



The York and District Family History Society Newsletter

The York and District Family History Society
Registered Charity No. 1085228
Founded in 1975
Affiliated to the Family History Federation

President: Dame Judi Dench



Roots and Branches Around the World

June 2024
ISSN 1464-147

Welcome to the first edition of the new look newsletter, which is replacing the journal, and will be issued in March, June, September, and December – four editions a year rather than three!

We welcome feedback, and constructive criticism, on the newsletter.
Please email: yorkfamilyhistory@btopenworld.com

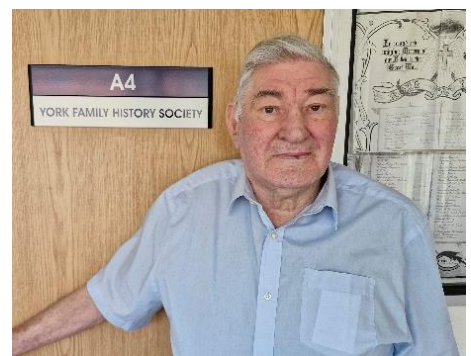
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Chairman's Comments

May I wish a warm welcome to you all and introduce myself.

I am Alan, born in a village near York pre-1940! My roots are mainly Yorkshire, East and West Riding, with a touch of Norfolk and Durham added to the mix. My working life included: working at a Printing Works, a Rope Maker, a Grocer, a wireless operator in the Royal



Alan Powell, Chairman

Force, in Credit Sales, at York Carriage Works and a Gardener. I have been a member of The York and District Family History Society for about 20 years and a committee member for 2 years. As well as family history, my other main interest is local history, chiefly the village of Acomb near York.

I do hope you enjoy the newsletter in its new format, which we are intending to publish on a quarterly basis, as outlined above.

Please remember that this is a 'members journal' and we welcome family history related articles and stories, so please send your contributions to the Editor at yorkfamilyhistory@bopenworld.com

I would like to record my thanks, on your behalf, to the following committee members who have stepped down, or stepped aside, from their positions; some of whom have given many years of service to the society. They are listed in alphabetical order.

Thank You to:

Mary Clarke (member 331). Mary joined in 1987 and was a member until her death in November 2023, aged 88. Mary acted as Microfiche Loan Coordinator, Society Library Coordinator, Vice Chair and undertook recording of Monumental Inscriptions at York Cemetery with her husband, Neal.

Mary was also a Volunteer Transcriber at the Borthwick Institute and Chair of Acomb Local History Group.

Neal Clarke (member 330). Neal joined in 1987, along with Mary, and was a member until his death in August 2023. He was very active in many society projects, including the recording of Monumental Inscriptions at York Cemetery – which took over 25 years to complete.

Neal was Publicity Officer, Treasurer, Vice Chair, Chairman and, latterly, Consultant on the Executive Committee. He was the principal spokesman in the planning and organising of the Research Room – previously known as the Study Centre. It was his long-held ambition for the Society to open a Research Room, which was achieved in 2002. Neal was also involved with Acomb Local History Group and NYMR.

Pam Elliott (member 717). Pam joined in 1992 and was co-opted onto the Executive Committee. She was Programme Secretary (1999-2004), Organiser of Society Open Days and Family History Fairs (local and national), the 40th Anniversary of the Society and the 21st Anniversary of the Research Room in 2023.

Pam helped record Monumental Inscriptions in various churchyards and was Project Coordinator for 11 years on York BMD (Births, Deaths, Marriages), indexing thousands of records from 1837-2010. She was also Research Room Manager (2000-2023) and Archivist. Pam is now a Life Member of the Society.

Carol Mennell (member 221). A hardworking member of the society who joined as a member in 1984 and has served on the committee for almost three decades since 1997. Her many roles include: Secretary (several times), Publicity Officer, Managing the Burial Index, Sales and Membership Secretary – on occasion holding more than one position simultaneously; so, thank you Carol.

John Neale (member 3231). Our thanks go to John, who stepped up at short notice, three years ago, when he took on the duties of Chairman of the Society. John is continuing on the committee as Vice Chairman and Secretary.

Catherine Richardson (member 2217). Catherine was a member of the Society even before her return to York in 2011. She took over as Treasurer in 2012 and has retired, gracefully, this year. Our long time Treasurer, we thank her for her contribution to the continuous solvency of the society.

