoxton	Lnd	1800	4290	HIBBINS	Alfreton		1920-1953	4045
FAULKNER	Islington	Lnd	1800	4290	HICKS	Market Deeping	Lin	1800s	4277
FEARN	No parish given		<1799	4240	HIDDERLEY	Turnditch		<1900	4239
FIELD	Oldbury	Wor	1800-1850	4045	HIGGINBOTTOM	Charlesworth		1750-1820	4283
FLETCHER	Stoneyford		1850-1880	4045	HIGGINBOTTOM	Lawrence, Mass	USA	1864-1891	4283
FLETCHER	Stoneyford	Nit	1850-1880	4045	HILL	Shirland		1868	4285
FLETCHER	South Normanton		1880-1910	4045	HIND	Chellaston		1610-1658	4286
FOLEY	Ticknall		1741>	4286	HITCHCOCK	Chaddesden		<1890	4310
FORD	Kirk Ireton		1800-1840	4045	HITCHCOCK	Spondon		<1890	4310
FOSTER	Bolton	Lan	Any dates	2300	HNSWORTH	Kingsley	Sts	<1860	4281
FOULK	Horsley		<1830	4310	HOLT	Meibourne		1709-1741	4286
FOULK	Coxbench		<1830	4310	HOOLEY	Swanwick		1880>	4288
FREER	Whittington		<1881	4299	HOOLEY	Workshop	Nit	1910>	4288
FROGGATT	Sheffield	WRY	1750-1900	4303	HOSKISSON	Mansfield	Nit	1800-1900	4277
FROGGATT	Rotheram	WRY	1750-1850	4303	HOUGH	Duffield		1620>	4252
FROGGATT	Penistone	WRY	1700-1850	4303	HOUGH	Derby		1800s	0346
FROST	Codnor Park		1770-1870	4251	HOULT	No parish given	France	1825-1850	4302
FROST	Alfreton		1770-1870	4251	HOULT	No parish given		1800-1850	4302
FROST	Belper		1770-1870	4251	HUBBARD	Littlethorpe	Lei	<1800	4289
FURNISS	Eyam		<1780	4240	HUBBARD	Narborough	Lei	<1800	4289
GADBSY	Yeaveley		<1822	4249	HUNT	No parish given		19c	4241
GADBSY	Hales Green		No dates given	4249	HUNT	No parish given	Nit	19c	4241
GADBSY	Shirley		No dates given	4249	HUNT	Habercham Eves	Lan	c1790	4245
GADBSY	No parish given	Lei	No dates given	4249	HUNT	Burnley	Lan	c1790	4245
GADBSY	No parish given	Lin	No dates given	4249	HUNT	Codnor Park		1770-1870	4251
GADBSY	No parish given	Lan	No dates given	4249	HUNT	Alfreton		1770-1870	4251
GAMMELL	No parish given	Sfk	<1900	4255	HUNT	Belper		1770-1870	4251
GAUSDEN	Eastbourne	Ssx	1800s	4277	HURSTHOUSE	Matlock		19c	4269
GEORGE	No parish given	Lin	<1850	4255	HUTCHCRAFT	Ramsey	Hun	1800-1850	4282
GEORGE	Burnley	Lan	<1850	4255	HUTCHCRAFT	Upwood	Hun	1800-1850	4282
GIBSON	No parish given		1800s	0346	HYDE	Mellor		1730-1860	4246
GILBERT	Stoney Middleton		Any dates	2300	IBBOTSON	Hathersage		1700-1850	4302
GILLATT	Wensley		<1830	4248	ILLESLEY	Church Gresley		No dates given	4272
GILSON	March	Cam	No dates given	4300	ILLSLEY	Ashby-de-la-Zouch	Lei	1800-1850	4282
GLOSSOP	Dronfield		1812	4242	JACKSON	Ticknall		1737>	4286
GLOSSOP	Staveley		<1700s	4243	JACOMB	No parish given	Lnd	Any dates	4260
GLOSSOP	Eckington		<1700s	4243	JAYES	Swanwick		1880s	4288
GLOSSOP	Whittington		<1700s	4243	JEPSON	Heage		<1840	4281
GOADSBY	No parish given		No dates given	4257	JOHNSON	Mugginton		<1881	4289
GOADSBY	No parish given	Lei	No dates given	4257	JONES	Manchester	Lan	1884	4283
GOODWIN	Ashbourne		1644>	4252	JONES	Denbigh	Wls	<1885	2300
GOTHARD	Kilburn		1800-1850	4255	JONES	St. Asaph	Wls	<1850	2300
GOULD	Brassington		<1900	4248	KENT	Long Eaton		1800s	4277
GOULD	Lichfield	Sts	1800>	4266	KING	No parish given	Cam	No dates given	4257
GREAVES	Ticknall		1745-1777	4286	KIRKLAND	No parish given		19c	3499
GROVENOR	No parish given	Sry	1800	4266	KITCHING	Derby		<1893	4306
GROVER	No parish given	Sry	1800	4266	KNIF(VE)TON	Horsley Woodhouse		1902-1916	4250
GUINON	Any parish		Any dates	4302	KNOWLES	Wensley		<1830	4248
GUNN	Chesterfield		Any dates	4264	KNOWLES	Matlock		1850	4263
HADLEY	Shirland		1880-1920	4045	LANGTON	Chesterfield		18c	4297
HADLEY	Stonebroom		1880-1920	4045	LANGTON	Alfreton		19c	4297
HADLEY	Oldbury	Wor	1850-1880	4045	LANGTON	Riddings		19c	4297
HAMER	Bolton	Lan	1800>	2300	LANGTON	Ironville		19c	4297
HANCOCK	Fulwood	SYk	1800	4253	LAUNDER	Codnor Park		1770-1870	4251

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LAUNDER	Alfreton		1770-1870	4251	PALMER	No parish given	Lnd	1826	4245
LAUNDER	Belper		1770-1870	4251	PARKES	Oldbury	Wor	1800-1835	4045
LAZENBY	Durham	Dur	1800>	4254	PATES	Luton	Bdf	1740	4245
LEE	Old Whittington		<1881	4299	PATILLA	Any Parish		Any dates	4241
LEWIS	Stapenhill		1850>	4244	PATILLA	No parish given	Ntt	early 19c	4241
LLOYD	Chapel-en-le-Frith		<1810	4240	PEACH	Yeldersley		1800s	0346
LUDLAM	Wirksworth		17c	4261	PEARSON	Matlock		1700-1750	4263
LUDLAM	Matlock		17c	4261	PEPPER	No parish given		1810	4287
LUDLAM	South Wingfield		17c	4261	PERKS	Any parish	Any	Any dates	4262
LUDLAM	Sheffield	Yks	16c & 17c	4261	PERKS	Wolverhampton	Sts	Any dates	4284
LYNN	Derby		mid 19c	4303	PHILLIPS	Ellastone	Sts	1750	4253
LYNN	Darley Dale		mid 19c	4303	PHILLIPS	Wormhill		1800	4253
LYNN	Chafsworth		mid 19c	4303	PHILLIPS	No parish given	Aus	1885	4253
LYNN	Cleckheaton	WRY	mid 19c	4303	PIPES	Derby		1800-1840	4260
LYNN	Balderton	Ntt	19c	4303	PLACKETT	Breaston		Any dates	4284
MADELEY	No parish given	W.Mids.	1880	4287	POPE	Breedon-on-the-Hill	Lei	No dates given	4305
MARSH	Ripley		1895-1920	4045	POPE	Ashby-de-la-Zouch	Lei	No dates given	4305
MARSHALL	Manea	Cam	1800-1850	4263	POPE	Normanton le Heath	Lei	No dates given	4305
MARSHALL	Willington		1840-1880	4280	POPE	Any parish	Sts	No dates given	4305
MARTIN	leadmining areas		<1750	4240	POPE	Any parish		No dates given	4305
MARTIN	Jersey	Chl	c1800	4281	POYSER	Ellastone	Sts	Any dates	0346
MARTIN	Pinxton		1800>	4281	POYSER	Stanton	Sts	Any dates	0346
MEAKIN	Derby		<1869	4276	RADFORD	Bonsall		1760>	4304
MEAKIN	Nottingham	Ntt	<1869	4276	RADFORD	Crich		1760>	4304
MEE	Burton Joyce	Ntt	No dates given	4272	RADFORD	Buxton		1878>	4304
MEE	Worthington	Lei	1770-1850	4278	RANDALL	Hackney	Mdx	1800s	4277
MELBOURNE	Market Rasen	Lin	No dates given	4259	REEVE	Hognaston		1750	4253
MELLOR	Morton		1885-1965	4045	RENSHAW	Pinxton		<1820	4281
MELLOR	Stretton		1885-1965	4045	RHODES	Stockton	Dur	1875>	4282
MILLINGTON	Spalding	Lin	1850	4263	RICHARDSON	Ashton on Mersey	Chs	<1850	4292
MILLINGTON	Derby		No dates given	4307	ROBERTS	Dronfield		1891	4299
MILLINGTON	Bretby		No dates given	4307	ROE	Derby		1800	4254
MILLINGTON	Ashbourne		No dates given	4307	ROUGHTON	Somercotes		1880-1895	4045
MILWARD	Eaton Dove Dale		1620>	4252	ROUGHTON	Belper		1895-1905	4045
MOORE	Barwell	Lei	1790>	4271	ROUGHTON	Any parish	Lei	1830-1840	4045
MOORE	Clifton	Avn	1878>	4271	ROUGHTON	Any parish	Sts	1830-1840	4045
MOORE	Croydon	Sry	1700 & 1800s	4290	ROUGHTON	Any parish	Ntt	1830-1840	4045
MOORE	Islington	Lnd	1800	4290	ROWAN	Matlock		<1896	4265
MORROW	Philadelphia	USA	1800>	4248	ROWAN	Co. Down	Irl	<1896	4265
MORTEN	Bakewell		1800	4253	ROYALS	Ringinglow		1800	4253
MORTEN	Great Longstone		1841	4253	ROYLES	Ringinglow		1800	4253
MOSS	Glossop		No dates given	4246	SANDERSON	Leeds	Yks	1800-1850	4282
MURGATROYD	Bradford	Yks	1700 & 1800s	4290	SAXON	Hayfield		1788-1860	4246
MURRAY	Newcastle	Sts	<1890	4265	SAXON	Mellor		1801-1825	4246
MURRAY	Newcastle	Nbl	<1848	4265	SEARBY	Hull	Yks	1770-1820	4282
MUSARD	Staveley		1086-1400	4293	SEARSTON	Clay Cross		<1900	4281
MUSS	Barwell	Lei	1790>	4271	SELBY	Somercotes		1895>	4045
MUSSARED	Ash	Ken	1400-1500	4293	SELBY	Swanwick		1895>	4045
MUSSARED	Margate	Ken	1400-1500	4293	SELBY	Any parish	Ntt	1870-1880	4045
NADIN	Any parish		Any dates	2300	SEWELL	Stockton	Dur	1800-1850	4282
NEEDHAM	Nettleworth	Ntt	1500s	4258	SHAW	Derby		<1851	4242
NEEDHAM	Warsop	Ntt	1500s	4258	SHAW	South Normanton		1800	4254
NEEDHAM	Any parish		1500>	4258	SHELDON	Long Eaton		1837-1900	4277
NEWALL	Tintwistle	Chs	1873	4283	SHELDON	Shardlow		1837-1900	4277
NEWMAN	Chesterfield		Any dates	4264	SHELTON	Codnor Park		1770-1870	4251
NICHOLLS	Glossop		c1840	4245	SHELTON	Alfreton		1770-1870	4251
O'BRIAN	Macclesfield	Chs	1790-1900	4260	SHELTON	Belper		1770-1870	4251
OAKDEN	Repton		<1806	2300	SHERLOCK	Any parish		Any dates	4265
OLDFIELD	Macclesfield	Chs	<1859	4283	SHERLOCK	Tansley		<1784	4265
OLDHAM	Derby		1800-1840	4260	SHINN	Hackney	Mdx	1800s	4277
ORDISH	No parish given		<1815	4301	SHIRT	No parish given		1890	3499
ORDISH	No parish given	Sts	<1815	4301	SILCOCK	Waldley		1850>	4250
ORDISH	Manchester	Lan	1815>	4301	SILCOCK	Marston Montgomery		1850>	4250
ORDISH	Liverpool	Lan	1815>	4301	SIMISTER	Manchester	Lan	1780	4245
OSBORN	Codnor Park		1770-1870	4251	SIMPSON	Darley		1784-1881	4273
OSBORN	Alfreton		1770-1870	4251	SIMPSON	Ashover		1855-1039	4273
OSBORN	Belper		1770-1870	4251	SIMPSON	Manchester	Lan	1837-1860	4273
PALFREYMAN	Matlock		No dates given	4307	SIMPSON	Ticknall		1719>	4286
PALFREYMAN	Wirksworth		No dates given	4307	SKELTON	Ecclesfield	Yks	1750-1850	4302
PALFREYMAN	Middleton		No dates given	4307	SMEDLEY	Wirksworth		1586-1632	4286
PALFREYMAN	Monyash		No dates given	4307	SMEDLEY	Melbourne		1586-1632	4286
PALFREYMAN	Tideswell		No dates given	4307	SMEDLEY	Ticknall		1586-1632	4286
PALFREYMAN	Wormhill		No dates given	4307	SMEDLEY	Chellaston		1586-1632	4286
PALFREYMAN	Meadow		No dates given	4307	SMITH	Tissington		1800-1850	4268
PALMER	No parish given	Ess	1826	4245	SMITH	Bradbourne		1800-1850	4268

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SMITH	Clay Cross		<1900	4281	WALLBANK	Ednaston		1880-1891	4045
SMITH	Duffield		1845-1865	4045	WALLBANK	Brailsford		1880-1891	4045
SMITH	No parish given	Chs	<1877	2300	WALLBANK	Edlaston		1871-1891	4045
SNOW	Market Deeping	Lin	1800s	4277	WALLER	Stanton by Dale		1880>	4217
SPILL	No parish given	Gls	Any dates	4260	WALLER	Leighton Buzzard	Bdf	1800>	4217
STAFFORD	Mellor		c1750	4245	WALLER	Shoreditch	Lnd	1800>	4217
STAFFORD	New Mills		c1750	4245	WALLER	Tuxford	Ntt	c1871	4217
STALEY	Newhall		No dates given	4257	WALTERS	Stapenhill		Any dates	4244
STANFIELD	Newton Hyde	Chs	1804	4245	WALTHALL	Belper		1880-1890	4045
STERLING	Manchester	Lan	<1815	4301	WARD	Great Longstone		1800	4253
STEV(PH)ENSON	Clay Cross		<1900	4281	WASSALL	Birmingham	War	Any dates	4284
STEVENSON	Breaston		Any dates	4284	WEBB	Whitechapel	Lnd	1800	4290
STEW	Derby		No dates given	4300	WEBB	Barnsbury	Lnd	1800	4290
STOCKER	Crewkerne	Som	Any dates	4284	WEBB	Islington	Lnd	1800	4290
STRAW	Ilkeston		<1891	4306	WEBSTER	Hognaston		<1830	4248
STRAW	Ilkeston		18c	4309	WEBSTER	Philadelphia	USA	1800>	4248
STUBBS	Swinscoe	Sts	Any dates	0346	WEBSTER	Ashbourne		1590>	4252
STUBBS	Blore	Sts	Any dates	0346	WEST	Eastbourne	Ssx	1800s	4277
SUTTON	Eltham	Ken	1850	4263	WHI(E)LDON	Derby		1800s	0346
SWINDELL	Ironville		19c	4309	WHIT(T)AKER	Breadsall		1800-1830	4045
SWINDELL	Alfreton		19c	4309	WHIT(T)AKER	Kirk Ireton		1830-1890	4045
SWINSCOE	Bakewell		<1806	2300	WHIT(T)AKER	Stretton		1830-1890	4045
TAYLOR	Ashbourne		1584>	4252	WHITE	Any parish		1860	4259
TAYLOR	Matlock		1800	4263	WHITE	Hucknall	Ntt	1863-1883	4045
TAYLOR	Loughborough	Lei	<1871	4289	WHITE	Huthwaite	Ntt	1863-1883	4045
TAYLOR	Winstar		<1900	4292	WHITE	Eyam		Any dates	2300
THEXTON	Any Parish		Any dates	4242	WHOTTON	Derby		No dates given	4307
THOMAS	Falmouth	Con	<1861	4283	WHOTTON	Bretby		No dates given	4307
THOMPSON	Smisby		<1820	4281	WHOTTON	Ashbourne		No dates given	4307
THORNDIKE	Grimsby	Lin	<1881	4299	WHYATT	Church Greasley		No dates given	4257
THORNLEY	No parish given		No dates given	4257	WIGLEY	Derby		1750-1900	4303
THUNDERCLIFF	Any parish	Any	Any dates	4262	WIGLEY	Belper		1750-1900	4303
TINLEY	Balderton	Ntt	1750-1900	4303	WILLIAMS	Corwen	Wls	<1880	2300
TONKS	Birmingham	War	Any dates	4284	WINDIATE	Southampton	Ham	1850	4263
TRANTER	Cirencester	Gls	Any dates	4284	WINGFIELD	Matlock		No dates given	4305
TUE	London		Any dates	4284	WINGFIELD	South Wingfield		No dates given	4305
TURNER	No parish given		1800-1900	4295	WINGFIELD	Ripley		No dates given	4305
TURNER	Eyam		1600>	4304	WOOTTON	No parish given	Sfk	1845	4287
TURNER	Follow		1600>	4304	WRIGHT	Durham	Dur	1800	4254
TURNER	Watergrove		1600>	4304	WRIGHT	No parish given	Nbl	1800	4254
TURNER	Wardlow		1800>	4304	YARWOOD	No parish given	Chs	<1877	2300
TURNER	Great Hucklow		1800>	4304	YORKE	No parish given	Sts	<1900	4256
TURNER	Peakdale		1870-1980	4304	YORKE	Sandbach	Chs	<1900	4256
TURTON	Any parish	Any	Any dates	4262	YOUNG	Foolow		1700>	4304
VERNON	Derby		1820-1900	4270	YOUNG	Brosterfield		1700>	4304
WALKER	Barlborough		1800-1900	4295	YOUNG	Eyam		1700>	4304
WALKER	Cubley		18c	4309					

WHERE NO COUNTY IS STATED IT IS ASSUMED TO BE DERBYSHIRE

CHANGE OF ADDRESS (Please send any change of address to the membership secretary)

- 0185 Mr K & Mrs V. Jackson, Stonewall, Holt Road, Upper Hackney, Matlock, Derbys. DE4 2QD
 0434 Mr J. Atherley, 3 Walcot Lane, Folkinsham, Sleaford, Lincs. NG34 0TP
 1377 Mr P. Tidsall, The Spinney, 66 Brookside Road, Breadsall, Derby, DE21 5LF
 2116 Mrs G. McCairns, Gem Cottage, Kings Road, Silchester, Hants. RG7 2NP
 2701 Mr B. & Mrs J. Moreton, Valhalla, 8 Viking Close, Ballakillowey, Colby, Isle of Man, IM9 4BH
 2772 Mr M. J. Wilkins, 61 Niddries Lane, Moulton, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 8RF
 3470 Mrs M. Harrop, 168 Moss Lane, Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire. SK7 1BG
 3528 Misses D & A Nock, 32 Newby Farm Crescent, Newby, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO12 6VW
 3546 Ashley Sanders, 114 Park Lane, Poynton, Stockport, SK12 1RG
 3637 Mr I. Potter, 4 Manor Farm Mews, Main Street, Burnaston, Derbys. DE65 6LG
 3823 Mr J. Evans, Ballaghy, Pittville Circus Road, Cheltenham, Glos. GL52 2QE
 3927 Mr J. Bennett, 17 Field Lane, Appleton, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 5JR
 3979 Mark Buckley & Nicola Cheney, 87 Stepping Lane, Derby, DE1 1GL
 4061 Mr I. Burdon, 29 Corstorphine Hill Gardens, Corstorphine, Edinburgh, EH12 6LB
 4152 Mrs C. McDonald, 28 Elliott Drive, RR#3, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, K9J 6X4
 4159 Mrs C. Avery, 455 Wood Street, Deniliquin, N.S.W. 2710, Australia

PLEASE NOTE: The Public Record Office, Chancery Lane mailing address has move to:-
 Public Record Office, Librarian, Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My purpose in writing is to correct a misconception by the writer of the article "Was it Possible? This referred to a safety device used on colliery winding gear. The reference he makes in the early part of the article to the safety device by which the winding rope is attached to the cage is undoubtedly the "King Detaching Hook" invented by John King of Pinxton. This was devised to detach the winding rope from the cage in the event of an overwind. In this case the cage would be held securely in the headstocks by the "Butterfly".

The device described as the "Antifrictional Safety cage" is a completely different method for an entirely different event, the breaking of the winding rope. In that instance the cage would be arrested by the action of the grips locking on to the cage guides.

*Albert Knight (ex Colliery Manager) - Member No. 10
11 Thomson Drive, Codnor, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 9RU*

I am a Master of Arts Student at Charles Sturt University at Bathurst, New South Wales in Australia and am preparing to research a dissertation on genealogy, the Internet and World Wide Web. The dissertation will examine how and to what degree we have changed our communication and researching strategies and techniques now we have the great World Wide Web and Internet. To do this I am using genealogy as the example or vehicle.

I will look at how although we have changed our forms of communication over the years, the way in which we research genealogy has remained basically the same; that is, we still have to 'prove' each generation by birth certificates or baptismal registers, marriage records and death and burial records. Few of these are available through the Web, although some records are now becoming available in some countries.

I am compiling a list of volunteers to assist me by completing a simple questionnaire. The only condition is that they must have a computer, an email address, and access to the Web and/or Internet. The questions are non-intrusive and all information will be kept in the strictest confidence.

Anyone interested can contact me directly at: rose@deakin.edu.au and I will forward a copy of the questionnaire to them once the required number of volunteers has been met.

