

# *The Banyan Tree*

**August 2022**

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The Tomb of the Hodsman Family  
Stonemasons in the General Cemetery

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Cover photo: See the Hodsmans story.

Pete Lowden submitted the story and image

## From the editor

Hello everyone,

Welcome to the August edition of the Banyan Tree, initially I would like to thank the eyfhs members who have contacted me by email or letter etc, over the years saying how much they enjoy receiving the journal through the post. Members are able to pick up the journal read a story and then go back to read other items or reread the stories again. It is gratifying to know that so many of you look forward to getting the journal drop through the letter box.

I should say that it is the work of our contributors who deserve the credit. They supply the articles/stories and images etc. I am merely the conduit for their hard work.

So, let us get going on this edition - we start with the Chairman's remarks.

Sally George gives us insight into a journal written in the early 1800s..

Geoff Bateman tells us about Some South Holderness Farmers. A bit later he tells us about the Swine School

The 'Spotlight On' feature returns in this August issue of the journal- and we look at the region of Drypool. The material was submitted by Janet Bielby and the Treasure House.

The AGM meeting report held in June 2022 is included in this edition of the journal.

The Forum Corner is interesting because several responses have come from members who have offered their help and advice in respect of previously submitted items to The Banyan Tree.

Jean Fenwick provided some WW1 curios to read.

Pete Lowden tells us about the family of stonemasons who undertook work in the General Cemetery in Hull. (*At this point*

*I have to apologise for some alterations which I had to make due to unforeseen circumstances in the final few pages of the journal. I had assigned space availability to items which I had received, unfortunately these plans had to be changed at the last minute. The articles had to be moved around in order to accommodate new material.)*

Lists are available for the entry of New Members to the society and we include the unwanted cert list in this August edition. Thank you Janet Shaw and Margaret Oliver for the information.

Richard Walgate asks us to remember a former Society member who has passed away.

Finally, we finish the Stonemason story that Pete Lowden submitted to the journal.

Despite a few problems I encountered in the preparation of this August edition of The Banyan Tree I hope you will find it an interesting and thought provoking read.

I look forward to seeing you in the November 2022 issue.

Please consider entering something for the eyfhs social history project, we are the 'baby boomer' generation and we have the opportunity to produce a highly entertaining piece of work to this project.

Pick your own memories to tell us about - good luck. I look forward to receiving the submissions.

Edwina Bentley  
editor@eyfhs.org.uk





### *Chairman's remarks*

It's funny how some things spark shared memories. Often totally unrelated to the

original spark. At a recent talk of the EYFHS, Elaine Moll, recently retired from the Hull History Centre, gave a talk on the short-lived newspaper, the Cottingham Review of the early 1950s. As part of that talk, she showed pages from that publication.

At question time after the talk people began sharing their memories of that time. Some memories were of the Coronation which may have been prompted by the recent Platinum Jubilee activities. Some of the talking eventually revolved around bathrooms and inside toilets (or the lack of them). At one point, one of the audience members said that we were moving into Monty Python territory and the phrase 'you were lucky' was mentioned.

Later that week I was at another talk. Yes, I know. What a gadabout! This was a talk about Holderness Road and its history given by Norman Angell. With appropriate photographs of what had been there and what was there now, it was very interesting even to a West Hull lad like myself.

However, what I found just as interesting were the comments made both during and afterwards by the audience. Some of them were along the lines of, 'I remember going in to that shop with my mother for four slices of bacon and a Hovis'. Others were of the 'good nights' spent in that dance hall or public house when the participants were much younger.

One particular point was The Astoria Cinema. Apparently, it was favourite Sunday night haunt for the teenagers of the late 40s / early 50s. So much so it was known as 'The Church'. The speaker said that his

mother met with one of her friends and her daughter one day and the daughter said that she knew Norman as she saw him at church regularly. The mother said she doubted that as Norman never went to church and then it was explained to her that the Astoria had this nickname.

Both of these instances made me think. Sometimes we are so quick to record the 'important' aspects of our history. We feel that BMDs, addresses, cause of deaths etc should all feature heavily in our research. What we neglect, and to my mind what captures the lives of our ancestors and us too, are those mundane, trivial little snippets that show the person, not just the facts.

I well remember Peter Adamson organising an oral history project in the early 1980s to record the memories of the people who had lived through WW1. I think it's high time that we, the baby boomers, should begin to have our own history project about our lives and times.

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*Sally George*

Reading a journal  
from the 1800s

The Journal of Joseph Robinson Pease  
1822-1865

Edited by J.D. Hicks

1826 Jan 25th: James Walker, Mr Collett and I went to see Halnaby Hall in the North Riding, an estate the Milbanks offered for sale. (Afterwards bought in at £90,000 – Jan 1843). Sold to John Todd of Tranby for £60,000. We arrived that night at Northallerton in such a thick rime frost and saw nothing. (Sir Ralph Milbanke was guardian to the children of Sampson George,

a direct ancestor on my husband's family tree, and used to visit him at Halnaby Hall. It has been demolished but the stable block which is a mini mansion in itself is now a B & B at £50 a room per night).

1826 Mar 10th: Sold three roods of land below the Cliff, the site of the old Whiting Mills, to Ward, Bellard & Co for £500 – to be removed in three years ready for planting in 1829. The first piece of rock sold at Hesslewood. I hope to continue it annually. Why have so much valuable property lying idle? In business things are quieter but the suffering of the merchants must have been great. (One wonders if Joseph would have sold the land right up to his front door!)

1828 Apr. 3rd: Dear boy Joseph went to My Blythe's school, Beverley. (Rev.. George Blanchard Blythe, sometime master of the Beverley National School in Minster Moorgate. He had left in 1829 and had his own school in North Bar Street taking Boarders (White 1840).

1830 May 1st: We took our final leave of Winestead this day perhaps it may be my last visit there. It never was a plan that I altogether liked from its distance from society and loneliness and when I consider the unpleasant occurrences that had taken place since Arthur built the house, the large sum of money he had unfortunately laid out upon it at a time when labour and timber were at the highest prices, and the heavy debts in the shape of mortgages that were left upon the land upon his coming into possession, I can never regret, as far as I am concerned as a brother to his wife, that they should leave it. Had such an occurrence taken place much sooner it would have been a considerable saving to himself. I am sincerely sorry for the wounded mortification that he must experience and can only hope that the change he has made is for the best and that it will please God to gladden the latter years of his life and make his days here on

earth happier than they of late have been. (Whitehall at Winestead is now a popular wedding venue with lodges in the grounds which can be booked for short breaks. One of the gatehouses called West Lodge is a very ornate and popular tea room.)

1833, Jan 18th: To Stratford-Upon-Avon, visited the house Shakespeare was born in, which is a miserable place. The room above stairs was once white washed but almost every visitor to the place from year to year having added his name in pencil, the walls through length of time are now nearly covered over in every direction – names from all parts of the world. Also a book is produced for autographs, volumes have been written, some will attempt to write poetry but such trash. The house was never out of the possession of the family of Shakespeare until 1806.

1833 Oct 9th I went to Woodhall (Old Ellerby) to be present at the opening of Col. Maister's Will. Heavy losses, mortgages, building large house at Winestead (£20,000) and general depreciation of property. Thus was our melancholy circumstance connected with the family which in the eye of my dear Mother almost prophetically foretold. Philip Maister, a brother to the old Colonel, went to the East Indies and brought home with a large fortune two children, a boy and a girl, by a woman of the country some time about the year 1802 and settled in Hull. Whether he was deranged or no I know not but one day after bringing them home from school (contrary to his usual practice) he took them into his sitting room in Charlotte Street, locked the door upon them, and shot them both dead. He was conveyed to York Asylum but afterwards was allowed his liberty with a keeper to watch him. Him he eluded and shot himself. His property came to his nephew Arthur, H.W. and John. My poor Mother then said, "Property that has come through so much blood will never wear well with the family. I may not live

to see it but you will. That it will be a curse to them", and so it has proved. The Col and Anne had a life of anxiety and thankful shall I be if it may have ceased to her and her family.

1834 Sep 15th: This day my nephew Arthur Joseph Maister, the second son, went to Liverpool for Sydney, New South Wales, being determined to try his fortune in the New Colony with five hundred pounds. Many have succeeded and so I think he may. He takes out numerous letters of recommendation to almost every influential person in the Colony and is a steady nice youth. God protect him and prosper him. He sailed on the 21st.

1835 Sep 12th: Drove to Thornton (Le Dale) where we remained until the 19th. Thornton is free from worldly pride and all its concomitant annoyances.

1836 Apr 8th: Sent off upper servant William Creaser for disobedience of orders and great insolence and did not pay him a months wages in consequence. Mr and Mrs H Maister here on their way to Town, Mrs Maister and Henry, when it was decided that Henry should return to Oxford and complete his Terms.

1836 Aug 29th: William Maister left home, went to London where he was to meet his uncle Henry who would see him safe under Captain Hart's care before he sailed for Sydney. He is a steady boy with good spirits and I hope both he and his brother Arthur will make their way respectably and well in the world. They have small means and know that they have entirely to depend upon their own exertions – he is only sixteen. Favourable accounts have just been received from Arthur saying that he had purchased some sheep and was beginning to act for himself.

1836 Aug 30th Mama wishing to see a

dentist we took our passage upon the Vivid steamer and left Hull at 6 p.m. with about 300 passengers. It blew strong all night which did not agree with Mama, or her maid Grainger.....

1836 Sep 4th Dr. Todd an accepted admirer of Miss Hart companion to Mrs. Pease.

1836 Dec 20th Dear Dickey, as the children call her, or Elizabeth Hart this morning I gave away at Hessle church to Dr. Todd of Parliament Street, Westminster ..... She has been with us for five years as dear Siskey's (Harriet) governess.

1837 Mar 26th: My farming man, James Dixon died after seventeen months severe suffering from abscesses.

1837 Sep 1st: I drove Mrs. And Miss Belthorpe to the Hessle Jetty and walked down to the boats with them whilst Charles (coachman) took their luggage leaving a boy standing by the horse's head. We had not gone twenty yards before I heard wheels and saw the old horse, my favourite Prime Minister moving off and no boy near him. He got into a trot then into a gallop and in turning into Hessle by Mr Spicer's house was headed, the sudden jerk stopping suddenly, we suppose, he broke his off foreleg in a most dreadful manner. There was no alternative but order him to be shot. I thus lost the handsomest, the best, and finest horse I ever expect to be possessed of. He was a great favourite and I believe more than one shed tears at his melancholy fate.

1838 May 1st: Received from the Railway Company five thousand pounds Compensation Money for coming over my foreshore and damage done to my Estate by this nuisance and also £[blank] for the purchase of land [acreage omitted]. I took fifty shares in the railway at £50 - £2,500 perhaps against my judgement not expecting it to pay but being so connected

with the trade of Hull, the Banker to the Company wanting money, I was induced by Broadley, the chairman and others to help the concern. An investment also into the new three and a half percents in the name of William Bourne and Henry John Shepherd, surviving Trustees of my Marriage Settlement of £18[illeg] being the amount of land purchased by the Company, proceeds of the old farm yard sold in Hessle in 1826 and rock to David Hearfield & Co. This ought to have been done at the time and many a time it has laid heavily upon my conscience but the want I had of money as fully explained in many pages of this book had caused me to postpone a positive duty – I am thankful it is now done.

1838 may 14th: Staked out the S.E. corner of the rock walk for the railway.

1838 Aug 10th Joe returned to Mr Field and this day we sent off five maid servants all being resenting, disobeying orders and doing as they liked, headed by one who had lived with us since our last return home from Devonshire.

1838 Aug 28th: Wylie and I were walking on the railway line amongst the chalk cliffs when I found lying on the top of the surface a large fossil elephant's tooth. I gave it to the museum in Hull. I afterwards had three large pieces brought to me, parts of two teeth.

