

Sheffield and District Family History Society

*The Flowing Stream* ~



Summer 2000

Volume 21  
Number 2

## **FUTURE PROGRAMME – 2000**

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

Mon. 19 Jun. *Annals of Sheffield Cathedral* by William Ross

Mon. 17 Jul. *Sheffield Turnpikes* by Howard Smith

## **ROTHERHAM BRANCH PROGRAMME**

Please note - new venue

Meet 7 pm at the Eastwood Methodist Mission, St. Ann's Road,  
Rotherham

Thurs. 1 Jun. *H.M.S. Warrior* by Aileen and George Wade

Thurs. 6 Jul *Open meeting*

Thurs. 7 Sept. To be arranged

Thurs. 5 Oct. *Workshop*

Thurs. 2 Nov. To be arranged

Thurs. 7 Dec. *Open meeting*

# THE FLOWING STREAM

Journal of Sheffield and District Family History Society

Volume 21. No. 2 Summer 2000

ISSN 0140-6310

CONTENTS	PAGE
Editorial	47
New Members	47
E-mail addresses	49
General News and Notes	52
Society News and Information	55
Burial Transcription Project	57
Sheffield and Rotherham- The parting of the ways	58
Computer and Internet News	60
Conferences and Fairs	61
Through the Letterbox	62
Society Meetings	
Family Names, Family history	65
Minutes of AGM	66
Rotherham Branch Meetings	
Minutes of Rotherham Branch AGM	71
The Dearne valley	74
Other People's Problems	75
An 18th Century Recruit	78
New Members' Interests	78
Posterity Forgotten?	83
Some recollections of a Sheffield Childhood 1915-23	85
Thomas Howson of Chapelton (1844-1900)	87
Genesis 1 Verse 28: "Be Fruitful and Multiply"	91
Old Title Deeds	92
Elizabeth Crossley A lady of mystery	93
Extracts from St. Leonard's Church, Wortley, Burial Records	95
Useful Articles in Other Societies' Journals	95

Copyright Material in the Journal is Copyright to the Society and its contributors and must not be reproduced without the written consent of the Editor. No responsibility is accepted by the Editor or the Society for views expressed in the letters and articles.

© The Sheffield and District Family History Society 2000.

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 (Napa 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 G. Moffatt, 39, Strathay Road, Ecclesall, Sheffield S11 7GU  
**Editor** Mrs Denise Marsden, "Lee Moor End, Storrs, Stannington, Sheffield S6 6GY

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Librarian and Exchange Journals Rep.** Mrs S.E. Hammond,  
1, Storrs Green Cottages, Storrs, Sheffield S6 6GY  
**Assistant Librarian** Mr F. Westwood, 11, Hail Mary Drive, Sheffield. S13 9XW  
**Membership Secretary** Mrs P.A. Heath, 4, Norton Park Road, Sheffield S8 8GQ.  
**Bookstall Officer** Mrs Diane Maskell, 5, Old Houses, Picadilly Road, Chesterfield S41 0EH.  
**Postal Book Sales** Ms Anne Giller, 17, Firshill Road, Sheffield S4 7BB  
**Programme Secretary** Mrs S. Carr, 13, Peveril Road, Greystones, Sheffield S11 7AP  
**Project & Burial Index Co-ordinator** Mrs H. Gillott, 4, Bents Crescent, Dronfield, S18 2EY

### Other Committee Members

Mrs R.E. Bullas, 18, Normandale Avenue, Loxley, Sheffield S6 6SA  
Ms A. Diver, 4, Highcliffe Court, Greystones Drive, Sheffield S11 7JR  
Miss S. Graves, 118a, Hartley Brook Road, Sheffield S5 0JE  
Mrs M. Hume, 41, Rushley Road, Dore, Sheffield S17 3EH

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

**Non-Committee Correspondance Secretary** Mr Derek Tingle, 72, Highcliffe Drive, Sheffield S11 7LU

## ROTHERHAM BRANCH

Meetings are held at Eastwood Methodist Mission, 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 David Peart, 46, Shearman Avenue, Rotherham S61 3AF  
**Vice Chairman** Mr Martin Wragg, 6, Old Garden Drive, Rotherham S65 2BT  
**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** Mr Les Gilberthorpe, 90, Hill View Road, Rotherham S61 2AJ  
**Projects Co-ordinator** Mr Paul Findlater **Meetings Reporter** Mr Brian Jervis  
**Web Site** Mrs Caroline Turner **Bookstall** Mrs Margaret Ensor & Mr Cliff Ensor

- 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

We have another bumper edition! For those members who were unable to attend the AGM we have included the background to the anticipated setting up a separate society in Rotherham.

There is also a list of Title Deeds that may be of interest to some members. This is something we should all be aware of. Now that the Land Registry takes care of our entitlement to own a property there must be many fascinating and valuable old deeds that are in danger of being thrown away as being of no further use. If you know of any that need a home please contact a member of the committee and we will ensure that they are recorded before passing them on for safe keeping. All members are urged to look out for any other documents that are in likely to be lost for ever.

Thank you to all contributors.

## NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes the following new members

- Mrs Susan Akeroyd, 31, Button Hill, Sheffield S11 9HF  
Mr J. Bailey, Glenwood 8, Rippon Road, Hillsborough, Sheffield S6 4ND  
Mr T. Balfour, Hoddins, Gonfirth, Voe, Shetland Islands ZE2 9PY  
Mr Keith Bannister, 91, Moorview Road, Sheffield S8 0HN  
Mrs Gillian D. Bassett, 3, Links Road, Ashted, Surrey, KY4 2HB  
Mr Les Beatson, 6, John Street, Sheffield S2 4QR  
Mrs B.G. Bedford, 39, Langley Way, Watford, Herts. WD1 3EA  
Mr Ian Bell, 60, Carr Manor Crescent, Moortown, Leeds, LS17 5DE  
Mrs Thelma Bennett, 29, Princess Street, Wath-upon-Deerne, Rotherham S63 6RD  
Mr C.W. Bishop, 22, Victoria Avenue, Willerby, Hull, E. Yorks. HU10 6DD  
Mr Noel T. Boulsover, 19 Conifers, 1, The Avenue, Poole, Dorset BH13 6BA  
Miss C.A. Bower, 4, Croft Court, Bishopthorpe, York YO23 2RU  
Mrs Karen Brown, 36, Stanier Way, Hedge End, Southampton, Hants. SO30 2XF  
Miss W. Chapman, 260, Bellhouse Road, Firth Park, Sheffield S5 6HT  
Mr S. Coley, 19, The Spinnaker, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford, Essex  
CM3 5GL  
Mr M. J. Connell, 15, Hill Drive, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, Derbys. SK23 7BH  
Mrs M. Costello, 38, Vicarage Close, Thornburn, Bristol BS35 1JE  
Mrs S.A. Crossley, 17, Exley Mount, Keighley, W. Yorks. BD21 1LR  
Mrs Gill Cummins, 4, Grasmere Road, Dronfield Woodhouse, Derbyshire S18 8PS  
Mrs S.G. Day, 50, Green Oak Road, Sheffield S17 4FQ  
Mrs E. F. Durrant, 14, Severn Court, Severn Road, Sheffield S10 2UF  
Mrs J.E. Ellis, 1A Denham Road, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3AA  
Mrs JAM. Erwin, 30, Commercial Road, Keyworth, Notts. NG12 5JS  
Mrs Anthea Fricker, 85, Cleveland Terrace, Darlington DL318HN

Mrs N.J.O. Gill, 4, Rheda Terrace, Cleator Moor, Cumbria, CA25 5JE  
Mrs C. Goldring, 50, Royds Avenue, New Mill, Huddersfield HD7 7LP  
Mrs Irene Gunton, 1, Bradford Wood Cottages, Grange Lane, Winsford, Cheshire  
CW7 2PS

Misses Fran Haydon & Audrey Cutts, 650, Abbey Lane, Sheffield S11 9NB  
Mr & Mrs Ian & Eileen Hirst, 5, Roach Grange Avenue, Kippax, Leeds LS25 7ER  
Dilys Huggins, 7, Selby Crescent, Freshbrook, Swindon SN5 8PE

Mr Alistair Hutchinson, 7, Milestone Close, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5LX

Mr George Eric Jackson, 50, Putnoe Heights, Bedford MK41 8EB

Mr Peter Jackson, 147, Westwick Road, Greenhill, Sheffield S8 7BW

Mr R.J. Marshall, 67, Rosamund Avenue, Sheffield S17 4LS

Mr John Mather, 148, Hinckley Road, Nuneaton CV11 6LP

Mrs M. Moffat, The Willows, Chapel Lane, Greenmoor, Sheffield S35 7DX

Mrs Christine J. Moorwood, 303, High Street, Ecclesfield Sheffield S35 9XB

Mrs P.H. Otter, 46, The Lanes, Over, Cambridge CB54 5NQ

Mr Gerald Parker, 150, Fairway, Castleton, Rochdale, Lancashire OL11 3BZ

Mr M. Pether, 45, Caledon Road, Sherwood, Nottingham NG5 2NF

Mrs E. Pickard, White Gates, Cleveland Hill, Tuxford, Newark, Notts. NG22 0PH

Mrs L.J. Prior, 7, Walden Road, Swards End, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 2L

Mrs E.A. Raynes, Westbury, Chapel Lane, Gaddesby, Leicestershire LE7 4WB

Mrs Sheila Rimmington, 27, Jenkin Close, Sheffield S9 1AQ

Miss M. Robotham, 30, Bonsall Row, Cockshut Lane, Lower Birchwood,  
Nr. Alfreton, Derbyshire

Mrs B. Samson, 16, Beech Lane, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9HQ

Miss C. Sanderson, 86, Moringlow Road, Firth Park, Sheffield S5 6SE

Mr John Saynor, Mayfly Cottage, Riverside Crescent, Bakewell, Derbyshire  
DE45 1HF

Dr B. R. Scholey, 50, Dorchester Road, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 8PE

Mrs K. Senior, 116, Ferham Road, Holmes, Rotherham S61 1DY

Mrs Sue Senior, 43, Melton High Street, West Melton, Wath-upon-Deane,  
Rotherham S63 6QF

Mr M. J. Shaw, 57, Dobicroft Road, Millhouses, Sheffield S7 2LQ

Carol A. Shaw, 662, Huddersfield Road, Wyke, Bradford, West Yorks. BD12 8JR

Mr A. P. Sherwin, 15, Beechcroft Road, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2TE

Mr V. Stone, 8, Thurloe Street, South Kensington, London SW7 2ST

Miss Michelle Such, 73, Colley Road, Sheffield S5 9GT

Mr David W. Tasker, 46A, Green Oak Road, Sheffield S17 4FQ

Mr & Mrs Bob & Georgie Teasdale, 10, Oak Lodge Road, High Green,  
Sheffield S35 4QB

Mr Allan & Brian Thompson, 52, Birchall Avenue, Whiston, Rotherham S60 4EB

Mrs Joan E. Thompson, 36, Standleys Tower, Rogerfield Road, Erdington,  
Birmingham B23 5US

Mr & Mrs Todd, 53, Oakwell Close, Maltby, S66 7EE

Mr D.J. Townsend, 12, Glendower Road, Peverell, Plymouth PL3 4LA

Mrs D. Travis, 216, King Street, Dukinfield, Tameside SK16 4TY

Dr P.L. Twigg, 81, Manor Abbey Road, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 0AB

Miss J. Wardlow, 160, Haynes Park Court, Slewins Close, Hornchurch RM11 2DB

Mrs C.R. Watts, 328, Oldfield Road, Stannington, Sheffield S6 6EA  
Miss Zoe Williams, 1A, Turville Road, Gilmorton, Leics. LE17 5LZ  
Mr Ian Wilshaw, 205, Bannerdale Road, Ecclesall, Sheffield S11 9FB  
Mrs Nyra M. Wilson, 9, Broomfield Road, Sheffield S10 2SE  
Mr W. Woodward, 14, Quarry Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 7DB  
Mrs Audrey Wright, 32, Dunster Way, Harrow, Middx. HA2 9PN

#### *Overseas members*

Mrs B.M.W. Acken, 2126, E. Wilson Avenue, Orange, California  
92867-6160 USA  
Mr Edward Roy Clarke, Apt#105, 854, Hartman Dr, Midland, Ontario,  
Canada L4R 5C4  
Mrs Winifred Peterson, 6333, Manatee Avenue W. Bradenton, FL.34209, USA  
Ms Bev Ellison, 2647 Forbes Street, Victoria, B.C. Canada V8R 4C2  
Mrs Leonie Fretwell, PO Box 1151, Port Pirie, South Australia SA5540  
Mr R. Lambert, 46, Harley Street, Yanderra, NSW Australia 2574  
Sheila Morris, 307, Alta Lane, Costa Mesa, California 92627-1405,  
USA  
N.E.England Interest Group NZSG c/o Mrs J. Willcock, 197b, Ohaviti Road,  
Tauranga, 3001, New Zealand  
Mrs Winifred Peterson, 6333, Manatee Avenue W. Bradenton, FL.  
34209, USA  
Mrs Diane E. Potter, 12, First Avenue, St. Peters 5069, South Australia  
Mr & Mrs G. Shaw, 8, Japonica Drive, Palm Beach, Queensland 4221 Australia  
Mr C.W. Shimeld, 185, Revere Street, Torrington CT 06790 USA  
Mr L.H. Woodhouse, Villa 116, Broadwater Court, Bungoona Road, Kincumber,  
NSW 2251, Australia  
Mrs Betty Wright, #24-455, Pinehouse Dr. Saskatoon, Sask. Canada S7K 5X1

#### *Change of Address*

Mrs B.G. Bedford, 39, Langley Way, Watford, Herts. WD1 3EA  
Mr & Mrs K & J Calderwood 5, Sandringham Court, Admiral Way, Kings Hill,  
West Malling, Kent ME19 4EQ  
Mr Leslie Griffiths, 85, Bradley Avenue, Strathroy, Ontario, N7G 3Y8 Canada  
Mr John Bailey, Glenwood 8, Rippon Road, Hillsborough, Sheffield S6 4ND

