

**Welcome to the e-
newsletter of the
NORTHUMBERLAND &
DURHAM
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
Issue 3 - January 2017**

HELLO EVERYONE

You are all wished a Peaceful and Happy 2017

NDFHS renewal of membership 1st January-31st December 2017

A thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership for
another year

If you still have to renew please do so soon

FAMILY HISTORY COURSE – BEYOND THE BASICS

The course is designed for those who have some basic knowledge and who have already attended the Beginners Course. It explores further resources and access to them. Four Wednesdays 10.30 – 12.30 at Percy House.

February 22 nd	Estate Records
March 1 st	Palaeography
March 8 th	Parish Chest
March 15 th	Manorial Records

Note; Weeks two and three have been switched around since the Winter Journal was published

Bring your own lunch if you would like to spend the afternoon using the library and search room. Tea and coffee available at Percy House.

£40.00 payable in advance (cheques made out to NDFHS). Send your contact details and payment to the Chairman NDFHS Percy House, Percy Street, Newcastle NE1 4PW

Enquiries may be sent to the chairman@ndfhs.org.uk

Phone enquiries may be made, tele: 0191 251 2159, but the Chairman may not be present. Alternatively, ring the Chairman at home, Tele: 0191 284 1678

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS PROJECT IMAGES UPDATE

The Society is taking part in a national project to record every gravestone in the United Kingdom and local volunteers are photographing graveyards and cemeteries in Northumberland and Durham. These images and transcriptions are available on our computers at Percy House. The transcriptions are not yet available online but we are able to provide copies of the images.

We have just added some more images to our database and they are now available online. The PDF document now contains 21,480 names (October 2016).

They can be accessed by going to our website and selecting Resources, then Research centre resources, or go straight to the webpage at:

<http://www.ndfhs.org.uk/research-centre-resources/>

SPECIAL OFFERS

CDS, EACH VOLUME - £6.50 EACH

<http://www.ndfhs.org.uk/product-category/special-offers-histories/>

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY HISTORIES

- Vol. 1 The parishes of Bamburgh & Belford (1893) Edward Bateson BA (editor)
- Vol.2 The parishes of Embleton, Ellingham, Howick, Long Houghton & Lesbury (1895)Edward Bateson. B.A (editor)
- Vol.3 Hexhamshire Part 1 (1896) Allen B Hinds. M.A (editor)
- Vol.4 Hexhamshire Part 11, Parishes of Hexham, Whitley Chapel, Allendale, St John Lee, Chollerton, Kirkheaton and Thockrington (1897) John Crawford Hodgson. M.A, F.S.A (editor)
- Vol.5 The parish of Warkworth, with the Chapelry of Chevington, parish of Shilbottle, with the Chapelry of or extra-parochial place of Brainshaugh (1899) John Crawford Hodgson. M.A, F.S.A (editor)
- Vol.6 The parishes of Bywell St Peter, Bywell St Andrew & Slaley (1902) John Crawford Hodgson. M.A, F.S.A (editor)
- Vol.7 The parishes of Edlingham with the Chapelry of Bolton, Felton with the Chapelry of Framlington & the Chapelry or parish of Brinkburn (1904) John Crawford Hodgson. M.A, F.S.A (editor)
- Vol.8 The parish of Tynemouth (1907) H. H. E Craster. M.A, F.S.A (editor)
- Vol.9 The Chapelries of Earsdon & Horton (1909) H.H.E Craster. M.A, F.S.A (editor)
- Vol.10 The Parish of Corbridge with the Chapelry of Horton; with an account of Roman remains by Professor F Haversfield, D. Litt. (1914) H.H.E Craster. M.A, F.S.A (editor)
- Vol.11 The Parishes of Carham, Branxton, Kirknewton, Wooler & Ford (1922) Kenneth H. Vickers. M.A (editor)
- Vol.12 The Parishes of Ovingham, Stamfordham & Ponteland (1926) Miss Madeline Hope Dodds (editor)
- Vol.13 The Parishes ofHeddon-on-the-Wall, Newburn, Longbenton, Wallsend, Gosforth, Cramlington & Newcastle Townships Benwell, Elswick, Heaton, Byker, Fenham & Jesmond, in Newcastle upon Tyne) (1930) Miss Madeline Hope Dodds (editor)
- Vol.14 The Parishes of Alnham, Chatton, Chillingham, Eglington, Ilderton, Ingram, Whittingham, the Chapelries of Lowick & Doddington (1935) Miss Madeline Hope Dodds (editor)
- Vol.15 The Parish of Simonburn, with the modern Parishes of Humshaugh, Bellingham, Falstone, Thorneyburn, Greystead, Wark, the Parish of Rothbury, the Parish of Alwinton, with the Chapelry of Holystone and the Lordship of Kidland (1940) Miss Madeline Hope Dodds (editor)