Geoffrey Humble

PO Box 312, Warrnambool, Victoria 3280, Australia

Recently I read in my East of London F.H.S. "Cockney Ancestor" that there was a garden nursery in Hackney started by John Busch, a German horticulturist, and he sold the nursery to another

German, Conrad Loddiges in 1771. The firm was continued by Conrad's sons. The Duke of Devonshire used to visit this nursery, and his father before him, with their head gardener, Joseph Paxton. It is suggested that it is possible that many of the plants growing at Chatsworth today, could have come from these nurseries.

Names that still have a Derbyshire connection in the East End, are Chatsworth Road Market and a pub close to the nursery named the Duke of Devonshire. Conrad Loddiges, the 18th century market gardener, was the first to introduce rhubarb as an edible plant according to William Kent's 1937 *An Encyclopaedia of London*. I wonder if Chatsworth household were early eaters of rhubarb.

Sir Joseph Paxton bought many exotic plants from his friends at Loddiges Nursery for the tropical department for the Great Exhibition in 1851 at Crystal Palace in Sydenham. The plants included pomegranates, oranges, lemons, exotic flowers and this nursery's one and only special palm which was 50' high. This had to be transported from Hackney to Sydenham by 32 horses pulling the well supported upright palm on a cart. What a sight! Tower Bridge had not been built, so the procession must have had to cross the Thames by London Bridge. Unfortunately the tropical wing was destroyed by fire in 1866 when a chimpanzee and a baby hippo were also lost in the fire.

Joy Dunningcliff

FROM THE MEMORIAL INSCRIPTIONS CO-ORDINATOR

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and to thank all those that helped with the memorials last year in whatever capacity, from recorders to typists etc.

If anyone can spare a Saturday in the summer to help record they will be made most welcome. All materials will be provided and we usually do some beer mat recording at lunchtime in a local pub. So if you would like to help please contact me, Ian Wells, address inside front cover, or just turn up on one of the following dates below:-

May 24th Littleover

June 28th Little Eaton

July 26th Charlesworth

August 23rd Stanley

September 27th Bolsover

October 25th Littleover (to try and finish)

These are all Saturdays so if you can help we meet at the Church at 10a.m. on the day.



Ian Wells

HELP WANTED

All requests should be forwarded directly to the editor, quoting membership number

BEARD, HILL, HARTLE

Has anyone information about **JAMES BEARD** and **HANNAH HARTLE**, married at Chapel en le Frith in 1819 and who had, I believe, five children John, Margaret, Betty, James and Hannah? I am also trying to trace my 3x grandfather **SAMUEL HILL**, a weaver, who married Ann Hibbert in 1796 at Tideswell: **MARY ORR** and **GEORGE HILL** as witnesses. Five known children were, Joseph, William, Elizabeth, Samuel and George.

Chris Chadwick - Member No. 4180

140 Gainsborough Avenue, Oldham OL8 1AL

TOMLINSON, ARCHER

My great-grandmother, Mary, was one of six daughters of **SAMUEL TOMLINSON** and **ALICE EARP** who married in 1825 at Melbourne Baptist Church. Her sister, **SARAH EARP TOMLINSON**, was born in 1826, baptised at Melbourne Baptist Church, and married **JOHN ARCHER** of Linton. In the 1881 census she had four children at home, Alice Ann, Mary Lavinia, Gertrude Jane and John Earp, born at Linton between 1854 and 1860. I would be most interested to find out if I have any Archer relatives.

G.M. Wright - Member No. 2775

12 Park Hill Drive, Leicester LE2 8HR

ALLCROFT

Has any member information on the **ALLCROFT** family of Derbyshire? After three generations of Mancunians I found, to my surprise, that my 2x grandfather gave his place of birth as Staveley, Derby and was probably born about 1811. His wife, **JANE MOLINEUX**, came from Manchester and baptised in the Cathedral there in 1814.

K.W. Allcroft - Member No. 4267

8 Farley Way, Stevington, Bedford MK43 7QL

FIFIELD

My great grandfather, **CHARLES FIFIELD**, was living in Burton on Trent when he married in Blockley, Worcestershire in 1879. I believe his family originally came from Gloucestershire, but I do not know when he moved to Burton on Trent. My grandfather, **WANFORD CHARLES FIFIELD**, was born in Swadlincote in 1888 and had an older sister and younger brother. So far all efforts to trace details of their births at St Catherine's House have been unsuccessful. Any information would be appreciated.

Ms. Carolyn Owen - Member 4213

40 Mayfair Gardens, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9AB

STEWART/STUART

Great grandfather, **JOSEPH STUART/STEWART** may have been born at Albert Street or Lime Kiln Row in Ironville-Codnor Park, around 1839 to Samuel and Susannah Stewart (nee Anthony). Samuel's grandfather was called Cornelius Stewart and his parents were Cornelius and Frances Stewart (nee Meynell) who married in 1748 at Mansfield Woodhouse in Nottinghamshire. I am trying to find out if my Stewart/Stuart's belong to the Stewart family at Great Longstone, Derbyshire.

Has anyone any pictures, photos or information on these families from any of the above places or any pictures of 3 Lime Kiln Row, Codnor Park, Butterley Ironworks at Ironville or any of Codnor Park or Ironville? Also any family tales on any Stewart or Stuart from Derbyshire.

Frances Meynell was born around 1725, was this in Derbyshire or Nottinghamshire? Does anyone have Frances on their family tree? Would anyone with these names in their family history please get in touch.

Fred Stuart - Member No. 4224

5 Waingrove, Blackthorn, Northampton, Northants, NN3 8EP

NADE(I)N

JAMES NADEN, joiner, married Phebe Bridgford at St Alkmunds, Derby, on 6 March 1769. The family is reputed to be from Bakewell and from the IGI I learn that Pheby Bridgford, daughter of John and Phillis, was baptised at Bakewell in 1743. Their son Samuel was baptised in 1779 at St Werbergh and he married Martha Oakden 29 May 1803, his son, Benjamin, being baptised Repton in 1808 and married Isabella Duffield at Wirksworth 7 November 1831. However the only IGI reference is to the daughter of William and Mary; baptised in 1826. Was this a late baptism? If so her parents could be William Duffield and Mary Swinscoe who were married at Bakewell 9 April 1806. Why were the children not baptised as infants? Any help gratefully received with these families while anyone with Naden/Nadin connections is most welcome to get in contact as I have a large international database, a family society and produce a magazine twice a year.

Revd Dennis Lloyd Nadin - Member No. 2300

The Hermitage, 201 Willowfield, Harlow, Essex CM18 6RZ

STEVENS, UPTON

Michael STEVENS (c1746) and **Hannah UPTON** (c1741) were married at Ockbrook in 1770, but I have been unable to find any baptisms or information about their parents. They had children Joseph (1770, m.

Hannah Birkin), Mary (1774, possible marriage to Thomas Greasley), William (1776, m. Ann Bakewell), John (1779, m. Ellen Battelle), Michael (1781, m. Ann Bennit), Thomas (1783, m. Ann Martin). Looking for any descendants of the above or information about Michael and Hannah's baptisms/parents. Also interested in families from Ockbrook and their descendants.

P.J. Campos - Member No. 3930

Casilla 130, Colina, Chile

HARRISON, GILBERT, WHITE

JAMES HARRISON, born Eccles c1801, married **MARY WHITE** on 30 September 1822 at Eyam. John White worked as overlooker of the cotton mill and lived and, I suspect, died at Curbar, where one son John became the village blacksmith. I should be grateful to learn more of the village and its cotton mill.

GEORGE HARRISON was born in Curbar and baptised in 1824 at Baslow. He married **ANN HANNAH GILBERT** at Manchester Collegiate on 8 April 1844. Hannah was, however, born at Froggatts Edge and baptised in 1821 at Stoney Middleton, possibly the daughter of William Gilbert, a file cutter, and Ellin. For a time I believe the Gilberts were in New Mills and one son moved to Glossop, but they appear in Curbar only on the 1841 census. George Harrison worked in Manchester as a mechanic and later as manager of one of Samuel Brookes cotton machinery works - later Brookes and Doxeys. Samuel Brookes was born in Stoney Middleton. Anybody interested in these families?

Revd Dennis Lloyd Nadin - Member No. 2300

The Hermitage, 201 Willowfield, Harlow, Essex, CM18 6RZ

CLAY CROSS

I have recently begun to trace my maternal grandmother's family and find that several family members and friends lived in Waterloo Street, Clay Cross. I am particularly interested in the names Martin, Stevenson, Searston, Smith, Bradshaw and Richmond, but would be pleased to hear from anyone with connections either with Waterloo Street or any of the above names.

I also have a photograph of a football team and supporters, believed to be Clay Cross, possibly taken around the 1920's. In the photo are two large trophies. My grandfather James **MARTIN** and his brother Harry are among the supporters. Does anyone know when the photo was taken or can supply any of the names? I can send a scanned copy to anyone who thinks they can help.

Lesley Charlton - Member No. 4281

37 Braemar Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 7EZ

CLIPSTONE CAMP, MANSFIELD

Were your family at Clipstone Camp, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire? Thousands of men (and some women) passed through this military camp during the Great War. I am interested to learn of any documentation on them during their time there, also information sent in letters or on the back of post cards from the camp (photocopies welcome). For those of you with family/ancestors from the Mansfield area I am interested to know of the lives of the women and children from that area during the First World War. The information is required for my MA research.

Pauline Marples

15 Elmhurst Road, Forest Town, Mansfield, Notts NG19 0EU

THEXTON/BROOKS

I am looking for the parents of **JOHN THEXTON** who married **ELIZABETH BROOKS** 10th March 1811, at St. Alkmund's, Derby, both of Little Eaton. The marriage entry does not give their ages, parents names or occupations. Their children were baptised at St. Peter's, Belper and John Thexton's was a joiner.

Mrs P. Drury,

116 Slade Lane, Levenshulme, Manchester, M19 2AL

HARROP

LYDIA HARROP died 15th January, 1881 aged 45 and was buried in Padfield. Her husband, George, died in 1920 and children, Arthur, 1918 and Maria, 1920. I am searching for the baptism and marriage of Lydia. Can anyone help?

Mrs J. Stone

27 Lower Wood, Cressbrook, Buxton, Derby, SK17 8SY

SHIRLAND MEETINGS

In April Mrs Pauline Green will entertain us with that grand old tradition, the British Music Hall. Pauline will accompany her talk with recordings and original phonograph records.

Derbyshire in the Civil War is Brian Stones' subject for our May meeting and anyone with Ashover ancestors will know that that particular area had its share of action during the Commonwealth and many of us have blessed the soldiers who destroyed the early parish records.

Our June meeting will be on the subject of everyday life in the 18th and 19th centuries by Bruce Townsend. This is a story of the hardships endured by ordinary folk at home and at work.

These three meetings promise to be very interesting; giving us all an insight into the way we used to live.

Sylvia Wright

MEETING REPORTS



SHIRLAND MEETING GROUP

OCTOBER

WORKSHOP EVENING

This evening was well attended and it wasn't long before Iris and Janet had us all beavering away slipping and checking South Wingfield parish registers and sorting slips alphabetically of Brassington parish registers. We had a very productive meeting, but still found time for coffee and a chat. Maureen Newton brought along her microfiche reader and fiche and a marvellous assortment of newspapers dating from the 1930's, which she had recently been given. Especially interesting among these papers were the ones reporting the King Edward and Wallis Simpson affair. Many thanks to all who helped with the projects and made this such a successful evening.

NOVEMBER

THE MARY ROSE - MR F. CHETTLE

Mr Chettle began his lecture and slide show with the nautical history of Tudor Britain. At this time Britain did not have any naval vessels and, in times of hostility, trading vessels were adapted for military purposes. Henry VIII had an ambition to make England more powerful by building up his sea-going power as he had only five sea-going vessels at his disposal. The Mary Rose was the first ship to be built for Henry and he named it after his sister Mary Tudor. The Mary Rose was originally a 700 ton merchant ship, but was equipped with guns in 1530. In 1536 she was rebuilt and carried 91 guns. Henry eventually built up his Navy to forty ships, a formidable fighting force.

The merchant ships were built of over-lapping wood, but to allow for guns being fitted, this had to be replaced with flat wood so that the three guns of gun ports could be made watertight. This was essential as the bottom row of gunports were only twelve inches above sea level. On 19 July 1545 the Mary Rose, with the British fleet, set sail to fight the French, but the French sent small vessels into Portsmouth harbour and fired at the fleet. The gunports on the Mary Rose were open ready for action, when a gust of wind made the ship keel over and water entered the gunports. On board were about 700 men, many pikemen and archers wearing full or half armour who were unable to swim and consequently drowned as the ship quickly sank, only three dozen of the crew being saved. The ship lay where she sank for 500 years, covered in the silt which proved to be a good preservative.

The Mary Rose Trust was formed in the early 1970's and the ship was eventually lifted in 1982 along with her many fascinating treasures, which were in good condition. The relics included pewter flagons and wooden vessels engraved with hieroglyphics which identified their owners, personal possessions such as combs, spoons, jerkin fasteners, shoes, gold angels (coins) used to pay the seamen (one angel was a month's pay and was the equivalent of £1), belt attachments, a musical instrument called a shorn and an ear screw for removing ear wax. Much of the ship's rigging tackle, many guns, long bows and arrows were recovered as well as the ship's bell cast in 1537, which was in excellent condition. The carpenters' planes were still in a usable condition and the barbersurgeon's chest contained a mallet used to knock out his patients, a syringe and bowls containing ointment which included the clear fingerprints of the last person to use it.

Volunteer divers came from all over the world to help in the recovery of the ship. They used a grid of pipes over the area to locate the position of the articles to be recorded and a sea-going vacuum to remove the silt. The work was recorded on a low light intensity Marconi camera connected to a video. After lifting, the ship had to be kept wet until a way of preserving it could be found, as did all the items recovered. Many corpses were found and one was buried in Portsmouth Cathedral in the manner of the Unknown Warrior. All the others were cremated after a burial ceremony of the Tudor period and music of the time. The vestments came from Alabama as the ones still used there are of the Tudor style.

This was a captivating lecture and Mr Chettle concluded by telling us that the work of the Mary Rose Trust and the preservation of the ship and her contents will continue well into the next century.

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS COUNTRY QUIZ - RODNEY COUSINS

Rodney delighted us once more with another of his very popular quizzes which he presents in a "Call My Bluff" style, offering us a choice of three definitions, all of which are graphically described and demonstrated and, although comical, are possibly correct. For instance the small lead shovel we were shown - was it a wood shovel using for digging up woad (the plant used to make a blue colouring), for making ice cream in a tin bath at

Skegness on Friday evenings or was it a cockle spade? It was, in fact, for making ice cream with at Skegness, apparently after the family had all had their baths on Thursday! Did you know about ferret muzzles or the macro chips made at Brigg workhouse and the mechanical Japanese fly trap that concussed its victims then scraped them into a box? This is just a few of the items Rod produced from Box 4 of peculiar objects from the Museum of Lincolnshire Life where he is curator. The second half of the quiz was carried out in the same manner, but on dialect words which I will not attempt to relate! As usual this was an hilarious evening which was rounded off with a raffle and buffet. A display of colourful Christmas Air Mail letters spanning the last 30 years was presented by Malcolm and Pauline Marples and Rod brought along a selection of books etc. from the museum shop to sell, which raised some commission for our Society.

Sylvia Wright

GLOSSOP MEETING GROUP

OCTOBER

'PROBLEMS IN RESEARCH' - JOAN MEASHAM

Mrs Measham commenced her talk saying that everyone who researches their family history has problems at some stage or other and even she, as a record agent, has problems in her own research and becomes very frustrated. When people approach her for help, they sometimes expect miracles, but she explained that she can only get her information from documents that survive. As we all know there are black holes in the documents which do survive and which are available for research.

In her work as a record agent she sometimes finds that by helping others with their problems it helps her to work through her own frustrations. She explained how stories handed down through the generations, changes of names, local dialect regarding place names, nicknames, families moving from area to area to find work and many other anomalies can lead the family researcher on to a false trail which can only be overcome by many hours of research plus a bit of luck to put them back on the right path.

She went through a long list of available records which can help particularly in the Derby area, which is her province, and where, at the Derby Local Studies Library, there are large holdings which are well indexed. She stressed the indexes are a valuable asset as missing family members may appear in another parish where you least expect them to be.

Mrs Measham's talk also gave us an insight into the work that independent researchers do and this interesting and informative talk will, I am sure, help us all in the future.

NOVEMBER

'GOLD PANNING' - REX BINGHAM

Mr Bingham and his family got involved in gold panning over 30 years ago. He showed us by means of slides the areas in this island stretching from Devon through Wales and the Midlands, up into Northern Scotland, where gold, silver, diamonds and other minerals can be found, although microscopic in size. In Scotland, where the small moorland streams are popular, there are some landowners who allow panners onto their land for a fee. He also showed us slides of his visits to the area near the gold mine in Wales where the gold used for the royal wedding rings was mined and where the gold panners are allowed to pan in the local streams.

Mr Bingham stressed that it is always best to join a specialist society where geologists and mineralogists help members to gain knowledge of the metals and minerals which can be found. The only implements needed are a bucket, a garden trowel and a pair of wellington boots, and a chip pan basket, although there are one or two specialist gadgets which they use. Slides showed them actually panning in the streams and some of the gold and silver fragments which he had collected.

As members of a society they participate in competitions, one of which was in Austria in which he was a team member. They also have competitions in this country and the best time is when the rivers and streams are low. His talk was fascinating and gave us an insight into one of the more unusual hobbies practised in this country.

DECEMBER

FILMS, SLIDES AND MINCE PIES

Our Christmas meeting was held jointly with the Glossop and District Historical Society and took the form of a film show of Glossop in the 1950's, presented by the Historical Society members. The two films featured brought back many memories and showed just how much Glossop has changed over the last 50 years. As well as showing the centre of the town, where many of the shops in the High Street have closed and building societies have taken

over, it showed how the expansion of the town has taken up more of the surrounding countryside with housing. It also showed many of the open spaces and parks still enjoyed by the population. Conversation buzzed as memories were recalled and discussed over the tea, coffee and mincepies served.

Iris Brown

DERBY MEETING GROUP

OCTOBER 1996

WORKSHOP EVENING

The weather on the night of our first workshop at Bridge Chapel House was not conducive to actually turning out. The low turnout was rather disappointing but those members who did arrive were soon given the choice of several projects to work on. That is one distinct advantage of having all of the Society's archive and holdings under one roof. Members soon set to work and mugs of hot coffee were passing round the various rooms. In spite of the low numbers quite a lot of work was completed. Our workshop evenings compliment the work that is ongoing every week by volunteers who either go to BCH or work for the various project co-ordinators at home. All of the members who attended tonight's meeting enjoyed working and generally socialising (its not all work) chatting about the research enquiries they are dealing with or their own research problems. It is very gratifying that new members are coming along and asking 'How can we help?' Thanks to all those who came on the night.

NOVEMBER 1996

COALDUST CABARET - EARLY ENTERTAINMENT IN SOUTH DERBYSHIRE PETER WHITE & GRAHAM NUTT

Tonight was PETE WHITES 4th visit to the DERBY group but the first visit by GRAHAM NUTT. Both speakers are well known local historians in South Derbyshire and we soon settled down looking forward to an enjoyable illustrated talk. Graham started by telling us of the very early visiting FAIRS. The stalls and shows of EDWIN LAWRENCE at the GOOSE FAIR in NOTTINGHAM around 1850. Lawrence also from time to time threw in his lot with SANGERS CIRCUS roaming the south of England. A disasterous fire in 1860 destroyed the caravans and shows of the Lawrence family, Edwin with an eye to the future began to experiment with photography and was soon travelling extensively in the MIDLANDS and the NORTH of ENGLAND producing impressive backdrops, colour tinted glass slides and MAGIC LANTERN shows. BENJAMIN ROBINSON a pipe ware manufacturer in SWADLINCOTE had built a huge wooden building which was to be a skating rink, this would rival the building standing on a piece of ground known locally as WILSONS GROUND, this was the SWAD' HIPPODROME. Here the locals could marvel at variety shows and early cinema shows. The various acts were Comedians, Jugglers, Dancers and Musicians. Prices were 2d and 4d which depended on whether you sat on a wooden bench or a wooden bench with a cushion. The Cinematograph act of 1910 sounded the death knell for places such as this, films had to be shown in specially constructed buildings, with proper fire precautions and seating. Meanwhile EDWIN LAWRENCE with his travelling cinema show had managed to dodge the authorities, but while camped at ASHBY de la ZOUCH had two reels of film stolen and his traction engine came to grief with a poorly steam engine. On February 1st 1910 Edwin Lawrence and his team arrived at SWADLINCOTE, along with two others, FRANK BRIDGEWATER a hotelier from DERBY and TOMMY RAYNOR an entertainer from the North, who had worked at Sangers Circus, decided that Swad' needed a proper Cinema. The Rink continued to flourish under its ambitious manager ERNEST HALL. A site was made ready for the new Cinema in WEST STREET but Edwin was criticised by many local groups and the project was abandoned in 1912. CHARLES McCANN from DERBY took up the project to build a Cinema and the SWADLINCOTE EMPIRE was born. Graham also learnt, from conversations in his 'local' the BARLEY MOW on GRESLEY COMMON that three films had been made in Swad', he set out to track them down, sadly these films were assigned to a bonfire in 1958, but Graham managed to find out a lot about them. They were produced by EDWIN LAWRENCE, FRANK BRIDGEWATER and TOMMY RAYNOR. They were the 'THE PLUMBER AND THE LUNATIC, A NOBLE BROTHER and THE WAYWARD WOMAN. Apparently these stories involved a lot of KEYSTONE COPS style chases around SOUTH DERBYSHIRE, ASHBY and BURTON on TRENT much to the consternation and amusement of the locals. The films featured one local, CHARLIE HEXTALL the KING OF THE OPEN-NECKS (he never wore a tie) Charlie was a fishmonger on Swad' market and a sometimes poacher (never caught). In 1914 many men trooped off to war, when they returned a way of life had gone, and for those mentioned in this report life would not be the same again. If you would like to know more about the early cinemas and entertainment in this area, it can be found in Graham Nutt's book 'TUPPENNY RUSH' the book also gives a fuller version of the three films made in Swad. Graham also manages the 'MAGIC ATTIC' which is an archive of NEWSPAPERS, MAPS, BOOKS, LETTERS and PHOTOGRAPHS all connected with South Derby's and Burton on Trent. The earliest papers are dated 1868. You are welcome to visit the Magic Attic and browse through its contents. Graham can be contacted on 01 283 218150. With the informative text to the slides interspersed with humorous tales and anecdotes, all those present had a very enjoyable evening.