#### *E-Mail addresses*

Carol Allison, Nottingham: callison@dmu.ac.uk  
Mrs B.G. Bedford, Herts: bgb@lineone.net OR tol.bedford@virgin.net  
Rene Bullas, Sheffield: REABullas@tinyonline.co.uk  
Jean Bunn, Cleveland: jeanbunn@hotmail.com  
Ian Bell, Leeds: Ian\_Bell@jbell.fsnet.co.uk  
Judith Bennett, Dorset: jben937437@aol.com  
C.W. Bishop, E. Yorks: colin@broach.karoo.co.uk  
Ron Bye, Rotherham: ronbye@hotmail.com  
Ann Capon, Dorset: ascapon@cwcom.net  
Wendy Chapman, Sheffield: WENDYSE@WCHAPMAN-freeserve.co.uk

G.B. Clarke, Sheffield: brianclarke@excite  
 Edward R. Clarke, Canada: travelor@mid.igs.net  
 C.J.S. Coleman, Gainsborough: CHRISNGLEN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK  
 Samuel Coley, Essex: sam.coley@lineone.net  
 Stan Cook, Bucks: Stancock@nationwideisp.net  
 Catherine Cowan, Australia: ccowan@bigpond.com.au  
 Mrs C.A. Davies, Devon: davies@spinney382.freemove.co.uk  
 G.Davis, Essex: geoff@matthewdavis.co.uk  
 Sandra Drake, Bridgend: SANDRA.DRAKE@PEGASUS100.FREESERVE.CO.UK  
 Patricia Elkins, USA: oronsay@webtu.net  
 Cheryl Farris, USA farris2@ix.netcom.com  
 Maureen Fearn, Kent: mfearn@globalnet.co.uk  
 Paul Findlater, Rotherham: paul.findlater@virgin.net  
 Anthea Fricker, Darlington: john.fricker@dtm.ntl.com  
 Judith Gaillac, France: judith.gaillac@chello.fr  
 Mrs N.J.O. Gill, Cumbria: olivag@rheda.freemove.co.uk  
 Martyn Gleaden, Wath-upon-Deane: martyn@gleaden.f9.co.uk  
 Connie Goldring, Huddersfield: connie@cgoldring.freemove.co.uk  
 Madeleine Goodwin, Manchester: Bingle21@aol.com  
 Peter Goodwin, Kent: pgoodwin@unisonfree.net  
 Mr & Mrs R. Griggs, Essex: GRIGGS@GOLDSERVE.NET  
 Irene Gunton, Cheshire: Irene@widebeards.com  
 Pauline B. Hargreaves, Sheffield: lmachin@sdlintl.com  
 Derek Hayes, Peterborough: derekhayes@UK.packardbell.org  
 Ian & Eileen Hirst, Leeds: IAN@IHURST.FREESERVE.CO.UK  
 Hazel Hough, Rotherham: Hazel7@tesco.net  
 Dilys Huggins, Swindon: huggy@clara.net  
 Alistair Hutchinson, Surrey: alistair0@eggconnect.net  
 George E. Jackson, Bedford: george\_jackso76@yahoo.co.uk  
 Peter Jackson, Sheffield: peterblades@lineone.net  
 Elizabeth Jefferies, Doncaster: fed-800a@nasuwt.net  
 Gordon P. Jepson, Canada: gpjepson@home.com  
 Mrs B.A. Johnson, Sheffield: alanberyl@bjohnson8.freemove.co.uk  
 Brenda Kunce, Australia: brendak@mpx.com.au  
 Rowland Lambert, Australia: travelor@mid.igs.net  
 Andrew T. Langton, Lancs: Langton32@curranbun.com  
 Adrienne M. Lee, Australia: adrienne@smartchat.net.au  
 G.S. Levick, Australia: levick@hunterlink.net.au  
 Elgin & Lyn Lewis, Sheffield: ELGIN@TINYTIM.FORCE9.CO.UK  
 Kenneth Littlewood, Barnsley: LITTLEWOOD@Crabtree79.FREESERVE.CO.UK  
 M.J.Mallaband, Sheffield: 1999 MollyMai@talk21.com  
 John Marrison, Tasmania: johnma@dpiwe.tas.gov.au  
 D.J. Marshall, Sheffield: dj.marshall@btinternet.com  
 R.J. Marshall, Sheffield: richard@mars-hall.co.uk  
 Helen Moorwood, Germany: helenmoorwood@hotmail.com  
 Ericka Morris, Stockport: emor2000@yahoo.co.uk  
 Sheila Morris, USA: SAM307M@AOL.COM

Mrs M.E. Muggeson, Lincs: muggeson@freenetname.co.uk  
Rev. D.L. Nadin, Essex: nadennadinfo@society@yahoo.co.uk  
N.E. England Interest Group NZSG, New Zealand: jwillcock@xtra.co.nz  
David Peart, Rotherham: davidpeart@x-stream.co.uk  
Malcolm Pether, Nottingham: malcolmpether@yahoo.co.uk  
Audrey K. Petherbridge, N.E. Lincs: akpscatho@talk21.com  
Stella Postlethwaite, Lincoln: Stella.Postlethwaite@tesco.net  
Mrs L.P. Prior, Essex: LPrior@Compuserve.com  
Mrs E.A. Raynes, Leics.: straynes@westbury15.freemove.co.uk  
Michelle Robotham, Derbyshire: michelle\_robtham@talk21.com  
Barbara Sampson, Cumbria: sampojns@supanet.com  
Mrs Jean Sanders, Oldham: sande64@ibm.net  
Christine Sanderson, Sheffield: CHRISTINE@sandersons.fsnet.co.uk  
John Saynor, Derbys: JOHNSAYNOR@LINEONE.NET  
George & Jean Shaw, Australia: gud@hotkey.net.au  
Antony P. Sherwin, Surrey: Ashe215219@aol.com  
Clayton W. Shimeld, USA: castle\_shimeld@yahoo.com  
Mrs S.H. Simmons, New Zealand: greenleas@xtra.co.nz  
Victor Stone, London: victor.stone@virgin.net  
Mr & Mrs Todd, Maltby: todd@todd55.fsnet.co.uk  
D.J. Townsend, Plymouth: david@townsend5619.freemove.co.uk  
Doreen Travis, Tameside: sivartd@hotmail.com  
Anthony Trice, Hants: trice\_anthony@hotmail.com  
P.L. Twigg, West Midlands: peter@ltwigg.freemove.co.uk  
Jennifer M Uttley, E. Yorks: jennifer.uttley@ic24.net  
Helen Vaillancourt, Canada: lucy@efni.com  
Noreen Walker, Canada: NOREEN.WALKER@SYMPATICO.CA  
Lesley Waller, Sheffield: Lesleywaller@tesco.net  
Eileen Walmsley, Australia: ewalmsley@ozemail.com.au  
Ian Wheater, Rotherham: wheatermail@netscapeonline.co.uk  
Ian Wilshaw, Sheffield: IAN@WILSHAW.FREEMOVE.CO.UK  
Les Woodhouse, Australia: leswoodhouse@compuserve.com  
Audrey Wright, Middlesex: andrew@z9z9z9.demon.co.uk  
Betty Wright, Canada: grandma@sk.sympatico.ca

#### *Change of E-mail address*

Margaret Atkin, Preston: margatkin@hotmail.com  
Patrick W. Bagnall, Rotherham: bagnalls99@hotmail.com  
Laurine A. Brunner, USA: laurine@cablemodem.com  
Jack H. Dawson, Canada: jackdawson@telus.net  
Andrew Ferguson, Rotherham: andy@aferguson.freemove.co.uk  
Pat Fisher, New Zealand: pfisher@ihug.co.nz  
Gary M. Hill, Bedford: gary@flood2.freemove.co.uk  
Diane Maskell, Chesterfield: dianemaskell@beeb.net  
David & Sandra Morton, West Yorks: dave.mtn@virgin.net  
G.I.S.M. Otterburn, N. Yorks: GeoffOtt@tesco.net  
David & Janet Palmer, Leics: d.r.palmer@talk21.com

Shirley Quartly, New Zealand: squartly@paradise.net.nz  
Marian Roellinger, USA: marian@eck.com  
Derek H. Sheldon, Coventry: Derek@Sheldon57.freemove.co.uk  
Elaine Smith, Sheffield: esmith@vip.solis.co.uk  
Mark Townsend, Sheffield: mark@mtownsend.greatxscape.net  
Patricai Van Spyk, Herts: spykvanpa@aol.com  
Paul Whitaker, Lincolnshire: paulwhitaker@tinyworld.co.uk  
Eric Youle, Australia: exy@powerup.com.au

*Correction to E-mail address*

Beryl Thompson, Australia: blhampso@pcug.org.au  
Joyce Ullrich, USA: RJURIDGE2@AOL.COM

*Resignations*

Mrs E.M. Cowley, Mansfield, Notts.  
Mr & Mrs W. Glossop, Sheffield  
Freda Treherne, Sheffield

*Obituary*

The Society regrets to announce the death of Mr J.P.Thorpe following a short illness. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife and family.

## **GENERAL NEWS AND NOTES**

### **Registration Districts Maps**

The Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies is pleased to announce a new addition to its series of Registration District maps. The new map covers the period 1946-1965 and complements the two existing maps of earlier periods.

Upon the formation of the General Register Office in 1837, a national system of registration districts was required to implement the new procedures. Debate had raged over whether the new system would be run by the clergy acting as civil officers or whether the appointments should be purely civil. It was this latter course that was taken and the superintendent registrar's districts formed were based on the poor law unions established three years earlier under the Poor Law Reform Act of 1834. These districts were then subdivided into registration districts with individual registrars.

Each sub-district contained on average seven parishes. In the Registrar General's Annual Report of 1872, it was stated that the average size of a sub-district was twenty six and a half miles and contained, on average, a population of 10,347. There were, of course, wide variations on



### **Society of Genealogists Programme 2000**

A selection of the lectures and courses on offer. For full details contact the Society of Genealogists, 14, Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1

3 Jun.	Using the Faculty Office and Vicar General marriage licences
7 Jun	Salvation Army Ancestors
21 Jun.	Using the Society's Library
15 Jul.	Army Ancestry
22 Jul.	All human life is here. Newspaper records
2 Aug.	Huguenot ancestry
5 Aug.	Charities and trusteeships, history and records
19 Aug.	Introducing palaeography
6 Sept.	Catholics in England - English and Irish
20 Sept.	Jewish ancestry
22-24 Sept.	Genealogy on the Wales - England border
4 Oct.	Methodism and genealogy
21 Oct.	Lloyd George's Domesday. The 1910 census
11 Nov.	Friendly Societies
29 Nov.	Congregationalism - its history and sources for family historians
2 Dec.	The British Army in India
13 Dec.	Quaker ancestry

### **Transcription of Latin and English documents.**

This can be undertaken by Simon Neal, 1, Thrush Close, Booker, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP12 4RJ. E-mail: les.neal@which.net

### **Spitfire Summer. Britain 1940**

The Imperial War Museum is commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of the events of 1941. Paintings, posters, newsreels, radio broadcasts, letters, diaries, newspaper and personal mementoes chronicle Britain's 'finest hour'. As well as an exhibition there are Sunday Film Show matinees, talks and children's activities.

Further information on 020 7416 5320. Recorded information on 09001 600140.

Web site: [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)

## **SOCIETY NEWS AND INFORMATION**

### **Retirement of Eileen Allen**

The AGM saw the retirement of Eileen Allen. She has been our Treasurer for sixteen years and has seen the Society grow under her able care from small beginnings to a Society of almost 800 members. She still intends to continue playing an active part in Society life but hopes now to have more time for her own research. We extend our grateful thanks and best wishes to her and hope to welcome her to meetings for many years to come.

### **Wanted!**

Have you something interesting to tell everyone? Could you give a short talk to our members at one of our monthly meetings? We are hoping to find several members who would be willing to speak for a few minutes each. If you are interested please contact Sylvia Carr, our Speaker Co-ordinator, for more details.

### **Are you asking for a search to be done for you?**

Members who contact our searchers are asked to enclose an extra stamp for each name searched and a **LARGE** envelope.

### **Meeting room opening time**

In future the meeting room will be open to members at the slightly later time of 7 pm. This is to give time for the room to be set out before members arrive.

### **Project Co-ordinator**

Heather Gillott has agreed to take on the post of Project Co-ordinator for the Society. Please contact her if you have already a project under way or if there is something you wish to do so that she is kept fully informed of what is happening. In this way we can avoid duplication of effort.

### **Books by Post.**

Members are reminded that a full list of publications available by post from Anne Giller was printed in the Spring edition, Volume 21 Number 1. However, there is an update in this edition.

### **The Jeffery Family**

The Society is in possession of some photographs and a newspaper cutting that relate to the Jeffery family. They appear to have lived in Raisen Hall Road, Southey in the 1930's. The cutting relates to the death of Flying Officer Ronald Lee Jeffery, son of Mr and Mrs T.H. Jeffery of 15, High Storrs Crescent, Sheffield but no date is given. There are photos of "C" Flight 4 Squadron at St. Andrews in August 1942 and of Miss Sally Thom(p)son and Miss Maureen Firth. Please contact the Editor if these items are of interest to you.

### **Dilger Index**

Mr and Mrs Coates of 38, Ancaster Lane, Bishopthorpe, York YO23 2SJ are interested in the Westhorn and Dilger families in nineteenth century Sheffield. Both families were Roman Catholic and originated in Germany. Mr and Mrs Coates have collected details from the GRO Index of all Dilger births 1837-1950, marriages 1837-1941 and deaths 1837-1980. They are happy to make this information available to any interested Society members in return for an SAE.

### **Cast in Sheffield**

Mrs Pamela Thorpe of Swansea tells us that the bell used in the film "Ryan's Daughter" is in a ruined building on Great Blasket Island off the west coast of Southern Ireland. From the inscription on the bell it appears that it was cast in 1856 by (La?)key of Sheffield.

### **Reminder - National Burial Index Design Competition**

Members are reminded that the competition closing date is 30 July 2000. Full details of the competition were printed in Vol. 21. No.2

### **Gunmakers & Allied Trades Index.**

Mr Stan Cook, 20 Cautley Close, Quanton, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 4BN has a collection of information on gunmakers/gunsmiths working in the United Kingdom before 1881, with mentions of over 7500 different surnames.

On receipt of a request with a SAE / postage, he will gladly try to answer questions from this source, extracting a list of people of a given surname. By arrangement a charge may be made for photocopying extra material, but normally no fee.

He has been researching these tradespeople since before 1982. Much of the present information, has been extracted from the records of the London Gunmakers' Company and from those of similar

companies/guilds. Other information has been collected from the records of the Board of Ordnance, parish records, from the census, from trade directories, from 18th century fire insurance policies and a variety of other documents and published sources.

