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#### the goodalls' wedding

• From Page 1

half – and stayed there until the 1960s, bringing up their only child Les there before moving down to Reading Room Cottages.

Neil Turner can identify eight of the guests in the photo. From left to right, they were George's best man Billy Marwood, a gamekeeper at Scargill; unknown; Arthur Brass, of West End Cottage; George's cousin Hannah Brown; two unknown; Mrs Marwood; Bert Hart, Gaylesbased postman; unknown; Mrs Hart; Charlie Brown, estate joiner and Mrs Hart's brother; and his wife Blanche.

"George was bald from the age of 21," recalls Neil. "Betty's father moved in with them after the wedding but she soon persuaded him to leave and he went to lodge with Mrs Ann Delaney, a widow living in Reading Room Cottage.

"He bought her the first television set in the village and she used to spend hours criticising the girls who appeared on it – 'look at them brazzen things showing their legs!' she'd say to my mother when she called in."

Neil remembers a television being set up in the village hall for the Coronation in 1953. "It was packed, standing room only, and I never got anywhere near it. I've never seen the coronation yet.

"It rained all day, it was a wicked, wicked day. There was a parade down the village and all the kids got soaked."

#### footnote

EVIE Ridgway's Archive Awards film about life in Barningham today can be seen at <a href="https://www.cultureshock.org.uk">www.cultureshock.org.uk</a>, just search for 'Barningham' and up it comes. Sorry it's not on our BLHG website as well, Evie – but it just can't cope with so big a file.

## Plaque will go up on 135th anniversary

BARNINGHAM village hall opened as a school on December 7th 1875, marked by a stone inscription outside now too weatherworn to read.

At our history group meeting on the same day this year, a plaque recording the original dedication will be unveiled inside the hall. The school was built in memory of Lady Augusta Milbank, and one of her descendants will be

#### old hints & recipes

### **Mincemeat Pie**

THIS is an updated version of an Elizabethan recipe, serving 4-6 people.

You need: An eight-inch unbaked pie pastry shell; 12oz of ground veal; 4oz of beef suet, finely chopped; 2 cups of mince apples; three-quarters of a tsp salt; eighth tsp pepper, freshly ground; eighth tsp nutmeg also freshly ground; eighth tsp mace; quarter tsp cloves; quarter tsp cinnamon; 3 egg yolks, hard-boiled; 1 tsp rose water; 1 tsp sugar; 1 tsp finely-minced orange peel; 1 tsp finely-minced lemon peel; 2 tbsp of currants; 8 dates, pitted and minced; 8 prunes, pitted and minced.

Method: ① Bake pie shell at 425 degrees for 10 minutes and allow to cool. ② In a bowl combine the veal, suet, apple, salt and spices, mixing well. ③ Mash egg yolks with rose water and sugar. ④ Add yolks and remaining ingredients to meat mixture, mixing like a meat loaf. ⑤ Place mixture in pie shell, smoothing over the top. ⑥ Cover with aluminium foil and bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes. ⑦ Remove the foil and bake for an additional 10 minutes. ⑧ Serve immediately

• If you have old hints or recipes to share, please contact Kay Duggan (01833 621455)

## The Archive

Copies of *The Archive*, the newsletter of Barningham Local History Group, are available on annual subscription (£12 for 2011). Back issues can be purchased for £2 each (see index on our website). Contact Jon Smith, Tel: 01833 621374 email: <a href="mailto:history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk">history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk</a> website: <a href="mailto:www.barninghamvillage.co.uk">www.barninghamvillage.co.uk</a>



# Archive 12



THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

INSIDE: •What the butler saw •1817 survey •Off to war in 1916



## All dressed up for the wedding, 1930

IT'S 80 years ago, and guests line up for the photographer outside Barningham church after the wedding of George and Betty Goodall.

George was a forester working for the hall estate, his bride a lass from Dalton way. They moved into the eastern half of Heath House – George's uncle Charlie Brown lived in the other

• Continued on back page

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NEXT HISTORY GROUP MEETING: TUES DECEMBER 7th 6pm

## Maps, trips and some interview tips

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19th minutes of the last meeting October 2010:

Present: Sheila Catton, Phil Hunt. Anne Hutch- cember issue (see Page 4). inson, Elaine McDermott, Dianne Met-calf, Bey Finances: Income in September from publi-Mark Watson, Lance Hodgson.

Apologies: Greta Carter, Robin Brooks, Kay & Eric Duggan, Louise Ferrari, Ann & Tony House Histories: Heatherlands and Gillbeck Orton, Janet Wrigley.

