

Sheffield and District Family History Society

*The Flowing Stream* ~



Summer 1998

Volume 19  
Number 2

## **FUTURE PROGRAMME - 1998**

Meet 7.30 pm Baptist Church, Cemetery Road (entrance Napier Street) unless otherwise stated.

- Mon. 15 June **Practical Family History Meeting**  
Bring along a clipboard or hard cover book, and a pen or pencil.  
No special skills or knowledge required
- Mon. 20 July **Quarter Sessions** by Gill Briscoe
- Mon. 21 Sept. **Victorian Working Class Housing in Northern England**  
by Susan Deal
- Mon. 19 Oct. **The Mayflower Pilgrims in England Holland and America**  
by Malcolm Dolby
- Mon. 16 Nov. **Practical Advice Session** from a member of the Conservation Unit  
of Sheffield libraries

## **ROTHERHAM BRANCH PROGRAMME**

Meet 7 pm at the WEA Rooms, Corporation Street, Rotherham.

- Thurs. 4 June **All Saints' Parish Church, Rotherham** by Martyn Taylor
- Thurs. 2 July Open evening
- August No meeting
- Thurs. 3 Sept. **The Village of Wickersley and Personal Experiences in Tracing Family history** by Leslie Beckett
- Thurs. 1 Oct. Open evening
- Thurs. 5 Nov. To be arranged
- Thurs. 3 Dec. Open meeting
- 1999
- Thurs. 7 Jan Annual General Meeting

# THE FLOWING STREAM

Journal of Sheffield and District Family History Society

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Copy days for the Society's Journals are 28 Feb., 31 May., 31 Aug., 30 Nov.

## THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society is open to anyone interested in the study of Genealogy and Family History. Monthly meetings are held at Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Cemetery Road, Sheffield (Napier Street entrance) on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7.30 p.m. during the winter months and excursions are arranged for the summer. The Society's library is held at Sheffield Archives, 52, Shoreham Street, Sheffield S1 4SP and is available during their normal opening hours. The Society caters for the Metropolitan Districts of Sheffield and Rotherham. The annual subscription is £8 (and £10 for joint membership-only one journal); £8 overseas surface mail and £10 overseas airmail.

The OFFICERS at present are;

**President** Professor David Hey.  
**Chairman** Mrs Jo Rundle, 75, Sunnyvale Road, Totley, Sheffield S17 4FA  
**Secretary** Mrs Judith Pitchforth, 10, Hallam Grange Road, Sheffield S10 4BJ  
**Treasurer** Mrs Eileen Allen, 25, Boston Castle Grove, Moorgate, Rotherham S602BA  
**Editor** Mrs Denise Marsden, "Burnside", Low Bradfield, Sheffield S6 6LB

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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**Non-Committee Strays Coordinator** Mr R.M. Bunting, "Firgrove", Horseshoe Lane, Ash Vale, Nr. Aldershot, Hants. GU12 5LL

**Non-Committee Burial Index Co-ordinator** Mrs H. Gillott, 4, Bents Crescent, Dronfield, Sheffield S18 2EY

### ROTHERHAM BRANCH

Meetings are held at the W.E.A. Rooms, Corporation St. Rotherham 7-9 p.m. on the 1st Thursday of each month except August. Members of the Sheffield Society are welcome to attend meetings.

#### ROTHERHAM BRANCH OFFICERS.

**Chairman** Mr Colin Ryder, 10, Hall Grove, Moorgate, Rotherham S60 2BS  
**Secretary** Mr Ron Bye, 12, Hall Grove, Moorgate, Rotherham S60 2BS  
**Treasurer** Mrs Pauline Quail, 90, Middle Lane, Clifton, Rotherham S65 2TE  
**Speaker Co-ordinator** Mrs Hazel Hough, 16 Fairfield Close, Bramley, Rotherham S66 0XY

- The Society is a member of the Federation of Family History Societies.
- Contributions and letters for publication should be sent to the Editor. All other correspondence on Society matters should be sent to the Secretary.
- Contributors are reminded that articles and material submitted for publication should not be subject to Copyright.

Material for publication is accepted on the understanding that, if it is used, it will be recorded and stored on computer in whatever program is deemed appropriate.

#### Please note:

Advertisements are included in good faith as a service to members. The Society accepts no responsibility for any contracts made between advertisers and members.

## EDITORIAL

Our May meeting celebrated the achievements of the first twenty one years of our Society. We must now look forward to the years ahead and aim to achieve even greater successes in the fields of indexing and transcribing for the benefit of all researchers in the Sheffield and Rotherham areas.

My apologies to anyone who found a Members' Interest surname but no details of the researcher of that surname interest. In Vol.19 No.1 *all* the entries from Vol. 18 were repeated instead of *only* those relating to the members listed in the journal! All the missing addresses can be found in this edition on page 50.

Thank you to all contributors to this edition. Please keep sending in your copy. Increasing the size of the journal means that much more material is needed for each issue.

## NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes the following new members:

- Mrs A. Addy, 74, Higgins Lane, Burscough, Nr. Ormskirk, Lancs. L40 7SD  
Dr & Mrs E. & M. Bailey 18, Cromwell Place, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 7LF  
Mrs Jean Barnes, 1, Beech Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington WA4 6LT  
Mrs Caroline Barrett, 75, Altwood Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4PS  
Mr Roy Blewett, 5, Mellors Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6EY  
Mr & Mrs A. Braitsford, 65, Charnock Dale Road, Sheffield S12 3HQ  
Mrs Anne M. Burnham, "Sparrows", 4, Links View Avenue, Brockham,  
Betchworth, Surrey RH3 7EP  
Mrs A. Burns, 14, Rushley Close, Sheffield S17 3EC  
Ms Kathryn Christiansen, Horsell, Woking, Surrey GU21 4UT  
Mr Glyn Collier, 70, Newton St. St. Faiths, Norwich, Norfolk NR10 3AD  
Mr Glynn Connor, 72, Newfield Green Road, Sheffield S2 2BR  
Mrs Joyce Cutler, 12, High Lanes, Heworth, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE10 0PD  
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Mr Michael N. French, Melford Hall, Dungworth, Sheffield S6 6HE  
Mrs Zita O.H. Goddard, 14, Firs Drive, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 7AQ  
Ms Cathy Grayson, 101, Ditton Hill, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 5EJ  
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Mr E. A. Harris 255, Dobcroft Road, Sheffield S11 9LG  
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Mrs Margaret Haw, 6, South View Road, Shirebrook Park, Glossop, Derbyshire SK13 8SP  
Mrs J.M. Higgins, 5, Slaidburn Avenue, Chapeltown, Sheffield S35 2EN  
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 Mr Vincent Parkin, c/o CSFB, 11, Madison Av. New York, NY 10010-36, 3629, USA  
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### *Resignations*

Mrs P.J. Easley; Mrs H.M. Everatt; Mrs Sally Hammond; Mr F.W. Haxworth

Mr I.D. McDonald; Mr I.S. Rae; Mrs J. Simmons

### *Obituary*

We regret to announce the deaths of Mrs Marjorie Shirt and Mr K. Simpson. Our sympathy is extended to the families of both members.

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## NEWS AND NOTES

### **The Local History of Family Names**

Professor David Hey gave the 1997 Phillimore Lecture to the British Association for Local History on the Local History of Family Names. A copy of the lecture can be found in the Society library in the Nov. 1997 edition of "The Local Historian", the journal of the British Association for Local History. He describes the methods he used in the study of surnames and shows how such studies can be helpful in family history research.

### **Is your family connected with Charlie Peace, the murderer?**

Rob Bruce of Warrington is seeking information about the Sheffield criminal and murderer Charlie Peace. His family history research has uncovered a link to the 'Peace' family from the Nursery Street/Wicker area and he would like to hear from any descendants of Charlie Peace or from anyone with information about this part of the family. All information to Rob Bruce, 29, Pendle Gardens, Culcheth, Warrington WA3 4LU e-mail: rbruce7416@aol.com

*(Taken from the Sheffield Reporter, Feb/Mar 1998)*

### **Percy-Piercy FHS**

The Percy-Piercy FHS has a worldwide database to assist people with research into their forebears with this surname. Send for details of the society together with your queries to Brian Piercy, 32, Ravensdale Avenue, North Finchley, London, N12 9HT.

### **Society of Genealogists Lectures and Courses**

A leaflet giving details of the many lectures and courses run by the Society of Genealogists and open to non-members can be obtained by writing to them at 14, Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA .

### **The Burial Index for St James' Parish (near Sheffield Cathedral)**

This is now available. It is available on 3.5 inch HD disk at £3.00 (UK) and £3.50 sterling (overseas) including p&p. from Mrs Judith Pitchforth, 10 Hallam Grange Road Sheffield S10 4BJ.

### **Mormon Family History Centre, Grenoside**

The Family History Centre at Grenoside has re-opened. Its *new* telephone number is 0114 245 3124.1

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **Membership cards needed for meetings!**

In response to a request by the Church authorities members attending our meetings at Cemetery Road Baptist Church Hall are asked to bring along their **membership card to each meeting** so that the person on duty at the door can identify them as bona fide members of the Society. Thank you.

### **Dates of committee meetings**

If you wish to raise any matter with the committee the dates of meetings are in the AGM minutes.

### **Are you connected with John Pegg, born 1897 in Sheffield?**

We have been sent an In Memoriam column about him from a Winnipeg newspaper. After 25 years service in the Royal Navy he retired in 1937 and went to Canada and became a member of the Royal Canadian Navy. Contact the Editor for further details.

### **Family history in the Indian Subcontinent**

If your ancestors were in India or Southern Asia for any time whilst that area was under British occupation *The British Ancestors in India Society*, founded in Sheffield in 1995, may be able to help. The society is for anyone with an interest in India during British occupation. It has established an archive and a computer database where members and non-members can add the names and any other details or information about their ancestors who were in India. All donations of photographs or other items of interest are warmly accepted.

For further details contact the secretary, Mr Paul Rowland, 2, South Farm Avenue, Harthill, Sheffield S26 7WY.

*(Taken from the Sheffield Reporter, Apr/May 1998)*

### **Belgian composer and pianist Arthur Wilford**

A Belgian researcher is seeking information about Wilford who spent WW1 as a refugee in Sheffield. Please send any information to Diane Gascoigne, 80, Cobden View Road, Sheffield S10 1HS. Any other information on Belgian refugees is also welcome, for personal interest and eventual deposit in Local Studies.

*(Taken from the Sheffield Reporter, Apr/May 1998)*

### **Would you like to help the visually impaired?**

Nick Chetwood of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association (GDBA) is exploring the involvement in Family History, by his members. At the moment his members take part in some amazing activities i.e. trekking in the jungles of Thailand, canoeing, "tandeming" and even skiing and ballroom dancing. Clearly family history poses no problems as long as they have assistance. GDBA Holidays is run as a club and membership is open to sighted people who have a skill to offer and are willing to assist on holidays. In return for help and assistance the cost of the holiday is subsidised to sighted guides. For further details contact Mr Joe Griffiths, 9, Manor Road, Lymm, Cheshire WA13 0AY.

### **Imperial War Museum Exhibitions**

Until 29 Nov. 1918: *Year of Decision*

An exhibition marking the eightieth anniversary of the final year of the First World War. Through photographs, uniforms, personal letters and diaries, the exhibition charts the succession of Allied victories on the Western Front which culminated in the Armistice of 1918.

18 Sept. to 28 Dec. *The First World War Remembered*

An exhibition marking the eightieth anniversary of the end of the Great War.

### **Re-organisation of Registration Services in North Yorkshire**

Currently, there are 10 registration districts in the County each holding its own historical records but currently all with limited access. From the 1st October 1998, it is intended that North Yorkshire will become a single

registration district and whilst retaining the existing network of offices, all historical records will be centralised to a County Repository at Harrogate. This repository will be staffed by a dedicated team who will be able to devote the time and expertise to the proper maintenance of the records and meeting demands for service. This facility will be based at Bilton House, 31, Park Parade, Harrogate. In cases where a "client" wishes to carry out a search themselves, then a separate reading room facility will be available. In addition, it is our intention (from May 1998) to have available within that reading room, access to microfiche copies of all England and Wales records dating back to 1837. Obviously access to these facilities will be subject to payment of the statutory general search fee. The facility will be available five days a week.

