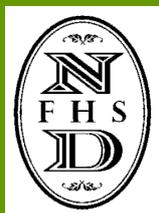


Welcome to the e-newsletter of the

# Northumberland & Durham

Family  
History  
Society



... helping you trace your family history since 1975

Issue 1—July/August 2016

**This is the first edition of an e-newsletter that the society is proposing to produce in mid-January, mid-April, mid-July and mid-October, to be sent as a PDF file by email to all members who have notified the Society of their email address.**

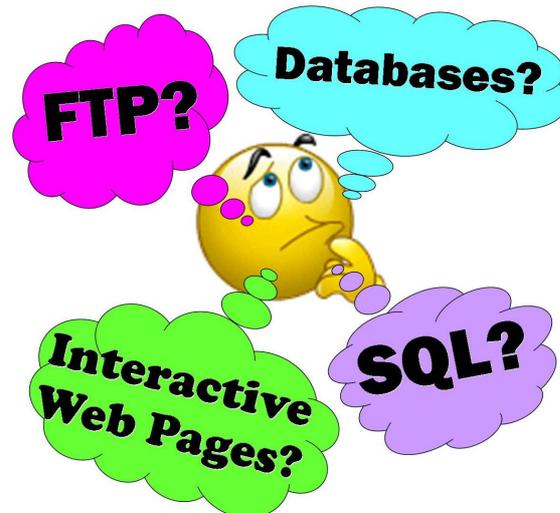
It is expected that the newsletter will contain notices of meetings, library acquisitions, news of new datasets, etc.

Members are also invited to submit items for inclusion. These could include members' interests and queries, and interesting snippets of information and strays, and should generally be limited to 150 words with a photograph if appropriate.

All submissions of items for inclusion in the newsletter must be in the form of a WORD, RTF or ODT file, to be attached to an email and sent to [ndfhsnews@ndfhs.org.uk](mailto:ndfhsnews@ndfhs.org.uk). Photographs and other images should be attached separately as JPG files.

The deadlines for submission of items for inclusion in the newsletter will be the 1st day of January, April, July and October.

## HELP!



If you can understand any of this, please contact Gerry Langley—he really needs your help!

[sales@ndfhs.org.uk](mailto:sales@ndfhs.org.uk)

**NDFHS Library and Research Centre**  
7th Floor, Percy House, Percy Street,  
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE1 4PW  
(next door to Milligans)



Website: [www.ndfhs.org.uk](http://www.ndfhs.org.uk)

Charity Registered in England No. 510538



# Finding your way to Percy House

It's surprising how many people tell us they had difficulty finding Percy House. Well, now there's no excuse—below are instructions on how to get there, once you've arrived in Newcastle upon Tyne.

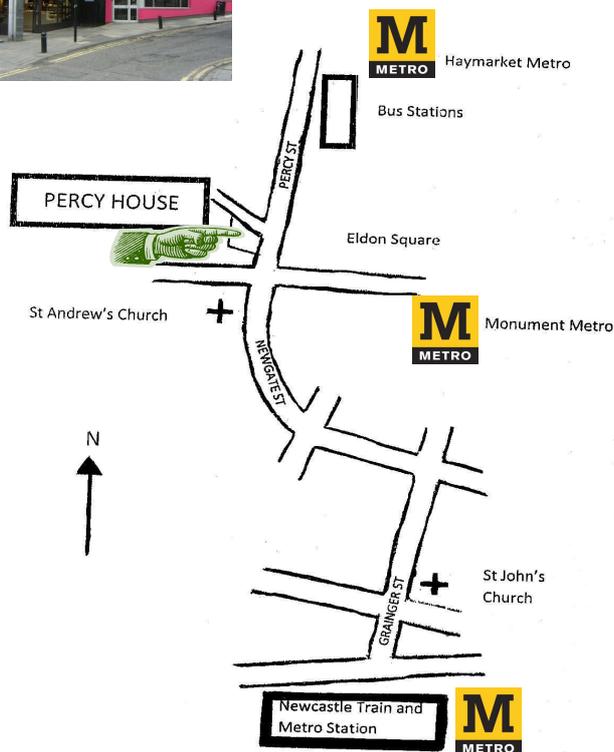


By Metro from Newcastle Airport or Newcastle Railway Station

- Airport
- Callerton Parkway
- Bank Foot
- Kingston Park
- Fawdon
- Wansbeck Road
- Regent Centre
- South Gosforth
- Ilford Road
- West Jesmond
- Jesmond
- Haymarket
- Monument
- Central Station



OUR LITTLE  
CORNER OF THE  
WORLD!



NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

**The Northumberland and Durham Family History Society Research Centre and Library** is on the 7th Floor of Percy House, at the south end of Percy Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, and just next door to Milligan's Bakery. It's a ten-minute walk from Newcastle Central Railway Station and a few minutes walk from Haymarket and Monument Metro Stations.

Haymarket and Eldon Square Bus Stations are close by.

There are many car parks (including long-term parking) in the immediate area. Look out for the signs.

Raise free donations for NDFHS when you shop on-line using Easyfundraising—and it won't cost you a penny extra! Join at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

## A selection of new publications added to our Percy House Library

<i>Lib. Ref.</i>	<i>Title &amp; Other Details</i>	<i>Author</i>
AR.119	<b>The Black Angel (Boer War)</b>	Colin Bardgett
LH.NT 207	<b>The Newcastle upon Tyne Bach Choir, 1915-2015</b>	C. Borthwick, E. Cross, R. Large & P. Owen
LH.NBL 348	<b>The Curious Yards &amp; Alleyways of Morpeth</b>	B. Gubbins
LH.DUR 404	<b>Sunderland Year Book 1902 (Reprint)</b>	
LH.DUR 405	<b>Sunderland East End Revisited</b>	A. Tedder
LH.DUR 406	<b>Sunderland in the Fifties</b>	M. Kirtley
LH.DUR 407	<b>Sunderland—The Way We Were</b>	P. O'Brien
LH.DUR 408	<b>Places of Worship in old Sunderland</b>	N. Kirtlan
LH.YKS 31	<b>Middlesbrough, St Hilda's</b>	A. Chohan
LH.YKS 32	<b>Darlington &amp; Surroundings in Old Postcards</b>	A. Chohan
LH.YKS 33	<b>North York Moors in Old Postcards</b>	A. Chohan
LH.CUL 24	<b>Carlisle</b>	D. Perrium
LH.CUL 25	<b>Carlisle Remembered</b>	D. Perrium
LH.CUL 27	<b>Carlisle, People &amp; Place</b>	C. Emmett & J.P. Templeton
SEA.44	<b>Sunderland Under Sail— More Recollections of the 1820's. Vols.1-5</b>	Sunderland Antiquarian Society
SEA.62	<b>Robert Henderson, Service Record, A Seaman of South Shields (20th Century)</b>	

### North Country Wit & Humour

*from "The Monthly Chronicle of North Country Lore & Legend" for the year 1890*

#### PIPEWELLGATE

During a recent procession in the streets of Newcastle, a policeman went up to an old woman who presided over a temporary apple stall, and told her to move on. She did not obey his order with sufficient alacrity; he therefore exclaimed: "Let's hev yor nyem and whor ye live." "Me nyem's Bella Morgan," was the reply, "an aa live in Pipewellgate, Gyetsheed!" "What numbor?" "Thor's ne numbors." "Come, this winnet de; aa'll hev te lock ye up!" "Thor's ne numbors at aall. Wey, thor's nee doors te some o' the hooses in Pipewellgate!"

#### A STRANGER IN THE DISTRICT

Two men were talking in the neighbourhood of Lemington when the sun was setting in the west. A discussion arose between the two as to whether it was the sun or the moon. They determined to settle it by reference to an old woman that was coming towards them. Each stated his opinion, the one saying it was the sun, the other saying it was the moon. The old lady looked at the two in astonishment, and then said:- "Aa's sure aa dinnet knaa, hinnies; aa's a stranger in these pairts!"

