



DERBYSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: THE RT. REV. CYRIL BOWLES, BISHOP OF DERBY.

HON. SECRETARY

MRS. P. MARPLES,  
15, ELMHURST ROAD,  
FOREST TOWN,  
MANSFIELD, NOTTS.  
TEL. MANSFIELD 641838

CHAIRMAN & EDITOR

MRS. W.E. WATERALL,  
86, HIGH STREET,  
LOSCOE,  
DERBYS. DE7 7LP

HON. TREASURER

MR. M.K. SPENCER,  
2, FARM CLOSE,  
SOMERCOTES, DERBYS.  
TEL. LEABROOKS 605784  
or 602369

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MRS. D. GENT (Membership Sec. U.K. only, "Gommecourt" 17 Newlands Drive, Riddings, Derbys.  
and Interests Co-ordinator) Tel. Leabrooks 605177 DE55 4EL

MR. G. SMITH (Membership Sec. Overseas only) 24 High St. Alfreton, Derbys. DE5 7BN.

MR. I. MANIFOLD (Librarian - Magazines) 46 Humbleton Drive, Kingsway, Derby.

MR. M. MARPLES (Librarian - Reference, and  
Abstracts Collator) 15 Elmhurst Rd. Forest Town, Mansfield, Notts.

MR. M. PRATT (Librarian - Sales and  
Programme Organiser) 16 Derwent Ave. Allestree, Derby.

MRS. M. STUMBLES (Strays Co-ordinator) 13 Iveagh Walk, Riddings, Derbys.  
Tel. Leabrooks 606513.

MRS. E. EATON (Projects Co-ordinator) 27 Hall Farm Rd. Duffield, Derbys. DE6 4FS.

MISS E. BARDILL 418 Osmaston Rd. Derby

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

I have recently informed the committee that I shall not be seeking re-election as chairman of the Society at the A.G.M. although I am willing to continue as a committee member and as Editor of "Branch News". I have been a member of the Society since its inauguration and have been chairman for the past six years. During this time membership has grown from a nucleus of twelve, to a figure in excess of 500 including many overseas members, and an average of 60 people attend the monthly meetings. I now feel that it is time for someone with new ideas to take on the role of chairman.

I would again like to thank everyone who has contributed articles for the magazine, many of which have encouraged interesting correspondence. We hear of several successful contacts being made through "Branch News". A letter received from Elizabeth Perkins (no. 626) tells of swift response to her request for help. The day after she received her copy of the December "Branch News" she had a letter giving help with her EDGE family of Normanton and also putting her in touch with another member who could help with the Spondon area. The article telling of the Allsop reunion in Australia (Dec. issue, p.15) also brought correspondence from Mr. R. Slack (no. 642) with details from census returns and a will, regarding the family which Rowland Allsop left behind in Brassington when he was transported to Australia for sheep stealing in 1837.

The article "Just a bundle of old cards" (Dec. issue p.10) shows how much can be learned from them. Whilst browsing through some old postcards for sale on a Flea Market stall, I came across a postcard of the church at Osmaston near Ashbourne, where several generations of my Allsop family lived and are buried in a row in the churchyard. Turning the card over, I was amazed to see the names of my gr.gr. grandparents and several other family names jotted down. The card had been posted in 1905 and the sender was pointing out the row of Allsop gravestones which were shown on the front of the card, by the church door. The jottings were obviously in a later hand. The surname of the sender, who I recognised as my gr.grandfather's niece had also been added. She had sent the card to her Aunt, my gr.grandfather's sister. When I came back to reality, I told the stall holder of my find and looking at the postcard which I held in my hand, he said that the people mentioned were his family too! The postcard, which had been sent to his grandmother had been found amongst her belongings when she had died. The card is of course now amongst my treasured records of the family and through it, I have found many more members of the family. It goes to show how much family history can be gleaned from old postcards. I shudder to think that I could have missed it that day if I hadn't stopped to browse!

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS: As our Annual General Meeting would fall on April 1st which will be Good Friday it has been decided to hold this meeting on the last Friday in March. The meeting will begin at 7.30 p.m. and we hope that as many people as possible will attend. All present committee members are willing to stand for re-election. There will be a display of genealogical material. Please bring along photographs and documents etc to exhibit.

A.G.M. Friday MARCH 25th.

No Meeting on APRIL 1st. Good Friday.

May 6th - Mr. Adrian Henstock, Notts. County Archivist - Ancestors On The Move.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: <sup>187</sup> Mr. A. Douglas, Random Lodge, Chadwick Nick Lane, Fritchley, Derbys DE5 2HL  
 331. Mrs M.A. Pratten, 2 St. Torney Court, North Hill, Nr. Launceston, Cornwall.  
 355. Mr. F. Gilbert, 4 Oakbrook Rd. Sheffield. S11 7EA.  
 484. Miss S. Harrison, 68 Somersby Ave. Walton, Chesterfield, Derbys.  
 560. Mrs. C. Thompson, 4 Faringdon Rd. Luton, Beds. LU4 OEB.