A History of Corbridge and its Antiquities: with a concise history of Dilston Hall (etc.) (1881) Robert Forster.

A History of Northumberland, Part 1, Vol. 1 (1858) Containing the General History of the County. State of the district under the Romans, the Saxon and Danish Kings of Northumberland, the Official Earldom. With a narrative of Events connected with the Coun Author: Rev. John Hodgson

A History of Northumberland, Part 2, Vol. 1 (1827) Containing the History of the Franchise of Redesdale, and of the Umfreville family; also, of the Parishes, Corsenside, Whelpington, Kirkharle, Hartburn with Netherwitton Chapelry, Bolam, and Whalton, all Author: Rev. John Hodgson

A History of Northumberland, Part 2, Vol. 2 (1832) Containing Morpeth Ward - West Division, Meldon, River Green (ep), Mitford, Longhorsley, Hebron, Morpeth; Morpeth Ward - East

Division, Bothal, Ulgham, Woodhorn, Newbiggin, Widdrington; Castle Ward - East Author: Rev. John Hodgson

A History of Northumberland, Part 2, Vol. 3 (1840) Containing Corbridge and the Franchise and Ward of Tindal: Alston, Kirkhaugh, Knaresdale, Lambley, Whitfield, Haltwhistle, Hayden, Warden, Newbrough Author: Rev. John Hodgson

A History of Northumberland, Part 3, Vol. 1 (1820) Containing Ancient Records and Historical Papers. A series of Royal and private charters for Knaresdale, Haughton and Simonburn; a list of the names of all the castles and towers with proprietors 1460; Author: Rev. John Hodgson

A History of Northumberland, Part 3, Vol. 2 (1828) Containing Ancient Records and Historical Papers. Extracts from ancient deeds, Royal Grants; a book of the state of the frontiers between England and Scotland 1550; extracts relative to property from cale Author: Rev. John Hodgson

A History of Northumberland, Part 3, Vol. 3 (1835) Containing Ancient Records and Historical Papers. The Great Roll of the Exchequer 1130 to 1272; the Liber Niger Saccarii for Northumberland; the Name Roll for Northumberland 1340; the Valor Ecclesiasticus Author: Rev. John Hodgson

Berwick-upon-Tweed: The History of the Town and Guild (1888) Author: John Scott

History of Newcastle and Gateshead Vol. I 14th & 15th Centuries 1301-1500 (1884) Author: Richard Welford

History of Newcastle and Gateshead Vol. II. 16th Century 1501-1580 (1885) Author: Richard Welford

History of Newcastle and Gateshead Vol. III. 16th & 17th Centuries 1581-1640 (1887) Author: Richard Welford

The Church of St Nicholas with a brief sketch of the History of Newcastle (1903) John McQuillen ('Scribe')

The Gentleman's Magazine Library Vol. 20 - Topographical History of Norfolk, Northamptonshire & Northumberland 1731-1868 (1896) George Laurence Gomme (editor)

