

Tommy Shepherd's last resting place



LESS than a month before the first world war came to an end, Barningham postmaster Thomas Shepherd, private in the 10th Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, died fighting the Austrian Army at Tezze in northern Italy. He was 34. This is where his

body lies today, in the local British Cemetery. The photo on the right is the only known picture of him, discovered after years of searching by his grand-daughter Rosie Yates, who sent it to us via the Teesdale historic postal service website. See *Archives 2 and 6*.

archive award

Deadline nears for our award

DEADLINE for the *Archive* awards for local history projects is Saturday August 28. Entries should be delivered to Jon Smith at Heath House.

The judges are a couple of friendly (but neutral) local history experts: Chris Lloyd, who masterminds *Echo Memories* in the Northern Echo, and Andy Kluz, producer of Tyne-Tees' acclaimed series *The Way We Were*.

The award and any runners-up prizes will be presented at the village show on Saturday September 4 and the winning entry – and maybe others, too – will be featured in the

Maps go to DCRO

THE 1838 Barningham tithe maps rescued from the Rectory skip have been delivered to the safe custody of Durham County Record Office.

Archivists there were delighted – they hadn't got their own copies – and plan to restore them before sending us digitalised photos that we can use to create replicas for public display, perhaps in the village hall.

The record office has also taken various other old documents, and all the surplus parish magazines, too. See *Pages 8-9*.



footnote

OUR guided tour of Scargill Castle takes place on Friday September 17th, 6pm. If you want to go, please let secretary Ann Orton (621024) know as soon as possible.



The Archive is a regular record of the activities of Barningham Local History Group, including members' research and updates on information in its publications. Copies are available to group members and non-members for an annual subscription of £10. Back issues can be purchased for £2 each. There's an index to past issues of the Archive on our website.

Contact Jon Smith, Tel: 01833 621374, email history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk
www.barninghamvillage.co.uk



Archive 10

THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk



INSIDE: HOW THE RECTOR SAVED A LOT OF SIXPENCES



All out for a photo (and a quick fag)

BARNINGHAM'S cricket team of 1950, pictured outside what looks like a fairly rough-and-ready pavilion.

In the back row were umpire Freddie Smith, Jonty Purvis, Jack Fitzpatrick, John Metcalfe (former Park House farmer who we're sad to record died on August 8th at the age of 90) and village shopkeeper Stan Atherton.

In the centre are Hugh Malsbury, Norman

Walker, William Metcalf, Harold Dent (the one who wasn't going to be parted from his cigarette) and Geoffrey Smith, son of Freddie and destined to gain national fame for his horticultural prowess.

The four in front were Bill Powell, Reg Cowell, Jock Anderson and John Maughan.

Anyone know how the team fared that season?

inside this issue

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NEXT HISTORY GROUP MEETING: TUES SEPTEMBER 7th, 6pm 6pm

A brief encounter with Stone Age Man

Minutes of the Barningham History Group, August 3rd 2010 at 6pm.

Present: Robin Brooks, Jon Smith, Sheila Catton, Liz Hunt, Phil Hunt, June Johnson, Ann Rowley, Ed Simpson, Sue Prytherick, June Graham, Greta Carter, Ann Stafford, Janet Wrigley, Doreen Railton, Neil Turner, Beverley Peach, Dianne Metcalf, Ann Hutchinson.

Apologies: Eric & Kay Duggan, Ann & Tony Orton, David & Louise Ferrari, Elaine McDermott.

Minutes of previous meeting, published in *Archive 9*, agreed as correct.

Matters arising to be dealt with under Agenda items.

Correspondence:

Applebys: A contact from Gateshead brought a copy of the history of this family which originated in Eppleby and was in Barningham from the 16th Century before moving away. **Kiplings:** Here for 200-300 years. **Robertson:** Contact from Mary Robertson from Spokane, USA. **Rev. Close:** Marion Lewis of Hutton Magna had given details of the ghost vicar. **Porters:** Lived in now-demolished cottage behind the present Heath Cottages. **Helwith:** History of the school and schoolmaster. **Small:** Family in Scargill c1830 and then moved to Sunderland.

Financial Report: Publication sales totalled £71 and subscriptions brought income for the month to £83. Expenditure on printing, rent and resources totalled £128.70, leaving us with a balance of £467.06. Sixty copies of each *Archive* were now being distributed, 22 by post.

Publications/resources: *Archive 9* was now out. JS was compiling an index which would be published with *Archive 12* at the end of the

guest speaker



Marion Moverley, Richmond historian, will be at our next meeting on September 7th, talking among other things about Barningham Academy and other 'Yorkshire' schools of the 18th and 19th centuries. Were all the Wackford Squeers horror stories true? Come along and find out.

minutes of the last meeting

year. The Newsham Census book was also now available.

Film Project: The DVD had gone to the shop for final editing and production.

Scargill Castle visit: September 17th. Anyone wanting to go should give names to Ann Orton.

Guest Speaker: Samantha Belcher, Community Curator at the Bowes Museum, gave an excellent talk about her role and brought along eight artefacts which were passed around the room:

1. A stone-age hand axe originating from Kent, about 10,000 years old;
2. A replica flint barbon-tanged arrowhead;
3. A pottery replica of a bronze-age pot, highly decorated, with the impressed markings having a possible ritual and perhaps crematory origin;
4. A Roman pot shard from Mortaria, found locally;
5. A Samian ware shard found in Binchester;
6. A miniature stone Roman altar found locally;
7. A Roman copper alloy trumpet brooch with enamel, found in Binchester; and
8. An 1800s farthing found in the Binchester excavation.

