

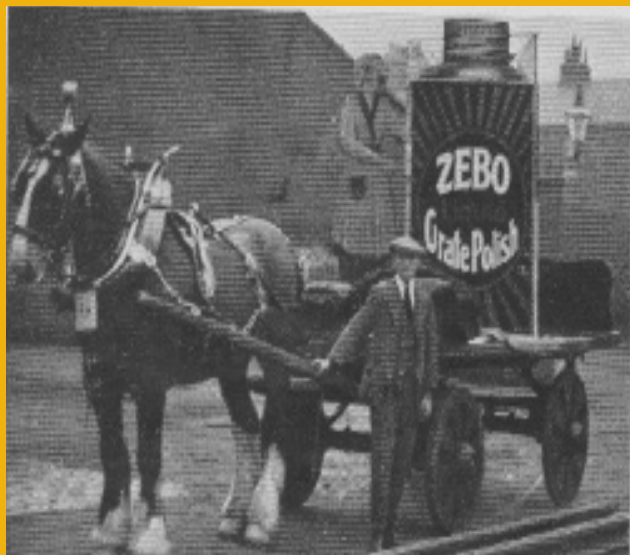
# *The Banyan Tree*

**February 2022**

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The Journal of the East Yorkshire Family History Society



The East Hull Working Men's Committee  
'Zebo' Horse and Rully Procession in aid of the Royal Infirmary

The committee members thanked the Directors of Reckitts for allowing two decorated horses and rullies to be placed at their disposal for use in the Procession.

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 Cover photo: Acknowledgements are given to the Reckitts magazine circa 1924  
 for the photo.

## From the editor

Hello everyone.

As we enter into the year of 2022 let us hope that better times will be ahead of us all.

We have all struggled through approximately 2 years of the Covid 19 virus, and at the time of writing this piece we have been advised by the UK Government that things could still be difficult for some time to come. More restrictions on the way!!!! We shall see what happens.

So, let me start by explaining why I am using part of this space instead of letting Pete Lowden write the Chairman's remarks here. I am sure that many of you will be familiar with Pete Lowden's interesting contributions to the Banyan Tree over several years. Now as the eyfhs new Chairman Pete's introductory piece is on pages 15/16, that allows him to provide more details about himself and the future of our society. Therefore, I hope that you turn to those pages and get to know our new Chairman.

This issue of the Banyan Tree should prove to be an interesting copy to read, so let me guide you through some of the contributions which I have received for this edition.

Lisa Blossfelds tells us about Vivien Leigh and her ancestors before Vivien's success upon the silver screen.

Derek Mason asks questions in respect of his family line.

Geoff Bateman offers several pieces in this edition - look out for his interesting items.

Sally George opens the pages of an old notebook.

Barry Purdon questions the difference between murder and manslaughter.

Tom Bangs the President of the eyfhs offers

a small item about his role in the society.

Pete Lowden our new eyfhs Chairman introduces himself in this special role. Later Pete provides a story based upon music which became popular in the 1960s. Pete Davis looks for a disappearing relative. Hannah Stamp an archivist allows us to read about items which appeared in the East Riding Archives Newsletter.

'Photographs from the Past' are always a popular feature in any edition of The Banyan Tree, take a look at them on pages 32-35

The eyfhs AGM minutes (2021) are included in this edition of the journal.

Other items which you might find of interest include -

The London Group of Yorkshire Family History Societies.

Their forthcoming meetings:

19 March 2022. John Hanson – The 1921 census

The Quarterly Meeting Talks programme between 18 June 2022: 17 September 2022:

19 November 2022: will be announced later.

The British Newspaper Archive have added lots of additional pages to their web site.

Check it out at the following internet address

"British Newspaper Archive" <info@hello.findmypast.com>

Edwina Bentley  
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By 'eck, Miss Scarlet, tha were a  
Tyke Or Vivien Leigh's  
Yorkshire Ancestors

Lisa Blosfelds

Vivien Leigh, the film star, was born Vivien Mary Hartley on 5 November 1913 at Darjeeling, India. She was the daughter, and only child, of Ernest and Gertrude Hartley (nee Yackjee). She died on 7 July 1967 in London. She was supposedly named Vivien because it was a family name, although I have found no one else named Vivien in either side of her family. She used the first name of her first husband, Leigh Holman, as her professional surname.

What few people know, however, is that although her father was born in Scotland, her paternal ancestry was pure Yorkshire, and her paternal grandparents are buried in Bridlington Priory churchyard.

To deal briefly with Vivien Leigh's maternal ancestry, her mother (who outlived her) was born at Darjeeling, India on the 5th December 1888, the youngest of five children. Gertrude's parents were Michael Yackjee, who was of Armenian extraction and was the station master at Darjeeling, and Maria Teresa Robinson who had been born in Ireland.

Ernest Hartley, Vivien's father, can also be dealt with briefly. Due to a fluke of fate he was born on the Isle of Islay, Scotland, in 1883, the youngest of seven siblings. However, he had as much claim to being a Scot as Gertrude had. In 1891 the family were living in Dumbarton and in 1905 he went out to India, returning home briefly on leave in 1912 bringing his fiancée Gertrude with him to be married at Kensington on the 9th of April that year. They then returned to India where Vivien was born in the autumn

of the following year. The marriage was not a happy one. By 1939 Ernest was back in London where he was sharing a flat with his sister Lilian and earning his living as a bill broker. By this time, of course, Vivien was making her name as a star of the silver screen and in the process of making 'Gone with the Wind'. Her mother was in Hollywood with her. Ernest died at Westminster in December 1959.

It is with Vivien Leigh's grandparents that the story becomes interesting. In York on the 9th of June 1874 Joseph Nicholson Hartley married Elizabeth Houlgate. He had been born in Pontefract, while his new wife had been born in York. As had happened before in the family, he married the girl next door. The 1861 census shows the Houlgates living at 16 Great Shambles, York, while next door, at the Eagle and Child pub, the landlady was Joseph's twenty one year old sister Eliza Hartley, born in Pontefract. Living with Eliza were her aunt Maria Barker and her sister, twenty seven year old Mary. I can't find Joseph in 1871 but it seems obvious that he must have met Elizabeth when visiting his sisters although in 1861 he was only twelve years old and still living with his parents in Pontefract.

Joseph joined the Inland Revenue and in his role as tax inspector he was moved around the country. The first five of his and Elizabeth's children were born in Sunderland while the last two, including Ernest, were born in Scotland. In 1901 the family were living in Stockton Heath near Runcorn, where eighteen year old Ernest was earning his living as a bank clerk, but by 1911 Joseph had retired and the family were living at 2 Corporation Oaks, Nottingham, a private enclave north of the city centre. The building still stands and is a substantial brick built house which, in 1911, had ten rooms.

The family must have moved to Bridlington sometime within the next ten years as in

1920, at the age of six, Vivien was brought by her parents from India to school at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Roehampton, her parents then returning to India. She was to stay at Roehampton for the next seven years. By that time her grandparents were living at 14 Belgrave Square, Bridlington, just south of the Spa. The house is now part of the Belgrave Court care home. Rather than being a square, it is a broad street with a strip of lawn down the middle and opens directly onto the South Promenade. Vivien spent her school holidays in Bridlington with her grandparents and her two aunts who were still living with them. She must have become very familiar with the town. By that time Joseph and Elizabeth would have been in their seventies and are said to have been ailing. Their unmarried daughter Emily died in 1928 at the age of fifty two, Joseph Nicholson Hartley died the following year aged eighty one while Elizabeth lived on until 1935, attaining the age of eighty seven. It is they who are buried in Bridlington Priory churchyard. Anyone wishing to visit the grave should enter the churchyard at the main gate and turn right. The grave is in the sixth row from the gate and is the sixth from the path. The stone nearest to the path is that of I Helmuth.



Vivien's maternal grandfather also married the girl next door. In 1841 census fifteen

year old John Houlgate was living in his family's butcher's shop on the Great Shambles in York while living next door, also aged fifteen, was Jane Raingill who was working as a servant at the Eagle and Child pub. John and Jane were married on the 29th of December 1844 at Holy Trinity Church, York, his age then being given as twenty one. Jane had been born in Easingwold in 1823 and was the daughter of John Raingill, a coachman and his wife Ann. They had five children of whom Elizabeth was the second oldest. John Houlgate died in November 1858 and left his entire estate to his wife Jane who then took over the running of the butchers shop. The 1861 census shows that they had a twenty five year old assistant, Thomas Masterman, living with them. Jane died in 1861 and then Elizabeth took over the business. When Elizabeth married Joseph Hartley in 1874 her brother William succeeded to the shop. William married Sarah Jane Edwards later that same year and died at the age of thirty two in 1885.

Jane Raingill-Houlgate was not the only member of her family to marry a butcher for the 1851 census shows her widowed sister, Mary Wells, nee Raingill, running a butcher's shop at 7 Goodramgate, York. Living with her were her five children, a servant and her seventy five year old father John Raingill who was still earning his living as a coachman and who gives his birthplace as Wetherby. What is more, when Elizabeth's brother William died, his widow, Sarah Ann, also took over the shop. In 1885 the Houlgates were running no fewer than four butcher's shops on the Shambles, at numbers 16, 17, 19 and 32. So not only was Vivien Leigh's grandmother a butcher, so was her great grandmother, a great aunt and a sister in law. It is interesting to speculate what Vivien would have thought of her ancestors being habitues of slaughterhouses.

The Houlgates (sometimes spelt Holgate or Hologate) are an old York family and, I

believe, still live there. The earliest record I can find of them is when John Hologate married Jennett Hewetson on the 25th of April 1548 at St Crux church in York. It may be significant that St Crux stands at the end of the Shambles. In turn the family may well be descended from Robert Hologate, Archbishop of York, who, at the age of 68 under the Protestant regime of Edward VI, son of Henry VIII, married 25 year old Barbara Wentworth with whom he had several children before repudiating her in 1553 when Catholicism was restored under Henry's daughter, Mary. There is a memorial to Archbishop Hologate in York Minster. He was, himself, of an old Yorkshire family, having been born at Hemsworth.

The 1860s were eventful years for the Hartleys. In 1864 Mary, the elder of the sisters running the Eagle and Child pub on Stonegate, married George Woodward, a groom born in Doncaster, while also sometime in that decade Eliza (also known as Elizabeth) married Robert Breckon, a railway clerk and went to live in the select suburb of Clifton. By 1871 their spinster aunt, Maria Barker, was running the White Swan pub on Parliament Street in York with the help of another of her nieces, Maria Middleton, aged eighteen. Maria Barker died in 1875 at the age of 68. Maria Barker was the daughter of Maria Poole the elder, who was sister to Vivien Leigh's great grandmother, Mary Poole. She married a Charles Barker in Pontefract in 1829. The parents of Mary and Maria Francis and Mary Poole of Pontefract.

Joseph Hartley, Vivien Leigh's great grandfather was born in Pontefract in 1803. He married Mary Poole and lived all his life in Pontefract, dying there in 1866 at the age of 63. Although I can't find a record of a Joseph Hartley marrying a Mary Poole there is strong circumstantial evidence to show that they were married. Firstly the records of St Giles' church in Pontefract record

the baptisms of both an Emily Nicholson Hartley and a Joseph Nicholson Hartley in 1844 and 1849 respectively. In both cases the parents' names are given as Joseph and Mary. The marriage of Emily Nicholson Hartley to John Pearson Poole took place in 1870 in Wakefield and the burial of Emily Nicholson Poole aged 29 is recorded at the West Parade Wesleyan Chapel in Wakefield in January 1874. John Pearson Poole is almost certain to have been Emily's cousin, as his father's name was Samuel Nicholson Poole. Pontefract was part of the Wakefield Methodist Circuit. Marriages which took place in Non Conformist chapels were not recognised in law.

