

Derbyshire Family History Society

March Quarter 2013



This lovely picture is of children fishing in the River Derwent sometime in the 1930s in the Wainc/Draycott area.

Printed with permission of Sandra Stock who kindly sent me a copy.
Don't you just love the baby in the pram?

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Society subscription is due on joining and thereafter on 1st January each year and renewal notices will be sent out at the beginning of December with that quarter's magazine. At the moment rates are as follows:-

BRITISH ISLES per family [at one address] £15

Please pay either in person at Bridge Chapel House, by cheque or postal order addressed to the Membership Secretary, or by using PayPal via our website.

OVERSEAS—EUROPE £16 [magazines sent by air mail]

OVERSEAS—OTHER COUNTRIES £19 [magazines sent by air mail]

For both the above payment in dollars or currency other than sterling please add the equivalent of £4 to cover the exchange charge. Alternatively payment may be made by PayPal with no extra charge incurred.

Please Note! Our website now offers the facility to renew your membership online, using PayPal [an account or debit/credit card needed]. If you are unsure of your membership number please look at the address label on the bag in which your magazine arrived and you will find it the top corner. It would be helpful to quote this in any correspondence with the Society.

Please renew your subscriptions promptly. Due to the steep rising rates of postage no magazines will be sent out unless your payment is with us by the end of February. Sorry for the inconvenience but, as you can appreciate, the Society cannot stand the cost of posting magazines that may not be wanted. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR SOCIETY INFORMED!

Any changes in your postal or email address etc., please let us know so that we can keep our records up to date. Many magazines come back to us as the intended recipient has moved house without letting us know.

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to your new look Society Magazine and I hope you approve. As you know, our subscription has had to go up due to the enormous rising costs of postage. We were also struggling with volunteers for packing and it was taking us longer each time as the volunteers got less. After searching around we have now signed up with a new printer, who not only cut the cost of printing but will pack and post for us as well, hence the new size, in fact the new look all round. I think we seem to have better quality as well, so I hope it goes down well with you, our members.

Central heating has now been installed at Bridge Chapel House, another way of cutting our costs we hope. At the moment we are still playing around with it, trying to find the most economical way of keeping the building warm, and I'm afraid the place is still in a bit of a mess leftover from the engineers, but don't let it deter you and please come and visit us. We are very quiet at the moment due to the large amount of snow hanging around, but hopefully that will change in the next few days. We may very well take the chance, while cleaning up, of moving things around a bit to make it more visitor friendly.

The AGM will take place on the 6th April, see the advert on the inside back cover. It will be in the adjoining Chapel, but feel free to come into the house afterwards, have a drink with us and do some research. There will be plenty of volunteers to help you. It had been planned to have an open day in conjunction with the AGM, but the ongoing works make that a bit difficult. We are hoping to plan one for late summer, so please keep it in mind.

Finally thank you to all those who have enclosed donations with their subscriptions, it is much appreciated as are the many letters of thanks we receive. We can't acknowledge each one individually, but we are very grateful.

See you next time.

Helen

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MEETINGS 2013

DERBY—ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL, DARLEY LANE,

DERBY—Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.

- 12th Mar Heraldic Detective Work from Scratch
John Tiftord
- 9th Apr The Captive Queen
David Templeton
- 14th May Napoleon's Lost Legions
John Taylor
- 11th Jun Customs and Traditions of Old Derbyshire
Keith Blood
- 9th Jul Quarter Sessions
Richard Radford

GLOSSOP—BRADBURY COMMUNITY HOUSE, MARKET STREET, GLOSSOP—Friday at 7.30 p.m.

- 1st Mar The Torrs Mills and the Hydro System
Derek Brunthead
- 5th Apr In the Name of God, Amen—Tales from Probate
David Lambert
- 3rd May The New Derbyshire Record Office
The Golden Age of Buses and Humble Beginnings
Arnie Manifold
- 7th Jun The Boys who Smashed the Van
Alan Hayhurst
- 5th Jul The Boys who Smashed the Van
Alan Hayhurst

SOUTH NORMANTON—POST MILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

SOUTH NORMANTON—Friday at 7.30 p.m.

- 15th Mar Shirewood
Mr Mumford
- 19th Apr The Arkwrights from 1700 to Today
Mr C. Lea
- 17th May Sir Joseph Banks
Mrs Berry
- 21st Jun From Rent Collector to Bible Student
Ray Bridden

GLOSSOP MEETINGS

OCTOBER 2012

Sarah Newton, a Stockport Girl makes good—Ron Weston

Sarah Newton was born in 1787 into an influential Stockport family. The Newtons were descendants of Alderman John Newton, a woollen draper.

His grandson, Robert, became an attorney and was steward to the Lord of the Manor. His sons, Robert and William, also became attorneys. William married Betty Milne and they had two daughters, Frances and Sarah, and a son, William, who died when only a year old.

John Milne, Sarah's maternal grandfather, was one of Stockport's industrial pioneers and with his sons, John and James, successfully built spinning machinery and began to operate a mill on the same lines as Arkwright. Within a year son James became involved in industrial espionage. The Inspector General of Manufacture in France at this time was an Englishman and following the Jacobite rebellion in 1745 he ran an undercover agent in England, whose job it was to find those willing to see industrial secrets to the French. The Milnes were approached and James went to France to build a carding machine. A year later John joined him and they constructed pirated versions of many textile machines. This, of course, was an act of treason.

In 1788 William Newton, who was married to their sister Betty Milne, moved to France with his family. Sarah was then seven months old. They settled in Dreux west of Paris, but unfortunately William died at the age of thirty eight and his widow and children moved to Paris to join her brother Robert Milne.

As a teenager Sarah became the companion to the daughter of Madame de Coigny who lived nearby. Made de Coigny set herself the task of finding Sarah a husband. She settled on Major Letort, a cavalry officer and a favourite of Napoleon. They were married in 1809, he was thirty six, she was twenty two. In the following year he returned to active service and was killed in 1815, two days before the battle of Waterloo. Sarah was awarded a pension by Napoleon and in his will he left money to the children of Letort. In 181 Sarah was married again to Vicome Victor Destutt de Tracy. He entered politics and became Minister for the Navy and the Colonies. Sarah and Victor spent long periods at their estate in the Loire valley. Sarah spent time reading, painting and studying literature and philosophy. She became in-

creasingly religious as she got older and researched the lives of the early fathers of the church.

Sarah died on the 27th October 1850. The estates were left to Jaques de Tracy, grandson of Sarah and Victor, who developed vineyards. The wines are still in production today and remain in the hands of Sarah's descendants.

DECEMBER 2012

Blind Jack of Knaresborough—Gray Oliver

Jack Metcalfe, known locally as Blind Jack, was born in 1717 in a cottage near Knaresborough castle. He had smallpox when he was six years old, which left him totally blind. He didn't let this affliction stop him doing all the things that other boys did and soon began running errands and making himself useful. At the age of thirteen he learned to play the fiddle and earned a living playing for country dances and assemblies. He also acted as a guide around the town.

He often played at the Granby Arms public house in Harrogate where he took a liking to the landlord's daughter, Dolly, but when another girl became pregnant by him he decided to take off to London until matters calmed down. Eventually he returned to find that Dolly was to marry the next day—they eloped that night and were only reconciled with her family after their second child, Tabitha, was born.

Jack needed to make more money to provide for his family and he hit on providing transport for hire around Harrogate. This trade dwindled so he began transporting fish from the Yorkshire coast to Leeds and Manchester. He didn't make the money he expected and by 1745 he would be found playing his fiddle again in the Assembly Rooms in Harrogate. The young pretender, Charles Edward Stuart, landed in Scotland on the 25th July 1745 and after success at Prestonpans began to move South. Jack was persuaded to recruit troops and with his men he set off to meet General Wade at Boroughbridge. They went north and met the rebels at Falkirk, where they were defeated.

After the decisive battle of Culloden Jack went back home where he intended at last to settle down. He imported novelty items from Scotland to sell in Yorkshire, he bought and traded horses, he set up a carrier business between York and Harrogate, all this besides undertaking the carriage of Army baggage.

He had travelled the roads all his life and knew what a bad state they were in and in 1765 an opportunity came for him to be involved in building the turnpike between Harrogate and Boroughbridge. Over the next thirty years he completed 185 miles of road in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, often in very difficult terrain. He built his last road at the age of seventy five, after which he retired to Spofforth in Yorkshire where he died in 1810. He is buried in the local churchyard.