Next Meetings: Tuesdays September 7th, October 19th, December 7th (note change), January 11th, all at 6.00 pm.

Any other business: Both Greta Carter and Neil Turner were able to answer some of the questions raised about the photographs on the cover of *Archive 9*.

The wagon-like vehicle on the village green was a mobile cookery classroom that came annually for a few weeks every year. Miss Andrews ("blonde and a cracker", according to Neil) was the teacher in the 1940s.

The sign opposite the chapel was a notice-board headed "Who's on the Lord's Side?" and giving the possible list of sinners. One night, said Neil, the Powell brothers added the names of everyone in the village. The sign by the pub was a school warning sign. During the war it was repainted black and red using a cut potato.

PHIL HUNT, Acting Secretary

How the Rector saved ten shillings

WHEN Barningham's school pupils broke up for their summer holidays in 1888 they didn't go home empty-handed.

They carried with them their holiday homework, set by the Rector, the Rev George Hales: 40 lines of poetry to be learned off by heart.

Did they do it? This is what one anonymous pupil wrote mournfully on the day she returned, a handwriting exercise dictated to her and many of her classmates by a stern Rev Hales:

The Rector gave me a piece of Poetry to learn during the holidays. He thought it would be useful to me in years to come, as well as good for me in many other ways. He takes great pains every day to teach me, and tries to do everything he can to make me love learning, and the way in which I have shown my grati-

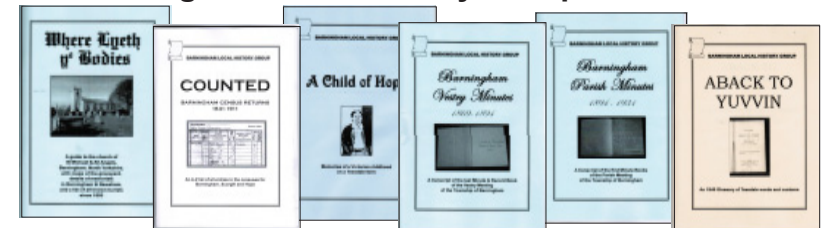
from the school log

tude is by not caring to please him by trying to learn forty lines in thirty days.

Only five out of fifteen present this morning knew the lines, and although the Rector promised no reward, he intended to give one, and so gave sixpence to each child who said the lines correctly. Had I learnt the lines it would have greatly pleased him, and perhaps the day may come when I shall be sorry I did not try to fulfil his wishes and endeavours for my good.

— Found in Barningham's National School Logbook for October 22 1888

Barningham Local History Group Publications



Where Lyeth Ye Bodies

A guide to Barningham church, graveyard map, details of memorials, and list of every known burial. £8. Non-members: £10 + £1 p&p.

Counted: An A-Z of Census returns 1841-1911

Arranged so that families can be tracked through 70 years. Volume 1 covers Barningham, Scargill and Hope; Volume 2 Newsham and New Forest. £8 each. Non-members: £10 + £1 p&p

A Child of Hope

The childhood memories of Mary Martin, born on a Teesdale farm in 1847. £4. Non-members: £5 + £1 p&p

Barningham Vestry Minutes 1869-1894, Parish Minutes 1894-1931

Transcripts of meetings, with background history, index and list of named parishioners. £4. Non-members: £5 + £1p&p

Aback to Yuvvin: 1849 Glossary of Teesdale words & customs

A reproduction of Frederick Tinsdale's *Glossary of Provincial Words*. £4. Non-members: £5 + £1 p&p

The Archive: Back issues £1 each. £2 + £1 p&p to non-members

There's nowt so queer as folk...

Back in 1972, young teenager Yvonne Watson, daughter of Lewis (1934-1999) of Glebe Farm, Barningham, was asked to produce a school essay with the above title, and wrote about two village characters we've mentioned in *The Archive*. Her brother Mark, now living at Sussex House, found it recently and thought it worth re-printing. So do we.

THERE is an old man who lives near me and his name is Gerbert Brass which is short for George Herbert.

He goes out for a walk about three times a day and wears a great overcoat and a trilby. In summer he wears a straw hat.

He is married and has about six grown-up children. He helps the farmers around about by catching moles and hanging them by bits of string on the wire fences. Last time I counted one line there were about a hundred and forty-six, and they all stank because they had been out ages.



'Gerbert' in 1930

He often talks to me when I walk past and every so often he lets out a great spit which speeds to the ground, making a small puddle. He maddens my dad because when he comes to talk to him when he is working on the farm he tells him to do all these things which he thinks are right and my dad does not like being told what he is doing wrong. He has a bright red face especially in winter and this makes him look like a beetroot. There is this woman who is always complaining to the police about the cow dirt all down our road and when Gerbert heard about this he called her a name which I will not write down.

I like him and I should miss seeing him if he



Yvonne in the early 1970s with friend Jill Railton (daughter of Doreen of Moor Lea) now Jill James of Newsham

never walks any more.

Another man in our village is Bobby Etherington who is a coalman or used to be till he retired. He is just what you would imagine a coalman to look like. He is big, rather fat with a red face and not much hair. He is sarcastic and if I talk to him sometimes he brings in a piece about a lad up the village who wants to see me, I used to believe him but not any more. I think everyone likes him because he is so funny and he makes a queer noise like a broken down duck when he goes past in his coal wagon. He washes his car at the pump every Sunday nearly and he always chcks buckets of water at me if I walk past. I don't think he really cares if he soaks you to the skin as long as he can have a laugh.