Margaret Tadman (member 25). Margaret was a founder member of the society, part of the group that attended a course of Family History run by Barbara Whitehead. As well as being the Editor of our journal, Margaret also took part in recording monumental inscriptions in churchyards around York, and covered the role of Secretary on a number of occasions.

Margaret was in her 25th year as Editor when she stepped down after the last edition was published in February this year. Margaret continues as a Committee Member.

To Margaret, and all the others who have so diligently served our society for so many years, we say a big 'Thank You' and acknowledge their valued contributions.

I must also thank **Yvonne Clarke** (member 1134) and **Judy Clarkson** (member 1145) for their roles in covering the vacant position of Research Room Manager; and **John Neale** for being Acting Treasurer, assisted by **Catherine Richardson** and **Judy Clarkson**.

Welcome to:

Joining the committee are:

Tee Bylo (member 3422), **Holly Firth-Davies** (member 3410), and **David Rigby** (member 3425)

My good wishes to all society members and happy hunting!

Alan Powell (member 2503).

Committee

Chairman:	Alan Powell
Vice-Chairman:	John Neale
Acting Treasurer:	John Neale
Assistants to Acting Treasurer:	Catherine Richardson and Judy Clarkson
Secretary:	John Neale
Membership Secretary:	Tee Bylo
Programme Secretary & Publicity Officer:	Steve Barrett
Publications Officer:	Yvonne Clarke
Project Manager & IT:	David Rigby
Webmaster:	Jo Barnett
Newsletter Editor:	Holly Firth-Davies
Acting Research Room Managers:	Yvonne Clarke and Judy Clarkson
Federation Family History Rep:	Steve Barrett
Member:	Margaret Tadman

Vacant positions on the committee:

Treasurer
Research Room Manager

Please do let us know if you would like to take up either of these roles...



Spotlight on York and District Family History Society

This article will be published in the Family Tree Magazine in July

'Reflecting back on the last time York Family History Society were in the Spotlight feature, so much has changed', so says relative newcomer **Steve Barrett**, Publicity and Events Co-ordinator for the Society since 2022.

The Society is a registered Charity founded in 1975 with the laudable purpose of promoting genealogical research in and around the city and now has members from around the world, including from Australia, Canada and the USA.

The Society is still run by keen volunteers and new people have joined the Committee recently to get involved in moving the Society onwards as colleagues from the earlier group have retired or moved on.

There has been a real commitment by the team to reach out and try to engage with as many as possible of the local history and community groups meeting in and around York, in order to spread the word, with newly designed fliers detailing the purpose and benefits of genealogy and joining the Society.

'York has so many Historical Societies' says Steve, *'that something of interest is on offer every week of the year and working closely with some of the big players has helped us with our publicity.'*

Connections and frequent engagement with York University Borthwick Institute, Explore York Archives and the Castle Museum Heritage Hunters has led to the Society having a bigger profile around the city, and this led to a roadshow of Radio interviews through 2023 and into 2024 with BBC Radio York, Radio YO1, Jorvik FM and YorkMix, bringing the fun and fascination of family history research to the airwaves.



As time has gone on, and especially three years now after the Covid epidemic, the fact the Society has its own research room at the Raylor Centre on James Street, York – with a bank of computers and with many primary and secondary sources available on the shelves – meant that once people had crossed the threshold, they would return. Their greatest asset though, is their very experienced team of genealogists who are passionate about the science, and keen to help people break down those brick walls.

Recently Harrogate and District FHS sadly had to fold, and so members joined up with York Family History Society. It did mean a significant change and the York Society has extended its base area of operation now to the Archdiocese of York moving out from the former boundaries of the Archdeaconry. Their area of operation now is the whole of the north essentially, and members travel in from Harrogate, Skipton, Ripon and further afield.

'Genealogical research can be a done alone, but our Research Centre gives people the opportunity to meet up and establish new and interesting friendships with people from different localities', said Yvonne Clarke who, with Judy Clarkson, runs the Research Centre and cares for its archives.

Social media has enabled the Society to become a bigger presence and to reach the many people who have an interest in, but need maybe a little support, to direct them down the right path for their research.

The Society now invites the whole of its membership to its regular talks on Zoom as well as face to face, and members can access previous talks with transcriptions, if necessary, on its own Youtube Channel.