The History and Antiquities of the County of Cumberland Vol. 1 William Hutchinson F.S.A. (1794)

The History and Antiquities of the County of Cumberland Vol. 2 William Hutchinson F.S.A. (1794)

The History of the Borough, Castle, and Barony of Alnwick (2 vols. 1866-69). Author: George Tate F.G.S

NEW TO THE LIBRARY AT PERCY HOUSE

Tracing your Family History in Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal. Linda Bankier

Blyth History Tour. Gordon Smith

Tynemouth & Cullercoats History Tour. Ken Hutchinson

The Quartet: Care Lives of Four Irish Catholic Homeboys. John Michael Murphy

The Spyglass File – A Genealogical Crime Mystery. Nathan Dylan Goodwin

Alnwick in the Great War. Craig Armstrong

Writing Your Family History – a guide for family historians. Gill Blanchard

Tracing Your Ancestors in County Records. Stuart A. Raymond

Historical Research using British Newspapers. Denise Bates

FAMILY TREE/HISTORY ADDITIONS

WALTON -

ALSTON

WILSON -

BISHOP MIDDLEHAM



The society is looking for a **PUBLICITY OFFICER, PLEASE CONTACT chairman@ndfhs.org.uk**

The society is looking for a **BRANCHES CO-ORDINATOR, PLEASE CONTACT chairman@ndfhs.org.uk**



THE BOOKWORM – PERCY HOUSE

My hands touched upon People and Places of Northumberland, by Glen Alan. 1945. LH NBL 25

The Postmen.

.....**Robert Rutherford**, of Alnwick, Born 1874, began his postal service as a messenger in 1888 and became a rural postman three years later. He left Alnwick every morning at 8 o'clock on the Alnwick and Cornhill Railway and left the train at Ilderton. After his large rural round was completed he then went around the district again collecting letters, it was the custom of the country folk to place their letters prominently in the window for the "postie" to see. Robert became the head postman in the town of Alnwick in 1912 and continued in this position until his retirement in 1937. In addition he served for 18 years on the Urban Council, 1919 -1937. He was Treasurer of Berwick Division Labour Party for 8 years. A strong churchman, he was for many years a member of St James Presbyterian Church and for upwards of twenty years an elder of that church.

.....**William Copeland**, "Willie" Copeland, the name by which he was known lived at Bewick and started from Old Bewick post office, to New Bewick Wooperton, Roddam Rigg, Roddam, Roseden and Ilderton.

Willie was of a kindly disposition, wore a smile and had a cheery word for all. He was a rapid walker and a great reader and as he went his rounds he very often had a book in his hand and read it as he paced along. In Willie Copelands time and for some time after the starting wage was 15/- per week rising 1/- per week yearly to 19/-. Later the starting waged jumped to 25/-.

Towards the end of his twenty- eight years a post office was opened at Wooperton station. He retired in 1892.

.....**George Blyth** of Percy Cross took over Willie's round for the next forty three years and retired in 1935.

.....**George Ord** was stationed at Belford a well known character who drove a grey horse in a mail van, actually a square box in which he kept the sealed bag for Chatton. The other letter bag he kept under his feet and he sounded a huntsman's horn to warn people of his approach. He left Belford at 8 a.m and went over the moors to Chatton then on to Wandon and Fowberry Tower. At Wandon the letters he put into a box fastened to a gate and if there were letters for despatch the people put a stone on the wall. After that he continued on his round to Weetwood Hall, where he unyoked the horse and stayed two or three hours.

.....**George Dunn** of Belford, travelled west and his round included Sionside, North Lytham, South Hazelrigg, Hazlerigg School, Old Hazelrigg, North Hazelrigg, Hazelrigg Mill, Hetton Law, Hall and Steads, Holburn and ended at Hetton Grange, where he stayed for an hour to feed the horse and himself. George did this round for eleven years.