1838 Sep 6th: Mrs. Benson, our housekeeper coach accident and died.

1839 Jun 8th: Gave Richard Hodgson, my gardener, notice he in every way disappointing me, idle, ignorant and drunken.

1839: Jul 6th: Richard, the last of the Hodgsons, left my service as gardener. Began to mow a very fine crop of hay. John

Ives, my new gardener, came.

1840 Mar 15: Went by the railroad from York to Selby, our first trip by such convenance, liked it much better than we expected. Posted to Saltmarshe.

1840 Apr 22: Returned home. The first locomotive engine with gravel passed Hesslewood.

1840 May 23: Commenced digging a tank for the lodge at east Entrance. The first locomotive engine passed Hesslewood to Hull the whole line being now open, may success attend the railway.

1842 May 24: We left Town (London) by the Birmingham railway at 6 a.m. and travelled all the way to Derby. Lunch and then all the way to Castleford, where we separated and we arrived comfortably at home at a quarter pas nine, just twelve hours from leaving London. Oh the delights of railroads.

1842 Dec 10th: Miss Harvey companion to Mrs. Walker of The Hall, Beverley.

1845 May 26th: A dreadful fire in Dover Street when Raggett's Hotel was burnt down. Mrs Round and another female perished in the flames. God's Providence watched over us. J and B were providentially taken in at the Hotel where Mrs Palmer was, otherwise they would have been at Raggett's. . (Another connection as in our George family tree Charlotte George married into this Raggett family and her father in law died in the fire).

1845 Dec 8th: William Lawson a steady labourer who had worked for me faithfully, died suddenly in the night by the bursting of a blood vessel. He was periodically obliged to be bled for a cold, and had delayed it too long, for from enquiries I found he had been suffering from shortness of breath and



asthma for some days previously. I believe him to have been a Christian.

1846 May 8th: William Maister returned from Australia, having failed in his object and lost ten years and all his money.

1846 Sep 25th: We drove by Hunmanby, Ganton, Sherburn etc. to Thornton..... (1847 We all left Thornton by rail and arrived home by 3 o'clock).

1847 Jun 7th: My new gardener George Birch came.

1847 Oct 2: Whitby Alas! Large streets of houses building on the NE side of the Cliff, will make Whitby a large sea bathing place.

1848 Feb 16: Jane and Mary Hill left us having been her at Hesslewood ten days. No. 1 pleasant and agreeable, No. 2 never opens her mouth.

1849 May 14: My footman Aaron ill but as it proceeded from a swelled face and a bad tooth we did not think so much about it. However it got so bad, not being able to open his jaw that he could take no nourishment. Dr. Anderson treated the case lightly and the patient roughly. He died 2 days later.

1852 Mar 14: William Maister again took leave of his family and sailed for Australia to see whether he could make a golden fortune.

1854 Jun 26th: We went a large party down to Withernsea for the opening of the Holderness Railway. Some very heavy showers and squall of wind which threatened to tear the marquee all to pieces. Fortunately it subsided and all passed off well. Not a single old Holderness Gentleman's family was represented. No Hildyard, Bethell, Sykes or Grimston. All asleep.

1854: Dec 27th ...Puget Raikes had just married his mother's nursemaid. Alas he will rue it. The health of Joseph Pease had been decidedly improved on taking rum and milk on coming downstairs in a morning.

1856: Jun 23rd: Gave my gardener, James Hill, notice not being equal to the place, very civil, very idle, very ignorant.

1856: Jul 5th: My darling Minnie (daughter Emily) had for some time past been favourably thought of by Henry Baines of Bell Hall but on account of her youth we deferred, and really as we know little or nothing of him previously, though I long known his father and mother. He this day proposed and was accepted.

1859: Dec 4th: Gave J. McDonald, gardener, notice. He was not tidy or clean about his work, allowing low thistles to grow and run to seed in his gardens. He is a Scot, proverbially untidy.

1864: Sep 24th: I returned home leaving my wife with Minnie. Dismissed Morris, my butler, impertinent.

NB: This book is now out of print but there are some used copies on AbeBooks. Hessewood Hall is now offices but the grounds are open to the public all of the time and a café is open in the week from 8.30 to 15.00. Well worth a visit and you can look down into the Country Park, which was the chalk quarry, some of which is the land that Joseph sold off.

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Calling all eyfhs members

Here is your chance to get involved with a special social history project!  
Were you part of the 'baby boomers' generation?

Do you have memories that you would like to share before they are lost in the mists of time.....they could range from birth under the NHS, life at home with your mother, listening to the radio programme 'listen with mother', street games, primary school experiences, school friends, school holidays, favourite toys, Christmas presents, family Christmas traditions, etc. The choice of the memory is up to you.

Send your pieces to the editor - postal and email addresses are shown on Page 2

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Some South Holderness Farmers  
*Geoff Bateman*

How did you spend the enforced stay-at-home days of the pandemic in 2020-21? If you are a family history researcher and have a computer – no problem. I spent some (too much!) of that time checking on marriages into my family tree and following the branches to see where they came from. Some led me to the farm lands of south Holderness with its vast number of farming families, their interesting and historic names, and their interrelationships. Marriages between farming families such as those described here were quite common in this district, as they probably were in others.

Always on the lookout for interesting surnames in the extended family tree, I decided to follow up one name in particular: Chessman. It might be a good name for a bishop or a knight (as in chess!), but apparently it means a maker or seller of cheese. The surnamedb.com website informs us that the word cheese derives from pre-8th century Anglo-Saxon "cese", while "man" is a servant or worker. Many variants have arisen over the centuries. These include Cheeseman, Chisman, Chismon, Chesman and so on. The website says that the first recorded spelling of the

name was Baldwin Le Chesemangere, who appeared in the "Pipe Rolls of Kent" (annual financial records) in the first year of the reign of Richard I (1189). Many of the early bearers of the surname appear to have been in the south-eastern quarter of England. My first question, then, is what is the story of our East Riding Chessman family? As usual in articles such as this, I apologise to any current Chessman family members who may have done a more thorough job of researching their ancestry.



**AUNT NELLIE**

The most recent record of a Chessman in my family tree is that of Aunt Nellie, Eleanor Hannah Chessman (1870-1939). She married Uncle Fred, my great grandmother's younger brother, butcher Frederick Westoby (1871-1947) of Routh, in Patrington in 1893. Eleanor had five siblings: William b.1870, Elizabeth Mary b.1874, Conssett Edward 1878-1949, Dorothy b.1894, and William b.1896 (the last two were half-siblings, from her father's second marriage of 1889). The births of Eleanor and William were recorded in Thorngumbald, Elizabeth in nearby Paull, and the rest in Patrington. I like to find a first (or middle) name such as Conssett because it is often a nice clue to the family history, or will at least provide some interesting research. The parents of

Eleanor and her three eldest siblings were Edward Thorp Chessman (1845-1915) and Eleanor Ann Chessman (1844-87) and, yes, they were first cousins. The mother of the two youngest children was Eliza née Barrett b.1861. But we will return to this generation later and now revert to looking at the earliest generations, although that takes us back not very much further.

Unfortunately I cannot take this family tree back to the time of Richard or other Plantagenet kings, or even much more than 250 years, when they were already in south Holderness and farming. Their subsequent interactions through marriages with other local farming families present fascinating relationships and provide more of those useful middle names.

The earliest of this Chessman dynasty I can find is listed in the England and Wales Quaker Birth, Marriage and Death Registers for 1578-1837. This record tells us that William Chessman, a farmer residing in Patrington, died on 9 June 1807, aged 78, and was buried at Welwick. His wife Mary had died a few days earlier, on 22 May. The birth of their son, also William, was registered in Hull in 1770.

William Chessman b.1770 is described in the Quaker register as “husbandman”, meaning tenant farmer, probably on a small scale. He married Mary Thorp b.1777 (baptised in Patrington) in Swine parish in 1797. Mary was the third of at least four children of Edward Thorp b. abt 1749 and Elizabeth née Stutt b. abt 1740. Elizabeth’s parents were Thomas Stutt b.1711 and Elizabeth née Duffield b.1711. Mary Thorp’s brother, William Stutt Thorp b.1776, was also a Patrington farmer, as was one of his sons (and probably later generations also). The Stuttts may also have been farmers, but the menfolk identifiable in 1841 were farm labourers. William’s wife Mary must have died before 1820, when William seems to

have been remarried, to Mary’s younger sister Eleanor Thorp b.1786. The Chessman and Thorp families were evidently Quakers for at least a generation or two. The Quaker history among these farming families might be interesting to research (another time!).

William and Mary had at least nine children, all baptised in Patrington between 1798 and 1811. We will now follow only two of their Chessman children: farmer Edward Thorp Chessman 1806-58, and Christopher Sollitt Chessman 1810-72, a woollen goods merchant who moved to London.

Edward Thorp Chessman 1806-58 married Dorothy Carlin b.1819, of Ottringham, in Welwick in 1842. They farmed in Skeffling (see below), where their son, Edward Thorp Chessman 1845-1915, was baptised. He was the middle one of five children, and father of our Aunt Nellie.

Christopher Sollitt Chessman 1810-72 moved to London where he worked as an “agent for woollen goods”. He married Hannah Leathwait (b.1814, Shoreditch, London) in 1841 in Newington, London. Their daughter Eleanor Ann was born in Newington in 1844. She married her cousin Edward Thorp Chessman in Lambeth in 1870. They returned to Holderness to raise Nellie and their other children.

I was interested to know where the Chessman farmers farmed. William Chessman 1804-89, brother of Edward Thorp Chessman 1806-58, farmed at Patrington between 1841 and 1881. He and his wife Anne (Hardy), who died before 1871, were at East End House, east of Patrington on the Holmpton Road, in 1841. By 1851 they had moved to Ruston House, on the eastern edge of Patrington near the Rectory. Ruston House is now a Grade II listed building. Edward farmed up to 294 acres by 1871, decreasing to 148 acres by 1881, coinciding with the great depression in British farming

in the 1880s and 90s. William was also a seed merchant and, in 1851, called himself a landed proprietor, which may have been unusual among the Chessman farmers. I can find no evidence of William and Anne having children.

Williams's brother, Edward Thorp Chessman the elder, 1806-58, farmed 166 acres in Skeffling with his wife Dorothy (Carlin). Dorothy took over the farm after Edward's death, until she retired to Patrington as an annuitant (1881). She would have been helped in running the farm by her sons Edward Thorp junior and John. The farm house, not named in censuses, was evidently in Skeffling village near the parsonage. Even before Dorothy's retirement, young Edward Thorp, with his new cousin bride, was farming at Thorngumbald (1871). In 1881, however, he was a farm labourer living in Patrington. Subsequently he and Eleanor were farming for themselves again, first at East End House, Patrington (1891), once occupied by Edward's Uncle William, and later (1901), just to the north of there at East Field House. Censuses do not show acreages farmed in those years. The farm at Skeffling had been taken over by other farmers, probably tenants of the same landlord, by 1881.

Mary (Thorp) Chessman's father, Edward Thorp b. abt 1749, may have been a farmer, and her brother Edward Stutt Thorp b.1776 certainly was. He farmed at West Gate, Patrington, although his widow Ann (Nancy, née Escreet b.1776), was running the farm in 1841 and 1851, with her sons and son-in-law. It was a big farm for that time, at 461 acres in 1851. The farm house is not identified by name in those censuses but was on West Gate, the main town street leading west from Market Place. The West Gate farm may have been divided up and partly sold off by 1861, when younger sons of Edward and Nancy, Richard b.1811 and

Robert b.1808, were farming 72 acres, while older son John b.1805 described himself as "land and smallholder". Richard Thorp, who remained unmarried, had increased his farm to 90 acres in 1871 and 1881. He was still farming in his 80s in 1891 (acreage not disclosed), but with a full household of younger Thorp relations, presumably helping out.