As well as fairly regular chats with local radio stations, the Society Publicity Officer, Steve Barrett, has revamped the Twitter or X page to engage with many more people with the numbers following it rising in a year from about 700 to nearly 900.

Yvonne, who runs the Society's Facebook page, has had a similar increase in followers. Their next launch was on Instagram with an effort to appeal to younger people and Steve gets lots of ideas from his teenage daughter, Lucy, who is also very interested in her ancestors' activities.

The Society is committed to encouraging schools and colleges to recognise the benefits of family history – utilising the regular publicity on TV from the website leaders Ancestry and FindmyPast, as well as the very popular TV shows that are frequently shown.

Fieldwork, however, still remains an essential part of the work, with recent finds including Memorials of an old established Regency Family, The Grays of Grays Court, being discovered propped up next to a Jobcentre in Monkgate where an old church had been demolished. Grave hunter and Committee member Tee Bylo and Steve Barrett discovered them in their hunt for lost graves.



Unearthing the past...

The chief purpose of the Society remains to develop interest and engagement in family history and workshop sessions in the future will include looking at DNA testing and researching the history of our ancestors' communities, which was begun last year after a talk by Joe Saunders of the British Association of Local History.

The offer to visit the Research Centre on James Street is an open one and appointments can be made to visit every weekday with walk in days Tuesday and Thursday.

www.yorkfamilyhistory.org.uk
Twitter/X: @Yorkfhs

Facebook: YorkFamilyHistory
Instagram: York Family History Society

Black took them into the Red...

My grandmother was a milliner, so the article in the February Journal (*Stories from The Street – York Castle Museum*) particularly drew my attention. Below is extracted from something my aunt wrote, some thirty years ago, about her mother – my grandmother.

'Whilst working as a milliner in Sheffield she would be sent to London for a day to see the fashions. There she had to take pencil and paper to sketch the latest fashions shown on hats. Before going to London, she was instructed to "talk to no one" and to go to Buzzards for lunch. Her task on returning to work was to teach the younger ones how to make hats in the latest fashion.



After she got married, my mother started a business alongside her draper husband. They started with Julia making hats and William selling materials and all things associated with a Victorian draper's shop. When Queen Victoria died, on 22 January 1901, almost everyone went into black: this meant that their new stock of colourful hats etc. was of little value and they nearly went bankrupt."

Although my grandmother lived in Sheffield, this must have applied to milliners all over the country. At the time this happened my grandparents had a two-year old child, my aunt.

Duncan Miller (member 3485)

Recollections of childhood a century ago...

In April, just after his 99th birthday, I interviewed **Reg Chambers** (member 2726); mainly about his childhood, but we also talked about some of his other life experiences.

Reg's words are in italics.

Reg is my 2nd cousin x 1 removed – his grandmother and my great grandmother were sisters.

Thomas Chambers, Reg's paternal grandfather, farmed Heygate Farm in Bramham in the late 1800s.

He and his wife, **Mary** (nee Stirk), had five children who were all born there.

They later moved to Low Mills Farm, Boston Spa, and this was Reg's first home. He lived there with his grandparents and his aunts **Evelyn**, **Hilda** and **Marjorie**. Thomas and Mary had previously had a son, **Harry**, but, sadly, he died as an infant.

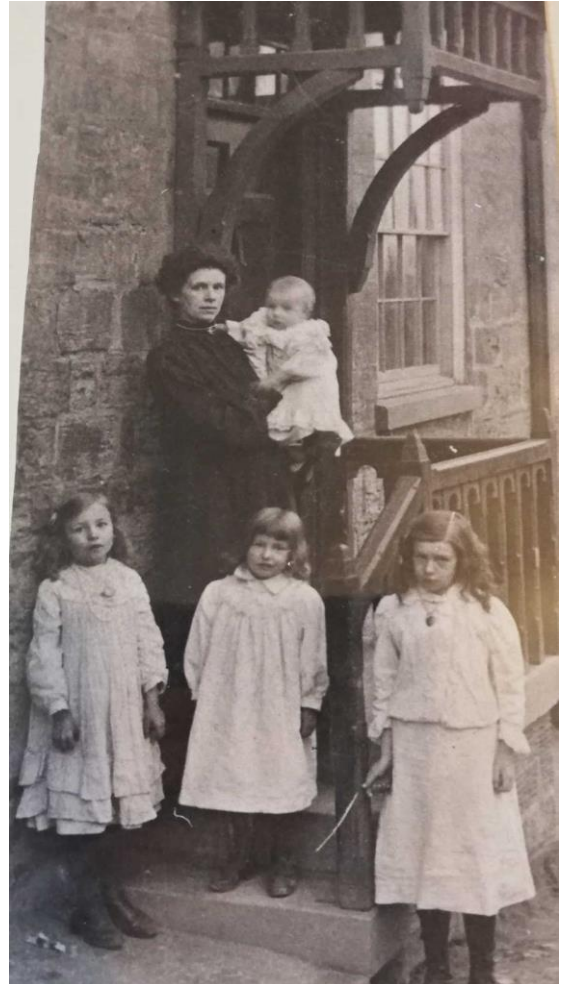
Reg's parents were not together, and his father, **Sefton**, no longer lived at home.