Understandably many people will not wish to travel to Harrogate and consequently callers to local offices will be invited to complete an application form (as they are now) and those details will be faxed (or sent) to the County Repository. Copy certificates will then be posted directly to the client. Special arrangements will exist for urgent cases.

## COMPUTER AND INTERNET NEWS

### General Register Office records

In reply to a query from a member - so far as we are aware there are no plans by the GRO to emulate the Scottish Register Office Internet plans.

### Sheffield History Reporter Website

This has been changed to <http://www.earl.org.uk/partners/sheffield.htm>.

## FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS

### Yorkshire Family History Fair Saturday 27 June 1998

This will be held at York Racecourse (Knavesmire Stand) from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. Free parking. Cafeteria facilities. Admission £1.50.

Stalls anticipated include Local Archive Departments; 1881 Census microfiche; Federation Publications; Society of Genealogists; Family Tree magazine; family history societies; local history books; new/secondhand m/f readers; maps; computers; reference books; postcards; advice tables; research aids; census printouts; I.G.I. printouts; Cornish Forefathers Soc.

Our Society will be attending. Come along and support us and enjoy an excellent day out! We will be delighted to meet any of the members who turn up. All offers of help will be gratefully received.

## **Doncaster & District FHS Family History Day Sat. 31 Oct 1998**

To be held at the Yorkshire Residential School for the Deaf, Leger Way, Doncaster from 9 am to 4 pm. In addition to an array of displays and bookstall etc the programme is:

*Her name is Frances* by Anne Batchelor. Every family however humble has a story to tell.

*Reluctant Majesty* by Lizzie Jones. Elizabeth Cromwell's life changes dramatically from country squire's wife to inhabitant of Whitehall Palace.

*A Gradely Yuletide* by Lizzie Jones, A maidservant's view of the banning of Christmas by Oliver Cromwell.

*Life in a Victorian Workhouse* by Ian Dewhurst

Cost: £7.00 without lunch plus £3.50 for lunch if required. Booking form available from Mrs J. Staniforth, "Marton House", 125, The Grove, Wheatley Hills, Doncaster DN2 5SN

## **PRO NEWS**

### **Soldiers' Discharge Documents**

The project to provide a surname index to all Soldiers' Discharge Documents between 1760 and 1854 has been successfully concluded.

### **Officers of the Great War**

A major new series of records has been released for men who had served as officers between the beginning of the war in 1914 and the end of 1920. Some 230,000 men received commissions during this period. In 1914 officers generally came from a small elite who went to public school, but the carnage of war meant that the officer corps was slowly opened up to people from a more humble background. Most files contain correspondence about fairly mundane matters such as pension claims. Occasionally however they include more interesting material, such as details of courts martial. The records are in classes WO339 and WO374 with indexes on microfilm in WO338. A useful leaflet on using these documents is available in the first floor lobby.

**A new edition of the Readers' Guide Army Service Records of the First World War** has been published coinciding with the release of this material. Copies are available from the PRO shop price £6.99 or mail order from PRO Enterprises, (0181-392-5271) £1.40 P & P.

**The PRO Internet address is:**

<http://www.pro.gov.uk/>

## THROUGH THE LETTERBOX

*From Revd. Dennis LI. Nadin, The Hermitage, 201, Willowfield, Harlow, Essex CM18 6RZ*

### Missing Photographs

I am building up an index of photographs of WWI servicemen that appeared in local newspapers during the period 1914-19. Rotherham is well covered and the Sheffield entries should be completed this year. There is a separate Derbyshire index and one for N. Staffs and one for N.E. Cheshire planned. For further information send 2 x 2nd class stamps to the above address marking the top of the envelope WWI

*From Mr E. Caborn, 41, Pretymen Cres. New Waltham, Grimsby DN36 4NU*

Over the past 30 years I have built up indexes of persons bearing the surname of Caban, Caben, Cabon, Caborn(e), Cabourn(e) etc together with details of family groups and backgrounds, totalling some 4,500-5,000 individuals.

The surname with its various spellings now occurs worldwide but was most common and possibly originated in Lincolnshire. I have offered free help to members of the Lincolnshire Family History Society who may have an interest in or connections with the surname and can now extend this offer to members of other neighbouring societies who have a similar interest.

I should be pleased to share details, references etc. upon receipt of an SAE.

*From Mr S. Foulds, 90, Southlands Avenue, Orpingon, Kent BR6 9ND*

Local Sheffield FHS members who are contemplating a summer visit to the new Family Records Centre in London and to the nearby Metropolitan Records Centre and the Society of Genealogists might be interested in the following accommodation.

Right next to the new FRC building is another fine new building which is one of the London School of Economics Student Residential Quarters, This is available to the general public during this year's vacation periods - 21 March to 25 April and 20 June to 26 Sept. Only bed and breakfast will then be available but there are plenty of catering establishments in the area. Application should be made to the Accommodation Officer, Room B508, L.S.E., Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. Tel: 0171 955 7575 Ext. 44 for accommodation at Roseberry Hall. Brochures are available. (Houghton Street will be well known to veterans of the old St. Catherine's.)

Opposite to the FRC is a quiet comfortable pub with ample seating and tables. The 'Royal Mail' provides drinks and sandwiches and in chilly weather fresh hot soup with a crusty roll - very welcome as the FRC can only supply cold drinks.

**Ed's Note:** This letter did not arrive in time for the last journal so maybe it is too late to get accommodation this year but at least those interested will be "in the know" to book early for next year.

*From Edward J. Lowe, 17, Kelsey Park Avenue, Beckenham, Kent BR3 6NL*

The Council of the Association of Genealogists and Record Agents has recommended that the Association be dissolved at its AGM on 24 April. It has proposed a new organisation open to anyone at the discretion of its officers. Applicants will no longer be required to be "engaged in the practice of genealogy" as in its present constitution. England will then be without a body devoted to genealogical practice, such as AGRA claimed to be.

AGRA has consistently refused to assess its members' skill by any examination.

England requires, I believe, a body of genealogists to whom the public can turn with the certainty that its members are of proven competence. I wish to propose to those of your members who undertake research for payment that a new body be formed to be composed only of genealogical practitioners who can demonstrate their competence.

.....the organisation that I have proposed ...will use the term "professional" in the same sense as the true professions: members will be required to "profess" their knowledge and competence by examination or its equivalent.

My colleagues and I will welcome enquiries and comments from your members who are engaged in the practice of genealogy and who believe they can in due course prove their competence, even if it is for a single county.

**Please note:** *The above letter is a précis of a much longer letter sent to the Society. Any member who would like to read the letter in full should contact the Editor for a copy of it.*

## SOCIETY MEETINGS

*Meeting on Monday, 19 January 1998*

### **Painted Fabrics**

Our speaker, Ruth Harman, was instrumental in setting up an exhibition that demonstrated the skills of the workers in a remarkable organisation. The company, Painted Fabrics Ltd. was set up at the end of the first World War but had its origins in 1915. Mrs Annie Bindon Carter and some friends who had trained at Sheffield College of Art went to the Wharncliffe War Hospital to do occupational therapy and art classes with some of the badly wounded men there. One man there, who had lost his hands, was taught to do stencils on fabric.

The success of this one case inspired Mrs Carter to develop the idea into a proper business giving work to men who otherwise would have no hope. She

designed fabrics that the men stencilled and made into small items such as tea cosies and table mats which she began to sell to friends. After the war she obtained premises in West Bar which were converted into workshops for her seven disabled workmen. Earl Haig was a great supporter and visited the works several times.

The business was employing 29 men when it moved to Norton in 1923. The maximum employed was 75 men. The stencils designed by Mrs Carter were hand cut by the men and they began also to process raw fabrics, bleaching and dyeing them as well as stencilling and making them into a range of luxury items such as dresses, shawls, scarves, wall hangings, furnishing fabrics and even theatrical curtains.

Mrs Carter recruited a group of aristocratic ladies to help sell the goods. Private "At Homes" would be held to which over 2,000 guests would be invited. Queen Elizabeth (now the Queen Mother) visited an exhibition and bought two dresses for Princess Elizabeth, and the Princess Royal regularly attended exhibitions. For some time Painted Fabrics was the only company in the North of England that had a Royal Warrant.

For the duration of World War II the company closed down and the men took other jobs to replace able-bodied workers. At the end of the war a few men were taken on and fabric production continued on a smaller scale until 1958 when the decision was taken to wind up the company as WWI veterans were getting old, as were Mrs Carter and her supporters. The company closed in 1958 and its archives together with examples of the fabrics produced were given to Sheffield City Libraries.

*Meeting on Monday 16 February 1998*

#### **A Pub on Every Corner**

Douglas Lamb informed and entertained a well attended meeting with his slides of many of the pubs that used to serve Sheffield people. There were pictures of pubs that have disappeared, pubs that have changed in appearance and a few that are much as they have always been. About most photographs the speaker had a story to tell, some sad, some amusing but all of great interest. The talk generated enthusiastic discussion from the audience.

Renee Bullas thanked him on behalf of a most appreciative audience. Douglas Lamb's book "A Pub on Every Corner" is available in bookshops, price £9.95.

#### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held on Monday 16th March 1998 at 7.30 pm at Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Sheffield.

**Present** The President (Professor David Hey) and 57 members. Mrs Jo Rundle in the Chair.

**Apologies** Mrs E. Allen, Mr D. Bullas, Mr R. Bullen, Professor R. Newton

**Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting** were published in *The Flowing Stream*, Summer 1997. They were agreed on a proposal from Mrs M. Dunn and seconded by Mr P. Marshall. There were no matters arising.

*Reports from officers*

**Chair's Report:** Jo Rundle looked back over the 21 years of the Society and expressed her thanks as a researcher for the amount of work done by some of the members of the Society, in indexing and transcribing the records that exist. She also expressed her thanks to the members of the committee of the Society who had worked together over the past year. She also stressed the need for us to continue to recruit new members, particularly the 'younger generation', and for all the generations to work together to further research

**Treasurer's Report:** (See accounts). Because of illness Eileen Allen had sent in a written report.

- The increase in subscriptions had been due to the renewal slips going out in the Winter Journal, and subscriptions had come in before the end of the financial year.
- The massive increase in the Book Sales was due to the work of Margaret Hume and Jose King, for which she thanked them.
- The amount for 'Projects' should really have been entitled 'Equipment' because it was for the purchase of film/fiche readers.
- She thanked Mr G. Lyon the auditor for his work.

The accounts were approved on a proposal by Angela Kendrick and seconded by Denise Marsden.

**Secretary's Report:** Judith Pitchforth reported that there had been an average attendance of 14 of the 17 committee members over the year. The 1861 census index project had been completed and was now available for sale. The Society had now started on the National Burial Indexing project, with the aim to index all burial records from 1814 – 1855 within our district. The Society had been represented at some of the Family History Fairs around the region, and would do so again next year. The Society now has a web page on the Internet and this has led to an increase in recruitment. She thanked all those who had contributed to the work of the Society around the world.

**Editor's Report:** Denise Marsden reported that the Society had changed publishers during the year, and that the savings have been used to pay for the increase in the size of 'The Flowing Stream'. It will mean that more copy will be needed. She thanked all those members who have contributed to the work she does as Editor.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE  
 YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1997

|                              | 1997        | 1996        |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                              | £           | £           |
| Income                       |             |             |
| Subscriptions                | 5620        | 5539        |
| Journal Sales                | 30          | 25          |
| Donations                    | 27          | 28          |
| Book Sales                   | 1579        | 722         |
| Advertising                  | 96          | 50          |
| Miscellaneous                | 103         | 12          |
| Deposit Account Interest     | 211         | 195         |
|                              | <u>7666</u> | <u>6571</u> |
| Expenditure                  |             |             |
| Stationery and Printing      | 90          | 218         |
| Journal Production Costs     | 2182        | 2414        |
| Journal Postage              | 1135        | 933         |
| Photocopying and Duplicating | 281         | 224         |
| Postage and Telephone        | 504         | 412         |
| Room Hire                    | 372         | 347         |
| Speakers Expenses            | 166         | 90          |
| Books for resale             | 310         | 246         |
| Projects                     | 1192        | 16          |
| Federation Fees              | 136         | 132         |
| Library Expenses             | 119         | 106         |
| Insurance                    | 64          | 58          |
| Sundries                     | 241         | 145         |
| Donations                    | 60          | 5           |
| Accountants Fees             | 85          | 80          |
| Computer Expenses            | nil         | 155         |
| Surplus for year             | 729         | 990         |
|                              | <u>7666</u> | <u>6571</u> |

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
 BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER 1997

|                                       | 1997         | 1996        |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
|                                       | £            | £           |
| Accumulated Fund                      |              |             |
| Balance 1st January 1997              | 7727         | 6737        |
| Surplus for 1997                      | 729          | 990         |
| Creditor- Accountants Fee             | 85           | 80          |
| Subscriptions in Advance              | 1900         | 821         |
| Accumulated surplus- Rotherham Branch | 527          | 437         |
|                                       | <u>10968</u> | <u>9065</u> |
| Assets                                |              |             |
| Current Account- General              | 1792         | 798         |
| Petty Cash Balance                    | 70           | 5           |
| Bank/Cash- Book Account               | 2470         | 1352        |
| Bank Account- Trips                   | 36           | 36          |
| Deposit Account                       | 5172         | 5484        |
| Bank and Cash- Rotherham Branch       | 527          | 437         |
| Stock- Books and Fiche                | 901          | 953         |
|                                       | <u>10968</u> | <u>9065</u> |

Mrs E M Allen ( Treasurer)

Accountants Report to the Committee of  
 Sheffield and District Family History Society

I have verified the financial statements which have been prepared under the historical cost convention. In my opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs at the 31st December 1997.