What about those middle names? Thorp and Stutt are easily explained from direct ancestry as described above. Some Stutt Thorps seem to have called themselves Thorp Stutt, which I am unable to account for. Consitt is less obvious. It enters the family tree as a surname through the marriage of Mary Chessman b.1808, a daughter of William Chessman b.1770 and Mary Thorp, to Consitt Fewson b.1801. He was a son of Peter Fewson b.1776 and Jane Consitt b.1777, whose family records seem to be mainly from Hull. Other Consitts were farming in Wawne, and they enter my family tree through a different marriage route. The middle name Sollitt is more troublesome. There was a large population with this surname in the Malton area in the 17th and 18th centuries, with fewer in places such as Scarborough, Snaith and Drifffield. The nearest I have found to our South Holderness farmers is the family of Christopher Sollitt, who had six children baptised in Humbleton between 1685 and 1693. It is perhaps significant that it is a namesake (fore-name anyway), Christopher Chessman 1810-82, who bears the middle name Sollitt, but I cannot find the family connection.

There has been a huge number of farming families in South Holderness during the last 300 years. At risk of producing family trees that are too complicated to draw up or to present, even on website trees, it is possible to have a lot of entertainment identifying the many connections through marriages among

those different families, as well as with families such as mine, which were never involved in farming in that district.

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‘Spotlight On’ Drypool  
*Janet Bielby*

The parish of Drypool in the Wapentake of Holderness lies on the east bank of the River Hull, and stretches from the Humber to Summergangs Dike in the north and the River Wilfete (now known as Holderness Drain) in the east. It is mentioned in the Domesday book as the two manors of Drogo de Brevere called Sotecote (Southcoates) and Dripol. The name means dried up pool - and the area was much improved by drainage in the medieval period, although a large area - Summergangs Common Pastures - did remain wet especially in the winter. In 1302 a new road to Hedon was built which went north-east to join the Sutton to Hedon road at Bilton. This eventually became the Holderness Road. (A 165)

Drypool was divided between many landlords in the 15th - 17th centuries but by the 19th century much was owned by the Constable and Bradley families. The religious houses of Swine, Charterhouse, Thornton Abbey and Meaux Abbey also held many parts of the land. Until the 17th century Drypool came within the parish of Swine, then a new parish of Drypool cum Southcoates was created.

Drypool village had a few houses surrounding a chapel. Southcoates hamlet - a mile inland - also had its own chapel. The hamlets were very small. In 1672 only 25 households in Drypool were chargeable for the hearth tax, and in 1700 there were only about 26 families. However - during the late 1800's Drypool began to grow as a suburb of Hull and by 1850 the population had grown to 2,748 in Drypool and 1,673 in Southcoates.

There were jetties on the River Hull and a staithe for the North ferry but these were removed during King Henry VIII's fortifications of Hull. In 1540 after the rebellion during the Pilgrimage of Grace (1536), Henry VIII ordered the construction of Hull Castle and blockhouses, and a bridge - the North Bridge - to connect the two banks of the River Hull. During the civil war damage was done to the Humber Banks at Drypool and they gave way - causing severe flooding in Hull. When Charles II was reinstated the fortifications were improved with a garrison fortress named 'the Citadel' built in the 1680's, and a moat built around it. This area was known as Garrison Side. By 1863 the now unused citadel was sold and demolished. Victoria Dock had been built on the north-eastern corner of the citadel area, and the owners - the Dock company - began laying out streets. They built a toll bridge across the River Hull (known as the Ha'penny Bridge) in 1865. This lasted until 1944 and was replaced by a modern pedestrian swing bridge in 2001.

The area was mainly agricultural until the 18th century when industrial buildings were put up, mostly on the east bank of the River Hull in the area which later became known as the Groves. It included brick works, rope makers and seed crushing mills. In 1732 the Sugar house was built in Lime St. by Godfrey and William Thornton who also built a soap factory nearby. The 8 storey Sugar House building - which was being used as a linseed store in 1868 - collapsed without warning, killing 7 workmen, and a small boy who had been playing outside.

Building was limited in the Garrison area. As the land towards the Humber was reclaimed various docks were built eastwards along the river frontage. The Victoria Dock was built in 1850 and was the timber dock with many 'timber ponds'. In 1854 a railway terminus was built here by the York and North Midlands Railway company. The line ran from there to Hedon and on to eventually reach Withernsea. By 1890 it was

mainly being used for timber storage with many railway lines of the Hull and Barnsley Railway Company taking the timber and coal away. Further along the Humber bank Charles and William Earle began their shipyard in 1851. They launched 700 ships from here - 2 being steam launches for Tsar Alexander. In 1904 'the Inca' and 1929 'the Ollanta' were built by Earle's shipyard. These 2 ships were shipped to Peru in pieces, and reconstructed and launched at Lake Titicaca. The 'Ollanta' is now retired from ferry service and running as a charter tourist ship on Lake Titicaca! The shipyard closed in 1931 - the site is now Seiman's Wind Turbine construction site. The next dock was Alexandra Dock built in 1885. The King George Dock in 1915 and the Queen Elizabeth extension in 1969 came under Marfleet parish. As a result of the dock building, many businesses such as Ships Chandlers, Ship repairers and dry docks sprang up.

The whole area of Drypool - docks and houses - was badly affected by bombing during WW2 - despite 'dummy docks' being built out in the countryside near Patrington. As the docks produced more work, so the area began to be built up. Great Union Street was built in 1800, from North Bridge to Drypool. In 1833 the turnpike road from Hull to Hedon (Hedon Rd - A 1033) was built and soon many small streets of houses sprang up around Church St.. The old church of St Peter was demolished and rebuilt, and a school, workhouse and Methodist Chapel built. In 1836 Sir Thomas Constable set aside Drypool Square as 'Common ground' and the Drypool Feast was held here until the 1930's. Villas, terraced streets and corn mills were built along Holderness Road.

One of the large houses on Holderness Road was Summergangs House - later called Holderness House. It was originally built in the late 1700's on land owned by William Constable and first owned by John K Pickard, deputy recorder of Hull and son of John Pickard - who first introduced the

manufacture of White Lead in England. J.K. Pickard became a very rich man, but gambled his wealth away and after selling his house to John Broadley in 1814 had to live in Dansom Lane. He died in 1843 - before he could take possession of a room in the Charterhouse. The house was rebuilt and modernised in 1830 and sold in 1838 to William and Boswell Jalland. James Reckitt bought some of the estate from Emily Jalland (Boswells wife) and this was the formation of the Garden Village. When Emily died in 1909 the house was sold to Thomas R. Ferens. Ferens became a very wealthy man, but gave much of his wealth away. He founded the Ferens Art Gallery and Hull University. He died in 1930. He bequeathed his house to be a rest home for poor gentlewomen.

Also in this area - between Village Rd. and Jalland St. - number 371 Holderness Rd. was the home of J. Arthur Rank - the Hull born son of the Flour Miller Joseph Rank - who became a film producer. Two other notable buildings on Holderness Rd. are the James Reckitt public library - designed by Sir Alfred Gelder- which was the first free library in the city and was opened in 1889 and closed in 2006. The building is Grade II listed, Next door to it is the East Hull Baths which opened in 1898 and closed in 2018. The library has been converted to residential accommodation and planners hope to include the Baths into this plan.

The first church recorded in Drypool was St Peter's in 1226. This medieval building was replaced in 1823 by a new church built in brick. In 1878 it became a chapel of ease to the new St Andrew's church, which became the parish church. It was destroyed by bombs in WW2, and the churchyard eventually was cleared and has become a garden. Some gravestones were placed along the rear wall. There was briefly a small church called St Nathaniel and then changed to St Bartholomew. It was built in 1877 on the old cemetery on Hedon Rd. between Ferries

St. and Lee Smith St.. It was bombed and subsequently demolished in 1941 and the cemetery also turned into a garden.

Hedon Road cemetery is further along Hedon Rd. beyond the prison. It opened in 1875 and was well laid out, with 2 chapels connected by a clock tower at the entrance. The area was expanded in 1894 and a crematorium built. Standing at the north east corner of Hedon Road Cemetery, Hull Municipal Crematorium was the first municipal crematorium to be built in the country. The foundation stone of the crematorium was laid in October 1899, and the building opened in January 1901. Although the rates were made affordable for the ordinary citizens of Hull, they were slow to accept cremation as an alternative to burial, so only 17 cremations took place that year and by 1926, this figure had risen to only 55 per year. The Grade II listed crematorium building was closed in the early 1960s. By 1963 the cemetery was full and no longer used for new graves. The crematorium remains and is a Grade II listed building.

St Andrew's church opened in 1878 on the corner of Abbey St. and Holderness Rd.. It was the Drypool parish church until 1961, when it became a chapel of ease. It closed and was demolished in 1983 and St. Columba's became the parish church.

St. Columba's opened in 1914 on the corner of Laburnum Ave. This temporary building became the church hall when the main building opened in 1929. However, this building was destroyed by enemy bombing in 1943, and so the present church was built in 1960.

First founded in 1791, a temporary church to St. John the Evangelist was built on Rosmead St. in 1919, but destroyed by fire in 1923. A permanent replacement was built in 1925, but this was bombed in 1941. It re-opened in 1952 and in 2007 became a combined church and community centre.

In the area known as the Groves, on the north-west edge of Drypool, was St. Mark's

church, built in 1844. It too was bombed in WW2 and demolished in the 1950's.

The Methodists had a few chapels in Drypool - mostly along Holderness Rd.. A temporary church and school built in Durham St. in 1873 was replaced by the Brunswick Chapel built in 1877 next to Durham St. on Holderness Rd.. Thomas R. Ferens and his wife Esther taught at the Sunday School here for many years. It was replaced by the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel which opened in 1966.

Two more chapels - one on Lime St. and one on Raikes St. were replaced by the Kingston Wesleyan Chapel on Witham. It was damaged by bombing in 1941 and demolished.

The Primitive Methodists had chapels at Holborn St. (built in 1830 by Ebenezer Morley, closed in 1954); Hodgson St. in the Groves (built 1884 closed 1940); Bright St. (opened 1864, bombed 1941, closed 1964); Holland St. Bethesda Chapel (built 1902 closed 1962); and the Henry Hodge Memorial Chapel (built 1873 closed 1962).

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church was built in Wilton St. in 1890. It was demolished in 1982. Another Catholic Church - Sacred Heart - was built in 1926 on Southcoates Lane as a memorial to Father William Finn - a chaplain killed in WW1.

Many notable people came from the Drypool area - either born there or nearby or set up business there.

\* Isaac Reckitt and his wife Ann founded the Reckitt and Sons Starch Works in Dansom Lane. Although born at Wainfleet Lincolnshire in 1792, he brought his family to Hull in 1840. He lived on Holderness Rd. and died there in 1862. His sons carried on the business which went onto become Reckitt and Colman and then Reckitt Benckiser. He and his wife are buried in the Quaker burial ground at Hull General Cemetery.

\* Ebenezer Cobb Morley 1831 - 1924 - the Father of the Football Association and

instigator of the original rules of the Football Association - was born in Hull and baptised by his grandfather John Morley at his fathers non-conformist church in Holborn St..

\* John Venn 1834 - 1823 - a mathematician, logician and philosopher who introduced the Venn diagrams, which are used in logic, set theory, probability, statistics, and computer science. - was the son of the Rev Henry Venn, Rector of Drypool.

\* James Reckitt - 1834 - 1924 - son of Isaac Reckitt - was one of the founders of the Garden Village, Holderness Rd..