The 1841 census shows Joseph and Mary living at 109 North Bailey Gate, Pontefract with three daughters, Maria aged 11, Mary aged 8 and one year old Eliza. Joseph describes himself as being of independent means. By 1851 two more children had been added to the family, seven year old Emily and two year old Joseph. Joseph the elder was then a General Dealer, which probably means he ran a second hand shop. Joseph's wife Mary was not living at home at the time of the 1861 census but her death was registered in the figures for the summer of that year. Joseph, her husband was still living on North Bailey Gate and still earning his living as a General Dealer. With him were his two youngest children, Emily, 17 and twelve year old Joseph. His elder daughters were at that time running the Eagle and Child in York as mentioned earlier. After Joseph's death Emily and Joseph the younger disappear temporarily from the records as there is no sign of either of them in the 1871 census. However, they must have kept in touch with their sisters and aunt in York as it was there that Joseph Nicholson Hartley married Elizabeth Houlgate, the grandparents of Vivien Leigh.

It is interesting to note that of the four stars of the great American epic, Gone with the

Wind, three of them, Vivien Leigh, Olivia de Havilland and Leslie Howard, were English (although Leslie Howard was of Hungarian extraction), only Clark Gable being American. It also leads one to speculate that if Vivien Leigh had stuck to her Yorkshire roots the following scene might have been in the film:

Scarlett O'Hara is standing silhouetted against a flaming sunset at Tara, the family's plantation. She raises her fist to the sky.

"As God's mah witness them bloody Yanks ain't gunna beat me. Ah'm gunna live through this and ah'll nivver clem agen, nay, nor any o'mi folk. If I 'ave to nick stuff, fib or twist folk, as God's mah witness ah'll nivver clem agen."

Cue music: Tara's theme.

Anyone wishing to learn more about the life of Vivien Leigh is recommended to read Alexander Walker's biography 'Vivien' where I found the first clue that led me to this research.

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Where are my Toes?

Derek Mason

Well, the obvious answer to the question is not the one I am seeking. A number of years ago I carried out a wide search to find the marriage of my great, great, great grandmother, Mary to her first husband Mr Toes but I had no success.

Mary had married my 3x great grandfather Thomas Hoggard in the delightful church of Holy Trinity, Goodramgate in March 1815. She stated that she was a widow of the parish of St John Delpike annexed to Goodramgate, York and he was a widower and the village blacksmith at Bulmer to the

north-east of York. The marriage was by Licence. He said he was 45+ (his actual age was 60 !!) and she said she was 30+ (she may have been several years older). She bore him two girls in 1816 and 1817 but a year later Thomas Hoggard died in August 1818 aged 63.

Eighteen months passed and then Mary married her next door neighbour, William Setchfield, at St Martin's parish church, Bulmer in April 1820. He was sixty years old and she was 35-39. The marriage was by Banns. The name of Setchfield originates from the Sechville family who, together with many other Normandy families, visited England in 1066 and decided to stay. It is a common middle name amongst my ancestry. William was the village shoemaker. Mary had two children by him in 1821 and 1823. For the latter birth Mary would have been between 38 and 42 years old but was probably nearer 38. Her husband died in November 1840 aged 80.

Mary seems to have been happy to marry men much older than her but they were also men of substance. In marrying she possibly sought to gain greater comforts and financial security than she had in her first marriage, particularly if her first husband did not have much money and they lived in poor housing.

In the 1841 census Mary's age was 55 but that figure could have been rounded. In the 1851 census she gave her age as being 70. She stated that she was born in Brunton, Yorkshire. Mary died at Bulmer in June 1859 aged 78. Her stated age at various times suggest she was born between 1781 and 1785.

I checked gazetteers and old maps but there was no mention of Brunton - it did not exist. However one gazetteer mentioned that Brompton (by Sawdon, near Scarborough) was often called Brunton by locals to this day.



Mary might have been born at Brompton by Sawdon but there were other possibilities. There is a Brompton by Northallerton, Brompton on Swale and Patrick Brompton. There is also Branton in the parish of Cantley, Doncaster and Branton Green in the parish of Aldborough near Boroughbridge. Furthermore there are 'sounds like' places namely Brotton on the coast near Saltburn, Broughton near Malton and Broughton near Stokesley. If Mary was born at one of these places and eventually ended up in York then it would be a reasonable assumption that her marriage to Toes occurred somewhere between her birthplace and York.

During the summer of 2021 I decided to carry out a comprehensive search for her first marriage to Toes in order to find out her maiden name and then look for her baptism record. From the outset there were a number of difficulties. Firstly the Toes surname can be spelt in at least ten different ways viz Tause, Tawes, Toas, Toase, Toes, Toose, Tose, Towes, Tows, Towse, Tuse. None of these spellings could be discounted and spellings had to be borne in mind when searching registers or using any alphabetical indexes. Secondly as Mary's age varied a search could not be narrowed down to two or three years so I decided to search for a marriage between 1800 and December 1814 being 3 months before her second marriage.

Thirdly the International Genealogical Index (now Familysearch.org) was of little help. It listed several potential marriages but after further research they had to be discounted. The IGI index is incomplete. For a thorough search for my mysterious Toes I had no option but to physically search all the parish registers between each of the possible Brunton/ Brompton's and York. The search area covered almost the entire eastern and central parts of North Yorkshire, the northern and western parts of East Yorkshire, a portion of West Yorkshire

and York & Ainsty. It was an area bounded by a line from Northallerton to Redcar on the coast, then to Scarborough, Pocklington, Goole, Doncaster, Castleford, Ripon and back to Northallerton. I searched over 350 parish registers for a Toes marriage between 1800 and 1814. In order to find my Toes that was some feat!!

My search found the following marriages:

W Toes + Mary Cook	1793	Osballdwick.
W Tose + Mary Patton	1800	Hinderwell
W Tows + Mary Lion	1802	Knapton
John Towse + Mary Woodell	1802	Helperthorpe
W Toes + Mary Copley	1811	York St Martin
John Tose + Mary Field	1814	Lastingham

Every time I found a marriage I thought 'This is it, problem nailed !! However further research generally showed that all these couples baptised children after the date that Mary married Hoggard and therefore they were not my Toes!! I make no apologies for the corny humour! It has been a struggle to smile after spending many hours of searching with nothing to show for it.

Whilst Mary's second and third marriages were in Church of England churches it was possible that her first marriage might have been a Quaker ceremony. I checked the Society of Friends Yorkshire Quarterly meeting marriage surname indexes on Ancestry but no marriage was found.

Trying a different approach I decided to search for evidence of a death of a male Toes before 1815 in York and then search for his baptism place as that might help narrow down where he married. Allowing one year for Mary to grieve over the loss of her husband and another year for Hoggard getting to know Mary I estimated that her first husband might have died between 1810-1813. There is a burial at St Maurice, York in March 1811 of James Tooes, labourer, age 31, who died of consumption. The

parish adjoins Mary's parish of Holy Trinity, Goodramgate. James would have been born about 1780 so he will have been of a similar age to Mary. Considering all name variants there is no other suitable burial between 1800 and 1815 in the Greater York area (as covered by the York Family History Society burials CD's) so James Tooes is a reasonable possibility for Mary's first husband but yet another problem arises. There is no record of his baptism in Yorkshire in the IGI. There are concentrations of Toes families in certain parishes and I have examined baptism details for a number of these but the name of James hardly crops up and none were close to 1780.

Mary had children by her second and third husbands. One would anticipate that she would have had one or two children by her first husband and possibly one of them might have died in infancy. On investigation I did not find any relevant Toes born in York and there were no burials either in York or Bulmer. Trying a different [Toe] tack I wondered if Mary might have received some financial help as a widow so I searched the Holy Trinity Goodramgate churchwardens' accounts & overseers accounts as well as the St Maurice churchwardens accounts and the Jane Wrights Charity Account books for Holy Trinity Goodramgate which provides aid to widows. No Toes were mentioned.

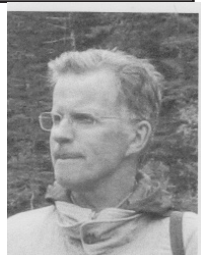
Whilst carrying out all the research I came across a piece of information which may be helpful but creates another puzzle. In March 1785 at Brotton (sounds like Brunton) there is a baptism of Mary Toas. None of the other Brunton/Brompton's have any Toes baptisms. Theoretically Mary from Brotton could have eventually found work in York. When she met Thomas Hoggard and found out that he was a widower she could have told him a big fib that she was a widow in order to be of similar standing and maturity. It is a solution but is it my missing Toes!

If anyone has any suggestions on how to resolve the puzzle I would be more than pleased to hear from them. I would be reluctant to admit de feet.

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A Mysterious Gentleman

**Geoff Bateman**



Family photograph collections often include unknown, long-forgotten people, as we know from all the requests for details

in the pages of The Banyan Tree. If we are lucky, there is a clue, and evidence of a life lived is revealed. There is a photo in my family's collection showing my great grandmother, Margaret Lee née Westoby (1861-1947), her daughter Mary Lee (1883-1954; later Mary Morris), and a moustached gentleman carrying a shotgun. They are standing in front of the Nag's Head pub in Routh, which was run by Margaret, in about 1900. I wanted to know who he was and how he was connected to the family. The clue came from my grandmother, Mary Lee's younger sister, Sarah (1890-1988). In old age she would sometimes spend time, while sitting at home, adding invaluable notes to photos in her collection.



**Harvey Scott with Margaret & Mary Lee**

The note that came with this photo were “Harvey Scott, gamekeeper”. That was only partly correct. More of his story follows.

Harvey Scott with Margaret and Mary Lee Richard Harvey Scott was baptised at Holy Trinity, Micklegate, York, on 2 August 1858. His father was William Richardson Scott (1827-65), a “landed proprietor”, born 21 August 1827 and baptised at Holy Trinity on 4 September 1827. His parents were William Scott (b.c.1801) and Elisabeth Richardson (b.1805, Beverley). Richard Harvey’s mother was Theodosia Richardson (1828-80), born in Meaux and baptised in Wawne on 3 May 1829. Her parents were Robert Wise Richardson (b.1803, Beverley) and Jane Turner, who married in Wawne in 1827. The marriage between William Scott and Theodosia Richardson was registered in Beverley in the first quarter of 1850. They were evidently first cousins: their respective parents, Elisabeth Richardson (1805) and Robert Wise Richardson (1803), were both children of William Richardson (b.1869) and Theodosia Wise (b.1774).