He would appreciate any information from anyone who can add to the *data* and thus assist with further research.

The total database now includes at least 15,000 individuals and has a complete index of the London Gunmakers' Company apprentice records from 1656 to 1902; an index to the Gunmakers in the Inland Revenue Apprentice tax records, 1710-1775; an index to the gun trade people who were listed in the 1851 census of Warwickshire.

### **BURIAL TRANSCRIPTION PROJECT**

We have now come to the end of phase 1 of the project. We have finished transcribing all the church records from 1813 onwards, which are on microfiche.

I would like to thank all those volunteers who have helped me with the project. To all of you who, although at times frustrated by faded or illegible writing, have kept going, thank you very much. We have transcribed over 247,000 records.

**NB** Some of the records are still being prepared for production and are therefore not available for purchase yet. Please refer to *The Flowing Stream* or Genfair for details.

We now have 2 new projects for which we require help.

**1 Burial Transcriptions phase 2**– To produce full transcripts of records from Attercliffe Cemetery. These records are on microfilm which will be cut into small sections that will fit into a fiche carrier. This means that we need volunteers who can read 35 mm microfilm on their fiche readers.

**2 1891 census** – One of our members, Ray Nicholson, has been compiling an index of names and has very generously offered to give us all the work he has done so far. The committee has decided that we will produce full transcripts. As the census is on fiche, this means that we need volunteers who have both a fiche reader and a computer, to expand the work Ray has already done. We will also need people with fiche readers to check the work.

If you would like to help with either of these projects, or would like more information, please get in touch with me.

*Heather Gillott, 4, Bents Crescent, Dronfield, Derbyshire S18 2EY*  
*e-mail: [Heather@dronfield.swinternet.co.uk](mailto:Heather@dronfield.swinternet.co.uk)*

## Sheffield and Rotherham - The parting of the ways

Several members have enquired why the Rotherham Branch is separating from this Society. This is intended to provide background to the information sent out with the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting.

The Rotherham Branch became part of this Society in 1983, and maintained its own identity by having members of the branch and its own bank account, with a proportion of the membership fee coming in to the Society account for journal expenses, insurance etc, and some of the fee being retained for Branch running expenses. This arrangement seems to be unique - no other branch of a society operates in this manner. Other societies have members of the society as a whole, with membership fees being paid directly to the society and the branches being funded on a needs basis. Branches are usually represented on the Society Committee, and the Rotherham Branch has had a representative on this Society Committee. All societies, including this one, encourage members to attend meetings wherever they wish.

Over the past few years the Society and the Rotherham Branch have grown and last year the Society Committee spent some time considering the future and the sort of activities we could become involved in. The Committee also felt that the Society Constitution needs to be updated. It was with these thoughts that the Committee asked for representatives of the Branch to meet with a group from the Society Committee. At that meeting the Branch representatives stated that they wished the Branch to remain within Sheffield & District Family History Society. One thing that did seem likely was that the society structure could change - so that both Sheffield and Rotherham would become branches of the Sheffield and District FHS with a committee looking after the society as a whole. Each branch would then have a small committee, running day to day affairs (programme etc) and be financed on a needs basis. A change of name was also discussed. It was agreed that a small group should meet to consider ways in which the constitution could be updated, by referring to other society constitutions and the model constitution prepared by the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) and report back to the Committee.

It was at this point that there was a misunderstanding. The Sheffield representatives at the meeting thought that the Rotherham group was in favour of being financed on a needs basis and that the arrangements could begin with effect from January 2000. This was reported to the Society committee, where it was endorsed. A message was placed in *The Flowing Stream* (Winter 1999), stating that all membership fees should go to the

Membership Secretary. The Rotherham Branch Secretary and Chairman complained about this, maintaining that this had not been agreed. The Committee apologised for the error but asked them to leave things as they were, with a view to sorting out the budget in January. The Rotherham Secretary then wrote to the Rotherham Branch members informing them that membership fees should go to the Rotherham Branch as they had done in the past.

At the Rotherham Branch Annual General Meeting on 6th January 2000 members of the Branch passed a resolution to set up an independent society. The Society Committee was informed about this on 11th January. Legal advice was sought by the Society Committee from the FFHS to ensure that everything would be sorted out correctly. At the end of January the Rotherham Secretary asked the Committee for assets currently used by the Branch to be made over to the Branch. These requests were discussed at a Committee meeting in February when the Society Committee agreed to most of the requests. Some small details have yet to be dealt with.

The Committee's view was that there was little point in the Branch remaining part of the Sheffield and District FHS in view of the compulsory time lapse of one year between the establishment of a new Society and acceptance for membership of the FFHS. If the new society had begun in March 2000 it would have enabled the Rotherham FHS to formulate a Constitution and move quickly through the transfer of assets using the next ten months profitably as part of the necessary waiting time. In that way membership of the Federation would have become effective by April 2001.

In early March it became clear that the Branch was making preparations for independence. A Rotherham FHS journal 'test' web page had been posted on the Internet some weeks since, inviting people to join the Rotherham FHS, giving the Rotherham Branch Committee members' names as those of the Rotherham FHS. The FFHS National Burials Index co-ordinator had also been informed by the Rotherham projects co-ordinator that the Rotherham FHS was likely to begin in March 2000 and that the Rotherham members would be taking part.

After the agenda for the Annual General Meeting had been sent out to all members the Rotherham Branch Secretary wrote to the Society Secretary to say that the Branch intended to put forward an amendment to the resolution, postponing the separation until November. As you will see from the minutes of the Annual General Meeting this is what happened. The Rotherham Branch will now separate from the Sheffield and District FHS on November 1st 2000.

The Society Committee wishes the new Rotherham FHS well and trusts that we can maintain a harmonious working relationship.

The Federation of Family History Societies is the organisation that many Family History Societies belong to. It has representatives on its Executive Committee and has several different functions. Some are practical for all Family Historians, in that it publishes useful reference materials for researchers and the National Burials Indexing project has been organised through the FFHS. There are also some 'expert volunteers' in the FFHS who act as advisers to societies in legal and financial matters. Insurance for members attending meetings is also arranged through the FFHS .

## **COMPUTER AND INTERNET NEWS**

**S. & D. F.H. S. website** [http://mtx.net.au/~exy/sheffield\\_fhs.html](http://mtx.net.au/~exy/sheffield_fhs.html)

### **Streets in Central London**

If you are searching for 19th century ancestors in central London and are having difficulty in finding the streets they lived in because of demolition or renaming, you may find Greenwood's 1827 map of London on the internet a help. The old street names were still in use in the 1880's and 1890's. You can print it off in sections and whilst there isn't an index to the actual streets there is no problem finding them with a magnifying glass.

You can find the map on <http://www.bathspa.ac.uk/greenwood>

*Information from Elaine Smith*

### **C.J. Books has a family history related web site**

It has a mixture of items of interest to family historians including:

*Tastes of the past* - the food our ancestors ate;

*Did You Know* - facts and figures about our ancestors' lives

*A selection of web sites for family historians*

*Historical Lists* -H.M.S. Victory Crew Lists

Victoria Cross winners - Zulu War 1879

The Suffragettes

Captain Cook's crew members when he discovered Australia in 1770

Charles Darwin's crew list on H.M. Beagle

The web site can be found at [www.cjbooks.demon.co.uk](http://www.cjbooks.demon.co.uk)

**ED'S NOTE:** If you have found a useful website please send in details.

## CONFERENCES AND FAIRS

### **Yorkshire Family History Fair Saturday 24 June 2000**

To be held at York Racecourse, Knavesmire Stand, from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

Stalls will include Local archive departments; 1881 census microfiche; Federation publications; Society of Genealogists; Family Tree Magazine; Family history books; Local history books; New/secondhand M/F readers; Binders for B,M,D certificates; Maps; Computers; Reference books; Postcards; Advice tables; Research aids; Census printouts; Stationery; I.G.I. printouts; Cornish Forefathers Society.

Free coach and car parking. Cafeteria facilities. Admission £2.00

Further details from Mr A. Sampson, 1, Oxgang Close, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 4ND. Tel: 01642 486615

### **Hillingdon Family History Fair 6 August 2000**

To be held in the Great Barn, Bury Street, Ruislip, Middlesex

Refreshments: Free Parking: Family History Societies: Microfiche readers: Indexes: Church postcards: Bookstalls: 1881 Census: I.G.I.: Advice table.

Further details from Gill May, 20, Moreland Drive, Gerrards Cross, Bucks. SL9 8BB

Tel: 01753-885602

### **Lincolnshire FHS Weekend Conference 1-3 September 2000**

Entitled "Roses to Roundheads" the conference will be held at Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln. Further information from Mrs B. Webster, 25, Fen Road, Heighington, Lincoln LN4 1JL

*See Vol. 20 No. 4 for full details.*

### **The North Wales Family History Fair Saturday 9 September 2000**

To be held at the Conference Centre, Llandudno from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm.

Admission £1.50. Ample parking. Full disabled access. Catering available.

All enquiries to Bryn Ellis, 1, Old Hall Cottages, Halkyn, Holywell, Flintshire CH8 8BT. Tel; 01352 780386.

E-mail: <chairman@clwydfhs.org.uk>

**Ulster Historical Foundation F. H. Conference 19-26 Sept. P200**

Entitled "Searching for that elusive Irish ancestor" the purpose is to offer delegates practical guided research into the main archives and repositories in Belfast and Dublin.

**Post Conference Tour of Scotland 26 Sept. to 1 Oct. 2000**

Details from the Ulster Historical Foundation, Balmoral Buildings, 12, College Square East, Belfast BT1 6DD. Tel: 0044 28 90332288; Fax: 0044 28 90239885; E-mail: fintan@uhf.org.uk

**THROUGH THE LETTERBOX**

*From Maureen Newton, 64, Bestwood Road, Hucknall, Nottingham. NG15 7PQ.*

**Fan Mail or A Note of Appreciation**

I have done a similar study to Keith Pitchforth's, on a much smaller scale, so I do realise just how much effort is involved when working on immigration into an area as big as Sheffield. But what a surprise it was to see the surname Blencow associated with Bradfield in the article 'Extracts From the 1851 Census Index-Immigration'. The Blencowe's came from Cumberland to Northamptonshire and then spilled over to surrounding counties. I am researching the surname Blinco/Blencowe so if there is any other information about these families from anyone else - I would be pleased to hear. Thank you Keith Pitchforth, at the very least you have made me look at my files again. Even without this reference your article made very interesting reading.

*From Carol Toulson, 15 Dagmar Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM10 8XP*

I read Philip Robinson's article in the Winter edition of the magazine entitled *Philately & Family History*, and became very interested when I read about the farming family Lawson. Although I have no family connection whatsoever, I do have very happy childhood memories of another farmer Lawson, whose farm was on "Gleadless Hill" as we called it then.

This was in the 1940-50's when my family lived at Arbourthorne, Sheffield. We kids would walk down Myrtle Springs (a lane then) calling at Olive's shop for sweets, past the toll bar cottage to reach open fields, where we would play all day. Farmer Lawson's fields I think.

Mr Lawson delivered milk on his pony and trap, to houses on our estate. We kids would beg rides from him. The milk came in churns and would be ladled out into Mum's jug. We also had eggs from his farm.

One day I took my baby sister, Yvonne, out in her high slung pram for a walk down to the fields. Somehow I let go of the pram, which rolled down the steep hill, bumped into a low boundary wall, tipped up and threw baby over the wall into farmer Lawson's farmyard. I decided to say nothing to Mum as the baby seemed all right, but I hadn't reckoned on farmer Lawson's eagle eye. Next day, whilst delivering the milk, he spilled the beans. Were my legs red! Sister Yvonne swears to this day that this is the reason she is scatty at times.

This was in the days when children were safe playing out alone. We would often walk from Arbourthorne to Graves Park or Norfolk Park and would make tarzan swings in Buck or Rolley woods. We took with us a bottle of water and a dripping sandwich for lunch, as we would be out all day. Perfect.

Later on I was to walk through these daisy fields on my way to and from school at Carfield, a journey of about 5 miles I think. On the way home I would call at a little shop front bakery in Cat Lane for a 1d bag of yesterday's cakes. These I'd eat on my solitary walk home. Delicious.

Later still I did my courting here - walking these same paths and through the fields to a Youth Club at Gleadless Town End. This is where we learned to bop. And the Azena ballroom was where we first saw the Beatles. Oh, happy carefree days.

Thank you Philip for reminding me of these golden childhood days.

*From Jean Smedley, Flat 4, 411, Fulwood Road, Sheffield S10 3GF*

I am a Cathedral guide and feel I must amplify the "Did you know" item about the Anglican Cathedral. I quote from Canon Odom's "Memorials of Sheffield" p 39.

*'The original dedication of the Church was SS Peter and Paul but at the time of the Reformation it began to be called "Trinity Church" and continued to be so called to the opening of the nineteenth century, when it regained its ancient dedication'.*

*From Mrs Joan Froggatt, 40, Crownhill Road, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5AY*

After failing to find Evan Trevor on the 1881 census at the LDS centre I assumed that he was not there. I had painstakingly gone through every area twice without finding him. When I bought the 1881 census

from LDS just before Christmas I thought I would try to find Evan Trevor once more. I keyed in the details and **Evan Travar** appeared on the screen. After checking I found it was mine! Out of curiosity I looked for his brother Edwin and found his name transcribed as **Edwin Trevoor**.

So the lesson to be learned is, try all the variants you can think of because they are there.

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

I am writing to you regarding the split between Rotherham and Sheffield.

Many of us do not live in the Rotherham or Sheffield area and yet we will be affected since for many of us it will mean either choosing between the two societies or paying two memberships in future. Indeed if the most recent list of new members is typical there are more of us who live outside the district than those of you inside. We trust the committee to represent all our interests. Usually with constitutional changes of such magnitude there is more consultation and indeed more information than we were given. Fragmentation of societies does not benefit genealogy in general.

We are not aware of the difficulties which seem to have occurred and therefore are unable to judge between the two groups. It may well be that Rotherham would like to have a separate society, though it is a pity that this could not be done within the present society. If they wish to separate they obviously can do so.

However I see no reason why the rest of us should suffer in the process and I would like to have proposed - but sadly could not attend - that there should be NO change in the boundaries covered by Sheffield and District or the objects of the constitution which covers South Yorkshire. It would not stop an independent Rotherham Society though it might affect their membership of the Federation.