BERYL SCAMMELL

SOUTH NORMANTON

OCTOBER 2012

Travels with Dennis Deneley

Dennis' Uncle Aaron emigrated to America and Aaron's sister, Sarah, went to Canada. Both sent photographs of their lives there and Dennis had transferred them to slides.

Aaron had a nice home in Wyoming. With a friend he went exploring into the wild, sending home a photo of him with a stag. That trip ended when a grizzly began to come too close to them and they hastily retreated. When World War One began, he crossed the border and joined the Canadian armed forces as the United States had not then declared war on Germany. After the war he returned to Wyoming and we saw some of his holiday snaps. Garfield Peak and Crater Lake in Oregon National Park, the power house on top of Boulder Dam, then a shot of a chipmunk to end that section.

Sarah had also married and sent photographs of her new home. She had a fitted kitchen with a built in cooker. In a separate area she had her ice machine, i.e. a very tall refrigerator. There was a telephone in the hallway and in the lounge she pointed out her new radio.

We all enjoyed that glimpse of family life between two World Wars and on a distant continent but were equally glad to return to our own area once more. Alfreton Church and Alfreton Hall were followed by views of King Street, filled with traders and horses at the horse fair, and the Old Moot Hall, pulled down to make room for the War Memorial. We also saw the procession as Sangster's Circus came to town, and the stalls of the cattle market near to the Traveller's Rest Public House, which eventually became The King Alfred.

Originally opening as the Royal Cinema, it became the Odeon and had a Billiard Hall upstairs. Where King Street becomes Derby Road, Horse Wash Brook used to run, now it runs through a culver beneath the road. Pausing to look at Piper's Penny Bazaar and Hunter's Tea Shop, we ended our tour at the Station Hotel.

NOVEMBER 2012

Tibshelf Oil Well—Mr Lee

Oil was formed in the Jurassic Period, decaying marine life becoming a carbon compound which eventually formed oil and gas. In 1858 Canada dug her first wells, followed a year later by the State of Pennsylvania. Oil has shown locally in several coal mines including Silverhill, also in lead mines at Ashover and Castleton and Stoney Middleton.

In 1800 Pinxton Wharf on the Cromford Canal caught fire. 300 gallons of oil seeping into the coal mine were thought to be useless so were pumped into the canal. James Oakes, the Riddings Mine manager consulted his brother in law, Mr Playfair, who wrote to Mr James Young, chemist, inviting him to analyse the material. During Mr Young's efforts he discovered paraffin wax and converted it into candles, and also was able to produce gasoline.

Drilling for oil at Tibshelf began on 16th October 1918. S.Pearson and Sons contracted to drill at Tibshelf, Ironville and Heath. American diggers and drillers were brought over and on 2nd May 1919 oil gushed up from the Tibshelf well. By 1927 20,000 barrels of oil had been taken from the well. By 1945 so little oil was left that the well was declared uneconomic and the well head was finally capped in 1952.

In 1938 oil was found at Eakring and that well produced over 100,000 tons. In nearby Dukes Wood a well was sunk in 1943. Finally we learned that in the 1960s workers from Eakring went to explore for oil in the North Sea.

DECEMBER 2012

Christmas Party

We began our party evening with two quizzes—one with pictures which, when interpreted correctly, revealed the names of books in the Bible and a general knowledge one. I had been tested with them a few weeks before so enjoyed watching others try to find the answers. The winners were rewarded with bars of chocolate.

Not having a magic lantern, we were very happy to look at the screened images provided by John Radford's projector. Instead of slides it projected picture postcards. Everyone could read the comments whilst sitting comfortably. Having been forewarned, I had brought a selection from my grandmother's album, that my mother had inherited in 1941. Grandmother's album has slowly disintegrated during the last 70 years, so the postcards have been rehomed into a modern album, giving me an opportunity to read the messages on the reverse.

Maureen Newton had brought her laptop and gave an impromptu lesson on how to access the Family History sites by using your library card, which was much appreciated.

The evening ended with party refreshments and a reminder that there would not be a meeting in January 2013.

AVERIL HIGGINSON

Nottinghamshire Guardian

TREAT FOR BREASTON CHILDREN

On Wednesday, through the generosity of Mr E. T. Hooley, the whole of the children of Breaston, without respect to age, were invited to a free and substantial meat tea in the National Schoolroom.

There were several sittings down, upwards of 400 being present. The Breaston Brass Band enlivened the proceedings. Mr and Mrs E. T. Hooley and the Misses Hooley attended and were received with hearty cheers. A large committee carried out the arrangements. As the children filed out of the schoolroom each was presented with a bright new sixpence.

Saturday, 1 January 1, 1898

Mistakes - and how to learn from them

I used to think that all twentieth century family history problems were trivial; real genealogy was only concerned with the eighteenth century. Recently, I found out that even the history of my grandparents can be just as challenging.

My parents, grand-parents and great grand-parents were all born and raised in Derby but my mistakes are from much further afield. My great-grandfather Walter Butt managed the Midland Railway signals workshop on Derby Station (200 employees). His son (Walter Jr.) also worked for the LMS railway and retired as a signals line superintendent based in Bedford with responsibility for the surrounding area. I still have the large silver pocket watch that Walter gave to Walter Jr. on the occasion of his first job with the company - possibly as a reminder that promptness is a virtue - particularly on the Railway System.

My grandmother, who was an accomplished soprano, died young and Walter Jr. was soon remarried, to Rose Ada Young, spinster, a Bedford schoolteacher. My Auntie Rose had been their upstairs lodger for many years; my mother and aunt disapproved, but they disapproved of many things in their time. During my initial pass at family history research, I found a Rose Ada Young who looked like a perfect match for my step-grandmother and thought no more about it. Rose Ada was the daughter of a Yorkshire grocer, just the right background for a spinster school teacher. I subsequently discovered that the Yorkshire grocer's daughter married a labourer called Rupert Wood from her home town and that my "Auntie Rose" had a brother who took posthumous train ride to Bedford (from Goring-by-Sea) in order to be buried in the same tomb as his sister. Auntie Rose was not at the top of my list of research issues so I did not bother to check on her siblings.

Then, things got really interesting. My Dad, a bank manager, was a passionate collector of coins and medals - a collection that I inherited and take great pride in! One item always interested me. There was a complete set of WWI war medals (including the rare 1914 medal) inscribed to Nurse J. Hills. There was no obvious link to her on my family tree; my Dad had passed away before I asked the question and my mother professed total ignorance. A few weeks ago, I revisited the issue and was happy to find that W0399 (National Archives) is now online and downloadable (for a fee). Nurse Jane Hills' file

was very informative. She had been nursing at Guy's Hospital since 1890 and taking annual "peace-time training" with Queen Alexandra Imperial Military Nursing Service at Millbank since 1908. WWI began, officially, on 4 August 1914; two days later, Jane Hills (age 50) signed up for active duty! She did not last long. The First Battle of the Marne began 5 September and Jane reported sick with bronchitis within a week. She was repatriated in a hospital ship about 3 October and discharged from the service on 18 November; they wrote her a cheque for £7-10-0. This was not much help, Jane's date and place of birth were stated (4 November 1864, Thakeham, Sussex) and her nursing career could be easily followed through the various census records. Her next-of-kin was Mrs. Francis Young (sister) of Bedford but her siblings included neither the missing Thomas Reginald nor the missing sister Frances.

With two major mistakes behind me, I began to back-track a little. Auntie Rose was a Young, so was Jane Hills' next of kin. They both had Bedford connections. Was this a useful clue? It seemed like a long way from West Sussex to Saddleworth, West Yorkshire but I persevered. The 1911 Bedford census revealed a Francis Young (an ornithologist and taxidermist) with a wife named Sarah Ann and a daughter Rose Ada. They even had the same address as Jane's next of kin, on Tavistock Street. Jane Hills' siblings included a Sarah Ann and I finally realized that Mrs. Francis Young was the lady married to (& owned by) a Mr. Francis Young. I could hardly believe that there were two different ladies named Rose Ada Young born about the same time. I also found Auntie Rose's missing brother Thomas Reginald. So, it all began to make sense. Francis Young was bird watching in Sussex and caught Jane Hills' older sister in his net. In 1915, Jane Hills was out of the war, she retired to Bedford and survived until 1930, her medals passed to her niece, my Auntie Rose, and thence (via my Dad) to me.