DECEMBER 1996
CHRISTMAS SOCIAL EVENING

As is now customary for our final meeting of the year tonight saw the ever popular social night. Members came not quite knowing what to expect and we got the proceedings off to a grand start with a headscratching quiz about DERBYSHIRE devised by IRIS SALT, in the 20 questions she had craftily slipped in one from each issue of this years magazine. All the participants had to own up to having at least four right! (having all read their magazines of course). The next piece of jolly in the script was two photographic quizzes devised by IAN WELLS, the first one devoted to old Derby, the second was a collection of photos taken from unusual angles around our headquarters BRIDGE CHAPEL HOUSE. This set members off on a walkabout around the house causing much merriment on the way. After the answers were given and small prizes handed out we set about the really serious business of devouring the goodies and beverages on offer in the Coffee Shop. All of the eats and drinks had been provided by the members present and they did us proud, the table was groaning. To finish off the evening the raffle was drawn, with 16 prizes again donated by members. I think this number is a record. A huge thanks to all who donated and participated, it was an excellent night.

Gill Hiley
Member 1774

DERBY BOROUGH POLICE COURT FRIDAY Jan 12
before J. Smith, J. Turner & W. Hobson Esqs.

A CASE OF NEGLECT Henry Silvers was charged with being on the premises of Messrs. Ind Coope and Co. in Colyer Street for an unlawful purpose. Police constable Foley found the prisoner in the prosecutors yard about four o'clock that (Friday) morning. He afterwards ascertained that the boy's home was in Macklin St., his father being a shoemaker and that he (the prisoner) had not been in the house for nights previously. Mr. Martin - School Board officer, stated that the boy had been reported as a truant, but he afterwards attended school satisfactorily. Prisoner's father who was in court said 'the boy had been a great deal of trouble for two years and they had nearly given him up' The boy was discharged, the Magistrates telling his father that he appeared to have been very negligent.

Derbyshire Advertiser & Journal January 19, 1883

CAN YOU HELP ?

Could you spare some time to help out at BRIDGE CHAPEL HOUSE ? We are looking for fresh volunteers to assist our hard worked regulars, it does not have to be a regular commitment, perhaps an hour or two every two or three weeks. Our new postal enquiry service has taken off and we are inundated with search requests every week, our regular volunteers do not have the time to carry out this service and look after the house, help visitors, clean up and make refreshments, your help could release them to do other pressing tasks. If you can help all you need to do is to call in at BCH at any opening time, have a coffee and a chat, become involved. At present we have 220 members in Derby and district, just think if each one could spare an hour of their time, We could answer all queries, forge ahead with projects and open more often. Give it some thought.

Alan Hiley
Chairman.

FAMILY RECORDS MOVE

Good news for all those working with family records! The Office for National Statistics, whose current St. Catherine's House is one of the most heavily used research facilities in London, and the Public Record Office's Census Rooms are to join forces in a new building which will house a shared public share facility. After a programme of refurbishment, the two departments will operate from Myddelton Place, Myddelton Street, Islington EC1. They hope to open to the public there in the spring of 1997.

ONS provides access to indexes of registers of births, marriages and deaths from 1837 and copies of entries from the registers in the form of certificates. The PRO provides access to microfilms of census returns from 1841 to 1891 and to related records, including death duty registers, and wills before 1858 and some registers of births, marriages and deaths.

Thousands of people use the search rooms at ONS and PRO every day, and many of them visit both, often on the same day. Users include family historians, academics, journalists and members of the legal professions. The benefits of having both services under one roof are enormous. Time wasted in travelling between buildings will be eliminated, speed of access to information will increase and staff will be able to extend their range of knowledge and thus be able to offer better advice. In addition Myddelton Place will provide better facilities for readers with special needs than can be provided in the existing buildings.

Within Myddelton Place, the two departments will retain separate search rooms but other facilities for all users will include an Information Point, shop, refreshment facilities, exhibition space and lecture room. It is almost opposite Sadlers Wells Theatre and a few minutes walk from Angel tube station on the Northern line. It is also close to the Greater London Record Office and the Society of Genealogists, institutions much visited by users of the ONS and PRO.

DON'T THINK LOGICAL!

For over 15 years I have been looking for my grandmother. Contrary to popular conception it is still difficult to find a person who was alive in 1930.

This is especially true if they did not do anything outstanding or just left home.

To recap: Jane Huckerby (b1876 Burton) married George Acethorpe (1896 Horninglow), moved from Derby to Hatton and then to Queenborough in Kent with, by then, three children. In about 1911 she left home with Jimmy Green, the only known reference after that was to her health being poor about 1930 and that she was thought to be living in Aston.

There are no deaths in any surname and she was not reported at any family birth, wedding or death. In this time I received tremendous help from the Huckerby Society and found out a great deal about the Acethorpes and Huckerbys up to 1925.

At the 1996 DFHS visit to St. Catherine's House I had an hour to spare and decided to complete the Acethorpe records of marriage after 1925. From family discussions I reckoned on two at most. The peace at St. Catherine's was shattered because in 1926 there was Jane marrying Charles Green and described as a widow at that, even though her first husband, my grandfather, only died in 1944. No divorce has been recorded and the Birmingham Office has no background details of the marriage. The view commonly expressed on subsequent discussion is that the participants' word is usually acceptable on these occasions. For me it opens further lines of enquiry!

The lesson I wish to put to members is that when all LOGICAL or REASONABLE searches are exhausted then think EXTRAORDINARY. In management circles this used to be called LATERAL THINKING.

*Michael J. Payne, 31 Thorpelds Drive,
Allestree, Derby DE22 2XA (Mem. No. 378)*

NOTICE to PARISH CLERKS

If any person bringing a properly authenticated register of the baptism of TIMOTHY PARSONS, supposed to be born in Derbyshire, in or about the year 1710:-And a Son of William Parsons, who died in the King's Bench in 1714, or 15; shall receive a reward of FIVE GUINEAS on application to Mr. RICHARD ALLSOPP, Three Tuns, Chesterfield.

N.B. The said Timothy Parsons married Agnes Gatkil at Kendall, Westmoreland, 1732.

Derby Mercury, 1 Feb 1798

MY GEN(EALOGICAL) JOURNEY - PART 1

On my return to Portsmouth, my birthplace, after WW2, in 1946, I met, for the first time to my knowledge, my mother's younger brother SIDNEY BIG (1888-1974). After training at the RN Dockyard, Portsmouth he had been sent to the RN Dockyard, Bermuda before WW1 and had married and lived there until retirement in 1945.

As his only son, after air training in Canada and serving with the RAF in England, had decided to settle here, Sid and his wife, Mabel, came to England to be near their son and his family. Uncle Sid then decided, as an occupation and hobby, to research his family tree in Wiltshire and Hampshire.

This excited my interest and I determined that one day I would do the same on my father's family in Derbyshire about which I knew nothing. The opportunity did not occur until my own retirement and after the death of my wife in 1984 when I moved to Yorkshire to be near my daughter and her family.

Now, having the time, and with the proximity of Derbyshire, I commenced research at Chesterfield, the town where I had grown up since the age of six in 1923. My father SHIRLEY WRAY ABBOTT, a professional footballer, had been transferred from the Portsmouth FC in that year. So on 7 May, 1986 I drove from Knaresborough to Chesterfield and whilst buying a Pay and Display ticket, I enquired of an elderly man doing likewise about accommodation in the town. He directed me to a small hotel, the 'Glen Start', which happened to be in the next street to where I had attended school in the '30s and when giving my name to the receptionist and mentioning the reason for my visit, she exclaimed, "My husband and I once managed the 'Horse and Jockey' pub at Wessington near Alfreton and the regulars there frequently spoke of a well known character, ISAIAH ABBOTT, who had also managed the pub in the '20s and '30s." She later told me she had discovered that Isaiah often visited the 'Red Lion' pub in Ashover and much later I found that was Isaiah's birthplace and that my great grandfather had married there in 1833. That receptionist was the first in an astonishing chain of coincidences that continues still because my father had mentioned SIRE(?) ABBOTT when I was a small boy.

So in 1986 my search began at St. Martin's churchyard in Alfreton, where father was born in February 1889, the youngest of eight, and found my first family MIs on the headstone of great grandfather (a butcher), (1813-1896) and grandfather (auctioneer and Liberal agent), (1837-1912), both named Samuel. On the latter was also engraved the names of INA THIRKILL, his eldest daughter, (1877-1938) and her husband CHARLES ANGELO SUTERMEISTER (1878-1954). Such an unusual name was bound to make my task much easier. From 1986 to 1988 I visited

Chesterfield Library and Register Office and the Record Office at Matlock and with valuable help from Derbyshire Family History Society and the Reverend Kellington, Methodist Minister in Alfreton, constructed a family tree for ABBOTT back to 1690. (It now reaches to 1616, three hundred years before my birth, when my nine times great grandfather was born and of whose will I have a copy, Thomas of Matlock, 1616-1670). In the Methodist church is a silver goblet inscribed 'Ina Thirkill Abbott, who loved this place'. She was married in December 1904 to C.A. Sutermeister.

The Alfreton census for 1881 shows that my great grandfather, Samuel (butcher) had been born at Wirksworth and visiting that town in 1986 to search for MIs, I met Sam Buxton, a retired pork butcher. Elderly people are usually a good source of information and Sam was no exception, telling me he regularly drank with JOHN ABBOTT, a retired butcher. I soon found John and though he was at first reluctant, being of the 'let the dead bury their dead' school, we had many searching conversations (one of which I recorded). It soon became apparent that John was my third cousin, born 1905, and his family graves, which I photographed, are in the cemetery on the Cromford road. He also knew of Isaiah of Wessington but insisted that he was no relation. John, you see, was a proper butcher, as was his father, also John, but Isaiah was only a 'knacker' and horse meat dealer. However, various small seemingly unconnected incidents during the next five years convinced me there was a relationship and they all came together in February 1991 when I received an enquiry, through Mrs Marples of Derbyshire Family History Society, from an Australian on a three year tour of duty in London with an oil firm. His mother in law was descended from a Wirksworth ABBOTT, BENJAMIN (1827-76) who I knew was a great uncle of John (1905-). When I checked back, however, for more details of Ben, I found at long last, that John's, and mine, great great grandfather Josiah (1797-1857) had been wed twice. John and I were descended from the first wife HANNAH ROWBOTTOM (1788-1815) and Isaiah (Wessington) from the second wife MARY TURNER (1795-1869).

We now had a three branch family tree, i.e. ABBOTT of Matlock and Wirksworth (thence to Alfreton), ABBOTT of Ashover, where Mary was taken with stepchildren on her marriage in 1819 (thence to Wessington), and ABBOTT of Birmingham, to where Benjamin drove cattle in 1856 and stayed (thence to Australia).

Subsequent to my first stay at the 'Glen Stuart' I lodged at the 'Red Lion' in Ashover because of its proximity to Matlock and Alfreton. in addition to the connection with

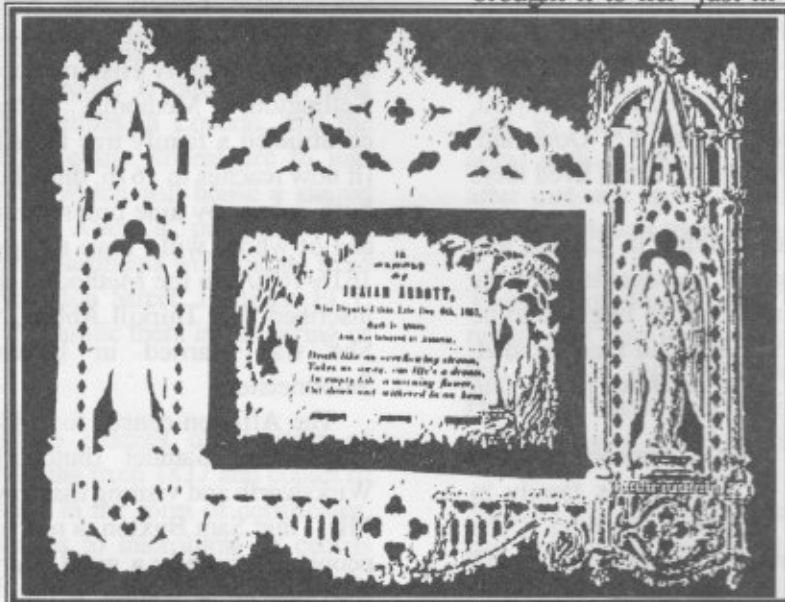
Isaiah, finding many ABBOTT MIs which I photographed, not at that time knowing for sure of any connection. Seeking out the oldest inhabitant I was introduced to JACK TULLY and visited him many times until his death on 8 April 1990. He remembered very well my father on Chesterfield's football pitch in the '20s and '30s and we spoke of many well known players. He also passed me on to some female descendants of Isaiah and Mary in Ashover. Great great grandfather, as Josiah, had married HANNAH ROWBOTTOM in 1808 and Mary Turner

as Isaiah in 1819 as can be seen from his signatures in Wirksworth's marriage register. This double naming had led to confusion in identifying the connection between the two branches. After many visits, and searching most graveyards in the area, in February 1897 I found Isaiah's grave at Wessington churchyard. At the time of my last visit an elderly couple, Mr and Mrs Caladine, pointed out a much overgrown grave. It had no headstone but its date position in 1947 left me in no doubt.

The 'Red Lion' was closed in 1987 due to a change of licensees. Since I have stayed at the 'Packhorse Farm' which is convenient to Matlock Record Office with main roads links to Alfreton, Ashover, Wessington, and Chesterfield. During a visit to the 'Horse and Jockey', Wessington in February 1987, I was put in touch with AUDREY WALTERS, née ABBOTT, niece of Isaiah, whose sister Eva lives in Ashover. In 1990 Audrey produced a 15" x 12" glazed frame which contains a papier mâché funeral plaque.

A neighbour's son was clearing out a garage in Wirksworth when he had found the plaque which was

'In Memoriam' to Isaiah Abbott (1787-1857). Knowing that Audrey's maiden name was Abbott, he brought it to her 'just in case'. Of course, it was the

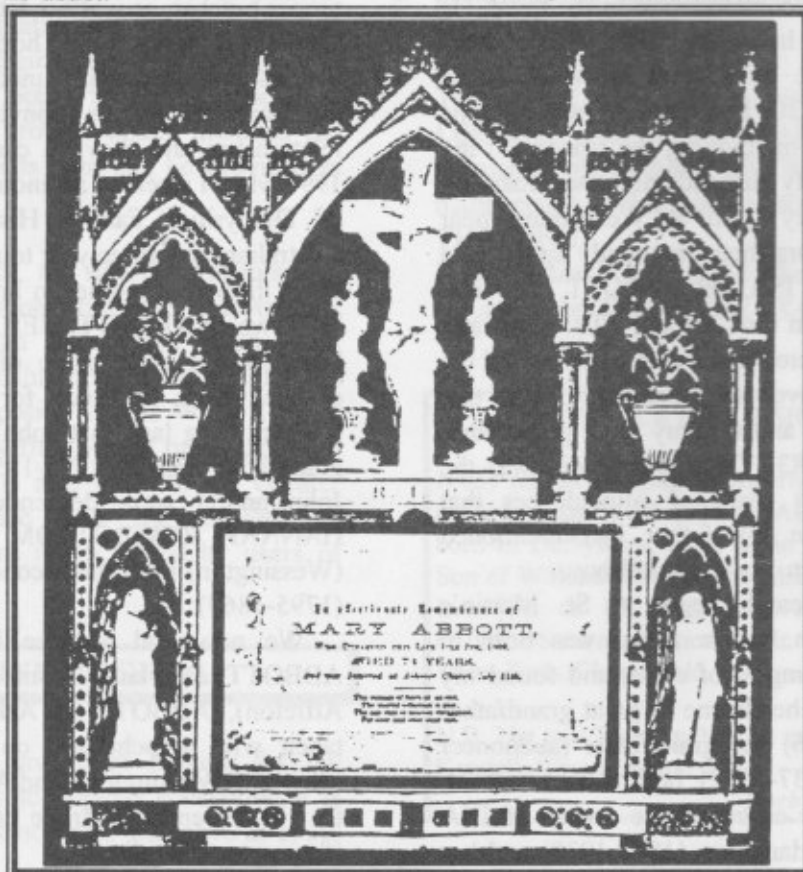


funeral plaque (in lieu of the gravestone I had been seeking in Ashover) which eventually proved to be our great, great grand father.

I next contacted DAVID ABBOTT, farmer of Brackenfield, near Wessington, and his family in 1992. Confirming his position in the Ashover line, I gave copies of all relevant documents at which they were most surprised and delighted, especially the children.

David then showed me a glazed frame which contained, would you believe, a funeral plaque 'In Memoriam' to Mary Abbott (1795-1869). A TV repair man had found it in the attic of a house he had recently moved into. Mary was great, great grandmother to Audrey and David and my step great, great grandmother.

In September 1987 I contacted FAY ABBOTT at Belper. Her farmer husband, also Isaiah (1905-87), had died in the May so I was too late for him but Fay produced many



interesting documents then and over the next six years including a Dublin marriage certificate. This took place at St. Bridget's Parish Church on 16 October 1854 between ISAIAH ABBOTT, private in the 60th Regiment of Royal Rifles (1831-1899) and BRIDGET BREEN. This Isaiah served in Ireland and India and was the second son of Isaiah and Mary. I have copies of this certificate and also a ten year discharge certificate dated 16 July 1862 when Isaiah left the Army as a Sergeant. Fay also has his wedding ring, enormously heavy,

and a funeral card for a JOHN ABBOTT, 1837-70, who was a great uncle of the present John of Wirksworth, another clue to that connection between the two branches.

A trip to London in December 1987 provided a chance to visit St. Catherine's and in a few hours I discovered the SUTERMEISTER marriage in December 1904, the birth of a son, Carl in 1905, a daughter, Mary in 1910 and the marriage of that daughter to A.F. STANSFIELD in 1933. Through the DHSS at Newcastle, by February 1988, I was corresponding with my cousin MARY E. STANSFIELD, then her brother, Carl, and another cousin, ALFRED THIRKILL WEBSTER. Naturally we are all very pleased to be in touch, especially as we are in our 70s and Alfred soon prevailed on me to research THIRKILL, being the second name of himself and Mary's mother. I knew that it was the maiden name of our great grandmother, wife of the first Samuel who had married in Ashover in 1833. The Alfreton 1881 census revealed her father, a saddler, had hailed from Grewelthorpe in Yorkshire. Living at Knaresborough, I enquired of Northalleron RO and was informed that the cemetery is at Kirkby Malzeard and a few days later drove to that town intending to examine, once again the MIs there. As I entered St.

Andrew's churchyard a man was leaving the church. Seeing the headstones were obviously very old I asked him about another cemetery and was told that burials now took place out of town, and enquired as to what name was I seeking. On being told THIRKILL he exclaimed, "That was my mother in law's maiden name, would you like to meet her? She is keen on family history". In a few hours this lady, MARY PEARSON had taken me back to the 15th century and proved to be my fourth cousin. Two weeks later I climbed St. Andrew's tower to take photographs of the tenor F bell which has an inscription to G. THIRKILL churchwarden 1768 (known as 'George the bell' (1732-1813), my three times great grandfather. The earliest known Thirkill ancestor being IVO de THRELKELD, to be found in the 1220 chartulary of Fountains Abbey nearby.

END OF PART I

Jack Abbott

28 Kingsmead, Frimley Green, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 6LU



SECRETARY'S POSTBAG

GLASSMAKERS AND ALLIED TRADES INDEX 1600 - 1900. Do you have any glassmakers in your family tree ?. This index which has been compiled over the last 20 years with the aim of assisting family historians with their glassmaking ancestors. Glassmakers were a very mobile workforce, hence the need for this type of reference point. The index includes all trades connected with the blowing of glass together with all trades which enhance glass, including stained glass artists and cutters, and glass engravers in the United Kingdom, plus a small number from other parts of the world. Brian J. M. Hardyman, who compiled the index would be pleased to receive any details of your glass making ancestors, and will extract any data requested on receipt of a S. A. E. or 2 IRC's. Brian can be contacted at 42 Hansom Place, York, YO3 7FQ.

LOCAL AND FAMILY HISTORY FAIR, The Coventry City Archives are holding a "LIVES & TIMES" festival of Coventry and Warwickshire History, at the Museum of British Road Transport, Hales Street, Coventry. from April 1997, which will include an exhibition on the theme of childhood. On the Saturday 26th April 1997 there will be a Family History Day Conference from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm, with family and local history groups and individuals promoting awareness of the pride in the history of Coventry and Warwickshire. Further details may be obtained from Roger Vaughan, Coventry City Archivist, Coventry City Archives, Mandela House, Bayley Lane, Coventry, CV1 5RG.

YORKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY FAIR. The 1997 Fair will be held on Saturday, 28th June, from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm, at the York Racecourse. This years event will be for one day only, and will be accommodated in the new Knavesmire Stand. It is anticipated that there will be in excess of a 100 tables, ranging from reference books, local history books to computers, with an advice table. Further details of this event can be obtained from Mr. A. Sampson, 1 Oxgang Close, Redcar, Cleveland, TS10 4ND.

G. G. WELLS, Hon. Secretary.



Computer Corner

I have always recommended that you should look at several different computer programs before you spend your hard earned cash on one. With an increasing number of programs available to choose from it is important to get one that is right for you. There are two opportunities to try out several programs: The Devon Family History Society is holding a one day conference at Loye's College, Exeter on Saturday 12th April, which will include talks, workshops, program demonstrations, and an "any questions" forum (cost £17); The Society of Genealogists have an all day programme of demonstrations of genealogy software organised for Saturday 5th July, with one session in the morning and one in the afternoon (£1 admission for each).