In 1861 Harvey was living with his parents, three older brothers and a younger sister in Micklegate, York. In 1871, still in Micklegate, his mother was widowed and his two oldest brothers were employed, one as an apprentice druggist and one as an office clerk. The latter, Robert Wise Richardson Scott, later became a wine merchant; he married Harriet Selina Peck and produced a family in York. Curiously, in the 1871 census, Harvey’s first name is listed as Richardson, rather than Richard, which could well be correct except that it disagrees with his baptism record. Harvey is listed in the 1881 census as aged 22 and having “no occupation”. He was staying in the cottage in Meaux (near Wawne) of Ann Fryer, 48, a farm hind’s (manager’s?) widow of Thirsk, and her married daughter (possibly daughter-in-law), also Ann Fryer, aged 32, of Dringhouses (York). In 1891 he had moved to the Nag’s Head in nearby

Routh, and was still there in 1901. He remained unmarried and was “living on own means”, as an “annuitant”. Therefore he was not an employed gamekeeper, but might well have managed his own private shoot. The tenancy of the Nag’s Head was still held by William Westoby (1825-94) in 1891, but by his son (Margaret’s brother), Fred Westoby (1871-1947), in 1901. Harvey was listed in the Lee girls’ birthday books and would have become a family friend during his long residence at the Nag’s Head. Richard Harvey Scott died, aged 46, in 1905, of Bright’s disease (nephritis) and exhaustion. He was still in Routh, presumably at the Nag’s Head, where he had lived for at least 14 years. His death was reported by Fred Westoby. His memory, photographic image, or possessions may have survived through friends, or descendants of his siblings. Otherwise he left, as far as I know, little trace of his short and unproductive existence.

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The Album of  
Ann Field  
(found at 1 Eastgate,  
Beverley)

**Sally George**

A notebook dated 1831 found at 1 Eastgate in 1969 (now Just Gentlemen) was given to me to research by a friend whose aunt had lived there. It had belonged to Ann Field who married Seth Stephenson in 1833. Sadly, Ann died in 1841 but her surviving son Walker Stephenson and great grandson also called Walker had lived in the house. The ‘album’ consists of poems, religious texts, a sketch of Hull quay and snippets of family information which enabled me to work out a family tree. I wondered if anyone was connected to this family and would like the book, so I posted on the Beverley

Yesteryear Facebook page. Within 24 hours, EYFHS member Dave Morecombe responded saying that Ann was his 3x great grandmother. Although Dave lives in Wiltshire, he happened to be staying at Hornsea that week, so I was able to meet him and his uncle in Beverley and my friend and her sister were able to pass on the book to him.

Ann Field was born at Wansford on 7th July 1810 and baptized at Nafferton. Her father was Richard Field and her mother Ann (nee Walker). Ann never lived at 1 Eastgate but her only surviving son and great grandson did from 1891 until 1969. On the 1939 National Register, the great grandson Walker Stephenson was living alone and unmarried. I was told there was a recluse by the name of Stephenson living at 1 Eastgate in the 1960s.

Research revealed that Ann (Nancy at her marriage) married Seth Stephenson a joiner and wheelwright from Middleton on the Wolds at Hull Holy Trinity on 9th January 1833. Ann and Seth had four children, the first two, William Field Stephenson baptized 10th November 1833 and Walker Stephenson born 1835 at Keyingham and Hannah Jane born 1836 and Richard born 1838 at Drypool. In January and February 1841, tragedy struck the family when Ann and three of her children died within just over three weeks of each other, leaving only the father Seth and son Walker surviving. Hannah Jane, Richard & William Field Stephenson died of scarlet fever and were buried in Drypool churchyard. Ann died days after her children on the 22nd February 1841 at Harcourt Street, Drypool aged 30 years from a complaint on the liver. By the 6th of June 1841 Seth and Walker with servant Sarah Beilby aged 14 were living at 1 Robinson's Row, off Great Union Street in Drypool.

One of the notes in the book mentions

“Nov 9th Field & Walker went to Miss Bennington”. It seems that son William Field was known by his middle name Field. I wondered if Miss Bennington was a teacher operating a ‘dame school’ as any education had to be paid for at that time. I found another note relating to school. It has been written in pencil as if in draft and quite a few words are hard to read “You will greatly oblige me by sending me a proper account, one of the boys was not entered most have not been a month at school since I last paid you, I cannot imagine what you mean by 7 education for my boys when they have been ill in bed most of last year in such teaching time to you.”

Many pages have been cut out and others just half have been sliced off. There are two pencil sketches of Hull and one of a pew bench. Another note was entered on 22 July 1838:-“This day has been a day of humiliation to a sight of my past unfaithfulness has been exceeding loathsome to my soul. I have been led to cry with the psalmist my sins are ever before you as in battle array and with the apostle Paul who shall deliver me from this body of death. It is a reality, tis worse than death my God to love and not my God alone, yet there is calm in there is A Physician there my soul and body and spirit is laid on the sacrificial after which is sanctified through the precious blood of Christ. O Lord Jesus accept the offering and so now art though which I have spoken unto .....(page torn away).

The first paragraph in the book appears to be a religious text in the form of a Mother and Child speaking the words as if it is part of a play. There are several poems and I tried to identify them. “In Praise of Old Maids” by Mrs. Barbauld (1776); “The Death Bed” by T. Hood; “The Better Land” by ?; “Lambo’s Sermon” – Strate is de rode an narrer is de path which leadess to glory; “Woman’s

Love”; “Goodbye”; “Death is the best the only cure.....”; “Athanatos” (a Greek word meaning immortal); Enigma (A riddle written by Catherine Maria Fanshawe, an English Romantic Poet); a passage from the works of Rev. Henry Scougal, 1839.

The wild seducer Often weds a scold Who pays him off for all Before he’s very old.  
I am afraid that will be Mr Case. Mary had got a bad temper but she has her most excellent qualifications.

In 1835 there was a publication called ‘The Mother’s Magazine’ which I believe is where Ann probably got her poems from.

*Samuel Jackson Pratt · 1808*

O ye blest scenes of permanent delight

Prayers – those who didst put to flight.

*John Fletcher 1798 · Sin, Original*

Jealousy , that through a fatal skill

The Tear – a poem by Lord Byron 1807

On a Cornelian Heart Which Was Broken–  
March 16th 1812 Another Love (poem)  
‘The Mother’s Farewell to her Wedded Daughter” (poem)

“La Martins Travels”.

It ne’er was wealth, it ne’er was wealth,  
That gave contentment, peace, or pleasure;  
The bands and bliss o’f mutual love,  
O that’s our dearest dearest treasure.  
(Adapted from a poem by Robert Burns).  
The names J. Hibberd and Ann Hosen appear in the Album.

1836: Keyingham, Pattrington, Headon Pottery.

Revelations 2 Chap 17 vrs. He that that hath an ear to hear let him hear what the spirit .....

Dr. Lockham 1s.0d

-ditto- 1s.0d  
“ 1s.0d.  
“ 1s.0d (I couldn’t find a Dr. Lockham on the 1841/51 census)

THE world, my dear Myra, is full of deceit,  
And friendship’s a jewel we seldom can meet :  
How strange does it seem, that, in searching around,  
This source of content is so rare to be found.  
O friendship ! thou balm and rich sweetner of life,  
Kind parent of ease, and composer of strife!  
Without thee, alas ! what are riches and pow’r,  
But empty delusions, the joys of an hour.  
How much to be priz’d and esteem’d is a friend,  
On whom we may always with safety depend !  
Our joys when extended will always increase,  
And griefs when divided are hushd into peace :  
When fortune is smiling, what crowds will appear,  
Their kindness to offer and friendship sincere ;  
Yet change but the prospect and point out distress,  
No longer to court you they eagerly press.  
(Glen collection of printed music – Charmer Vol. 2).



**The delicate Notebook dated 1831**

While researching the occupants of the house my friend told me that her great aunt Norah who lived there was married to Henry Acey and according to Ancestry he is my 5th cousin 3 x removed!



The colour picture is of myself, Dave whose 3 x Great Grandmother was Ann Field with his Uncle Don and the two ladies on the right are my friend Angie and her sister Jackie whose Aunt Norah and Uncle Harry Acey (my ancestor) lived at 1 Eastgate, Beverley which is behind us the photo.

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Murder or Manslaughter?  
Barry Purdon

*Barry Purdon submitted this article to the Banyan Tree for us all to read and ponder over! Barry explains*

To the best of my [online] research and knowledge, DAVID PURDON Junior (1780 – 1866) was my 3 x great-grandfather.

As I found out from the research that I did on him he was tried at York Assizes on 21 July 1809 for the murder of ROBERT GARDENER on 10 April 1809.

The report in the Kentish Weekly Post was presumably syndicated by the York Herald to various other newspapers including the KWP and even the London Sun as the wording is identical.

The much fuller trial report appeared in the

York Herald.

Apart from the salacious nature of the report, the reason for the widespread publicity was the unusual circumstance of the crime that begged the question, was it murder or manslaughter? The former was a capital offence but manslaughter was not. In fact as you will see, he received a fine of one shilling and was imprisoned for 12 months with hard labour.

Sadly, I have little confirmed information about DAVID PURDON junior other than that contained in the trial report. Obviously his father was also a DAVID PURDON and I'm confident that his son was JOHN PURDON and his grandson was HENRY PURDON, the latter whom I know was the father of my grandfather GEORGE HENRY PURDON. I cannot immediately find any other information sources for ROBERT GARDNER, the dead man, which is strange as we know his exact date of death.

For the ease of reading the report here is a Newspaper transcription -

**Kentish Weekly Post or Canterbury Journal 28 July 1809**

*David Purdon jnr, of Beverley, butcher, was charged with the wilful murder of Robert Gardner, of the same place, on the 10th April last, by stabbing him in the side with a knife.*

*This was a trial which excited much interest as the prisoner who was much respected, and the particular circumstances under which the deceased came by his death, powerfully interested the feelings of the Court in the prisoner's favour.*

*The deceased was suspected by the prisoner, and, as appeared from the evidence, not without sufficient reason, of a criminal intercourse with his wife. A few minutes before this unfortunate event took place, he found his wife, at a very unreasonable hour in company with the deceased, in the street,*

*which so irritated him, that he declared that he would stab him, if he ever came into his house or premises. The deceased unfortunately persisted in accompanying the woman into the house, and the Prisoner immediately said to the deceased. 'D...o you, Gardner, I will stab you, you have huddled my wife in the street.'" and immediately made a thrust at him with a knife he had snatched from the table, and wounded him mortally, the unfortunate man languished until the 16th April, and then expired. Previous to his death, he admitted that the suspicions of the Prisoner were well founded, and which was indeed sufficiently appeared from other circumstances laid before the Court.*

*The Judge, in explaining the law to the Jury, said, that if a man should kill another in the act of criminal intercourse with his wife, it would not be murder, but manslaughter, but if a person who had received such injury should deliberately contrive the death of the person who had so injured him, it would doubtless be murder; his Lordship, however, thought, that any circumstances which fell short of the actual crime, and yet should clearly indicate such an intention, might come within the meaning of the law.*

*The Jury, without a moment's deliberation, acquitted the prisoner of murder, and found him guilty of Manslaughter only, to the satisfaction of a very crowded Court.*

**The York Herald provided a larger report of the trial, that can be found in the Newspapers website via FMP.**

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eyfhs Society News

We start with a message from the eyfhs President Mr Tom Bangs -

'I am just writing to say how privileged I am to be appointed the new President of the Society. It is a hard and daunting task to take

over from someone with as much experience as Richard who was President for some 20 years. If needed he was always there with advice. His shoes will be hard to fill.

Now that we have a Chairman in post again, I feel that the Society has a great future; although we must move with the times to survive.

I do not envisage retaining this roll for 20 years like my predecessor as I will then be in my dotage, but for the next few years I will be around but in the background.

Tom Bangs  
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The eyfhs Chairman's  
Introductory Address  
Pete Lowden

Hello.

This is my first contribution as the chair of our Society. Some of you may be familiar with my writings in the Banyan Tree in the past. These are items related to specific topics and are reasonably easy to write. This piece is far from specific and definitely not easy to write. So please bear with me.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Margaret Oliver and Tom Bangs. Their unstinting work whilst the Society had no chair was truly magnificent.