Lessons learned:

- Rose Ada Young is not a common name but I ought to have realized that there could have been two of them of the right age.
- People take their burial ground location quite seriously; usually a strong family connection or their birthplace. Thomas Reginald Young was trying to tell me something. I was not listening.
- Mrs. Francis Young acquired both a new Christian & a new surname when she married. I knew this; I just had a mental lapse.
- Military records are an invaluable resource but until very recently they were not easily accessible.

- You may not have the right family if you cannot match all the siblings. Lesson learned!

Heirlooms provide good clues. Nurse J Hills' medals were like a pebble in my shoe. I knew that I would find the answer one day. Thank-you Jane

David Butt

E-mail: dandabut@gmail.com

CAN ANYONE HELP?

I am seeking information re my great grandmother's 2nd or 3rd husband, William COATES, born in Wensley 1869. His mother was Agnes Sheldon Coates from Brightgate. She later married James Platts and they lived in Snitterton. I have a death certificate for a William Coates in December 1930 at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, but no way of confirming it is him. William's son, William, married Florence Goodwin on the 25 December 1919, but I cannot find any children for them.

Emily's father was Abraham Butler who decorated churches and her sister's family were the Allens.

Can anyone help please?

Julia Davey

*69 St John's Rd, Warmminster,
Wiltshire BA12 9LZ*

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OLD AND NEW NEWS FROM THE NORTH

More mayhem for you to contend with, Mr Micawber works overtime on your and my behalf, tripe and trips [not chips] is on the menu again, plus some old favourites. All in all another mixed bag of jottings, jaunts and jaw dropping co-incidences. Are you sitting comfortably?

In early October 2012, the Hoffords escaped from the hills of the High Peak and ensconced themselves in Northumberland for a spell, returning via 'Slag Alice' the newly and largest constructed 3D landscape female [or male] figure in the WORLD. Sited near Crumlington, Alice contains 1.5 million tonnes of rock, clay and soil, reaches to a 100 feet high and extends for a quarter of a mile, not to mention the 4 miles of paths and various shaped water features.

The figure started off being officially being named 'Northumberlandia' (see Wikipedia) quickly dubbed 'The Lady of the North' but the locals have had other pejorative ideas. The bulky bountiful figure has been constructed from the recycled overburden of the adjacent opencast coal mine, so the 'Slag Alice' nomenclature is strictly more appropriately correct, even if it is indelicately indecorous in intent. Her soul / sole mate 'The Angel of the North' is 9 miles further south alongside the A1. My opinion, for what it's worth, is that 'The A of the N' is very much more macho masculine in appearance, not an ounce of angelic, but then I'm not a 'Geordie' and have no wish to cause regional genuflections on gender.

What follows about 'The A of the N' has not a jot to do with local or family history, more a philosophical view expressed by Ron Everson an American correspondent of mine, who is more English than the English, especially in the humorous department. Our paths crossed when I was researching the Bugsworth Clayton family who emigrated to America between 1837-1842 and the Welsh connections in the early life of Frank Lloyd Wright an avant-gard American architect. Wright was originally ridiculed, but now much revered, the then early day American equivalent of our home grown Anthony Gormley.

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Just days after the Angel had been erected, on a par with Wright's early building projects, the British architect Gornley attracted more than his fair hint of opprobrium. Newcastle United supporters had, with bows and arrows shot a super-sized Shearer No 9 football shirt over the widely extended aerofoil arms of the Angel. A photograph of this sacrilegious slung shirt appeared in 'The Times' which I posted onto Ron in down-town Wisconsin.. Post-haste from America came this rapid riposte from Ron---'Just wait till McDonalds hear about this, in no time at all they will have' Mc' painted on one arm and 'Donalds' on the other.

Whilst we were in Beadnall, Northumberland, on most late evenings, I choose to walk out of the village and view the sun setting over the hills of the Scottish Borders, invariably passing by a wooden building, the home of the local WI. If anything attracts me more than a duck to water it is a virgin (to me) noticeboard --- I don't like missing anything that points straight to the beating heart and stomach of a community. I have gone better than the extended Irish Donegal 2011 Calendar with a 31st of September. The Beadnall WI Holy Grail noticeboard advertised a talk--'A Harvest Table Centre' to their female brethren on 11th October 2012.

One of the drawbacks of having a lengthy stay away from home-base, not to be confused in any way with B & Q, is (a) the mound of post on returning home; almost immediately to be expertly, and expeditiously recycled, through the shredder and (b) the numerical numbers of emails awaiting deletion to a seemingly mythical mailbox of mass destruction and magnitude. But on this occasion Mr Micawber had already made a move and I was over the moon with the post on whatever day it was in who-so-ever's calendar.

I have a cunning plan for such postal or post post holiday occasions, a filter system comes into play. The post is segregated by size into large, medium and small sizes --- the contents of the large envelopes are usually over elaborate statements showing how our hard won investments are rapidly pedalling down hill fast, the smoke and mirrors treatment. The small envelopes are likely to be charity circulars and postcards bought on e-bay, while the medium size letters offer the most hope of something out of the ordinary, and so it came to pass.

Regular readers of my quarterly miscellany of musings and mutterings should be by now well aware of my addiction, now amounting to an affliction, to the

High Peak Isolation Hospital, Chintley opened 1 May 1902, run down after the introduction of the National Health Act 1946, bought by Chapel Rural District Council in July 1953, converted into offices and reopened in November 1954, to become the local seat of huffing and puffing.

A letter posted in early October 2012, and this was now nearly 3 weeks later, contained the official opening programme for the Chapel R. D. C. Offices on 6 November 1954. --- "OPENING of the COUNCIL CHAMBER and OFFICES and the PRESENTATION of the INSIGNIA of the CHAIRMAN of the COUNCIL." The sender was Richard Morten of Cowdale Hall, Buxton, who while sorting out his father's affairs, legal ones I must hasten to add, came across a copy of the original official opening programme, together with the menu and the list of toasts for the celebration dinner, and he had thought that I might like to add the historic documents to my own research. In 1954 Richard's father was then a serving Councillor on Chapel R. D.C.

Food rationing in Britain ended on the 3 July 1954 (I have now confirmed that date as official), so it was not unsurprising that just four months later the official opening munch-up mastication was miserly mentally to say the least. The six course menu listed 'Rolls and Butter'---'Cheese and Biscuits'--- and 'Coffee' as part of the six items on the menu. A made a quick call to Richard to explain my delight and the reason for such a tardy response, not forgetting a mental memo to Mr Micawber for turning up trumps yet again.

The list of contractors who carried out the 1953-54 conversion work at the High Peak Isolation Hospital were listed within the opening brochure, the electrical contractors were named as '**Frankish and Bell of Whaley Bridge.**' Jessie Bell nee Wain, the daughter of William Wain, Carrington House, Bugsworth, who had introduced the 'Delightful Durable Double D sized Delilah' with (allegedly) a missing big toe to Bugsworth (reads like a line from Hello-Hello!), had from the Isle of Man provided a photograph of the self same white marble statue. Jessie married Harry Bell, one of the sons from the electrical partnership. So Mr Micawber earns another mention in dispatches, not so much '**Frankish but Frankly Freakish.**'

So back to my tripe, you may be already forming that opinion after reading so far. Since the December 2012 issue I have added greatly to my previously known social history of tripe and cowheels. At the peak of production there were 146 tripe and cowheel shops operating under the 'UCP' banner in North

West England, but now a solitary source solely salutes the red oval sign.

Both Wikipedia and Google have sites with extensive background information on tripe and cowheels (Shades of Ex-Dandy, Desperate Dan and cow pies !!! Sorry, you either know or you don't know old comics) Former aficionados and opponents of tripe and cowheels, either eaten voluntarily or under family duress at UCP shops, can lodge their personal nostalgic memoirs. Clearly lines are drawn in the sand or a more likely adornment was old fashioned sawdust scattered on the shop floors.

An extract taken from the UCP Memories Website..

"My mom was a waitress/server at the Voses UCP Breadshawgate Restaurant in Bolton and there she met my dad. They dated and got married and I believe they had their wedding meal at the restaurant on 2 January 1936. They were married on Mawdsley Street, just a 150 yards walk from the Voses UCP. When I was a child my dad would quite often take me, my brother and sister there for lunch. Generally on Saturdays. Mom would actually serve us. It was great. Dad used to leave mom a larger than customary tip each time, because he knew she that she would give it back to him when she got home. This performance used to crack them up all the time. What great UCP memories. One time he left her a 10 shilling note. She was laughing before she had even put it in her pocket. I never really liked tripe or cowheels as I was a finicky eater. But my sister and brother would share our dad's, sitting by the window and overlooking the street and the Lido Cinema. Mom always kissed the four of us goodbye and end with, 'I will see you when I get home'"

The High Peak Reporter, 30 January 1926, within the UCP advert, draws attention to their **"New 99 Recipe Book For Happy Meals"** each meal different and delicious, using tripe or cowheels.' Get back in the wagon McDonalds, the UCP were cobbled streets ahead of your feeding theme, hats off to the red oval versus the yellow arches. So meanwhile I leave you to cook on a low light for now.