Whilst "try before you buy" is the principle behind Shareware rather than commercial software, the authors of commercial software are aware of the benefits. Demo versions are available for a number of packages. These demo's are usually a significantly restricted version of the main program, such as only allowing 50 records to be input, or lacking some features like saving the data or printing. Demo programs can be found on the Internet, with some companies having their own web sites. On CompuServe, try GO ROOTS and GO GENSUP. The main FTP sites for genealogists are <ftp://ftp.cac.psu.edu/pub/genealogy/> and <http://micros.hensa.ac.uk>. Many of the genealogy bulletin boards also have commercial demos and Shareware forums. S&N and Ron City can also supply them (for a cost).

There are an increasing number of genealogists accessing the Internet. Would you like to see what is available, but do not yet want to commit yourself? The Society of Genealogists are organising a session to introduce people to 'Genealogy on the Internet' on the evening of Thursday 28th September at the SOG premises.

Do you use the Personal Ancestral File (PAF) program? The UK's first official PAF User Group has started up in the Midlands. The Group has the support of the LDS Church and other PAF User Groups around the world. They have a telephone support line a Shareware library (of PAF related programs), and their first quarterly newsletter has just been published. The primary purpose of the User Group is to help PAF users and to keep them informed of new developments with PAF. User Group members have written several of the library programs, for the benefit of all member. Further information is available from Geoffrey Myatt, 21 Daylesford Road, Solihull, West Midlands B92 8EJ.

Over the last year, genealogy programs for Windows have improved immensely, so much so that there are several that will now meet the need of the most discerning genealogist. Family Tree Maker and Family Origins (Web Versions) now both include options to help you build your own family tree page for publishing on the World Wide Web (WWW). The programs will also help you search the information provided by others on their Web pages.

Is it possible in the mid nineties to contemplate creating a piece of work for publication without the use of a computer? Well maybe. Computers may be involved, but we should see them for what they are - just a tool to be used in the best way possible. Much of the work performed by the Society requires volunteers without computers. Think of all the field work, information collection, checking of transcriptions against originals where a computer is not necessary. I am very much in the view that we should not find ourselves as slaves to the computer but to use a computer where appropriate as a tool to assist the job.

Northamptonshire FHS have taken this idea further - they have a committee "Projects without computers" to co-ordinate the non computing work. Should the DFHS follow suit?

Ian Care, DFHS Computer Correspondent, 8 Kings Drive, Littleover, Derby. DE23 6EU

Beginner's Internet

Have you heard about the Internet, feel interested, but don't know where to get started? If so, read on.

In order to make describing things easier later on, I'll start by defining a few of the 'Jargon' terms. A **NETWORK** is the facility to connect two or more computers together to exchange information. A network can be local, connecting systems within, say, a building or link together computer systems around the world. Computer networks are connected in a variety of ways, ranging from the normal telephone network through to dedicated high-speed connection based on optical fibres.

The **INTERNET** (INTERnational NETwork) is used by over 40 million people. The Internet links in excess of 10 million computers in more than 100 countries. These computers are mostly owned by companies, universities or government organisations but also by individuals who have their PCs permanently connected to the Internet.

The **World Wide Web** (WWW) makes it easy for people to find their way around the Internet. Web software allows you to put '**links**' into your Internet documents. These links are known as '**hypertext**' - they act as signposts, pointing to any other Internet computer document (not just your own). If someone clicks on one of these hypertext links with their mouse, they are connected straight to the Internet computer it refers to. If you use a Windows based PC, you can already see hypertext in action: look in one of the Help files, click on a word that is underlined and the screen displays that subject.

The strength of the Internet is that any computer which conforms to a set of standards can be linked - regardless of make. The conventions were developed over many years. The Internet offers two major applications - electronic mail (**EMail**) and electronic information. As long as you know their EMail address, you can send letters, images, sounds and even video clips to anyone on the Internet, anywhere in the world, at any time of day or night. Internet users can access information on virtually any subject, and if you don't know where to find the information there are tools to help you.

Connecting to the Internet is easy and it does not have to cost much. An industry has built up around the Internet. There are competing companies that specialise in providing simple Internet connections, for a small charge, which will include a connection into the World Wide Web. They will give you an Internet address (so you can receive EMail) and for a further charge will help you set up your own WWW '**site**' where you can publish your own information (such as your family tree and research interests). These companies are called Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and have local telephone numbers for you to dial to connect to the Internet. Some Specialist ISPs offer services of their own, such as news, financial information, and discussion groups (forums).

Your Internet address is just like a postal address. It tells computers on the Internet where you are. But, instead of giving your name, the street where you live, the town, and so on it explains which computer you are connected to and how you are connected to it. The resulting address will be of the form: john.bloggs@provider.com

In order to connect your computer to the Internet, you will need a modem to connect your computer to the telephone line and some software. Buy a fast modem (means lower phone bills) - a speed of 28800 bits per second (bps) is the current standard. Some types of modem can fit inside your computers, others as a box on your desk. Most of the Internet providers supply you with the basic software to access the Internet and World Wide Web.

There is not enough time to visit all the Web sites to find those that interest you. What you need is a Web search service. You tell the '**Browser**' service, (the best known ones are Yahoo! & Lycos,) the subject that you are interested in, and it presents a list of sites that fit the bill. This type of search software that roams the Internet seeking out information on Web sites is often called a '**spider**', '**worm**' or '**crawler**'.

Be careful what you do with files and information that you find on the Internet. As with the rest of life, things are not always what they seem and not everyone can be trusted. A very few programs (files) will contain a virus. Always verify family history data, either directly or by source.

Good luck with your Internet travels. Let us all know what you find of interest.

DERBYSHIRE VILLAGES



RIDDINGS

"It has little enough for us to see and it is nothing on the map of beautiful England" - so wrote Arthur Mee about Riddings. Rather cruel, but historically true.

The name is derived from 'rydhja', Norse for clearing. This, together with the surrounding place names of Westwood, Birchwood and Woodlinkin, leads to the conclusion that the whole area was one vast forest. Riddings was a natural site for occupation by the invaders from the East and South. Situated on high ground it had natural defences with the river on the east, while tucked away out of sight of the trackway and potential enemies that passed by. There was wood for fuel, ample supplies of water and the soil was ripe for cultivation. As a bonus, there were opportunities for trade and pillaging as the Roman road of Ryknield Street passed along only a few miles away.

The earliest recorded date is 1002 AD when Wulfric Spott was Lord of the Manor of Alfreton, this including Swanwick, Leabrooks, Greenhill, Riddings and part of Somercotes. By 1086, the Domesday Survey, the Lordship was held by Morcar, a Saxon. He was dispossessed by William I who granted the estate to Roger de Busli, a Norman Earl, evidently in return for services rendered during the invasion. The latter granted the land to Ingram, a knight, who is recorded as having "*land for 1 plough, 9 villeins and 3 bordars with 2 ploughs there. There are 5 acres of meadow. Value 30 shillings*". As one plough is about 120 acres, so the estate would seem to consist of 300 acres of arable land worked by 12 tenants, plus 5 acres of grazing.

Ralph, son of the first Lord Ingram, was given a further grant of land from King Henry II in 1155, this being at South Normanton and Somercotes, and created Earl of Notts in Derbyshire. Accidentally Ralph's son, Robert Fitz-Ranulph, was implicated in the murder of Thomas a'Beckett and founded Beauchief Abbey near Sheffield in atonement.

Mention of Riddings can be found in Nottingham Borough Records of 1348 when the manor was granted to William Amyas of Nottingham from Bartholomew de Cotgrave, and also in Stevenson's History of 1456 when "*Sir Thomas Chaworth was found to be possessed of the Manors of Alfreton and Riddings*".

Riddings had its own chapel and Vicar in times gone by. Dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, it existed from early days until the 17th century although no-one knows exactly where it was situated. The date of its founding is also lost in time although in 1504 Hugh Revel of Higham willed a "*chalez now in the keepyage of Ric. Page, for ever, and X Kye to maintain the stok of the said Chapell of Mary Maundelen*". Possibly it was founded by the Chaworth family who owned Alfreton and Riddings in 1450, but the Chaworths also owned a property at Watnall and for some reason decided to make their home there. Their Manor House became the home of a tenant and the Mary Magdalene Chapel became so neglected that in 1650 the Parliamentary Commissioners reported the Chapel as "*fit to be disused*" - in other words so neglected that it was closed and probably demolished.

After the closure of the chapel there was no church in Riddings until a spate of intensive building in the early 19th century. The Baptist church was the earliest and dates from 1806 until its closure in 1978. It was followed by the Independent Chapel in 1821, St. James Parish Church in 1834 - built on land given by the Oakes family and consecrated by the Bishop of Lichfield - and the Wesleyan Chapel in 1838.

Coal was worked in the district for centuries, indeed a coal tithes of 18 shillings appears in the valuation of Alfreton vicarage in 1535, but it didn't become an industry until the end of the 18th century. Disused coal and ironstone shafts now abound in the area and the remains of an old coal or ironstone pit stands near Riddings Mill. The other main industry was iron, probably a modern counterpart of an older local industry. The Napoleonic Wars caused a great boom in the iron trade while the birth of the railways and canals brought a demand for bridge and tunnel plates and pipes of all sizes.

This was the time when a momentous discovery can be attributed to Riddings. Sir Lyon Playfair - incidentally his was the first marriage to be solemnized at the newly built St. James Church - and Robert Wilhelm Bunsen were both eminent scientists and conducted investigations on heat treatment at Riddings Ironworks, experiments which were to lead to the modern design in blast furnaces.

In 1847 Sir Lyon's attention was drawn to a mysterious effluent which was being pumped into the canal together with water from the pits. This liquid floated on the surface and on one occasion caught fire, causing great alarm in the neighbourhood of Pinxton. Playfair tested the flow and found it to be petroleum, whereupon James Young, of Glasgow University, was induced to take over the products of the spring and manufacture useful oils from it. Young succeeded in extracting paraffin wax, and Playfair illuminated a lecture he gave to the Royal Society with the first two paraffin wax candles ever produced. So from the tiny spring at Riddings began a worldwide search for petroleum and so started the staggering changes in our lives due to the internal combustion engine.

The increased industrial opportunity brought an influx of workmen and their families into the village and by 1830 over 500 were employed at the ironworks and coal and ironstone mines. This rapid development meant a leap in the population, but housing was unable to keep pace and the sanitation was deplorable with open drains and cesspools leaking into water supplies. It is hardly surprising that the mortality rate was high, due to sporadic epidemics such as the typhus one in 1849 when 41 died. Only the strong survived and 50% of children did not live past the age of ten.

Meanwhile the canal diggings provided a crowd of hard drinking 'navvies' and Riddings gained the unenviable distinction of being the "worst village in Derbyshire". Riddings' first Vicar, Thomas Barwick, is believed to have died as a result of blows received whilst attempting to stop a drunken brawl, the Manor House was derelict and the Chapel had gone. From all this emerged one of Riddings' best known men.

William Shawcroft, a frame knitter, lived and worked in a tiny cottage on Riddings Common. He had the advantage of being able to read and write and so taught his children the scriptures. Longing to improve the lot of his fellowmen he started to teach the village children on a Sunday until his cottage would not accommodate all the pupils and he feared that his classes would have to stop.

Twice a week the knitters would tramp to Nottingham with their finished goods and it was from Shawcroft's Nottingham employer that help first came. He offered books and a kindly warehouseman promised to help with the accommodation if local people would assist. Soon,

with gifts of stone and building materials, a small school was built near Shawcroft's cottage and several neighbours offered to help with the teaching. Mrs Silverwood, wife of the ironworks manager, was among them. She proved a ministering angel to the district, for her nursing skills and knowledge of medicines gave her admittance to the roughest homes. To help combat drunkenness a series of parents' meetings were held in the evening.

At the age of eighty he became blind and infirm, but every Sunday he was helped to the school where he continued to give instruction until his death on July 16th 1831. His memorial in Riddings Churchyard reads "*To the glory of God and in memory of William Shawcroft, a humble cottager, who lived in Riddings at the close of the 18th century, during the interval between the decay of the ancient church of St. Mary Magdalene and the erection of the present church of St James. By his means, assisted by fellow-labourers, the standard of the Cross was raised among the benighted inhabitants of the hamlet*".

Nowadays, of course, iron and coal era has passed and been replaced by light industry, including hosiery, yarn-processing, furniture manufacture, soap, garments, plastics, building construction etc. A thriving community has been built on a long chequered history.

Reference: The Story of Riddings compiled by Mr Maurice Taylor (available in Bridge Chapel House Reference Library)

Helen Betteridge

AIDES-DE-CAMP

Capt. G. Disbrow, 1st. Foot Guards

The Desboroughs, or Disbrowes, were brought into notice during the Civil Wars when John Desborough, a noted Republican, exchanged his plough for a sword, and attained high renown as a soldier. The General's family came still more into notice when he married Cromwell's youngest sister, George Disbrowe was placed on half pay as Lt.-col. 1821. Knight of Hanover. He was 2nd son of Edward Disbrow of Walton-upon-Trent, co. Derby, by Lady Charlotte Hobart, youngest daughter of George, 3rd Earl of Buckinghamshire. Col. G. Disbrowe died about 1875

The Waterloo Roll Call: Charles Dalton
revised edition 1971

OPIUM

Derbyshire people were no strangers to opium, the widely known drug extracted from the plant PAPAVER SOMNIFERUM (Opium Poppy). Native to Asia Minor this opiate has been cultivated since time immemorial and mainly used for the relief of pain. During the Regency period, ladies reached for their laudanum (tincture of Opium) vinaigrettes to alleviate an attack of 'vapours'. Babies were given laudanum to keep them quiet while their mothers worked. London had its notorious Opium dens and poets smoked opium hoping to enhance their creative powers.

By the early nineteenth century foreign merchants were conducting a lucrative trade supplying China with Indian opium. The Emperor of China was advised *the drug utterly ruins the minds and morals of the people, it is a dreadful calamity* so, during the spring of 1839 in the hope of forcing all merchants to surrender their opium stocks, Lin Zexu, Chinese Imperial envoy, blockaded foreign factories. In June of the same year he was sent to Canton with orders to publicly destroy 20,283 chests of imported Indian opium, valued at twelve million dollars. Britain declared war, ostensibly to protect the merchants, hoping to open China to western trade. Lin Zexu was dismissed from his post in 1840 as it was said that his hard measures had started the 'Opium War'. A year later, after talks, China agreed to pay indemnities and cede the island of Hong Kong to Britain. It was not, however, until 1842 when the Treaty of Nanjing was drawn up that Hong Kong was ceded in perpetuity to Her Britannic Majesty, her heirs and successors and five 'Treaty Ports', viz: Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningbo and Shanghai, were opened to foreign trade. Hong Kong finally became a British Colony in 1843.

The treaty, however, did not put a stop to the opium smuggling for the East India Company auctioned their Indian Opium in Calcutta. From there it was shipped to China by 'country traders' in heavily armed 'Opium Clippers' then transferred to fortified receiving ships, moored off China's southern coast. It was finally smuggled into the country by Chinese pirates in multi-oared 'fast crabs' and 'scrambling dragons'. Officials were bribed to 'turn a blind eye' by smuggling networks run by gangsters and secret societies such as the 'Triads'. A Chinese Commissioner wrote to Queen Victoria demanding a ban in the trade as it is repugnant to human feeling and at variance with the Way of Heaven - but the trade continued!

A second Opium War broke out fifteen years later; the British and French capturing Tienstsin and Peking. A further treaty opened ports in the north of China and granted rights of travel within the interior and a western diplomatic presence at Peking. In 1898 Britain obtained the New Territories of Hong Kong under a 99 year lease.

Two reports concerning death from opium are in the Derby Mercury of 1798.

On Saturday last an inquisition was held before Mr. Ed. Ward, the Coroner of this Borough, on the body of Edward Munter, last a private in the Derbyshire Supplementary Militia, whose death was occasioned by having inconsiderately taken too great a quantity of opium. It appeared in evidence that the deceased had been for several days confined to his room by a pleuritic fever, and on Friday evening, without the knowledge of the medical gentleman who attended him, had sent his comrade to purchase for him two penny worth of sleeping pills. He accordingly bought at a druggist's about half a dracham of opium, the person who sold it having previously made up a pill of the proper size to be taken at one time, and given the necessary caution as to the use of the remainder. The unfortunate man it was supposed finding a momentary elevation of spirits from the pill had had been advised to take, & probably conceiving that a greater quantity would further relieve him, rashly and unperceived by his companions, swallowed the remaining quantity of the opium, and died in violent convulsions, a few hours afterwards. Verdict, accidental death.

April 12, 1798



On the 24th ult. a child aged two years, son of a poor man of the name of Reader, residing at New Mills, near Duffield, was most unfortunately destroyed by taking a quantity of Extract of Opium, which had been sold to, and administered by, the mother under a mistake for Syrup of Rhubarb.

May 3, 1798

DERBYSHIRE RECORD OFFICE NEWS

1996 was a particularly busy year for new archive acquisitions by Derbyshire Record Office. A summary list of all archive collections made available for the first time during the past year is to be found in *Archives 96* (price £1.16 including postage from Derbyshire Record Office, County Hall, Matlock DE4 3AG).

Family historians may be particularly interested in the new registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, from both Church of England and nonconformist churches. The south and east of Derbyshire are particularly well represented in recent arrivals - for example, Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist chapels in Langley Mill, Breaston, Sandiacre, Stanton by Dale, Long Eaton, Crewton and Boulton are amongst places from which registers have been transferred to the archives during the last few months. All can be consulted by researchers in the Record Office Search Room where archive lists of accessions are also available for reference.

Further school records which may be of interest to genealogists are to be found in archives from Etwell, Whitwell, Steetley and Calow and if your ancestor lived in Derby in the early Victorian period it may be worth your while to consult the very extensive series of Derby Borough Improvement Commissioners' records, 1835 to 1850, and archives relating to the Derby Board of Health, which also began in 1835, and also now in the Record Office.

For the period before the establishment of the National Health Service in 1947 you may find the records of local hospitals useful for your research. New acquisitions in this field include archives from Derbyshire Royal Infirmary in Derby, the Devonshire Royal Hospital and Buxton Bath Charity in Buxton and various hospitals in the Chesterfield area, including the Chesterfield Royal Hospital. For an even earlier time, friendly society records may be helpful such as those recently received for Parwich which go back as far as 1836.

Family correspondence is also a very good source of information for the genealogist. A very wide cross-section of society is represented in new archives in Derbyshire Record Office, from the wartime love-letters - hundreds of them - from a couple in Melbourne and Brimington who met in 1941 to the letters sent to Sir Robert Wilmot-Horton of Catton Hall in South Derbyshire between 1816 and 1833 by some of the most important politicians and Sir

Robert sought advice and opinions from leading figures of his time on major economic and political issues. Consequently, letters from Palmerston and Peel feature in this new group, together with very informative accounts from fellow Members of Parliament. One of these, Edward Littleton, gives an eye witness report of the fatal accident to William Huskisson in 1830 at the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester railway. This tragic event marred the beginning of England's railway era and also had far reaching consequences for political alliances.

On a lighter note, another of Wilmot Horton's correspondents was the famous wit, Revd. Sydney Smith, who sent him chatty and lively letters full of London news and gossip. These letters complement the family papers already in the Record Office and add further to the resources here for researchers into early nineteenth century British history. Because of their importance, grant aid for their acquisition was provided by the Friends of the National Libraries and the Victoria and Albert Purchase Grant Fund. The correspondence (DRO ref. D4576) may be consulted in the Record Office Search Room.

ARCHIVES ALIVE EVENTS

These continue with a special workshop on understanding maps and plans to be held at the Record Office, New St., Matlock on 20 March 1997. There are two sessions, one from 10am to 12pm and one from 2pm to 4pm and the fee of £8 includes light refreshments and an information pack. For further details and a booking form, please contact the Record Office (address above) or telephone 01629 580000 ext 35201/35202 or fax 01629 57611. Everyone is welcome - maps are used by about 75% of researchers in the Record Office and the workshop is intended to help you make the most of your time.

DERBYSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETIES NETWORK SPRING MEETING 1997

The Spring 1997 meeting of the Derbyshire Local History Societies Network will be held at County Hall on Saturday 12 April 1997. As well as opportunities to see and buy local history publications, there will be two special presentations.

England's collections of national government archives are now all centralised in the new Public Record Office at Kew and their Head of Public Relations, Anne Crawford, will explain the changes and outline what local historians can find of potential

interest to them as well as update your knowledge of changed arrangements for 1997.

In Myddelton Place, researchers will be able to consult the microfilm material recently held at the Rolls Chapel and the census returns in one Search Room, while in another one in the same building, you can see the St Catherine's House indexes because the Office for national Statistics is moving out of its Kingsway premises to Myddelton place as well. A follow up visit to the new PRO will be arranged for those whose interest is stimulated by Mrs Crawford.

In addition Professor John MacKenzie will give a paper on the origins and future development of environmental history. Drawing on the experiences of the British in their colonies overseas, Professor MacKenzie will outline how ecology and environment have now become issues of interest to historians at home as well as abroad.

The *Network* Spring meeting takes place from 10am to 1pm at a cost of £2.50 per person. For a programme and booking form, contact the Record Office at the address and phone numbers above.

OPEN DAY AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Over the summer Derbyshire Record Office will be holding a number of special events, including a Saturday Open Day. Programmes can be picked up from the entrance hall when you come to the Record Office or you can write or telephone for more information.

All Record Office events include displays of original documents from the collections here, especially items which may not be well known to most researchers.

Group visits can also be arranged for a small fee. Demand for these is heavy - advance booking is essential - but visitors find them an excellent way of 'finding their feet' in learning how to use archives. Original materials can often seem daunting to beginners and a guided introduction by one of the archivist staff can answer a great many questions.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

As previously noted, *Archives 96* summarising new archives in Derbyshire Record Office, is now available. Bought direct from the Record Office it costs 90p, but if you need it sent by mail you will need to add postage. It is therefore £1.16 for one copy.