G Lyon  
 Certified Accountant and  
 Registered Auditor  
 2 St Albans Close  
 Sheffield  
 S10 4DJ

2nd February 1998

**Rotherham Branch Report:** Angela Kendrick read out the Minutes of the Rotherham Branch AGM.

The President, David Hey, presented a bouquet and expressed the thanks of the Society to Margaret Hume, the retiring Bookstall Officer.

**Election of Officials:** The following members were nominated as Officers of the Society at the 1998 AGM:

Chairperson: Mrs J. Rundle  
Secretary: Mrs J. Pitchforth  
Treasurer: Mrs E. Allen  
Editor: Mrs D. Marsden

The following members were nominated as members of the committee:

Minutes Secretary: Miss S. Graves  
Librarian: Mrs S. Hammond  
Membership Secretary: Miss A. Kendrick  
Asst. Librarian: Mr F. Westwood  
Correspondence Sec: Mrs G. Moffatt  
Programme Sec: Mrs S. Carr

Mrs R. Bullas, Miss A. Diver, Ms A. Giller, Mrs P. Heath, Mrs M. Hume

Proposed to elect en bloc by Mrs M Dunn, seconded by Mrs H Gillott.

**Any Other Business:**

- The dates of the Committee meetings were given. They are 1st April, 3rd June, 2nd September, 4th November 1998 and 3rd February 1999.
- The LDS Family History Centre at Grenoside has now reopened. The new telephone number is 0114 245 3124

There was no further business and the AGM closed at 8.05 pm.

**Why the T'Alli Stone?**

After the AGM Marjorie Dunn gave a fascinating illustrated talk on the background research she had undertaken into the detailed history of Sheffield in the early 19th century before writing her books, "The T'Alli Stone" and "The Reluctant Traveller". Although the stories are fictional they are based on incidents that happened in Sheffield and on people in her own ancestry.

***ROTHERHAM BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING***

21 members were present on 8th January 1998 at 7.00 pm in the WEA Rooms, Rotherham for the Annual General Meeting of the Branch.

**Apologies for absence:** Mr C. Edwards, Mrs J. Bye, Mrs C. Illingworth, Mr & Mrs D. Mason.

**Minutes of the Last Annual General Meeting** were read and approved as a true record.

**Matters arising:** The book on Thurgoland and the Walton-Mate families had been deposited in the Society Library.

The Mormon Centre in Grenoside remained closed with no firm date for its reopening.

A Friends of Rotherham Archives Group was now well established and there had been a full programme of events in 1997.

Les Gilberthorpe had resigned from the Sheffield Committee.

**Chairman's Report:** Colin Ryder expressed his pleasure at the friendly co-operation he had received from members during meetings. He felt that the past year had been successful with rising attendances and excellent speakers. We were moving in the right direction but members must continue to suggest and generate ideas for the future so that progress could be maintained.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mrs P. Quail reported on the Branch finances. The balance at the beginning of 1995 was increased from the previous year. This was a healthy state of affairs but we continued to be fortunate that fees and rents remained on the low side. The room rental was set to rise in 1999.

Mrs Quail was thanked for her report which was approved by the members.

#### **Rotherham Branch Balance Sheet for the year ending 31 Dec 1997**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Balance brought forward                           | £ 437 - 45         |
| Subscriptions                                     | <u>£ 566 - 00</u>  |
|   | <u>£ 1003 - 45</u> |
| Rent to W.E.A.                                    | £ 33 - 00          |
| Speakers' Expenses                                | £ 44 - 00          |
| Books for library                                 | £ 15 - 00          |
| Refreshments                                      | £ 13 - 69          |
| Postage   | £ 3 - 57           |
| Portion of Subscriptions paid to the Main Society | <u>£ 367 - 00</u>  |
|   | <u>476 - 00</u>    |
| Balance   | <u>£ 527 - 19</u>  |

**Secretary's Report:** Ron Bye believed that 1997 had seen continued progress. The standard of speakers was extremely high and attendances had continued to rise. The Branch continued to attract new members and the atmosphere at meetings was friendly and encouraging. Relations with the parent body in Sheffield remained cordial and productive and thanks were due to their officials for their help and encouragement.

Steps had been taken to publicise and promote the Branch locally. Good contacts were maintained with Rotherham Archives and Local Studies Centre with members of the Branch involved in various activities to the mutual benefit of members and the Centre. It is regrettable that such an important resource appears to be undervalued by Rotherham Council.

Mr Bye said that it was important that all members should feel involved in Branch affairs; new blood should be brought on to the Committee. A Society without fresh ideas and input became moribund. Ron Bye liked to think that someone else would be willing to take over as Secretary if not this year then in 1999. Any official would willingly provide guidance for a successor.

The Secretary was thanked for his report.

**Speaker Co-ordinator:** Les Gilberthorpe reported on the programme for 1998 that was almost complete. He thanked members for their support but felt that new ideas and a new commitment were now needed for the position of Speaker Co-ordinator. He had therefore tendered his resignation, with regret. He would continue to support the Branch and its programme.

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to Mr Gilberthorpe for his services.

**Membership Secretary:** Miss Angela Kendrick reported that membership remained steady with Rotherham Branch showing an encouraging increase. Recent trends continued with steady enquiries throughout the year.

Miss Kendrick's report was accepted.

**Election of Officers and Committee for 1998:** As a result of discussion and decisions taken by the members the composition of the Committee for 1998 is as follows:

|                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Chairman:             | Mr C. Ryder                     |
| Secretary:            | Mr R. J. Bye                    |
| Treasurer:            | Mrs P. Quail                    |
| Membership Secretary: | Miss A. Kendrick                |
| Speaker Co-ordinator: | Mrs H. Hough                    |
| Meetings Reporter:    | Mr B. Jervis                    |
| Librarian:            | Mrs J. Bye                      |
| Committee Members:    | Mr L. Gilberthorpe, Mr D. Peart |

**Other Business:** Rotherham Archives were once again threatened with cuts. If these took place a 40% cut in staff in two years would result. Closures and restricted service had already detracted from the work of Archives. It was agreed that letters and other means were to be used to acquaint Rotherham Councillors with members' feelings about the proposed cuts.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

### *Rotherham Branch Meeting on Thursday 5 February 1998*

#### **Minding Other People's Business**

Earlier generations always seem to write letters with ease. The amount they wrote was considerable by today's standards. The nib pen, unlike its modern counterpart, was much more laborious and needed dipping into the inkwell every few words.

Roy Young, the speaker, remembered how pens were put to other uses when school children sat in rows and ink pellets were flicked onto the person in front. Nevertheless good handwriting was produced in the copper plate style.

One such letter came from a young boy called Walter to his parents telling them of his urgent need of clean linen. This particular letter was written on a single sheet of paper that was folded, with the writing inside, and then sealed with wax, leaving the clean side for the address.

Before Roland Hill's penny stamp, postage was paid by the recipient, the rate depending on mileage. One letter that was shown was the customary folded sheet, addressed on the outside, which contained nothing. Mr Young explained that a person working away in service would be asked to write and tell the people back home if anything was amiss. On receipt of the letter, holding it up to the light would reveal its contents. If nothing was seen the reply would be "Wrong address" and the postage was avoided. Hence the saying, "No news is good news."

Certain members of the public did not take kindly to the introduction of the Penny Post. Licking the back of the Queen's head was considered degrading. Convention played a large part in Victorian society. A black edged envelope would not only indicate a death in the family but which member by the thickness in width of the black border.

Many more items of correspondence were shown including love letters and one about a farmer's wife who froze to death in the snow. One old Etonian's letter to Robert Peel was nothing more than a scrawl. It seems that the Public School did not teach any style, leaving the letter difficult to decipher.

The bulk of the collection was from Mr Young's family and people who were their friends. Some letters were purchased.

Photographs gave us a glimpse of our forebears but using them as a social indication can be slightly inaccurate because they show people in their "Sunday Best" and not as they would appear normally.

Family correspondence gives us, in the main, a self-created cameo of a person that is therefore more natural and all the more valuable, to complete the mental picture which family historians seek.

*Reported by B.L. Jervis.*

## OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS

*Mrs Zita O.H. Goddard, 14, Firs Drive, Rugby, Warwicks. CV22 7AQ writes, "I have in my possession a medallion inscribed '1st General Secretary W. J. Davies. National Society of Amalgamated Brass Workers. Est. 1872' I think this belonged to my grandfather John Herbert Geo Norburn but on some documents Geo Herbert John. Can anyone shed any light on this?"*

*Mr Jack Pilgrim, 39, Rose Terrace, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4QA* would like to know if the **Charity School in East Parade** was the "Bluecoat" school for orphaned boys. His grandfather was left orphaned in 1874 and was sent to the "Bluecoat School" until he was 14 and was then apprenticed.

*Mr Geoffrey Milnes, 'Seremban', 25, Morley Road, Chase Terrace, Burntwood, Staffs. WS7 8BD* is seeking the marriage of **John Bardwell** (believed born circa 1743 at West Harling Hall, Norfolk) and **Honor Newman** circa 1768 (see *Burke's Landed Gentry 1937*) Formerly of London, Sheffield and Bolton Hall, East Riding of Yorkshire.

He is also seeking the baptism of **Ann Revill** circa 1818 believed at Sheffield, daughter of **George and Sarah Revill (née Pickford)** who married at Sheffield Cathedral on 28 Dec 1916.

*Mrs A. Addy, 74 Higgins Lane, Burscough, Nr. Ormskirk, Lancs LA0 7SD* asks, "Can anyone help me in tracing the Addy family? **John Addy**, son of **Joseph and Ann Addy (née Hall, Hale or Hole)** from Darfield, married **Sarah Tyas**, daughter of **William Tyas** of Mexborough, at Rotherham on 15/3/1829. They had at least four children, **George** b.1829, **Henry** b. 1832, **Joseph Tyas** b. 1835 and **Martha Ann** b. 1838 all baptised at Mexborough.

They moved to Kilnhurst where the family had jobs as potters and glassblowers; Henry married **Hannah Laughton** born in Worksop, and subsequently reared eight (known) children. **William Tyas** b. 1854, **Mary Laughton** b. 1856, **Sarah Ann** bap. 1857, **Hannah** bap. 1860, **Henry** bap. 1861, **Ada** b.1864/5, **Thomas** b. 1865/6 and **Alice** b. 1874/5.

Sarah died in 1858 and John in 1859, both buried at Kilnhurst. Henry, Hannah, and at least four of their children were living in Rotherham at the time of the 1881 census, in Charles Street, William Tyas moving back to Kilnhurst where he married **Ann Radley** in 1883 and from there crossed over the border into Liverpool where he lived out the rest of his life. Any information about the family would be greatly appreciated.