I don't know what it is about the area but another group was formed for Chesterfield but as I understand it DFHS has not abandoned its Chesterfield interest.

To the two parties, the matter of a double fee might not seem so important. For those of us on low incomes with interests all over the country, membership of county societies already takes up our resources. I already have to make choices. Do I now choose Sheffield or Rotherham?

*From Dr Eddie Cass, 548 Wilbraham Road. Chorlton. Manchester M21 9LB. Tel/Fax: 0161 881 8640*

With colleagues in America and Newfoundland, I am working on the history and printing record of a series of chapbooks which were, in the main, printed in Lancashire and Yorkshire during the nineteenth century. Going by the usual name of 'The Peace Egg', these chapbooks provided the texts of plays which were performed by young people as a means of raising money at Easter or Christmas. One of the important printers of these chapbooks in Yorkshire was the firm of Joseph Pearce and Son which was in business at Gibraltar Street, Sheffield, from around 1837 to around 1852.

It would be of considerable help to us to know something of this family at this time. In particular, we are keen to know the name of the son who was clearly part of the business at some time. The usual street directories are not very helpful in this respect. Are you aware of any of your members who might be researching this family. They might well have the information we seek. We would, of course, be more than happy to pay any postage or photocopying costs involved in the provision of this information.

## **SOCIETY MEETINGS**

*Meeting on Monday 17 January 2000*

### **Family Names, Family History**

Our President, Professor David Hey, opened the new Millennium with a fascinating talk. He began by reminding us that, contrary to what many people believe, only the Arden and Berkeley families can prove descent from the Anglo-Saxons. Only one family can prove descent from someone who fought at the battle of Hastings though many can prove Anglo-French descent. If one's surname is that of a Norman place name it is possible that this could prove one's ancestry although the existence of different places with the same name poses problems when trying to link a family with a place. There is the added complication of place name changes over time.

David quoted the example of the Lovetot family who were Norman Lords of Sheffield and whose name is connected with the village of St. Wandrille in Normandy. The Furnival family, also Lords of Sheffield came from Fourneville in France.

Surnames began to be used from the thirteenth century onwards. Before that people were identified by their lineage, for example, Adam,

son of ... We were reminded that Reaney's Dictionary of Surnames was written by linguists not by historians so the meaning of a surname is given rather than the place from which it originated.

Our speaker ended by describing research he has carried out using the Death Registers for the years just before the coming of railways and the consequent ease of travel that this provided. He found 22 examples of the name Cobbold. All were in Suffolk except for 2 in London. 39 examples of the name Anders were found – all in SW Lancashire. Between 1837 and 1842 there were 98 deaths recorded of people called Drabble. All were from the Sheffield area and Lancashire with the odd one in Cheshire. It is probably an old English name but is certainly very much a Peak District one.

We were reminded of the value of telephone directories in locating areas where a family name is commonly found. The further back in time one goes the more concentrated a family name is in an area, although there can be confusion as the spelling of both place and personal names changes with the passing of time.

*Reported by Denise Marsden*

*Meeting on Monday 21 February 2000*

### **Lest We Forget**

Those who attended the meeting expecting to hear tales of monumental inscriptions were misled by the title of this presentation. It was an evening of reminiscences of old Sheffield, with photographs of places and buildings we know, love and have sometimes forgotten. Due to shortage of space in this journal an account of the information given at this meeting will be included in the next edition.

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

Held on Monday 20th March 2000 at 7.30 p.m.

Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Sheffield

**Present** Mrs Jo Rundle in the Chair and 63 members signed in.

**Apologies** Mr R.A. Adams, Miss A. Kendrick

**Minutes of the 1999 Annual General Meeting** were published in The Flowing Stream, Summer 1999, and copies had been circulated at this meeting. They were agreed on a proposal from Mr R. Bullen and seconded by Professor R. Newton. There were no matters arising.

*Reports from Officers*

**Chairman's Report:** Mrs Rundle thanked the members of the Committee for their valuable work during the year, and went on to state that she has

not been a 'working Chairman', mainly because 'as the saying goes, whilst the spirit is willing the body tends to be weak'. She went on to say that there will come a time when the Committee needs a new Chairperson, and that if anybody feels the urge to do so, to consider the matter seriously. Finally she thanked those people who over the past year have thanked speakers for their part in the monthly meetings, and encouraged members to come forward to put their name on the 'vote of thanks' roster for the next year.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Accounts had been circulated to all members together with the agenda for the meeting. Mrs Allen gave her report. She said that in comparison with those of the previous year (1998) it would appear that things were very much the same, apart from one area - book sales. The big increase in profit from book sales can be accounted for in several ways: both Anne Giller (postal sales) and Diane Maskell (bookstall) have put in a great amount of time and the Society's presence on the Genfair 'stall' on the Internet has been a great success. The bookstall has also been taken to several Family History fairs and the Rotherham Branch has recently started a bookstall. Finally the fiche produced by Heather Gillott and her loyal helpers as a result of their work on the burial index have been selling very well. She predicted (hoping that it was not rashly) that next year's book sale profits will be lower, because perhaps we have flooded the market.

As she was retiring as Treasurer, she wished to thank Margaret Furey, Marjorie Dunn, Roy Bullen, Jo Rundle, Judith Pitchforth and Denise Marsden and all the other committee members she had worked with over the years. She concluded by thanking Graham Lyon, the Auditor and Elaine Smith who produces the labels used by the Society, and wished the Sheffield and District FHS and the new Rotherham FHS well for the future.

A written question from Bob Adams was raised from the floor, asking that the Society 'urgently reconsiders the price of both current and future disks and fiche' in the light of 'excessive profits'. He had suggested that perhaps members of the Society should not have to pay a subscription for 2001. The Secretary reported that she had contacted Mr Adams about this matter and that he had agreed that once raised at the Annual General Meeting he would be content for the matter to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

The Accounts and report were accepted after a proposal from Roy Newton and seconded by Gill Moffatt and a vote of thanks for Mrs Allen's work was proposed from the floor.

## SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1998

	1998	1997
	£	£
Income		
Subscriptions	6487	5620
Journal Sales	18	30
Donations	122	27
Book Sales	2167	1579
Advertising	20	96
Miscellaneous	6	103
Bank Interest	334	211
	<u>9154</u>	<u>7666</u>
Expenditure		
Stationery and Printing	364	90
Journal Production Costs	1972	2182
Journal Postage	1419	1135
Photocopying and Duplicating	454	281
Postage and Telephone	502	504
Room Hire	360	372
Speakers Expenses	115	166
Books for resale	1923	310
Projects	565	1192
Federation Fees	136	136
Library Expenses	132	119
Insurance	121	64
Sundries	15	241
Donations	40	60
Accountants Fee	90	85
Social	753	nil
Publication Expenses	165	nil
Depreciation- Equipment	131	nil
Deficit/Surplus for year	-103	729
	<u>9154</u>	<u>7666</u>

## SHEFFIELD &amp; DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 1998

	1998	1997
	£	£
Accumulated Fund		
Balance 1st January 1998	8456	7727
Deficit for 1998	-103	729
Creditor- Accountants Fee	90	85
Subscriptions in Advance	nil	1900
Current Account	37	nil
Accumulated surplus- Rotherham Branch	535	527
	<u>9015</u>	<u>10968</u>
Assets		
Current Account- General	nil	1792
Petty Cash Balance	136	70
Bank/Cash- Book Account	259	2470
Bank Account- Trips	36	36
Deposit Account	5615	5172
Bank and Cash- Rotherham Branch	535	527
Equipment	743	nil
Stock- Books and Fiche	1691	901
	<u>9015</u>	<u>10968</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 1998.

G Lyon  
Chartered Certified Accountant  
2 St Albans Close  
Sheffield  
S10 4DJ

27 January 1999

**Secretary's Report:** Mrs Pitchforth reported that 90% attendance at Committee meetings had been recorded. Miss A. Kendrick was co-opted to assist Mrs Allen in her role as Treasurer; Mr P. Findlater and Mr L. Gilberthorpe were co-opted as Rotherham representatives. During the year the members of the committee had been involved in activities to help the membership - welcoming new members to the Society, overhauling the library, working on postal publications, bookstalls at meetings and at fairs, Searches and the Burials project. The Committee also spent some time considering the future of the Society. Early in 2000 the Rotherham Branch Annual General Meeting voted to work towards setting up a society in its own right. The Committee accepted this decision, and has taken legal advice from the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS). The FFHS has been fully informed about all the proceedings and the Committee has worked with representatives from the Rotherham Branch so that the separation can be a positive step forward for both the Sheffield & District Family History Society and the Rotherham Branch as it becomes the Rotherham Family History Society.

The Secretary's report was accepted after a proposal from Ms Moffatt and seconded by Mr Caudwell.

**Editor's Report:** Mrs Marsden reported that 1999 was a successful one - each edition of the journal had contained more pages than in previous years. For this, she thanked the authors for their time and effort. She wished to record her thanks to Judith Pitchforth, our Secretary, for all her help and support, and Elaine Smith, who keeps our membership database and provides all the labels that we need. She concluded by expressing her personal appreciation to everyone who sent her their kind wishes during the year when she was having personal problems.

The Editor's report was accepted following a proposal from Mr Marshall, seconded by Mrs Bullas.

The Chairman presented a bouquet to Mrs Allen as she retired as Treasurer, thanking her for all the work she has done for the Society

**Election of Officers and Committee:** Mrs Rundle reported that one of the past committee members had written to her suggesting that if there was a fixed term of office more members may be willing to stand for the committee and that this matter would be considered at the next committee meeting.

The following members were nominated as Officers of the Society at the 2000 Annual General Meeting:

Chairman Mrs J. Rundle Secretary Mrs J. Pitchforth  
Treasurer Ms G. Moffatt Editor Mrs D. Marsden

The following members were nominated as members of the Committee:

Mrs R. Bullas, Mrs S. Carr, Miss A. Diver, Ms A. Giller, Miss S. Graves,  
Mrs S. Hammond, Mrs P. Heath, Mrs D. Maskell, Mr F. Westwood  
Proposed to elect en bloc by Professor. R Newton, seconded by Mr  
Caudwell. The members were elected by all present with 4 abstentions.

### **Resolution regarding the Rotherham Branch of this Society.**

(The Minutes of the Rotherham Branch Annual General Meeting and the Branch Accounts were available for members' reference).

*The Executive Committee of this Society recommends that the affairs of the Rotherham Branch be wound up with immediate effect.*

The Chairman introduced this item by referring to the information (regarding the proposed establishment of an independent Rotherham Family History Society and the meetings held by the S&DFHS and members of the Rotherham Branch) that had been circulated to all the members of the Society. Mr Bye proposed an amendment to the resolution, that the branch be wound up on 1st November 2000, and not immediately. This was seconded by Mr Peart (Chairman of Rotherham Branch). A discussion ensued.

A request was made from the floor that the legal position be reported to the members present. Mrs Pitchforth read out the information received from the FFHS. In brief, there were several points.

- The Branch cannot remain a branch of this society and adopt a new Constitution.
- All of the money in the Branch bank account, the assets currently held by the Branch and its equipment belong to the Sheffield and District Family History Society, and not to the Branch.
- Copyright for any work undertaken by members of the Branch and published by the Sheffield and District Family History belongs to the Sheffield and District FHS and not to the Branch.
- If the Branch separation from the Sheffield and District FHS happens before 31st December in any year, members attending meetings in Rotherham will no longer be covered by the FFHS insurance.

The vote for the amendment to the resolution as proposed by Mr Bye was:  
For: 36; Against: 18; Abstentions: 18. The amendment was carried.

Further discussion followed, outlining the steps already taken by the Rotherham Branch members as they have worked towards setting up their own society.

It was agreed that a vote on the resolution as amended should be taken:  
*The Executive Committee of this Society recommends that the affairs of the Rotherham Branch be wound up with effect from 1st November 2000.*

For: 51; Against: 15; Abstentions: 6

The resolution was carried.

**Any other business:** None

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 19th March 2001

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

### **Queen Mary's Dolls' House.**

After the AGM Marjorie Dunn gave an illustrated talk on Queen Mary's Dolls' House. An account of this was reported in *The Flowing Stream* Volume 18 No. 1 Page 13 after she had spoken to the Rotherham Branch.

### **MINUTES OF ROTHERHAM BRANCH A.G.M.**

Thirty eight members were present on January 6, 2000 at 7.00 pm in Eastwood Methodist Mission, Fitzwilliam Road, Rotherham for the Branch Annual General Meeting.

**Apologies for Absence:** Mr. & Mrs. Mason, Mrs. E. Allen, Mr. & Mrs. L. Calderwood, Mr. & Mrs. Goddard.

**Minutes of the last A.G.M.** were read and approved as a true record.

**Matters Arising:** Mr L. Gilberthorpe had taken on the role of Speaker Co-ordinator

Mr F. Westwood had resigned as Liaison Officer.

**Correspondence:** There was no correspondence at this point.

**Special Item:** The members present agreed to suspend the main agenda to discuss the implications of an announcement in the 1999 Winter Edition of *The Flowing Stream* concerning new subscription arrangements for the year 2000. The actions of the Rotherham Committee and their deliberations at an Extraordinary Committee Meeting in response to the announcement were put before members present. 18 postal responses had been received and were considered. It was felt that letters of explanation sent to the Chairman and Treasurer did not address the issues and were inadequate. A discussion ensued and disquiet was voiced that only lip-service was being paid to the consultation process in the Sheffield Committee. Rotherham members had been kept informed of discussions and further meetings had been envisaged before decisions were taken

about the future of the Society. It was moved by Chris Souter, seconded by Ron Bye, that the Agenda be resumed and further discussions on the future of the joint society take place under A.O.B. This was agreed.

**Chairman's Report:** Dave Peart reported on an eventful year, which began sadly with the death of Committee member and former Chairman, Colin Ryder. Branch membership continued to rise and the move to a new venue for meetings had seen an increase in attendances. A Society stand at Rotherham show in September had brought positive results. Joint meetings with members of Sheffield Committee seemed to hold promise for the future, but results proved disappointing. A full report is available.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pauline Quail reported that Branch finances were satisfactory. Due to a change of meeting place, rentals had risen sharply. Postal and stationery costs had also risen. A donation to Rotherham Hospice was made in memory of Colin Ryder. A donation had been received for research. Janet Bye moved a vote of thanks to the Treasurer which was seconded by Margaret Ensor and approved unanimously.