Crime and Punishment and Popular Entertainment are two of the most popular topics for historians of all ages. From its collections of broadsheets and playbills, Derbyshire Record Office has put together a selection of local examples, illustrated with woodcuts. Each facsimile costs 50p - 75p by post - or you can order a set in a special folder for £3.50 (£4.50 by post). Now you can find out about the Tartar's Jubilee on the bill at the Olympic and Melo-Dramatic Theatre in Derby on 11 January 1827 where 'fires will be constantly kept that the Building may be well aired' or learn all about the 'life, trial, character and behaviour of James Williams, otherwise Green, otherwise Holmes' who was executed on Derby gallows - shown in illustration - on 28 May 1782. The broadsheets and playbills convey a very vivid flavour of the times and can be used for teaching or display. Who knows, they may even feature unknown ancestors!

Please ask for a copy of the Record Office's Publications List which includes information about all our publications. Publications are available to personal callers or by mail order from Derbyshire Record Office, County Hall, Matlock DE4 3AG.

RECORD OFFICE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

At present the Record Office does not have direct dial facilities. To reach the Record Office, dial 01629 580000 and then ask for the extension you require.

If you wish to book a place in the Search Room, perhaps to consult parish register microfilms, please ask for extension 7347. If your enquiry relates to publications, events such as archive workshops or similar activities, or is about opening hours or other general information, please ask for extension 35202. If your enquiry concerns archive collections and you need to know, for instance, whether we hold the material you wish to consult, please ask for the Duty Archivist on extension 35207.

It is always preferable to write to the Record Office for advice before you embark on a specific project, particularly if you have not previously used original sources. Staff will not undertake research for you, except as part of our fee-paid *Search Service*, but we will suggest which archives here are likely to be relevant.

ADVICE FOR RESEARCHERS

In addition to the Record Office *Information for Users* leaflet there are other special free leaflets,

such as how to get to Derbyshire Record Office by car, bus or train.

If you have a disability using a Record Office may seem difficult. To help to meet the needs of such users, there are advice notes on Derbyshire Record Office's services and facilities.

If you cannot visit the Record Office in person, you can make use of our *Family History Search Service*. Archive sources here will be checked on your behalf for a small fee - the minimum search period is half an hour - and a report by an archivist will be sent to you with the results.

Please ask the Record Office for a copy of each of these leaflets.

Margaret O'Sullivan
County and Diocesan Archivist
Derbyshire Record Office

LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARIES

It has been another busy year in the Local Studies Service with many old and new customers working on their family trees and using a wide range of materials from maps to emigration lists.

A new publication which will soon be available for reference in the Local Studies Library, County Hall, Matlock, is the 1901 Irish Census Index. Two volumes are at present available for County Tyrone and Fermanagh. It is an alphabetical surname index listing heads of household and family members, with their visitors, boarders, servants and other persons residing within the same abode. The index is on microfiche and the accompanying volumes contain detailed explanatory notes and a wealth of maps. Religious status is listed and it is interesting to note that no assumption should be made that all family members residing in the same household belonged to the same religious denomination. It is anticipated that further volumes will follow later in the year.

The latest in the Local Studies series of guides for family historians is hot off the press. "Microfilms in Derbyshire Libraries" is a guide to the extraordinary range of materials in the Local Studies Libraries at Chesterfield and County Hall, Matlock. The booklet lists Derbyshire sources and further afield, a section covering material about other counties and national and international sources. It's all there from manuscripts to maps, -monumental inscriptions,

pedigrees and theses. Everything from the Gas Industry Genealogical Index to a Quaint Treatise on the Art of Artyfichall Flee Making. The booklet is useful in that it both tells you what is available and also whether it is in fiche or roll film format so that you will know in advance what kind of machine to book. At 50 pence it is great value and is available from the Local Studies Libraries or can be ordered through your local library. A companion volume covering the holdings of the Derby Local Studies Library will be published shortly.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, By Mr ROBERTS

At the Bull's Head, in Bonsall, in the county of Derby, on Monday, the 15th day of October next, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon (subject to such condition as will be then produced) in 2 lots:

LOT 1

ALL that MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE situate, in the centre of the town of Bonsall aforesaid, in the possession of Mr Samuel Woodiwiss, Grocer and Flax Dresser; with the Shop, Outbuildings and Garden adjoining, together with a Pew in Bonsall Church.

LOT 2

All the Close or Parcel of Land, eligibly situated to the town of Bonsall, containing about an Acre.

Mr SAMUEL WOODIWISS will shew the premises, and further particulars may be had at Mr BRITTLEBANK'S Office at Oddo, near Winster.

The purchaser of the first lot may be accommodated with the fixtures in the shop, at a fair appraisement.

Oddo, 29th September 1798

Derby Mercury, October 4, 1798

REUSCH INTERNATIONAL

We have told you before about using Ruesch International as a source of foreign currency. The fee for issuing a check in the proper currency has gone from \$2.00 to \$3.00. This is still a bargain compared to prices for money orders. In case you missed earlier details: for example, if you need to send \$15.00 to England, call Reusch at 1-800-424-2923 or locally at 202-408-1200, explain what you require, then look up the rate, add the \$3.00 fee, send the amount and they send you the check. The address is Reusch International Financial Services, 700 Eleventh Street NW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC, 20001-4507.

POST HASTE THROUGH CHESTERFIELD



This picture of a mail coach crossing a flooded ford in a rainstorm gives a good idea of the discomfort of this form of travel. Usually drawn by four horses two trace horses were added when the going was difficult.

When John Palmer introduced the Mail Coach Service, in the year 1785, his slick, fast coaches with their armed guards, made their appearance in an atmosphere of intense excitement. At speeds of up to 10 miles an hour the thunder of pounding hooves, and the warning of approach blown by the guard on his horn, never failed to draw village and town folk alike to the side of the road to see a mail coach pass. The fact that it had absolute priority on the highway, that toll gate keepers had to have their gates open in readiness for it to pass through without delay and that passages and mail were conveyed at speeds hitherto unknown, all added to the glamour of the service and the excitement in general.

It is interesting to recall that Derbyshire had its share of this excitement for it was well served by the Leeds Mail which passed through Chesterfield.

In common with all other coaches carrying the mails the Leeds Mail left London every evening at 8 o'clock. With four passengers inside, it journeyed into the night going out via Colney and Dunstable, and heading for Northampton which it was timed to reach at 5.15 the next morning, here there was a break of 30 minutes for breakfast. After more than 9 hours on the road this must have been a welcome stop indeed.

As the prime function of the mail coach was the speedy conveyance of the mails those who chose this mode of travel had to put up with long hours on the road without food or rest. The alternative was the heavy lumbering stage coach which, though it stopped frequently at inns along the way, was more vulnerable to attack by highway robbers and took twice as long to cover the same distance.

In a time bill of 1797 the Leeds Mail is shown tearing through Loughborough to Nottingham where it stopped for lunch at 1.45pm, 30 minutes only being allowed.

Leaving Nottingham at 2.15pm the Leeds Mail travelled on through Mansfield (4.35pm) and reached Chesterfield at 6.25pm where, as there is no mention of the coach stopping, mail for the area would have been thrown out by the guard at the official Letter Receiving Office, catching at the same time a bag of outgoing mail thrown to him from an upstairs window. Imagine the excitement of those who gathered to witness this nightly spectacle. It was during these moments, too, that the choicest tidbits of the latest news from London would be shouted from the top of the coach to those who lined the road and no doubt the coach would be cheered on its way as it sped on towards Sheffield, where there was a stop for supper at five minutes past eight.

From Sheffield the Leeds Mail travelled on via Barnsley (10.55pm), reaching the Post Office in Leeds at 1.55am the next morning, the official distance being 198 miles in 29 hrs 45 mins.

Mention must be made of the guard, who travelled alone at the rear of the coach, his feet resting on the locked mail box. Armed with a pair of pistols, a sword and a blunderbuss, he had to ensure the safe conduct of the vehicle and attend to any roadside repairs should it break down. He was also responsible for giving the word to go, for the maintenance of speed and for the conduct and sobriety of the coachman.

In a countryside infested with undesirables of all kinds, from the romantic highwayman hiding in a wayside

thicket down to the common sneak thief of the inn yard, coach travellers faced robbery and violence every inch of the way.

There is no evidence in the archives of the Post Office to show that a highwayman ever stopped a mail coach but robberies did take place, usually when the guard's back was turned. When this happened the Post Office issued Reward Notices for the apprehension of the offenders and one such notice was issued following the robbery of the Leeds Mail on the night of Monday 26th October, 1812.

On this occasion the coach was on its way to London and somewhere between Burton Latimer and Higham Ferrers the guard left his post at the rear of the coach to sit up front with the driver. Two footpads, intent on robbing the mail, were able to board the rear of the coach unobserved, force open the mail box and make off with their prize, the robbery not being discovered until the guard resumed his seat just before reaching Higham Ferrers. What happened to the guard is not known, but the two footpads, Huffey White and Richard Kendall, were caught eventually and executed at Northampton in 1813.

It is interesting to note that in those days postage was not prepaid but collected on delivery. If an addressee could not, or would not, pay the amount requested the letter was not delivered. The amount to be paid was calculated according to the number of miles involved and whether the letter was a single, a double or even a treble. A single letter was one sheet of paper, folded and sealed with wax and with the address written on the outside (there were no envelopes), whilst the doubles and trebles were simply two and three sheets of paper folded and sealed in the same manner. As the postage on a single letter from Chesterfield to London was 8d (in the years 1796 and 1801) and double and treble letters cost twice and three times as much respectively, it will be seen that the cost of sending a lengthy missive was very high indeed. In 1812 the postage of a single letter from Chesterfield to London was increased to 10d.

To travel during the winter months needed great courage and endurance. Whilst the driver and guard faced raging blizzards and sub-zero temperatures and survived, their passengers were often not so lucky. A Wiltshire newspaper of 1812 reports: "on the arrival of the Bath Mail at Chippenham it was found that two passengers had been frozen to death and that a third was dying."

With the coming of the railways all forms of coach travel came to an end. The last regular run by mail coach, the London to Norwich via Newmarket, was

withdrawn on 3rd April 1846 and a chapter of Post Office history closed for ever.

(Based on an article originally published in Derbyshire Life, February 1972)

The Disposition of the Twelve Days from Christmas

Known by the shining of the sun

On Christmas Day if the sun shineth the whole day it betokeneth a peaceful year

If the sun shines the 2nd day gold shall be hard to come by

If it shines the 3rd day great sorrow shall be among churchmen

If it shines on the fourth then must weak children suffer much pain

If it shines on the 5th day then both this winters fruit and herbs and fruits of the garden prosper well

If it shines on the 6th day there shall be great plenty of the fruits of the garden with all other fruits

If it shines on the 7th day it betokeneth hunger and scarceness both of food and also of beasts

Victuals shall be dear

If it shines on the 8th day it shall be good for Fishermen that year and fortunate

If it shines on the 9th day it shall be prosperous and good for sheep that year

If it shines on the 10th day there shall be much bad weather that year

If it shines on the 11th day there will be much misty weather that year and also commonly death

If it shines on the 12th day there followeth that year much war, debate and strife

Taken from an 18th century parish register

TITBITS

A marriage certificate for Joseph Wood (son of Thomas Wood, farmer) and Ann Fletcher, married on the 16 March 1856 at Burbage, Leicestershire, is in the possession of Mrs Rosamond Pratt, 16 Lowbourne, Whitchurch, Bristol BS15 0AN. This doesn't fit into her family tree and she is willing to give it to any member who has links with that family.

Clywd FHS has transcribed and indexed 341 volumes of Parish registers, mostly to 1812, although some go beyond. A list has been placed in our library at Bridge Chapel House, but it is also available along with details of other publications, from Mrs Robson, Pinewood, 1 Coed y Bryn, Flint Mountain, Flintshire CH6 5QP. Don't forget the SAE.

West Surrey FHS has been busy and offer the following: Guides to Research in London, Middlesex and Metropolitan Surrey, Surrey Parish Register Transcriptions and Indexes (these are microfiches of 40 parishes, mainly in Western Surrey and include a map of the parish and illustration of the church) and Surrey Records, which include such gems as abstracts and indexes to Wills, Lay Subsidies, Court Cases, Feet of Fines, Association Oath Rolls, Hearth Tax, Non-Conformist registers etc. A list describing these publications is available on request from Mrs R. Cleaver, 17 Lane End Drive, Knaphill, Woking, Surrey GU21 2QQ. Again, don't forget the SAE.

The Talbot Research Organisation is holding it's fourth International Gathering at "The Shoulder at Hardstoft", Pilsley, nr Chesterfield, Derbyshire on Saturday May 3rd 1997, with a visit to Hardwick Hall on Sunday May 4th. The theme will be "Talking Talbots Worldwide" and delegates are encouraged to bring details of their Talbot research to display. There will also be a speaker on Hardwick Hall. Anyone with Talbots in their tree is welcome to attend at a cost of £12 per person inclusive of morning coffee, afternoon tea and a buffet lunch. For further details and a booking form contact Mrs Mary Talbot at 142 Albermarle Avenue, Elson, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 4HY. An SAE is not mentioned, but I am sure it would be appreciated.

A Family History Day at the Guildhall Museum, Boston, Lincolnshire is being held on Saturday 15th March 1997. Short notice this one, but I am sure it would be worth a visit for anyone with Lincolnshire connections. Members of the Lincolnshire FHS will be on hand from 10am until 5pm to give a helping hand and microfiche readers will be available for consulting the census and IGI. There will also be a display from

the Library Service and tea and coffee throughout the day.

Another Family History Fair is at the Caistor Hall Hotel, Caistor St. Edmunds, Norwich from 10-5pm on the 22nd June 1997, run by the East Anglia Group. With 11 participating East Anglian Family History Societies there are plenty of experts on hand to give you free advice and helpful information to take away. Entry is free and refreshments available all day.

The Brass Workers Index is being created by Ms. Pat Santaana and this is open to anyone on receipt of an SAE. Pat would also be delighted to receive any entries for this new index. The address is 29 Gilda Crt, Watford Way, Mill Hill, London NW7 2QN.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS AT DAVID DERBYSHIRE'S, WEST HALLAM

My mother's father, Josiah, wrote the following quotation for building work when he was 25, he died at the early age of 32. David Derbyshire was Josiah's father-in-law who lived at Brook Farm, Mapperley Lane, West Hallam for many years.

1885 Oct 1st

Add 12 feet in length to present cowshed, same width and height as present cowshed, making altogether room for six cows. Take out troughs and push them up against North wall, Cap front wall of troughs with wood same strength as that on present wall. Put down new heelstones full length of shed and brick on edge group and paving up to wall - at back of standings - put down 2 new partitions - present wall to stand for one, put up present bolster rails and supply and fix three new ones.

Take out doors in each end and put same in South side. Put new door 2ft 6in square in each end to throw manure through. Cut opening through wall 3 feet wide between foddering and cowshed and opening 5'6" wide between present and new cowshed.

The wood and tiles on roof same quality and strength as on present cowshed.

Excavate Puddle and Brick soft water Cistern to hold 1000 Gallons, with stone on top and small door and complete same leaving all quite secure.

Supply all Material and Labour and Complete same in workmanlike manner:-

£ s d

For the sum of 37-19-6
Josiah Hollingworth

Jack Hartley, 12 Coniston Avenue, Spondon,
Derby DE21 7LE

DANIEL STIRLAND

Last year I sent for the monumental inscriptions for Marlpool Cemetery (Marlpool is a village in Derbyshire which has grown and become part of Heanor) as our Stirlands come from Heanor and my son and I hoped some of them might have been buried in Marlpool. When the fiche came my son looked at the name index to see if there were any Stirlands listed and found there were. One of the names was Daniel Stirland. My great grandfather Thomas had a brother Daniel and I wondered if this was the same man. We found the inscription and the ages tied up - it was the right Daniel after all. When we read the inscription we were surprised to learn that he had been struck by lightning! It reads as follows:-

*In Loving Memory
of
Daniel Stirland
who was killed by lightning at Heanor
August 11th 1890
Also of Millicent
the beloved Wife of the above
who died February 23rd 1905
aged 66 years
"God be with you till we meet again"*

It was decided we would go to Colindale Newspaper Library to try and find out some more. Surely an event of this nature would have been reported in the local press.

It was the day after Boxing Day that we drove up to Colindale, everywhere was quiet including the library. The staff were helpful and the papers we requested arrived in about fifteen minutes, surprisingly they were bound originals, yellow with age and starting to crumble. We were half afraid to open them!

We looked at the "Heanor Advertiser" and the "Ripley and Heanor News". We soon found that on the 11th August 1890 (Wakes week) Daniel Stirland "*A well respected member of the local neighbourhood*" who lived at Park Street and was employed at the Shipley Coal and Iron Works, went to the Heanor Flower Show which was being held in the grounds of Heanor Hall. At about 2 pm a terrific thunderstorm passed over Heanor. The rain was "*tropical*" and all sought shelter. Daniel and four other people sheltered under an oak tree in a clump of trees at the entrance to a piece of turf which had been set aside for a game of cricket. The tree was struck by lightning and split from top to bottom. The five people sheltering under the tree were hurled to the ground. One of the five, a young boy named Joseph Woodhouse (10), was killed instantly. Daniel convulsed for about 30 minutes and then died.

The three others injured, Foster Tarlton (50), his son Joseph Tarlton (11) and William Inger (17) are believed to have recovered although Foster was unconscious for a long time, his son stunned and Inger lost the use of his lower limbs for a time.

Mr W. Harvey Whiston, County Coroner, held an enquiry at the Lord Nelson Inn, Heanor, touching on the deaths of Daniel Stirland and Joseph Woodhouse. The injury returned a verdict that "*The deceased died by the visitation of God, being struck by lightning*".

Photocopies of the original papers were ordered from Colindale and arrived within two days.

I have since discovered that the chances of being struck are about four million to one (I think I'll give up doing the Lottery!).

Any information about "Stirlands" and the Shipley Coal and Iron Works would be most welcome.

Roger Stirland, 84 Rectory Road, Wivenhoe, Colchester, Essex CO7 9ES (Mem. No. 3580)

AT the ACADEMY, Osmaston Street, Derby, conducted by J. MATHER, young Gentlemen are liberally boarded, kindly treated, and carefully instructed in the English, Latin and Greek Languages; Penmanship, Stenography, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Mensuration, Practical Surveying, Algebra, Euclid's Elements, with Geometrical Deductions, and Trigonometry; Ancient and Modern History, Geography, with the Construction of Maps, and the Use of the Globes. Pupils intended for the Medical Profession are prepared in Celsus and Gregory's Conspectus.

TERMS: - 23 guineas per annum. Day Pupils, 6 guineas per annum.

French, Drawing, Music, and Dancing, on the Terms of the respective Masters.

A select Juvenile Library is attached to the School; and great attention is paid to Composition, and to the exciting of a taste for Literature.

A quarter's notice will be expected previous to the removal of a Pupil.

Parents desirous of realizing for their Children a polite and useful Education on reasonable terms, will find this School particularly eligible; there being no extra charges, except for Washing and Stationery.

Taken from Glover's Directory of 1843

SURNAME DISTRIBUTIONS

In a previous article I wrote about the distribution of the name BRADWELL as a surname and a placename in England and Wales as part of my investigations into my family tree (see Branch News Issue No. 60, page 36). Several members responded to the article and provided information to extend my tree backwards, for which I thank them. Besides BRADWELL distributions, I have also plotted most of the other family names in my tree and these may be of interest to other members (Table 1). The distributions show where the greatest concentration of a name occurs in England and can be useful in redirecting the search if a name is 'lost'. They also show where a name originated, particularly if the name is a placename, and show the relative rarity of names.

The distributions are based on the total number of entries (births and marriages) for a specific surname in the International Genealogical Index (IGI) for each county for the period 1537-1837. Whilst this gives an indication of the distribution, the figures need to be normalised by dividing by the total number of entries for all surnames in a county, since counties have markedly different populations. I have a computer program, which converts the IGI number of names to a 'Normalised surname entries per 10,000 name entries per county? These are then plotted as dots on a map of the counties of England, which gives a true distribution of a name throughout the country. The computer program also works out the 'Centre of Population', which represents the

most likely origin of a specific surname. I have calculated the total number of all name entries for each county from the IGI and set up a grid reference system for the location of each county (Figure 1) and these are stored in the computer program.

Figures 2-12 show the distributions of some of my family names, particular those with a Derbyshire connection, WRAGG, TWIGG and BRADWELL all originate from Derbyshire, and WOMACK, IBBOTSON, GOODISON, WARRINGTON and WOLSTENHOLME have concentrations in N.Derbyshire/S.Yorkshire border around Sheffield. Using the IGI entries, I have drawn up categories of surname rarity from Very Rare to Most Common as in Table 1. Some names, such as ILIFFE and FLAVELL, are very localised and occur in only a few counties. The remaining names in my family tree are in the 'Common' category and distributions tend to be widespread throughout England.

The IGI is very useful for this kind of survey, but there are limitations or possible errors because:-

- a) the IGI does not include all parish records
 - b) the IGI does not include all dates for a given parish
- Where a name is 'Common', these limitations will not affect the overall result, but for 'Rare' names they could affect the distribution.