*Mr Brian Piercy, 32, Ravensdale Avenue, North Finchley, London, N12 9HT.* writes "This is a real cry for HELP! Who on earth is this **John Inman (Junior)** whose marriage certificate states that he was "Aged 27, living at 19, Morral Street, Maltby, Sheffield on 23/12/1919, the son of **John Inman, Iron Moulder,**" Because John Inman (Junior) was born in 1891-2; John Inman (Senior) must have been between 5 and 45 years old at the time of the 1881 census. There are 49 such Johns in Yorkshire and several had sons named John. Any information on, or suggestions on how to trace, this family will be much appreciated."

*Mr. P W. Paver of California* asks, "What has happened to my grandfather **Wilson Scholey**? Wilson Scholey was born on 23 June 1867 in Mexborough, South Yorkshire, son of Thomas Scholey, boatbuilder. He was married to **Maud Shepherd** and was a businessman, firstly as a boatbuilder and coalmerchant in Swinton and lastly a grocer in Mexborough. We have traced him using various means until 1913 when he seems to disappear. As Mexborough now comes under Doncaster I have consulted all the lists of Memorial Inscriptions and lists of deaths compiled by the Doncaster Group but have found nothing. There are rumours that he was not a very nice person but this is unimportant, all we wish to know is when he die and where he is buried." Please reply to Mr Paver c/o *J.R. Ashby, Mex. & Dist. Heritage Society, 14, Windermere Close, Windhill Est., Mexborough, South Yorkshire S64 OPT.*

*Mr R.D. Marsh, 66, The Downs, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 2QJ* asks, "Can anyone help with information about my Sheffield ancestors? In 1861 **Walter Marsh** of Sarah Street, a filesmith (Father **John Marsh**, a razor case maker) married **Mary Grear** of West Bar Green. They had five children:- **Herbert, William, Annie, Alfred** and **Edith**. In 1926 their known homes were:- 15, Stewart Road, Sharrow Vale (Mary Marsh née Grear); 23, Glenalmond Road (Alfred); and 69, Penrhyn Road (William). In 1952 William died at 89, Meersbrook Park Road."

*Claire Pearson, 150, Oaks Avenue, Stocksbridge, Sheffield S36 1EN* asks, "Does anyone have any knowledge of two **R.A.O.B. Lodges** (Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes) "**The Hand of Friendship 649**" and "**The Pride of Thurgoland**". My great grandfather **Wilfred Donkersley** was a member c1915-1920. The head office at Harrogate was unable to help."

*Mr John W. Cooper, 4, Marcliffe Road, Sheffield S6 4AG* is interested in the article "Life and times of **Joseph Fearnough March 1898**" that appeared in the "Celebration of 21 years" booklet. He would like to get in touch with either **J.E. Marshall**, the contributor of the article or **Mrs D.G. Ward** the holder of the material. Mr Cooper is researching the family of Joseph's first wife **Hannah Levick**. All information is relevant, particularly anything about **Waterloo Houses**.

*Ms Jennifer M. Uttley, 6, Wasdale Green, North Gate, Cottingham, E. Yorks. HU16 4HN* writes, "I have a copy of the family Bible belonging to **Rhoda Beardesley** b. 20/12/1822 and her husband **James Smith** of Rotherham b. 21/2/1826. James was a cordwainer and they married 30/5/1847. Family names recorded in the Bible are **Mary Jane Smith** b. 2/6/1848 (my gt. gt. grandmother); **John Smith** b. 22/1/1850, d. 26/1/1850; **Ann Smith** b. 5/6/1851, d. 4/10/1860; **Elizabeth Smith** b. 25/7/1853, d. 1/1/1854; **Ellen** b. 15/6/1858

and **Sarah Ann Smith** b. 2/1862. Mary Jane Smith married **Frederick Pearson** b. 1845, a moulder, on 22 June 1875 at Staveley, Derbyshire. Is anyone else researching these names?

My great grandfather **Seth Charles Henry Hall**, b. 15/8/1863 in Sheffield, is recorded in the 1881 census at Nether Hoyles, Bradfield as a farm boy and grandson of **George Hall** - farmer of 71 acres. It appears from oral evidence that he was an only child, his mother died giving birth maybe named Sarah Ann? and his father, a policeman possibly called Charles or George, born c 1836. Can anyone offer any information or details?"

*Mrs Sheila M. Francis, Chapel House, 1, Coed Bach, Pontardulais, Swansea, SA14 1RB* writes, "Does anyone have any information about, or photographs of, a grocery shop which stood on the corner of Catley Road, Darnall from 1900-1910? The shopkeepers were my gt. gt. Grandparents **Thomas Wheelhouse** and his wife **Roshanna née Hammond**. Thomas came from Killamarsh and Roshanna from Eckington. Their children were **Anne, Harry, Emma** and **Tom** (who died in 1991 aged 85). Anne, who married **Harry Renshaw**, died in about 1947 at her daughter **Rose's** address, 47, Willourby Street, Pageham, Sheffield. Anne's son was **Arthur Cyril Renshaw** who died of illness in the First World War, in Salonika. If anyone is a relation or can give me any details/photos of anyone mentioned I shall be most grateful. I never knew the family as I was adopted.

Mrs Francis is also interested in the name **Kimber** in Sheffield 1890-1910 and **Nevin** in Sheffield from 1833 on.

### ADDRESSES OMITTED FROM NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS 19/1

- OS167 Mrs Beverly T. Crompton, P.O. Box 199, Lakeside, MT59922, USA  
OS175 Mr Kenneth Coldwell, Stand 11, Raymond Island, Vic 3880, Australia  
OS177 Ms G. Nadin, 206, Clovelly Rd., Bucklands Beach, Auckland, New Zealand 1704  
OS178 Mrs S. Thomson, 2155, South Millway, Unit 18 Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5L 3S1  
OS179 Mrs Jane Hatcher, 3, Tulare Turn, Joondalup, Perth 6027, W. Australia  
O181 Miss L. Ballard, 125, Churchill Road, Rothesay Bay, Auckland 1310, New Zealand  
OS186 Mr John A. Thomson, PO Box 293, Sengkurong 2702, Bandar Seriegawan, Brunei Darussalam  
OS187 Mrs M. Warren, 61, Shetland Drive, Wantirna, Victoria 3152, Australia  
OS189 Mr Robert Buckler, 2, W. Hamilton Pl., Jersey City NJ 07302, USA  
OS191 Mr R.W. Fairest, Apartado 3314, El Trigal, Valencia 2002, Estado Carabobo, Venezuela  
OS194 Mr R. Davies, 7680, Torbram Road, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L4T 3L8  
541 Mr F. Kurley, 46, St. Quentin Drive, Bradway, Sheffield S17 4PP  
R 844 Mrs Margaret Hindmarsh, 14, Craster Close, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear  
R 888 Miss Marilyn Stenton, Ashmore, Denaby Lane, Old Denaby, Doncaster DN12 4SX  
R 889 Mr G.F. Gambles, 479, Hucknall Road, Sherwood, Nottingham NG5 1FW

- R 891 Mr B.W. Allott, 36, Warren Hill, Rotherham S61 3SX  
R 892 Mr Peter Lidster, 17, Richmond Heights, Lansdown, Bath BA1 5QJ  
R 897 Mr R. Pendleton, 58, Spencer Drive, Ravenfield, Rotherham S65 4PX  
1449 Mrs Patricia Natrass, 12, Carolina Place, Wokingham, Berkshire RE40 4PQ  
1450 Mr & Mrs K. Drake, 11, Cromwell Avenue, Leã, Gainsborough, Lincs. ON21 5HX  
1451 Mrs Alison Darby, 31, St. Anthony Road, Crookes, Sheffield S10 1SF  
1452 Lady Anne Hadfield, The Spinney, 28, Penny Long Lane, Derby DE22 1AW  
1453 Mr Roger Goodhew, 12, Granville Street, Shrewsbury SY3 8NE  
1456 Mr Richard Thornton, 51, Norwood Avenue, Sheffield S5 7OL  
1458 Mr D. Morton, 10, Acacia Close, Townville, Castleford, West Yorks. WF10 3PG  
1459 Mr J.R. Lowings, 21, Lancaster Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1QH  
1462 Mrs L.J. Boyle, 2, Brownberrie Drive, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5PP  
1463 Mr Bernard M. Scaife, 3, Devonshire Drive, Alderley Edge, Cheshire SK9 7HT  
1465 Mrs Kathleen Little, 16, Stradbroke Avenue, Sheffield S13 8LQ  
1466 Mr K.A. Lighton, 40 Heapham Road, Gainsborough, Lincs. DN21 1SW  
1468 Ms Penny Huntington, 2, Bridge Road, New Alesford, Hants. SO24 9HW  
1469 Mrs J. Watters, 90, Wychall Road, Northfield, Birmingham B31 3AJ  
1473 Mrs Maureen Line, 35, St. James Gardens, Balby, Doncaster S. Yorks. DN4 0LH  
1477 Mrs Joan Jeffs, 4 Palmer Avenue, Abbeymead, Gloucester Glos. GL4 5BH  
1478 Revd. D. Li Nadin, The Hermitage, 201, Willowfield, Harlow, Essex CM18 6RZ  
1479 Mrs Lynn Hutchinson, 141 Fleury Road, Sheffield S14 1RA  
1480 Mrs E.J. Ferguson, 33B High Street, Cranfield, Beds. MK43 0DP  
1487 Mr Glyn Beech, 1, Sommerville Place, Helensburgh, Argyll G84 7AS  
1490 Mrs Shirley Lowater, 60 Egremont Way, Stanway, Colchester, Essex CO3 5NJ  
1491 Mrs E. Palmer, 43, Belgrave Road, Minster, Sheerness, Kent ME12 3EE  
1494 Mrs Carol K. Toulson, 15, Dagmar Road, Dagenham, Essex RM10 8XP  
1496 Mrs Rose Clark, 7, Cley Hall Gardens, Spalding, Lincs. PE11 2EA  
1497 Miss Patsy Jennings, 12, Riverside Road, Oxford OX2 0HU  
1500 Mrs Jeannie Elgar, 22, Windermere, Albany Street, London, NW14EP  
R1501 Mrs Margaret Ensor, 20, Rose Hill Avenue, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 5NA  
1502 Mrs Valerie Giles, 23, The Paddocks, Witham, Essex CM8 2DR  
1507 Mr B.L. Martin, 50, Thornton Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA21 3LD  
1508 Miss M. Fearn, 1A, Knoll Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4QT  
1510 Miss J Parker, 85, Findon Street, Hillsborough, Sheffield S6 4QN  
1511 Mr A. Trice, 8, The Oaks, Fleet, Hampshire GU13 8HQ  
1514 Mrs J Gilday, 2 Northcroft Court, South Warnborough, Hook, Hants. RG29 1RW  
1515 Ms Pamela K Cotton, 36 Whalley Avenue, Penkull, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 5NE  
1517 Mr D.J. Beardsall, 45, Ravenscourt Drive, Vange, Basildon, Essex SS16 4JG  
1518 Mr S. Broomhead, 72, The Horseshoe, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.  
HP3 8QU  
1520 Mr J.H. White, 8, Maiden Grove, Sleaford, Lincs. NG34 7GH  
1521 Mrs R. Christopher, 289, Allensbank Road, Heath, Cardiff CF4 3RA  
1522 Mr R. Hayes, Wyches Farm, Soss Moss, Nether Alderley, Macclesfield, Cheshire  
SK10 14TU  
1524 Mrs P.M. Alexander, Lilac Cottage, Edenhall, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 8SX  
1529 Mr L. Russell, 4, Glencoe Road, Nottingham NG11 8LH  
1530 Mr C Jones, 6, Sea View Close, Hest Bank, Lancaster LA2 6BZ  
1531 Mrs C. Dewhurst, 31, Commercial St., Rishton, Blackburn BB1 4NB  
1553 Mrs Julia Foster, 15, Dorchester Road, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire LS24 9JY