His grandfather was in hospital when he was born. His aunt Marj later told Reg:

"We didn't know what to do with you". Then he (Thomas) came home and said:

'Where's t'bairn? I lost me first son and I aren't going to lose me first grandson. We aren't losing him – he's a Chambers by blood.'

"That was it – my grandparents took me in. Me grandmother was me mam – I didn't know she was my grandmother until after she died when I was 12."



Mary, holding Reg, with her daughters Evelyn, Hilda and Marjorie.



"The earliest photograph I had taken I was sat on one of the farm horses – one of the Shires – I don't remember it, but I have the photograph.

"My first memory is my grandfather holding me back with his walking stick because I wanted to peddle away on this little bike – a little wooden bike..."

"My granddad was the Farm Manager on Low Mills Farm for Miss Wright, of Wright's

Reg on the Shire horse

Pork Butcher's in York. She lived in the big house, and we lived in the farm cottage, which is still there – the farm has gone but the cottage is still there."

"As well as farming, my grandad milled the corn for other farmers – that's why it was called Low Mills Farm. While he was doing that part of his job, he had a serious accident when a floorboard gave way and he fell carrying a 12 stone bag of corn. He injured his knee badly and that ended his work as a farmer."

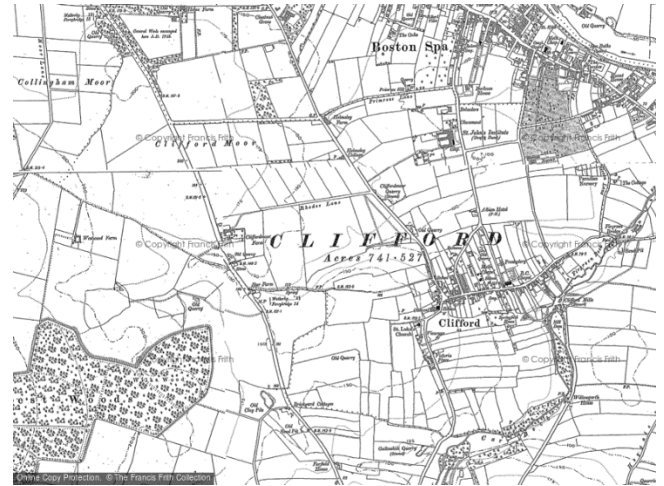
Thomas Chambers was 71 when he was forced to retire, and the family moved to a cottage in Clifford.

An idyllic childhood in Clifford

"Clifford went from just outside Bramham across Clifford Moor – there was nothing at Boston before they found the spa – like Harrogate.

"Surrounding Clifford was the Great North Road – now the A1 – it was a single track that went through Bramham it went on through Wetherby and up to Catterick then on to Edinburgh. There were no by-passes!

"Clifford was a very Christian village, full of Christian people as well. St Luke's Church, Church of England, was at the top end; I was an altar boy there. At the bottom of the village was St Edward's Catholic Church."



Reg is centre of the second row from the front

"There was a Wesleyan school, not many people went there, and the main school was St Edward's Convent, controlled by St Edward's Church.

"I started at the convent school when I was three – we called it baby school – Sister Mary Dominic was our teacher.

"John Hill lived next door to us, and his mother asked my grandmother if I would take him to school when he started. I was four and he was three, but it was only like going to the end of the road!"