Bobby

● George Herbert Brass (1899-1973) was married to Nancy "Nana" Brass (1907-1997) – see Archive 2. Two of their children, Robert and Irene, lived in Barningham for many years before moving to Barnard Castle.

● Bobby Etherington (1902-1994) was Neil Turner's uncle, who painted a pig – see Archive 7.

The folks who live down the road

THE history group's horizons extend beyond Barningham village, and we've been happy to welcome new members from Newsham at recent meetings. Among them is Michael Graham, who offers this brief history of the village where his family has lived for at least 150 years.

THE origins of Newsham are lost in time, but it is likely that there were people living on the site in Roman times as a certain amount of Roman pottery has been found, which no doubt came from Roman troops and travellers using Watling Street which is still the northern boundary of the village.

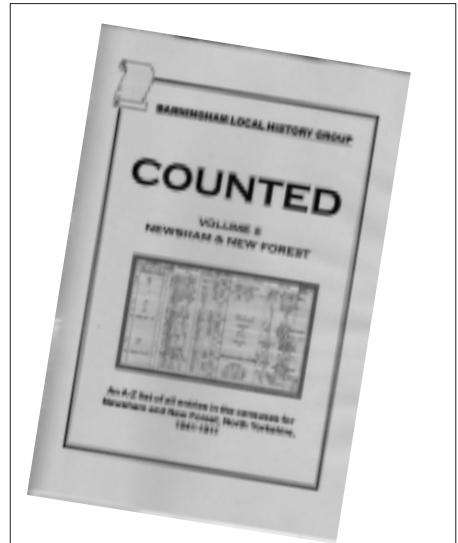
The first hard fact about Newsham is the Domesday Book, which states 'in Neuhusom there are seven Carucates of Geld, and there may be 5 Ploughs. Of this Ulchil had five Carucates and sport two Carucates and they had Halls. Now Earl Allen has the Land of Sport and Bodin the land of Ulchil and ten villans and four Bordars with four Ploughs. There are four Acrets of Meadow and Underwood, half a leuga in length and a third in breadth. The whole is one levea long and half broad... In the time of King Edward it was worth 20s.'

During Tudor and Stuart times Newsham must have prospered, as a market of some sort was held, though the only remaining evidence is the old market cross at the west end of the village, together with the iron stocks which replaced the old wooden ones in 1928.

In 1557 in the reign of Queen Mary that part of the village in the ecclesiastical parish of Kirby Hill (Newsham has always been divided between that and Barningham) started to benefit from the founding of the free grammar school and alms houses by the Rev John Dakyn at Kirby Hill, and to this day elderly villagers who have lived in the parish for at least ten years can apply for cheap accommodation in one of the six alms house flats.

Though the grammar school no longer exists as a school the building is still there and is used as a flat and meeting place. Money derived from the John Dakyn Trust is used to give grants to local school leavers for further education.

During the Middle Ages the population of



NEW: Our second volume of census returns from 1841 to 1911, this one covering Newsham and the New Forest, arranged in an A-Z format so individuals and families can be easily tracked down through the years. Available from the BLHG, £8 to members: contact Jon Smith Telephone 01833 621374 or email history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk

Newsham would have been employed in agriculture and in the many lead and coalmines to the south of the village.

There is little further information until we come to the writings of James Coates, schoolmaster of Newsham Place, who lived between 1761 and 1788. His journals are full of local detail. (The history group has access to these and plans to produce copies for members in the near future).

In this period there were two boarding schools, Newsham Place and Earby Hall, operated by the Johnson family and apparently of the Dotheboys Hall type. These schools purchased their writing paper from the Newsham paper mill, which operated on a site between the corn



Silver Street, Newsham, sometime about 1930: note the old car in the distance

mill in the village and the Low Lane to Dalton and Gayles. Some remains of the paper mill still exist.

In 1777 there was a local Act of Parliament passed for 'dividing and inclosing the Common and Waste Lands and a Stinted Pasture in the Township of Newsham'. This resulted in the Newsham Award of June 1782, two parts of which are still in operation today, somewhat revised:

1. The Newsham Bull Land, originally land set aside for the upkeep of a bull for the use of those in the village who had a cow; today it is rented out for grazing

2. Three village quarries, also now rented out for grazing.

These lands and quarries are now a registered charity and the rents used to benefit the village.

There is a scarcity of information from the early 19th Century, but in the 1890s we have Bulmer's *History and Directory of North Yorkshire* and the village meetings record book.

Bulmer's tells us that in 1890 the village had one general dealer, two grocers, a surgeon and a veterinary surgeon, a boot and shoe maker, a butcher, a tailor, a blacksmith who doubled up as the postmaster, one shepherd, one stonemason,

newsham history

three innkeepers and 15 farmers. Strangely, there is no mention of a corn miller though we know the corn mill had been in operation for some considerable time. The paper mill had ceased operating in the late 1700s.

Notable events since then include:

1897: A tree was planted on the green to commemorate Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee.

1911: Two hundred villagers attended a fete to mark the coronation of George V.

1921: Sir Frederick Milbank unveiled the war memorial, erected at a cost of £174.

1923: The parish meeting was granted parish council status to enable it to administer the village green.

1930: Piped water was finally installed in all houses: before this villagers had collected water in pails and other containers from St John's Well.

1935: The council made up the roads in the village and widened them to allow motor vehicles to pass each other.