#### **Rotherham Branch Balance Sheet for the year ending 31 December 1999**

Balance brought forward	£535.72
Subscriptions	<u>£829.00</u>
	<u>£1364.72</u>
Rent to WEA and Eastwood Mission	£120.50
Speakers	£35.00
Photocopying	£48.83
Stamps, stationery etc.	£93.03
Milk, tea etc.	£10.24
Sherry, soft drinks (Christmas)	£11.89
Census records etc.	£46.90
Donation to Hospice in memory of Colin Ryder	£20.00
Subs paid to Sheffield	£493.50
	<u>£879.89</u>
	<b>Balance</b> £484.83
Donation from C. Mallorie for research	£15.00
	<b>Balance</b> <u>£449.83</u>

**Secretary:** Ron Bye reported on a successful programme of activities during 1999, though the year was overshadowed by the death in March of founder member and Society stalwart Colin Ryder, who was hugely missed. Since September and the move to more accessible premises, attendance had risen. The highlight was a record attendance when Archivist Sally Shepard spoke on using Maps for family history researches. John Willis had provided two interesting talks. Two workshops had been held and proved popular. Help for new members and

a friendly, informal atmosphere at meetings remained important to the Branch. Rotherham's web site was a significant development with useful links to other family history sites. Several projects were in progress and planned with a significant number of members involved. Paul Findlater had taken on the task of co-ordinating projects and was to be congratulated on his efforts. Rotherham Show had been a worthwhile venture, well supported by members who supplied items for the stall and manned it for 2 days. There had been 7 Committee meetings during the year and joint meetings with Sheffield took place in March and November. A summary of events following the joint meeting in November was given by Ron Bye, who hoped that links with Sheffield would not be completely severed, whatever path Rotherham members chose to follow in future. The Secretary thanked the Chairman, Committee and members for their support and hard work during the year. The report was received, and the Secretary thanked for his work.

**Speaker Co-ordinator:** Les Gilberthorpe reported on the programme for 2000 and reminded those present that the speaker in February was Michael Elliott. Les was thanked for his work during the year.

**Projects :** Paul Findlater reported that extra funding would be needed as projects were completed and the results made available for research. Projects were planned through to 2002.

**Web site:** Caroline Turner was congratulated on the layout of the site which was well used and a real asset to the Branch.

#### **Election of officers & committee for 2000**

All existing members of the Committee were willing to stand for re-election.

Chairman	Mr.D.Peart	Secretary	Mr.R.Bye
Vice-Chairman	Mr.M.Wragg	Treasurer	Mrs.P.Quail
Committee	Mr. L. Gilberthorpe, Mrs M. Ensor, Mr. B. Jervis Mrs. C. Turner, Mr. P. Findlater, Mr. C. Ensor		

As no new nominations had been received, Joe Leach moved that the existing Committee be re-elected en-bloc. This was seconded by Martyn Gleaden and passed without dissent.

**A.O.B:** After discussion, Martyn Gleaden moved the following resolution from the floor: "that the Rotherham Branch of the Sheffield & District F.H.S. breaks its links with Sheffield F.H.S. and seeks affiliation with the F.F.H.S as an independent society".

This was seconded, and Martyn put forward his reasons for becoming, as in the past, an independent society. After a lively and wide-ranging discussion, Ron Bye, Sec., put forward an amendment to the proposal.

This was seconded by Paul Findlater and the proposal then read “that the Rotherham Branch of the Sheffield & District F.H.S. works towards breaking its formal links with Sheffield F.H.S. and seeks affiliation with the F.F.H.S. as an independent society.”

Martyn Gleaden then withdrew his proposal in favour of the amendment.

The motion was put to the vote and the result was as follows:

FOR - 30, AGAINST - 1, ABSTENTIONS - 7 The motion was therefore carried and would be communicated to the Sheffield Committee.

As there was no further business, the formal meeting was closed at 8.30 p.m.

### *Rotherham Branch Meeting on Thursday 3 February 2000*

#### **The Dearne Valley**

Mick Elliott opened his talk by enlarging on the definition of a community. The definition of community can vary from town, village, street, workforce and can even be a community within a community. Some historians reject the idea of community saying it is the invention of the writer. Another difficulty is that the writer can be seen to have political bias even though the intention is sociological.

Mick Elliott’s talk covered the years from 1918 to 1939, although mining had taken place from about 1860. Villages before 1860 were sustained by farming. In Mick’s opinion if a settlement had contemporary perception, that is to say, evidence that the inhabitants themselves acknowledged development over time, then this was proof of community.

In 1918 the Dearne Valley consisted of Bolton, Thurnscoe, Wath, Wombwell, Mexbro’ and Goldthorpe, all small “townships” varying in political colour. Because the politics of these settlements were so diverse the opportunities for men and women blossomed.

Necessity is the mother of invention and so it appears to have been in the Dearne Valley. Turning one’s hand to different ways of making money by violin making, dog breeding, poetry, music and theatre in one person’s home was commonplace.

Some miners had become successful in business and owned coal mines in America. Women were also active in local politics and not submissive as generally perceived. This stereotype was mainly thought to have originated by such writers as J.B. Priestley and G. Orwell who were themselves middle class. The question of militancy arose when the miners came out on strike, not for more money but because their wages were reduced.

The decline of the Dearne Valley was to a large extent the failure of the “townships” to agree, each fearing the political aspirations of the other.

Electric tramways were laid down, initially a good thing, but as the new houses were later built on steep hillsides the trams were unable to ascend, resulting in financial failure. Replacing the old houses with new caused an unforeseen downward spiral. The increase in rents from 1/- to 4/- per week was, in the long term, more than the families could afford. The revenue decreased, rates were increased and, added to this was the General Strike when thousands were in debt. Subsistence provisions had been put in place which gave some assistance. These, in part, were managed by local people who identified with the community.

On the positive side, the general health of the Deame Valley improved by the houses being built in a clean environment. Other benefits were playing fields, allotments with tools provided and the provision of clinics. People became more community conscious and less parochial. By 1945 the Dearne Valley was best suited for the Emergence of the Welfare State.

*Reported by B L Jervis.*

## **OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS**

*Noel T. Boulsover, 19, Conifers, 1, The Avenue, Poole, Dorset BH13 6BA* is interested in researching the name **Boulsover** with variants **Bolsover** and **Bowser** in the Sheffield area, to see if there are links with his great-great-grandfather **Samuel**, married in Bakewell in 1782. In particular he is seeking data on three nephews of **Thomas Boulsover**, of Sheffield Plate renown, namely **Samuel**, (b. 1730, m. 1750), **George** ( b. 1740, m. 1763) and **Henry** (b.1727) and their offspring, if any.

*Bev Ellison, 2647, Forbes Street, Victoria, B.C. Canada V8R4C2* writes: "I am researching the Ellison surname. My great grandfather, **Michael Ellison** lived at Barber Wood House, Rotherham. He was born in Sheffield about 1849 and died in 1897. His father was **Michael Joseph Ellison** born about 1818 in Worksop, Nottinghamshire. According to the 1881 census the family was living at Bellevue Road, 82 Beach Hill Sheffield. Our family has a photograph of both men, along with the Duke of Norfolk, standing on the steps of Sheffield Town Hall to greet Queen Victoria for the opening of the new Hall. I have been told a Michael J. Ellison was President of the Yorkshire Cricket Club for 37 years and at the time of his death was President of the M.C.C. I am hoping to find out

more about the family through the obituaries of both men. Any advice on finding their obituaries would be appreciated.

I am also researching the McKie family. **Gladys McKie** was born in Sheffield on 22 August 1893. I would like to know her mother's name. I have a copy of a letter from **Charles F. Wike**, Esq. M. Inst. C.E., Borough Surveyor, Sheffield, which was written on a letterhead from the Borough Surveyor's Office, Bower Spring, Sheffield on 8 May 1891. It is a letter of reference for **Isaac Sheperd McKie** (Father of Gladys McKie?). It states that Is. McKie was engaged in that office for 1 ½ years and had charge of the construction of a bridge of 80ft. span, costing about £80,000 and also prepared schemes for many important street improvements and other municipal engineering works.

I would appreciate any advice from members and would be happy to share any information I have and to do research here in exchange"

*Derek K. Wells, The Mount, Commonsides, Crowle, N. Lincs. DN17 4EY* is searching for the descendants of the following families. Details are taken from the 1881 census.

At 8 Court 5 Westgate, Rotherham were: **Bingley Webster** 44 years (b. Thorne YKS) and his wife, **Hannah** 38 years (b. Beverley YKS). Their children, all born in Rotherham, were **Mary A.** (13 years), **Jane** (10 years), **Rebecca** (10 years), **Joseph B.** (6 years), **Bingley** (3 years) and **George** (7 days).

At 104 Eastwood Lane, Rotherham, were: **Henry Parkin** 37 years (b. Stainforth LIN) and his wife, **Charlotte** 36 years (b. Stainforth LIN). Their children were **Walter** 12 years (b. Braithwell YKS) and **Alice** 3 years (b. Rotherham YKS). Also at the same address were **Eliza Whittles** (Widow) aged 34 (b. Stainforth LIN), **Arthur Whittles** aged 10 (b. Attercliffe, YKS) and **Beatrice Whittles** aged 8 (b. Attercliffe, YKS).

At 162, Masbro Street were **Thomas Foster**, 47 years (b. Grimsby LIN) and his wife **Jane Foster** 46 years (b. Armthorpe YKS). Their children, all born in Masbrough YKS were **Charles** (21 years), **Elizabeth** (16 years), **Thomas** (14 years), **Martha** (12 years) and **Samuel** (4 years).

*Mrs Dorothy Dark, 6, Claremont Cottages, Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 2AL* writes: "I am trying to trace the birthplace and history of my grandfather, **George Hempfield**. According to the 1891 census he was born in Sheffield around 1844 and must have joined the Wiltshire Regiment at a young age as he does not appear in the 1861 census. On his death in 1895 his son, my father **George Walter Hempfield** was admitted

to the Bristol orphanage. Papers were signed by **Mrs Sarah Ann Ireson** (wife of **Edward Ireson**), bricklayer) then living at 57, Weston Street, Sheffield. Mrs Ireson was described as 'sister to the child's father', but her name before marriage appears on her daughter, Emma's, birth certificate as 'Smith'.

Can anyone tell me more about the Iresons or Sarah Ann Smith, which would help me locate the early years and birth of my grandfather?"

*Mrs Diane E. Potter, 12, First Avenue, St. Peters 5069, South Australia* writes: "I am seeking more information on **Walter Dennis Levick**. I have traced his arrival here in Adelaide but want to know more about his father **Dennis Ernest Levick**. He was born in 1842 and married **Emma Rose**. Their fourth child, **Charles Ernest Levick**, b. 13. 3. 1874 was baptised at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Saltergate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Records in S. Australia show another two Levicks, **George** and **Samuel**. I am interested to know if they are brothers of **Dennis Ernest Levick**."

*Michael Huscroft, 100, Old Church Road, Clevedon, North Somerset BS21 6PT* asks: "Does anyone know of any family connection of **Henry Hallam** (1777-1859), the early 19th century historian, with Sheffield / Hallam? He appears to have used a wheatsheaf, similar to those on the Sheffield coat of arms, as a personal emblem. His father, **John Hallam**, was Dean of Bristol (1781-1800) and they owned land in Boston, Lincs. and West Bromwich, Staffs."

*Revd Dennis Ll. Nadin, The Hermitage, 201 Willowfield, Hadow, Essex. CH18 6RZ* writes: "I am searching particularly for 18th Century and early 19th Century **Naden/Nadin** family burials in Rotherham. I have a number of baptisms, which just appear to have disappeared. **Henry and Lydia** and their son **Edward** 1763 and the children of **Thomas and Elizabeth, Lydia** 1778, **John** 1780, **Thomas** 1783, **Elizabeth** 1785, **John** 1794. Some were baptized in the Presbyterian Church, namely the children of **Joseph and Sarah, Elizabeth** 1755, **Nancy** 1756, **Sally** 1758, **Elizabeth** 1761, **Hannah** 1765, **Martha** 1768 and **Mary** 1772 but was there a graveyard there? The women could well have married but, there again, I cannot find them".

### Help Offered

We have a large data of Parnhams, many in family trees dating back to the 1500's. We will gladly share this information with anyone interested in the

name. The vast majority of the early Parnhams seem to have originated in the Vale of Belvoir villages. If you are interested please contact Carol Beadle and Kath Hession, 5, Marshall Hill Drive, Mapperley, Nottingham NG3 6FY

Web Site Address: MBE.comms@virgin.net

## AN 18TH CENTURY RECRUIT

*From Barnsley Archives and Local Studies collection from Cannon Hall, accession number N 1958/Z.*

In the list of recruits in 1776/7, found in the Wood Family papers of Monk Bretton and Barnsley was

Name-**Chas. Hunt**, age- 20, size- 5'5 ½ ", born- Sheffield, Yorks, hair - black, eyes - hazle, complexion - fresh, mark - round shouldered, when - 7 Nov 1776, where enlisted - Sheffield, by- **Lieut. Bingley**, trade - Scissor Smith, expence - £5.5s. The men were probably recruited for the American War of Independence and were recruits for his Majesty's 65th Foot commanded by **Lieut. Gent. Edward Urmston**.

## NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

- 1922 Mrs Audrey Mayor, 26, Saltire Gardens, Salford M7 4BG
- 1927 Mr J. Shepard, 20, Castleview Drive, Cromford, Matlock, Derbys. DE4 3RL
- 1934 Mrs Sheila Rimmington, 27, Jenkin Close, Sheffield S9 1AQ
- 1942 Mr C. Bishop, 22, Victoria Avenue, Willerby, Hull, East Yorks. HU10 6DA
- 1944 Mrs Barbara G. Bedford, 39, Langley Way, Watford, Herts. WD1 3E
- 1945 Bev Ellison, 2647 Forbes Street, Victoria, B.C. Canada V8R 4C2
- 1948 Mr Ian Hirst, 5, Roach Grange Avenue, Kippax, Leeds LS25 7ER
- 1956 Mrs Patricia Otter, 46, The Lawns, Over, Cambridge CB4 5NQ
- 1957 Ms Shodan G. Day, 50, Green Oak Road, Totley, Sheffield S17 4F
- 1958 Mr A. Corwood, 31, The Avenues, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 3PH
- 1960 Miss Michelle Such, 73, Colley Road, Parson Cross, Sheffield S5 9ET
- 1961 Mr M. J. Connell, 15, Hill Drive, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, Derbyshire SK23 7BH
- 1962 Mr G.E. Jackson, 50 Putnoe Heights, Bedford MK41 8EB
- 1965 Mrs S. Simmons, 20, Haywood Lane, RD6, Warkworth, New Zealand, 12
- 1966 Mrs C. Goldring, 50, Royds Avenue, New Mill, Huddersfield, West Yorks. HD7 7LP
- 1967 Miss M. Robotham, 30, Bonsall Row, Cockshut Lane, Lower Birchwood, Nr. Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 4NG
- 1971 Miss C.A. Bower, 4, Croft Court, Bishopthorpe, York YO23 2RU
- 1975 Mrs Fricker, 85, Cleveland Terrace, Darlington DL3 8HN
- 1977 Mr N.T. Boulsover, 1, The Avenue, Poole, Dorset BH13 6BA
- 1979 Mrs E.A. Raynes, Westbury, Chapel Lane, Gaddesby, Leics. LE7 4WB

- 1984 Mrs Sue Senior, 43, Melton High Street, West Melton, Rotherham S63 6QF  
 1985 Ms M. Thorogood, 1, Bourne Ct. Chapel Street, Crowle, Scunthorpe, N.Lincs.  
 DH17 4UB  
 1991 Mr Les H. Woodhouse, Villa 116, Broadwater Court, Bungoona Road,  
 Kincumber, NSW 2251 Australia  
 1992 Mrs Diane E. Potter, 12 First Avenue, St. Peters, South Australia 506  
 1995 Mr John Saynor, Mayfly Cottage, Riverside Crescent, Bakewell, Derbys.  
 DE45 1HF  
 1999 Mr Stan Cook, 20, Cautley Close, Quainton, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 4  
 2003 Betty Wright, #24-455 Pinehouse Dr. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada  
 S7K 5X1  
 2005 Mrs Lesley Prior, 7, Walden Road, Swards End, Saffron Walden,  
 Essex CB10 2LE  
 2006 Mrs Joan E. Thompson, 36, Standleys Tower, Rogerfield Road, Erdington,  
 Birmingham B23 5US  
 2022 Carol A. Shaw, 662, Huddersfield Road, Wyke, Bradford, W. Yorks.  
 BD12 8JR

1966	Adams	Any	Any	Any
1965	Adshead	Macclesfield	CHS	c 1870
1945	Armstrong	Yarn	YKS	pre 1850
1962	Atkinson	Sheffield	YKS	19C
1979	Atter	Skillington	LIN	M 18C
1942	Bagley	Ecclesall Bierlow	YKS	pre 1970
1944	Balderson	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1860
1961	Banks	Rotherham	YKS	pre 1874
1961	Banks	West Midlands	STS	pre 1874
1962	Barlow	Barnsley	YKS	19C
1984	Barlow	Bradfield	WRY	pre 1900
1944	Bedford	Emley	WRY	pre 1841
1944	Bedford	Sheffield	YKS	1845+
1977	Bolsover	Bakewell	DBY	pre 1782
1977	Bolsover	London	LND	18 C
1977	Bolsover	Sheffield	WRY	1750+
1977	Boulsover	Bakewell	DBY	pre 1782
1977	Boulsover	London	LND	18 C
1977	Boulsover	Sheffield	WRY	1750+
1977	Bowser	Sheffield	WRY	1750+
2003	Bright	Sheffield	YKS	19 C
2005	Brookes	Sheffield (Darnall)	WRY	c 1870's
1979	Butcher	Sheffield	YKS	18C
1944	Carlisle	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1820
1965	Carter	Howden	ERY	c 1837
1934	Cartwright	Sheffield	WRY	pre 1851
1958	Cawood	Anywhere	YKS	1820-50+
1979	Cawthorne	Maplebeck	NTT	18C
1966	Charlesworth	Hathersage & Wooldale	DBY	18C+

1965	Ches	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1844
1979	Clark	Sheffield	YKS	L 19C
R1984	Clewley	Anywhere	WRY	19/20 C
1985	Cocker	Sheffield	YKS	1880+
1961	Connell	Sheffield	YKS	1840s+
1958	Corwood	Anywhere	YKS	1820-50+
1958	Cowood	Anywhere	YKS	1820-50+
1927	Crossland	Penistone/Hunshelf/Barnsley	WRY	1780+
1971	Crowthor	Wath/West Melton/Rotherham	WRY	1730+
1971	Dobb	Rotherham	WRY	pre 1823
R1984	Dyson	Bolsterstone	WRY	19/20 C
1965	Eastwood	Barnsley	YKS	pre 1914
1948	Eastwood	Beighton	DBY	Any
1948	Eastwood	Rotherham	WRY	Any
1971	Ellis	Greasbrough	WRY	pre 1812
1945	Ellison	Sheffield/Rotherham	YKS	pre 1912
1945	Ellison	Sheffield/Rotherham	YKS	pre 1912
1962	Eskdale	Whitehaven	CUL	E 19C
1961	Firth	Liversedge	YKS	pre 1844
1971	Foulstone	Wath-on-Dearne	WRY	pre 1750
1971	Fowlstone	Wath-on-Dearne	WRY	pre 1750
1979	Gears	Anywhere	Any	E 19C
1966	Goldring	Any	Any	Any
1999	Grigsby		KEN	pre 1830
1922	Hadfield	Ecclesall Bierlow	YKS	pre 1875
1967	Hague	Yorkshire	YKS	Any
1991	Hall	Attercliffe	YKS	1881-1990s
1991	Hall	Rixson	YKS	1881-1990s
1991	Hall	Woodhouse	YKS	1881-1990s
1960	Hayes	Sheffield	SYK	pre 1900
1971	Hazelwood	Sheffield	WRY	pre 1818
1971	Heppenstall	Rotherham	WRY	pre 1836
2022	Hersey	Dudley	WOR	1850+
2022	Hersey	Horsham	SSX	1750+
2022	Hersey	Sheffield	YKS	1860+
1922	Hindley	Ecclesall Bierlow	YKS	pre 1853
1922	Hindley	Retford	NTT	pre 1853
1945	Hobson	Bradfield	YKS	c 1746
1945	Hodgson	Helperby	YKS	pre 1880
1966	Houchin	Norwich	NFK	pre 19C +
1966	Houchin	Stocksbridge	SYK	pre 19C +
1948	Houghton	Caister area	LIN	Any
1948	Houghton	Rotherham	WRY	Any
R1984	Hudd	Bristol	GLS	pre 1920
R1984	Hudd	Sheffield	WRY	1920s
1948	Hudson	Rotherham	WRY	Any
1944	Hurst	Pontefract	WRY	pre 1730

1957	Hutchinson-Shields	Sheffield	YKS	c 1900
1957	Hyatt	Sheffield	YKS	1860+
1962	Jackson	Whitehaven	CUL	L 19C
1971	Jarvis	Masbrough/Rotherham	WRY	pre 19C
1944	Jepson	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1800
1961	Johnson	Liversedge	YKS	pre 1900
1965	Judson	Barnsley	YKS	pre 1813
R1984	Kelk	Anywhere	WRY	19/20 C
1967	Knapton	Yorkshire	YKS	Any
1992	Levick	Chesterfield	DBY	pre 1835
1942	Manning	Ecclesall Bierlow	YKS	pre 1970
2006	Markham	East Retford	NTT	19C
2006	Markham	Sheffield	YKS	19-20C
1979	Marsden	Handsworth	YKS	18C
1979	Marsdon	Sheffield	YKS	19C
1965	Marsh	Rotherham	YKS	pre 1850
1945	McKie	Sheffield	YKS	c 1883
1942	Mende	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1970
1945	Meynell	Yarm	YKS	pre 1880
1966	Micklethwaite	Any	Any	Any
2005	Millington	Sheffield (Attercliffe)	WRY	pre 1850+
1999	Mitchell	Ardwick	LAN	c 1843
1999	Mitchell	Milden / Groton	SFK	1840+
1999	Mitchell	Sheffield	WRY	pre 1820
1999	Mitchell	Woolwich	KEN	1820 - 40
1999	Morley	Milden	SFK	pre 1850
1961	Moseley	Rotherham	YKS	c 1870
R1984	Moyses	Anywhere	WRY	19/20
1971	Murray	Greasbrough	WRY	pre 1784
1962	Newton	Ambleside	WES	19C
2006	Nicholson	Sheffield	YKS	19-20 C
1961	O'Connell	Sheffield	YKS	1840s+
1957	Owen	Sheffield	YKS	c 1882
1979	Oxley	Clowne	DBY	18C
1934	Palmer	Sheffield	WRY	pre 1851
1991	Pearson	Attercliffe	YKS	1881-1990s
1991	Pearson	Rixson	YKS	1881-1990s
1991	Pearson	Woodhouse	YKS	1881-1990s
1957	Radley	Sheffield	YKS	1874+
1962	Randall	Wakefield	YKS	19C
1979	Raynes	Barlow	DBY	pre 1750
R1984	Reynolds	Anywhere	WRY	19/20 C
1934	Rimmington	Worksop	NTT	c 1893
1975	Roberts	Leeds	WRY	1800+
1975	Roberts	Sheffield	WRY	1820+
1965	Roberts	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1813
1967	Robotham	Derbyshire	DBY	Any

1967	Robotham	Staffordshire	STS	Any
1967	Robotham	Yorkshire	YKS	Any
1960	Rodger	Wortley	SYK	pre 1800
1992	Rose	Beighton	DBY	pre 1842
19566	Ryder	Sheffield (central)	YKS	pre L 19C
2022	Salt	Bradford	YKS	1880+
2022	Salt	Brampton	DBY	1850+
1979	Sawton	Ecclesall	YKS	E 19C
1995	Saynor	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1783
1960	Schofield	Barnsley	SYK	pre 1900
1967	Scholey	Yorkshire	YKS	Any
R1984	Senior	Sheffield	YKS	1830+
1960	Shaw	Sheffield	SYK	pre 1900
1927	Shepard	Hatfield/Doncaster/Sheffield	WRY	1785+
1927	Shepard	Wickersley/Rotherham	WRY	1800+
1927	Sheppard	Sheffield	WRY	1830+
1957	Shields	Sheffield	YKS	1912+
1965	Smith	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1750
1965	Spink	Sherburn	YKS	pre 1800
1991	Staff of Woodhouse & Rixson	Attercliffe	YKS	1881-1938
1922	Staley	Ecclesall Bierlow/Sheffield	YKS	pre 1830
2022	Staniforth	Sheffield	YKS	1890+
1957	Stevenson	Sheffield	YKS	c 1890
R1984	Stocks	Anywhere	WRY	19/20 C
1971	Styring	Rotherham	WRY	c 1784
1942	Theaker	Ecclesall Bierlow	YKS	pre 1970
1979	Thorp	Pinxton	DBY	E 19C
1960	Thorpe	Ecclesfield	SYK	pre 1800
1934	Travis	Billingley	WRY	c 1822
1957	Tyler	Sheffield	YKS	1831+
1944	Wardley	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1881
1961	Warringham	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1859
1942	Warrington	Ecclesall Bierlow	YKS	pre 1970
1965	Waterfall	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1844
R1984	Watkinson	Stocksbridge	WRY	20 C
R1984	Watkinson	Tickhill	YKS	19/20 C
1991	Wheen	Sheffield	YKS	1680-1900s
1975	White	Dunnington	LEI	pre 1800+
1934	White	Eyam	DBY	pre 185
1975	White	Sheffield	WRY	M 19C
1971	Wigglesworth	Greasbrough	WRY	pre 1776
1971	Wild	Rotherham	WRY	pre 1774
1995	Wilkinson	Bradfield	YKS	pre 1783
1995	Wilkinson	Sheffield	YKS	pre 1783

## POSTERITY FORGOTTEN?

In delving into the past, are we neglecting the future? One of our basic wishes is that our ancestors left behind a clear and accurate description of their dates and details of all their comings and goings. Who doesn't crave the discovery of a mouldy treasure chest teeming with deeds, documents and personal notebooks? In striving for the fascinating past perhaps you could spare a thought for your descendants. Are all our documents catalogued and easy to find? Do all the copious notes and thoughts scribbled on bits of scrap paper make sense to anyone but ourselves?

I looked at my collection of GRO certificates, notes on future research, letters from record offices apologising for losing census returns, photographs of ancestors and descendants, the inevitable scrap notes and thought,

'Wouldn't it be nice to collate much of the information here and put it in a book, and then do a few copies so that some time in the future, an ancestor of mine might have easy access to the fruits of twenty five years of research.'

Though the box with all my bits and bobs may probably be handed down through one of my sons, it would be useful to have this same information in a more readable form passed down through as many lines as possible. A form that may spark an interest of a great, great grandson in his own family history. The millennium seemed as good a point as any to publish a small book detailing as much of the family history as I knew at that time.

The book contains family group sheets, family legends, personal histories that I have bullied my family into writing, photographs and indeed anything that I thought might add sparkle to the dry, dull details. It also has a number of appendices with all the census returns (I know of), lists of the GRO certificates I have (with GRO index references), maps and miscellaneous photographs. The idea is that someone without the actual documents can quickly re-create the research and build upon it even though the original boxes and papers are forgotten in the attic of some distant and possibly unknown relative.

The problem with such a publication is not the content as much as the production. Printing less than half a dozen copies would be ridiculously expensive if we employed a professional printer. Are we not lucky, therefore, that a tool that many of us employ in our research into the past can also be used to ensure our immortality in the future? Much of

what you have sitting on your hard drive already, can be copied and pasted into a word processor. Many of these will also enable you to paste in photographs and documents or whatever you like. If you don't have a scanner, maybe a friend who has can copy some of your best photos onto floppy discs in the form of JPEGs which your computer will happily slot into your emerging masterpiece. Do be aware that as your book grows the document file will become vast and unwieldy. Better to split it into sections. Keep 6 or 8 pages as separate, smaller files and then the goblins that live in your computer will be appeased. Microsoft Word, for example, does not like 40 megabyte, 20 page documents bursting with high resolution photographs, (as I know to my cost). The goblins do not like big files and will crash your system faster than you can spit.) When a section is done, complete with page numbers and suitably sized margins, print it on as high a quality as your printer can go. It may take forever to print each page but it looks so much better.