|      |                  |                     |          |           |
|------|------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|
| 1590 | Barnes           | Birmingham area     | WAR      | 1790-1900 |
| 1590 | Barnsley         | Sheffield           | YKS      | 1845      |
| 1583 | Beard(e)sley     | Rotherham           | WRY      | pre 1840  |
| 1590 | Bestall          | Sheffield           | YKS      | 1860+     |
| 1590 | Bestall          | London              | LND      | 1860      |
| 1583 | Bingham          | Cowley, Holmesfield | DBY      | pre 1860  |
| 196  | Brooksbank       | Sheffield           | SYK      | c1850     |
| 196  | Brooksbank       | Barnsley            | SYK      | c1840     |
| 1606 | Brown            | Sheffield           | WRY      | 1780+     |
| 1603 | Brown            | London              | MDX      | pre 1881  |
| 1585 | Carter           | Stillington         | YKS      | pre 1900  |
| 1606 | Cawthorn(e)      | Sheffield           | WRY      | 1820+     |
| 1600 | Chadwick         | Rochdale            | LAN      | c 1825    |
| 1568 | Chadwick-Astwood | Sheffield           | YKS      | c 1877    |
| 1551 | Cherry           | Leeds               | YKS      | 1800-1850 |
| 1551 | Cherry           | Sheffield           | YKS      | 1800-1870 |
| 1483 | Clewley          | Attercliffe         | YKS      | 1885+     |
| 1585 | Coates           | Fulford, York       | YKS      | pre 1920  |
| 1584 | Collier          | Nottingham          | NTT      | 1780+     |
| 1584 | Collier          | Lille               | France   | 1820+     |
| 1584 | Collier          | Bombay              | India    | 1870+     |
| 1572 | Collins          | Guilthwaite         | YKS      | pre 1885  |
| 1551 | Collins          | Sheffield           | YKS      | 1800-1890 |
| 1567 | Corbett          | Sheffield           | YKS      | pre 1900+ |
| 1590 | Corner           | Liverpool           | LAN      | 1820+     |
| 1601 | Corr             | France              | YKS      | 19/20C    |
| 1572 | Cowley           | Sheffield           | YKS      | 1861+     |
| 1603 | Coyne            | Ireland             | KIK      | pre 1915  |
| 1603 | Coyne            | India, NW Frontier  | province | pre 1936  |
| 1568 | Currie           | Ecclesfield         | YKS      | c 1863    |
| 1585 | Dancer           | Sheffield           | WRY      | M 19C+    |
| 1601 | De Vaux          | Sheffield           | YKS      | 17C+      |
| 1601 | De Vaux          | France              | YKS      | E         |
| 1583 | Dethick          | Atlow               | DBY      | pre 1800  |
| 204  | Dugger           | Branton             | YKS      | 19C       |
| 1572 | Dwyer            | Sheffield           | YKS      | pre 1848  |
| 1483 | Dyson            | Bolsterstone        | YKS      | 1890+     |
| 1590 | Dyson            | Kirkburton          | YKS      | 1815      |
| 1563 | Dyson            | Sheffield           | YKS      | 1800+     |
| 1603 | Easterbrook      | Sheffield           | YKS      | pre 1875  |
| 1600 | Edwards          | Knighton            | RAD      | c 1845    |
| 1567 | Elliott          | Sheffield           | YKS      | pre 1854+ |
| 1567 | Elliott          | Glossop             | DBY      | pre 1854+ |
| 1572 | Emery            | Sheffield           | YKS      | c 1864    |
| 1540 | Everson          | Sheffield           | YKS      | 19C-E20C  |
| 1572 | Fagan            | Sheffield           | YKS      | pre 1876  |
| 1567 | Fearn            | Sheffield           | YKS      | pre 1854+ |
| 1572 | Fisher           | London              | MDX      | pre 1848  |
| 1567 | Flemming         | Sheffield           | YKS      | pre 1866+ |

|      |                    |                              |           |
|------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1567 | Flemming           | Middlesboro <sup>Ö</sup> DUR | pre 1866+ |
| 204  | Flockton           | Rothwell YKS                 | 18C       |
| 1551 | Foster             | Sheffield YKS                | 1820-1910 |
| 1551 | Foster             | Leeds YKS                    | 1820-1910 |
| 1540 | Fowles             | Leeds YKS                    | 20C       |
| 1540 | Fowles             | Newcastle-u-Lyme STS         | 19C       |
| 201  | George             | Sheffield WRY                | 1840+     |
| 204  | Gibson             | Rothwell YKS                 | 18C       |
| 1606 | Goodchild          | Sheffield WRY                | 1870+     |
| 1601 | Gosney             | Sheffield YKS                | 1881+     |
| 1584 | Grant              | Sheffield SYK                | 1850+     |
| 1584 | Grant              | Manchester LAN               | 1870+     |
| 1584 | Grant              | Leicester LEI                | pre 1870  |
| 1584 | Grant              | Mansfield NTT                | pre 1870  |
| 1568 | Greaves            | Ecclesfield YKS              | pre 1840  |
| 1563 | Greaves            | Sheffield YKS                | 1800+     |
| 1567 | Gregory            | Sheffield YKS                | pre 1910+ |
| 1572 | Habershon          | Catcliffe YKS                | c 1814    |
| 1568 | Hague              | Ecclesfield YKS              | pre 1840  |
| 1583 | Hail               | Sheffield WRY                | pre 1860  |
| 201  | Harrison           | Sheffield WRY                | 1840+     |
| 1459 | Hart               | Southwell NTT                | E19C      |
| 1583 | Hickton            | Skegby NTT                   | pre 1860  |
| 1551 | Hill               | Sheffield YKS                | 1800-1880 |
| 1483 | Hood               | Bristol GLS                  | c 1895    |
| 1551 | Jackson            | Sheffield YKS                | 1800-1880 |
| 1551 | Jeffries           | Sheffield YKS                | 1800-1890 |
| 1603 | Jelfs Brown        | London MDX                   | pre 1881  |
| 1572 | Jinkinson          | Sheffield YKS                | pre 1871  |
| 204  | Johnson            | Garforth YKS                 | 18C       |
| 204  | Johnson            | Sheffield YKS                | M-L 19C   |
| 1602 | Johnson            | Sheffield YKS                | 1800+     |
| 1567 | Jones              | Sheffield YKS                | pre 1908+ |
| 1572 | Kavanah & variants | Sheffield YKS                | c 1864    |
| 1483 | Kelk               | Attercliffe YKS              | 1885+     |
| 1600 | Kershaw            | Dublin DUB                   | c 1815    |
| 1600 | Langley            | Manchester LAN               | c 1813    |
| 1580 | Laughton           | Worksop NTT                  | E19C      |
| 1580 | Lawton             | Worksop NTT                  | E19C      |
| 1600 | Leech              | Rochdale LAN                 | pre 1850  |
| 1563 | Levick             | Sheffield YKS                | 1800+     |
| 1568 | Lowry              | Ecclesfield YKS              | pre 1863  |
| 1572 | May                | Nottingham NTT               | c 1841    |
| 1572 | Miller             | Sheffield YKS                | pre 1778  |
| 1600 | Mills              | Rochdale LAN                 | c 1830    |
| 1590 | Milner             | Sheffield YKS                | 1897+     |
| 1590 | Milner             | Rotherham YKS                | 1897      |
| 1483 | Moyses             | Attercliffe YKS              | 1890+     |
| 1483 | Moyses             | Any                          | Any       |

|      |             |                      |           |
|------|-------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 1568 | Nelson      | Sheffield YKS        | c 1900    |
| 1606 | Noble       | Sheffield WRY        | 1780+     |
| 1606 | North       | Sheffield WRY        | 1800+     |
| 1583 | Odell       | Bromham BDF          | pre 1850  |
| 1606 | Oldham      | Sheffield WRY        | 18 & 19 C |
| 1585 | Panton      | Sheffield WRY        | M 19C+    |
| 1603 | Parrott     | London MDX           | pre 1881  |
| 1583 | Pearson     | Staveley DBY         | pre 1850  |
| 1600 | Phillips    | Bucknell HEF         | c 1845    |
| 1540 | Pilgrim     | Sheffield YKS        | 19C-E20C  |
| 1540 | Pilgrim     | Norfolk NFK          | pre 1600  |
| 204  | Pitchfork   | Warsop NTF           | 18C       |
| 204  | Pitchfork   | Haxey LIN            | 19C       |
| 1601 | Poole       | Sheffield YKS        | 19C       |
| 204  | Rallinson   | Sheffield YKS        | 19C       |
| 204  | Rawlinson   | Sheffield YKS        | 19C       |
| 1483 | Reynolds    | Any Any              | 1890+     |
| 1601 | Rhodes      | Sheffield YKS        | 19C       |
| 1603 | Rickett     | Sheffield YKS        | pre 1881  |
| 1580 | Rid(e)out   | Alford SOM           | 19C       |
| 1600 | Robinshaw   | Rochdale LAN         | c 1837    |
| 1603 | Roebuck     | Sheffield YKS        | pre 1863  |
| 204  | Rollinson   | Sheffield YKS        | 19C       |
| 1563 | Rowley      | Sheffield YKS        | 1800+     |
| 204  | Rowlinson   | Sheffield YKS        | 19C       |
| 1603 | Schluppmann | Gutersloh Westphalia | pre 1895  |
| 1603 | Schluppmann | London MDX           | pre 1895  |
| 1483 | Senior      | Sheffield YKS        | 1860+     |
| 1580 | Sharp(e)    | Kings Somborne HAM   | E19C      |
| 1580 | Sharp(e)    | St. Pancras MDX      | L19C      |
| 1580 | Sharp(e)    | St. Pancras MDX      | E20C      |
| 1583 | Shaw        | South Normanton DBY  | pre 1860  |
| 1583 | Smith       | Rotherham WRY        | pre 1850  |
| 1585 | Smith       | Ecclesfield WRY      | pre 1900  |
| 1567 | Smythe      | Tullamore EIRE       | pre 1910+ |
| 1600 | Souter      | Stockport CHS        | c 1817    |
| 1551 | Staniland   | Sheffield YKS        | 1800-1880 |
| 1483 | Stocks      | Sheffield YKS        | 1885+     |
| 1583 | Swift       | Dronfield DBY        | pre 1880  |
| 1590 | Sykes       | Halifax YKS          | 1790-1870 |
| 1600 | Tattershall | Rossendale LAN       | pre 1840  |
| 1606 | Taylor      | Sheffield WRY        |           |
| 1583 | Thomas      | Barnsley WRY         | pre 1880  |
| 1567 | Turner      | Sheffield YKS        | pre 1910+ |
| 1580 | Tyas        | Mexborough WRY       | L18C      |
| 1580 | Tyas        | Mexborough WRY       | E19C      |
| 1606 | Tyler       | Sheffield WRY        | 1850+     |
| 1583 | Ut(t)ley    | Barnsley WRY         | pre 1880  |
| 1601 | Vause       | Sheffield YKS        | 19C       |

|                 |                   |           |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 1600 Walker     | Manchester LAN    | c 1810    |
| 1585 Walker     | Nether Hallam WRY | pre 1940  |
| 1483 Watkinson  | Stocksbridge YKS  | 1895+     |
| 1590 Whit(w)ham | Halifax YKS       | 1815      |
| 201 Whittles    | Stannington WRY   | 1800+     |
| 204 Whitworth   | Tuxford NTT       | L18C-E19C |
| 1600 Wiseman    | Deerfold HEF/RAD  | pre 1838  |
| 1551 Wragg      | Sheffield YKS     | 1800-1870 |

## 1861 CENSUS FOR SHEFFIELD: ENUMERATOR ERRORS

It has been brought to our attention that the following errors have been made:

### **Volume 6 Sheffield North, Part 2 (RG9/3481)**

The entry for **BENJAMIN and ANN YATES** (p 14F) should be under **BENJAMIN and ANN PARSONS**.

The Enumerator has carried on writing 'ditto' for too long. It has been corroborated by an entry in the 1861 voters' lists and research done by the Local Studies Librarian

### **Volume 7 Sheffield North, Part 3 (RG9/3482)**

The entry for **ESTHER GRAY and her son DYSON EWICK** (Folio 41) should be under **ESTHER LEVICK and her son DYSON LEVICK**.

Esther was housekeeper to her brother in law George Gray, and is described on the census as housekeeper and sister in law to him. Dyson is described as nephew, and it would appear as though his name is a result of bad handwriting or mis-hearing a name. Both have been corroborated by other research.

Thanks to Sylvia Pybus, Local Studies Librarian and to Bob Adams for contacting me with this information. These amendments are now issued with the relevant census indexes at point of sale. As both are Enumerator errors and not transcriber errors it was felt that the index itself should not be altered in any way. If you find any other errors which you can corroborate please let me know.