**Northumberland and Durham Family History Society**

# **PROBATE INDEX 1701—1858**

**Now available to view and search at  
Percy House!**

## **Northumberland & Durham Index of Personal Names contained in 54,000 Wills & Administration Bonds 1701—1858**

**The index complements the images already available  
on the FamilySearch website**

This is an ongoing project organised by Douglas Burdon, Vice-Chairman of NDFHS, and all the names have been extracted by NDFHS volunteers

**Present coverage:-**

**Chester Ward West, covering North West Durham  
(18,446 names)**

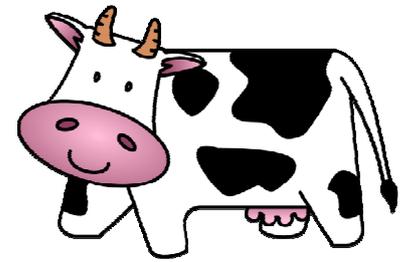
**Castle Ward East, covering South East Northumberland  
and parts of East Newcastle (30,738 names)**

**Good news! If you can't get to Percy House  
these indexes are now available on CD—  
see page 5 for details ...**

**It is expected that the Wills Index for Newcastle, with  
approximately 80,000 names, will be available in the autumn.**

# A thrifty spinster ...

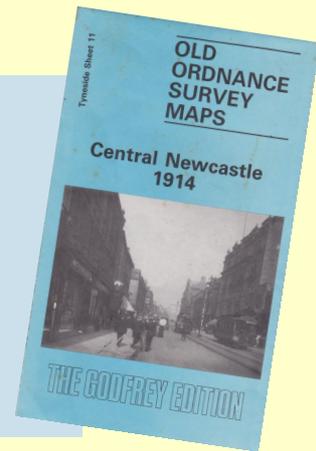
In 1709 Elizabeth Trotter of Byers Hall in Co. Durham left £5 in her Will to her nephew to buy a cow and a calf—with instructions to give any change to his mother!



## News from our Sales Department (a.k.a. Gerry's Bargain Basement!)

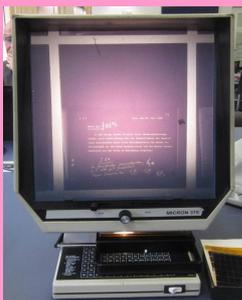
### Add interest to your family tree with some maps!

In addition to maps of 19th and early 20th Century Northumberland & Durham towns and villages, we have Alan Godfrey maps at £3.00 plus 75p postage, and Heritage Cartography maps at £9.95 plus 75p postage. All available from our e-shop—just email your order or enquiry to [sales@ndfhs.org.uk](mailto:sales@ndfhs.org.uk)



### Special Offers— Census Indexes on Microfiche

Check out our e-shop for bargains on microfiche—go into our website [www.ndfhs.org.uk](http://www.ndfhs.org.uk) and you can access the special offers from the home page by clicking on the link on the right hand side



### "Pre-loved" (OK—second-hand!) Microfiche Readers for Sale

If you feel you need a microfiche reader, we have some that are surplus to requirements—all in working order. Prices are very reasonable but will vary with each machine. The biggest cost, if you cannot arrange to collect locally, will be carriage. Contact Gerry for details: [sales@ndfhs.org.uk](mailto:sales@ndfhs.org.uk)

### Wills Indexes for Chester Ward West & Castle Ward East 1701-1858 now available on CD

Chester Ward West (includes 18,446 names) - £5 plus 75p postage  
Castle Ward East (includes 30,738 names) - £10 plus 75p postage

Both available from our Sales Department—  
send your email order to [sales@ndfhs.org.uk](mailto:sales@ndfhs.org.uk)

# Need some help researching your family history?

## Come and join our 5-week **FAMILY HISTORY COURSE FOR BEGINNERS**



**The aim of the course is to enable you to:**

-  **learn how to extract information from the basic records;**
-  **develop the skills to enable you to link one record to another to help advance your knowledge of your ancestors;**
-  **understand how to record the information accrued through your research;**
-  **build your family tree.**

### **Dates:**

14th September 2016 (Week 1)  
Introduction to the course;  
Civil Registration

21st September 2016 (Week 2)  
Parish Registers

28th September 2016 (Week 3)  
Census Returns 1841-1911

5th October 2016 (Week 4)  
Trade Directories, Electoral Registers,  
and Newspapers

12th October 2016 (Week 5)  
Wills

### **Timetable:**

10.30 am to 12.30 pm—Instruction  
as above

1.00 pm to 2.00 pm—Using the  
Society's Percy House facilities with  
support

**Course Fee:** £35.00

payable by cheque to "NDFHS"

**To make a booking:  
Please contact The Librarian  
by email: [librarian@ndfhs.org.uk](mailto:librarian@ndfhs.org.uk)  
by phone: 0191 261 2159  
or 0191 284 1678**