\* William Dent Priestman - 1847 - 1936 - was born and died at East Mount, Sutton, but lived on Holderness Rd. In the interim. He was also a Quaker and engineering pioneer, inventor of the Priestman Oil Engine, and co-founder with his brother Samuel of the Priestman Brothers engineering company, manufacturers of cranes, winches and excavators. He and many of his family are also buried in the Quaker Burial ground of Hull General cemetery.

\* David Whitfield - 1925 - 1980 - international singing star was born and lived

in Drypool. He began his singing career in the choir of St Peter's church. He is best known for his recording of 'Cara Mia' in 1954, but he was a world wide success.

The Monumental inscription books for the Drypool area are as follows -

\* Drypool (St. Peter's churchyard) - M 198

\* Hull Hedon Rd cemetery Part 1 - M 223

\* Hull Hedon Rd cemetery Part 2 - M 225

\* Hull Hedon Rd cemetery Part 3 - M 228

\* Hull Hedon Rd cemetery Part 4 - M 233

\* Hull Hedon Rd cemetery Part 5 - M 234

\* Hull Hedon Rd cemetery & Columbarium Part 6 - M 229

\* Hull General Cemetery and Quaker Burial Ground - M 222

\* We also have Drypool Baptisms & Burials 1772 - 1812 and Marriages 1572 - 1807 transcriptions on a CD - CDP 104.

\* Two maps - Hull East 1908 and 1928 show the Drypool area well. They are G019 & G020.

These are all available from our website shop page.

Drypool Map





The Treasure House  
 Champney Road  
 Beverley



Tele 01482 392792  
 archives.service@eastriding.gov.uk

**Spotlight On Drypool**  
 Family History Services at the East Riding  
 Archives and Local Studies Service

### **Parish records**

#### **DRYPOOL ST ANDREW PARISH RECORDS (ref. PE109)**

Includes baptism registers 1572-1979; marriage registers 1572-1976; burial registers 1572-1929; banns registers 1936-1978; preacher's books 1877-1917; registers of services 1917-1951; register of graves 1860-1905; terriers and inventories 1817-1938 and note book containing transcripts of terriers 1716-1900; churchwardens' accounts 1879-1953; papers relating to burial ground 1882-1959; vestry minutes 1851-1947; church council and Parochial Church Council minutes 1906-1966; volume containing copies of acts and awards for Summergangs and Southcoates enclosures 1748-1757; rules of religious society commenced by Rev Henry Venn 1831; minutes and membership lists of Mothers' Union 1932-1966;

**Records of Drypool St Bartholemew 1891-1930; including register of baptisms 1891-1894;**

**Records of Drypool St John the Evangelist containing papers relating to formation of the St John's district 1913-1935;**

**Records of Drypool St Michael and All Angels containing papers relating to the**

**formation of the new parish 1915-1927; Papers relating to Southcoates St Aidan**

#### **DRYPOOL ST PETER PARISH RECORDS (ref. PE110)**

Includes baptism registers 1878-1917; marriage registers 1880-1948, banns register 1941-1948, register of services 1942-1948, confirmation register 1918-1947; papers relating to burial ground 1830-1958; vestry minutes 1880-1932; Parochial Church Council minutes 1936-1940; deeds for properties in St Quintin's Place, Drypool 1799-1892; papers relating to school 1826-1940 with admission registers 1873-1883 and managers' minutes 1886-1942

#### **DRYPOOL ST COLUMBA PARISH RECORDS (ref. PE111)**

Includes baptism registers 1914-1999; marriage registers 1929-1998; banns registers 1944-2001; preachers' books 1929-1942; register of services 1943-2001; confirmation register 1957-1974; photograph and sketches of church c. 1915-1960; building committee minutes 1913-1928; miscellaneous documents on building and extensions 1913-1960; inventories 1929-1960; churchwardens' accounts 1914-1931; minutes for vestry, church council and committees 1915-1970; electoral rolls 1965-1969, 1970-1971

#### **DRYPOOL ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH RECORDS (ref. PE157)**

Includes baptisms registers 1917-1980; marriage registers 1925-1965; banns register 1963-1977; register of services 1923-1985; Parochial Church Council minutes 1923-1973; vestry minutes 1950-1963; annual general meeting minutes 1950-1979; St Bartholomew's preacher's book 1887-1891 (includes baptisms 1891-1898); baptisms register 1898-1910 and 1917; register of services 1936-1941; Hedon Road Maternity

Hospital register of baptisms 1958-1970  
HULL SOUTHCOATES ST AIDAN  
PARISH RECORDS (ref. PE196)

Includes baptism registers 1935-1963; marriage registers 1943-2007; banns registers 1966-1991; notebook funerals and cremations 1960-1981; register of services Southcoates Lane Hall 1925-1936; registers of services 1935-1991; management committee minutes 1926-1954; Parochial Church Council minutes 1958-1982; annual church meeting minutes 1959-1977

The website find My Past has some coverage from bts and registers. Staff will advise on the coverage.

### **Records of other denominations**

Drypool Methodist records would be part of the Hull Circuit, records are held at Hull History Centre

### **Other records**

Drypool and Marfleet Steam Tramways Board of Trade Order, 1890 and 1892 (ref. BTO)

Hull (Drypool) Bridge and Improvements 1885 (ref. CCER/2/20/12)

Commissioner of Sewers (ref. CSR)

Plea at East Riding Quarter Sessions in Rex versus Sutton and Stoneferry, Relating to the way [highway] from Hull to Drypool. 1745 (ref. DDBL/20/50)

Chichester-Constable family and estate records includes enclosure award for Drypool - Summergangs (copy) 1748 (ref. DDCC)

Drypool Shipbuilding Group records (ref. DDDR) includes minutes 1915-1969, salaries and wages records 1919-1976, staff records 1954-1974, ship files 1940-1943,

1967-1975; shipping photographs 19th century and 1958-1970s

Harrison-Broadley family of Hull and Welton (ref. DDHB) family and estate records includes deeds and records for Drypool 1546-1901 with Southcoates Enclosure Award

Ships built at Beverley and Drypool, photographs and CD-ROMs (ref. DDX1884) Contains photographs of ships built at C D Holmes Shipyard, Beverley and Drypool, taken by Walter Fussey and Son

The Victoria History of the County of York, East Riding, Volume 1, the city of Kingston upon Hull published 1969

Details of Property Tax Assessments 1846-1848 (ref. LT/5/5)

Land tax assessments for South Hunsley Beacon 1926-1938 (ref. LTA/10)

Land tax redemption certificates for South Hunsley Beacon 1896-1941 (ref. LTA/15)

Plans for the construction of Drypool Bridge 1884-1886 (ref. NBT)

Humberside Coroners records includes Hull Coroners' records 1853-1973 (ref. NC/1)

Ordnance survey maps from 1855 (ref. OS)

Parish magazines (ref. PM /162. Drypool Link 1972-1978

Humberside Police records including Hull City Police records, includes alehouse and licensing records (ref. POL/4/8)

Land tax assessments for Drypool 1782, 1787-1830, 1832 (ref. QDE/1/6/7)

Deposited plans for Drypool Bridge, railways, gas company, docks (ref. QDP)

Recognizances and lists of persons licenced to sell ale 1754-1793 and 1822, 1823, 1825, 1826 (ref. QDT/2/7 and 9)

East Riding Quarter Sessions records (ref. Q)

Drypool St Peter's Church of England School Plans (ref. SGP/15)

Lay subsidy 1629 has 2 names under Drypool, printed version (re. YE/336.23)

Muster roll 1636 has 7 names under Drypool, printed version (ref. YE/355)

The East Riding Register of deeds 1708-1974 is particularly useful for freehold property transactions and wills (ref. RDB)

A search by place or personal name in the currently available online catalogue will pick up deeds, wills and other items not noted above, particularly in the 18th and 19th c. Quarter Sessions papers and Local studies books

Ancestry.co.uk, Find My Past and other genealogical sites can be accessed to expand and complement the above sources

The printed and indexed publications of Yorkshire societies and a good selection of directories 1823-1937 are readily available.

*Helen Walker*

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### Obituary Tom Bangs

It is with regret that we announce the death of Marjorie Banks. She died at the Queens Unit at Castle Hill Hospital on the 26th February. She was

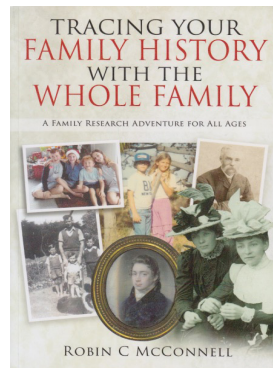
aged 83. She was a long standing member of the Society who was very involved with the Scarborough Branch. She was the Branch Charman and also served a term as Branch Secretary. During her period as Scarborough Chairman she also served on the main committee of the Society.” She will be greatly missed and our sympathies are with her husband and family.

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### Book Reviews

*Tracing your Family History with the Whole Family*

Author Robin C McConnell



Pub. Pen & Sword family history.  
Date of publication 2022.  
ISBN 978-1-39901-388-9  
Price £14.99  
Pages 151

A lot of us ‘family history researchers’ have come into this hobby as individuals seeking answers to old family stories that we have heard over the years when we were younger. It has been a serious hobby to pursue on our own – proving the truth or falsehood of the stories.

We have overcome ‘brick walls’, thought outside the box and found our eureka

moments. My problem with this book lays in the fact that it wants us to make research a game in order to entice the youngsters into our hobby!

There lies my difficulty with the book. Family history research is complicated and an enjoyable experience for the 'solo flyers' amongst us. We spend money on certificates ( b,m.d.) in order to ensure we are following the right pathways. Do we really (a) want to make board games based upon our history (b) create questions that the children have to answer (c) create some time lines that the youngster have to match up e.g facts v happenings.

If you have a younger generation to entertain then explore several other hobbies.

Perhaps, I am turning into a curmudgeon who whilst appreciating the ethos of the book, I still have a problem with the central premise of it.

Buy it and decide for yourself!

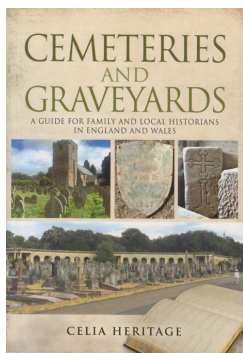
***This book is in the August giveaway book lucky dip draw.***

The editor

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*Cemeteries & Graveyards  
A guide for family  
and local historians  
in England and Wales.*

Author. Celia Heritage



Pub by Pen & Sword Family History

Date 17 March 2022.

Paperback edition. 240 pages.

ISBN 978-1-52670-237-1

Price £15.99

Many of us look around cemeteries & graveyards trying to locate deceased relatives from our own family, and we acknowledge a passing interest in the establishment and development of such places.

Well, here is the book for you who want to learn more about such matters. Celia Heritage has written this great reference book for family and local historians. Apparently, the church of England opposed the establishment of non-denominational cemeteries because they could accrue fees from the incumbent(s) and reduce the strength of the bond between parishioners and the Church.

Initially, the faith of Catholics & Protestants as we know had its problems. Protestantism broke into several pieces coming up with various religious labels of non-conformists.

The chapters include –

The chapters include –

Parish Churchyards

Ex- parochial graveyards

Gravestones

Cemeteries

Records

This is definitely a reference book to keep on your book shelf, I feel certain that you will look at it in order to enhance your research techniques and knowledge.

The editor

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Images of Swine School  
Geoff Bateman

2 Photographs from the past

Swine school opened in 1865 and closed in 1965. From 1908 to 1926 it was run with iron discipline by my great grandmother, Edith Mary Graham. Among its pupils over the years were my father and his three brothers and a sister, two of my cousins and my elder brother. As the photos show, there were plenty of children to fill the two classrooms, from Swine, Coniston and surrounding farms. I understand that nowadays there may be only two children in Swine village, both of them grandchildren of one of my cousins.