1936: The village celebrated the king's jubilee – and the arrival of the telephone, with poles erected on the green.

1938: Electricity came to Newsham. Mr

house histories

than 35 years until the 1960s, and the Shields family, Mike, Lynn and children in the 1980s.

In 1987 Barningham Estate sold Westoe – which by then had acquired a rear access from Shaw Lane – to Keith and Jane Barker. They sold it in 1993 to Mark and Emma Humphries, who extended it to create a third bedroom and extra space downstairs.

They lived there for a decade, before selling it in 2004, when the present occupants, Phil and Ann Heys, moved here from Baldersdale.

● *Next issue: Elim Cottage, Heatherlands and (if there's space!) Gillbeck House.*

whitby trip

Spare places

THE bus is booked for our trip to Whitby on Saturday October 2nd. It's a 24-seater, and so far there are 19 names on the passenger list – if you're going and your name isn't among those below, please let Jon Smith know asap.

If the list's up-to-date, it means we have five spare places. It would be good (and cheaper!) to fill them, so if you know of anyone else who fancies a day out at the seaside, let Jon know.

The bus leaves Barningham at 8am and returns from Whitby around 6pm. Thirteen people are booked to go round museums, though we know some will be opting out of the afternoon visit and spending the day on the beach (or in the pub) instead. Six more people are down for the bus trip alone. Those doing the full museums tour should have a couple of hours in Whitby before the bus sets off back.

Cost of the bus will be £12.60 a head (down to £10 if we fill every seat); those who are going round one or more of the museums need to add another £8. The list:

Bus + museum (£20.60): Jon Smith, Ann Hutchinson (two places), Elaine McDermott (four places), Ann & Tony Orton, John & Sue Prytherick, David & June Johnson.

Bus only (£12.60): Sheila Catton (three places), Mary Collard, Viv Day (two places).

We'll collect money on the day.

from the parish mag

115 YEARS AGO: We have been wishful to send our Sunday school children for a day to the sea-side, as it would not only give them much pleasure but also as a great change from a moorland district would do them all much good. A collection has been made, and although we have not raised nearly as much as in former years, still it has been decided to send them all to Redcar. We shall be very grateful of promises of vehicles to take them to and from Barnard Castle station, which will of course greatly lessen the expense. – *September 1895*

90 YEARS AGO: The closure of the Scargill schools for the summer holidays brought to a close the 22 years of Miss Lowes' residence in Scargill as Headmistress. The occasion was marked by the presentation of a beautiful gold wrist watch and a purse containing over £5. We are very pleased to announce that Miss Booker has accepted the post of Headmistress and that Miss Hillary has kindly undertaken the voluntary work of playing the harmonium. – *September 1920*

65 YEARS AGO: The Rector desires to express his sincere gratitude to those who made his holiday possible: the Rev William Oliver, Mr Robnson, Mr Wilkinson, Mr John Wilford and Canon Shettle. The harvest is going to be an early one, and we trust it will be gathered without too much labour. Here and there, up and down the country, corn has been badly laid through storms. – *September 1945*

45 YEARS AGO: Much local history is centred round the Church, and many neighbouring villages had the expert help of the late Mr Oliver in producing guide books to their churches. Barningham was a village he had not tackled and unfortunately owing to his last illness he was unable to do this. Would anyone like to have a shot at it? Let me start you on a search. Mr Oliver told me he had often looked for a drawing of the original church pulled down in 1811, but has never been able to find one. Do have a look amongst some of your books and treasures to see if you have such an important picture. – *September 1965*

● *We've at last produced the guide – but still no sign of a picture of the old church. –Ed.*

house histories



Plaque on The Laurels wall

street-facing gable end with his initials on it, with what could be a date below but it's too worn to decipher.

It's tempting to think Todd designed the house to complement the chapel opposite, and certainly its classical southern architrave (a bit like the one on the converted barn now part of Heath House, erected at much the same time) gives it something of an ecclesiastical look. Perhaps Todd thought it might be used as the Wesleyan minister's home, but he was pre-empted by his relative John Todd, who died in 1838 leaving money to build The Nook for this purpose, and we know of no evidence that The Laurels was ever used for any religious purpose.

Sometime later, certainly by the early 20th century, the house was bought by the Milbank family, who have owned it ever since. It was traditionally the home of the Barningham Park head gardeners, among them Fred Smith in the 1940s whose son Geoff followed in his father's horticultural footsteps and became a national celebrity (his brother Alan opened a dancing school on Teesside and also won fame, comprising some editions of *Come Dancing*).

Neil Turner recalls Fred as "a very severe-looking moustachioed man", though he doesn't look much like that in the photo of him as a cricket umpire on the front of this *Archive*.

He was succeeded as the hall gardener by Raymond Johnson, married to Betty (nee Blade, a maid at The Yews) and father of three sons, Harry and twins Keith and Ken. Ken married Irene Brass and lived at 4 Park View for many years before moving to Barnard Castle.

During the 1970s the tenancy passed to Les and Janet Ridley and they raised sons Paul and

Chris there until Les died, aged 55, in 2001. The house was briefly occupied after that by a female couple before the current tenants, Nat and Sally Ridgway, moved in.

WESTOE

WESTOE is much older than The Laurels, a typical Barningham cottage probably dating back to the first half of the 18th Century, though planners believe the black front door dates back to the 1500s and forbid it being changed.

In 1838 it was owned by 71-year-old widow Margaret Tinkler, who shared it with John Richardson, 76. It seems Margaret moved out shortly afterwards to live with her son John Sowerby (presumably she'd remarried at some time, hence the different name), though it could be John and his family moved into Westoe with her. She lived on until 1852; John Richardson was buried on Christmas Day 1843.