I have hinted on a previous occasion to residing in part of Bugsworth Hall, where I started a life of marriage bliss, I have to make this claim, my wife occasionally reads the magazine to see what I have been up-to. In the early 1970's, farming friends decamped from Chinley to Mid-Wales having bought a dairy farm there cheaper than the Derbyshire farm asking prices. Frequent holiday visits were made to Wales, both sets of children being of a compara-

ble age. The female side of the Welsh partnership eventually returned to her former tax inspector status at Aberystwyth.

On one of our visits in May 1980 she recommended that we visit Mrs Spackman a clairvoyant resident in Aberystwyth. I was sufficiently intrigued to think that after all there maybe something in this clairvoyancy, especially if such sceptic sorcery had been endorsed against the 'Law of All Believability' by a tax inspector. An appointment was made. I will amend that, two appointments were made, my reasoning being that if Mrs Spackman was so good with her interpretation of the runes she might reveal something that I was keen to keep from my wife. If she reads this I am done for!

On the 31 May 1980, I battled second and we arranged to meet later at a favourite café. Due to Mrs Spackman's combined revelations we both needed something much stronger than a pot of Yorkshire Gold Leaf Tea. Mrs Spackman held my watch, I learned from my wife that she had handed over her wedding ring. We were both advised to make a written record, individually, of what she had imparted to us from clasping our personal possessions. This we did and from time to time we still refer back to both sets of the individual notes made after that 31 May 1980 visit.

Mrs Spackman asked the age of our house, to which I replied that it was old, built in 1926. Then employed by the Ordnance Survey / Land Registry, the current rule of thumb was any property built before the start of the 1939-45 war, was considered ---'Old', built after that war ended was cartographically considered ---'New.'

Mrs Spackman replied---"The house I see is much older --- a large manor house --- open views to the front with great scenery sloping down to the river --- the house is haunted. In the loft I can see a man who either committed suicide or was hanged, his mode of dress is of the cavalier era. Also a second person --- a young well dressed lady --- known locally as 'The Lady in Grey' because she was always dressed in grey and drab colours." The hairs of the back of my neck were now standing out like chapel hat pegs.

I remarked that her description fitted our previous home Bugsworth Hall, but we had left that humble residence for pastures new in 1964. The lady ghost we knew as 'Jenny'. Access to the loft in our section of the house was by a tight set of wooden circular stairs, it had been sealed long before we took

over the residency of our part of the Hall.

James Abson, a retired Stockport solicitor, a later resident of our former part of the Hall, researched the Carrington family and Bugsworth Hall, publishing a book in 1981 entitled --- '**Yeoman's Home. A history of Bugsworth and its Hall.**' I bought copies of the book for each of our children who had been born at the Hall. I shamefully now admit that I did not read the book until we visited the selfsame Welsh farm in 1986.

One drab wet day in 1986 on that Mid-Wales farm I began reading '**Yeoman's Home**' and felt the hair on the back of my head beginning to prickle as it had it done previously on the 31 May 1980, with Mrs Spackman. Chapter XI was headed --- **JENNYLL GET YOU.**--- " Bugsworth Old Age Pensioners tell of Jenny's Ghost, on the lamp-less dark evenings of their childhood, it was a local dare to walk around the front of Bugsworth Hall "Cos Jenny'll get you. "

Jenny was the spirit of a girl in a grey cloak who floated along the path which led from the Hall to Bugsworth Mill. One version has it that Jenny was delightfully drowned in the mill race, foully done by either her brother or sister and to do with a squabble over money. Jenny Carrington died 19 February 1790, aged 16, within a year of her father's death, a will by the terms of which others would benefit if Jenny died before the age of 21 years. The hauntings seem to have stopped in 1860, (**Oh ! No they didn't !**) by which time the culprit or culprits would have appeared before a Heavenly Court." Mrs Spackman never mentioned 'a manor house' during my wife's session. So best to leave the subject there for the time being!

George 'Bonded Warehouse' Winterbottom, brother of 'Nan' turned up in print, Micawber again helped out.. Under the Bugsworth News banner of the High Peak Reporter August 1918 was this **War Bulletin..A Meeting in Mesopotamia.** "George Winterbottom has been serving with the RAMC in Mesopotamia for 3 years. His brother Jack has gone to that theatre of war and had the pleasure of meeting George, a meeting between brothers who had not seen each other for 3 years. Two other brothers, Warren is in Egypt and Sam in Norwich. Two brothers-in-law, Jack Pine is in Cairo and Bert Platts (Nan's master baker husband and future owner of the cake-a-coholic spaniel) is in Bombay, are all serving in the RAMC. Whaley Bridge Ambulance Brigade." Just goes to show the research value of the microfilmed newspapers

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held within the walls of Derbyshire County Council libraries.

Sadly, 2012 ended with a tripe addiction, the reawakening and reappraisal of the UCP raised the stakes / steaks, or more correctly, cowheels. I became more aware of their snappy advertising running through the local papers, a panacea and promises for the 'World, his wife and their dog.'

9 May 1925. High Peak Reporter--- **THE MOTHER**---"The Mother thinks of everybody, Who thinks of Mother ? She cuddles the whole family, what she needs is a dainty, nourishing, easily prepared digestible dish" (The big sell, but in the case of tripe a bendy slithery glutinous mass sliding over any proffered plate, just one sloppy slippery step away from Quaternass). "UCP TRIPE (9d per lb) guaranteed of absolute purity, supertime quality, and 'Fresh as the Dawn' is by long experience and medical testimony, an ideal food. "

23 May 1925. Father enters the fray --- **THE FATHER** ---"Father does not always appreciate Mother's problems, for he has his own big ones to face. Every morning he fares forth into a life which is an adventure and a battle--- he is fighting for his bathns and home. It is worth while giving him a welcome home, and a dainty dish served without a long wait, which makes a tired and irritable man smile. The dish is quickly prepared, really delicious and nutritious, easy for a fatigued man to digest. Serve it hot or cold. " So far I have built up a collection of 110 different illustrated adverts for tripe at 9d a pound, there must be more to life than this, unless --- ????

Then to my rescue on the very last vestiges of 2013 up popped Mr Micawber, a postcard on ebay, depicting the Longnor War Memorial, erroneously described yet again as being the Buxton War Memorial. Now after 20 odd years plus of heartache, that structure is perpetually etched in my memory bank card. This new (to me) postcard depicts the obelisk, not a human soul in sight, the wreaths that were once held in the hands of the people at the dedication ceremony are starkly laid at the base. Another circular bouquet of flowers and ribbons rings the obelisk. Only William Kidd's name is missing but that was rectified in November 2011. What 2013 will bring is anybody's guess. I confidently expect that Mr Micawber will turn something esoteric up in the wash.

Postscripts.

1. The ex-Chinley Isolation Hospital has now been sold at a reported figure of

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bequests to favourite servants. Clothes were much prized and cloaks, coats and gowns might be left to relatives or friends. Many men would make sure their word went to a good home. Those with a profession, such as thatching or blacksmithing, would make sure their tools would go to someone who would put them to good use.

Be careful of descriptions of relatives. Son or daughter in law usually meant stepchildren, while those who are truly sons/daughters in law are often referred to as simply son of daughter. The word cousin may refer to any sort of relative. As an example Shakespeare described his grand-daughter as his niece.

Sometimes, as well as the will, you will find an inventory. These give the sale value of everything appraised and are most commonly found before 1750. They contain all the goods of the deceased, his chattels, wares, merchandise, leases, corn, grass and timber, loose money about the house and debts due to the deceased. The best examples also give the names and contents of each room in the house, but not normally the apparel of the wife [known in legal terms, would you believe, as her 'paraphernalia'].

So where can you find a will? Before 1858 there were a whole variety of courts where wills were proved, most belonging to the Church. Probate records of the wealthy and important, particularly those with goods and property in more than one diocese are likely to be found in the Prerogative Court of the archbishop rather than in the local courts. They are not confined to the wealthy however and the indexes to these higher courts are always worth searching, just in case, especially in the case of soldiers and seamen dying overseas. The most important was the Prerogative Court of Canterbury [P.C.C.]. This claimed over all jurisdiction in England and Wales and date from 1383. There are printed indexes to these wills in common use and, in fact the D.F.H.S. has copies that can be looked through. They are also online on the National Archives site and copies can be ordered for a fee if you once have the reference.