Presentation is almost as important as content. Your descendant will probably be less interested if you have used a scabby old dot matrix printer and your hard work may not survive 'A good clear out'. If possible, use high quality paper such that you can print on both sides. (It took me ages to find paper that will not allow inkjet ink to show through to the other side\*). If you don't have a good printer, see if you can borrow one.

When all the copies are collated skip merrily down to your local office supplies or copy shop and pay the miserable pittance they are asking to put a comb binding with plastic covers on each of your books. It should be no more than 2 or 3 pounds per copy. Then force a copy onto each of your 'adult' offspring promising to come back and haunt them if they don't look after your epistle. (If you have no offspring a cousin, niece, nephew or brother will do.)

Why not produce a book to delight your descendants with their own mouldy treasure chest of *what you know now*. Pick a date and don't be tempted to add things discovered after that date or you'll never finish it. Write a preface asking the reader to pass on the book to descendants even if they themselves have little interest. Don't forget to write a short biography of yourself. It may be egotistical but your descendants will find you just as interesting as you find your great, great granny.

\*Super resolution duo 130gsm (200 sheets) from Digital Colour Solutions,  
Tel: 0181 900 2770 <http://www.colour-solutions.co.uk>

## **SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF A SHEFFIELD CHILDHOOD 1915 - 1923**

*As my mother is soon to celebrate her 90th birthday it seems an appropriate time to place on record some of her recollections of her Sheffield childhood.*

Born Eva King on 13 June 1910 at 63, Hammerton Road, she was the daughter of William Charles King and Harriet Sargent. Her father was a soldier in the regular army (Royal Field Artillery) and was posted to Sheffield around 1908. Her mother had been resident in Sheffield since 1872, the year when her parents had moved to the city from Birmingham.

My mother's earliest memories are of Morley Street school which she first attended as an infant in 1915 and it was in the Infants that she first learnt to spell. She also remembers that time was allowed during the schoolday for "a nap" and thinks that the name of the infant teacher was Miss Brecken [?]. Her journey to school took her from Hammerton Road up Carnaby Street down Walkley Lane and into Morley Street and on this journey she was regularly accompanied by her friend and neighbour Marion Stagg and Marion's brother Tom. Amongst the names of her other friends and classmates that she can recall are Helen Walker, Edna Wragg, Olive Atkinson, Edmund Dickenson and Ernest Laycock.

The headmistress during these years was Miss Guthrie and other teachers included Miss Leyburn and Miss Heward [?] who was my mother's favourite teacher. There were shower baths in the school grounds - a bath being optional each week, and there were also regular medical inspections by a doctor and nurse. At standard III boys and girls were separated into different classes and this continued up to standard VIII. My mother still has her report for standard III and the subjects taken were Arithmetic, Mental [Arithmetic], Reading, Composition, Spelling, Recitation, Drawing, Needlework, History, Geography and Nature Study. Her total marks were 157 out of 170. She was placed second in her class and her form teacher was [Miss] E. Brameld

At Christmas time there was a school play and of these my mother recalls productions of Alice in Wonderland and Young Lochinvar. One particular notable event still remembered was the visit of the then Prince of Wales [later King Edward VIII] to Sheffield, an event my mother was selected to attend and which she witnessed sitting on some steps in Western Park.

During the Christmas school holidays my mother went with her parents to see a pantomime in the "city centre" and was also occasionally taken to trade shows by a relative of her mother. During the summer holidays she recalls walks in Beeley Woods and around Wharncliffe Craggs, also the much anticipated one week in Blackpool. Other social activities included a Saturday visit to the Phoenix cinema referred to as the "Id gaffe".

My mother attended Sunday school at Owlerton Parish Church, where her parents had been married, and where she was taught by Madge Rhodes. On Whit Monday all the churches and chapels marched to Hillsborough Park and at the same location my mother recalls the performance of a pageant entitled "Refugees".

Being the daughter of a regular army soldier she has particular memories of the barracks on Langsett Road and recalls being taken by her father to the stables in Lower Barrack Square to see the horses. Every Sunday there was a Church Parade to Owlerton Church though it is the Welch Guards, with their goat at the head of the parade, that my mother particularly remembers. During the war [WWI] the older girls from Morley Street school took injured soldiers small presents and in the "Jack Tar Ward" there was a picture of Nurse Cavell. Facing the barracks next to the Queens Hotel was a soldiers' and sailors' home and at the "bottom" of Hammerton Road was a Police Station.

On the outbreak of World War 1 her father was recalled to his battery and sent to France. He did not return home until November 1915. During the Zeppelin raids on Sheffield, being in an area that must have been vulnerable due to its proximity to the barracks, the family used to go and sit in garden sheds in the fields opposite to their home in Hammerton Road. My mother remembers a neighbour of the family telling them that on the night Corby Street was bombed he actually saw a Zeppelin pass low over the city.

In 1923 my grandmother decided to invest a small legacy, she had been bequeathed, in the purchase of a guest house in St. Annes, Lancashire. However even though it is almost eighty years since my mother left her native city she still regards herself as a Yorkshire exile and her first loyalty is always to her beloved Sheffield.

*Peter Shakeshaft, 21, Skipton Road, St. Annes on Sea, Lancs. FY8 3PA*

## **THOMAS HOWSON OF CHAPELTOWN (1844 - 1900)**

**World Champion of "Knur and Spell"**

*'Chapelton lies in a valley below Ecclesfield about 6 miles north of Sheffield. Nearby are extensive coal and iron works and the hamlets of Mortomley, Potter's Hill, Burnt Cross, High Green and Hesley'. (William White's Directory, 1852).*

Chapelton developed as an industrial concern in the 17th century with the establishment of earlier ironstone workings. Expansion came with the coal mining industry and during the 18th century Chapelton grew in stature with the opening of the Thorncliffe Ironworks of Newton Chambers who were granted rights to extract coal and ironstone from the surrounding area. Initially the company manufactured light cast iron goods, however, with the development of the railways there was a move into heavy castings. Newton Chambers became the biggest employers in the area. Later production included gaswork plant and the development of by-products of the Blast Furnace coke to make tars, oils and disinfectants.

The surname 'Howson' can be traced in and around Chapelton., Ecclesfield and the ancient parish of Wortley as early as 1750, and even earlier in the vicinity of Tickhill. My Howson family first appeared in Chapelton in October 1841 following the marriage in Sheffield Cathedral between James Howson, a Groom from Tickhill, and Sarah Loxley, a farmer's daughter of Potter's Hill. The marriage in Sheffield Cathedral was presumably by special license for couples from outside the City Parish.

My great-great grandfather, Thomas (Tom) (Loxley) Howson was born to James and Sarah in August 1844 and was the second of their three sons. Legend has it that an ancestor of Sarah's, "Bonnie Loxley" a highwayman, is seen on some nights riding a white horse between Ecclesfield and Chapelton! Thomas grew up in Chapelton and the 1881 Census shows him to be a coalminer and head of a family living at 155, Station Road, Chapelton. Not mentioned was his great sporting prowess at the game of "Knur & Spell", a major sport at the time for Yorkshire miners.

The game was introduced into Yorkshire early in the 19th Century and gained an enormous following. It was often called 'Northern Spell' or 'Poor Man's Golf' (when the game reached the South of England it was known as 'Bat & Trap'). It is believed the game had Viking or Dutch

origins - Knorrenspel Knorren - to hum or buzz (the sound made by the missile flying through the air after the strike). Spel means 'a game'.

A throwing device, usually a spring loaded trap (called the spell), was 'tripped' by the player with a tripstick or bat, and this action, known as a 'rise', launched the missile - the knur - into the air. The player, or 'laiker', then struck the knur with the bat to despatch it as far as possible. The laiker who gained the highest aggregate distance over a set number of rises, cuts, or strikes, was declared the winner. Five points were gained for each knock of 100 yards. The original 'knur' was shaped like a lemon with a short tail and snout. This missile was about the size and weight of a golf ball and was usually made of a hard wood such as holly, or of a specially fired glazed pottery. The pot knur or 'pottie' became the most popular form of missile. Potties were moulded from china clay and fired at high temperature. Usually the size of a large marble and weighing about an ounce, potties are still found by walkers in the fields that were the 'old courses' around Chapeltown.

The bat, or tripstick, was made from hickory or ash 'Shunter's Sticks' with a head, or pummel, of compressed beech added. A specially hardened striking face of old pit timbers was carved and stuck to the pummel. Championship players usually had a number of bats to choose from, each developed to cope with varying weather conditions. Bats ranged from 2ft to 6ft in length.

To start a game, a coin was tossed and the winner would have the choice of selecting the most favourable position to set up his spell - wind blowing from directly behind the player if possible. A spirit-level was used to check that the spell was perfectly horizontal. Once in place the spell could not be removed until the match was over. Players then marked areas on the ground where they might stand and would then remove the turf with a spade. Finally, coal ash would be sprinkled in the cleared area to afford a better foot grip. The pitch length would be marked with sticks set apart at intervals of 20 yards (scores). Obviously the game required large unobstructed areas on which to play such as a race-course, open fields or moorland. The game declined in popularity when much of the type of land needed on which to play the game was enclosed or developed.

In scoring, each stroke counted. Shots were measured in scores of yards, thus a shot finishing between 180 and 200 yards from the spell was reckoned as nine-score. As in golf, missing the ball counted as a stroke. A player was allowed exactly five minutes to find his knur after it had been struck. When time expired the referee blew the whistle and if the knur had not been found a nil score was recorded. Due to heavy gambling on the

game handicapping was common. A top player might give his lesser opponent a start of 5 or 10 score, or even more depending on the event. Other handicaps in use were - the better player using a spell while the underdog used an easier method - or conceding a yard to his opponent for every inch in which his bat exceeded four feet in length. The longer the bat the greater the distance the knur could be struck.

During a successful career at the game Thomas Howson met and defeated many other well-known exponents. He made the longest knock recorded of "18 score, 12 yards, 1 foot and 8 inches" when using a hardwood knur in a match against F. Crabtree at Lightcliffe. (A world record of 16 score using a pot knur and a six-foot bat was set by a Mr. Aspinall at Halifax in 1913).

The game attracted heavy betting and high stakes of £50 or £100, representing perhaps one or two years wages to the average man of the time, were not uncommon. Bookmakers attended the meetings and with such large sums of money at stake cheating was not uncommon. "Doggers" were set to watch for where the knur landed. Some would grind an opposing player's knur into the ground ensuring that it would not be found. After the permitted five minutes searching time had expired a nil score would of course be recorded.

In 1876 Tom Howson beat Jacky Jackson of Bradford by three score for the 'Championship of the World' and £100. All roads led to Bamsley's Queen's Ground that day. Entrance fee was 1s (5p) and just under 6,000 spectators attended. A division of the gate money gave them each £147. 8s (40p). Two of the coal mines in the Chapeltown district were closed on account of the match and when Howson returned victorious to the town that night he was greeted by seven brass bands playing "See The Conquering Hero Comes" as they accompanied him in a torchlight procession through the streets. Despite the fact that it was midnight nearly the whole of the inhabitants turned out. Tom beat the drums and wore a Zulu headdress. It was a real carnival night in Chapeltown. Tom remained as Champion for 13 years.

Top players such as Tom Howson were idolised by their supporters. During important matches he would be wrapped in blankets to keep his muscles warm and supple whilst waiting to play his shot. At the moment of striking the knur, his caddies would huddle round the spell to keep the wind from deflecting the flight of the missile. Big names tumbled before him, Jack Grayson of Worall whom he beat by 22 score at Manchester for £300; Harry Hitchen of Barnsley, defeated by 32 score on Doncaster Race-course for £200. Other victims included Tom Rawnsley of Leeds,

the future Champion, whom he beat four times out of seven. Tom Cockcroft of Bradford, Jack Brown of Barnsley, Sam Moss of Halifax, George Oxspring and Billy Barker of Leeds, and Harry Pearson of Sheffield.

On 11 June 1878, there was a match at Barnsley between Tom and Jack Grayson for £200. The game was drawn and in a rearranged match Tom won by 23 score to win £300.

In 1879 Tom Howson became the landlord of the "Jolly Miner" (or Mariner ?), a beerhouse at Greenside, near Chapeltown (Kelly's Directory 1879) and for a short time in 1880 Mr and Mrs Tom Howson were mine hosts of "The Prince of Wales" in Chapeltown. Reportedly, Tom and Frances (Fanny) had 16 children. Tom had been with Newton Chambers and Co. Ltd. for many years before becoming the English Champion at Knur & Spell and taking over licensed premises.

Everyone knew big Tom Howson. He stood over six feet and was in the pink of condition at 18 stone. On the occasion of his last match he weighed almost 22 stone and later weighed 27 stone. Tom was credited with having made many records in the game including a reputation for never having missed a knur and was said to have won more money at this sport than any other man before or since his time. A grandson, Albert Bruck, confirmed that Tom kept a stash of gold sovereigns under the front room table, in his top hat, at 155 Station Road; he would throw a handful to the Chapeltown Brass Band whenever they came to play for him (which was fairly often - they weren't daft!).

By 1889 Tom Howson, the former World Champion, was an accredited referee and stakeholder. He died aged 55, on 27 January 1900, from a heart condition attributed to his weight. He was so big that his coffin could only be removed from the house at Station Road by passing it through the upstairs window! He lies with his wife and son Harrison in an unmarked grave in Burncross Cemetery.

#### **References:**

*Aspects of Victorian Ecclesfield.* WEA Ecclesfield Branch and WEA Yorkshire District

South 1992.

*Barnsley Chronicle.* 1933.

*Pennine Pastimes-Knur & Spell.* ISBN 0 907613 23 3. 1984.

Researched and written by Spen Valley Local History Survey.

*South Yorkshire Times.* 1933.

*J.M. Ward (Great grandson), 73, Canterbury Road East, Ramsgate, Kent*

CT11 0LA

*(To be continued)*

## **GENESIS 1 VERSE 28: "BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY..."**

Putting together a fragment of genealogy can be a satisfying straightforward piece of work. But what of the ancestor who dodges about all over the place and ultimately turns out to be a bigamist? The usual initial shock and denial takes place, after which my fellow researcher and myself took our distance sufficiently to see it in the light of: 'it is in the past, so treat it as such.'

We have such a fly by night who lived from 1859 to 1927 and as far as we know was not found out by officials. That means that we have found no newspaper articles to substantiate the bigamy. However, that he was a bigamist is certain for Somerset House held no divorce for our boy between 1879 when he first married legitimately until 1883, when the second 'marriage' took place in a different town.