I think I should say a little about me. I'm married and have been for over 40 years. My two sons are grown up and have flown the nest. I worked in a variety of jobs. Due to my somewhat rebellious nature at school, I left with no qualifications and ended up in a number of low-skilled (but sometimes well paid) jobs. In my late 20s I went back into education and gained a few qualifications. Since then, I've worked as a college lecturer, social worker and finally a probation officer. I retired about 10 years ago and concentrated on my family history that I started in the early 1980s. I also began researching local historical aspects that interested me. Some of these aspects have

ended up in the pages of The Banyan Tree. And that's about it for me.

So, what's all this 'chairing' about? I may be a little naive but I see it as falling into three main areas.

Firstly, it's my role to chair EYFHS committee meetings. Being the chair means that I shut up and facilitate the discussion of the others and occasionally remind the committee what we are supposed to be discussing when the debate veers down some back street or other.

Secondly, I also have the job of representing the Society at any event where our presence is needed or desired. This task may need the best suit to come out of storage. Or the second best one depending on the event.

Thirdly, part of my role is to communicate with the members about the continued state of the society and part of that communication is writing a piece for the Banyan. Without the help of months of historical research and my sly touches of humour.

You can see now why my heart is beating rather quickly right now.

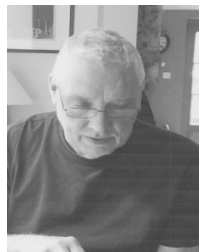
So, let's jump to that third part. Like all such societies change is occurring probably faster than we can adapt to it. Who would have thought that 25 years ago family history societies would find their greatest competitor would be the Internet where Ancestry, Find My Past and others hold sway? And yet that is the reality all the local family history societies are now faced with. This isn't a luddite rant against progress. Far from it. I'm pretty certain that we all use the websites mentioned above, probably on a daily basis. So, no bickering from me on that. However, an unintended result of the proliferation of these sites is that the local family history society, for long the go to resource for help on genealogical problems, is now in the process of being replaced to some extent.

This has a serious consequence for your Society. For, as we all know, when something is not used as often as it was in the past the tendency is for it to fade away.

This process is happening with all family history societies. Some of them have folded over the last couple of years.

The EYFHS is not immune to this process. Your committee are conscious of this threat to the continued existence of the EYFHS and rest assured you will be consulted if it is felt that changes need to be implemented to secure the Society's future.

Hope to see you at one of the Society's regular meetings.



**Pete Lowden**

The new Chairman working hard upon his introduction.

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The Disappearing Rudkin  
Has Anyone Seen William?  
Pete Davis

When I started researching my family tree in January 2021, I always knew that finding all the ancestors on my father's side of the family would be difficult, given that they originated in Poland (the Russian part as it was then) and Germany (Prussia). Both of his parents, born in England, were the offspring of Jewish immigrants.

However, I never expected to encounter much of a problem when researching my mother's ancestry. I knew that her mother was a Hull girl, descended from a Hull family and her father came to Hull from Louth and was descended from Leicestershire folk. Easy peasy? Not a bit of it.

Leicestershire folk. Easy peasy? Not a bit of it.



I never knew my maternal grandparents, even the son of Thomas and his second wife, Alice Harris, who bore him a daughter, Mary Ann Rudkin, in 1822? Levi and Charlotte (née Chapman) Rudkin, both of whom sadly passed away before I was born (1943 and 1941 respectively). Nevertheless, they were both easy to trace, the Chapmans being the easier of the two all the way back to the 16th Century. Eureka!

The Rudkins initially looked straight forward, too, although there were more of them than I expected. Following various hints and other member's trees on [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk) and [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk) I found that Levi's father was Joseph (1831-1899) and his grandfather was also Joseph, born in 1791. Except he wasn't!

Despite all the hints and other peoples' research indicating Levi's grandfather to be the 1791 Joseph, the marriage certificate of the 1831 Joseph (Levi's father) when he married Betsey Burton on 17th October 1856, gives his father as William, carpenter deceased, not Joseph.

A newly found relative, descended from Levi's sister, sent me a print-out of their DNA test results. And there is William, exactly where he should be according to that marriage certificate. Interestingly, he is the only person on that DNA print-out that does not have birth or death years indicated.

Levi's great-grandfather is Thomas Rudkin (1773-1851); he and his wife, Elizabeth (née Hull – coincidence!) did have a son called William, born in 1817 and died in 1877. But he can't be the father of 1831 Joseph (Levi's father) if he was deceased before 1856 as per the marriage certificate. He would only have been 14 years old at Joseph's birth!

So, who is, or was, this mysterious William? The marriage certificate and DNA print-out confirm him as the father of Joseph and, therefore, Levi's grandfather and my great-great-grandfather. Was he an illegitimate son of Thomas and/or Elizabeth or maybe

There is, of course, the possibility that William was not descended from Thomas at all. Or any other Rudkin for that matter. Disturbingly, I may have the entire tree at odds with what it should be.

Does anyone know who this mystery man was?

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'There's no turning back.  
I'm lost in music.'  
Pete Lowden

Well, this is probably a first.

An article in the Banyan that begins with a line from a disco classic.

However, before you throw the offending magazine into the fire with a loud oath, hear me out. This really is an article about family and local history and I hope you'll put on your best threads, your party face and follow me through a whistle stop tour of a musical youth.

Firstly, let's scotch the rumour that I liked disco right now. I was much too old and the thought of strutting around in a suit with my arm in the air is not a pretty sight. It wasn't a good look for Hitler and certainly wouldn't be for me.

I class myself as being one of the extremely lucky people who saw the birth of rock'n'roll. The year of my birth saw the invention of the electric bass guitar. I like to think it was fate. I also like to think that I lived through its Golden Age. The roll call backs my claim up. Elvis, The Beatles, Pink Floyd, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, Led Zeppelin and of course Bob Dylan.

Some of you may remember an article I wrote some years ago about how Elvis Presley transformed a two-up, two-down in Sculcoates into a mini-Memphis simply by singing Heartbreak Hotel. I was five and that song shook the traditions of that house. One could say 'the world rocked' but only someone with a poor sense of humour would use that line. Oh, I just did. Sorry.

The world not only rocked but it quickly moved on too. Elvis went into the army and people like Fabian posed as singers and rock'n'rollers both of which they sadly weren't. As part of that world my brother, who you may remember bought the Heartbreak Hotel single that started this whole thing for me, was away at sea for lengthy periods. My sister, who worshipped at Cliff Richard's feet, joined the RAF. This left me at home with parents who still thought that Ruby Murray was the cutting edge of music.

To a boy who was now tapping his foot to the Beatles, Rolling Stones, the Kinks amongst others the generation gap became a chasm. I began to earn money to buy records and when I joined the labour force of Great Britain my wages were earmarked for a number of items. High on that list was buying records.

Another thing that emerged for me at this time was going to see bands. And this is the local history part and one hopes it will prompt you, the reader, to share your reminiscences, for this article is part of a shared cultural history of our generation. For, although Roger Daltrey of The Who, sang, 'Hope I die before I get old', he didn't and neither did we so let's talk about that period. That magical time when we were part of a change and the music was the vanguard for that change. Back when we had the energy after a day's work to go out again and have fun. Here's my contribution.

I really can't remember my first gig. I know I had a ticket to see Jimi Hendrix when he played at Skyline Ballroom, which later became Bailey's. The venue was situated at the top of the old Co-op building situated at the corner of Bond Street and Jameson Street. The building is due to be demolished in the near future.

Back at the Jimi Hendrix gig, the problem is that my memory of that is so sparse I'm beginning to doubt myself. However, in my defence was the fact that I was drunk and aged only 15 so I didn't need strobe lights and light shows to help me see the room spinning that night. Still, it is a shame. I also turned down the offer to go and see him at the Isle of Wight festival in 1970. No, I said, I'll see him later. Now that was a really bad call. Little did I know what the immediate future held for him.

Also, at the Skyline I remember being lucky enough to see the Small Faces who were, and still are, one of my favourite bands. I also saw the Idle Race there. Who I can hear you ask? This was a Birmingham group with a young Jeff Lynne featured on lead guitar and vocals. His role in this band was prior to his journey to The Move, ELO and later The Travelling Wilburys where he performed with Bob Dylan, George Harrison, Roy Orbison and Tom Petty.

I also saw a very young Robert Palmer playing rhythm guitar and vocals for a Scarborough based band called The Mandrakes. This was the first time I heard a Leonard Cohen song, 'Suzanne', which I must say, Robert sang a lot better than Leonard did.

Robert of course went on to become very big and famous and eventually lived in the West Indies on his earnings. On an October night in 1968 I'm pretty sure that wasn't even a dream he had at that time.

Away from the Skyline the opportunity to see bands was great. It seemed that every place that could accommodate a stage became a 'venue'. I remember seeing The Pretty Things in a coffee club in Little Queen Street that was hardly bigger than my front room now. Well, that might be a bit of an exaggeration but you get my meaning. It really was a golden time to see live music by good musicians.

Hull City Hall is the only venue mentioned here that still exists today. It used to hold a 'disco' night in the late 60s when disco meant simply somebody on the stage playing the latest records for people to dance to.

I remember seeing so many bands at that venue I really can't remember them all. You know the saying, 'if you remember the 60s you weren't really there'. Well, it surely applies to me on this venue. I remember seeing The Family twice there and Free. I saw Piblokto there, plus numerous local support bands, the best of which was a blues group from Grimsby called Calmen Waters.

Malcolm's Disco, situated next to the multi-storey car park on George Street, which had the unfortunate honour of being officially opened by Jimmy Saville, was also a good venue. I had the real pleasure of seeing The Alex Harvey Band twice there. Others that I saw gracing the stage were Nazareth and Wild Turkey. The latter featuring Glenn Cornick who had just left Jethro Tull.

On Wincolmllee the Farmery Hall used to hold very occasional 'dances' and I remember attending one where the group called Rare Bird played, hot on the heels of their only chart success, 'Tea and Sympathy'. Surely one for Richard Osman and Pointless? It may have been there that I also saw Arrival who, again, were blessed with a solitary chart success to their name.

The University was a good venue but to be

frank I only remember seeing Taste with Rory Gallagher there. I missed the Pink Floyd at the Lawns. How I managed that I still can't explain.

In 1969 the first free concert was held in Hull. It took place in West Park at the Little Theatre. It was widely advertised that The Rats would be headlining with their then great lead guitarist Mick Ronson. As I remember it, one of those bits of publicity was correct. The Rats did headline but Ronson had decamped to London to play with Bowie a week or so earlier. Still Calmen Waters played a stunning set with a great rendition of Spoonful that seemed to last the entire weekend.

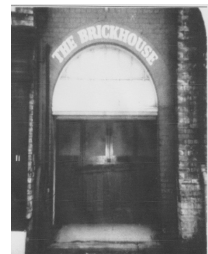
The next two free concerts were held in 1970 and in East Park. For the life of me I can only remember two acts from the two entire days; Stackridge and Hutch. Oh, well. That's show business.

Still staying in Hull, and probably of more lasting merit than the rest, in 1970 Brickhouse opened. The brainchild of Barry Nettleton. He had had the foresight to promote The Who when they played at Hull City Hall in 1969 and a live album was the result. Brickhouse portrayed itself as an arts centre. It featured bands every week some of them nationally famous but more often local bands.

### The Brickhouse

The building itself sat in Baker Street. The Brickhouse building was the site of the interim Hull Grammar School when the school moved from the original site in Trinity Square before it moved to the new site in Leicester Street. It is now a furniture store.