.....**Robert Dickinson, Robert Wilson and Robert Orr**. Robert Dickinson came from Powburn to Whittingham about 1860 and conveyed the mails in a four-wheeled wagonette drawn by a half-bred horse from Alnwick to the Vale where he arrived at 11 am. His route took in Broompark, Bolton, Shawdon and Glanton. Robert carried out this round for 26 years and was followed by Robert Wilson who was a resident of Alnwick.

Robert Orr did the west country round and drove a spring or dog-cart, his round covered Callaly, Yetlington, Unthank, Alnham. The return journey was by Unthank, Little Ryle, Yetlington, Callaly High House, Callaly Castle and village to Whittingham.

There are some other biographical details and stories included in the article.

Was one of your ancestors a postman with a round in rural north Northumberland?

PROBATE INDEXES – 1701 - 1858

Present coverage:-

CHESTER WEST WARD, covering the parishes of Whickham, Ryton, Medomsley, Ebchester, Satley, Lanchester, Edmondbyers, Hunstanworth and Muggleswick (18,456 names)

CHESTER MIDDLE WARD, covering the parishes of Chester-le-Street, Lamesley and Tanfield (14,545 names)

CASTLE WARD EAST, covering the parishes of Tynemouth, Cramlington, Earsdon, Horton, Longbenton and Wallsend (30,932 names)

CASTLE WARD WEST, covering the parishes of Gosforth, Heddon on the Wall, Newburn, Ponteland and Stannington (8,263 names)

CASTLE WARD, covering the Newcastle parishes of All Saints, St Andrew, St John and St Nicholas (79,282 names)

Available to view in our Research Centre at Percy House

The above Probate Indexes can also be purchased at: sales@ndfhs.org.uk

COMING SOON - in the preparation stage. Chester East Ward

The value of accessing these Probate Indexes can be seen in the information below and demonstrates that looking into wills may highlight an ancestor receiving a bequest.

In future additions of this letter other bequests in Wills will be highlighted.

People mentioned in the Will below, what they were bequeathed and the monetary value today.

Will of:

MATHEW ERRINGTON, TAILOR, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, PROBATE, 29TH SEPTEMBER 1779

Elizabeth Errington,, sister in law £.5.00 (**£606.00**), Mary Watson, a niece of Mathew's late brother's first wife £10.00 (**£1,212**), friends Joseph Cownley & Mathew Lowes, friend Rebecca Proctor, widow, house keeper at the Orphan House £10.00 (**£,212.00**), her two granddaughters Ann Story and Rebecca Story, to receive the money if Rebecca Proctor died. William Newton Smith and his son Luke Newton Smith, several Christian friends: Ann Stephenson, spinster, Mary Liddell, Eleanor Dixon, servant at the Orphan House, John Reed, Housecarpenter, William Slater, Shop Keeper, David Starkey, tailor, Robert Dawson, servant at the Orphan House, Thomas Story and Nicholas Story, schoolmaster, sons of Nicholas Story, bookkeeper to

Mr Davis, friends William Smith, Newcastle, Merchant and John Stokoe, Newcastle, Gentleman- all to receive £5.00 (**£606.00**)

Forty shillings (**£242.00**), to be laid aside for his funeral and the residue to go to the Orphan House.

The (Methodist) Orphan House was located on Northumberland Street.

BRANCH MEETINGS DIARY

Alnwick

There are no meetings in January or February.

7 March , 7.30 pm, Bailiffgate Museum – Notable Names from Alnwick District, Speaker: Andy Griffith

Belmont

18 January, 1pm, Belmont Community Centre – Life in the 50's, Speaker: Phil Curtis

15 February, do do Mr Peterlee, Speaker: Wyn Colman

15 March, do do The 1851 Census, Speaker: David Butler

Blyth

17 January, 7pm, Briardale Centre, Briardale Road, Cowpen, – T.B.C

21 February, 7pm, Briardale Centre, Briardale Road, Cowpen, – Monkey Business at a Medieval Abbey,
Speaker: Barry Mead

21 March, 7 pm, Briardale Centre, Briardale Road, Cowpen, – Blyth & Tyne Railway, part 1,
Speaker:Ed. Orwin

London,

14 March, 2.30 pm, Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA,
The Funeral of George Bowes of Gibside, munificent and magnificent, Speaker: David Butler