There was no central court for Derbyshire in the county, instead it appears in the diocese of Lichfield and Province of Canterbury. Apart from the P.C.C. Wills virtually all the probate records for Derbyshire can be found at the Lichfield Record Office in Lichfield. They have calendars that can be searched, indexed by year, and a copy can then be ordered if you find the cor-

rect reference. The Calendars refer to both the Consistory Court of Lichfield and the various Peculiarities in the district.

After 1858 wills were proved and then housed in a central location and these have been indexed. If you have internet access then the calendars have been scanned and are available up to 1941, with some years missing, on Ancestry. Be wary when using these, we have found many mistakes in spelling, wrong county given, wrong year given, etc. The DFHS has some of the original probate books from which we are extracting Derbyshire entries and we have had to put right some very glaring errors. From 1858-1928 copy wills proved at Derby can be seen on microfiche at the Derbyshire Record Office, Matlock, but bear in mind these are what they say, copy wills, and will not be in the original writing. The complete National Probate Calendar, which has all wills and letters of administration from 1858 to the present day, can only be viewed at the Principal Registry office, First Avenue House, 42-49 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NP and they will supply a single copy of grant of probate together with the will for £6. Most local probate offices have indexes of at least the last 50 years, but for Derbyshire this probably means a trip to Nottingham.

Having found an entry in a calendar or you need to request a search for a likely will, a request must be made, in writing only, to The Postal Searches and Copies Department, Leeds District Probate Registry, York House, York Place, Leeds LS1 2BA. The standard fee for a search is £6, which covers a four years search and includes a single copy of the grant of probate and will. You can download the application form from their website and the Probate service aims to supply copies within 21 days.

The above is just a broad explanation. As well as wills there are Death Duty records [an article in itself] and also possible law suits, if there is opposition from one member of the family. If this leads to a full law suit, then all sorts of revealing records might be available, but again this is another article for the future and could involve the Court of Chancery.

Wills can be a wonderful find, although I once paid out for a 14 page will which described every blade of grass and every tree on an ancestor's estate—I could have drawn a map—but didn't once mention any of his family, except that he left money for his children's education. No names, nothing!

Derbyshire Quakers, WILLCOCKSONS and

Daniel BOONE

Once upon a time, in the 1960s, there was a TV programme about Daniel Boone. He was one of the most famous of America's frontiersmen and in the USA he's still a person of great interest to family researchers. There's even a Boone Society.

Round about 1742, Daniel Boone's sister Sarah married a man called John Willcockson. He was probably born about 1720, either in the UK or in America. As a result of this prestigious link to Daniel Boone, there are hundreds of American Willcockson descendants who dearly want to know the origins of their "1720 John". Over the last year, as an enthusiastic volunteer with a special interest in non-conformity, I have been helping a small group of them to track down some evidence...

What was already known about "1720 John"

Not a lot actually. No suitable birth or baptism record has been found for him in the USA. However, the working theory among some American researchers is that John was the son of a George Willcockson who married Elizabeth Powell at a Quaker marriage in Exeter, Chester County, Pennsylvania in 1719. George gave his fellow Quakers a 'cleanness certificate' from Breach Monthly Meeting in Derbyshire stating that his father was John Willcockson resident in Cossall, Notts, on the Notts/Derbys border (we call him *Cossall John* for ease of reference).

Sadly George and Elizabeth both died fairly young in 1739 and 1740. They left no Wills and guardianship of their youngest child Mary was granted to another Quaker named Philip Yarnall, who appears to be unrelated. Philip's request for guardianship mentions that George and Elizabeth had older children but does not supply their names or other details.

Through extensive research in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Staffordshire Quaker records, in probate records and in Duffield Fee manorial records for Biggin near Wirksworth, we've now established that *migrant George* and his five siblings (Ann, John, Dorothy, Isaac and David Willcockson) were all born in Staffordshire between 1687 and 1699, their births recorded at Leek Monthly Meeting. Their parents were John Willcockson (*Cossall John*) and

Dorothy Hall. Cossall John and Dorothy married at a Quaker meeting at Dorothy's home in Morridge near Leek in 1686, and we know from Quaker Sufferings that John was living nearby at a hamlet called Ford in Grindon parish, Staffs, in that year.

One telling point is that the children of first and second generation Willcocksons in the USA also included David, John, George and Isaac as given names. With David and Isaac being rare names among Willcocksons and, in the UK, almost entirely confined to the Biggin family and its descendants, this naming pattern lends significant weight to the theory that *migrant George* was a close relative of 1720 John, and most likely his father.

Cossall John, Dorothy and the children all moved from Staffs to Biggin near Wirksworth in Derbyshire in about 1710, and John appears in the minutes of Breach Monthly Meeting between 1711 and 1718. He died at Cossall in 1719. Information from probate records proves that, despite his sojourn in Staffs, *Cossall John* was a native of Biggin, born there in about 1660 to parents John Willcockson (called *Ould John*) and his wife Dorothy (surname unknown). *Ould John* and Dorothy were not Quakers and *Ould John* wasn't over-happy with son *Cossall John's* choice of wife, even though she was also a Dorothy. The Breach MM minutes record his dissatisfaction with the proposed marriage and two Friends were despatched to his farm in Lower Biggin to persuade him to agree.

Duffield Fee manorial records have helped us take the Biggin Willcockson family back another generation so the line to migrant George looks like this:

George Willcockson (1585-1660) & **Agnes Maddock** (c1602-1667) m. 1622 Wirksworth
(4 known children)

Ould John Willcockson (1633-1694) & wife **Dorothy** (c1639-1724)
(5 known children)

Cossall John Willcockson (1660-1719) & **Dorothy Hall** (1655-after 1728)
(6 children)

Migrant George Willcockson (1695-1739), who migrated to Pennsylvania and married **Elizabeth Powell** (1696-1740) in 1719 – the probable parents of **1720 John Willcockson** who married Daniel Boone's sister **Sarah Boone**.

What's left for us to discover?

The frustrating issue for American descendants of 1720 John and Sarah Boone Willcockson is that no definitive, unarguable evidence has emerged to prove John's parentage, either in the UK or the USA. The children of migrant George Willcockson and Elizabeth Powell do not appear in any Quaker records in or around their abode in Chester County, Pennsylvania. This may be because George and Elizabeth did not remain 'in unity' with the Quakers, or their birth records for this period may be lost. Early birth or baptism records from other faiths in the area at that time are also few and far between.

There are other John Willcocksons born in Derbyshire, Yorkshire and Cheshire at suitable dates to be candidates for 1720 John, but research so far suggests they all stayed put in the UK and did not migrate to the USA in time to marry Sarah Boone about 1742 (though this needs additional confirmation).

There is also an ongoing family myth in the USA that 1720 John "came from Wales" about 1740. However, there are no signs of any Willcocksons in Wales before that date, and it seems likely that descendants have been mixing up "Wales" in the UK with "North Wales", an area in Pennsylvania settled by the Welsh Quaker families that migrant George married into.

The Willcockson researchers in the USA, would dearly like to hear from anyone else descended from Derbyshire Willcocksons, in particular anyone with an ancestor among the Breach Quakers, in hope that additional information might have been passed down the family lines to help illuminate this quest for 1720 John. It may be of interest too that migrant George's younger brother David Willcockson married a Yorkshire Quaker Alice Anderson in 1724 and their son Isaac moved across the Pennines, leaving plentiful descendants in the Wray, Fylde and Preston areas of Lancashire.

What we can offer in return

Potentially a link to the famous Daniel Boone! And definitely a large amount of Willcockson information which has now been amassed both in the UK and the USA, making this almost a One-Name-Study. Our research group is more than happy to share the information we hold with anyone else researching Willcocksons and Derbyshire Quakers.

Contact: **Celia Renshaw** on celiarensshaw@gmail.com

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The Vanishing Heiress

The most famous disappearing act was probably Lord Lucan, but Derbyshire had its own share of the headlines in 1909 when Violet Charlesworth vanished. However she was to be eventually unmasked and stood trial at the Derby Assizes.

