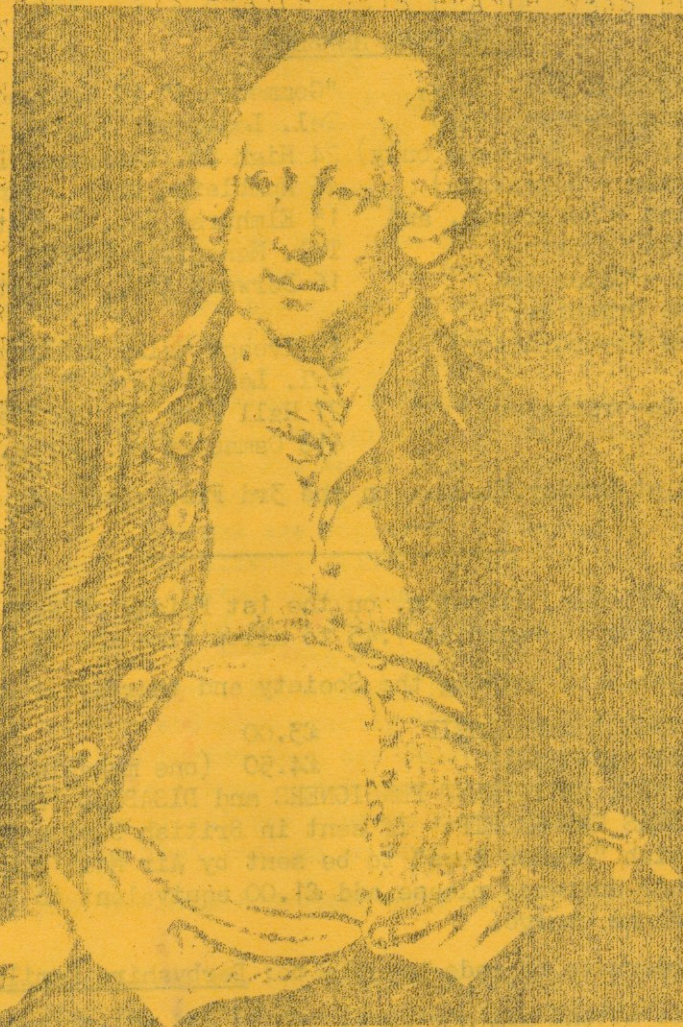


DERBYSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY



DECEMBER

1982

BRANCH NEWS

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DERBYSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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Committee Meetings: Held at Cressy Fields, on the 3rd Friday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

MEETINGS: Held at Cressy Fields, Alfreton, on the 1st Friday of each month (except July and August) at 7.30 p.m. Speaker to begin at 7.45 to allow time for returning magazines etc.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Become payable on joining the Society and thereafter annually on January 1st.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP £3.00
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP £4.50 (one magazine to one address)
STUDENTS, RETIREMENT PENSIONERS and DISABLED PERSONS £2.00
OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIP: If sent in British Currency or Bankers Draft in

London - £4.00; If you wish "Branch News" to be sent by Air Mail please add £1.00 extra. If sent in dollars or other currency please add £1.00 equivalent to your above specified amount, for currency exchange charge.

All cheques and postal orders to be made payable to: Derbyshire Family History Society.

MEMBERSHIP entitles you to attend all meetings, visits and activities of the Society. Receive a copy of each quarterly magazine issued by the Society. Use all the facilities of the Society provided for its members, together with any external facilities the Committee may arrange. Members may introduce non-members to meetings and be accompanied by friends on any visits organised by the Committee.

"WHAT IS CRESSY FIELDS?" several members have asked. It is the Derbyshire County Council Home for Disabled People, where, thanks to the good offices of our first Chairman, Ken Davis, himself disabled, we have been able to hold our meetings ever since the inauguration of the Society.

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARIES: It is up to you to contact your Correspondence Secretary if you need any help or advice. They will do their best to help you from the information we have available in our Reference Section. Please remember that they are voluntary helpers and this is as much a hobby to them as it is to you. Do not forget that all important stamped and addressed envelope.

QUERIES: Members may place a query under HELP WANTED free of charge.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Members and non-members may place an advertisement in "Branch News" at the rate of 50p per line (85 characters per line). Frame 50p extra.

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EDITORIAL

"They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old". Each November, time is set aside when we especially remember those who gave their lives for their country in time of war. In War Cemeteries abroad, headstones mark the graves of many of these men and women. The names of those who have no known grave are inscribed on large memorials. I advise anyone searching for details of members of the armed forces killed in both World Wars to write to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, 2, Marlow Rd. Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7DX. The Commission was established in 1917 to mark and maintain war graves, to build memorials to those missing and to keep registers, including after the 2nd World War, a record of the Civilian War Dead. After reading an article in another Society's magazine about the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme on which 72,073 names are engraved, I decided to write to the Commission to ask if the name of my gr. uncle Tom Allsop, killed in the 2nd battle of the Somme and who I understood had no known grave, was listed among the names on the memorial. The reply that I received surprised the family. It stated that "Gunner Tom Allsop 95877 "O" Battery, 223rd Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, died on the 19th October 1917, aged 25, and is buried in Row E, Grave number 3 in Hospital Farm Cemetery, Elverdinge, Belgium". The letter went on to give me his parent's names and home address and also exactly where to find the cemetery should I wish to visit it. The fact that Tom was buried in a War Cemetery was not known by the family still living. The rest of the information I knew, as I have a memorial card and the bronze plaque which was presented to next of kin of all who died in World War I. It is a sad thought that my gr. grandparents died believing that Tom had no known grave.

A book entitled "World War One Army Ancestry" will shortly be available at the Society's Book Stall.

It is most encouraging to hear of the contacts made through the Society. Within a month of "Branch News" being published Mr. C. Goodwin had received a letter from a member in Australia who had read in my Editorial of Mr. Goodwin's interest in the Midland Railway, he too, is tracing the name Goodwin! Don't sit back and wait for someone to contact you first, pluck up the courage to write to that someone who has similar interests in name and place to you, or send in a "Help Wanted".

Finally, I thank all those members and friends who have contributed articles for the magazine and also information for the Reference Library. In particular I should like to thank Miss Helen Cotton (memb no. 301) for her contribution to the Society's library of her booklet on her family history, "The Ancestors and Forebears of Thos. and Nan Cotton of Ballarat, Austr".

All Good Wishes for Christmas & The New Year.
W.E.W.

PUBLICITY POSTER: Our membership is growing - we aim to increase it. You can help us by taking the enclosed poster to be displayed in your local Library, Record office, Museum, Education Centre etc. Most of these places are only too willing to display these.
Many Thanks, Pauline.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS: PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATES. THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH.
December Meeting January 7th 1983 - Members' Social Evening.
February 4th - Mr D. Palgrave, past Editor of The Federation's Magazine, Family History News & Digest - "Presentation & Publishing of Family History Research"
March 4th - Mr D. Marcomb - Wills and Inventories.