It was there I saw Arthur Brown. Now that



has stuck in my brain. The reason being that he entered the stage inside a 4-foot high, green, pulsating, plastic brain case before bursting from it and proceeding to murder his entire repertoire of songs. He really wasn't a great singer.

This show culminated with him singing his one hit 'Fire' with a crown of flames around his head which looked positively dangerous. Strange days indeed. I suppose you had to be there or have taken some weird chemical. What was it like if you ticked both of those boxes? Ah, that would be telling.

Yes, there many other bands who provided live entertainment for me and my generation in Hull at this time. Soft Machine, Edgar Broughton Band, Van Der Graf Generator, Titus Groan and many more, seen in a variety of venues.

This was a time when the musicians knew their instruments and could play them.

This was also a time when the audience split into two halves. At the front near the stage sat a swathe of people who just wanted to watch the band perform. Beyond them were the dancers who were out for a good time and that meant jerking around in some kind of frenzied St Vitus Dance or weaving invisible spider's webs with their hands whilst staring fixedly at the strobe lights and light show. And this period took up about five years in total of my life and then I began to be disenchanted with it all.

Rock'n'roll had begun its long, tortured ascent into becoming the corporate monster it is now. Where tours are now sponsored by Disney, ticket sales are computer generated, the necessity of giant screens is taken for granted as most of the audience can barely see the stage never mind the artists, festival goers can buy all their needs from Argos and Amazon with the added bonus that it

is all 'disposable' and, let's not forget that the audience are now known as units or customers.

Yes, I've been to see live music since then. Yes, and some of those events have consisted of big named bands. However, none of them have caused that frisson of excitement that I experienced as a young teenager.

But, on a good day, I can put Revolver, Forever Changes or Beggar's Banquet on and do a spot of time travelling. I can blank from my mind that I am 50+ years older than I was when first hearing these songs. I can attempt to recapture some of that teenage sense of wonder.

I fail of course. I no longer inhabit that teenage body, worse luck, and I am now an adult although my wife questions that sometimes. But when the music plays and I forget myself a bit I still hear the Beatles singing,

'Get back. Get back. Get back to where you once belong'

And believe me, I do try.

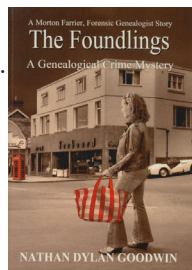
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## Book Reviews

### THE FOUNDLINGS

Nathan Dylan Goodwin.

Pages 244. Price £8.99  
ISBN 9 798481 041421  
Published 2021  
Printed in Britain  
by Amazon



Morton Farrier the forensic genealogist takes on another intriguing case when he

tries to identify a biological mother of 3 children abandoned in the 1970s.

Nathan Dylan Goodwin has used the new trend to find some answers, he has turned to DNA testing.

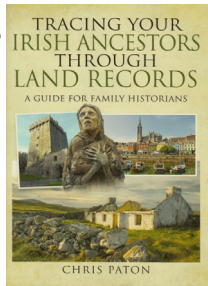
This book will provide you with many revelations which we have come to expect from this superb author.

The twists and turns in the story are well formulated and the book can be recommended as a 'good read'. ENJOY!

TRACING YOUR  
IRISH ANCESTORS  
THROUGH  
LAND RECORDS

A GUIDE FOR  
FAMILY  
HISTORIANS

CHRIS PATON



Price UK £14.99  
Pub by Pen & Sword  
Pages 160  
ISBN 9 781526 780218

Quite a lot of family historians have Irish ancestors and tracing them can be a very taxing job, especially after the 1922 Civil War which saw the destruction of the Public Record Office.

Try not to despair if you find your research project thwarted at nearly every turn. Chris Paton's book will guide you towards various avenues which you can explore in your quest for answers. Instead of me trying to highlight the numerous websites which Chris has in his book I will let the author guide you through some of the highlights himself.

It will be a useful book to purchase and to have upon your family history research shelf.

(1) A practical introduction on various Land

records kept across the island of Ireland.

(2) Explores the use of such documentation for genealogical research and house histories.

(3) Identifies the key archive repositories and online resources hosting the relevant records.

(4) Packed with case studies and tips to help you get the best from your ancestral pursuits.

*The editor*

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Two East Riding Names?  
Geoff Bateman

There are plenty of surnames that would have had an early origin in East Yorkshire, from the time of the Anglo-Saxons and during the reigns of the Norman and Plantagenet kings. They include those named after local manors, such as, in Holderness, Preston, Bilton, Newton, Burton, etc. (many are mentioned in, for example, J.R. Boyle's "The Early History of the Town and Port of Hedon", 1895; another, Cleavin, is the subject of an article by Colin Cleavin in *The Banyan Tree* 166, pgs.30-35). Many other names would refer to the person's trade (medieval Hedon had some amazing tradesmen's names, mentioned by Mr Boyle, and referred to by me in *The Banyan Tree* 168, pgs.29-32), physical appearance, or home topography. Some names will have died out or changed beyond recognition, while few of the rest would have been unique to the county.

When I encounter a new surname during family-tree research I usually try to find the origin and meaning of that name. But only rarely have I found a name with a claim to being truly of East Riding origin, which even then may always be disputed. Having found such a name, I want, of course, to

trace it back to its beginnings, if possible, and maybe even confirm its local origins. My search for early members of families with two such names are described here. The suggestion for an East Riding origin for one of them was made on a surname website; for the second, the suggestion arose from my own observation of its limited distribution and scarcity.

### 1. Barchard

Much of my search for Barchards was relatively easy, since there is information on at least two accessible family trees prepared by Barchard descendants, and on several web sites, some with believable information (including the suggestion of an East Riding origin), some with non-believable information, and some apparently just trying to sell fake family histories or heraldic shields. My other sources were the usual genealogy web sites. What I am describing is not, therefore, professional historical research based on original documents, but only a review based mainly on secondary sources, and so open to (and welcoming) criticism and correction.

I am not a Barchard descendant, but have at least two distant connections to that family name. The first was a discovery made while tracking down an East Riding Morris family, into which one of my great aunts had married, and who were Barchard descendants. Ann Barchard (b.1804) was grandmother of my great uncle-in-law Harold Morris. The second of them was in the ancestral family of the husband of one of my 2x great aunts (aunt of the great aunt mentioned above), Ada Lee (1868-1961). Ada's husband was Fred Thornton Ellis (1862-c.1936), who had a grandmother Mary Barchard (b.1806).

Ann and Mary Barchard were either sisters or first cousins, and were the starting point for my backwards search for the earliest Barchard ancestors in their line of descent.

Ann's father was Simon Barchard (1781-1857). Mary's father was either that same Simon, or else Ralph Barchard (b.1769). They were carpenters in Ellerby and probably brothers or, more likely, half-brothers. Baptism records for the Ellerby families are from their parish church, St Mary's in Swine. Father of both Simon and Ralph (I think) was another Ralph; we have a choice of candidates for him.

Three baptisms are recorded for Ralph Barchard between 1732 and 1736: in Hornsea (1732, to parents Ralph and Mary), Burton Pidsea (1735, to father John), and Leven (1736, to parents John and Jane). The forename perhaps suggests that they have common ancestry and so, on this assumption, we will now attempt to follow one line backwards in time.

Best evidence, mainly from public family trees, is that the Ralph we seek is the one from Burton Pidsea (1735). He married Frances Eman (or Eaman) in Swine in 1762, and so my first assumption was that these were the parents of both Ralph junior and Simon, and of all the other eight children baptised in Swine.

I was briefly distracted by trying to identify Frances Eman, since this is another unusual surname, which seems at that time to have been restricted, in Yorkshire anyway, to an area bounded by Malton, Pickering, Scarborough and Bridlington. I wonder if it is a variant of Yeoman. A search beginning with a look at some public family trees showed that our Frances was actually baptised Frances Wadforth (another very local name – see below!) and was the widow of William Eman. He almost certainly came from the lower slopes of the North York Moors. Frances seems to have died in 1772. Ralph then married Ann Batty, the mother of Simon and other later-born children.

The parents of Ralph Barchard (1735) were

likely to have been John William Barchard (1709-77, of Hornsea) and Mary Walker (1705-79), who were married in Tunstall. John William was a dyer, becoming appointed to the Dyers' Livery in London in 1774. The website <http://one-name.org> has this to say about one of John William's brothers: "Joseph Barchard son of Ralph, a yeoman from Hornsea, East Yorkshire, was born in 1711. In 1728 he was apprenticed to Nathaniel Thorney of London, dyer. Later, with a younger half-brother, Peter, he set up his own dying company in Southwark, Surrey. This provided his descendants with a considerable inheritance. His grandson, Francis Barchard, built Horsted Place near Uckfield, Sussex, which, when owned by Lord Rupert Nevill, often hosted Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. It is now a luxury hotel."

The six generations preceding John William and Mary Walker in the East Riding were, I suggest: Ralph (1690-?) and Mary Simpson; Ralph (1664-1710) and Mary Burstall (1668-1717); Ralph (c.1630-70) and Frances; Thomas (1595) and Jane Heron; Thomas (1550); John.

In the 1600s there were Barchard families in villages such as Humbleton, Patrington and Brandesburton. By at least the 1680s they had spread as far west as Cawood.

There were also Barchards in Norfolk, so what about them? The first records I can find are from the 1730s, when the parents of baptised children were Morris and Ann Barchard in Great Yarmouth. This or another Morris or Maurice apparently had dates 1735-68 (he could have been Morris junior). He may be the one who married Ann Herrenden in London in 1759; she may be the one baptised in Rutland (1737), since that is where Maurice was buried in 1768. Other mid-18th century families in Norfolk included those of Timothy and two Johns. Maybe they came from East Yorkshire, but if

I tried to allocate them to particular families it would be even more guesswork. Among their descendants, a John Barchard married Ann Grant in Yarmouth in 1789. They had a family that included William (1791 or 1796-1863), who became keeper of The Needles lighthouse on the Isle of Wight.

That is as far back as the usual records have taken me. But the name goes much further back. The one-name.org website tells that the earliest known Barchard spelt as such was Walter of Hedon, East Yorkshire, in 1246. This is presumably the evidence for its being an East Yorkshire name, or at least an East Yorkshire variant of a more widespread set of names (perhaps Berchard, Birchard, Borchard or Burchard). The website also says that Geoffrey Berchard is named in a writ dated 4th May 1265; the spelling is also given as Berchot. He had a son John born in 1254 whose surname is given as both Berchard and, in 1265, Barchard. They were in Out Newton in the parish of Easington, East Yorkshire. The spelling variants suggest, to me, French origin, or perhaps Norman. The one-name.org website tells us that there is no evidence for its being brought by the French Huguenot emigrants; this is not surprising because they arrived from France in later centuries, during persecution by Catholic rulers. I am less inclined to believe those web sites that give the name an earlier, Anglo Saxon, origin in Cheshire (after the River Birket, a tributary of the Mersey, around Birkenhead), which would make the name a variant on a range of other names such as Birkett. But perhaps I am biased.

The name has inevitably spread in the last two or three centuries, and there have been many illustrious Barchards worldwide. Most Barchards in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the USA can apparently be traced back to the two English counties of East Yorkshire and Norfolk, although the Norfolk Barchards, from either

Norwich or Great Yarmouth, seem to have appeared in that county only after 1700.

## 2. Wadforth

The name Wadforth is (according to surnamedb.com) a rare variant of Woodford, which can mean either “the shallow river crossing in the wood” or “a river crossed by wood, i.e. a bridge”.