In 1909 Violet was almost 25, a beautiful young lady who led a very lavish lifestyle. Her passion was motor-touring which seems an odd hobby for someone who had been brought up in terraced houses around Joseph Street, Jackson Street and Wolfa Street. On her 25th birthday she was due to inherit a huge legacy, that important day being the 13th January 1909. By that time her family had moved to St Asaph in Wales and lived in some style there.

One of the few images that survive of Violet Charlesworth



On the evening of the 2nd January 1909 Violet and her elder sister Lillian, accompanied by a chauffeur, set off in a large Minerva Landauler car that was actually being driven by Violet. On the main coast road between Conwy and Penmaenmawr in North Wales, at a spot called the Devil's Thumb, the car collided with the rocky wall alongside the road, which had a sheer drop to the sea on its other side. The chauffeur and Lillian survived, but Violet vanished and the survivors explained that the car windscreen had shattered and poor Violet had been thrown over the wall to her death. Her grey hat and a black notebook were found on the rocks and the local constabulary assumed she had drifted out to sea.

Emerging details soon began to cause a few raised eyebrows and questions began to be asked. Her family in St Asaph appeared totally unconcerned about her disappearance and the car bodywork didn't appear very badly damaged. Fishermen were puzzled how she could have been washed away as the sea had been only inches deep when the crash happened. Even worse sundry creditors began to come forward and it seemed Violet had run up huge debts on the strength of her legacy, which was due just 11 days after the accident.

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The press began to cover the case and more and more sensational claims were made. Was her legacy the product of a fertile imagination? Was Violet a clever confidence trickster who staged her own death? Sightings of her were reported in every part of the British Isles; police stepped up their hunt for her body and the press besieged the family home.

On 17th January, just 15 days after her disappearance, Violet was discovered at a remote hotel in Tobernory on the Isle of Mull posing as Miss Margaret Macleod. She initially denied her identity, but finally admitted her guilt and revealed she had also used the names Gordon, Talbot and Mackenzie.

In the days following Violet's past began to emerge. She was actually born May Charlesworth on 13th January 1884 in Lovatt Street, Staffordshire, into modest circumstances. By 1891 the family had moved to Stone and then to Whittington in Derbyshire and Derby itself where her transformation took shape. In 1902 she left for Wolverhampton and neighbours in Derby described her as very elegant, apparently wealthy and rather a socialite. After only a year in Wolverhampton the family moved to St Asaph and Violet took leases on two large country estates, Calne Hall in Wiltshire and Flowerburn House in Fortrose, Scotland.

It also became clear that most of the money to fund this social climbing had been dishonestly obtained. An elderly Derby widow—Martha Smith of Macklin Street - had lost all her life savings to Violet and her mother, Miriam and it was this that was to lead to her trial. Having been unmasked in Tobernory, bankruptcy proceedings followed and Violet was soon stripped of all her property and possessions. Typically she tried to portray her story on the London stage, without much success, and finally assumed the name Cameron and went to live with her mother in Moffat, Scotland. Unfortunately the newspapers would not let the story of poor Martha Smith die, the widow being abandoned without any recompense and at the bottom of the creditors list.

Pressure mounted and the public prosecutor eventually decided to bring the case to court. On the 6th February Detective Inspector Alburt of Derby Police travelled to Scotland and arrested Violet and Miriam Charlesworth on charges of fraud.

The trial was held at the Derby Assizes on the 23rd February 1910, presided over by Mr Justice Darling who had come up from London for the occasion.

The public gallery was full—mainly of women who had snapped up the tickets on sale. Both Violet and her mother, Miriam, were found guilty of fraud and were sentenced to three years penal servitude [prison with hard labour]. Miriam fainted, but Violet showed no emotion as they were sent to Derby jail for an extended stay. During the three years imprisonment Miriam's health deteriorated and she was ultimately to die in 1920 at the age of just 69, but her daughter yet again did a vanishing act. Since her release no trace has been found. Perhaps she assumed yet another alias or maybe she went abroad to avoid publicity and probably to start yet another scam. Derbyshire's own vanishing lady continues to be elusive until someone, somewhere, can reveal where she is now laid to rest.

DO YOU RECOGNISE



Another unknown. This one [and another one very much like it] simply has George Cooper written on the back of it. Which one is George? Does anyone recognise any of the family members? Contact us if you can help

YOUNG V YOUNG

The petition was that of the wife by a divorce by reason of the cruelty and adultery of her husband, Mr Charles Taylor Young, formerly a large farmer of Bakewell, Derbyshire. There was no defence. Mr Barnard, who appeared for the petitioner, said that the parties were married on June 18th 1872, at St Matthew's church, Manchester. The respondent frequently assaulted his wife, and against him there were three charges of adultery. One was with a servant girl, but that was condoned. In June 1889 a young girl named Elizabeth Lovett came to live at the house with her parents. The mother had her suspicions aroused and she had the girl examined by a doctor. As soon as the respondent heard of this he disappeared and went to America, he not having since been heard of. Mrs Alice Young, the petitioner, was called, and stated that there was one child of the marriage. She said that the respondent, soon after the marriage, committed an assault upon a woman, and was sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment with hard labour. She went to America during that time and afterwards lived with him. He was cruel towards her and her child, and tried to choke her. He had bruised her terribly. When taxed he admitted having had a child by the servant Taylor. Afterwards the Lovetts came into her husband's service. Their daughter was only ten years of age. There was a warrant issued against her husband in respect of this young girl, after which he left the country. Before he left he executed a power of attorney in regard to the stock on the farm which had been realised. Corroborative evidence was given. His Lordship pointed out that this was a case for the Public Prosecutor, and he hoped that it would be exercised. The respondent could be found in America. The case was a very bad one. Not only was the respondent guilty of abominable acts of cruelty to his wife, but he committed adultery with two young women, by each of whom he had a child. At the present time he was a fugitive from justice on a charge of rape upon a child of tender years. He [the learned judge] could only hope that there was some authority in this country who would see if it were possible to put in force the law against this man by means of the Extradition Treaty, that he could be brought to condign punishment. There would be a decree nisi, with costs, and custody of the child. Mr Barnard applied that the Court should declare, according to the Act of Parliament, that the father was not a fit person to have the custody of the child. His Lordship asked the object. Mr Barnard said it was in the event of the wife's death. His Lordship granted the application.

Illustrated Police News, 10th May 1890

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ROWBOTTOM TIMELINE

A Rowbottom History: An Introduction;

In continuation of my research into my maternal family, the Rowbottoms, lately of Newtown, New Mills, I have managed to push them back to my 3x gt Grandfather, born around 1776 in the Chisworth area, near Glossop. Several of his various children went on to have textile connections. His eldest, John (b1803) was my gt Grandfather Francis' (born Frank in 1848) father. Francis moved to Newtown, New Mills around 1875, where his youngest, James Edward was born in 1880. James Edward's youngest daughter, Dorothy (b1916 was my mother). Several of John's siblings, and sons were textile entrepreneurs, and this article attempts to put these familial textile links into a timeline.

Briefly, the bulk of the family stayed in the Chisworth/Charlesworth/Glossop area, with one line branching out to Rowarth, then Audenshaw in Manchester, and my line eventually leaving for Newtown around 1875 (at that time Newtown was part of Disley Stanley in Cheshire)

Starting at Chew Wood, Chisworth

I have a speculation to put forward, based on the supposition that Chew Wood Mill, was actually a cotton spinning mill, which supplied yarn for its own band making. Also, that if it ever was, it had ceased as a rope making enterprise by the early 1800's, because there are no references to be found that suggest otherwise. Considering other references, any rope walk there was, was probably used in Bandmaking. Information from Outhwaite's rope making museum infers that Banding was the name given to short lengths of rope, as used for tethering cattle in pens, or was the twine/tape/thin rope (cord) used for, for instance, driving textile spindles. I would not have thought that the production of twine or cord required the use of a rope walk, but I am awaiting a further response from Outhwaites on that subject. However, re-reading the memoirs of a Chisworth local, Hannah Bocking (http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~dusk/hannah_bocking.html), I judge that her use of the term Baut refers to string, twine or cord (*a term not known to Outhwaite's, so perhaps a local reference*), and that twice she refers to the Baut Walk (*on further reflection, Hannah's memoirs would originally have been hand written, so I could envisage that 'Baut' may just have been misread from 'Bant', itself a corruption of 'Band'*) at Kinderlee Mill, which on the Chisworth O/S map of 1879 is shown as having a Rope Walk.