The first photo shows pupils at Swine School in 1934. My father is definitely in there somewhere, possibly at the left hand end of the back row.

The school was still well attended almost 20 years later.

The second photo [which says "Copyright Hull Daily Mail"] shows Swine School Christmas party, 1951. I was below school age but was allowed to go to the party. I am fifth from the left on the second row, sitting next to Heather Darley (on my left) I think. We moved to Hull before I reached school age, but my brother attended. He is second from the right in the second row. There seem also to be two of my cousins in the picture. The school building was converted to housing after closure.



EAST YORKSHIRE  
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting  
Held at the Carnegie Heritage Centre,  
Anlaby Road, Hull on 11th June 2022

Present - 12 members

The meeting was opened by the President,  
Tom Bangs at 2pm

1. President's Opening Remarks

I am writing these notes before I have read the Chairman's report, and have probably repeated some comments that are to be made later.

It is a pity, once again, to see so few members attending our Annual General Meeting. However, I would like to extend a warm welcome to those who are here.

It isn't too long since the 2020 AGM and unfortunately 2021 started as a continuation of 2020 due to "lockdowns" and other restrictions due to the Covid pandemic.

Our meetings in Hull and Beverley recommenced in the Autumn. With those in Scarborough starting again early this year.

Regrettably, we have had to discontinue those in Beverley in November; as the attendance was so sparse and it was embarrassing having to introduce a speaker to so few people. It was especially disappointing as the Society's meetings started in Beverley. Hull and Scarborough continue to be reasonably well attended.

All is not doom and gloom, however, as you will hear, membership is only slightly less than the previous year. The excellent Banyan Tree has continued to be produced on a quarterly basis by Edwina.

Now we have a new Webmaster in Sue. Although both the Editor and Webmaster live away from the area, it seems to work well with modern technology.

During lockdown, Dave continued going to churchyards to record the inscriptions of new monuments as additions to our books. Several new books and many additions have been printed. Judith has been kept busy with book sales and Janet has answered many queries on the internet. The Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Secretary have also been kept very busy.

The Society is sound financially and I feel it has a good future. Especially as we now have a full committee with a Chairman in post, although we will have to move with the times.

Finally I would like to thank the committee and all others who work hard on behalf of the members.

2. Apologies for Absence

Charles & Sandra Cradock, Peter Lowden, Peter Glover, Chris & Alan Brigham, Richard & Pam Walgate, Hannah Stamp, Paul Dunham.

3. Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting held on 25th September 2021

There were no amendments and the minutes were passed unanimously

4. Matters arising from these minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's report (in the absence of the Chairman) - Tom Bangs

This is my first AGM at the Chair of the Society and I'm not here. Let me explain. One of the results of the pandemic is that I have grown out of the habit of using a diary. As such when I was pressed to name a date for the family holiday I blithely said "Any time in June" believing quite wrongly as it happens, that the AGM was in late May. When I discovered my error, the situation was too far gone to change things and for the sake of world peace, especially between

my wife and myself, I am absent today.

these are specific to our Society.

I'd like to thank our President, Tom Bangs, for stepping in to read this report at short notice. I would also like to assure him it will not happen again. A diary for 2023 is on my Christmas list.

Please rest assured that it isn't that we, the EYFHS, are doing something wrong. The malaise, if that is what it is, spreads far beyond our Society.

Although the Society now has a chairman, although what has been said in the foregoing first paragraph might question how much of an improvement that is, the Society still has the same underlying problems that Margaret spoke about last year. I'll touch on those later.

This issue can be reduced to the fact that the membership of many such societies, be that civic, local history or, in our case, family history, are aging and not being replaced. As such the burden of running these societies falls upon fewer and fewer shoulders and time takes its toll. There are other factors too but that is the major one.

On a more positive note, the Society continues to function in a surprisingly good way. The Banyan Tree, the Society's magazine, continues to attract contributions from members and non-members alike and the new printer and delivery system appear to be a success.

I'm pretty sure that Janet Shaw, the membership secretary, in her report, will state that our membership has fallen again. Last year she reported that the Society had taken a 34% drop in membership since 2014. So, in essence, we have lost a third of our members in 7 years. This is a disastrous amount to lose when, to be frank, we are relatively successful at what we do.

The Society's meetings, restricted mainly now to Hull, still continue. Janet contrives to invite a variety of speakers upon a wide range of family or local history topics. The Scarborough meetings had been discontinued. They now have been resurrected to some extent as afternoon meetings. This is something we applaud and hope that this branch can continue in this format if it is suitable for their membership

Now, the question remains, what do we do about this? To be brutally honest the committee can do no more than they do. The publications, talks, enquiries, publicity and other things are all organised, administered and completed by the committee. And this work itself is falling upon those same fewer and fewer shoulders. So, it's unlikely that the committee by itself can reverse this downturn in the Society's fortunes.

The Monumental Inscription team, led by Dave Mount, are still busy recording. Their work is vital to the health of the Society as the sale of the publications of the MI books is a welcome supplement to the coffers of the Society.

Which leaves the membership to come to the aid of the Society. How can you do this? Well, you will be glad to know that it's not rocket science.

Enquiries regarding family history are still being answered on a regular basis by the Help Desk and Janet Bielby.

Just as simple a thing such as attending your local meetings and talks would help enormously. Perhaps even coming along and presenting a talk yourself about a subject you feel passionate about that should be more widely known about. Don't be scared, the

Now, let's look at some of the more negative aspects. None of these are new. None of

audience is always friendly and supportive.

How about telling your friends and family members about our work and cajoling them to join? You'd be surprised how effective that can be. Writing articles for the Banyan or simply writing/emailing in to the Editor to comment on the articles is another way you can help. Nothing suggests a thriving organisation more than a lively "postbag". Helping to transcribe the monumental inscriptions for the benefit of others is a good way to meet other members and enjoy the fresh air.

These are just some ideas that can help the Society continue. Last year Margaret recounted a number of FHS that had wound themselves up or curtailed their activities over the last couple of years. I'm sure that no member would like the EYFHS to follow in their footsteps. But the way to avoid the EYFHS folding is, to put it plainly, simply down to you, the membership, taking a more active role. That choice is yours.

6. Secretary's Report (Barbara Watkinson)  
Since the last AGM held in September 2021 we have had three committee meetings when the minutes have been recorded as true.

Sadly we had to cease the meetings held at Beverley due to lack of support but the ones at Carnegie continued. Thanks to Janet Bielby who has found some very interesting speakers.

I have also received emails to the secretary from people requesting assistance in researching their family histories, again these have been passed to Janet Bielby at the Help Desk with excellent results.

2022 has seen the Society back to how it was prior to Covid - I hope with the support of its members we will continue well into the future.

7. Treasurer's Report (in the absence of the Treasurer) - Tom Bangs

Apologies for not being here in person.

As you can see from the reports that are on display, we as a Society have not done too bad this year considering all that has happened in the last year, it has helped from an increase in publication income.

Hopefully everything is explained, but if not I will certainly answer and questions and get back to you in the very near future.

No questions were asked and Margaret Oliver proposed the accounts should be accepted, seconded by John Ferguson. Carried with one abstention.

8. Other Reports.

Membership Report (Janet Shaw)

Membership Report for 2021

Membership was down just a little from 589 in 2020 to 584 in 2021 – a decrease of 0.8%  
New members were up from 36 in 2020 to 40 in 2021 – an increase of 11.1%.

**. Member distribution was as follows:**

\* HU postcode 134 which is 22.9% (23.8% in 2020)

• YO postcode 84 which is 14.4% (17.2% in 2020)

• Rest of UK 316 which is 54.1% (50.9% in 2020)

• Overseas 50 which is 8.6% (8.1% in 2020)

New Members distribution:

• HU postcode 4 (10.0%) (19.4% in 2020)

• YO postcode 4 (10.0%) (16.7% in 2020)

• Rest of UK 25 (62.5%) (38.9% in 2020)



- Overseas 7 (17.5%)  
(25.0% in 2020)

Comparison Tables for the last six years

Members	2016	2017	2018	2019
Inc/Dec	813	752	699	636
	-84	-61	-53	-63
% Change	-9.4%	-7.5%	-7.1%	-9.0%

(comparison table for the last 6 years)

Members	2020	2021
Inc/Dec	589	584
% Change	-47	-5
.	-7.4%	-0.8%

New Members

Inc/Dec	2016	2017	2018	2019
	54	42	65	29
% Change	-5.3	-22.2	+54.8	-55.4

Inc/Dec	2020	2021
	36	40
% Change	+24.1	+11.1

## Publications Report ( Judith Bangs)

Not a great deal to report since our last AGM, we have had two more Northern cemetery books printed this year, parts 21 & 22, part 20 is still to be printed.

Dave has still been adding to the additions, these go out with the MI books until they are reprinted when they are added into the books.

So far for 2022, I have sent out 62 orders, plus books are still being sold at Carnegie. We have the York fair to attend this year, so hoping for lots of sales.

Monumental Inscriptions (Dave Mount)  
Last year 2021, we completed Northern Cemetery. This being 25 books in total.

This year we have made a start on Tranby Lane, Anlaby cemetery, which we should complete this year.

We are now running out of cemeteries and grave yards to record, so if any members have any suggestions of any cemeteries which we could record, please let me know.

There is still a cemetery in Howden and I have been in contact with the Howden town council, and they have given me permission to record this. It is now a large cemetery, about 600 stone, so I will probably do this myself by using my camera. This will give Hazel our typist some work to do.

I would like to thank all the team that have turned out to records stones in our area.

The Society would not be able to function without the help of volunteers. A big thank you all round, and a special thanks to Hazel who types all the work for us.

## 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 Judith Bangs and was seconded by Margaret Oliver. This was put to the vote which was passed unanimously.

Peter Glover was nominated as Treasurer by Janet Bielby and was seconded by John Ferguson. 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, Margaret Oliver, Judith Bangs, Janet Bielby, Sandra Cradock and Hannah Stamp. Tom Bangs proposed that they all be elected and was seconded by David Marshall. This was put to the vote and they were duly

elected unanimously.

11. Election/Appointment of Examiner of Accounts

Tom Bangs proposed the continued appointment of Nigel Coyle & Co. This was seconded by John Ferguson. Carried with one abstention.

12. Membership options - print or digital copy of the Banyan Tree

Peter Glover would like to propose to you all, to agree on a new tier of Membership subscription:-

For anyone who like to choose an electronic PDF version of the Banyan Tree quarterly journal, instead of a printed copy.

This would be £12 per annum to be introduced and implemented for the 2023 membership year onward. This would carry all the benefits of the other membership categories, ie meetings etc. But no paper publications would be posted to this membership.

This was proposed by Peter Glover and seconded by Janet Bielby. Carried with one abstention.

13. To amend/remove point 6 of the Constitution with regard to the AGM being held in March.

Due to uncertain times it has been decided that we need to be more flexible with the date of the AGM - though it will generally be held in March.

The committee is to approach the Charity Commission for this to be amended in the Society Constitution.

14. Previously Notified Business

There were no previously notified business

15. Any other business

None

The meeting closed at 2.30pm

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## 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 a 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!**

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We have had a good response from our member's to several items which appeared in the Banyan Tree recently.

Let is start with Pauline Hooper who offered advice to Keith Leonard and his query about some paintings.

“Just a long shot with reference to Keith's painting enquiry.....

My ancestor Richard Dodd Widdas was an artist and was from Hull and did many paintings that included horses. The horses on Keith's painting of the 2 horses with carriage look very familiar to the way Widdas painted his horses but I've never seen a water colour painting, he usually painted in oils.  
He generally signed them too.