Reg and John walked to school together and would be friends for the rest of their lives, even when John emigrated to Australia.

There was also a Deaf and Dumb School nearby (St John's Institute for Deaf and Dumb Catholic Children) and children went there from all over.

"Auntie Evelyn worked at Potterton Hall, about a mile away, and the Blackburn aircraft people lived there - she worked as a cook and she brought some lovely food home for us, pheasant, quail and grouse and she used to say, "Reggie, what's good enough for the toffs, is good enough for the Chambers". She had a cauldron on the side for us when she did the cooking!

"I will always remember Auntie Evelyn arriving on a lorry - one of the first lorries I had seen - and they unloaded a rocking horse from Peter Blackburn to give to me. When I left Clifford, I said take it to the Deaf and Dumb School for the children there.

“During the war Auntie Evelyn worked as a Charge Hand on shift at Barnbow Munitions factory in Leeds. One day, when she was on a day shift, there was an explosion during the night shift and about three quarters of them were killed – they were packing shells.”

** for those interested, this link gives more information of this incident: <https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofBritain/Barnbow-Lasses/>*



Reg's father, Sefton

“I knew my father as Uncle Sefton. He was a bus driver and used to come through the village - York to Leeds, the number 43. Sometimes, when he came through Clifford, I used to get in the cab with him and ride to the next stop at Boston Spa, about a mile away, and then walk or run back. Just to have a ride and that got me interested in buses.

“It was a gradual thing learning he was my father... (after his grandmother had died).

“Years later I got him sat down for a pint, and I said, “let's have a few facts about my early life”, but he only told me what he wanted to tell me – I never knew my mother.”

“There was a field called The Clink, it's where Dawson's Farm was, mushrooms grew there the size of dinner plates... my mouth's watering thinking of them!”

“I went pea podding with Auntie Evelyn – picking the whole pod and you'd get about a penny a bucket for them...”

There was a lot of gathering food from hedgerows during this time.

“Dawson's Farm had a man who was shell shocked, George Howe, and he lived in a shed on the farm. He did odd jobs and taught us how to tickle trout.”

“Uncle Jack never recovered from the First World War – he had a bullet through his shoulder and one through his arm. His shoulder wound was all puckered up and I used to put my finger in it.”

“Another time I jumped over this fence and landed on barbed wire – I still have a scar on me leg. Derek was visiting from York and I was with John and Joe Dawson, the farmers son.*

Joe ran to our house for me Auntie Marj and she saw Derek's red blazer and thought it was blood, so she started to rip her frock to bandage me up! She took me home and got Dr Lee, who came on his pony and trap and cleaned me up and put stuff on it – there were no antibiotics then.”

** Derek was Reg's half-brother.*

His world turned upside down...

“I was in the scout's tug of war team when I saw me Uncle Tom walking across the field towards me. He just said, ‘your mam's died...’, he should have said it easier, really...”

This was obviously a huge shock for Reg, who found his whole world was suddenly turned upside down. His grandfather had died when he was five, Thomas was considerably older than Mary and the little boy's mind had not seemed to work out their relationship, accepting Thomas as his grandfather and thinking Mary was his mother. As he said; *“To me he was an old man...”*

“I went to stay with Auntie Evelyn and Uncle Jack who looked after me until everything got sorted out. I never went to bed for three days – I sat at the side of their fire at their house in Albion Terrace, virtually sobbing. It was such a shock.”

Reg told me that, in those days, people just married people who lived nearby – it had been that way for years as they didn't move.

“Auntie Marg married Uncle George, Auntie Hilda married Uncle Tom and Auntie Evelyn married Uncle Jack, all from nearby - people didn’t move far in those days!”

There was obviously a close community in Clifford – as there will have been in villages throughout the country. This closeness was one of the reasons that having to suddenly move to York was such a trauma for him.

Reg had to go to live with his father and stepmother in Tang Hall. He hated moving to York and cycled back to see his friends when he could.

“Everything I knew I was leaving behind me... It broke my heart to be dragged away from Clifford. Part of my heart is still at Clifford.”

Reg lived with his father, stepmother and half-brother, Derrick, for five years – going into the air training corps at seventeen, before joining the Navy.