## **New Family Trees added to the Library in Percy House**



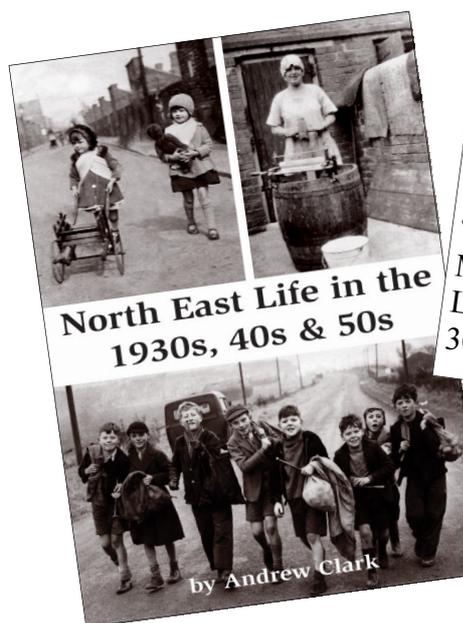
<i>Lib. Ref.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Area</i>
001	<b>CREETH</b>	(Allendale)
001	<b>LORRAINE</b>	(Half Morton, Dumfries, Langham, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland)
001	<b>OLD/ORD</b>	(Allendale)
007	<b>LEE</b>	(Allendale)
027	<b>ROBSON</b>	(Allendale)

# 2016 Annual General Meeting

Just a reminder that the Society's **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Saturday 16th July 2016** at 10.30 am at **Brunswick Methodist Church, Brunswick Place, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7BJ.**

Brunswick Methodist Church is situated close to Monument Metro Station and Eldon Square.

There are several car parks close by.



The AGM will be followed by a talk by local history author **ANDREW CLARK** entitled "Take a trip down Memory Lane—Local History of the 30s, 40s and 50s"

Refreshments will be served at the end of the proceedings

## 'GEORDIE FRIENDS'

**Some news for NDFHS members who are unable to get to our local branch meetings**

**Membership of our Society is widely spread across the UK and the world, but at present only those who live in North East England or in London have the opportunity to attend branch meetings and meet others with a shared interest in Durham and Northumberland families ...**

**... SO WE THOUGHT IT WAS TIME TO TRY AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT**

**This proposal is open to all members, including those in North East England who are unable to go to branch meetings.**

We would like to help members to meet other members who live in the same postcode area, or who live in the same city if living abroad. Such meetings could be between two or more members, and would provide an opportunity to share research ideas, offer help, exchange family history magazines and books, or simply make new friendships.

In the first instance such meetings could be in a local coffee bar, tearoom, or pub, but subsequently it would be for the participants to make whatever arrangements suit them best.

We realise that, in the case of overseas members, it will be more difficult to match people living near to one another, except perhaps in major cities. In this case it might be possible to set up groups exchanging news and information by email or newsletter.

If you would like to join such a group, send an email to [geordiefriends@ndfhs.org.uk](mailto:geordiefriends@ndfhs.org.uk)\*, or write to 'geordiefriends' c/o the NDFHS Library & Research Centre (address at the foot of page 1), giving your name, membership number, email address, postal address, telephone number, and, most importantly, your postcode.

(\*We will normally acknowledge receipt of your application by email, so if you do not have an email address please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.)

**By submitting an application to join you will be giving us permission to pass the information that you provide to any members of the Society whose first half of their postcode is the same as yours.**

# LOCAL N-E ARCHIVES

## Opening Hours

### **Tyne And Wear Archives Service**

Discovery Museum, Blandford Square,  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4JA  
*Advance booking advisable*  
*CARN Card Reader's Ticket required*

**Opening hours:**

**Tue. to Fri. 10.00am-4.00pm**

Closed Sat.-Sun.-Mon. & all Public Holidays

Tel: 0191 277 2248

Email: [info@archives.org.uk](mailto:info@archives.org.uk)

Website: [www.twmuseums.org.uk/archives](http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/archives)

### **Durham County Record Office**

County Hall,  
Durham DH1 5UL  
*Advance booking required*

**Opening hours:**

**Mon. & Tue. 8.45am-4.45pm**

**Wed. 8.45am-8.00pm**

Closed Thu.-Fri.-Sat.-Sun. and all Public Holidays

Tel: 0300 026 7619

Email: [record.office@durham.gov.uk](mailto:record.office@durham.gov.uk)