Both wives from these liaisons survived the father of their offspring; the first lived till 1934 having had a daughter and son; the second till 1946 having had a daughter, four sons and another daughter. Bigamy not being enough of a challenge, our boy embarked on trigamy and 'married' a third time in yet another town in 1916. This union was blessed with just one daughter.

Our boy started his career in marriage when he was just 20, and had changed tracks by the time he was 23. His last embarkation on the road to romance was age 56. His longest union lasted at least 10 years that we know of, maybe a little longer.

The fact that he was not found out officially, we attribute to the fact that our boy was illiterate, so the spelling of his name was variable. To this day, we receive answers to enquiries saying: "We are not related; our name has a different spelling." What better camouflage can a person have?

All in all, our boy led us a merry dance, dodging the census often, but the plus side is that we have discovered many relatives through advertisements in the newspaper and from writing letters to those we suspected to be (distant) relatives. To date we have information we could never have dreamt of, as well as photographs that we might otherwise not have had.

We suspect that wife 1 and 2 knew of the other's existence; for the daughter from the first marriage is listed on the census in another town with the second family. The second wife left her town of birth and moved to that where the first wife lived until they both died. It is quite possible,

that the third wife found about these earlier two 'marriages', for the third wife suddenly reverts to her original name she had before she married our boy.

We will of course, rise to this challenge and get all these family members on paper for most of those we have approached have viewed the situation from the sunny side. On a personal note, we are most grateful for the bonding that our boy has unwittingly brought about with these widespread siblings, cousins and aunts and uncles.

The moral of this story is that one should never down tools on what might not be *au fait!*

\*\* Since writing this article we have found marriage 1 another daughter and marriage 2 has an additional son.

*Mrs R.M. FitzAckerley, Kalkoenspreuk 6, 4386DD Vlissingen, Holland.*

## OLD TITLE DEEDS

*The following is a list of old Deeds in my possession. If any member recognises any of the names as their ancestor(s) and would be interested in acquiring any of these documents please contact me*

*Mrs. K. Little, 16, Stradbroke Avenue, Richmond, Sheffield S13 8LQ.*

- 19.7.1850 - 22.6.1948: **35 Cobden View Road** Matthew Jepson, Mark Hyde, Josiah Blackwell, Joseph Dutton, W.E. Yeomans, Peter Elliston, Hbt. Sherdon, Mirah & Fredk. Bell, W.B. Esam, C.E. Tomasson, Sydney Morfitt.
- 28.10.1870 - 28.11.1917: Land & 5 houses junction **Havelock Sq & New Porter Street** Wright Bass, J.B. Holy, James Evans, Edwd. Hudson, Henry Furness, Chas. Hatfield, Thos. Lee.
- 18.10.1877 - 28.3.1916: **16, 18, 20, 22 Shortridge Street** Edward Rhodes, Thomas Clarke, Annie Fellows.
- 4.2.1885 - 21.7.1915: **31 Hampton Road** Nicholas Lister, Henry Pearson, Emma. S. Newbould, Sml. Hibberd, T.H. Johnson, Thos. A. Moorhouse, W.I. Wilkinson, Miss M.J. Smith, N.W. Badminton.
- 5.6.1891 - 19.5.1925: **9 & 11 Woodbank Crescent** John Jacques, James Brown, Hugh Dunsheath, Miss Dorothy A. Siddall.
- 21.9.1905 - 30.3.1906: **150 & 152 Scott Road** F.C. & F.W.C. Hombuckle, Miss. M. Ashington, Mrs. Lucy Inman.

- 17.6.1912 - 18.12.1935: **48 & 50 Hawkshead Road** Mrs. Dora S. Maddison, Edwin Ayrton, Mrs.E.M.McFarlane, J.D.Brittain, Mrs. Annie Lodge, Walter B.Morton.
- 22.10.1918 - 30.4.1923: **63 & 65 Tipton Street** Miss M.E. Southwick, Mrs. Miriam Kilby, Mr.B. &Mrs. C.Kitchen, Wm.Bailey.
- 9.6.1920 - 4.2.1952: **12 Page Hall Road** J.B.Gregory, James F.Johnston, Mr.W.A. & Mrs.B.A. Stoakes, S.F. Waite, Wm. Law.
- 9.5.1931: **473 Whirlowdale Road** Mr. Chas. Orr & Mrs. L.Morrison
- 10.7.1933 - **Redcar Road** Walter Williams, Dora P.Hughes
- 2.5.1950: **2 Coombe Road** Wm.H.C.Perry, E.Willacey.
- 

## **ELIZABETH CROSSLEY**

### **A lady of mystery.**

Much mystery surrounds the ancestry of Elizabeth Crossley, my great-great grandmother. Over the years, I suppose, family tales about her have become elaborate and embellished legends, but my grandmother always wanted to find out the truth about Elizabeth's mysterious origins, and ever since I sat by the fire listening to her stories, so have I. Sometimes I think that the story is best left as an intriguing legend, but then I'm far too curious to let it rest!

Elizabeth's mother, so the story goes, was a "*Lady in her own right*", owning her own crested linen and silver. However, she is said to have eloped with the family's coachman and all references to her were destroyed, including the family Bible. Scattered in the legend is a girl stolen away by white slave traders and never heard of again, and another who was a "*Queen's nurse*". My grandmother thought that Elizabeth's parents were buried at Bolsterstone church around 1900.

The only information my grandma had was that Elizabeth's parents also had children called Polly, Lena, Charles and Ernest. The family was said to be unrelated to the family of Crossleys from Midhope. Elizabeth was '*in service*', perhaps at Ambleside, Westmoreland, near Lake Windermere. Elizabeth's illegitimate son was called Thomas Marsh Crossley, and although my grandma (his daughter) never knew any uncles, she thought that perhaps there were two more illegitimate children born to Elizabeth, all by the same man. She thought his name must have been Marsh.

So, armed with this limited but intriguing information, I set about trying to discover more about Elizabeth.

My great grandfather Thomas Marsh Crossley was born on the 14th December 1886 at no. 7 Court, Chapel Street, Wicker, Sheffield. Elizabeth's address was given on the birth certificate as Old Haywoods, Deepcar. I do not know why Thomas was born here. The next reference to Thomas comes on the 1891 census for Haywoods Park, Deepcar. Thomas, aged 4, was living at the home of Robert and Esther Marsh, his relationship to Robert being "nurse child". What did this mean? There was no sign of Elizabeth. Robert and Esther came from Penistone. The 1861 census showed that the couple had a son called Thomas Marsh, born Manchester c1855; could this have been Thomas Marsh Crossley's father?

But *who* was Elizabeth? There was so little to go on. I started to trawl through the earlier census returns for the Stocksbridge and Deepcar area, noting all the Crossley families. There were many, but I found one family with the names my grandmother had mentioned - Polly, Charles, Eleanor (Lena) and Ernest. I chose to investigate this family further, and discovered that in 1852 they had baptised a daughter called Elizabeth. Could this be the family I was looking for? Head of household was Charles Crossley, and his wife was called Mary.

I subsequently discovered that one Charles Crossley married Mary Pointon at Ecclesfield in 1848 (by Licence). Charles was living at Grenoside, a farmer, son of John (also a farmer), and Mary was from Sheffield, daughter of Robert, a farmer. When Elizabeth was baptised at Stannington in 1852 the family was living at Hollow Meadows where Charles was a farm bailiff. After this the family moved to Spink House, Stocksbridge, and later to the Coach House at Hunshelf. Apart from a reference on the 1861 census, I found no further reference to Elizabeth, so I still don't know if she is the one I am looking for, or whether I am on the wrong track completely.

And what about Mary Pointon? If she is indeed 'my' Elizabeth's mother, I have so far not found any evidence to support the idea of her being a runaway titled lady. All I know of her is that she was born at Strines and baptised at Bradfield in 1828 the daughter of Robert Poynton (farmer) and Elizabeth.

And there, for now, the story must rest. Being the mother of a very lively three year old does not leave much time for continuing the search for my mysterious ancestors, but if any members have any connection with any of the families mentioned, or can offer any help with my queries, I would love to hear from them. For example, has anyone any knowledge

of the white slave trade or Queen's nurses? What does the term "nurse child" mean? Why could Elizabeth have been at Court Chapel Street, and what sort of area was it? What about Spink House and The Coach House? Does anyone have access to the Monumental Inscriptions for Bolsterstone churchyard? Has anyone come across Elizabeth Crossley in their research, or have her in an index? I would appreciate any help at all on this, if anyone is willing,

*Claire Pearson, 8, Viola Bank, Stocksbridge, Sheffield, S36 1FZ*

### **EXTRACTS FROM ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, WORTLEY BURIAL RECORDS**

**11.12.1899** Man - Name Unknown - Killed on railway in Wortley Parish  
Aged about 30 years.

**Footnote:** Identified after funeral:

**William Boldy**, 9 Cricket Inn Road, Park, Sheffield - Aged  
29 years.

**10.7.1888** Six inches of snow fell in parts of Scotland, Cumberland, and  
Derbyshire hills covered in snow. Snow fell also in the Isle of Wight.

**Sidney Greenwood**

Contributed by Kathleen Little, 16 Stradbroke Avenue, Sheffield S13 8LQ

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

*Cloth names / Types of, 15th to 18th centuries*

The North-Easterner Issue 20. Autumn 1999

*Old occupations (Part 1, A-B)*

Explanations of what they were.

Lincolnshire FHS. Vol. 10 No. 4 Dec. 1999

*Diseases*

First part of a series on diseases that were an everyday part of our  
ancestors' lives.

Lincolnshire FHS. Vol. 10. No.4. Dec. 1999

## PUBLICATION UPDATE SUMMER 2000

<u>UK POST</u>	<u>AIR MAIL</u>	<u>SUR FACE</u>
--------------------	---------------------	---------------------

### Federation of Family History Societies

Accommodation Register (6th Ed.) 1992

o/p	o/p	o/p
£4.55	£6.10	£4.95

Beginning Your Family History

### **Basic facts about**

Irish Family History Research

£1.75	£2.70	£2.10
-------	-------	-------

Using Merchant Ship Records for Family Historians

£1.75	£2.70	£2.10
-------	-------	-------

Using Wills After 1858 & First Avenue House

£1.75	£2.70	£2.10
-------	-------	-------

### **Gibson Guides**

Poll Books 1696-1872: a directory of holdings in G.B. (3rd Ed.)

£2.95	£3.90	£3.30
-------	-------	-------

### Local History

Compilations of over 200 archive photos with text

Woodhouse

£10.85	£13.15	£11.50
--------	--------	--------

### Other

Finding Genealogy on the Internet

£1.75	£2.70	£2.10
-------	-------	-------

Surname Periodicals

o/p	o/p	o/p
-----	-----	-----

### Material on Microfiche

Indexed Burial Transcripts (ongoing project)

St Thomas Crookes 1859-1973 & Wadsley 1835-1903 (7/5/1891-11/1/1895 missing)

£3.00	£3.30	£3.10
-------	-------	-------

St Philip's 1829-1918 (including Wardsend Cemetery 1857-1905)

£3.00	£3.30	£3.10
-------	-------	-------

### **All prices quoted include post and packing.**

An up-to-date publications list may be requested at any time from the Society Publications Officer, enclosing an SAE. The list may also be viewed and items ordered via the Internet from the Society stall at the **GENfair On-Line Family History Fair**, <http://www.genfair.com>. Please note that GENfair prices do not include post & packing and cannot be used as a price guide for direct purchasing.

Enquiries concerning the availability of items not listed above may be addressed to the Society Publications Officer, Anne Giller, 17, Firshell Road, Sheffield S4 7BB. E-mail [giller@giller.force9.co.uk](mailto:giller@giller.force9.co.uk). Please note that there are no facilities for personal callers or telephone enquiries.

## **SOCIETY SEARCH SERVICE**

The Society provides a Search Service for the following:

- **1861 Census Surname Index for Sheffield, Rotherham & Bradfield**
- **Burials Index & Transcripts**  
(this project is in progress and the search service covers all material indexed to date including some records not yet available for sale on fiche or disk.)
- **Soldiers Died in The Great War 1914-18**  
(details of 37,000 officers and 665,000 other ranks killed In WWI)

The cost to Society members is £1 per surname (Census/Burials) / £1 per individual (Soldiers) plus £1 for each variant spelling. If you require a search of a common surname e.g. *Green*, you are advised to provide forename(s) if possible. This is to limit the cost to you - there are 25 pages of entries for the surname *Green* in the Census Index! When ordering a Soldiers Search please try to give as many of the following details as possible - Surname, Forename, Regiment, Army Service Number, Where born, Where enlisted, Where died. This will help to focus the results on the person you want. Please send an extra stamp for each surname searched and a large envelope.

For further details and order forms send an SAE to:-

- Diane Maskell, 5, Old Houses, Piccadilly Road, Chesterfield, Derbys S41 0EH for the 1861 Census Surname Index for Sheffield, Rotherham & Bradfield.
- Heather Gillott, 4, Bents Crescent, Dronfield, Sheffield, S18 6EY for the Burials Index & Transcripts.
- Frank Westwood, 11, Hail Mary Drive, Sheffield, S13 9XW for Soldiers Died in the Great War.

---

## **YORKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY**

York Minster library has a data-bank of more than half a million entries relating to Yorkshire men and women, mostly before 1550. The earliest entries are from the second century, but the main bulk of entries starts in 1086 with Domesday Survey. The sources include: Probate records such as wills, inventories and monumental inscriptions; membership of religious guilds; lists of freemen; civic officials; parish registers and muster records; charters; local and national government records; legal records; taxation returns; accounts and, finally, court and ecclesiastical records. Some of the material is taken from original manuscripts that are not readily available to the public. A search for a place or an occupation can also be carried out. The Minster is a non-profit making organisation, and any surplus funds are ploughed back into research.

A search for a surname and its variants costs £10, or its equivalent in any major currency, but there is no charge for an unsuccessful search. Enquiries with ordinary address, and a cheque payable to the Dean and Chapter of York, should be sent to the Minster Library, Dean's Park, York. Cheques drawn on an American, Australian, Canadian, or New Zealand bank are welcome.

T: 01709 878091



F: 01709 879696

**PUBLISHERS & PRINTERS**

**<http://www.factandfiction.co.uk>**