Alan Bradwell - Member No. 981

TABLE 1: SURNAME DISTRIBUTION

Surname	No. of IGI entries in England & Wales	Rarity of Surname	Type of Surname	Greatest concentration and likely Origin of Surname
	100	VR		
	300			
Womack	764	R	P	S. Yorkshire, E. Anglia
	1000			
Goodison	1118		R	S. Yorkshire
Bradwell	1229		P	Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Cambridgeshire
Megson	1530		R	Durham, Yorkshire
Kempster	1951	U	T	Buckinghamshire, W. Midlands
Iliffe	2074		-	Leicestershire, Rutland
Flavell	3561		D	Midlands
	3000			
Sills	3233		-	Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Westmorland
Warrington	4306		P	Cheshire, Rutland
Wolstenholme	4521		P	Lancashire, Derbyshire
Grayston	4741		R	Cumberland, North
Twigg	5027		D	Derbyshire
Raven	5098	LC	D	Essex, Leicestershire, Cumbria
Bagnall	5171		P	Staffordshire
Ibbotson	5582		R	Derbyshire, S. Yorkshire, Huntingdonshire
Wragg	5737		-	Derbyshire
Longbottom	5982		P	Yorkshire, Lincolnshire
Inman	6226		T	Westmorland
Drury	6709		-	Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire
	10,000			
Lovett	10,197		D	Midlands
Worrall	13,642		P	Cheshire, W. Midlands
Lockwood	12,127	C	P	Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Suffolk
Gould	20,409		-	Widespread in South
French	24,183		N	Widespread S. East
	30,000			
Gregory	38,772		-	Widespread Derbyshire
Elliott	57,772	VC	-	Widespread, Northumberland
Shaw	84,207		P	Widespread
	100,000			
Turner	152,766	MC	T	Widespread
	300,000			

Variety of Surnames: Very Rare - VR Rare - R Unusual - U Less Common - LC Common - C Very Common - VC Most Common - MC
Types if Surnames: T - Trade R - Relationship D - Descriptive N - Nationality P - Placename

FIGURE 1 TOTAL NUMBER OF IGI ENTRIES PER COUNTY AND COUNTY LOCATION GRID

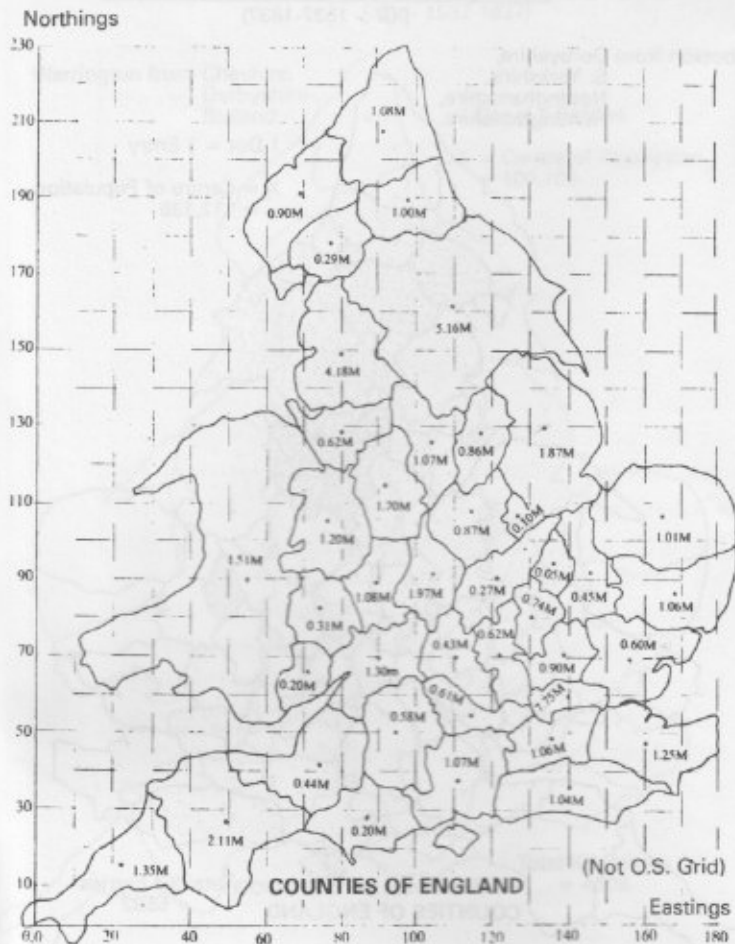


FIGURE 2 BRADWELL
NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
(IGI :- 1537-1837)

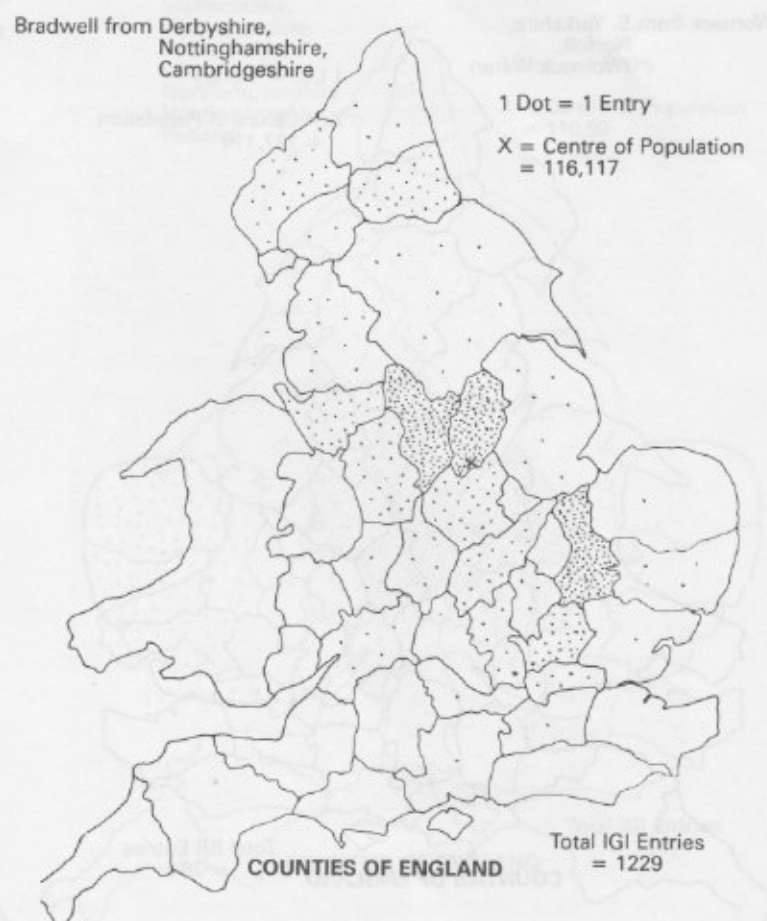


FIGURE 3 TWIGG
NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
(IGI :- 1537-1837)

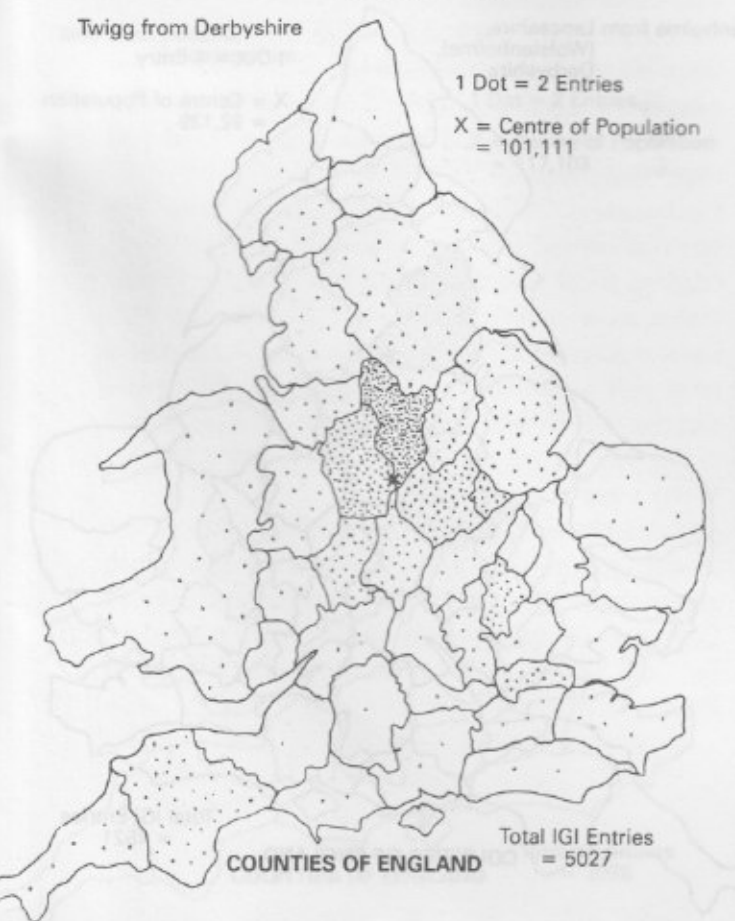
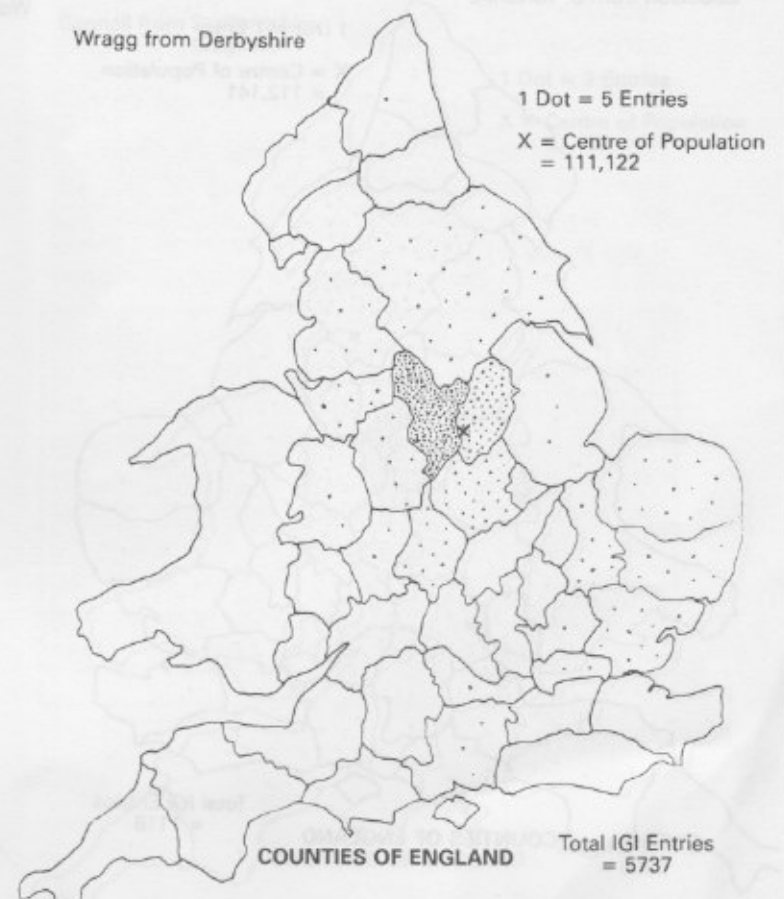
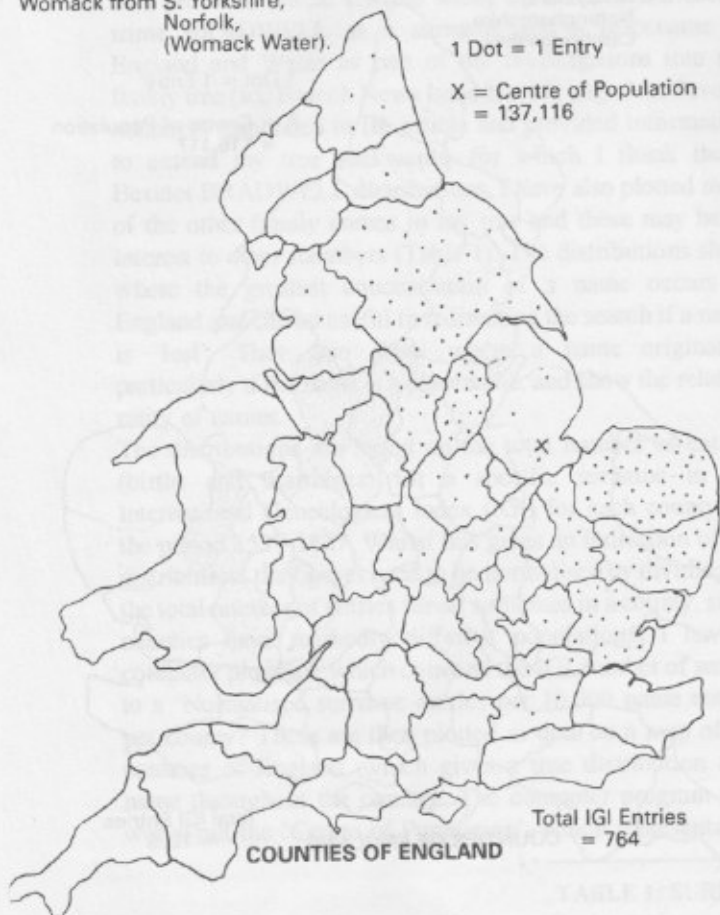


FIGURE 4 WRAGG
NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
(IGI :- 1537-1837)



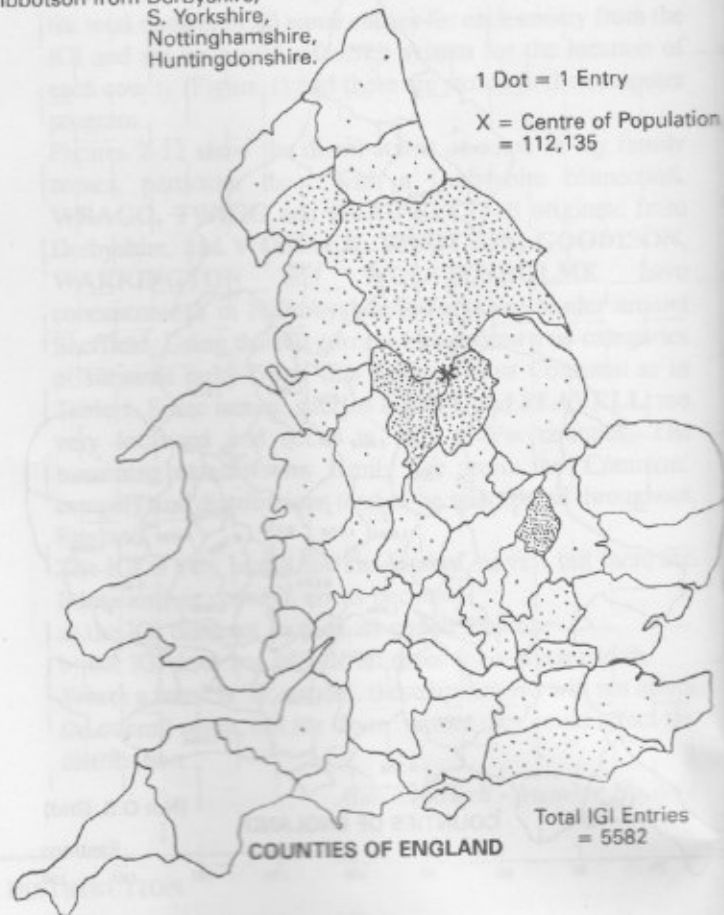
WOMACK
FIGURE 5 NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)

Womack from S. Yorkshire,
 Norfolk,
 (Womack Water).



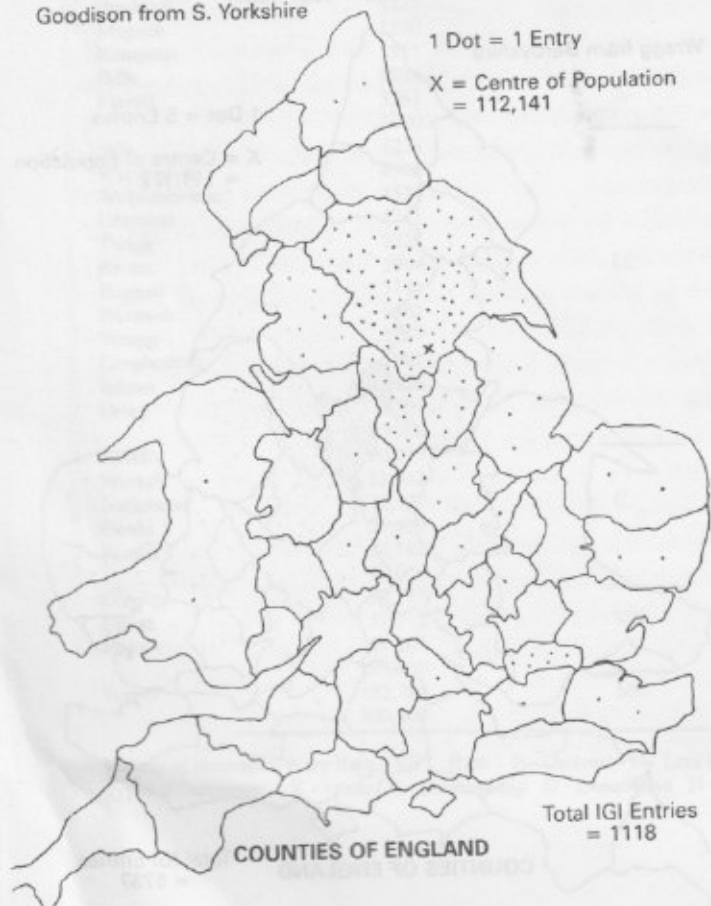
IBBOTSON
FIGURE 6 NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)

Ibbotson from Derbyshire,
 S. Yorkshire,
 Nottinghamshire,
 Huntingdonshire.



GOODISON
FIGURE 7 NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)

Goodison from S. Yorkshire



WOLSTENHOLME
FIGURE 8 NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)

Wolstenholme from Lancashire,
 (Wolstenholme),
 Derbyshire

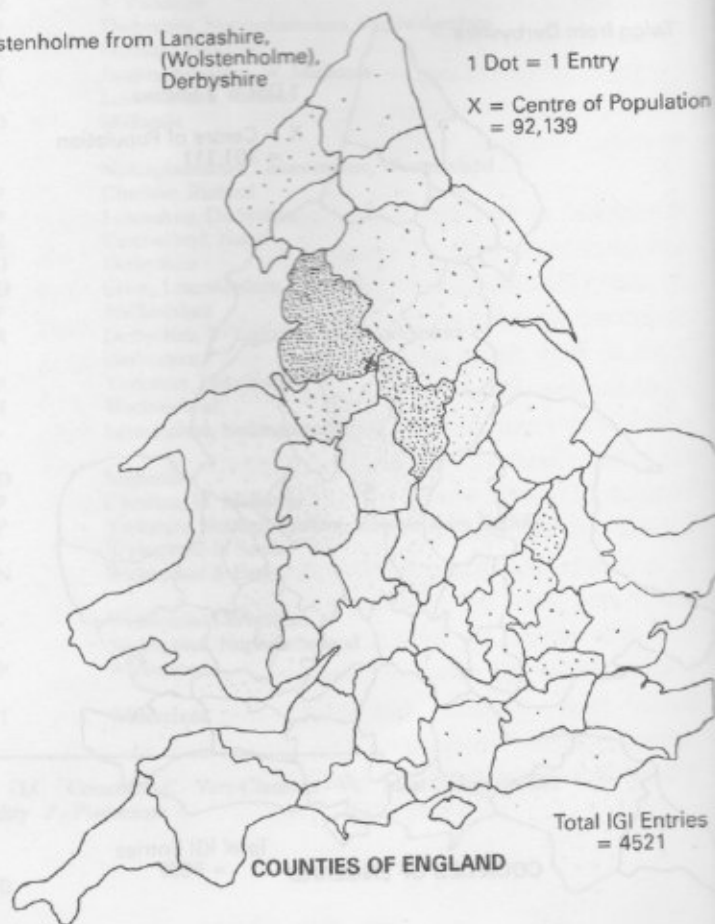


FIGURE 9 WARRINGTON
NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)

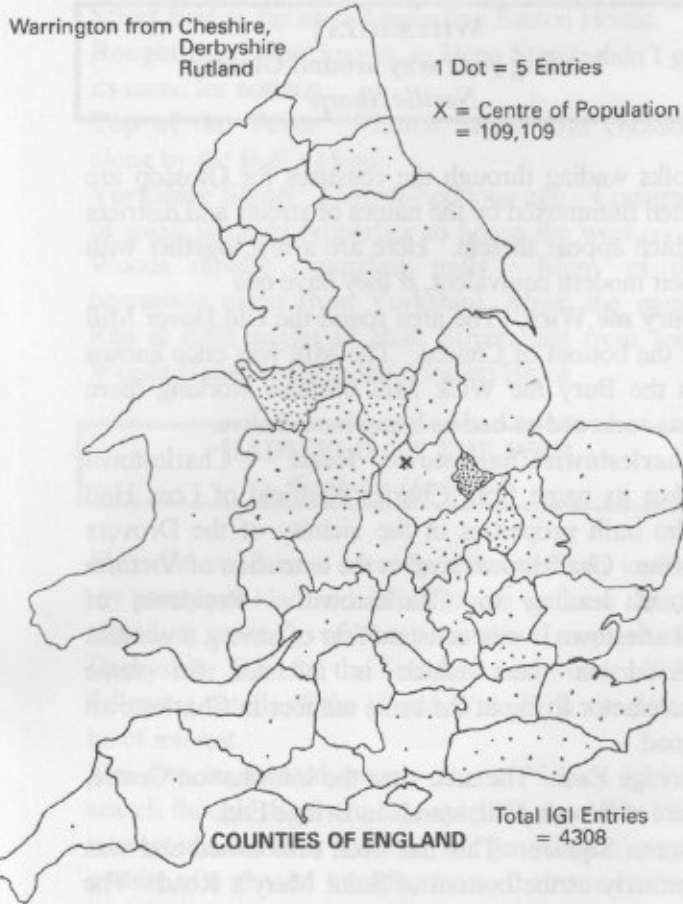


FIGURE 10 FLAVELL
NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)