“My grandparents were both buried at St Luke’s Church in Clifford. Years later I went to the church with my wife, Audrey – it was open, and we were talking to a cleaner. I told her my connection. She said, “have you seen the ceiling?” It was a lovely blue ceiling with little gold stars. She said, “if you like, you can buy a star to add to the ceiling”. Audrey and I bought one each.”

“In my lifetime things have changed so much – in a hundred years – more than they had changed in a thousand years! Me grandad farmed with horses, his father did, and his father did too.”



The gravestone of Thomas and Mary Chambers In St Luke’s churchyard in Clifford

Reg Chambers (member 2726)

Interviewed by **Holly Firth-Davies** (member 3410)

From Open Fields to Council Estate

– the development of Chapelfields in Acomb

From an article published in Heritage Hunters in May 2024

Those of us who live in York all see the number 1 bus heading for a terminus at Chapelfields, we don’t even think about it, but where did the name come from? How long has it been built? Why is it the shape that it is?

Many of us from York Family History Society can trace our ancestry back to Acomb – a separate village in Ouseburn Rural District until 1937, and parts of Acomb are still unbuilt on. Chapelfields is rarely mentioned in the local history books of the area either as a field or as a housing estate so this article aims to put that right.

In the Middle Ages and early modern period, around 1600, ‘Chapel Field’, so named as it was close to an ancient chapel, was one of five open or ‘common’ fields shared between the villagers of Acomb. There was ‘Far Field’ from the Ouse to Boroughbridge Road; ‘Beck Field’, named because of the beck running through where Danebury Drive is now; ‘Low Field’, which was between Tadcaster Road and Front Street; and ‘Westfield’ - obviously located in the western part of the parish.

In what is usually referred to as the 'three field system', the farmers of these open fields agreed to grow certain crops in each field and when to leave a field fallow to replenish the nutrients in the soil. There were certain rules that had to be followed by everyone if the open field system was to work.

The archives in York have the Manor Court Rolls, which were like the minutes of the meeting of the great and the good of Acomb, often sitting in judgement on their tenants between 1516 to 1837.

From the Acomb Court Rolls we find:

'no inhabitants of Acome or Holgate to gather grain in the fields before everyone had taken their sheaves into their barns' fine for not doing – 4 pennies.

George Skadloke common pinder (animal gatherer) not to allow anyone to collect corn in the fields until all the sheaves were carried away. Fine for collecting corn without permission – 8 pennies.

The inhabitants of Acome and Holgate not to leave their dead pigs lying on the ground but to bury them within an hour - fine – 10 shillings.

Robert Johnson's wife not to scold with anyone 3/4d.

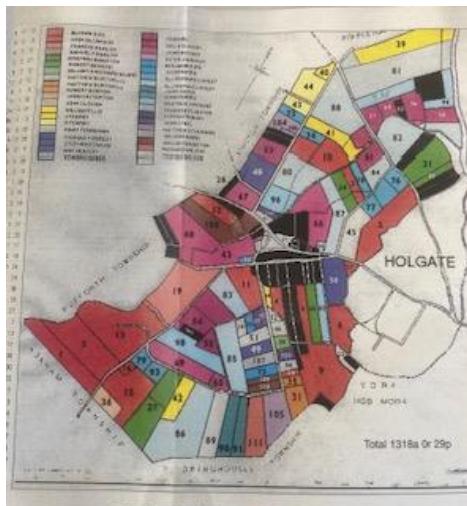
According to the Rolls, the strips of Chapelfields seem to have been occupied by **Richard Holgate, John Kirby, Peter Newarke** and **Robert Palezar**.

There were a number of maps drawn in the 18th century showing the enclosure or hedging of these vast open fields.

Enclosure was planned in 1774 but implemented in 1776.

Land was allotted to certain prosperous inhabitants and those that were not included in the redistribution were left landless and became labourers to the farmers.

The Lordship of Acomb after enclosure was **Giles Alcock**, who rented it from the Archbishop of York. Chapelfields was hedged and fenced and allotted to Messrs **Alcock, Wharton and Hotham**.



The enclosure of Acomb in 1778, with Chapelfields field numbers 12, 63, 68 and 108.



Ordnance survey showing Chapelfields in 1887.

In 1887 an Ordnance Survey map shows the Chapelfields bordering Acomb Green to the east, Acomb Grange to the west, Grange Lane to the south and Wetherby Road to the north.