Having known of the name in East Yorkshire many years ago, I again encountered it recently while researching obscure outer branches of my family tree, and realised that, as well as being scarce, it may be very local. A quick search for Wadforths from the 16th to 18th centuries showed them to have been restricted almost entirely to East Yorkshire (Holderness) and north Lincolnshire. There were far more Woodfords, and plenty of intermediate variants, from many other parts of England.

The earliest records of names are usually in historical documents – wills, court records and so on (as with Barchard). These always concern people who have come to prominence in some way. In many other cases, such as the Wadforths, there seems to be no such early documentation, and we have to rely on parish records. There lies the problem. Parish records were required to be made only from Elizabethan times, and even then they were made very patchily, and often did not survive. Consequently I found only three Wadforth records that date from the reign of Elizabeth I (up to March 1603), but rather more from the 17th century, the century of the Stuarts (mostly) and Cromwell’s Commonwealth.

The earliest name I found in the online records is Jerome Wadforth. I know nothing about him except that he had a number of children baptised or buried in Humbleton: John, 1596; William, 1602; Francis, buried 1603; Margaret, buried 1606; Thomas, 1607; Elizabeth, 1612; John, buried 1615. A contemporary of Jerome was Henry, who

had at least one child baptised in Humbleton: John, 1599.

The next Humbleton generation included Matthew and another Henry, whose births or baptisms I have not found. Matthew had at least one child: Thomas, 1620. Henry’s children included: James, 1636; Henry, 1638; Elizabeth, 1645.

The generation recorded in Humbleton after that were children of James, possibly the James of 1636. His baptised children were: Mary, 1666; William, 1668; Margaret, 1671; James, 1682.

All available Wadforth records from the East Riding in those two centuries were in Humbleton, and most were baptisms, with a few burials. The name was more widespread in Holderness in the 18th century, when marriages were recorded from Aldbrough, Beverley, Cottingham, Holmpton, Hull, Keyingham, and Mappleton, although none were from Humbleton, strangely.

Most transcribed baptism records up to the 18th century noted only the father’s name. The very few baptisms at which the mother’s name was also recorded included those for: Anne, 1771, Swine, parents William and Anne; Betty, 1766, Hornsea, parents William and Betty; Sarah, 1760, and Susanna, 1762, Mappleton, parents William and Sarah. A distant outlier was Ruth Wadforth, baptised 1734 in Sheffield, with parents Samuel and Ruth; this is so odd that I would not be surprised if the surname has been incorrectly transcribed, as was often the case.

The earliest Lincolnshire baptisms that I found were at the beginning of the 17th century; none were from the 16th century. They were relatively few, and all at Bottesford (now part of Scunthorpe). There has always been migration across the Humber and, because of the rarity



of the name, it seems possible that these Wadforths are from the same stock as those in Humbleton. The earliest was Katharine, 1612, father John. Suspiciously, a few Woodforths started to appear in Bottesford towards the end of the 17th century. They may have been incomers, or were there all the time but with no earlier surviving records. Alternatively, they may have been Wadforths whose name, like many others I suspect, had been altered by careless entries in the parish register (which is probably how the name arose in the first place!).

In conclusion, the variant name Barchard seems most likely to have arisen in East Yorkshire, probably in the 13th century, as at least one source suggests (while others would disagree). The variant name Wadforth is, in my opinion, also likely to have arisen in East Yorkshire (but probably later), on the basis of its extremely localised early distribution. I have found no other references to the local origin of this name.

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Interesting items from the  
East Riding Archives

*“Extracts from the East Riding Archives E-newsletter” To sign up to the full e-newsletter from the East Riding Archives please email [archives.service@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:archives.service@eastriding.gov.uk)*

*Printed with permission of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council.*

### **The Rocky History of the S.E.Calvert**

The Shipping Register of Goole records a noteworthy steamship owned by a Goole-based shipping company in 1925. The ship, a steel cargo vessel, had a rocky and international history. Originally christened

the ‘Loosdrecht’ (after a town in Holland), it had been built in 1917 by N.V. Burgerhout’s Machinefabriek en Scheepswerf, Rotterdam. Just a year later, it was seized by the British government under the Droit d’Angarie (Angary), a wartime principle which allowed the seizure of property belonging to citizens of a neutral state when on belligerent territory (as long as they were returned after the war).

During the First World War, the Netherlands had proclaimed neutrality, so Dutch ships which sailed into English waters could be seized by the UK government, for instance to prevent similar seizure by the Germans. The UK and US governments seized many dozens of Dutch ships in March 1918, among them the ‘Loosdrecht’, which was duly returned to her owners after the war. In 1925, the ‘Loosdrecht’ was bought by the Calvert Steamship Company, which had its principal place of business at Adam Street, Goole. The ship was given the easier to pronounce (if slightly unimaginative) name ‘S.E. Calvert’. After three years of service it was bought by a Norwegian company and renamed yet again. Now called ‘Ringen’, it continued to serve as a commercial cargo ship until the outbreak of the Second World War.

In March 1940 the ‘Ringen’ sailed to UK waters, but when the following month news of the German invasion of Norway reached the crew, the decision was taken not to return home. Instead, the ship was attached to numerous Allied convoys, most notably from London to the beach at Normandy for the June 1944 D-Day landings.

Her illustrious career came to an end on 4 July, when she hit a magnetic mine just off the coast of the Isle of Wight. One member of her crew died, and in three and a half minutes she had sunk.

## A Case of Witchcraft

Witchcraft was considered a serious crime even if it was practiced with good intentions in mind. This was the case of Robert Barrett of Sculcoates who saw himself at the Quarter Sessions court in Midsummer 1787. He was accused of:

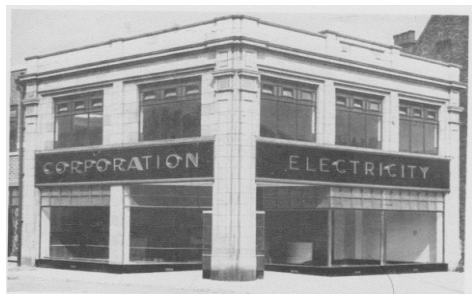
“pretending to exercise and use witchcraft sorcery Enchantment and Conjunction and Undertaking to tell Fortunes and pretending from his Skill and Knowledge in some Occult or Craft Science to discover where and in what manner any goods or Chattels supposed to be Stolen or Lost May be found”

Barrett was a mariner who also went under the aliases Roberts and Harom.

At the bottom of the indictment document, Barrett was “tried and found guilty”. He was subsequently imprisoned in the House of Correction for one year and publicly shamed in the pillory in Beverley from 11am-1pm each day, all for trying to help find stolen goods!

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## Electrifying Bridlington

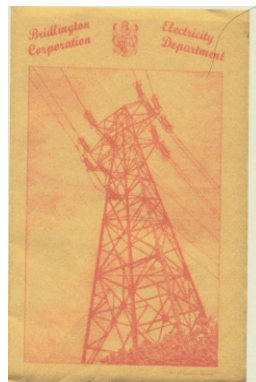


*Offices and showroom of the electricity Dept.*

Many collections include brochures commemorating official openings and these provide an interesting snapshot in time of local events. They not only celebrated these

events as a matter of civic pride but could be glossily produced for posterity so that people could keep them as souvenirs.

*A brochure to commemorate the new Bridlington premises.*



In this part of the world we all rely on the ability to turn on a kettle, use a refrigerator and have hot water on tap. Even as we head into a potential power crisis we will probably still expect to be able to use our electrical appliances, many of which could be the latest gadget or design. A large majority of these purchases will be made online but there was a time when the local electricity showroom was the ‘go-to’ store for the modern family. These showrooms were a showcase of the latest in modern living.

The Bridlington Electric Lighting Order of 1900 conferred power upon the council to supply electricity within its statutory area. The first public supply of electricity in Bridlington was available in 1905. At a time when the United Kingdom’s electricity provision was still a patchwork of private and public undertakings this brochure heralds a new phase in the provision of electricity for its residents by local government. The electrical expansion of the electricity undertaking and demand for electrical goods fed the need for a more efficient administrative building for staff and customers. A sleek, modern building was refashioned on the existing showroom site in Quay Road and the new showroom housed the latest domestic appliances to tempt shoppers.



*New appliances in the showroom at Quay Road*



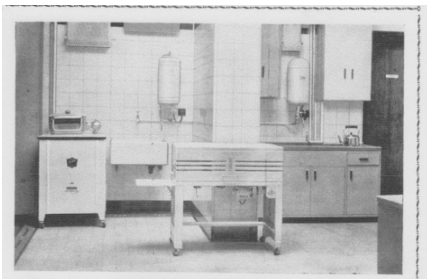
*A working Kitchen*



*The old showroom in Brett Street*



*The new showroom in Brett Street*



*The demonstration Kitchen*

### **Water, Water Everywhere!**

Archives reference: BOBR/2/15/9/53



### *Bridlington Corporation Waterworks*

On 28 July 1933 the Bridlington Corporation Act of 1933 received Royal Assent and extended the limits within which the corporation were authorised to supply water to include all those parishes within the Rural District of Bridlington as it then existed and 15 parishes in the Rural District of Driffield. This step was of a huge health benefit to the residents of the East Riding, many of whom still relied on the often unsanitary village pump to provide their water.

At this time the corporation was supplying water to Bessingby and Sewerby and water supplies to the remaining parishes in Bridlington rural district had been considered by East Riding County Council, the town council and the rural district

council.

In 1934 Mr C B Newton of Hull was appointed by the corporation as engineer who provided a scheme to supply parishes in Bridlington and Driffield rural districts at a cost of £65,000. This scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval who allocated £5,000 as a lump sum towards the scheme. After considerable financial negotiations with neighbouring local government organisations the scheme was approved to supply 30 parishes at a cost of £48,611 to the corporation.

Because of the terrain in this area the elevation of the land ranged from a few feet about sea level in Holderness to over 550 feet at Speeton. A high level water scheme was constructed by the corporation in 1933. The reservoir situated on the Scarborough Road formed part of this scheme. To supply Buckton and Bempton and Speeton the water was re-pumped with a booster installation.

The bulk of the district was supplied by the pumping station at Burton Agnes. The corporation were rightly proud of this achievement of local government collaboration and boasted that the villages 'are now provided with an abundant supply of water of exceptional purity which will be of inestimable value to the residents therein'.

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### First World War Lives'

Hannah Stamp, Archivist  
(East Riding Archives)

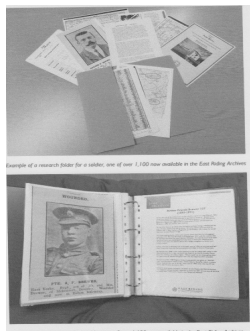
Did your East Riding ancestor serve in the First World War? Over 1,100 local service personnel (and growing) have been meticulously researched by our wonderful team of volunteers for the East Riding Archives' First World War Lives project and a selection of 150 are now showcased in an

online-exclusive exhibition.



**Top row - L to R. John Churchill;**  
**Tom Campey; J W Maude;**  
**Bottom Row - L to R. C Elvidge;**  
**Leo Bulman; H Widdas**

To start their research, our volunteers were given a photograph and a name taken from Green's Beverley Almanac and the Beverley Guardian newspaper. Using original documents held here at the East Riding Archives, and sources held online such as the census and military records, our project volunteers uncovered each individual's life story from birth to death, and have produced research files now available in the archives under the collections reference WL. From librarians to farmers, shop assistants to police officers; there is a rich diversity of individuals researched who served as part of the Army, Royal Navy, Royal Flying Corps / Royal Air Force, Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and the British Red Cross.