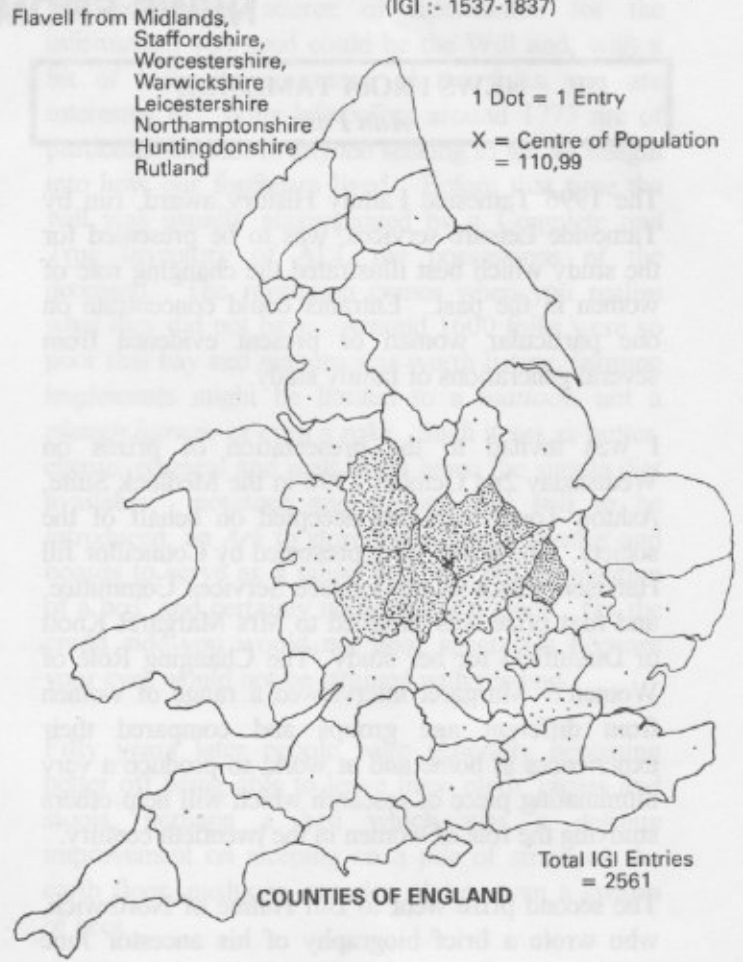


FIGURE 11 LIFFE
NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)

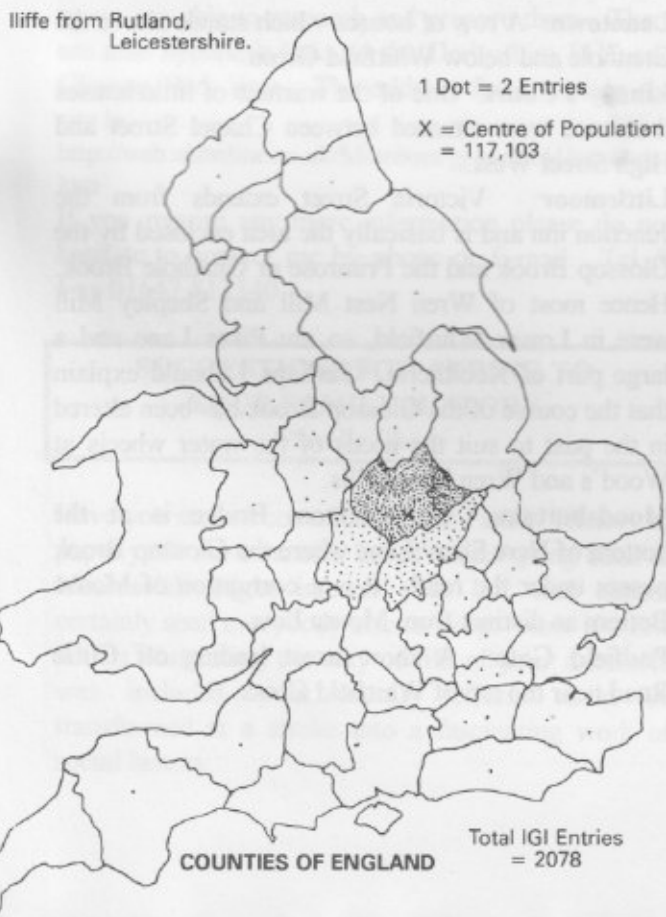
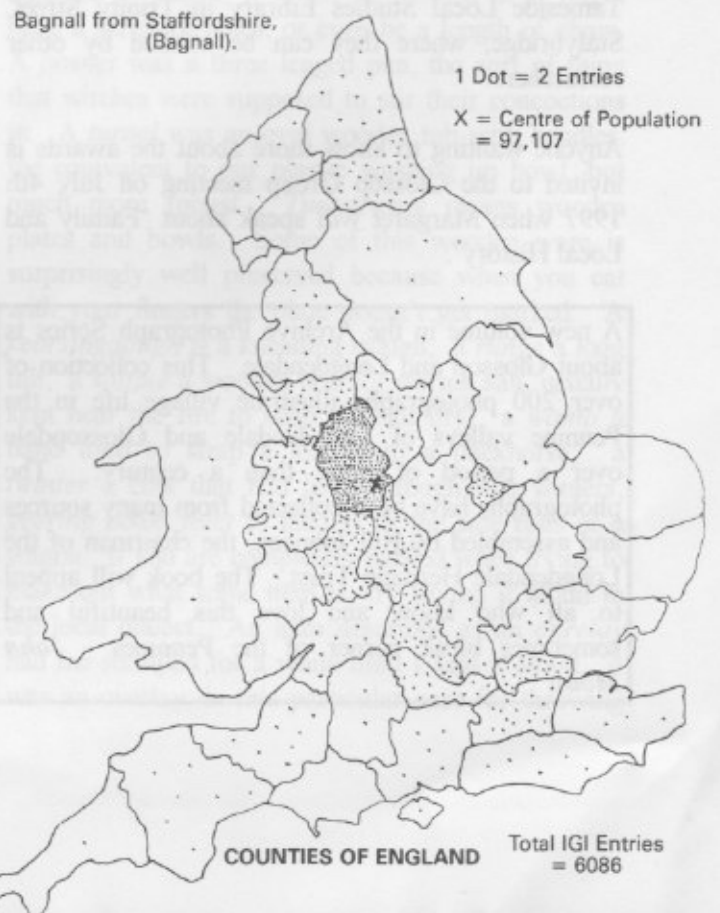


FIGURE 12 BAGNALL
NORMALISED NAME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY
 (IGI :- 1537-1837)



NEWS FROM THE NORTH

NEWS FROM TAMESIDE

Ann Pass

The 1996 Tameside Family History award, run by Tameside Leisure services, was to be presented for the study which best illustrated the changing role of women in the past. Entrants could concentrate on one particular woman or present evidence from several generations of family study.

I was invited to the presentation of prizes on Wednesday 2nd October 1996 in the Medlock Suite, Ashton Town hall, and accepted on behalf of the society. The prizes were presented by Councillor Jill Harrison, Chair of the Leisure Services Committee, and first prize was awarded to Mrs Margaret Knott of Dukinfield for her study 'The Changing Role of Women'. Margaret interviewed a range of women from different age groups and compared their experiences at home and at work, to produce a very illuminating piece of research which will help others studying the role of women in the twentieth century.

The second prize went to Bill Hulme of Northwich, who wrote a brief biography of his ancestor Jane Hasline, who came to Droylsden in the 19th century. His account is an interesting study of migration and shows the range of documents available for 19th century family history.

Both studies will be added to the collection of Tameside Local Studies Library in Trinity Street, Stalybridge, where they can be studied by other researchers.

Anyone wanting to know more about the awards is invited to the Glossop Group meeting on July 4th 1997 when Margaret will speak about 'Family and Local History'.

A new volume in the Archive Photograph Series is about Glossop and Longdendale. This collection of over 200 photographs illustrate village life in the Pennine valleys of Longdendale and Glossopdale over a period of more than a century. The photographs have been collected from many sources and assembled by Bill Johnson, the chairman of the Longdendale Heritage Trust. The book will appeal to all who know and love this beautiful and sometimes bleak corner of the Pennines - *John Moul*

WHEERIZIT

Finding your way around Glossop

Neville Sharp

Folks wading through the censuses for Glossop are often flummoxed by the names of streets and districts which appear therein. Here are a few together with their modern equivalent, if they have one.

Bury me Wick: The area round the Old Dover Mill at the bottom of Chunal. The Mill was once known as the Bury me Wick Mill because working there was reckoned as bad as being buried alive.

Charlestown/Charlestown Road: Charlestown takes its name from Charles Hadfield of Lees Hall who built properties in the vicinity of the Drovers Arms. Charlestown road is the extension of Victoria Street leading to Charlestown. Residents of Charlestown live in constant fear of having a warrant served on them which is intended for some malefactor living at the same number in Charlestown Road.

Bridge End: The area near the Information Centre, part of Woods Mill, stands in Bridge End.

Green Square: This has been demolished and was formerly at the bottom of Saint Mary's Road. The space is now the car park for an old peoples' home.

Green Vale: Part of High Street West. Wren Nest Mill and the ambulance station stand in Green Vale.

Hall Street: Manor Park Road before the council bought Manor Park. There used to be a football team called Hall Street Star.

Leantown: A row of houses which stands above the Gnathole and below Whitfield Green.

Linney's Court: One of the warrens of little houses that once were situated between Chapel Street and High Street West.

Littlemoor: Victoria Street extends from the Junction inn and is basically the area enclosed by the Glossop Brook and the Primrose or Gnathole Brook. Hence most of Wren Nest Mill and Shepley Mill were in Lower Whitfield, so are Pikes Lane and a large part of Kooltherm. Perhaps I should explain that the course of the Glossop Brook has been altered in the past to suit the needs of the water wheels at Wood's and Wren Nest Mills.

Moodsbottom: Moodsbottom Bridge is at the bottom of New Shaw Lane where the Glossop Brook passes under the road. It is a corruption of Mouse Bottom as distinct from Mouse Low.

Padfield Gate: A short street leading off Cliffe Road near the top of Whitfield Cross.

Rosegreen: A name still with us in the Rosegreen Club. Probably extended along the present High Street East as far as and including Easton House.

Roughtown: Now known as Hope Street, didn't get its name for nothing.

Top of the Town: Church Street, Old Glossop, along by the Bull's Head.

Yorkshire Street: Demolished long ago. Consisted of small terraced properties to house the workers at Woods rapidly expanding mills. Many of the operatives came from Yorkshire, hence the name. Ran at right angles to High Street East from John Woods House towards the Glossop Brook.

HADFIELD ON THE WEB

Graham Hadfield

My wife and I have recently returned from visiting my parents in Hadfield. Whilst there we were able to attend a meeting of the Glossop Group of the Derbyshire FHS for the first time and wonder if the following details of the World Wide Web site would be of interest.

The site is devoted mainly to our family history search though there are a couple of pages for Jill's interest in Civil War history. The genealogical pages consist of a general introduction to the names which interest us, photographs (ca 1875) from my own collection of Whitfield Church and Gnat Hole Mill, and individual pages for the names Bramall, Fielding, Gee, Hadfield, Platt and Robinson (most information relating to Glossop families). The intention is to add pages for more individual names as we are able to research and prepare them. There are also hypertext links to the Derbyshire FHS and Glossop Web sites. The address for accessing the site is:

<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/Members/gj.hadfield/contents.htm>

If you require any more information please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or E-mail. Tel & Fax 01642 812340.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDING TO YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Neville Sharp

Have you started committing your Family History to paper yet? An extensive list of names going back to Methuselah might interest you, but will almost certainly send everybody else to sleep. Now if a few details illustrating the way of life of your ancestors was included, your literary efforts could be transformed at a stroke into a fascinating work of social history.

One invaluable source of information for the information you need could be the Will and, with a bit of luck, the inventory of the folks you are interested in. Wills left before around 1775 are of particular interest to anyone seeking to get an insight into how our forebears lived. Before that time the will was usually accompanied by a Complete and True Inventory of ALL the possessions of the deceased. The revelation comes when you realise what they did not have. Around 1600 folks were so poor that hay and manure was worth listing, farming implements might be limited to a *mattock*, not a *plough harrow* or even a *rake*. Such items as butter, cheese, oatmeal and malt bring home the simple diet available; potatoes and turnips had still to be introduced; an *Ark* to store the oatmeal, trestles and boards to serve as a table; bedding, but no mention of a bed; and certainly no books or a clock. On the credit side you would not need spectacles because your eyes would not be strained with reading.

Fifty years later people were generally becoming better off being able to leave linen cloth, chairs and stools, perhaps a bed which was a definite improvement on sleeping on a pile of straw on the earth floor, cushions, wooden plates, even a swarm of bees.

In addition to struggling with the writing styles of a few hundred years ago, many of the items listed in an inventory are a puzzle in their own right. A *rackentree* was a device which could be fixed in the chimney to suspend pans over the fire and be adjusted in height, it might be toothed or it might have a series of holes, or even be a length of chain. A *posnet* was a three legged pan, the sort of thing that witches were supposed to stir their concoctions in. A *turnel* was an oval wooden tub with handles, the equivalent to our plastic washing up bowl, but much more robust. *Tueeneware* means wooden plates and bowls. Some of this wooden ware is surprisingly well preserved because when you eat with your fingers the plate doesn't get marked. A *keorsinghough* is a kneading trough; a *runge* a long tub; a *saltpie* a wooden box for storing salt, usually kept near the fire to keep the salt dry; a *wanto* a band used to strap a load onto a packhorse; a *twinter* a cow that had lived through two winters; *geering* could refer to ladders or the side rails of a wagon. If you are completely baffled when trying to make out what some item is, try saying it aloud in the local dialect. An item described as an *ourelay* had me stumped for a while until I said it aloud. it was an overlay, in this particular case for throwing

over the load on a packhorse. A *neger* is the local way of pronouncing an auger.

The problem arises because when an item goes out of use a generation soon grows up which has never had cause to use it. Thus another word is lost to the language. It won't be long before nobody knows what a *set-pot*, a *poss*, a *carpet beater*, or a *mangle* were. Come to that, when did you last see a coal fire? This is why languages such as the various strains of Gaelic are doomed to decline. Words are gradually being lost and new words tend to be common to the major languages. As English seems to possess the ability to absorb all other languages, it appears that eventually the whole world will speak it in some form.

DERBYSHIRE IN 1327-8

(Based on an article by Rev. J. Charles Fox)

John Moul

There is a popular misconception that the purpose of rates and taxes is to provide services for the public. True a proportion of these imposts is spent in this way, but a fair slice is siphoned off to keep politicians and other establishment groups in the style to which they have become accustomed.

In the past the situation was even worse when the whole of the sums collected went to maintain the splendor of the King's Court, or the Barons, or to pay for expeditions to France, or for a crusade, or whatever skullduggery was afoot. Some of the foregoing activities could pay off handsomely for the nobility, but did little for the country as a whole. It was probably one of the best things that ever happened for the English when they were finally kicked out of France and able to concentrate on putting their own house in order.

While all this taxation was unpopular at the time and led to such upheavals as the Peasants' Revolt, it has at least left something of value for the historian and genealogist. When the money was collected, records were kept of those taxed and some of these have been preserved and provide a valuable insight into the past.

Take, for example, the Lay Subsidy Roll for Derbyshire in 1327-8. The following is a selection from those taxed in Glossop:-

Rob de Deywysnape	Hugo de Padfield
Jurdan de Gamelesley	Hugo Brouncson
Wills Godard	Adam de Thorp

Wills del Bothe	Wills de Holberode
Johes de Merpell	Rob del Heth
Wills Waynsulofwoll	Wills Aumson
Wills fil Rog	Ric fil Wills

Several things stand out straight away; for a start very few have a surname as we would understand it today; secondly, many take their name from where they come from; thirdly, there is not a single surname based on a trade or occupation which suggests that Glossop was not very prosperous in 1327; and finally that names like Goddard, Thorp and Booth have been in the area for well over 600 years and probably longer. Incidentally Dewsnap was once only known in the Peak and probably takes its name from the farm of that name. The absence of a name does not mean that it did not exist at the time. The Subsidy Roll only lists those who were wealthy enough to be taxed.

Quite a few folks were referred to as "son of" but surnames such as Williamson and Richardson still had not appeared. Don't be thrown by the Norman French, ordinary folk spoke English. This sort of thing went on until the 19th century when you will even find births listed as "de workhouse".

The list for the rest of Derbyshire gives plenty of trade names such as Baker, Barber, Brewer, Chapman, Fowler, Mason, Salter etc. Another point of interest which emerges is the frequency of Christian names. The commonest was William, closely followed by John with the next being Robert, Henry, Thomas and Richard. Few women were listed, but Alice, Agnes, Margaret and Matilda were commonest.



KILL OR CURE

*A fine Recieps for the Hooping Cough
Take six penny worth of Rum and
one penny worth of spirits of
Turpentine. Shake them well
together and rub the child's back
from the Neck to the Chine by the fire
Night and morning, in a few days
the Cough will be cured.*

*(Taken from the Chesterfield Register at the
beginning of 1711)*

As a child my mother used to tell me of visits to the Derwent Valley and how she used to love being in the country. I suppose it would seem very quiet, considering she lived in the heart of Manchester. I remember how she told me that her father (Robert John Walker) came from farming people and that the farm was called Fairholmes Farm.

My mother died 17 years ago and I have only just taken an interest in trying to trace my ancestors.

A few months ago, before my son was married, he offered to take me to Derbyshire. I wasn't quite sure what we were looking for. I think on my son's part, with the very dry summer we were having, he was hoping to be able to see the steeple of Derwent church - little did he realise that this was blown up years ago. Anyway we left Poulton-le-Fylde on a Sunday morning deciding to stop on the way and have a bite to eat.

Eventually we reached Derbyshire and we just drove on and on. At this stage I was getting rather hungry, amongst other things, so we decided to stop at this inn. It was called the Snake Inn and I suddenly remembered seeing this on the 1891 census.

While we waiting to be served my son was having a good look round. Suddenly he beckoned me over and drew my attention to a map which gave the name, Fairholmes. Unable to believe it, I asked the manager if he could direct us to Fairholmes. His reply was 'just round the corner', so off we set down a lane signposted Derwent Valley to find three car parks and a signpost with Fairholmes written on it. I never knew this was a tourist attraction. Anyway I found the information centre and asked the lady who was selling books where the name Fairholmes came from. Oh yes, she said, it was named after a farm. By this time I was so excited I just couldn't believe what I was hearing.

The next step was to talk to the ranger, who was very interested when I told him that my grandfather lived at Fairholmes. He took me into his office and showed me a photograph on the wall and, guess what, there was Fairholmes Farm. He also took me to the shop and pointed out some books which he thought might be of interest to me. In the end I purchased about £20 worth, only paperbacks but I couldn't wait to get home and start to read them.

We finished the day at Bamford, Hathersage and Hope churches looking for gravestones with the names Walker and Thorpe inscribed on them, even if it was raining. My son went one way and I went the other. I managed to locate my great grandparents and their families, what a wonderful feeling.

When I did arrive home I started to look through the books I had purchased. There were quite a few photographs, mostly of the workers building the dams. I then spotted a wedding group and I was looking at their faces, especially one who I think was the best man and who seemed vaguely familiar to me. I suddenly realised that there was a strong resemblance to my grandfather, Robert John Walker. Puzzle, how did I find what this gentleman was called?

The name of the author was Vic Hallam and I knew he had been brought up in Bamford because he mentioned that in one of his books, but how did I contact him? Eventually I rang directory enquiries to see how many Hallams were listed in Bamford and fortunately for me there were only two. I contacted the first one and there I was, talking to the author Vic Hallam. I told him about my trip and the photograph in one of his books.

He told me that he had all the names of the people in that photograph but could I give him a ring in

another week as he was rather busy and it would take some time to locate them. I gave him a week and rang again and he seemed to think it could be George Walker. Well, he certainly got the name right so it could either be my great-grandfather or my great uncle. He did promise me that he would contact me with further information, but I have not yet heard from him. Disappointing really, because he obviously has a lot of knowledge. One thing he did mention was that there was a Harry Walker who was a professional golfer and who would probably be my grandfather's brother.

And that is how I became very interested in the Derwent Valley.

Dorothy Whitelaw

*56 Whiteholme Drive, Carlton, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs FY6 7PP
Member No. 4204*



HELP!!!

We are in need of someone to do the bookstall at Shirland. This is not a complicated task, but unless we have a volunteer or two we shall no longer be able to have the bookstall at our meetings. If you would like to help please contact anyone on the Committee or myself at the Shirland meetings.

Sylvia Wright

HENRY TRAVERS - A CRIMEAN HERO

Sometime between the years 1783 and 1787 John Travers and wife, Hannah, travelled the road from Liverpool to live and work in John Thacker's cotton mill at Wilne. The parish registers of Wilne noted them *coten peple*.

John and Hannah had a grandson, James who married Mary Green. James son, Henry, wrote about his life and from which most of the following is taken. A pamphlet entitled *The Life of a Crimean Hero* was also published by W. Parkin, Printer and Bookbinder of Sheffield.

Henry Travers *first saw daylight* on April 5, 1837 in Wilne Mills itself and was christened in St. Chad's, Wilne a month later. He was brought up very *tendly* until he reached school age when James, his father, *run away from home* due to pressures of feeding his large family on the low wage of a millhand. During the time of his father's absence Henry admitted to *getting the upper hand* of his mother and played truant from school whenever he could *get the opportunity*. James eventually sent for his wife and family to go to *Lescister* where he had gained employment on the railway; this work was *plentyfull all over england*.

The Travers later moved back to Wilne while James went to Wharncliffe Side in Yorkshire in search of work where he again found employment on the railway. The family moved to Sheffield where they *did very well* until James took to being a *freequant visitor* to both *public and sporting houses*. James went on to work in Huddersfield but continued to drink and gamble. One day whilst attending two dog fights he got soaked to the skin which laid him up in his lodgings for thirteen weeks; the doctor's bill amounted to *15 or 16 pound*. Despite his illness James managed to return to his family in Sheffield but was then sent to the Infirmary where he stayed for *13 or 14 weeks* but *got no better*; he had to come out worse than when he went in. The doctors ordered him to go into the country for *benefitt of his health, as Sheffield was such a very black place*.

James returned to Wilne and cost Henry's grandfather, William, *the good old man*, a great deal of money. James was admitted to Derby Infirmary *because he could not think of stoping and puting on good nature any longer*, but it did him no good *except to make him very religious*.

Upon his discharge James went back to Sheffield and had to suffer the indignity of applying for parish relief for his wife and five children as none of them were *biger enough to do anything*. Henry records that they were the first in the Travers family to do this. James carried on this *disstracked* life until August 5, 1850 when he *closed his eyes to open no more* and was buried at St. George's, Sheffield. On his death bed James said *he could leave this world a deal happier only for his son henry which he had a grate dought on me turning out to be very wilde*. James's last words were very true for Henry turned *very wild* and was a sore trial to his mother and although throughout his life Henry was to recall his father's last words it was usually after the deed was done, not before.