Askham Lane and Grange Lane are ancient - Ridgeway was not an old road, it started on Wetherby Road and then dog legged to the right where Chapelfields Road is now. The present Ridgeway, connecting Wetherby Road with Askham Lane, was created by the 20th century planners who constructed a new road at the bottom of the slope.

Acomb had been in Great Ouseburn Rural District for centuries, but in 1937 was taken over by York City Council as the town expanded westwards. The planning of a vast housing estate on the Chapelfields land was dreamed up in the 1930's and clearly styled on the Tang Hall estate to the east. The estate was planned to house people from the Groves area after a slum clearance and was to form part of a 'clean sweep' of the city's older housing.

The houses on Chapelfields were to be powered with gas, have an indoor bathroom, a garden front and back and a kitchen. The first building work went on closer to the centre of Acomb in the Tudor Road, Gale Lane and Kingsway West triangle, which were built between 1937 and 1939.

Then it all stopped...

With the outbreak of war, only the drainage pipes for the Chapelfields estate had been laid. Not a brick to be seen. The period between the end of the war and when building resumed saw children using the ditches where the drains were to be laid as dens, often taking the iron casings off, and dropping into the holes in dangerous games of hide and seek.

It was not until nearly ten years later, in 1948, that planning (not building) began again on the Chapelfields estate. The design of the estate was the work of Mr Ernest Firth, the City Architect. He revised the layout of the estate to mirror the shapes of the fields and with a view on modern municipal housing design. Its road and avenues were curved with 'closes' rather than the rigid street patterns of Victorian buildings. The historical landscape was respected to some extent. Grange Lane was renamed Askham Lane. It was agreed that no public house should be built on the estate, reflecting the idea of New Earswick, so the nearest pub was in Acomb village.



The plan for Chapelfields Municipal Housing Estate.

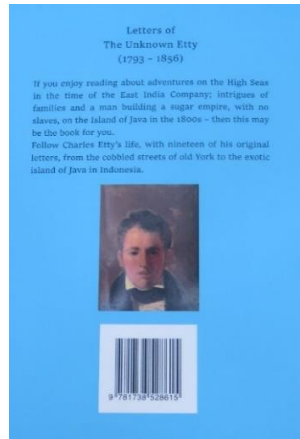
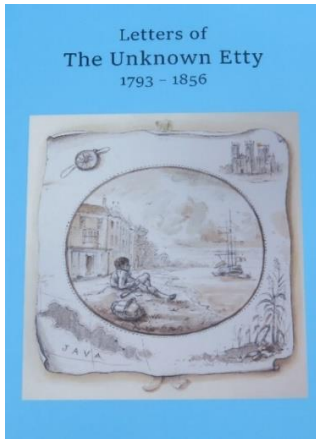
Steve Barrett (member 3007)

The Chapelfields council estate occupied 2/3rd of the old common field, ending at Bramham Road and some residents recall an old Dutch barn on the estate – a relic from its rural past.

An area, historically called 'the wandle', was planned as allotments for the keen horticulturists that had only dreamed of growing their own vegetables when they lived in the Groves; which, in turn, had formerly been a large area of market gardens before the mid -19th century urbanisation of the suburb outside Monk Bar (*an article on the Groves appears in our second edition of the Heritage Hunters magazine*).

The new occupiers started to move into their dream homes in Chapelfields in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Letters of the Unknown Etty by Sarah Etty-Leal



Over two years research went into this book about Sarah's 3 x great grandfather, Charles Etty. It was written for him, and for Sarah's descendants to know about his life and adventures.

Charles was born on 01 May 1793 at his parent's bakery at 20 Feasegate, York and was the youngest of five surviving brothers, one of whom was the artist **William Etty R.A**, whose statue is outside York Art Gallery.

Charles went to work on the East India Company ships when he was 14, becoming a Free Mariner at 20 and going out to Calcutta to trade in the Indian Ocean and surrounding seas. He married in Calcutta and went to live on the Island of Java. Charles eventually owned three sugar mills and became a millionaire in his time. He returned to York twice in his lifetime and had bought a property for his retirement near the sound of his beloved Minster Bells, but this was not to be.