The project's accompanying online exhibition, launched March 2021 on the East Riding Archives' website, highlights a selection of 150 local military lives alongside their portrait photographs in connection with a variety of topics such as prisoners of war, health, and teenage soldiers.

Several women had their photographs displayed in the Green's Beverley Almanac for their contribution towards the War effort, and these lives feature in the exhibition. One such life is that of war nurse Florence Balderson née Norris (1882-1966) (archives reference East Riding Archives WL/2/76).



Florence Norris was born in Beverley in 1882 to Henry, from Canada, and Eliza Anne. During the war, Florence volunteered at the War Hospital in Devonport for the Red Cross Society and was a member of staff in the Splint Room. She was awarded the Queen Mary's Needlework Guild workers badge. The Guild relied on volunteers and produced garments for those in need and for the troops at home and abroad.



Another such life story featured in the exhibition is that of Driffeld-born James Mortimer (1871-1916), the son of Archaeologist John Mortimer whose collections now form an important part of the Hull and East Riding Museum. James rose through the military ranks and served as second in command to Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Mark Sykes of Sledmere before being promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel himself. In 1916, James was killed by a shell explosion at the Battle of Flers-Courcelette. Only three months before his death, he was awarded the prestigious Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George by His Majesty King George V.

The stories of these men and women show acts of great bravery, but also highlight the tragic impact of the War on families back home in the East Riding. Also featured in the exhibition are some useful resources to help you with your research, including a downloadable spreadsheet of service personnel details, an interactive map showing the locations of military stationed around the world, and a source guide for researching the First World War using the collections preserved here at the East Riding Archives.

You can view the First World War Lives exhibition online at [www.eastridingarchives.co.uk/WWILives](http://www.eastridingarchives.co.uk/WWILives)

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Postal Museum News  
Peter Welburn

*Peter Welburn* said 'anyone can sign up for the Postal Museum Newsletter. At the bottom of this piece is a link to the Books of Remembrance of postal workers lost in WW1 and WW2. I thought this might be of interest to our members. The following is the link to the Books Of Remembrance.'

[https://gpowarheroes.org.uk/?mc\\_cid=faa181eb08&mc\\_eid=200e7c83a0](https://gpowarheroes.org.uk/?mc_cid=faa181eb08&mc_eid=200e7c83a0)

## FORUM CORNER

**Sharing information is the cornerstone of a family history society and we really do our best to try and include everyone's letters and request's for help in these pages. Due to space availability it is not always possible to fit everyone's letters and enquiries into the edition they expect. However, all of the letters and e-mails sent for inclusion in the Forum Corner will appear as soon as possible.**

**Important advice. Please do not send any original material to the Banyan Tree, send a copy. We do not want to lose any of your items which are valuable and irreplaceable family treasures. If you use the postal system please ensure that you include stamped self addressed envelope, we try to be prudent with your subscription fees. Please include your eyfhs membership number with your letter or email. Send your enquiries to the editor. The postal and email address is on page 2.**

**If you need help get in touch!**

We start this February's Forum Corner with something that I would like to mention, and it indicates of how important this particular feature can be to our members.

The November 2021 edition (No 168) of The Banyan Tree had a few articles in it which specifically interested some of our eyfhs members and I received enquiries concerning different aspects of the items. The enquiries related to names found in the articles, plus other details - members asked if it would be possible to contact the authors of the articles in order to exchange information and relevant issues etc. The members used the heading of the Forum Corner in their e-mails to me.

If you find a submitted item of interest in the pages of the journal please get in touch with me and I will sort out how to respond

to each enquiry.

Lisa Blosfelds sent in a piece about unusual names.

Lisa said, 'I was scanning the 1901 census looking for something when I found a Mr Francis Head, an American working as a stoker at Reading Gas Works, living on Basingstoke Road, Reading, with his wife, Rhoda.'

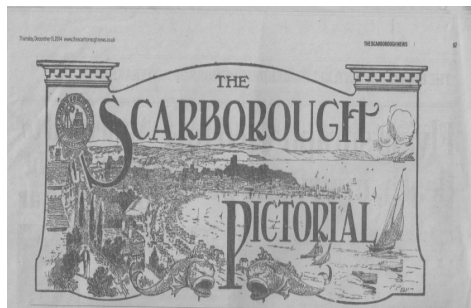
I wonder if anyone else has come upon odd but genuine names.

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Muriel Hutton (eyfhs mem No 5683) has used the Forum Corner section to seek out information and highlight some fascinating details in items which have come to her attention.

I will let Muriel explain - I have been going through my treasured family memorabilia so that I can put the items into some semblance of order, and I came across a few things that I felt would interest the society members.

(1) A newspaper reproduction of the 1914 Scarborough Bombardment



### Bombardment of Scarborough. A GERMAN CRIME. December 16th, 1914.

A GERMAN CRIME. December 16th, 1914.  
A - GERMAN CRIME. December 16th, 1914.  
A - GERMAN CRIME. December 16th, 1914.



The press really went to town, justifiably and the funerals were very impressive. My mother was born in 1901 and she told me how on returning home from school she saw some newspaper headlines saying that 'Britain was at war with Germany!' my mother ran home crying, very distressed at seeing these headlines.

Now I have never heard how Hull was bombed in WW1. Perhaps someone could tell us about this aspect of the war. Of course I realise this may have been well covered already.

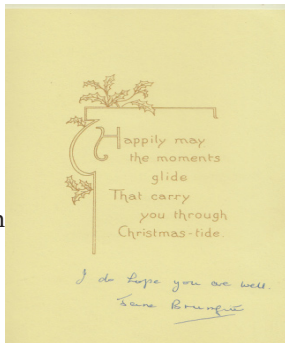
Also it occurred to me that my grandfather (Charles Finch) would have been working on the fishing trawlers - were they restricted to fishing in certain areas or was the fishing industry curtailed for a while.

I am also enclosing a delightful card, it came with odds and ends from an old aunt, no glitter or harsh colours. How different from the cards we have now.



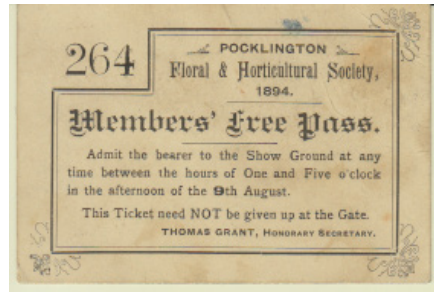
The tasteful message inside says all that is needed.

(June Brumfit clearly thought so!) The date on the back is I think 1887, but that might be when the card



producer 'Andrew Valentine Limited began their business.

Here is another little gem from the past. second hand book shops can reveal many odd items.



I would like to offer a bit of feedback on the article Hedon surnames, and the Hessle chalk mines. I too have a book on the ancient state of Holderness, 1821. Unfortunately, the only names I found were DROGO, MOCAR & TORCHIL! not quite what I required. I did discover that chalk was being quarried in great amounts in the pre Roman and Roman times. This was shipped across to Zealand (Holland) but no information was available regarding what was being brought back. Chalk was not the only commodity the Romans were involved with they took whole families from Holderness back to Rome to be sold as slaves.

Sally George told us about 'Little Switzerland'! I have never heard of it until it featured in the Banyan Tree. It almost seems impossible as from many years I have visited a cousin in Hessle quite regularly. **How have I missed it?** How far is it from Hessle square I wonder, it would have been a lovely walk. I must look it up on a map.

*I would like to get in touch with someone in the Scarborough Branch. I knew many of them as I used to attend the meetings there but I never had any addresses or phone numbers. Being unable to get back there is so frustrating.*

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE PAST



The Reckitts cricket team circa late 1940s

Rebuilding the Reckitts works in Hull in the 1940s







A workers day out to Liverpool, how formal they looked - all dressed up (Reckitts)

The Reckitts Durban Office and Factory staff 1949





Hull timber workers  
Botanic Gardens Railway Porters





The Thomas Stratton School Infants Class. Serious faced children gather for a photo  
Nurses from The Hull Royal Infirmary relax during a break from their duties



A LIST OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE EAST YORKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

*Janet Shaw: Membership Secretary*

Society offers to family historians. Visit the EYFHS website as often as you like, there are new features appearing all the time. Passwords for the Members Zone are obtained automatically via the website.

We have another list of new members to welcome to the Society again in this issue

[www.eyfhs.org.uk/index.php/members-area-login](http://www.eyfhs.org.uk/index.php/members-area-login)

We all welcome you to the EYFHS and we want you to get the most out of the Society

The email address for Miss Janet Shaw is shown below.....

*membsec@eyfhs.org.uk*

Please make use of the many services the

Number	Name	Address
7198	Claire Devonport	Horbury, Wakfield, West Yorkshire
7199	Jean Livingston	Beverley, East Yorkshire
7200	Ian Pearson	Clacton on Sea, Essex
7201	Jonathan Allen	Basingstoke, Hampshire
7202	Pamela Hargreaves	Sutton on Hull, East Yorkshire

### **Important News**

This is an important notice for all of the eyfhs members

#### **Do you have any research projects which you are undertaking at the moment?**

If you find anything of interest would you be willing to share the details with the other eyfhs members?.

The information could relate to family history research, photographs or queries which you might have regarding the project you are undertaking, I am sure that someone in the society could help you to resolve a problem.

Please get in touch with The Banyan Tree editor. The relevant addresses are given on page 2.

## EYFHS Member's Certificate Bank

We all have them, unwanted certificates that is. We were convinced it was Uncle Edward from our family but, it turns out we were wrong. DO NOT THROW IT AWAY! IT may not be your Uncle Edward but he must be someone's, and that someone might just be a fellow member.

The Society has built up a huge collection of unwanted certificates and sends out a lot of replies to requests for 'more information' by members who have seen their ancestors in our Certificate Bank on the EYFHS website in the members Zone

Do not forget, of course, if you have not got Internet access at home, you can usually gain access to the Members Zone at your local library, or community centre. Passwords for the members Zone are now automatically arranged via the website which has instructions on how to get one

Please send your unwanted certificates to our BMDs person - Margaret Oliver. 12 Carlton Drive, Aldbrough. HU11 4RA

N.B. We cannot photocopy the certificates, but we send a copy of the details

The unwanted certificates feature will return later.

### Not-so-plain-clothes Police Geoff Bateman

This post card recently emerged from the family archive, I have no further information, and I don't recognise anyone, except perhaps Charlie Chaplin!



EAST YORKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting  
Held at the Carnegie Heritage Centre, Anlaby Road, Hull  
on 25th September 2021

Present - 19 members

The meeting was opened by the President, Richard Walgate at 2pm.

### 1. President's Opening Remarks

I have just a few words to say. I have been proud and feel privileged to have been your President for the last twenty years since I took over from Les Powell. However, I will be 80 in two months time and I am now hard of hearing so it is the right time for someone else younger and fitter to undertake this role.

Pam and I joined the East Yorkshire Family History Society in 1978 as members number 175 and 176, after I attended an open meeting at Longcroft School in Beverley led by John Markham, the local author and historian and Tom Harrison, an experienced and respected genealogical researcher who together founded the Society. We very quickly became involved in the Society's activities and I became the Secretary for 8 years whilst Pam dealt with Members' Interests. We took part in our first Monumental Inscription session at Hutton Cranswick. Involvement in family history has been a consistent interest ever since and we have enjoyed many happy times over the years taking part in the Society's activities from trips to London and France, the annual "Day Out" and many meetings and Monumental Inscription sessions. We have met so many good and interesting people, including new found relatives.