*Judith Pitchforth.*

## MORE ERRORS!

### **Missing entries in the 1871 census**

In the 1871 census, Sheffield West RG10/4678 the last original surviving page is 30. Pages 31 and subsequent pages are missing from the original document and are therefore missing also from all microfilming. (Water Lane, Bridge Street, Newhall Street and the Old Town Hall area, including the Hollis Hospital, are wholly or partly lost.) Roy Bullen noticed this omission and contacted the PRO. They confirmed his suspicions. They examined the original

document and confirmed that page 30 "has come loose from its binding, so it seems possible that subsequent pages may also have come loose, and so been lost at some time prior to the filming of the document."

## THE NATIONAL BURIAL INDEX PROJECT

In connection with the National Burial Index project, S&DFHS has decided to transcribe the burial records of all the churches in Sheffield & Rotherham (initially from 1813 to the close of each burial ground). These will be full transcriptions and when finished will be available for each church as a database on computer disk, or in alphabetical order on fiche. So far we have completed Sheffield St James, have almost completed St Peter & St Paul, and are just about to start on St Paul's.

There are four stages to the work. (1) copying out the records from fiche onto transcription sheets, (2) transferring the information onto computer and (3 & 4) checking the output against the fiche.

We have around 30 volunteers at the moment, not just from England, but also from overseas. Most have observations to make about the records on which they are working; the names and location of some of the streets, the infant mortality rate, the usual and the unusual occupations, the lack of women's occupations etc. It is all there, to be seen, as we work through the records.

The average time to do one stage of the work is around a month, although we have some volunteers who take much less, and those who, due to other commitments, take longer. One or two people have stopped helping, deciding it wasn't what they wanted to do. We are very grateful to all of them. Without the help of such volunteers, we would all find it much more difficult to do our family history research.

On average, it takes three months to complete all 4 stages of recording. Since we started last October, 87 fiche, around 39,000 burial records, have been transcribed, covering just 2 churches. We have set ourselves a mammoth task, which is going to take a long time to complete. So if you have a fiche reader or a computer and some time to spare, I would love to hear from you.

*Heather Gillott, 4, Bents Crescent, Dronfield, S18 6EY (Local co-ordinator)*

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

In my case many years of fruitless searches and much frustration. This began in 1986 when I decided to try to trace my father's family history and started by asking his sister for help. She told me that her paternal Grandfather had been Wilson Farrington and gave me some insurance cards. Sadly she died shortly after this. First I was baffled by three Annie Farringtons! Eventually I worked out that one was my Grandmother (née Sanderson), the second, her daughter who died in infancy and the third was my Grandfather's sister who died in her twenties.

Wilson turned out to be Wilson Thomas Farrington and I was surprised to find that he had been married twice, once in Wolstanton, Staffs. in 1855 and secondly in Barnsley, Yorks. in 1878. The I.G.I. showed that he had been baptised at Hanley in 1834 and his parents were Thomas Wilson and Anne Farrington. The 1841 Census showed that there was a younger sister Frances born about 1838 and two older sisters. The birth certificate was found for Frances and told me that the mother's maiden name had been Farmer.

The problem with names began with Anne who, in the Census of 1861, began to call herself Annis and was registered at her death in 1864 as such. Next I searched for marriages or deaths for the two older sisters Louisa born 1825 and Edna born 1829. For years I looked through the indexes under all possible name variations but to no avail! One day, in sheer desperation, I decided to go back to the 1851 Census to see if I could find either girl possibly living nearby under a married name. Sure enough there was a James and Edna Singler almost next door to Thomas Wilson and Anne Farrington. The marriage indexes did not have any marriage for a James Singler but, after another long search I found one under the surname Shingler! When the certificate arrived I was furious to find that Edna's surname was given as Lloyd! Another five pounds wasted I thought and stuffed the item in a drawer. As I lay awake that night it suddenly occurred to me that perhaps Anne Farmer had been married before. I rushed down to my local L.D.S. Centre and looked in the I.G.I. This showed that she had married Daniel Floyd in 1824. Parish Registers had both girls baptised under the name Lloyd. Edna married as Lloyd but Louisa married as Floyd with Edna as witness also as Floyd!

Now Edna was another one who changed her name from about 1881 when she suddenly called herself Anne and was registered as such when she died in 1886! Was this name change in memory of her mother I wonder?

After ten years of looking for the marriage of Anne Farmer and Thomas Wilson Farrington I now found this missing item under Lloyd and, for some strange reason, Wilson! Did the vicar make an error or did Thomas who could barely read and write, not understand that the surname of Farrington was left off the marriage entry?

Now I am still stuck because T.W.F. was not too clear about his place of birth. Was it Newcastle, Staffs. or Newcastle, Northumberland or even Shrewsbury, Shropshire? He gave all three places in the census films 1841 to 1871. Hopefully, someday I will find his baptism.

The motto of the above story is that it pays to persevere and to follow any lead no matter how unlikely it may appear. Our ancestors did some strange things and often being illiterate, made some understandable errors. Also there was sometimes a deliberate change of name when running away from family problems, an unhappy marriage or unpleasant occupation. There was also bigamy but that is another story .....

*Mrs Barbara Moore, 15c, St.John's Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3LR*

## STRAYS

*1851 for Hilton Sunderland*

Jolly Potter's Public House, Waterside Row.

Procter Thomas Orphan 18 Apprentice Shipwright YKS Sheffield.

*1881 for Stockton on Tees, EN.D St. Thomas*

29, Commercial Street

Procter Jane W 47 Wife of Thomas Robson YKS Sheffield.

*1891 for Stockton on Tees Piece No 4052*

3, Commercial Street

Procter Jane W 58 Wife of Thomas Robin YKS Sheffield,

*From Judith Pitchforth, 10, Hallam Grange Road, Sheffield S10 4BJ*

## SOUTH AFRICA, SHEFFIELD – and why it sometimes pays to ignore instructions

You will no doubt be familiar with the truism “when all else fails - read the instructions”. You may not however be aware of an unusual connection between Sheffield and the development of South Africa, and you most certainly will not know of my chance discovery of a small link in the story, entirely due to my inability to follow instructions.

One of the great pioneers of South Africa was Sammy Marks. Born on 11 July 1844 in Neustadt, which was a tiny part of the partition of Poland – Lithuania - he grew up at a very difficult time in the history of Jewish settlement in Russia. In 1861, before he was 18, he sailed for Hull with a consignment of horses destined for Sheffield, and arrived at the time when the Sheffield steel and cutlery industries were beginning to expand dramatically.

In common with many young unskilled Jewish immigrants he became a peddler supported by a kinsman Tobias Guttman. The family was prominent in

the Sheffield Jewish Community and Tobias became Sammy's mentor. In 1868, a year after the discovery of diamonds in Kimberley, Sammy Marks set sail for South Africa, sponsored by Tobias Guttman who paid his fare and provided him with capital in the form of a large case of knives. This period is almost 20 years before Johannesburg existed and makes him contemporary with Cecil Rhodes (b. 1853 arrived S.A. 1870) and Barny Barnato (b. 1852 arrived S.A. 1873). All three established their fortunes in Kimberley, with Rhodes eventually buying out Barnato's share in the diamond mines with a cheque for £5,338,650 an enormous sum at the time,

This incidentally resulted in Rhodes' Company De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd (named after the original farm owners) gaining a monopoly of 95% of the world's diamond output in 1888 (largely maintained to the present day).

Rhodes and Barnato moved on to Johannesburg and became involved in the new gold mines, and, in Rhodes' case, 'empire building'. Marks, now in partnership with his cousin Isaac Lewis established himself in Pretoria becoming a close friend of Paul Kruger,

He founded the coal mining, brick, tile and glass making industries and built the first factory in the Transvaal which was, in fact, a liquor distillery and according to contemporary reports made terrible gin! He was a land owner on a grand scale with a dream to build Sheffield alongside the Vaal River near the Freestate coal deposits. The town is called Vereeniging and still produces steel.

In 1884 Sammy bought a farm some 12 miles outside Pretoria. He then travelled back to Sheffield and married Bertha the eldest daughter of Tobias Guttman. By all accounts this was an arranged marriage which was not uncommon in Victorian times. They were married out of community of property in Sheffield on 16 December 1884. On returning to South Africa, and a very primitive thatched farm house, they started building a house which became known as Swartkoppies Hall. It was completed in 1886. The house can be viewed today in its original furnished state, including Sheffield cutlery, due to a condition in Sammy's will requiring the house and contents to be kept intact for 3 generations. It is now a South African National Monument.

Mark's partner Isaac Lewis was based in London where he arranged the Company's finance. A short while ago tens of thousands of letters and documents were discovered in a locked store room recording years of day to day Victorian business activities dictated to secretaries by Sammy who never learnt to read and write adequately.

A large portion of the letters are copies made by a process involving damp tissue paper and a press. The house also contains Bertha's mail order shopping lists and inventories in addition to her list of roses from England for the garden, which has recently been restored to the original plan and specification.

During my occasional visits to Sheffield I had made half-hearted attempts to look for information about the Guttman family and evidence of Sammy's presence. I was obviously more interested in researching my own family, which naturally took precedence. I found no trace. The name Guttman does not appear in the current telephone book, and I admit making little effort to look into other sources.

So what were the instructions I ignored? Well - in Johannesburg I am able to continue my Family History activities at the local LDS Family History Centre where, amongst other records, there is a complete 1881 UK census on microfiche. We work with a transcription, mostly without the means to make copies. It is indexed by "Surname", "Census place", "Birth place", and "As Enumerated". The use of the index was demonstrated for me and I was given "instructions". The following week I tried it for myself.

I identified several of my family members and wrote down the details - I then thought I'd access the "As Enumerated" section. I started ploughing through the areas, street by street. The names of course are familiar to me and I became a bit side tracked. After about half an hour of this I began to recall that the librarian found the name in seconds. "Aha", I thought, "there must be a number reference". Indeed there was, but I had forgotten to write it down. I would have to start again with the surname index, and record the numbers in order to proceed. (Does any of this sound familiar?) At that point I stopped pushing the reader table and there in the middle of the screen, a name jumped out at me - "Guttman".

*The entry is as follows:*

Ecclesall Bierlow 13, Durham Road

|                |      |    |          |           |
|----------------|------|----|----------|-----------|
| Guttman Tobias | Head | 46 | Jeweller | Poland    |
| Bertha         | Dtr  | 17 |          | Sheffield |
| Leonara        | Dtr  | 15 |          | Sheffield |
| Joseph         | Son  | 13 |          | Sheffield |
| Rose           | Dtr  | 10 |          | Sheffield |
| Phillip H      | Son  | 8  |          | Sheffield |
| Edith          | Dtr  | 5  |          | Sheffield |

From other sources I know that Bertha's Mother Louisa died in 1879, so there was Tobias with six young children. I wonder what happened to them all? I know that the information is not exactly earth shattering, but if I had followed (remembered) the instructions I would not have come across them. I believe that sometimes we can become too methodical in our research and there are advantages in simply scanning through records with bits of seemingly unconnected items tucked away in our heads waiting for an opportunity to pop out. Keep an open mind therefore, though the difference between that and a vacant one can be a fine line with some people.

If you are interested in South African History of this rich period, which also incidentally includes the Boer Wars, you might try the following books, which are just a few of many excellent accounts.

- *Sammy Marks -The Uncrowned King of the Transvaal* by Richard Mendelsohn  
Publisher - David Philip - Cape Town and Ohio University Press
- *The Great Barnato* by Stanley Jackson - Penguin Books  
Publisher - Oxford University Press
- *The Founder* - Cecil John Rhodes by Robert Rotberg  
Publisher - Oxford University Press
- *The Randlords. The men who made South Africa* by Geoffrey Wheatcroft  
Publisher - Weidenfield & Nicolson
- *Kimberley - Turbulent City* by Brian Roberts  
Publisher - David Philip

*Kerry Brooksbank, PO Box 3207, Pinegowrie, Johannesburg 2123, South Africa*

## WAS YOUR ANCESTOR A PUBLICAN?

By the mid 18th century there was a clear hierarchy of traders dealing with the sales of alcoholic beverages. At the top of the tree were the coaching inns, many of which soon called themselves 'hotels', where food and accommodation for travellers and stabling for horses were available. The people running these establishments were referred to as innkeepers, inn-holders or even licensed victuallers. The building was probably one of the largest in the town, often on the main thoroughfare and may or may not have been owned by the named innkeeper. The 'middle range' establishments which had probably been in business for some years had previously been known as alehouses (in the 15th century to 17th century terminology), and by the 18th century were more likely to be referred to as public houses. These buildings would be far more modest than the coaching inns and were run by publicans. The smallest establishments, possibly unlicensed, fairly rough places, were referred to as pothouses or low alehouses.