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

page). The latest Teesdale Mercury carried a long story about the search for the missing clock **Publications:** Archive 11 had been distributed and other group activities.

outside The Rectory and sent a disc containing Coates, Newsham schoolmaster in the 1780s. digitalised copies and pictures of the restora- Field names: Janet Wrigley was working on coltion work. Jon said fullsize (five foot by two) copies, printed on canvas, could be obtained at a reasonable price and it was agreed to consult with the village hall committee about where one or more might go. Copies of the disc contents were available to members on request.

Visits: Seventeen members attended the visit to Scargill Castle on September 17 and thirteen toured Whitby's museums on October 2. Both trips were very successful and enjoyed by all. Pictures of both were shown (See Page 3).

Correspondence: Contact had been made by people related to Holmes, Sylvester and Wiseman families of Barningham. The Altogether Archaeology group had sent details of forthcoming activities at which volunteers would be welcome (see Page 15).

**Fame!** The BBC's Who Do You Think You Are? magazine had chosen our group as the featured competition! for the month for their De-

& Mike Peach, Sue Prytherick, Ann Rowley, cation sales and subscriptions was £129.00; Sally & Evie Ridgeway, Jon Smith, Neil Turner, expenditure including publication costs, DVD expenses, award prizes and donations totalled £289.08, leaving a balance of £309.93.

House (see Pages 14-15).

Guest speaker: Jon introduced Lance Hodgson, Village hall: A plaque had been ordered record- grandson of the butler at Barningham Park a ing the inscription on the outside wall (see back century ago, and he gave a fascinating account of his grandfather's life (see Pages 17-18).

and Archive 12 would be out in November. Jon Tithe Maps: Durham County Record Office said he and Marion Moverley were making prohad repaired the maps rescued from a skip gress on a transcription of the diaries of James

lating the tithe map names and present-day fields.

Wartime: Phil Hunt reported on progress.

Film projects: Evie Ridgeway's video was available on the internet (see back page). Copies of Neil Turner's Barningham Memories DVD would be available at the film showing on November 5.

Oral history: Phil Hunt reported on a workshop he had attended, which he said had provided very useful advice on interviewing, recording and transcribing techniques. It was agreed he should borrow equipment from the North Pennines AONB and arrange one or more trial interviews as soon as possible.

Next meetings: December 7th, when Eric Barnes would be the guest speaker, and January 11th.

SUE PRYTHERICK, Acting Secretary

WE challenged you in the last issue to identify what linked Barningham and this actor, best-known as Batman's butler. He is, of course, Michael Gough, and he's the grandson of the Rev Edwin Spencer Gough, Rector of the village from 1889 to 1925. First to come up with the answer was Kay Duggan. This month's challenge: What links the village with a wrestler from Amarillo? Answer in the next issue.



#### neil's notes

### Bits we couldn't fit on the DVD sleeve...

Some additional notes about people and places on the Barningham Memories DVD:

SHARON COTTAGE: Demolished and now the site of Curlew House. The stone from the old buildings was taken down to Nor Beck and used to shore up the banks near the bridge.

**THE HUNTERS:** 'Tab' (I don't know his real name) Hunter was intensely jealous of his wife, who was always very well dressed. Look at her hat on the video – just like Norah Batty in *Last* Of The Summer Wine.

**RACING:** There's a bit on the video showing Bill Blades and Bill Powell studying racing form in the paper. They used to send me down to the bookies with their bets.

**PUB SINGERS:** The song the five men are singing on the video is Old Macdonald had a Farm – but not the children's version!

**DUKE JAMESON'S** name appears by mistake on the Newsham war memorial even though (obviously) he didn't die in the first world war. How they made the error I don't know.

**RACHEL AINSLEY,** the baby seen at the hall fete in the video, was killed after walking into the path of an ice cream van when she was four.

MARY SAUNDERS of The Cottage was the daughter of Mr Hutchinson, the Stang Foot pub landlord. She married Billy Saunders, bus driver for Stapletons of Newsham, who was killed in a motorbike accident in 1949.

MRS CHADWICK was Lady Verena Milbank's companion at the dower house for many years.

I'LL always remember the day I filmed down on the Greta – it was the day Jim Reeves died.

**RUSTY THE FOX** was with us for seven years after we took him in as a cub. He was quite convinced he was a dog.

**ROSS**, who was a dog, won dozens of prizes and lived to be 21.

TOMMY THE CAT slept in the box below the pub dartboard and often staved there even when a darts match was going on. I don't think anybody ever hit him.