I took the Local History courses at Hull University following in the footsteps of Les Powell and Sheila Dixon and earning the degree as a mature student. My younger daughter, Catherine then followed me and studied local history at Hull with Margaret Oliver. Even my grand daughter, Claire joined in our Monumental Inscription recording sessions from a very young age.

I am reminded of the passing of several long term members, including more recently, Enid Walford who typed so many of our Monumental Inscription publications. She had reached the grand old age of 100 and her funeral, which Pam and I attended, along with other Society members, was both a sad and happy occasion. Over 30 years ago, her husband Walter gave us some newts for our garden pond and a purple loosestrife plant which still flowers every summer.

The Society must now look to the future with a new President and a new Chairman and seek to adapt successfully to the present and future needs of family historians. I wish you all well in this endeavour.

Thank you.

The role of President was passed to Tom Bangs.

### New President's comments

It is a great privilege to take on these duties and a daunting task to take over from someone with as much experience as Richard, who has been President for some 20 years. His shoes will be hard to fill.

I am probably repeating others when I say that the year 2020 was a difficult year for the Society mainly because of the international pandemic. It started off as usual but with lockdowns, all activities ceased before Easter. The only things that continued were the sale of our publications by post and occasional requests to our helpline.

The situation is now brighter; we still have a reasonable membership, reserves in the bank

and for the first time in some years should have a Chairman to lead the Society. Family History Societies are evolving and to survive we must move with times. The Society has seen the passing of several prominent members this year. However, specific mention must be made of Enid Walford who, as far as I can ascertain, was the Society's only ever centenarian. Until her late 90's, she was typing our Monumental Inscription books - we think she was responsible for over 200. She started on a typewriter and progressed to computers, wearing out a few in the process. Her funeral was a celebration of her 100 years as her birthday had occurred during Covid, and she could not have a party.

Finally, once again, I would like to thank Richard Walgate for his past service to the Society especially in his role of President. Although prior to that he and Pam had been members from very early on; they were regulars at all our meetings and Monumental Inscription recording sessions. They were also in the forefront of setting up the Scarborough branch.

Richard was then presented by Tom Bangs with a voucher and Pam a bouquet of flowers in appreciation of all they have done for the Society over the years.

## **2. Apologies for Absence.**

Chris & Alan Brigham

## **3. Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting held on 7th March 2020.**

There were no amendments and the minutes were passed unanimously.

## **4. Matters arising from these minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

## **5. Committee Report (in the absence of a Chairman) - Margaret Oliver**

Well, it has been a very strange time for all of us. Despite warnings that it could happen sometime soon, none of us really expected to live through such a pandemic in our lifetime. Our thoughts are with the families who have lost loved ones so tragically, and also to the people of poorer nations, whose struggle with Covid-19 is so much harder. This pandemic is far from being over, but there are signs that people are beginning to look to the future and starting to pick up the threads of their lives again. I am speaking to you today in my capacity as Immediate Past Chairman. Since my term of office ended in 2016 and personal circumstances have prevented me from taking up another designated role, the Society has been without a Chairman. I am happy to say that the dedicated members of the Committee have continued to operate at full strength and have shared responsibility for chairing each meeting. I am hopeful that this situation will soon be resolved.

It has been a difficult time for the Society, with some of our normal activities being suspended. In accordance with Government rules, no monthly meetings were held in any of our venues throughout the period of the lockdowns, and Monumental Inscription recording sessions were also suspended. However, this does not mean that the Society shut down completely. There were hard working people behind the scenes. Thanks to the efforts of the Editor, Edwina Bentley, the Banyan Tree continued to land on your doorstep every quarter and the Society's Publications Officer, Judi Bangs, ensured that the various publications still found their way to homes across the country. Janet Bielby continued to help people with their research and successfully answered many queries despite the difficult circumstances. Our Membership Secretary, Janet Shaw, has also maintained her normal activities, as has the eYfhs Secretary, Barbara Watkinson and the Treasurer, Peter Glover. These people are in direct contact with

members, but there are other volunteers behind the scenes who have laboured away, checking and typing up future publications. All these people are the backbone and lifeline of this Society and we owe them a great debt of thanks.

Not least of our thanks go to Richard Walgate, who has been our most supportive and excellent President for many years, actively and steadfastly supported by his wife Pam. Sadly Richard has decided that the time has come for him to step down from this role. We thank you both for your loyalty to the EYFHS.

We are pleased to announce that Meetings in Beverley and Hull have resumed this month, and although numbers were low, we are hoping that people will soon feel more confident about mixing and attendance will improve. However, we cannot deny the fact that, in common with many other family history societies, we are facing a difficult future.

For the last decade, and longer, membership of family history societies has declined quite dramatically despite the surge of interest in genealogy. At one time, it was only Societies such as ours that held the information that people were looking for, all provided by the dedication of volunteers. Accessing information required travel to record offices, churches and burial grounds in the county of interest, so family history societies put people in touch with local volunteers who were willing to visit such places for others, as well as publishing indexes to their local resources. This was not a swift process - it took 20 years to completely transcribe, type up and publish the 1851 census for East Yorkshire. These were the days when people did not have home computers and relied on microfiche for the information. Since 2002, when the 1901 census went online, there has been a sea change in the world of family history and we cannot hold back the tidal flow of information. Nor would we want to. The internet, with the input of large commercial companies, has changed the way we all conduct our research and opened up a vast array of information that was very difficult to access 20 years ago.

Family history societies still have a part to play in the modern world, bringing like minded people together face to face, for those conversations that may not take place online. They provide help, education and information to the public in local settings, such as we do with our Library Help Desks. There are still resources, mainly smaller, less accessible records that volunteer members can access where commercial interests would not think it a viable proposition. Family history societies provide a local focus and knowledge not generally available online and they continue to have a role to play in the world of social history and genealogy.

However, there is no doubt that times have changed and as a Society we have to look to the future with our eyes wide open. With regard to this, the EYFHS Committee has already been discussing some of the options available to us and started to plan for future innovations. Some things may be done sooner than others - as a Registered Charity we must take account of Charity Commission rules, which sometimes means a process is slower than we would like.

We are open to, and welcome, proposals from members regarding how they see the Society going forward; indeed a member's suggestion is currently on the table for the Committee's attention. There are things that may not have been possible in the past but are now feasible, equally there may be things that, when considered, are not practicable to instigate - but until we have an informed discussion we will not know. The EYFHS Committee reflects its membership in that we are mainly in the older half of the population. We would welcome younger members, with a modern outlook and the



skills to match those expectations. If you think you have something to offer, please get in touch. In the meantime the Committee will continue to explore the possibilities for the future success of the EYFHS.

## **6. Secretary`s Report (Barbara Watkinson)**

Well, it has been a very strange year as the Committee were not able to meet since March last year - actually it was the last AGM. But we did all managed to meet up again in August to discuss the way forward for the Society now that Covid restrictions have eased. Over the past year, I have received letters and emails that have been brought to the attention of the Committee. I have also received emails from people requesting assistance in the researching of their family history and these have been passed to Janet Bielby at the Help Desk with excellent results.

We also had an article called “Spotlight on the East Yorkshire Family History Society” published in the December 2020 issue of the Family Tree magazine. Hopefully this would attract more members to the Society.

Hopefully 2022 will be a better year for everyone.

## **7. Treasurer`s Report (Peter Glover)**

Well, this a first, giving my report about six months after the original AGM date in March.

You all have a copy of the accounts for the year ending December 2020, as you can see the total monies in, are slightly down again, so again have a deficit. But I do feel we are continuing well albeit a bit slower.

In the accounts although it is not shown broken down fully, the increasing postage is a growing cost concern, adding to the Membership publications and sales publications and continues to rise. Postage for the Banyan Tree alone was approx. £1,400 plus.

Hopefully we will reduce this in the future.

So other than that, if there are any other questions about the accounts I will do my best to answer them.

No questions were asked and John Ferguson proposed the accounts should be accepted, seconded by Richard Hooke. *(The Other Reports No 8 are attached to the journal)*

## **9. Election of Officers**

Peter Lowden was nominated as chairman by Janet Bielby and seconded by Judith Bangs. This was put to the vote which was passed unanimously.

Barbara Watkinson was nominated as Secretary by Janet Bielby and seconded by John Ferguson. This was put to the vote which was passed unanimously.

Peter Glover was nominated as Treasurer by Judith Bangs and seconded by Janet Bielby. This was put to the vote which was passed unanimously.

## **10. Election of Committee**

The following stood for election -

Chris Brigham, John Ferguson, Dave Mount, Janet Shaw, Charles Cradock, Judith Bangs, Janet Bielby, Sandra Cradock and Hannah Stamp. Richard Hooke proposed that they all be elected and was seconded by Peter Lowden.

This was put to the vote and they were duly elected unanimously.

## **11. Election/Appointment of Examiner of Accounts**

Peter Lowden proposed the continued appointments of Nigel Coyle and Co. This was seconded by Janet Bielby. Carried with one abstention.

## **12. Previously Notified Business**

There were no previously notified items.

### 13. Any Other Business

Peter Glover stated that he would like to thank the new Webmaster Sue Turner for her work on the Society Web site.

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*This photo shows the Hull Fair in 2021.*

The Fair made a return to the East Yorkshire town in 2021 bringing all the colour and excitement which can be associated with one of the largest travelling fairs in Europe. There were over 250 rides and a lot of attractions to entertain the crowds. The 2020 fair was cancelled for the 1st time in years due to the on set of the covid pandemic

# What's On?

## Beverley Meetings .

### Notice to eyfhs members

**Unfortunately, due to low audience attendance it was necessary to cancel the Beverley Meetings, this came into effect in November 2021. It was not economically viable to continue holding the meetings. It was a sad decision to take as it was in Beverley in 1977 that the EYFHS was started.**

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Scarborough Meetings are held in the St Andrew's Church, Ramshill Road, Scarborough. YO11 2LN

Entry to the church hall is via the back door on Albion Crescent, either up the steps from the bottom iron gate, or by a pathway from the top iron gate. There is plenty of disc parking on Albion Crescent and Grosvenor Crescent, for 3 hours. The number 7 bus from town stops opposite the church, outside the St Catherine's Hospice Shop; the number 17 from the Eastfield/Filey Road direction stops just above the church.

Unless otherwise stated, doors open at 1pm for research and meetings start promptly at 2pm. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available for a donation.

Hull Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month (excluding July & Dec) in the Carnegie Heritage Centre, 342 Anlaby Road. Hull HU3 6JA. The doors open for personal research at 7pm. Speakers commence at 7.30pm.

2022

January 18th 2022 - Sally George  
Beverley Minster Parish magazines from the 1870's.

February 15th 2022 - Margaret Oliver  
The Poor Law Correspondence

March 15th 2022 - Paul Schofield  
Hull's Georgian Suburbs

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Please check the venues for further details because at the time of this entry the Corvid-19 virus was still a potential problem in the UK, and the advice given to the public could vary depending upon regional areas.

Hopefully more information will be available later in 2022.

# East Yorkshire Family History Society

*We cover the East Riding of Yorkshire and so much more!*



## The EYFHS Help Desk

Email your questions to [helpdesk@eyfhs.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@eyfhs.org.uk) and we will do our best to assist.

Postal enquiries may be sent to our Hull address. Please see inside front cover.

The East Yorkshire Family History Society is a member of the Federation of Family History Societies. The Federation oversees the interests of all family historians

and genealogists as well as supporting the work of member societies. You can visit the Federation's web site, and access their extensive resources, at: [www.ffhs.org.uk](http://www.ffhs.org.uk)