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From this, either the term 'Bant' included rope, or that in the 19th century, banding was also produced in a rope walk. The reason behind these observations is that, as previously remarked, there are no references to Ropemaking at Chew Wood, only Bandmaking, and that after the 1871 census, all subsequent references are to Cotton Spinning only. A 1962 newspaper picture showing Chew Wood Mill in 1914, and referring to it's recent demolition as a wooden structure is misleading. The mill may well have been demolished then, but it was the stone structure with the small-paned windows, attached to three cottages. These now, and for some time, condensed from three into two dwellings (*One occupied by a Kate Barnes, a Rowbottom by birth, and a relation of ours - see later in the piece*). The reference to a wooden structure, I believe, refers to a rope walk that probably once stood behind the mill, but was, I think, demolished prior to the Ordnance Survey map of 1879, which shows land typical of rope walk use. This supposition tends to be supported by the change in occupations of Chew residents between the 1871 and 1881 censuses.

An 1838 wedding certificate notes that 3x gt Grandpa James is an Inn Keeper in Chew, but by 1841, he would SEEM to have passed the hamlet's Queens Arms pub over to his eldest son John, as James is listed merely as a Bandmaker, and son John merely as a Publican - positions confirmed by **1841 Pig-got's Directory**. The once pub is now a four storey residential property, and the only one on the hamlet that fronts the main road.

References in the **1855 PO Directory**; to a Joseph Cooper & Joe is, I believe, a mis-quote for Joseph Cooper & Son. And the question of Coopers owning Holthouse, Chew Wood, & Kinderlee mills is a vexing one, as these references crop up too often for it to be an error in the PO Directory. I have therefore made a speculation which has few facts to back it up, but may answer other questions:

So... At some point, whether from it's original construction in 1795, or not, Chew Wood was a Cooper mill. It must have been let to James Rowbottom Snr, sometime prior to his first directory appearance in 1835. He was the tenant Manufacturer up until his move to Manchester to help out his son (John's brother) Thomas, sometime between 1843 and 1851, -hence his inclusion in the Trade Directories. Up to his departure, James appeared to be helped out by his eldest son, (& Frank's father), John, and probably by Henry, his second son, along with John's eldest son, 14 year old James (they are all shown

as Bandmakers at Chew in 1841). In 1848, John lists himself as a Bandmaker on Frank's birth certificate. However by 1851, John appears to be solely occupied with the Queens Arms, Thomas has moved from the Little Mill at Rowarth, and settled in the Ardwick area, (around 1843), and that the Coopers must then have taken back the running of the mill -John's eldest James, being not much more than a teenager, (*and who in 1851 is a 23 year old married cotton weaver living in Fattingshey* (a row of cottages at the Holthouse end of Chisworth), *and therefore probably working for the Coopers at nearby Holthouse mill*). In 1856 two significant things happen. Frank's grandfather, James dies, and also Joseph Cooper & Sons begin to get into difficulties, and pass the tenancy of Chew Wood to gt Grandpa Frank's father, John, who is possibly partnered by his son James, and assisted by middle son, 20 year old Samuel (See **1857 Whites Directory**). In 1859, Joseph Cooper & Sons finally goes bankrupt, allowing 31 year old James (Frank's eldest brother), to take on the tenancy of Holthouse Mill. This probably leaves John working both Chew Wood, with the assistance of middle son Samuel, then aged 23, and the Queens Arms (*see 1861 census*).

A 'sideline' to this part of the timeline review concerns Gt Gt Grandpa John's middle brother, Thomas. He practiced a ropemaking trade away from the main family textile operation in Chew Wood, -at the Little Mill, in Rowarth. My research suggests that Thomas moved away from Chew, and married a girl from near Rowarth in 1835. (*That year one Thomas Wells was settling up his new tenancy at Little Mill and was possibly looking for assistance, and that the news reached Thomas via his father's in-laws who lived at Gun farm, just above Rowarth, or via his own in-laws who lived near nearby Moorend*). In 1837, Thomas Wells goes bankrupt, and the owner, a Thomas Nield, offers the contents of the mill for sale. (See *'The lost mills of Rowarth -New Mills Local History Society'*) Being 'in situ', it is my supposition that Thomas Rowbottom purchased these contents (*perhaps with help from his father*), and takes on the tenancy. In 1841, he is recorded in the census as a Ropemaker of Little Mill, living there with his family.

In December 1842, his wife dies, followed three weeks later, at the beginning of January 1843, by the mill's owner, Thomas Nield. As commented in my previous article, Thomas then moved away to the Ardwick area of Manchester -probably because shortly after these deaths, his late wife's sister became pregnant by him.

In 1851, he is listed as a Rope Maker (employing 5 people), and now living on Ashton Road, Openshaw. At this point he has living with him his 2nd wife (*his ex sister in law*), 5 children, and his parents (James and Mary -who have joined him from Chisworth), with James also shown as a Rope-maker. There is at least one other in the household, but due to damaged records, this person cannot be identified. However, I believe it is likely to be Thomas' brother Henry, who has no separate census record, and in 1841 was a Bandmaker at Chew.

In 1855, 50 year old Rope-maker, Henry, dies at Gorton lane, Openshaw, and Thomas' life in the mid 1850's is characterised by more deaths in the family. Henry's death follows that of Thomas' second wife, Mary, who had died in Openshaw in 1853. At some similar period (*as yet unfound*) his mother, Mary, also dies. In 1856, his father, James, now back in Chew Wood, dies. The following year, 1857 having at some point re-located (*and downsized?*) to Urtley's Yard, Dukinfield, Thomas himself dies. Perhaps he is on his own, or maybe because his children are all under 21, but his death informant is a neighbour, Martha Rhodes. His death certificate lists him as a Rope Maker (*Employed/Self-employed/Retired?*)

Back in Chew.

At the 1861 census, John is (*nominally*) still running both the Queens Arms (*at least his wife Betty probably is*), along with Chew Wood, (although he is to die some three months later of a probably lingering illness -an enlarged liver). His son 25 year old Samuel is shown as an 'Employer' at Chew Wood Mill, so is undoubtedly in charge there, whilst his 33 year old son, James (jnr), is still at Fatinghey, as a Beerseller at their home, the Oddfelloes Arms, and also as a Bandmaker, running Holehouse Mill. At this point sons 15 year old John jnr, and 12 year old Frank are at home in Chew Wood, probably helping in the mill there on a part-time basis.

The **Harrod's Directory of 1870** suggests that at that point, Samuel is still operating the main body of Chew Wood Mill, as a Cotton Spinner, whilst James has expanded out of Holehouse, taking charge of the band making facilities of Chew Wood. However, before the 1871 census, Samuel occupies premises at (*or all of?*) Meadow Mills on Shepley Street, in Glossop. He also moves with his family into Glossop. At this point, James jnr takes over the lease/ownership(?) of the remainder of Chew Wood Mill. He then moves house from Fatinghey, up to Beech House, at what is now known as Lee

Head, (just above Holehouse), between Chisworth and Charlesworth. It is a reasonable assumption that at that point he leaves his brother Frank, who, in 1871, is a 23 year old Cotton Band Maker of Chew, to run the mill. (1875 - Frank lists himself on his premature daughter Elizabeth's birth and death certificates as a 'Master Cotton Bandmaker')

Probably following Frank/Francis' departure for Newtown shortly afterwards (his obit implies that he went to New Mills in 1875), the ropewalk at Chew is demolished (It is not on the 1879 O/S map), and bandmaking activities cease. He is succeeded at the mill by James' eldest son, George, who had moved into Chew from Fatinghey by 1881. Whereas George is listed as a Cotton Bandmaker in 1871, he is subsequently shown as an (employed) Cotton Mill Manager, thro' to a Cotton Spinner (Employer) in 1901 -presumably having taken over the reins from his, by then, 70-odd year old father.

And Beyond...

Following the 'explosion' of the Rowbottom families involved in textiles into Chew, Chisworth, Charlesworth, and Glossop, and latterly New Mills, I have tried to put together a narrative of who was doing what, where, and when, from 1875 onwards. To help identify people, I am coding them using a variety of fonts, as follows:

James, eldest brother of **Frank/Francis** **George**, **James'** eldest son
 Samuel, **Frank's** middle brother
James' children **Frank's children** **George's children**
Sam's children, & Grandchildren

The bulk of the information, and suppositions, have come from census returns, and BMDs, however, there are also contributions from various Trade Directories, and from the memoirs of Hannah Bocking.