Newcastle Branch

4 January, 2pm, Brunswick Methodist Church – Big Houses of Benwell, Speaker: Mike Greatbach

1 February, 2pm, Brunswick Methodist Church – Gardens with Capabilities, Speaker: Anthea Lang

1 March, 2pm, Brunswick Methodist Church- G M Trevelyan, H. R Trevor-Roper and Charles Linaker,two historians from Northumberland with different approaches to history

North Northumberland

14 January, 10am, Bell View Resource Centre, Belford – In Sharp Relief –the Story of a remarkable North-East Family, Speaker: Liz O’ Donnell

18 February, 10am, Bell View Resource Centre, Belford- Berwick Families, Speaker: Linda Bankier

18^{March}, 10am, Bell View Resource Centre, Belford – Members Forum

NEW North Tyneside Branch

3 January, 1.30 pm, North Tyneside Customers Service Centre and Library, Northumberland Square, North Shields. Members Forum: Christmas Past and Present, with artifacts for discussion.

7 February, 1.30 pm, North Tyneside Customers Service Centre and Library, Northumberland Square, North Shields. T.B.A

7 March, 1.30 pm, North Tyneside Customers Service Centre and Library, Northumberland Square, North Shields. T.B.A

South Tyneside

18 January, 1.30 pm, St Hilda’s Visitor Centre, Market Place, South Shields – Members Forum – Items I have kept- an opportunity for members to bring to the meeting and discuss why they have kept the items.

15 February, 1.30pm, St Hilda’s Visitor Centre, Market Place, South Shields – Pubs, Brewers & Beer 9 South Tyneside based, Speaker: Andrew Clark

15 March, .30pm, St Hilda’s Visitor Centre, Market Place, South Shields – T.B.A

Tynedale

12 January, 7pm, Community Centre, Gilesgate- Members Forum: Bring any Items of Interest

8 February,7pm, Community Centre, Gilesgate – Changing Corbridge – people and places, Speaker: David Waugh

9 March, 7 pm, Community Centre, Gilesgate – AGM & Along the Tyne from source to sea in postcards, Speaker: Mike Gibson

Wansbeck

4 January, 1.30 pm, Pegswood Community Hub, Longhirst Road – AGM

1 February, 1.30pm, Pegswood Community Hub, Longhirst Road - Life in the 30’s, 40’s & 50’s,

Speaker: Andrew Clark

5 March, 1.30pm, Pegswood Community Hub, Longhirst Road- Probate Records in Northumberland and Durham, Speaker: Douglas Burdon

KNOW YOUR PARISH

CRAMLINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND

Joan Bunting

Volume 6 Number 1

October 1980



Few people passing Cramlington New Town by road or rail would attribute to this rapidly expanding community any history. They would of course be wrong. A brief outline is as follows:

The remains of two Anglo-Saxon towns have been found near the railway line. These later developed into the hamlet of Whitelaw which later still became Whitelaw Farm.

In the ninth century the Vikings attacked and eventually settled – mainly under a King Kramel - hence Kramel'ton - Cramlington.

1163 -A chapel, Our Chapel of St. Mary, was erected on the site of the present church (St. Nicholas).

1270 - The village of Cramlington consisted of a hall, a chapel, four cottages and a water mill owned by Adam of

Jesmond.

1327 - Our Chapel of St. Mary was renamed St. Nicholas.

By 1665 St. Nicholas was almost completely ruined and the Lawson family, who owned most of Cramlington, paid for repairs.

Early seventeenth century - Coal was being mined at Plessy and taken by horse-drawn wagon to Blyth. Hartford Colliery was begun.