There's a long gap after that until the start of the 20th Century, by which time the cottage had passed into Milbank ownership. Quite when it acquired its name (and why it was called Westoe) we don't know.

The earliest occupants after that who we're sure about were the Powells, Milbank tenants relocated by Sir Frederick when he transferred his family seat from North Wales to Barningham towards the end of the first world war.

Neil Turner recalls both Westoe and Shaw House as the home of "Granny Powell" and her large family. Her grandson David Powell later lived at 1 Park View with his wife Doreen, bringing up four daughters whose names all began with D. He and Doreen now live in Barnard Castle.

Later tenants included Stan and Sylvia Atherton, who ran the village post office for more



newsham history

Watson, the miller, installed a generator at the mill and was granted permission to erect poles to carry light to his house.

1939: The GPO erected the phone box on the green, at an annual rate of one shilling.

1940s: Arrival of evacuees, and creation of an active Home Guard unit during the war.

At the outbreak of war there were many small businesses in the village: the cornmill; a cycle repair shop selling tools and offering a wet battery service for wireless sets; a boot and shoe maker; a draper's shop; a seamstress; two blacksmiths; a wheelwright; a shop selling bread, cakes and tobacco; a post office offering tobacco, cigarettes and groceries; a general store; two haulage contractors; a bus operator; and three pubs. There was also a chapel. Today only one haulage contractor and the bus operator remain.

Back in 1841, at the time of the first census, there were 398 people living in the Newsham census area, occupying 99 separate buildings; another 12 were standing empty.

Seventy years later, in 1911, the population had dropped by more than a third to 268, and the number of homes had shrunk to 60.

Some of this reflects houses falling into permanent disuse or being turned into agricultural buildings, but it was also a time when many tiny cottages were being merged into larger dwellings.

The drop in the population in the late Victorian years was at least partly due to increasing mechanisation of agriculture – women farm labourers seems to have been particularly hard-hit – and the parallel lure of factory work in the towns. Birth rates fell in Newsham during this period, as elsewhere. In 1851 eleven families



Newsham war memorial, unveiled in 1921

were recorded with five or more children at home; in 1901 only three.

The population seems to have stayed fairly constant over the past century, although lot of new houses have appeared. The 2001 census recorded a total of 278 people in the parish (135 male, 143 female) living in 125 different households.

- The Newsham census area, based on the parish boundaries, comprised the village itself and outlying farms.
- The figures below exclude scholars at the boarding school, almost all of whom were boys.
- *More facts and figures can be found in the history group's census booklet – see Page 3.*

NEWSHAM CENSUS FIGURES 1841-1911 & 2001

	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	2001
HOUSEHOLDS	99	91	84	75	66	53	56	60	125
EMPTY HOUSES	12	5	20	10	12	21	2	13	n/a
MALES	177	204	192	158	144	105	112	151	135
FEMALES	221	196	174	136	131	101	113	117	143
TOTAL	398	400	366	294	275	206	225	268	278

letters & emails

Searching for the Scargill Kiplings

OUR branch of the Kiplings lived in Scargill in the 16th-18th century, the earliest known being Gyles Kipling who died in 1626.

My Gt-Gt-Gt-Gt-Gt-Grandfather Francis Kipling was born there but moved to Coniscliffe before 1720. His second cousin, John Kipling, is buried in Barningham churchyard with his wife Jane (my father and I visited the grave in July to photograph it).

I would be interested to know what records, if any, about Barningham you are aware of which go back before the parish registers commenced and which may mention the Kiplings (a relatively common name around Teesdale and Swaledale at that time).

My father and I live in West Sussex – and, before you ask, we are not related to Rudyard Kipling as far as I can tell. In fact, his branch of the Kiplings has not to my knowledge been traced back beyond the mid-18th century. The missing link is a John Kipling, born c1730, who moved to Loftus near Middlesborough and is first recorded marrying there in 1764.

MIKE KIPLING
Horsham, West Sussex

● *We've directed Mike towards our burials listings, which show a host of Kiplings, Kiplins, Kiplins and Kiplines ending their days in Barningham churchyard. The earliest was Leonard Kiplin, buried in 1587; the last John Kipling, who died in 1766 – the only one with a headstone still to be found. –Ed.*

The 'ghost' curate

THE Reverend Arthur Close, the curate in your story about the Sprent Bridge ghost in *Archive 9*, was vicar of Hutton Magna for 32 years.

He was born at Newton-le-Willows near Bedale, educated at Richmond school, Rossall School and Jesus College Cambridge, and was ordained in 1880. His first curacy was at Kirby Ravensworth, where his father was vicar, and in 1890 became a vicar himself at Hutton Magna.

He married Fanny Hewitt Walker, daughter of a doctor in Aldbrough St John, in 1887, and had two sons. One, Robert, died during the first world war while serving as a lieutenant in the Yorkshire Regiment; the other, Victor, married and went to live in Folkestone: he had one son, who also became a vicar.

The Rev Close had a great love of Teesdale and Swaledale and knew every part of them and many of the people who lived there. Delving into history of the Dales villages became his pastime when he retired and went to live in Darlington in 1922, writing many articles about local people and events of the past and writing a book called *Travel and Transport in Olden Days*, printed in 1927.