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To view some of his paintings I suggest Keith goes to the Street Life museum in Hull and also looks online.

I hope this is of some help.

Kind regards

Pauline Hooper

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Michael Gibson asked for help

Having been alerted to the existence of the EYFHS by a distant relative, and recently signed up as a member (no. 7223), I am hoping that you might be able to publish this communication in a forthcoming Banyan Tree and/or on your website.

My interest in ancestry research was boosted by the inheritance of a stack of family memorabilia following the death of my step-father in late 2019 and the consequent clearing out of our old family home at Calverley (near Pudsey/Leeds). This includes documents and photographs dating back to the late 1800s; my mother and her father were both hoarders! My mother and most of her antecedents came from the East Riding, the relevant surnames of my maternal great-grandparents generation being Braithwaite, Dry, Thompson and Wilson. I am hoping that my membership of EYFHS will eventually assist me in throwing light on a few puzzles!

However, my immediate 'problem' relates to my father's side of the family, most of whom hail from the Halifax area in the West Riding: I am struggling to identify precisely where the attached photograph was taken. Written on the back (probably by a late aunt of mine) are the featured individuals: my great-grandparents Hanson, their youngest son Arnold, and 'auntie Annie', plus the purported location, 'Malham'. The photograph is undated, but was probably taken in 1922 or early 1923 since Arnold died in Leeds Infirmary in October 1923 from a brain tumour at the age of 16.

In seeking an answer, the photograph and an explanatory letter were published in the June 2021 edition of the Dalesman magazine. This eventually elicited 4 responses: 2 proposed locations in the Malham area, but, rather to my surprise, the 2 others independently suggested it was nowhere near Malham but around Flamborough Head!



One of the latter correspondents sent me a photograph taken in 1949 of himself (then aged 4) and his family in a cave entrance. His photo and mine show some remarkable similarities, although they were taken from different angles and some detail is obscured by people. Unfortunately, they were on a day trip from Pontefract and he can't remember the precise location, and his family moved to Scotland in 1960. My internet searches have ruled out the Malham suggestions, but have revealed that the strata around the north side of Flamborough Head do indeed look very similar to those in the photo, although I have been unable to find anywhere identical.

Do any readers living in the Bridlington/Flamborough area recognise it? The local OS map indicates several caves around Flamborough Head, especially on the north side, although a century of coastal erosion could create difficulties.

I would appreciate any assistance. Living in South Derbyshire, about 110 miles from

Flamborough as the proverbial crow flies, I am not really in a position to pop over and have a look!

Mike Gibson

Geoff Bateman contacted the Banyan Tree with some advice which might help Pete Davis. (Pete wrote a piece and it appeared in issue No 169. "The Disappearing Rudkin Has Anyone Seen William")

Here is the response -

Pete Davis makes a plea (in BT169) for information that might identify his missing ancestor William Rudkin. Now there's an irresistible challenge for a rainy day! But soon I also realised just how many Rudkins there were in Loughborough, as well as those in nearby towns and villages. So it looked like a decade of work and I gave up. My only find was William Rudkin who married Mary Partridge in L'boro in 1820 (9 July). They seem to have had a son Joseph in 1821, too old for your Joseph unless he lied or was mistaken about his age at censuses (which happens a lot). And I think that Joseph may have married a Jane and moved to Derbyshire anyway. I suppose it is possible that the 1817 William really was Joseph's too-young father, a fact then disguised at his birth registration by grandfather, Thomas. Mistakes about parentage sometimes appear on marriage certificates, but the one identifying William as Joseph's father would seem to be correct. Pete has no doubt discovered in his first year that some content of many family trees on ancestry is pure fiction, and fiction that is sadly passed from tree to tree. So everything must be checked.

Geoff also responded to Pete Lowden's Chairman Remarks -

#### Origins of WWI

I must thank Chairman Pete Lowden for his

interesting, informative and very appropriate "Remarks" in issue 170, reminding us of the continuum in history. After a bit of family research relating to The Great War, I wanted to know how it came about. Mr Lowden's wide reading solved that for him, but I could not find a clear, single text that put all the events into context. Then in 2014, on the centenary of the war, Derek Robinson published his superb little book "Why 1914?", which clearly explains the complex historical background. Mr Robinson is a historian and writer, best known for his excellent novels about the RAF and RFC, mostly set during the world wars. He prefers to self-publish nowadays, and I bought my copy of "Why 1914?" directly from him through his website. It may still be available.

Clare Pilkington requested some help from the eyfhs members.

I wonder if you could publicise a query from me in the next Banyan Tree,

My ancestor Mary Arton was one of 13 siblings born to Robert and Sarah Arton who lived in Burnby but used the church at Hayton for baptising their children. Several of Mary's brothers and sisters migrated to Terrington St Clement in Norfolk and I am puzzled as to why.

William Arton b1745, married Ann Longbottom at Bossall 1770, youngest daughter Rachel baptised Terrington 1790. Josiah/Josias Arton b1749 married Sarah Watson at Terrington St Clement 1785, had 9 children baptised there then 1 more baptised at Tydd St Mary, Lincs in 1807. Tydd was just over the border from Norfolk so not a long distance move. Josias was buried at Tydd in 1813 aged 63.

Richard Arton b1753, married Mary Brown at Lynn St Peter 1782, baptised his eldest child in 1785 at Terrington St Clement, had 3 children baptised at Tilney (the nextdoor

parish) then moved back to Terrington St Clement by 1792 where he buried 2 children in 1792 and 1794.

Jane Arton b1755, married John Blade at Terrington St Clement in 1779 and had 8 children all baptised there.

Rachel Arton b1757, married Peter Dorsey in 1782 at Terrington St Clement. They had 4 children before Peter died in 1792. Rachel herself was buried in Terrington St Clement in 1835 aged 80.

My ancestor Mary Arton b1751, married Thomas Layton and moved to Pocklington where his father farmed. They had 9 children before Mary died in childbirth in 1791 aged 38.

My original thought was that Mary's father Robert had family connections in Terrington St Clement but I think this is wrong. Robert was the son of Robert and Elizabeth Arton baptised at Catton together with 4 siblings. Robert senior later moved to Wilberfoss and then to Burnby where he died in 1736/7. Robert junior was his eldest surviving son so would have inherited the family landholding though his eldest son Robert(3) farmed at Ellerker Sands.

Can anyone suggest the reason for the migration?

Thanks,

Clare Pilkington (Mem No 2088)

Eileen King sent an email to me - a note for Pete Lowden

....."in response to his article in the last Banyan Tree, about the music scene in Hull many years ago. I didn't think it would be considered for inclusion in the Banyan Tree because it is mainly about the music but I have no objection if you want to put it in. I would be grateful if you would pass on my attached message,

I have been a member of the society for quite a few years and have never responded to an article, but felt I had to write to you about your Hull music memories. I think I must have been following closely in your footsteps as I remember all of the names of groups you mention and can even identify the 'coffee club in Little Queen Street' as it was one of my haunts every Thursday to Sunday nights around the mid to late 60s. It was the Gondola and one of the regular groups was Geno Washington and the Ram Jam Band, and I also saw a local group there, Simon's Meads. I must have found their single 'Sins of the Family' somewhere but it's now one of the few songs I have been unable to get Shazan to recognise on my phone!

That club used to have an array of 'scooter boys', mods, around the door every night I was there, and it was many years later that I met one of the original Mods from London and moved down South. I have lived here half of my life now but love to reminisce with friends and family still in the Hull area. I so rarely hear the names of groups you mention and realise now just how many big names at the time came to Hull venues. I used to live on Greatfield Estate and was very proud that Mick Ronson also lived in the area. I went to Malet Lambert School and it was the time when you were a Stones or Beatles fan, this being reflected in the names on your satchel! There were so many great musicians who came out of the 60s and we somehow knew who would survive.

My choice of music now is quite eclectic, an example being my recent enjoyment of some of the 6 Music Festival. When that station plays a great oldie, I wonder how many of the listeners were there at the record shop, buying it on release - very few I imagine. I remember being in the Sydney Scarborough shop one day and hearing a song which was the start of a brilliant career for the group - Sultans of Swing by Dire Straits.

Your memory of the Jimi Hendrix gig at the Skyline reminds me that a friend who saw the concert was in awe as she related how she had taken the lift with him! The more obscure groups you mention were all known to my friends and I, and as I write this I am humming to myself one of the two hits Arrival had, I Will Survive. One of those more obscure ones you don't mention is the Groundhogs (only song was Garden, I believe) but I saw lots of those groups on The Old Grey Whistle Test so perhaps that was a later time. I loved Family (I also saw them at City Hall), and recently heard it was the birthday of Roger Chapman so it's good that he is still around. Like you, favourites included the Small Faces, Kinks and Free - anything Paul Rodgers did, actually!

I went to Hull University but don't remember seeing any groups there. Perhaps as I was married by then I just studied and went straight home! I don't recall the Brickhouse, but know all the other venues you mention. I love music rounds at quizzes and suspect you would be able to answer quite a few questions as well.

Good luck with your family history and keep those great memories coming!

Regards

Eileen King

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**An account of the WW1 Royal Engineers  
Commemorated  
on the East Riding Royal Engineers plaque to be found  
on the east facing wall of  
Holy Trinity Church,  
Hull Minster.**

When the First World War began in 1914 the British Army required certain items in order to maintain standards and moral.

Here are just a few requests that were issued to the British Public.

Extras.

“Wanted a Football”; 2nd Nov 1915 HDM: A group were asking HDM readers to supply a football. Engineers work mainly during the night and a game of football during the day would warm them up. Letter sent 30th Oct 1915 HDM 19th Feb 1916:

Army Cobblers Wanted:

Skilled shoemakers for service with the Royal Engineers or the ‘Shoemakers’ battalion overseas, are wanted: No men physically fit for combat units can be enlisted but the usual height and chest measurements will be waived. Men between forty-one and forty-seven can be accepted. Particulars may be obtained from the Army Clothing Department (Boot Section), Great Central Railway Goods Offices, Aylestone, London NW.

HDM 11th May 1916:

Single Men 41-56: Inland Transport Service. A chance now presents itself for single men between the ages of 41-56 and for married men up to 56, to join the Inland Water Transport section of the Royal Engineers. Preference will be given to those who are blacksmiths, bricklayers, carpenters, crane drivers, electricians, fitters, motor engineers, motor-boat drivers, plumbers, masons, sawyers and telephone repairers:

Lieutenant Medd, who is at the City Hall this week will give the necessary information to eligible men and application should be made immediately. Men will follow their own trades as far as possible and others will be engaged on transport work. They will have the opportunity of serving abroad.

There were a number of engineers at Paull for the annual camp sports: 24th Aug 1916.

Stonemasons of the Cemetery

Pete Lowden

Pete Lowden introduced us to the Hodsmans family in issue No 170 of the Banyan Tree. The family were part of the story of the Hull General Cemetery, They worked as stonemasons for the Cemetery.. This part of the story deals with Peter Hodsmans's son William and the ups and downs of his life.

William Hodsmans was born in 1853 in Longton, Staffordshire. We will never know why his family were there but we can have some shrewd guesses. Peter, his father, was a journeyman stonemason. As a journeyman he would have gone to where the work was no matter the distance. And at this time the Potteries was a booming place for such men as Peter.

Longton is now a part of Stoke-on-Trent. When William was born it was one of the Five Towns made famous by Arnold Bennet's works. On the Potteries website it is noted that Arnold Bennet compared Longton itself to Hell. That may well have been true but it was a place where Peter's skills would have been in demand. Skills such as brick-making and stone dressing.

William was born in Longton and baptised on the 21st August 1853.