Website: [www.durhamrecordoffice.org.uk](http://www.durhamrecordoffice.org.uk)

### **Northumberland County Record Office**

Northumberland Archives—Woodhorn  
QEII Country Park, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 9YF  
*Woodhorn Reader's Ticket required*

**Opening hours:**

**Wed.-Thu.-Fri.-Sat. 10.00am-4.00pm**

Closed Sun.-Mon.-Tue. and all Public Holidays

Tel: 01670 624455

Email: [collections@woodhorn.org.uk](mailto:collections@woodhorn.org.uk)

Website: [www.experiencewoodhorn.com/collections](http://www.experiencewoodhorn.com/collections)

### **Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office**

Walkergate Building, Walkergate,  
Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DB  
*Advance booking required*

**Opening hours:**

**Wed.-Thu. 9.30am-1.00pm & 2.00pm-5.00pm**

Closed Mon.-Tue.-Fri.-Sat.-Sun. and all Public Holidays

Tel: 01289 301865

Email: [berwickarchives@woodhorn.org.uk](mailto:berwickarchives@woodhorn.org.uk)

Website: [www.experiencewoodhorn.com/berwick-record/](http://www.experiencewoodhorn.com/berwick-record/)

## **LATEST NEWS FROM BERWICK RECORD OFFICE ...**

**From Wednesday 6th July 2016 Berwick upon  
Tweed Record Office will be open to the public in  
new accommodation in the Walkergate Building,  
on the first floor alongside Berwick Library.**

## **REMINDER!**

**The Archives will all be  
closed during the week-  
end that includes the  
Summer Bank Holiday on  
Monday 29th August.**

## **RAINDROPS KEEP FALLING ...**

### **... 12TH AUGUST 1890**

"An extraordinary rain storm commenced in Newcastle and district at a late hour in the evening, and did not cease till seven o'clock on the following morning. In many places the flood caused considerable inconvenience and damage to property. The Town Moor Recreation Ground was converted into a lake, the roadway to Gosforth was at places more than a foot under water, and pedestrians were obliged to avail themselves of the use of the tram cars and milk carts. The Model Dwelling House at the corner of Park Terrace was completely surrounded by the flood."

"In the neighbourhood of the Ouseburn and St. Peter's, which lie at a low elevation, the water gave the inhabitants much trouble; and some of the residents of Heaton had to make their way in and out of their houses by the windows. The most melancholy occurrence, however, was the death, by drowning in a small brook at Usworth, of a little girl named Jane Ann McMann. The rainfall for the twenty-four hours ending at ten o'clock on the morning of the 13th measured 2.65 inches. On the 15th there was a renewal of the storm, accompanied by a high wind, in some districts, and a good deal of damage was done at Hartlepool, Alnwick, Low Fell and other places."

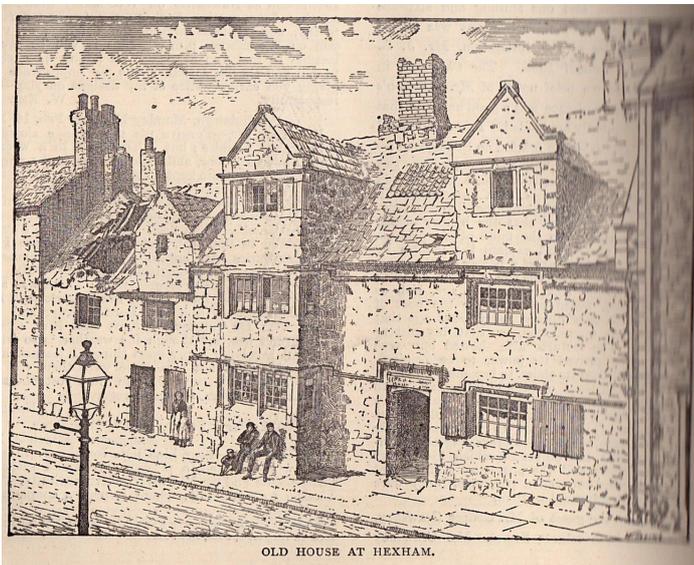
*An extract from "The Monthly Chronicle of North Country Lore & Legend" Record of Events, North Country Occurrences, for the year 1890 (which just goes to show that nothing changes!)*