In old age he had a wonderfully retentive memory and never tired of talking about the people he had known. He knew Fanny Shaw, daughter of the Bowes schoolmaster immortalised by Dickens as Wackford Squeers in *Nicholas Nickleby*. Fanny later married a Mr Bousfield, and the Rev Close had often talked to her.

He died in 1936, aged 80, a decade after his wife. Both are buried in Hutton Magna.

MARION LEWIS, Hutton Magna

Todds down-under

I'D like to order a copy of your graveyard book for our Northern Group at the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies (one of the two genealogical societies in Melbourne).

I saw the reviews in the Cleveland Family History Society magazine as I am a member of the society. I was also told about your interest in the Todd family by Belinda Goyder, of Gainford History Society. I have also wondered about ordering some copies of the *Archive* for our group – mainly we are interested in genealogical information regarding the local families and the house histories. I would be guided by your opinion as to which of the *Archives* would be most useful.

Belinda sent me your article 'The Shame of Cheesmonger John' (*Archive 4*) which was most interesting. I understand that you wondered about the possibility of finding your John Todd on our family tree but the 1829 date is just a little early for the 'John' Todd who was one

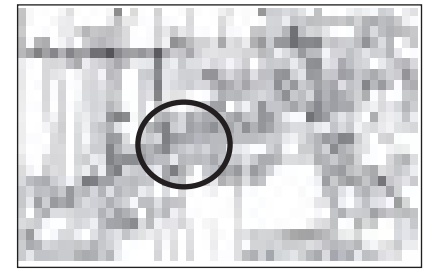
house histories

A home for gardeners, and an ancient door

ONE of the group projects is to create a data base of all the houses in Barningham, with details of their history and who has lived in them over the years.

Buildings we've discussed in recent meetings include *The Laurels* and *Westoe*, which we look at in more detail below.

If you have more information about these houses, or details of others in the village, please let us know.



THE LAURELS

STANDING opposite the former Wesleyan chapel, and looking a bit like a converted chapel itself, *The Laurels* is a bit of a mystery.

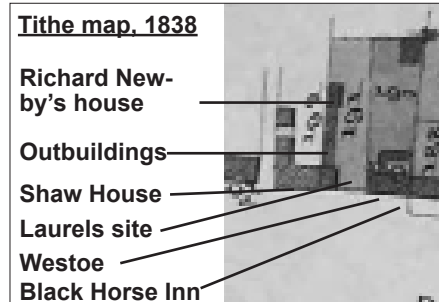
For a start, it is one of the few houses in the village to face east, and it is difficult at first to see why, because there is clearly space between its neighbours *Shaw House* and *Westoe* to fit in

a south-facing building as large as the *Laurels*.

However, the 1838 tithe map (see below and the centre pages in this issue) shows the site as an empty garth with a long narrow structure on the western side, identified as a house and outbuildings owned by Richard Nickson and occupied by Richard Newby, the village post office messenger, his wife Ann and seven children.

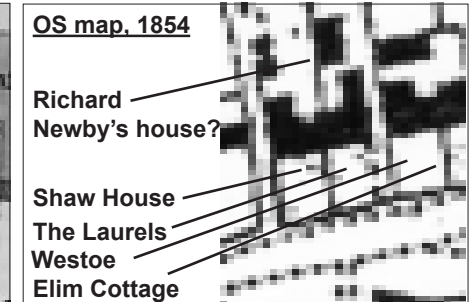
Fourteen years later, in 1854 when the first detailed Ordnance Survey map was made, the northernmost part of this, presumably the house, remained and to the south of it some of the outbuildings were incorporated into a new house, *The Laurels*, built 'sideways' presumably to retain access on the east to the rear – maybe because the Newby family was still living there: Richard didn't die until 1876.

Who bought the *Laurels* site from Richard Nixon and built the new house? Step forward William Todd, who owned several other houses in the street. There's a plaque high up on the



Tithe map, 1838

Richard Newby's house
Outbuildings
Shaw House
Laurels site
Westoe
Black Horse Inn



OS map, 1854

Richard Newby's house?
Shaw House
The Laurels
Westoe
Elim Cottage

How things changed between 1838 and 1854. Note the appearance of front gardens and a much-narrowed green, and the arrival of *The Laurels* – with a track to the east leaving access to the house still standing at the rear.

Time for an update, and some Robinsons

NOW that we've got a better idea of who lived where at the time of the 1841 census – see the map on pages 8 and 9 – we can revise some information we've given in previous *Archives*.

We've been tracking families in the order they appeared in the census enumerator's list, but it's now clear he didn't record them in the logical fashion you'd expect and there's no simple geographical pattern. So, a quick update.

Archive 3: A good start: we were right about who the two pub landlords were – Robert Spenseley at the Royal Oak (now the Milbank Arms) and Alexander Macdonald up the road at the Black Horse.

Archive 4: John Pearson's home is uncertain, but his brother and fellow cordwainer George was living in a cottage just west of the chapel. Smithson Holmes was in Rose or Holly Cottage.

Archive 5: The Wilkinsons were next-door – in Rose or Holly. Ann Ewbank was a few doors down, in or near Shaw House.

Archive 6: Still unclear where Mrs Gore and the Lambes lived.

Archive 7: No mention in 1838 of the Monk-houses or Lamberts, but the Scraftons were in a long-vanished house west of Heather Cottage.

Archive 8: William Todd owned several houses, all on the north-west side of the village. He probably lived in what is now Gillbeck. Ralph Goundry, the blacksmith, lived at or near the back of Glebe Farm, with his workshop behind the Rectory.