His childhood may have been spent amongst the brick kilns of the Potteries. We have no way of knowing. What we do know is that by the time of the 1861 census the family were back in Hull. The next we know of William after the 1861 census is his introduction to the life of the Hull General Cemetery.

William Hodsmans learnt his trade in the Cemetery. We know that his entire working life was spent with the Company. On the 6th August 1868, shortly before his 15th birthday, William was taken on as an apprentice stonemason upon the request of his father Peter.

Peter, as we know, was the master foreman of the stonemasons in the cemetery. The Board were dependent upon his skills and valued his opinion. In this case his advice was tinged with nepotism but it was still good advice.

By the time of the 1871 census William is still living with his parents in Albion Terrace, Walmsley Street. He is cited as a stonemason.

We now encounter a mystery. Those of you who have dabbled in genealogical waters know what I mean. An aberration that cannot be easily explained. We know that William was employed by the Cemetery Company and had been since 1868. It is extremely unlikely that he would have given up this job.

So, him announcing his wedding banns in Great Yarmouth in 1875 is surprising. Of course, it's not impossible that he travelled to Norfolk and the rail network then was much better than now. Still, it is interesting and puzzling.

One wonders how William met his future wife, Emma Maria Cole. She was the daughter of John Pilo Cole. John Cole was self-employed as a house painter.

Indeed, he employed others, nine men and one apprentice. He would have been one of the lower middle classes of the time. By the time of the 1871 census his circumstances appear to have changed. He was still an employer. The workforce was smaller, now only three men.

His trade appeared to have changed too. The enumerator put down on the census form that he was now a plumber and glazier. All of these trades would have been essential during the house building boom of the mid-Victorian period. John Cole was probably riding the crest of this wave and was capable of turning his hand to whatever was needed.

That he was also reasonably well off can be deduced by his neighbours in 1871. These comprised of such sorts as school teachers, publicans, master coopers and foremen. John died in December 1880.

However, we still have no idea how Emma, a Norfolk girl, met with William Hodsman, a lad from Sculcoates. Allow me to romanticize a little. In the 1871 census of the Cole family the premises right next door to their dwelling is called 'Stones Yard'. Now this could be a name derived from someone's name in the past or it could be a descriptive term for a stone yard.

What about the idea that William, sent by his father as part of his apprenticeship to another stone yard on some errand, met and fell in love with the 'girl next door'.

I know, I am 'romancing the stone' a little but we are left with no information as to how this couple met.

Suffice to say that it was a love match. They did not separate until death intervened.

In 1875 the wedding banns were proclaimed. Harriet, Emma's sister, served notice of them in November 1875

I'd like you to note that William had originally said that his father was a stonemason. It was later changed to 'manager'. It's also interesting to note that William himself has had 'stonemason' crossed out and 'monumental carver' place instead. We will see further evidence that William saw

himself as more than a stonemason.

The banns were completed by the end of the year and Emma and William were married in 1876.

We do know the young couple made their home in Hull.

The couple lived at 6, Norwood Street for as long as they both lived. It was demolished in the late 1970s. The house would have been conveniently situated for them. William was close to his workplace, the Hull General Cemetery, and also close to his father and mother who lived further down Spring Bank in Stanley Street.

That they lived at this address from such an early date is confirmed by a sad piece of news. The small newspaper of October 1876, imparts a tragedy.

### **BIRTHS**

***HODSMAN - Octber 18, at 6 Norwood street, Spring Bank, Hull. Emma the wife of William Hodsman lost twin daughters, prematurely, stillborn.***

And once again we encounter a mystery. The date given of the tragedy is October 18th yet the newspaper item is dated the 27th of that month. A period of grieving perhaps?

Yet, as we know, the family would have wanted this news to be shared with well-wishers and friends.

So why the delay? On top of that is the fact that the stillborn children are not buried in Hull. Their burial did not take place in either Hull General Cemetery, Western Cemetery or Hedon Road Cemetery. Yes, they may have been buried in Sculcoates Cemetery but that is extremely unlikely to say the least.

Did Emma go home to her parents for the



latter stage of her pregnancy? It's a possibility. If so, could the children have been born, died and buried in Great Yarmouth? That is a possibility too but as the Great Yarmouth cemetery records are not accessible, we cannot check this. No, this is a mystery we will never solve at the moment.

We have followed up on William's personal life without taking into account his professional one. Let's backtrack a little. In December 1872 the Cemetery Company Board increased his father's wage and at the same time also increased William's from 30/- to 35/-.

This was a significant amount for a young man to be earning. Remember he had only joined the Company in the August of 1868, just over three years earlier.

Using the 'measuring worth' website it's reasonable to suggest that at its lowest comparative value to today it would be in the region of £136 per week. More likely it would be around £800 per week. As I said a significant sum. Around about £38,000 per annum today. More than enough to start a family, as William did later on.

On another tangent it must be mentioned that Peter had two sons that survived. The second one, John, was born in 1863. In the August of 1877 Peter applied once again to the Board for this son to become an apprentice and this application was also accepted by the Board.

As we found out Peter died in 1879. We don't know if William took his place immediately at the Cemetery but it is likely. William would now be time-served and skilled at the work.

William's personal life during this period was traumatic.

Another son, Herbert, was born in the

June 1881, the month William was asking for the contribution to his father's headstone from the Company. Herbert lived just over 4 months and died in the October 1881. The cause of death was listed as mesenteric disease which is a cardio-vascular disease. It is caused by the arteries hardening in the abdomen with a consequent restriction of blood flow. The disease causes severe stomach pains and may come on slowly or rapidly. Even today it can only be diagnosed via ultra-sound. What chance of diagnosing it in 1881?

Herbert was buried in the grave next to his grandfather Peter in Western Cemetery. This grave contained Louisa, his aunt, who had committed suicide in 1873, by poisoning herself.

Please note that in the burial record William was cited as the foreman of the monumental works.

Tragedy struck again in 1886 when the daughter of William and Emma died. Beatrice May had been born in 1880. She died in January 1886 of diphtheria.

She was the first occupant in what was to become the family grave in Hull General Cemetery.

By 1881 the family of William and Emma consisted of themselves, Lillian Emma, born late in 1877, William Harold, born in 1879, Albert Ernest, born in 1882 and his brother Frederick Peter Hodsman born the year that Beatrice had died. In the 1881 census return for the Hodsman family, William is listed as the manager of the monumental works.

Towards the end of the decade William Hodsman is mentioned in prose.

Some of you may be familiar with John Symons. An eminent Hull antiquarian and also a civic leader. He penned many

interesting books throughout the latter part of the 19th century. One of these was Kingstonia, a collection of essays, some of which had been published earlier in the Eastern Morning News. One of these essays was entitled ‘ A Visit to the Spring Bank Cemetery’.

As the book was published in 1889, this guided tour would have taken place earlier, probably 1888.

This would have been the same year that finances began to bite the Company even harder and wage cuts were introduced, even to skilled men like William. His wage was reduced from 60/- a week to 52/-.

A considerable reduction, especially as at the next year’s AGM in February 1889 the shareholders voted themselves a dividend on their shares of 16/- in the pound PLUS a 2/6d bonus.

By the August of 1889 further reductions in wages were introduced. William’s wage was reduced from 52/- to 45/- in summer and 40/- in the winter!

This was problematic for William as by the 1891 census his family had grown.

He now had four sons and one daughter. Times were challenging. And tragedy was never far away too. John Cole died that spring.

William was not the only one affected by these changing times.

At the AGM in February 1892, after voting themselves another 14/- dividend, the directors informed their fellow shareholders that,

*‘The directors would remark that they continue to bear in mind the necessity for*

*every possible economy in the working of the company and they have lost no opportunity of urging this on the company’s employees. They are therefore glad to report that by the appointment of Mr. Kelly at a salary of £120 per annum a substantial saving to the company will be effected.’*

Michael Kelly had become the new cemetery superintendent plus also the Company secretary. I’m pretty sure that one of his first jobs assigned to him was to look for places where expenditure could be trimmed. By the April he had found something.

One of the features of the Company’s stone working had been to have an amount of stone on stock that could be worked from scratch. Kelly put forward the idea that this way of working could be dispensed with.

Instead of working the stone to different designs he suggested buying in designs and simply lettering them. Needless to say, the directors thought this was a great plan. They directed him to enquire of stone masons in the area if they could supply these ‘off the peg’ stones.

With this decision the Company turned its back upon its stone working business. The very business that the Company had insisted keeping when in serious discussion over the sale of the Cemetery to the Corporation in the 1850s. It’s adherence to a ‘strong’ line on this point meant that those negotiations collapsed.

And now it threw it away in its desire to keep paying over the odds to its shareholders. Whilst desperately seeking cutbacks in expenditure from any and every source other than that. I’ve said this before in talks about the Cemetery but the Board were dreadful managers of this business. It is a wonder that it survived as long as it did.

Whilst researching the Cemetery I came across a number of headstone design images, numbered as if from a catalogue. Michael Kelly had used the backs of them to make notes, these images had survived strangely enough when more important material was lost.

When you see the design images you can understand that you are looking at evidence of what probably destroyed the Hull General Cemetery memorial business.

Meanwhile, William Hodsman was not a fool. He would have been foolish not to recognize which way the wind was blowing and how it could affect him. We have no evidence that he took any steps to secure his own position except for one, which we'll come to later.

In case you are wondering it was not only the stone work side of the Cemetery business that was being curtailed.

In February 1895 George Ingleby, the gardener and the foreman of the gravediggers gave in his notice. What Ingleby did not know when he resigned was that at the previous Board meeting it was decided to dispense with his services.

At the same meeting it was decided to reduce Hodsman's wages once again. This time the reduction proposed would be from 45/- a week in the summer and 40/- in the winter to 40/- all year round. In the space of six years William was expected to take a drop in wages of 33% whilst he would have known that the shareholders were effectively taking money straight out of the till.

William countered the offer from the Board.

*He... had asked that the directors might kindly consider whether they could not give him 2 guineas a week for say a year and see*

*again at the end of that time'*

They agreed.

At the AGM later that month the wages of all the staff of the Cemetery was just under £622. The amount paid out in dividends was £550.

Later that year the greenhouse was to be sold to the Corporation who offered £20 for it. Due to the bad feeling between the two parties this deal fell though. Finally, the greenhouse was sold at auction for just over £16. Yet another loss for the company.

In the April of 1897 the Company decided to dispense with William Hodsman. William was ready for this and he asked for a reference from the Company.

We, of course, do not know whether he managed to get one. It's unlikely the Firm would have refused. However, if he did not get one, I'm certain that his good name had gone before him.

By the time of the 1901 census, we see William apparently in good heart. He was sited as a 'retired manager of granite, marble and stone monumental works'.

A young age to retire in those times but the 1911 census shows the same inscription. Maybe, when times were good William was careful with his money. Maybe, he saw the writing on the wall in the 1890s and kept on being careful. I also suspect that he worked occasionally as a freelance worker. His work was well known in the town and there were many more masons than today.

**The story will continue later**

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

*Janet Shaw: Membership Secretary*

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

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

Please make use of the many services the

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.