In those days the publican probably brewed his own beer, and also may have had another job as well – his other occupation may be evident in the name of the pub, for example *The Three Horseshoes*, where the landlord was also a blacksmith. As with other trades running a pub sometimes went down through the generations, with their offspring marrying other publicans. The pub name may also have reflected the trades of the customers, for example *The Weavers Arms*, *The Clothier's Arms*.

Apart from somewhere to go for a drink, inns and public houses were used as settings for the administrative and legal functions of the period. Election meetings, Petty and Quarter Sessions would take place there. Coroner's Inquests could be held in the pub, with the body of the deceased in one room and the jury in another. (This remained the case until 1907 when the use of a pub was only allowed if there was absolutely nowhere else to hold it). Friendly Societies, meeting from about 1760, met at pubs probably in separate rooms from the other drinkers. The names of some pubs reflect this, for example *The Ancient Forester*, *The Oddfellows Arms*.

In the mid 16th century, a magistrate's licence was required before someone could run a pub. After the 'Gin Craze' problems in London the licensing laws were reformed by the mid 18th century. The proposed licensee had to apply in person for the license, at special 'Brewster sessions' that took place every September, the sessions being advertised in the local newspapers. Enquiries would be made into whether the place was being run properly, and whether the licensee was a fit person to hold a licence. The magistrate's clerk kept 'calendars' of all persons granted a licence; the calendars were organised around 'wapentakes', the old districts, and listed the people by name, but not the name of the pub. The later lists of 1820 onwards list the name of the person running the pub (often a woman) and the name of the pub as well. Licensees were obliged to take out sureties (called recognisances) for good behaviour – drunkenness, gambling and cock fighting were not permitted.

In 1828 the licensing system was reformed again, and recognisances were no longer required. However, a personal appearance was still required at the mid August – early September sessions. Very detailed reports of these events are in the local newspapers.

The Beerhouse Act became law in 1830. It allowed anybody to open a pub to sell (only) beers without a magistrate's licence, on payment of a two guinea fee. The sale of spirits still required a licence. This was done partly to discourage people from drinking spirits, to encourage farming and the production of barley and hops and partly because of Free Trade thinking. Thousands of people took this up. This was not as evident in the older towns that were already well served, but in the newer towns the growth in the number of pubs was enormous. In Bradford in 1830 there were no beer houses; by 1869 there were 460. The traders in these establishments were referred to as beer sellers, beer shopkeepers or beer housekeepers. There were some colloquial names for these places - Tom and Jerry shop for example. In trade directories there is a distinction between the older established hotels, inns, public houses and taverns and beer houses (much more modest institutions). Photographs of these buildings may well be available in archives. However in the censuses the distinctions may not be so clear, with many people referring to themselves as publicans when in fact they actually kept beerhouses.

In 1834 a distinction was made between the consumption of beer on/off the premises, although this distinction is not noted in the trade directories. Shops selling beer, with a separate licence for wine developed from 1860. From 1869 beer-houses needed a magistrate's licence, and the investigations went into some detail, much of which was recorded in the newspaper. After this date it became more difficult to obtain a new pub licence, and this led to a decline in the number of new pubs although many of the old beer houses became fully licensed.

As the 19th century progressed, more places were owned or rented by breweries, with the pub itself being run by a tenant. After the 1904 Licensing Act, compensation was paid to owners of licensed premises whose licences were taken away. Records of this do exist, with details of the licence and the compensation fund.

If the inn is still standing then the current owners will hold the title deeds. Until recently this could be the Brewery (many will allow you to go and look at the information) or even a pub company, a Building Society (usually less keen for you to look at the deeds) or even the Council. Councils sometimes hold title deeds for houses or buildings they bought, perhaps as part of a Compulsory Purchase Order, to make way for new roads or other buildings. Even if the buildings themselves have been demolished the deeds could still exist. These title deeds contain a wealth of information, including details of wills, abstracts of deeds and possibly a summary of the family genealogy.

*This is a summary of a talk given by Paul Jennings at the Doncaster FHS Day School in November 1997.*

Recommended for further reading:

*Victuallers' Licences* Jeremy Gibson & Judith Hunter (FFHS 2nd edition, 1997)  
*The Public House in Bradford, 1770 - 1970* Paul Jennings (Keele University Press 1995)

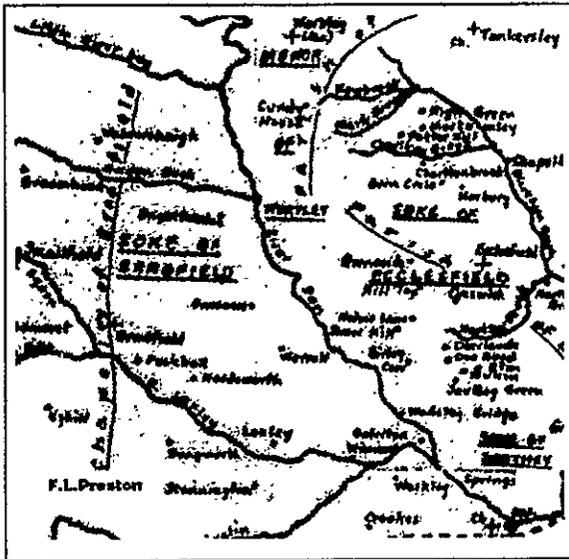
*Judith Pitchforth, 10, Hallam Grange Road, Sheffield S10 4BJ*

## **THE BAILIFF OF BRADFIELD**

I well remember, from my childhood, my father telling me that we were descendants of Robin Hood. What a thrill, as that was the time of Errol Flynn and the Saturday Cinema Club! At that age it was easy to believe such stories, especially if they were told with conviction by your father. It caught hold of my imagination so much so that I got my mother to make me a costume out of green felt, a pair of old nylon stockings, and with a pigeon feather in my cap. The outfit, with homemade bow and arrow, was confined to the garden as my courage to venture publicly did not match that of my hero. It was a comforting thought, somehow, to believe that I was descended from Lord Loxley, Earl of

Huntingdon, but more likely a ruse by my father to ensure that I did not disgrace my famous ancestor by poor schoolwork!

As in all folklore, stories can be somewhat different from the actual events on which they are based. There are many variations on the story of Robin Hood and no evidence as to whether or not he really existed. Most chroniclers place his birthplace at Locksley, or Loxley, about 1160, and his exploits in the reign of King John. Our link with his descendants is through Mary Loxley who was born in Ecclesfield, situated west of Rotherham and north of Sheffield, Yorkshire. This is nowhere near Sherwood Forest you may say, but ask yourself how big the forest was in those days. To describe the area as it then was, and the associated folklore, I must rely on correspondence from a late cousin, Fredric Loxley Preston, and his knowledge and research of some thirty years ago. The area is bounded by Stocksbridge to the north, Rotherham to the east, and the Peak District to the south and west.



Sketch of Hallamshire, by F. L. Preston

The moorlands separated it from Derbyshire, but established trade routes crossed Hallamshire from York to Castleton and from Lincoln through Glossop; now represented by the A57 road. It is interesting to note that just south-west of Glossop is the village of Charlesworth; a name used as the surname for more people in Yorkshire than in any other county of England. The A57 passes close to the north of the existing Sherwood Forest, the only part remaining of the great forest that covered the adjacent areas of the counties of York, Derby and Nottingham. Flowing through Hallamshire were many streams, feeding the river

Don, including that of Dale Dike which joins with the Agden to form the river of Loxley. At their confluence is the ancient village of Nether Bradfield and lower down the valley the river then passes Loxley Chase. The upper part of this valley has been flooded to form the Damflask Reservoir. Above the village, the church of St. Nicholas was built in the early part of the twelfth century as a chapelry in the Parish of Ecclesfield; the church and its surrounding houses forming the village of High Bradfield.

In the Doomsday Book, of 1086, Hallam is referred to as the Manor of 'Hallun' but neither Bradfield nor Loxley are mentioned. This is no doubt due to the strong opposition of this part of England to the Norman Conquest so that it was put to the 'fire and sword', the land laid waste and the population dispersed. At the time of the Conquest, the Saxon manor of Hallam was held by the Earl Waltheof who married Judith, the daughter of a half-sister of William the Conqueror, and with her received the earldoms of Northumberland, Nottingham and Huntingdon. Waltheof was beheaded in 1076 and his titles passed to his daughter Maud who married, as her second husband, David, King of Scotland. David died in 1153 and the throne of Scotland passed to his grandson Malcolm, together with the Earldom of Huntingdon. By then, Richard de Lovetot, the incumbent Norman Lord of Hallamshire, had given the Chapelry of Bradfield to the Benedictine Abbot of St. Wandrille in Normandy. Malcolm paid homage, in 1158, to Henry II of England at Peak Castle, at Castleton in the royal forest of the Peak. To reach there he could have travelled along the ancient way from York, which passed close to Loxley Chase where, tradition says, there was born a man named Robert de Loxley, better known as Robin Hood.

F.L.Preston consulted many manuscripts in his research into the legend and compiled the following extracts which he considered pertinent in supporting the case for the subject being Robert of Loxley in Hallamshire:

"Dodworth, writing about 1620, says of Robin Hood,

"Rob. Locksley, born in Bradfield parish in Hallamshire, wounded his stepfather to death at plough, fled into the woods, and was relieved by his mother till he was discovered. Then he came to Clifton-upon-Calder, and became acquainted with Little John, that kept the kine. Which said John is buried at Hathershead in Derbyshire, where he hath a fair tombstone with an inscription. Mr. Long saith Mr. Fabian saith Little John was an Earl Huntley's son."

The Ashmole MSS, folio 147, says: "Little John lyes buried in Hathersuch Churchyard, within three miles from Castleton, in High Peake, with one stone set up at his head, and another at his feete, but a large distance betweene them."

Harrison, in his "Survey of the Manor of Sheffield", 1637, p.320, says: "William Greene who was one of my Lord's Keepers did hold in regard of his office these parcels of land following:

No.325. Imprimis Great Haggas Croft (pasture) lying near Robin Hood's Bower & is invironed with Loxley ffrith & Cont. 1 - 2 - 27 1/5

No.231. Item little Haggas Croft (pasture) wherein is ye foundacion of an house or Cottage where Robin Hood was borne this piece is Compassed about with Loxley ffrith & Cont. 00 - 2 - 13 1/5."

At Loxley there was an oak beam, said to have come from the ruins of the cottage mentioned above, which a forestry expert in 1887 said had been grown in the nearby forest and was a thousand years old.

Hunter, writing in 1819, says:

"Robin Hood....doubtless....made some of his first essays in 'chasing the fallow deer' in Fulwood and Riveling, lying so close to Loxley, which beyond all competition has the fairest pretensions to be the birthplace of that noted outlaw."

In his later work, 'The Great Hero of the Ancient Minstrelsy of England, Robin Hood', 1852, however, Hunter identified Robin Hood as a native of Wakefield, born between 1285 and 1295.

The earliest reference to Robin Hood is by Langland in his 'The Vision of Piers the Plowman', 1362, where "Robin Hode" is coupled with Randolf, earl of Chester (born ante 1172, died 1232). The late 16th century Sloan MS states that Robin Hood was born in 1160. Robert Hude and Little John are referred to the reign of Richard I (1189-99) by John Mair, the author of 'Majoris Britanniae Historia', 1521. Other early writers (e.g. John Pordun, 'Scotichronicon', 1341) place the outlaw in the later 13th century. The late 14th century manuscript entitled 'A Lytell Geste of Robin Hode', the oldest known ballad of the outlaw, relates his exploits to the reign of Edward II (1307-37). Mr J.W. Walker, in a recent paper, identifies him with a Robert Hood, who with his wife Matilda, had a connection with Wakefield between 1308 and 1357. Mr. Walker also quotes an extract from the Pipe Roll of Henry III (1230), which from its context appears to refer to the West Riding of Yorkshire:

"Idem vicecomes debit xxxijs et vjd. de catallis Roberti Hood, fugitivi." (The sheriff owes 32s. 8d. in respect of the chattels of Robert Hood, fugitive.)