Archive 9: Ann Clarkson lived in one of the cottages round the corner from the Royal Oak; the Laws may be the Lowes living in North View; the home of the recently-deceased butcher Thomas Bowman isn't recorded in 1838, but it may be that he'd taken over the butcher's shop just east of the Royal Oak.

That's got us up to date. Now for the next name on that 1841 census list.

This was John Robinson, listed as a farmer. He was living at West End, where he had a carpenter's shop, but had recently handed this over to young George Nicholson, who moved in next-door and whose descendants were to keep it going for another century and a half. John was 56, born in Kirklevington and married to

1841 census trail, part 8

Continuing our journey through the village in the footsteps of the census form collector

Ann, a year younger. They had six children, all still at home in 1841. Ann died in 1853, John sometime before 1871.

One by one the children left Barningham, apart from the eldest, Henry, who had been born around 1804. He was a shoemaker, living in the 1850s at the Academy boarding school where he looked after the scholars' footwear and worked as a servant. He remained single, returning home when his mother died, and it was not until after his father's death that he moved out into one of the North View cottages and at last got married in his sixties, to a widowed charwoman from Bowes called Mary, 23 years his junior.

By then he was working as a coal carter, which he continued to do until his death in 1893, by that time well into his eighties.

Mary lived on until 1912. In 1901 she was looking after a seven-year-old granddaughter, also called Mary, who may well have been the child of George Robinson (relation of Henry?) who arrived in Barningham in the early 1890s with his wife Elizabeth and seven children.

George was born in Redworth, Elizabeth in Shap, but the family had lived for some time in Dorset before returning north. They also lived in the North View cottages, where George died in 1895, aged only 41. His widow eked out a living as washerwoman until she died, aged 59, in 1914.

Three of their children were working in 1901 – Ann, 21, as a cook; Albert, 19, as a railway porter; and 15-year-old Thomas as a gardener. None, apart from Mary, the youngest, remained at home a decade later. Elizabeth died in 1914; Mary and her sister Agnes lived on in Barningham until the 1970s.

There's a sad tale about them that we hope to relate in the next *Archive*.

● Also next issue: *Nicholsons and Mr Coates the coat-maker*.

letters & emails

of triplets (Belinda's ancestor being the eldest triplet, Anthony).

I wondered why you couldn't find him in the 1841 and 1851 censuses, though of course there is always mis-transcription. I had a look and found two possibilities. One is in the 1841 census, aged 13 with an estimated birth year of 1828; born in Durham and living in Houghton-le-Spring. His parents were Thomas and Anne Todd and he had two brothers and one sister.

Another possibility is a John Todd who was at Gainford School in 1841, aged ten and born in Durham. There was also a William Todd aged nine listed, not born in Durham. I think he would be worth checking. The fact that the Gainford John is in a school might suggest he had 'lost' his parents.

I have visited some of the graves 'down the hillside' at Brignall as there is an Anthony Todd grave there. Never quite sure where he fitted in... but there are many Todds in the area.

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Forum link

HERE'S the link to the organisation I mentioned to you at my recent talk to your history group, it may be of use to your society. You may find the 'who we are' and 'members' page of particular interest: www.durhamweb.org.uk/historyforum/

SAMANTHA BELCHER
Community Curator, The Bowes Museum

● This is a link to a recently-formed history and heritage forum for County Durham. It looks a useful organisation (with a lengthy list of potential speakers) and we've signed up for it. More in the next *Archive*. –Ed.



footnote

OUR reprint of the 1849 *Teesdale Glossary* was the subject of a very complimentary full-page colour feature in the August issue of the *Teesdale Mercury's Dale Life* magazine. It's also had a mention on *Radio Teesdale*.

old hints & recipes

A Sallet 'fit for a Prince's table'

From The English Housewife by Gervase Markham, 1615: a salad of various lettuces and herbs, raisins, currants, figs, oranges, lemons, pickled cucumbers, cauliflower and nuts, capers, olives, dressed with red wine vinegar, oil, and a little sugar.

TO Compound an excellent Sallet, and which indeede is usuall at great Feasts, and upon Princes Tables:

Take a good quantity of blaunch't Almonds, and with your Shredding knife cut them grosly; then take as manie Raisyns of the sunne cleane washt, and the stones pick't out, as many Figges shred like the Almonds, and as many Capers, twice so many Olives, and as many Currants as of all the rest cleane washt: a good handfull of the small tender leaves of Red Sage and Spinage.

Mixe all these well together with a good store of Sugar and lay them in the bottome of a great dish. Then put unto them Vinegar and Oyle, and scrape more Sugar over all; then take Orenge and Lemmons, and paring away the outward pills, cut them into thinne slices, then with those slices cover the sallet all over, which done, take the thin leafe of the red Coleflowre, and with them cover the Orenge and Lemmons all over.

Then over those red leaves lay another course of old Olives, and the slices of wel pickld Coucumbers, together with the very inward hart of your Cabbage lettuce cut into slices, then adorne the sides of the dish and the top of the Sallet with more slices of Lemons and Orenge and so serve it up.