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

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

*membsec@eyfhs.org.uk*

Number	Name	Address
7213	Andie Beale	Verwood, Dorset
7214	Gerald & Tina Priestman	North Dalton, EY
7215	Peter Grant	Norwich, Norfolk
7216	Shirley Cordey	Morley St Peter, Wymondham, Norfolk
7217	Margaret & James Edmond	Ashwater, Devon
7218	Keith Riley	New Lambton, NS Wales, Australia
7219	John & Maureen Sanderson	Beverley, EY
7220	Jane Eisenberger	Albuquerque New Mexico, USA
7221	David & Olivia Farnes	Brighton, Ontario, Canada
7222	George Green	Sidmouth, Devon
7223	Michael Gibson	Church Gresley, Swadlincote, Derbyshire
7224	Fiona Day	Leytonstone, London
7225	Josephine & Fredrick Easter	Swanland, Northferriby, EY

## 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

Surname	Forename	Age	Type	Date	Year	Registration District
Brown	Lydia	76	D	19 May	1871	Scarborough, NRY
Brown	Lydia	Full	M	19 Dec	1842	Scarborough, NRY
Cole	Mercia C		B	10 Dec	1928	Totnes, Devon
Davis	Wolf		M	08 Dec	1852	Great Syna, St James, London
Dickinson	Irene	27	M	29 Apr	1936	Sherburn, in Elmet, WRY
Dickinson	Irene		B	05 Apr	1908	Tadcaster, WRY
Durrent	Jane	19	M	05 Jan	1879	Gt Yarmouth, NFK
Fell	Robert J W	58	D	16 Mar	1932	Scarborough, NRY
Fell	Howard H		B	18 Jun	1907	Tadcaster, WRY
Fell	John Peter		B	23 Jul	1940	Tadcaster, WRY
Fell	Marjorie		B	04 Sep	1938	Tadcaster, WRY
Fell	Howard H	28	M	29 Apr	1936	Sherburn, in Elmet, WRY

Can you submit any articles to The Banyan Tree?  
Editor's postal and email addresses are on page 2

Surname	Forename	Age	Type	Date	Year	Registration District
Fell	Irene	63	D	21 Jun	1972	Scarboriugh,NRY
Fell	Howard H	84	D	10 Aug	1991	Scarborough, NRY
Fell	Flora N	79	D	19 Aug	1989	Scarborough, NRY
Fell	Howard H	72	M	08 Dec	1979	Scarborough, NRY
Fell	Robert JW	28	M	06 Mar	1902	Scarborough, NRY
Flinton	John	22	M	17 Feb	1839	Scarborough, NRY
Flinton	Charles		Bpt	26 Sep	1886	Scarborough, NRY
Flinton	Charles		B	08 Nov	1856	Scarborough, NRY
Flinton	Charles	22	M	05 Jan	1879	Great Yarmouth, NFK
Flinton	Mary	83	D	20 May	1859	Scarborough, NRY
Flinton	John	93	D	30 Mar	1869	Scarborough,NRY
Grayson	Sarah	23	M	17 Feb	1839	Scarborough, NRY
Hopwood	Norah	28	M	01 Nov	1919	Scarborough, NRY
Hopwood	Norah		B	18 Jan	1891	Scarborough, NRY
Hurst	Emma	24	M	12 Aug	1873	Scarborough, NRY
Hurst	James	Full	M	19 Dec	1842	Scarborough, NRY
Magnus	Rachel	M	M	08 Dec	1852	Grt Syna St James, London
Mason	Flora N	69	M	08 Dec	1979	Scarborough, NRY
Moore	Selina G	2wk	D	24 Jul	1860	Scarborough, NRY

Surname	Forename	Age	Type	Date	Year	Registration District
Mosey	Harold F	29	M	01 Nov	1919	Scarborough, NRY
Mosey	Ann	77	D	09 Sep	1846	Scarborough, NRY
Mosey	Harold F		B	15 Nov	1889	Ship Mercha, Scarborough
Mosey	Harold F	62	D	04 Jun	1952	Totnes, DEV
Mosey	Norah	91	D	05 Jul	1982	Stratford on Avon WKS
Mosey	Thomas	24	M	12 Aug	1873	Scarborough, NRY
Mosey	Jane	30	M	28 Apr	1859	Scarborough, NRY
Rispin	Mary E	27	M	06 Mar	1902	Scarborough, NRY
Stephenson	John	25	M	28 Apr	1859	Scarborough, NRY
Varey	Robert	79?	D	22 Oct	1844	Scarborough, NRY
Varey	John F	7mth	D	09 May	1866	Scarborough, NRY
Varey	Robert	1	D	27 Nov	1860	Scarborough, NRY

Obituary
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Jean Powell, On June 6th 2022 Pam and I attended the funeral at Scarborough Crematorium of Jean Powell, both as friends and representing the Society. Jean and her second husband, Ernest George “Sandy” Powell were active members of the Scarborough Branch of the EYFHS.

Jean was a long-standing member of the Scarborough Branch Committee and Sandy was the organiser of the Scarborough Branch MI recording team. Jean was a talented artist and provided the drawings for several of the covers of our MI booklets e.g. Rudston and Scalby. Our small recording team spent many happy summer evenings over several years recording churchyards in the Scarborough area and we usually found a congenial pub afterwards.

Jean had five children to her first husband, a British Army professional and a significant feature of her life was that she had spent time in over thirty countries. Because of Jean’s large family spread all over the world the funeral was covered on Zoom. However, her son from South Africa was there and we also met a granddaughter and a great grand-

daughter.

One of our significant memories was an incident which occurred as we were travelling back home to Scarborough one December in Sandy's car from the Society's Beverley Meeting Christmas Social. In icy conditions, on the top of the Wolds, Scarborough side of Octon Crossroads we were hit from behind by a speeding driver. Our car was sent flying off the road through a thorn hedge, narrowly missing a tree, into the field beyond. Sandy's driving skills kept us upright until we came to rest. The other vehicle careered off the other side of the road and hit an electricity pylon, knocking out the power to the surrounding area, including the village of Thwing. Sandy, Pam and I suffered whip-lash but unfortunately Jean had more serious injuries and was out of action for several months.

Jean and Sandy came to live in Scarborough because he was employed by GCHQ at Irton Moor. From time to time during their marriage Sandy would disappear on what Jean called his "suitcase jobs", when even she was not allowed to know where he was. His tittle was Becks bottled beer and if not available freshly mixed pink gin, I can't remember whether he had a preference for shaken or stirred.

While Jean was strong willed, Sandy was mild mannered. Sadly Sandy died suddenly after a heart attack when he was shovelling snow from their driveway the year following our car accident on the Wolds. Jean subsequently moved into a bungalow in Scarborough until she passed away at the age of 88.

Sandy's ashes are in a grave close to Pam's mum's and we assume Jean may also rest there. We will continue to be reminded of them both.

*Richard Walgate*

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The William Hodsmen Story (continues)  
(His children take the story forward)

Of note in the 1901 census return is the occupation of his daughter Lillian Emma.

She was now a school board teacher. Some 50 years earlier her grandfather had attended a public meeting to vote on the rapid introduction of secular education into Hull. One gets the feeling that he would have been proud of her choice of occupation. The other members of the family are all in secure, white-collar jobs. Not for them the wet mornings in the Cemetery trying to erect a headstone that constantly slipped from the wet harness around it or the horse moved at the wrong time.

In 1902 there was more joy. Lillian married. The boy she married strangely had the grave just behind her grandfather's. Did they meet whilst tending their respective family members' graves? I'll leave that to your imagination but that plot could surely have come out of a Charles Dickens' novel.



novel.

***'Matson - Hodzman - august 2nd 1902, at St John's Newington, by the Rev J Ward, Fredrick John, only son of John Matson, of 56 Edinburgh Street, to Lilian Emma, onl daughter of Willam 6 Norwood Street Hull'***

By 1911 these two were living comfortably at 136, De La Pole Avenue. He was now a solicitor's clerk and sadly, she had had to leave the teaching profession upon marriage. There were no children.

In 1903 William's eldest son, William Harold, married a lady called Hannah Mary Cook. William Harold had been born in 1879 and was baptized at St. Jude's, the church on Spring bank at the top of Norwood Street.

The census entry caused some confusion..... Not only for me but for the recorder. The occupation and the address are transposed and placed in the wrong columns to all the rest on the page! It's telling isn't it that William called himself a sculptor rather than a stonemason.

The wedding took place at St John's in Newland

### ***Marriages***

***Hodzman - Cook - On the 2nd inst, at St John's Church, Newland by the Rev Edward O, Cree, William Harold, eldest son of Willam Hodzman of Norwood Street, to Miss Hannah Mary (Annie), eldest daughter of Thomas Cook, of Sharp Street, Hull.***

By 1911 William Harold had moved to Scunthorpe and was a Milk Dealer. Self-employed he now had four children. Once again William probably could be proud that another of his children was not freezing in the Cemetery trying to make a living.

The 1911 census shows us that William and Emma Maria were living at 6, Norwood Street and that the other occupant was their youngest son, Frederick Peter.

He was a checker at a shipping company. William still basked in the glory of retirement and his last employer listed was the Cemetery Company. Two years later this happy situation was to change dramatically.

In 1913 William and Emma lost this child.

He died from congestion of the lungs. He was 28 years old. His grieving parents placed a notice in the newspaper. One wonders what emotion and hurt this simple notice hid.

***Mr and Mrs William Hodzman, 6 Norward Street, desire to thank their many friends, also the employees of Messrs Goldstuck, Haines and Co, for their kindnes and sympathy shown to them on the death of their son. Mr T Allman, 2 Norwood Street, for the efficient and satisfactory manner in which he carried out the funeral arrangements.***

In 1928 Emma Maria passed away. The cause of death was a mixture of thrombosis of the left femoral artery and gangrene of her left foot. She was buried in the family plot in Hull General Cemetery.

Two years later William himself died. The cause of death was syncope, or an episode of fainting due to a loss of blood pressure. One has to wonder whether he felt that life was not worth considering after Emma had died.

*Hodsman - Sept 23rd, suddenly, at 6 Norwood Street, William was in his 78th year. The cortege leaves for the General cemetery.*

John, his younger brother, who was also taken as an apprentice stonemason by the Company, died in 1945. He had worked at the cemetery but this relationship, like his brother's, had ended in the 1890s. After leaving the Cemetery he had become a gas fitter and he does not play any part in the story of the Cemetery.

Now, one would expect a monumental stone mason to have a monument on his family's grave. And yes, there was one once. And yes, you know where I'm going with this don't you? Strangely you'd be wrong.

My research has shown that it survived the disaster that was the 1977 / 78 clearance by Hull City Council. What it didn't survive was the neglect of recent years.

There is a copy of the memorial recording teams entry of the 70s and the stone was sound and in good order.

So, the monument to a monumental mason, who probably carved some of the beautiful pieces of art in the cemetery, has almost gone. Lost beneath what, in my uncharitable moments, I would designate a weed. A sycamore. The curse of all Victorian cemeteries.

It's too late for the Hodsman monument but surely this is food for thought.

We neglect these things for a short time and when we turn around to find them again, they're gone. Just like William's monument A lesson there for us all. Hodsman's monument won't come back. It's gone forever. A valuable heritage asset of the history of Hull destroyed. The sycamore, on the other hand, no doubt has spread its progeny far and wide. So, it is not irreplaceable like the monument. In fact, it is very common and quite replaceable. And yet....

The other monuments in the cemetery must be better protected. And that protection has to start now. And with you and me and all of us.

See the photograph on the cover of this edition of *The Banyan Tree*.

Time and the passing years and the natural inclination of nature to reclaim its status in the world has taken their toll on this memorial plot!!

## What's On?

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. Please note that the doors open for personal research at 7pm. Speakers commence at 7.30pm.

2022

20th Sept - Paul Schofield.  
6 Hull Female Personalities  
18th Oct - Pete Lowden  
The Training Ship 'Southampton'  
15th Nov - Francis Davies  
The History of Anlaby

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 2.00 pm. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available for a donation. If you wish to wear a mask, please feel free to do so, ditto hand sanitising.

Please check the venues for further details.

Although the Corvid restrictions have significantly eased we all have to be vigilant and careful.

August 2022.

We have had to endure a lot of anxiety and anguish over the past few years due to the world wide pandemic.

Many of us we are still being careful about what we do. So, even now at the time of preparing this issue in August please be careful!

Good bye for now!

# 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)