The 'Lytell Geste' and other ballads describe the outlaw as a yeoman. The tradition that he was a claimant to the Earldom of Huntingdon, which had become extinct in 1237 on the death of John le Scot, and hence a descendant of Waltheof through the Scottish kings, first appears at the end of the 18th century and thus may be an embellishment of the playwrights. On the other hand, this tradition may preserve an earlier one and, if the Sloan MS. date of 1160 for Robin Hood's birth also preserves an earlier tradition, it is perhaps not without significance that the Earl of Huntingdon was in the vicinity of Hallamshire only two years before."

The legend of Robin Hood has been related, and embellished, for at least 600 years. He and his band of outlaws, who robbed the rich and gave to the poor, have been described in many poems and stories, so it seems likely that

there was once a real outlaw about whom the first tales were written. No one man could have had all the adventures ascribed but some incidents are common to many of them so are likely to be based on fact. Nearly all his adventures occurred in parts of Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire in a time when King Richard the Lionheart was fighting in the Crusades. Richard I (1157-1199) succeeded his father Henry II to the English throne in 1189 and left England in the hands of his brother John, who was often cruel and unjust. We can understand the feelings of ordinary people, only just over 100 years after the Conquest, subjected to serfdom under the rich Norman barons and church; a formula for creating rebels and outlaws. All the lines traced back so far, to Thomas de Loxley, Bailiff of Bradfield in 1399, have the same tradition of descent from Robert of Loxley (Robin Hood). The move from Bradfield to Ecclesfield started with Thomas, yeoman of Bradfield, who was the son of Thomas, cowper of Bradfield, whose will of 1670 was proved in 1673. The marriage of Thomas Loxley (1589-1672) in 1622, to Margaret Broomhead (1603-1681), produced eight children, including Thomas (1628-1714), and Henry (1639-1716). Henry married Catherine Bower, in 1669, and acquired the Potter Hill farm in Ecclesfield that was eventually passed to his younger son John (1673-1754) as the older son Thomas (1670-1722) had a farm at Grenoside. Thomas married Anne Stones (1679-1749), in 1698, and had eight children. Thomas's son Thomas (1700-1776), a carpenter who married Alice Hobson (1699-1757) in 1725, inherited the tenancy of Potter Hill and had nine children.

Abstract of the WILL of Thomas LOXLEY of Potter Hill in the Parish of Ecclesfield and County of York. Carpenter.

Date - 25th May 1776.

To my son Joseph Loxley £10

To my daughter Mary Charlesworth £20

To my son John Loxley £15

To my daughter Hannah Revill £10

To my son Samuel Loxley £15

To my son William Loxley £30

To my daughter Elizabeth Morton £20

To my daughter Sarah Dickenson £30 and also the clock that stands in the house.

All my other goods and chattels, and the tenant right of my farm which I hold under the Duke of Norfolk, I give to my son Thomas, whom I make Executor.

Witnesses:-

John Booth

George Loxley

Ann Swift

Proved 7th August 1776.

The above Will, at the Borthwick Institute in York, shows how important documents are in research as it confirms the marriage of Mary Loxley into the Charlesworth family. This union in 1753 produced eight children including Joseph, my direct ancestor, who came to London to seek his fortune. Little is known on these Charlesworths of Yorkshire, but this is a task I will set myself when I have the necessary outfit; perhaps in Lincoln Green? Joining the Sheffield & District FHS has provided leads from other members. One member wrote to say that there was a book in Sheffield City library that traces the Broomheads back to the time of the Kings of Mercia. Another identified a book in Stocksbridge library, written by local historian Joseph Kenworthy, that could provide more information on the Loxleys. I was also sent an extract of Loxley entries from the Ecclesfield Churchyard Transcription compiled by F S Hague in 1962. As most old gravestones are eroded, vandalised or even removed, then this type of help is invaluable.

From this information, and the parish registers, the families of the other children of Thomas and Alice Hobson were traced. Joseph, the eldest son born 1726, married Esther Earnshaw of Sheffield, in 1748, and had nine children. He had his own farm at Doroyd before his father died. Thomas Loxley (1729-1807) married Hannah Bailey in 1751 and had six children. He took over the tenancy of Potter Hill from his father. John Loxley (1731-1809) moved to Sheffield where he married twice and had six children, firstly to Sarah Pashley in 1760, a descendant being F.L.Preston, and then to Elizabeth Makin in 1768. Hannah Loxley, born 1734, married Samuel Revill of Sheffield, in 1751, and had ten children. Samuel Loxley, born 1736, married Ellin Darling in 1761 and had nine children. Elizabeth Loxley (1740-1787) married John Morton in 1761 and had two children in Rotherham. The youngest child, Sarah Loxley born 1742, married Joseph Dickinson of Wortley and had at least two children.

Perhaps the most interesting offspring was William Loxley (1738-1799) who married Jane Dickinson in 1763 and had seven children. He was apprenticed as a filemaker to John Wilkinson, Crowder House, and then to John Burgon, Colly Elm, for 5 to 7 years in 1753. Given his freedom in 1760, he worked at Butterthwaite from about 1768. His two sons, John and Thomas, served their apprenticeships with him and the family business, Loxley & Sons, of 48 Green Lane, is listed in the Sheffield Directory of 1797. John's daughter Mary (1793-1856) married Thomas Firth (1789-1850), in 1816, the founder of the Sheffield Steelmakers.

No doubt there are other descendants of 'our' Robin Hood around somewhere; it would be nice if they could get in touch to compare notes, especially anyone who knows the subject of the story related by the father of Frances Gillott, another descendant of Mary Loxley. "About the year 1800 there lived in Rotherham an old gentleman named Robert Loxley; he wore a black velvet cloak, black velvet knee breeches, shoes with buckles and white stockings. He used to say his father's name was Robert Loxley, also his

grandfather's, and his grandfather said that there had always been a Robert Loxley in the family right back to the time of Robin Hood, and from that time the name had been handed down each generation to his descendants."

*John Hughes, White Lodge, Deanshill Close, Stafford ST16 1BW*

## NAILMAKING

One of the main occupations in the Ecclesfield area in the 17th and 18th centuries was nailmaking. This was carried out in a smithy either attached as an offshoot building to the house or a workshop in the back yard.

Nailmaking was a seasonal occupation as many of the nailmakers were also part time farmers. Little capital was required to set up as all that was needed was a hearth, an anvil, a few tools such as a hammer, vices and bellows and, of course, the rod iron and coke. Rods were heated in the coke fire which had been first blasted by the hand bellows. The rod was cut to the required length over the 'cold sate', let into the anvil with the cutting edge upwards. The rod iron was then placed in a hole in the anvil and given a sharp tap by the hammer to form the head, causing the nail to jump out. The nailmaker quickly replaced it with the next piece of iron. All this was done with incredible speed. The rod iron had to be of good quality to enable the nails to penetrate the hard English oak.

The nailmakers of Mortomley were the main customers of the Wortley Slitting Mill and deliveries would be made in the 'iron wayne', a wagon pulled by two horses. The iron wayne was first heard of in 1647 and was still going strong in 1908 although the original wheels had worn out to be replaced by new, then a new body was later fitted and the new wheels again, and so on through the centuries.

Jonathan Dearden who had warehouses at Howbrook, was employed as 'taker in of nails' by Wm. Spencer of Cannon Hall and was responsible for the export side of the Spencer Syndicate business at Bawtry. In 1733 the Nailmakers Agreement was organised and drawn up by Jonathan Dearden and 12 other nail chapmen. (Nail chapmen were the middle men of the trade.) The main purpose of the agreement was to ensure that the apprentices served a full seven years' a-prenticeship. Previously they only served two years after which time 'Apprentices so taken do follow the Business and act Masters themselves, & do marry very young and inconsiderately and by that means have a great Charge of Children to maintain before they scarce know how to maintain themselves.' This agreement intended not only to prevent early marriages but to keep down the numbers of nailmakers setting up in business. Over 200 nailmakers from the surrounding areas of Sheffield, Rotherham, Barnsley, Wath, Grenoside, Thorpe Hesley & Chapelton etc. signed the agreement. Of this 200, 94 could actually sign their own name and the rest made their mark.

The Agreement was kept in the parish chest of St. Mary's Ecclesfield and is now kept in the Sheffield Archives.

Not long after this, the nailmakers in the area ran into difficulties when they were being undersold by the nailmakers of Birmingham. The chapmen urged the ironmasters to reduce the price of rod iron which they reluctantly did but this did not improve things, The nailmakers themselves were also partly to blame for the drop in the trade. In April 1742, Wm. Murgatroyd, a clerk for the Spencer Syndicate wrote to Jonathan Dearden from London complaining of the poor quality of the nails he had received- 'A great many of the nails being without Heads others without points and some having neither'. Dearden claimed this was due to the bad iron with which Spencer had been supplying him. In Oct. 1742 Wm. Spencer wrote, 'I have now discontinued the Nail trade & discharged Jonathan Dearden so a great numbers of Naylor's are at present unemployed'. This was only a temporary set-back and the trade continued to flourish into the next century when machine made nails from America and France flooded the market.

#### **Research Sources:**

*Village of Ecclesfield:* David Hey

*Rural nailmakers of the Sheffield Region:* David Hey

*The Story of Wortley Ironworks:* C.Reg. Andrews

*The Nailmakers Agreement:* Transcription by R. Butterworth in Hunter Archaeological Society Vol. II 1924

*Lyn Howsam, 8, Farview Road, Sheffield S5 7TB*

## BOOK REVIEWS

*The Family Tree Detective. (Third Edition) Tracing your ancestors in England and Wales.* Colin D.Rogers. Published by Manchester University Press.

ISBN 0 7190 5213 0 Price £10.99

This is a valuable reference book for those who have found that their family history research is not as straightforward as they might have hoped. He has looked at sources for finding parents, marriages and deaths in great detail. You will find suggestions to help you find the birth of an elusive ancestor who does not appear in the GRO indexes; how to distinguish between two children with identical names and baptismal dates, pre 1837. Finding an alternative source for marriages is covered in depth, from using newspapers to dealing with misleading clues and erroneous statements on certificates. Finally, help with locating burial entries is considered along with the valuable advice to locate a will. The appendices list the current Registration districts in England and Wales, together with their addresses and the advice *not* to call them Registry Offices. There is also a list of districts which have been abolished or renamed since 1929 and where the records are now kept. The bibliography is lengthy

and valuable for researchers looking for links both 'at home' and around the world.

*Judith Pitchforth*

### *Seaham Harbour: The First Generation*

The 1851 Census of Dawdon Township.

This is a transcript in book form, of the census for the new town of Seaham Harbour, listing its inhabitants as they appeared in the census. Its value is in its index at the back, so it is easy to locate your ancestors. The streets are also indexed. It also has two maps, one of Dawdon Township 1857, at a scale of approximately 1: 13600 (street names are legible) and one of the town of Seaham Harbour 1857 at a scale of 1:3750.

This has been compiled by David Butler and the members of the Seaham W.E.A. Evening Class. It is available from: Mr D. Miller, 9 Greenhills Estate, Wingate, Co. Durham TS28 5LD, for £4.95 including postage and packing (UK).

*Judith Pitchforth*

### *Practical Family History*

I began my family history some ten years ago. Since then I have accumulated vast amounts of information about the families of my husband and myself. I have close on 1500 names - not all relevant to our families, but none of this makes me an expert. There are so many sources available to us that it is very easy to forget what and where they are.

In June last year I came across the new publication Practical Family History and immediately became a subscriber. I find that, in many cases, it addresses the questions for which I want answers. It keeps me up to date with the latest available records and points me towards the many and varied records that have been deposited recently.

For the new genealogist it reports on all areas that they should search, back to 1837 and beyond, and, most importantly, it tells us of research material that we may not know exists, i.e. estate records and emigration etc. It is readable, precise, amusing and very well presented. I have learned a lot, been reminded of sources I had forgotten and been put right about the misconceptions I harboured. New genealogists and those of long standing could do worse than just enjoy the articles.

*Gill Moffatt, 39, Strathtay Avenue, Ecclesall, Sheffield S11 7GU*

## **USEFUL ARTICLES IN OTHER SOCIETIES' JOURNALS**

*Title Deeds and the Family Historian* by Tim Wormleighton (Senior Archivist N. Devon R.O.)

Devon Family Historian. No. 84. Nov. 1997

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