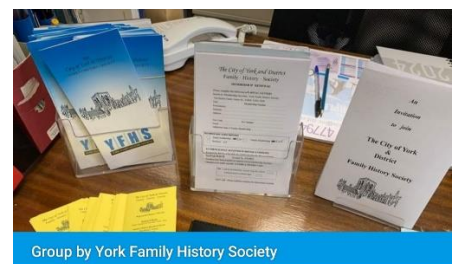
The book, with the front cover picture by artist Graham Rust, consists of 236 pages, two maps, a family tree, photos and 69 letters detailing his life and adventures and family intrigues; 19 of which are surviving original letters written by him and sent back home to England to his brothers William and Walter and, also to his beloved niece Betsy.

If you are interested on purchasing the book, please contact Sarah directly as she is distributing them herself. Email sarah@kasarosa.co.uk or by ringing 01284 789632 or 07703 483966.

Our new Facebook group – exclusively for members

Following the continued success of our York Family History Society Facebook page, our members can now enjoy exclusive access at our new, private group, York Family History Society Members.

This group has been created as an engaging place where members of our society can continue with the research of their family history and genealogy.



Group by York Family History Society

York Family History Society Members >

Members of our group are welcome to share stories and images and to connect with other members of our vibrant and growing community of genealogists, family historians, and writers.

Any present member of the City of York & District Family History Society is welcome to join – search for York Family History Society Members (see illustration).

The Family History Show
Saturday 22 June 10.00am - 4.00pm at York Racecourse

There will be exhibitors from all over the UK and Ireland and this is the largest family history show in the north of England. Many family history societies, archives and companies attend each year and there is a lot of information on history from the local area too.

For further information, and to book tickets, please go to their website:

<https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/york/>

Upcoming Meeting Talks

03 July – *Jane Ewbank and the landscape of York in late Georgian & Regency times* with Matthew Jenkins.

07 Aug – *York in 101 objects, person and places* with Paul Chrystal.

04 Sept – *Women and Railway Travel in Victorian Times* with Sue Major.

02 Oct – *Enhancing your Family History Research through the Archives* with Laura Yeoman.

06 Nov – *More Dark Tales of York for a Winter's Evening (with roast chestnuts)* with Tee Bylo.

04 Dec – *The people of Grove Terrace in Victorian Times* with Ros Batchelor.

Meeting Venue

Meetings take place on the **1st WEDNESDAY of each month** (apart from January) at:

Friends Meeting House
(*behind the Folk Hall*)
White Rose Avenue
New Earswick
York YO32 4AD

Opens 7pm for 7.30pm start until 9.30pm

DISABLED ACCESS

FREE CAR PARKING (limited space)

The Research Room



The research room is open **10-4** on **Tuesday and Thursday** at:

The Raylor Centre, James St,
York
YO10 3DW

Tel: 01904 412204

All Society resources are available for use, including:

- 6 computers with internet;
- Microfiche readers;
- Printer;
- A large library of useful publications, including Parish Registers.



Volunteers from the committee can help in your search and show you how to get the best out of relevant sites.

Disabled access – our facilities are on the ground floor. There is limited parking.

All are welcome! Come along for a cuppa and a biscuit!

Invitations for submissions and deadlines

Family stories and findings are welcome in as great a variety as possible, particularly illustrated with photographs or copies of documents.



Please either email your submissions to:

yorkfamilyhistory@btopenworld.com



Or send a hard copy to the address in the contact details at the end of this newsletter.

Deadlines for submissions are on 14th of the following months – February, May, August, and November.

Don't worry if you miss a deadline as your submission as can go into the following edition!

What would you like to see in your newsletter?

Would you like a regular column on a particular subject?

For example – in the next edition the editor is submitting a story from her own family tree under the title, '*A Skeleton in my Closet*'.

Is this something you would like to see more of? If so, please send stories of skeletons in YOUR closet (or any other stories or ideas for articles) to yorkfamilyhistory@btopenworld.com and we can make this a regular feature.

Contact details

Email: yorkfamilyhistory@btopenworld.com

Website: www.yorkfamilyhistory.org.uk

Facebook: York Family History Society & York Family History Society Members

Twitter/X: @Yorkfhs

Instagram: York Family History Society

Phone: 01904 412204

Address: York & District Family History Society, The Raylor Centre, James Street, York, YO10 3DW

Subscriptions: Annual single membership (home)	£20
Annual joint membership (home)	£25
Annual single membership (overseas)	£15