# HOW TO ACCESS THE MEMBERS' SECTION OF THE NDFHS WEBSITE

On the website [www.ndfhs.org.uk](http://www.ndfhs.org.uk) click on the green "Members' Log-In" button. The USERNAME does not change, and is always "memberNdfhs" (this is case-sensitive, so make sure you use the capital letter N in the middle of the name). The PASSWORD, however, is changed quarterly, and the new password is listed in the "Chairman's Notes" section at the front of each quarterly *Journal*.

## More North Country Wit & Humour

from "The Monthly Chronicle of North Country Lore & Legend" for the year 1890



### HEXHAM

An old hawker was overtaken by a thunder-storm, and found it necessary to seek shelter in a farm-house near Acomb. The subject of conversation was, of course, the awful character of the storm. "It's nae wonner it's se bad," said the hawker, as a flash of lightning caused him to blink his eyes, "when ye consider the wickedness o' Hexham!"

*Foresight?* This engraving of an old house at Hexham appears in the 1889 volume of the same publication. We are told that the inscription on the lintel of the house, boldly cut in black letter, is "Honi soit qui mal y pense" .....

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### COMING DOWN STAIRS

At a village not a score of miles from Bedlington, a miner, who lived in an upstairs flat, accidentally fell down stairs. His wife, hearing the noise, ran to the scene, and called out:- "O Jack, hes thoo faallen doon stairs?" "Oh," Jack replied, "it makes ne mettor; a wes comin' doon onnyway!"

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# AROUND THE BRANCHES ...

Where we have been notified, these are the topics and speakers for the September and October 2016 meetings (no meetings at all in August).

You will find full details of times and venues on the "Branches" pages of the Society's website at [www.ndfhs.org.uk/branches/](http://www.ndfhs.org.uk/branches/)

## SEPTEMBER 2016 MEETINGS

- Tue 06 Sep **Alnwick**—  
"The Victorians Project and Alnwick" (Prof. Michael Moss)
- Wed 07 Sep **Newcastle**—  
"Addison & Stargate: The Story of two Tyneside Coal Communities" (John Boothroyd)
- Wed 07 Sep **Wansbeck & District**—  
"Paddy Freeman Remembered" (Joyce Jackman)
- Thu 08 Sep **Tynedale**—  
"Organising my Research—Methods, Tips & Queries" (Members' Forum)
- Sat 17 Sep **North Northumberland**—  
"From Bamburgh to Otago: The Story of a Forgotten Northumbrian" (David Lockie)
- Tue 20 Sep **Blyth**—  
*awaiting details*
- Wed 21 Sep **Durham-Belmont**—  
"Ancestors' Migrations" (Norman Welch)
- Wed 21 Sep **South Tyneside**—  
Members' Forum and Beginners (no guest speaker)

## BLYTH

Blyth Branch have notified us that with effect from September 2016 all their meetings will commence at 7.00 pm (instead of 7.30 pm).

## TYNEDALE

Please note that the Tynedale meeting for September has been changed from that originally notified, so if you have an old list, please amend it.

## OCTOBER 2016 MEETINGS

- Tue 04 Oct **Alnwick**—  
"The Downies in Northumberland" (Gordon Downie)
- Wed 05 Oct **Newcastle**—  
"Old Mills of Northumberland" (Duncan Hutt)
- Wed 05 Oct **Wansbeck & District**—  
"Thomas Hepburn" (Anthea Lang)
- Thu 13 Oct **Tynedale**—  
"Big Houses of Benwell & their Occupants" (Michael Greatbatch)
- Sat 15 Oct **North Northumberland**—  
Members' Forum (no guest speaker)
- Tue 18 Oct **Blyth**—  
*awaiting details*
- Wed 19 Oct **Durham-Belmont**—  
"Probate On-Line" (J. Tindall)
- Wed 19 Oct **South Tyneside**—  
"Always Remembered" (Dorothy Hall, N-E War Memorials Project)

## LONDON

The next London Branch meeting at the Society of Genealogists will not be until November, as this branch only meets three times per year.

# NO BRANCH MEETINGS IN AUGUST



# SUMMER BREAK!