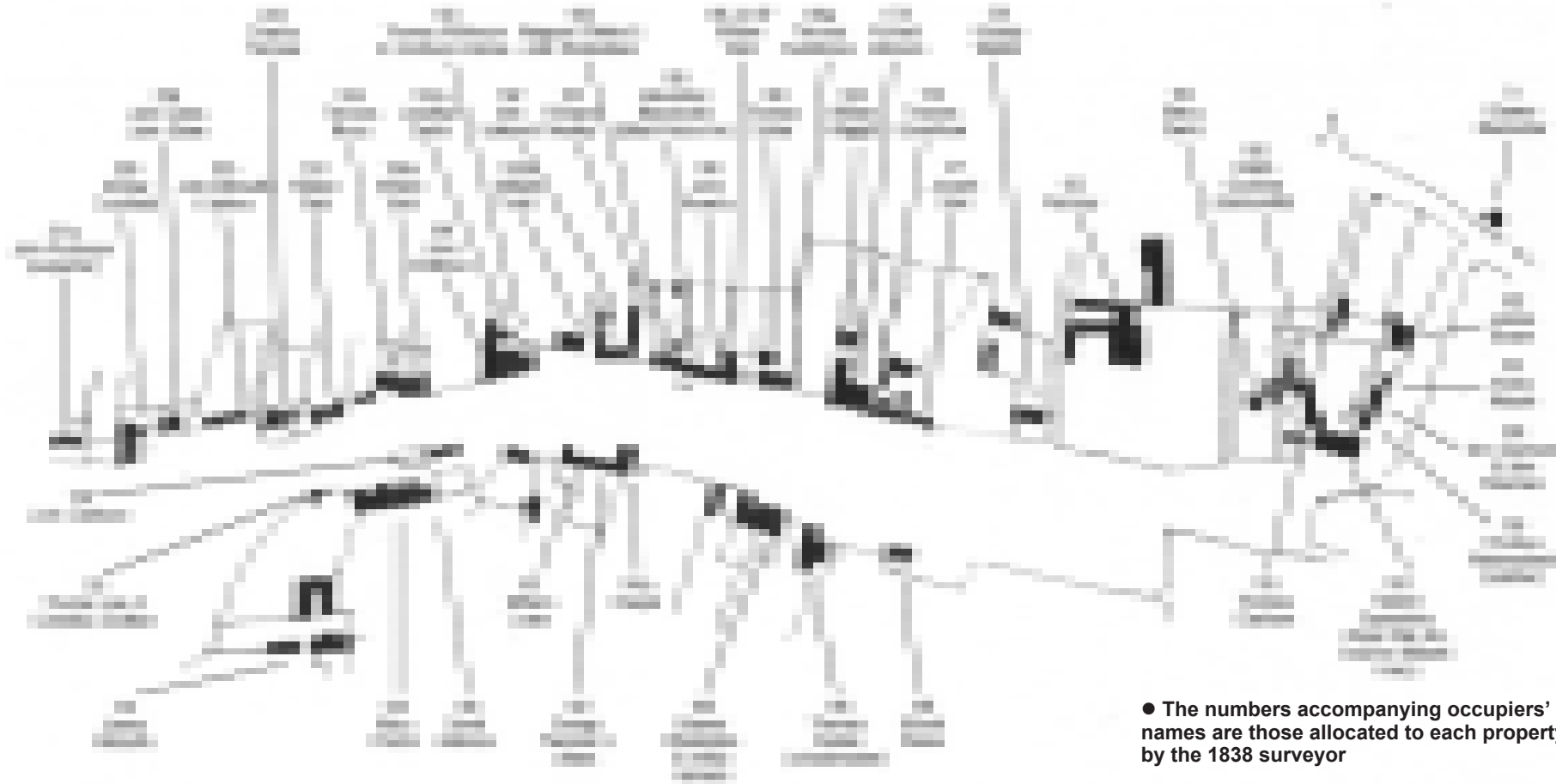
● I've found a modern version of this. To feed 8: 1/2 cup currants; 1 tblsp chopped almonds; 1 tblsp raisins; 1 tblsp chopped dried figs; 1 tblsp capers; 2 tblsp chopped olives; 1 tblsp oil; 1 tblsp vinegar; 2 tsp sugar; 1 tblsp chopped sage; 2 tblsp chopped spinach.

● If you have old recipes, please contact me so that they can be included in the booklet I am compiling.

KAY DUGGAN (01833 621455)

barningham 1838

Who lived where in Barningham the year after Victoria was crowned



● The numbers accompanying occupiers' names are those allocated to each property by the 1838 surveyor

THIS is where many Barningham residents lived when the Tithe Commissioners' surveyor went round making notes in 1838.

His job was to list every piece of land in the parish, with details of what it was called, who owned it, how big it was (to the nearest acre, pole and perch), what use it was put to, who lived in its houses, and, crucially, what it was all worth.

The results, handwritten in a huge index, were sent to the Commissioners along with a map of the area – a copy of which we rescued from the Rectory skip earlier this year. We've now tracked down a copy of the index in Durham County Record Office, and we plan to

produce a comprehensive guide to its contents.

The sketch map above is just a taste of what's to come. It's worth noting where the various tradesmen were located – the carpenter at West End (where Hilton Nicholson was still doing joinery up to a decade ago), the blacksmith behind the Royal Oak Inn, the butcher just round the corner.

Note, too, that five houses were listed as William Todd's residences – presumably he was letting some of them out to the numerous other Todds who lived in the village. And you might ponder what the cu-

rious oval enclosure was outside John Clarkson's long-demolished cottage (Number 139): an animal pound, perhaps, or a small pond? The surveyor's list doesn't carry any explanation.

What it does do is tell us what every field in the parish was called, and many of the names are intriguing. Where were Swish Mire, High Clover Leas, East Mill Close and West Sun Chariot? What were the Jam Letch and Jingle Potts?

Answers, we hope, in future *Archives* – watch this space.