Henry took to running away from work, staying out all night, sleeping in brick kilns and coke ovens, gambling on Sundays, playing *domenoes and Backattill* and generally mixing with

bad company. He had various brushes with the Sheffield arm of the law and on one occasion was put into solitary confinement in the town hall for 96 hours. On release he promised to do better but only managed to walk the straight and narrow for a fortnight after which he *became worse than ever*.

By the time Henry was sixteen he was in prison and even there managed to get into further trouble, spending 68 hours in *the dark hole* on bread and water for a misdemeanour. Henry's sentence was one month's imprisonment and he soon noticed that prisoners with longer sentences received more to eat. For various terms they had different coloured numbers on their *Jackits* so enterprising Henry changed the colour of his number to enable him to obtain more food. He escaped detection for five days but when discovered, was put in *irions* for 48 hours. Upon completion of his sentence Henry was given 6d for his return to Sheffield which was twenty four miles distant from the prison. At his return his mother promised if he was a *good lad* she would do anything for him. Henry was *very stedly* for a while but was soon again in bad company and dodging the law.

Inevitably Henry's home became broke up; his mother was homeless and he had to go into lodgings which were not to his liking. Trade had deteriorated in Sheffield and Henry could stand it no longer and was ashamed. To get out of the way he enlisted as a private in the 18th Royal Irish Regiment of Foot. Seeing his mother weep when saying goodbye to him on Sheffield Railway Station, Henry was very repentant and touched to the very hart.

Disillusionment set in when Henry found, after paying for his kit, cleaning things and ale for other soldiers, he had but 13s 1d left from his enlistment bounty of £5. Since pay was only 4d a day he soon had no money to send to his mother whom he had left in a *very destuted state*.

Trouble was never far behind; Henry's sins ranged from being absent without leave, to refusing duty. The many punishments he underwent included 14 days pack drill, 168 days in cells on bread and water, 28 days confined to barracks and three days pay forfeited.

In 1854 Great Britain was at war in the Crimea and Henry's regiment was ordered to hold itself in *redderness*. On the very day of Henry's 18th birthday they embarked from Liverpool aboard the ship 'Alma' which took them to Portsmouth. After staying in barracks for five days the regiment sailed on board Brunel's steamship *grate britten* for the long journey to the Crimea. Upon reaching Malta, although Henry liked it very much, as rum, gin, brandy, tobacco and all other things were *cheap*, he *stayed out in this strange country* and was promptly court martialled and given 28 days imprisonment. *This I did not like for Malta is to hot for men undergoing imprisonment*.

Eventually the regiment was sent to Constantinople, then on to the Crimea and up to the front *to do duty in the trenches*. Even on active service Henry got into hot water by refusing to assist a sapper corporal fix some *gabeans*. Henry, however, re-deemed himself on 18th June, 1853 when he saved his captain's life who had been engaged in hand to hand fighting with a Russian officer.

A short while later Henry was wounded in the leg by a musket ball which remained embedded for nine days. Henry was taken to hospital to have the ball removed and found that the captain, whose life he had saved, was also there. The officer gave Henry something very nice to eat and made him a present of 2 pounds.

Shortly after his discharge from hospital Henry was once again before a court martial for being absent without leave in the French lines and was sentenced to fifty lashes and twenty eight days imprisonment. During this period his time was spent picking up shot and pack drill. On his release he was sent back to the trenches where the appalling conditions made his leg break out again. Nevertheless Henry was able to take part in the siege of *Sebastopol* and remained there until the town fell. Afterwards he was compelled to go to hospital for a short while and then was sent to Smyer in Greece where he spent five weeks convalescing. The head doctor said that Henry was to come home to old England and he embarked on the ship 'Carnadona'. On the voyage home he was *shipracked* in the Bay of Biscay but after a most hard and most dangrous passage Henry arrived back in England on January 6, 1856.

Henry spent his sick leave with mother in Sheffield. Obtaining a further extension of 30 days leave from a Doctor Durant, Henry took a trip over to Wilne Mills and Draycott to visit his grandfather and the rest of my relations, no doubt regaling them with tales of his bravery in the Crimea.

Upon Henry's return to the Preston depot he was immediately inprisoned in the guardroom for being a *dissarter*. Although he had a note from Dr. Durant, Henry was sentenced to fourteen days pack drill but he *objacked* and claimed a court marshall. Luckily Dr. Durant had forwarded a note to the regimental doctor so this time Henry was exonerated and put on light duties. After General Sir Harry Smith had made his half yearly inspection Henry was sent to Chatham where he was discharged in December, 1856, with 6d a day pension for nine months.

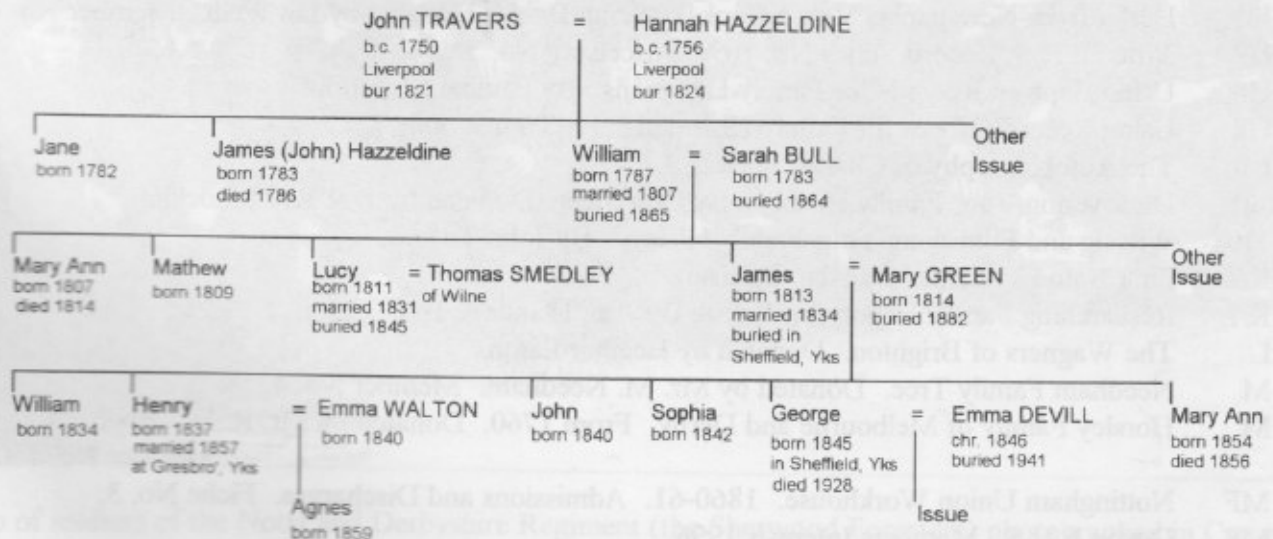
On Henry's return to Sheffield he had a bit of a sprress and then began to work and did very well getting some godd clouths to where and every thing else I wanted. Henry was soon courting and kept to the straight and narrow and says these was the happiest day I ever had in my life. At Greasbro', eight miles from Sheffield, on June 2, 1857, he married his sweetheart, Emma Walton. Marriage did not change Henry and for the rest of his life was constantly in and out of trouble. He would leave his wife for long periods tramping the countryside looking for work and in turn tried his hand at labouring in Rotherham, striking in Chesterfield and brick laying in Derby. He ventured up to London where he did the best I could for five weeks.

Henry usually called upon his relatives in Wilne and the neighbourhood before returning to his long suffering wife in Sheffield. A daughter, Agnes, was born in February 1859, but this still did not settle Henry who soon had some more trouble. As work was scarce Henry joined the 2nd West York Militia Corps becoming corporal on account of his Crimean experience. Of course he soon lost his stripe and the good opinion of my officer through misconduct. After discharge at York Henry was off once again on his travels, once walking from Sheffield to New Radford, a distance of forty miles, in ten hours. Henry tramped the counties looking for work, even going as far south as Kent. By this time Henry was desperate so he transferred from the 2nd West York Militia Corps to the West York Rifles and was back in uniform once more and heading towards Edinburgh and more TROUBLE.....



First published in my booklet: *Local Miscellany II* and appears here with amendments

Sandra Stock - Member 125



RESEARCH CENTRE NEWS

The time has come for us to say good-bye as we are relinquishing the position of librarians at the AGM. on April 12th, but the good news is that we are handing over the reins into the capable hands of Lorraine Allen and Helen Betteridge. We have thoroughly enjoyed our 5 years as librarians, meeting visitors, cataloguing the contents and being the first people to view all the interesting items which come into the library, and we are only leaving because personal commitments have made it difficult for us to get into Derby as often as we would like. The work has been made very much easier for us by all the assistance we have received from the volunteers who have generously given their time and effort to help with the work, and we know you will all continue to give this assistance to the new librarians so that the library will go from strength to strength.

New acquisitions received over the past three months include the following:-

REF.

- A Brassington Parish Register. Baptisms 1813-1906.
- A Derby Friends Meeting House (Quakers). Burials. Single Sheet.
- A Morley and Smalley. Notes on the Registers. 1540-1785.
- B Mickleover, All Saints Memorial Inscriptions and War Memorial.
- B Woodville Methodist Memorial Inscriptions and War Memorial.
- B Derby, Boulton St Mary Memorial Inscriptions and War Memorial.
- C Ockbrook. 1821 Census. Donated by P. J. Campos. Member No. 3930.
- C 1851 Census Name Index. Volume 9:3. Derby, St. Peter's (St Werburgh's Parish).
- D8 Allestree. The Village Remembered.
- D12b Picture Sources in the U. K. Donated by Ken Miller.
- D12b The Way You Were. Donated by John Swan.
- D13 4500 Derbyshire Names from Parish Records of Wirksworth. 1608-1701. Donated by J. C. Palmer
Member No. 3934.
- D16 The British Army. History, Tradition and Records.
- D17 Clogs and Clogmaking. By Jeremy Atkinson.
- D17 R. B. MacMillan Ltd, Derby. Golden Jubilee. 1906-1956. Donated by Mr. & Mrs. A Chambers.
Member No. 3112.
- E Derby from Newspapers Vol. 1 Book 3. Scrap Book. Donated by Ian Wells. Member No. 1966.
- H2 Notts. F.H.S. Record Series No. 107. Miscellany No. 5.
- H8 Using Baptism Records for Family Historians. By Pauline M. Litton.
- H8 Using Record Offices for Family Historians. By Tom Wood.
- I The Autobiography of Charles Forte.
- J21 Discovering Your Family History. By Don Steel. Donated by J. & R. McLocklin.
- J30 Writing and Publishing Your Family History. By John Titford.
- K/L First Name Variants. By Alan Bardsley.
- K/L Researching Family History in Wales. By Jean Istance & E. E. Cann.
- L The Wagners of Brighton. Donated by Heather Eaton.
- M Needham Family Tree. Donated by Mr. M. Needham. Member No. 4258.
- M Horsley Family of Melbourne and Derby. From 1760. Donated by Mr. R. H. Osborne.
Member No. 1505.
- MF Nottingham Union Workhouse. 1860-61. Admissions and Discharges. Fiche No. 3.
- MF Devon F.H.S. Members Interests 1996.
- MF Northampton F.H.S. Members Interests 1996.

MF Eckington Court Rolls 1694-1804. With Index.
DWR Map of Ireland. 9 Miles to 1 inch. Donated by John Swan.

The index on microfiche for the following piece nos. for the 1891 census are now in the library.

RG12/2195	366 Uttoxeter	3 Sudbury	3512 entries.
RG12/2197	367 Burton	2 Repton	7043 entries
RG12/2649	429 Mansfield	2 Pleasley	4787 entries
RG12/2754	438 Ashbourne	4 Calton	2866 entries
RG12/2756	438 Ashbourne	6 Brassington	4356 entries
RG12/2773	440 Bakewell	1a Bakewell	5899 entries

Iris and Janet Salt.

WARTIME DERBYSHIRE



A group of soldiers of the Notts and Derbyshire Regiment (the Sherwood Foresters) photographed in Cravells Road where they were billeted in 1914. At the outbreak of war, over 4,000 men were stationed in Harpenden.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE GUNPOWDER MILLS OF FERNILEE

By Joyce Winfield

This is a fascinating book telling a story of ordinary people with an unusual occupation in a remote Derbyshire valley. It was, in most respects, an ideal location since a Parliamentary Report stated that *"The factory is situated in the valley of the River Goyt, about three miles from Whaley Bridge and six from Buxton. The little village of Fernilee is about a mile away. The river here flows between steep banks at the foot of which the various buildings of the factory stand, and which by these buildings are screened from neighbouring houses and highways."*

Thomas Williamson, a millwright of Grappenhall near Runcorn in Cheshire first applied for a licence to produce gunpowder in the valley in 1801. From then onwards a vivid picture is drawn in the book of the workmen, buildings and history of the gunpowder mills and of the land surrounding the site. Some families who worked in this dangerous trade came from as far afield as Scotland, Surrey and Sussex to join the more local employees.

There are, of course, harrowing chapters on the inevitable accidents and heroic stories of help rendered. In 1909 there was a terrific explosion *"Machinery was twisted into all shapes and huge beams splintered, the walls of the cottage fallen. Pieces of iron and wood have been thrown high into the hills and one piece of machinery weighing well over a ton was flung into the water."* It was a scene of utter devastation. *"A man getting water from the river had ignored his own injuries and cycled to fetch help"* and whilst all this was happening the company's fire brigade was playing water on adjoining powder magazines because another explosion would have meant further loss of life. As it was three young men had died.

The book brings the story more up to date by telling how Stockport Water Board built Fernilee Reservoir in 1937, obliterating all traces of the mills and demolishing several farms. Some of the farmers stayed as the water was rising around the farmhouses and moved very reluctantly leaving animals grazing in the fields.

Material has been gathered from Coroners' Inquests, H.M. Explosives Inspectors' Annual Returns and Special Reports, newspaper accounts and oral

history from the memories of people willing to talk. Illustrations include copies of original documents, photographs, drawings and a map, making an entertaining and readable history.

Writing the book about the Gunpowder Mills has shown Joyce the impact the accidents had on the people for miles around and the effect of the closure after one hundred and twenty years. Seventy years have passed since then and Joyce says *"Soon there will be no-one left to remind us that it ever existed"*. It is a reminder to us all to record historical information immediately.

Available from the author Joyce Winfield, 21 New Road, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, Derbyshire SK23 1JG at a cost of £4.99 plus 77p post and packing.

Maureen Newton, 64 Bestwood Road, Hucknall, Nottingham NG15 7PG (Mem. No. 1623)

ECKINGTON MANOR COURT ROLLS

by H. J. H. Garratt

There are few richer sources than manorial court rolls, when they exist, and those of Eckington are particularly lucky to have survived the ravages of time. Indeed the collection begins around 1350 and is so comprehensive that this first volume will eventually be the fifth of five, each devoted to one century. This volume covers the years 1694-1804 and contains an enormous amount of information. Most of the court records are housed at Renishaw Hall, the ancestral home of the Sitwell family, but there are also abstracts of court records held at the Sheffield City Archives.

Mr Garratt has managed to make available the kernel of these records, stripped of most of the repetitious legal language, and put into a form for anyone to understand. The records are full of names, luckily with a comprehensive index, so that one can perhaps find an ancestor surrendering some land or appearing in front of the steward - hopefully as some kind of witness rather than the one on the wrong side of the law.

Records which would take weeks to decipher are now beautifully set out on microfiche, translated into English and ready to use. It has no doubt been a long haul for Mr Garratt, but I am sure there will be many ancestor hunters very grateful for his efforts.

See centre booklist for details on how to obtain your copy from the Society.

Postal Searches of Derbyshire Indexes

Although we have always tried to answer members queries in the past, our previous Reference Library at Alfreton was not ideally suited to the task, and when the Society moved into our new headquarters at Bridge Chapel House, in Derby the Executive Committee felt that it could at last offer a better enquiry service to our members. Most of the queries we get have been for similar types of information, but often the information required has to be sifted out of letters which run into several pages, so we have tried to simplify the task for our volunteers, hence the form overleaf. We believe that if you use this format, then it will help us to give you an answer much quicker. The other major policy change is that we have now decided to make a nominal charge for the research, as is done in many other F.H.Societies. This will be a valuable source of income which we hope will allow us to eventually make the Library self - sufficient, and enable us to purchase more indexes to assist our members. **Please** use the form provided, if you do not wish to damage your magazine, you may photocopy it. All queries **MUST** be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, at least large enough to take a folded A4 sheet. **Return the form to Bridge Chapel House, St.Mary's Bridge, Sowter Rd, Derby**

An essential tool for anyone considering using our postal search facilities, or coming along to do their own research, is the **Library Contents Book**. This gives information about exactly what we have at Bridge Chapel house, and, for instance, will let you see exactly which parishes we hold transcripts for, in addition, it lists the numerous books, charts, family trees & Memorial Inscriptions, etc. that we have available for your use. At the moment we are out of stock, but a new edition is shortly to be published, and as soon as it is available, it will appear on the publications list in your the magazine.

ABOUT THE INDEXES

Baptisms, Burials & Marriages.

We have a surname index for some, but not all parishes in **Derbyshire**, so the **Surname** is the most important information you must give us. This is referenced to transcripts held at the Society Library, which are listed in Parish order and therefore, if the **Parish** of interest is also known, this can help eliminate incorrect people from the enquiry. Always include the **approximate dates** if you can, or if not an **approximate age**, since this also cuts down the searching time.

Memorial Inscriptions

Again, our M.I.Index is based on a Surname Index. If your ancestor is found we will give you the full transcription of the headstone or memorial, and these often contain much valuable biographical information. Please add **Parish** of burial if known.

IGI

We can search the IGI for your surname but if there are more than 20 occurrences, we will write down those first 20 and send them to you, and inform you how many more there are. If you want those too, you will be asked to pay a further £1 for up to 20 records listed.

Census

We can search the 1851 & 1891 Census for **Derbyshire** for you, and the 1881 census for the whole of England and Wales, If we find the person you require, we will send you all the details of the household, so that you will be able to establish if the person is the one you seek. If your person is a servant or lodger, we will give the head of the household too.

All research is carried out in good faith, and whilst we will make every effort to provide you with accurate information, the Society cannot be held responsible for any mistakes made in transcription. Sometimes we may not find any information for you, in which case since the search has been carried out, the fee will not be re-funded, but if we have no records for the Parish you require searching, we will return the fee to you. Other than the IGI & the 1881 census, our indexes relate only to Derbyshire.

GENEALOGIST'S PRAYER

Dear Lord. Thank You for the many blessings bestowed upon me. Including those precedent ancestors who made it possible for me to follow after - To live, to love and enjoy this wonderful world. And Thank You for the curiosity that prompts this probing Pinnochio nose to poke into statistics and records, which if the people were living would be none of my business.

Dear Lord. I ask that you will guide my questing probiscus into appropriate channels, that I may amass the facts and figures to foliate my family tree. To better understand and appreciate our lineal heritage and history. Bar me from being a bore when the unwitting ask about my intriguing hobby.

Give me the patience of Job, Lord, to withstand the frustration of barren research and to continue my sleuthing through detour and empty cul-de-sac. Let me be properly indignant at those who have reached too far and included names for the prestige factor on insufficient evidence.

('Tis said Royal blood is often anemic!)

In my search, lead me not into pathways of unproductive peeking and poking as I continue (pardon the expression) "to dig up" ancestors for my opus of origin - honor my desire to know. As divinely and retroactively as possible, make my ancestral tree free from horse thieves, con men, and other assorted scoundrels, so that I am not skulduggery's offspring.

In my seeking as I wander among Stonehenge Cemetery rows, toward the granite marker which will bear my name and year of demise, grant me time to finish my search, one hundred years such as old Lawrence Copeland enjoyed will suffice if you can manage.

Is that too much to request for one wide-eyed and curious about heretofore?

For myself and every fellow genealogist, Dear Lord, I ask it all.

Sid Russell

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

DERBY: BRIDGE CHAPEL HOUSE, SOWTER ROAD, DERBY. Wednesday meetings at 7.30 pm

Mar 12th	Workshop Evening	
Apr 9th	Games and Pastimes	Maureen Newton
Apr 12th	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/OPEN DAY	BRIDGE CHAPEL HOUSE
May 14th	Happy Hunting Ground	Ruth Gordon
June 11th	English Civil War and Derbyshire	Brian Stone
Jul 9th	The Russian Coachman	Eileen Beech
Aug 13th	Grandmother's Attic	Margaret Morgan
Sept 10th	The Babington Plot	Ruth Pechey
Oct 8th	The Transformation of a Valley	Neville and Brian Cooper
Nov 12th	Workshop Evening	
Dec 10th	Christmas Social Evening	

GLOSSOP: BRADBURY COMMUNITY HOUSE, MARKET ST. Friday meetings at 7.30 pm

Mar 7th	Camera as Historian	Chris Makepeace
Apr 4th	Work at the Society of Genealogy and Heraldry	Roger Trunkfield
May 2nd	Parish Government and Village Officials	Mrs K. M. Batte
June 6th	Hills and Dales of Derbyshire	John Morten
Jul 5th	Local and Family History	Mrs Margaret Knott
Aug 1st	Follow Up - Pioneer Families from High Peak to the U.S.A.	Geoffrey Tymington
Sept 5th	Project Evening	
Oct 3rd	Matches and Dispatches	Mr F.T.B. Loader
Nov 7th	The 17th Century Family	John Smith
Dec 6th	Grandma's Christmas Show	Mr B. Davis

SHIRLAND: COMMUNITY HALL Friday meetings at 7.30 pm

Mar 21st	Members Evening	
Apr 18th	The British Music Hall	Mrs Pauline Green
May 16th	Derbyshire in the Civil War	Brian Stone
Jun 20th	Everyday Life in the 18th and 19th Centuries	Bruce Townsend
Jul 18th	Civil Registration	Mrs Madge Harlow
Aug 15th	Workshop Evening	
Sept 19th	Bolsover - A Surprising Place	Bernard Haigh
Nov 21st	The East Midlands in the Dark Ages	Keith and Shirley Thomas
Dec 12th	Christmas Social Evening	John R. Hughes

Any articles for possible inclusion in ISSUE NO. 81 to be with the Editor by 10th April 1997

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