Having moved to Newtown in the mid-late **1870s**, and living on what was then Hayfield Road, but now called Albion Road, **Francis** makes his first independent trade appearance, in **1879**, at Warksmoor mill, as a Candlewick Manufacturer (*see New Mills Local History Society's 1991 book, 'The Mills of New Mills'*)

Then, **1881** sees **George** installed at Chew Wood Mill, as a Cotton Mill Manager, whilst his father, **James** has removed to Beech House, just above Holehouse, from where his principal activity is centred round the mill there. **James** has at home three daughters, and three of his sons, 25 year old **William Thomas**, a Cotton Rope Maker -probably at Holehouse, **Benjamin Harri-**

son, a 22 year old Book Keeper, also probably at Holehouse, and 15 year old scholar, **James Henry**

Meanwhile, **James'** second son, **Joseph**, is married, and living in the row of cottages next door to his parents' house. There he is listed as Bandmaker, probably also working at Holehouse Mill.

Having moved from Chew to Meadow Mill in the early 1870's **Samuel** is recorded as a Cotton Spinner there in 1881, assisted by (*and still living at home*), 18 year old Band Makers **Herbert John**, and 14 year old **Oswald**. Also at home, too young to work, are **Samuel jnr**, **James Hervey**, and **Lewis Arthur**. Meanwhile, eldest son, 22 year old **Allen** has just married, and has moved to Bradford, W. Yorkshire, where he has a Sales related occupation (*at Samuel's warehouse over there?*), and where he remains until around 1910, when he returns to take up a Spinning Manager's position at Meadow Mills, and dies in 1917.

Over in Newtown, **Francis** is living at the corner of Warksmoor Road, and Hayfield (now Albion) Road, and is recording himself as a 'Cotton Spinner and Doubler, employing 54 hands.

Sometime after the 1881 census, **James Rowbottom** acquires, or sets up business in, Hurst Mills on Sheffield Street, Glossop, not too far from Samuel in Meadow Mills.

In 1885 there is a report (detailed in my previous piece) of a fire in the top room of 'Warksmoor Mill, worked by **Francis Rowbottom**, Cotton Manufacturer'.

In 1890, **Francis'** elder son, 19 year old Josiah, dies and is recorded as a Cotton Mill Operative (*working at Warksmoor I would think*). **Francis** records himself on the death certificate as a 'Cotton Band Manufacturer'. Later that year, **Francis'** fire appliance is the first in attendance at a fire which guts Livesley's chemist's shop in New Mills High St. (*High Peak Reporter*)

Also in 1890 Chisworth Methodist Chapel is re-built, and of interest, when looking through the Re-building Committee membership, I can see that 7 of the 16 members are related to our Rowbottoms through blood or marriage, eg:

- 1): James Clayton, aged 74, originally from Adlington, Poynton, Ches. & father of Abel below
- 2): Abel Clayton, aged 44, son of James C above, and husband of Sarah Harrison (nee Rowbottom -daughter of James, and sister of George, below)
- 3): George Cooper, aged 53, son of Betty (nee Rowbottom- daughter of James R Snr)
- 4): Thomas Ollershaw, aged 45, brother-in-law of Jesse Robinson (they married Varley sisters)
- 5): Jesse Robinson, aged 34, brother of Alice Hannah, -wife of Francis Rowbottom
- 6): James Rowbottom, aged 63, son of John, & eldest brother of Francis Rowbottom
- 7): George Rowbottom, aged 41, son of James above

Then by 1891, there is 43 year old **George**, still at Chew as an 'employed' Mill manager (employed by his father?), and also **George Edmund (future grandfather of Kate Barnes, mentioned on P1)**, a 19 year old Cashier, along with John a 17 year old Book Keeper.

25 year old **James Henry** is married and living in Chew, next door to his brother **George**. He also, is an employed Cotton Mill Manager (*I am not sure how to explain how there can be two Mill Managers in such a small mill as Chew Wood, unless they were working shifts, or JH is a trainee*).

Joseph, at 38 years of age, is still near his parents, and is a Rope Maker at Holehouse Mill, alongside 35 year old **William Thomas**, now married and living in Fittinghey. Another Holehouse employee is 32 year old Book keeper **Benjamin Harrison**, who will remain unmarried and living at Beech House throughout his life.

As for Samuel and his children in 1891, with 32 year old **Allen** still at the warehouse in Bradford, 57 year old Samuel is operating at Meadow Mill, and shown as a Cotton Manufacturer (employer). 28 year old **Herbert John**, who is living at home still, is now an 'employed' Mill Manager in Band Making, which suggests to me that he is manager of the band making section in what seems to be quite a large enterprise. **Oswald**, who had married in 1888 and moved along Shepley Street to No41 (*a house occupied up to then by John, brother of Frank and Samuel*), is now a 24 year old Cotton Weaver, working, I suspect, at Meadow Mill. Samuel's fourth surviving son, **Samuel jnr**, is a 22

year old Mill Clerk (*at Meadow Mill?*), living at home, whilst 15 year old **James Hervey** is at boarding school in Heaton Norris, Stockport, and destined to emigrate to Canada in 1907, and die there in 1913, aged 37.

At Warksmoor Mill in Newtown, 43 year old **Francis** records himself as a 'Cotton Manufacturer', living on Albion Road (*but now in the 6th property up from the junction with Union Road*), along with wife **Alice Hannah**, and his surviving children, 21 year old Rhoda, and 10 year old James Edward.

There are entries in the 1891 Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers Directory for both **James** and **Samuel**:

James Rowbottom, Cotton Spinner and Cotton Banding Manufacturer, Hurst Mill, Glossop, and Hole House Mill, Broadbottom (32,000 spindles), and:

Samuel Rowbottom, Cotton Banding and Smdlwares, Meadow Mill, Glossop

Francis makes his first Directory appearance as: Francis Rowbottom, Cotton Spinner, Manufacturer and Doubler, Warksmoor Mill. In addition, **Francis** also appears in **Kelly's 1891 Directory** for Derbyshire, in the New Mills section, being listed as a member of the New Mills Local Board.

In January 1892, another fire at Warksmoor mill is reported, seriously affecting both floors, and taking an hour to put out, with the help of appliances from Hayfield, Birch Vale, Watford Bridge Mill, and Brunswick Mill.

The 1892 edition of **Kelly's Directory** also marks the last directory entry for **Francis**, showing him as a 'Candlewick Manufacturer, Cotton Band Manufacturer, Cotton Spinner and Doubler' (was this using the rope walk that appeared to be part of the mill in the 1896 O/S map?)

In 1893, **Francis** is added as a Trustee for St. Georges Road Methodist Chapel (then the principle Wesleyan chapel in the area).

Also in 1893, a 1914 newspaper article (*from the unpublished Rowbottom Family History Vol 3*) suggests, **James Rowbottom** took on a new lease on to extend 'the' rope walk from 805 yards to 4,194 yards, but it's unclear which mill this relates to. However, speculating as I have about Chew, and having seen Holehouse, and seen the old O/S maps of the mill, with its huge

2nd rope walk, I am almost certain that the report refers to Holehouse.

Kelly's Directory of Derbyshire for 1895 records **James** as a Cotton Doubler at Chew, a Cotton Spinner and Manufacturer at Holehouse, and Hurst mills, and also a Cotton Band manufacturer at Holehouse. Samuel is shown as a Cotton Spinner, Band Maker, and Manufacturer at Meadow Mills, whereas **Francis** is listed as a Cotton Doubler, and Cotton Band Manufacturer (*at Warksmoor Mill, Newtown*). Both the 1895 and 1899 **Kelly's Directory of Derbyshire** list Chew Wood as a doubling facility, under the auspices of **James**.

In March 1897, **Francis** files for bankruptcy, and in June 1897, there is a sale notice in respect of textile machinery by the Trustees appointed in the respect of the bankruptcy of **Francis Rowbotham** of Warksmoor Mill, New Mills

Kelly's 1899 Directory of Derbyshire repeats the 1895 entries in respect of **James** and **Samuel**, but a surprise entry is: Warksmoor Mill Co -J T Hambleton, Manager. This can only be John Thomas who married **Francis'** daughter Rhoda in 1893, so here's a speculation -did **Francis** have 'private' means which allowed him to buy back the contents of Warksmoor from the Trustees, and become involved behind the scenes in some capacity, even though he had recently been made bankrupt? Also, how did John become involved in managing such an enterprise as his previous and subsequent occupations had nothing to do with textiles? (*My previous article dealt with this scenario in more detail, suggesting it was probably down to Francis' machinations*).

This first part of my maternal family's time line concludes in 1900. In the next issue I will be exploring 20th century events from the 1901 census onwards, onto the conclusion of the family's involvement in textile production.

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