1812 - Both mines closed. The Church school opened.

Nineteenth century - Cramlington population was increasing, due to the opening of collieries and the East Coast railway line:

1821 Census - 280 inhabitants;

1851 - 3,367.

1 July 1847 – The Railway opened - Station Master: Joseph Mundy. We also know that the grocer and flour dealer was Thomas Atthy, James Barras the butcher, John Bell another grocer, William Bell a brick-maker and the surgeon was Robert Craig.

1851 – There were four public houses, including the Railway Tavern which still exists.

1853 - The Girls' School opened.

1865 - A new church was built, completed in 1868.

By 1855 Cramlington consisted of three distinct communities:

(1) the old village

(2) West Cramlington, established around one of the larger pits

and (3) East Cramlington, taking its character from nearby Seaton Delaval.

Early twentieth century - Shankhouse had a famous football team, "Shankhouse Black Watch", who played and won all over the country.

Mining accidents were a fact of life in the village. For example:

2.3.1860 Burradon and Hartley - a gas explosion killed 76 men and boys

1862 Hartley Pit disaster - 215 men and boys died after the beam from the engine fell, blocking the shaft

1886 a seven-year old boy was killed.

Apart from mining, the other main employment was farming. There were four main farms: Bells, Whitehall, East and West Farms. Much of the old farmland remained until fairly recently. Some of the land was used as an airfield in the First World War. Now even more is providing the site of the new town, many of whose estates take the names of the twelve farms listed in the 1886 Directory, and others from the pits and coal seams upon which they are built.

Landowners of Cramlington since Kramel have included Nicholas de Grenville (barony of Ellingham), the Gaugy family (Lords of Jesmond) and William Cramlington whose daughters both married into the Lawson family and took East and West Cramlington respectively as their portions. West Cramlington remained with the Lawsons until it passed to Adam Cardonnel (Adam Mansfeldt de Cardonnel-Lawson!), whose son sold it to Sir Matthew White Ridley in 1834. East Cramlington was purchased from Sir John Lawson in 1791 by Robert Storey and his daughter and heiress married George Shum, who built Arcot House (now a golf club). He was succeeded by Henry Shum-Storey whose daughter married Captain Shawe in 1872. A Mrs Shawe-Storey was living at Arcot in 1928.

Cramlington became a parish in 1800 having previously been a chapelry of St. Nicholas, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The original parish records at Northumberland County Record Office are more or less complete from 1665 and there are copies for 1665-1812 in Newcastle Central Library. Marriages 1666-1812 are in Boyd's Index and Banns 1754-1812 in Boyd's Miscellaneous Volumes. Bishops' Transcripts exist, with gaps, from 1762 to 1858 at the Department of Palaeography and Diplomatic, University of Durham. Cramlington Church Yard Monumental Inscriptions were copied in 1978 by pupils of Cramlington High School, but have as yet to be indexed.

The Society holds (as well as other material):

Cramlington St Nicholas Parish Records

B 1665-1839

M 1666-1839

Bu 1666-1839

WEBSITES

Digitised publications www.archive.org

do do www.familysearch.org

Family Death notices in the Evening Chronicle, 2nd November 1885 – 31st December 1904, located through Genuki, click Northumberland, click Newspapers, click Death Notices in the Newcastle Evening Chronicle.

York Cause Papers <https://www.hrionline.ac.uk/causepapers/>

Individual cases heard at the Ecclesiastical Court at York, heard between 1300- 1858

Cases include, disputes about matrimony, defamation, tithes, probate, breach of faith by the clergy, and church rights.

Remembering that Hexhamshire was an Ecclesiastical Peculiar, until the late 19th century, although, some probate was processed in the Durham Court from 1831.

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

Items must be in the form of WORD, RTF or ODT file, to be attached to an e-mail and sent to ndfhsnews@ndfhs.org.uk Photographs and other images should be attached separately as JPG files.