NEIL TURNER

#### ALTOGETHER ARCHAEOLOGY

### COME ALONG AND JOIN US!

BELOW are details of events you may be interested in. Volunteers are welcome at all events, regardless of experience, but it is essential to book in advance as places may be limited.

For the fieldwork modules, you will be welcome to attend every day or just for one or two days. If you like, come just for a day and see whether you like it – there's no compulsion to come back if vou don't! If you might like to get involved with anything on the list then please let me know and I will get in touch with you.

Westgate Castle (Weardale): Nov 2010 and spring 2011. We aim to find the 'lost' castle of Westgate. in medieval times the Bishop of Durham's HO for Stanhope Park. We know where the castle stood, but don't know how much of it survives in the ground. A brief survey phase, including geophysics, is scheduled for November and we plan exploratory trenches in the spring.

Holwick Landscape Survey: Nov 2010 - Spring 2011. Land around Holwick in Upper Teesdale forms a fascinating archaeological landscape. some going back to prehistoric times. We will be recording about three square kilometres and surveying five ancient settlement sites in detail. Timing will be arranged to tie in with the wishes of volunteers, including some weekend working. This is your chance to learn the skills of archaeological landscape survey.

Bowes Museum Collection: This involves working indoors with museum collections. The aim is to record all archaeological finds from the North Pennines. To get this started, we plan a 'Finds Familiarisation Day' at the Museum on December 11, 11-4 (much more interesting than Xmas shopping!) – a practical session with opportunities to handle original artefacts, together with advice on drawing and photography.

Aerial Photography: St John's Chapel Town Hall, Saturday Nov 27, 10.30-3.30. English Heritage experts will offer an introduction to using aerial photographs.

Further modules (eg prehistoric rock art in Teesdale) are in preparation for the spring.

Contact: Paul Frodsham, Historic Environment Officer, North Pennines AONB Partnership. Tel. 01388 528801 or email me at: pfrodsham@northpenninesaonb.org.uk

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## Our butler: 'A man of singular character'

SIR Mark Milbank, son of Sir Frederick and father of the present baronet Sir Anthony, remembered Joseph Leggett well.

He was. Sir Mark recalled in an interview in the 1960s. "a man of singular character and many subsidiary accomplishments, being a general handyman of no mean skill, a fount of knowledge gained from a mysterious little book which he always kept by him – and a hairdresser.

"He cut the hair of all the family, setting up his quarters as occasion required in the library, and as he worked he would entertain his hearers with reminiscences of the earlier generations he had known."

Sir Mark said that on leaving for Eton after each school holiday he and his brothers would be given half-a-crown apiece by the butler "who would never accept a tip from any of their friends – provided they stayed at Barningham more than once they qualified for acceptance as 'one of the family'."



Joseph Leggett, pictured after his retirement

#### lance hodgson's story

hospital as he should. She died two days later. My grandfather worked on for the Milbanks and completed 50 years' service with the family before retiring just before the second world war. He died in 1954.

My mother, meanwhile, had been working at Barningham post office and shop until 1930 when she married my father, Michael Hodgson, from Cotherstone. They went to farm at Crumma, where I was born.

It was very isolated, and too far for me to walk to school at first. Then the war loomed and our farm was compulsorily purchased by the army. We moved to Glebe Farm in Barningham and at the age of six I went to school there. Neil Turner was there, a bit younger than me.

There were two teachers, one for the infants in the small room and one for all the rest in the main hall. One was Miss Fanny Smith, who lived in Sharon Cottage (now the site of Curlew House). The children came from all over, Newsham and the outlying farms. There were lots of them, the room was chock-a-block. the numbers were swelled by evacuees. There providing the photographs. were up to 18 of them living in Gilbeck House! I remember them arriving by bus, being tipped out on the green, they didn't know where they Napoleon threatened Teesdale.

were and some were absolutely hysterical. It couldn't have been more traumatic for them. They were very different to us. We got on with some of them but not all wanted to mix with us.

We all sat at little tables and there was a big stove up against the wall.

I remember tanks passing through the village on their way to the ranges. In 1940 the army decided we could go back to Crumma, but we had to rent the farm from them and it was years before we got our purchase money. I worked there most of my life.

My mother played the organ at Kirby Hill church from when she was 16 for 30 years, and at Barningham when they lived at Glebe Farm. She died in 1972, five years after my father.

Uncle Alfred became a railwayman in Darlington, married and died in 1937. Aunt Gladys married David Sharp, moved to Richmond and died in 1944. Uncle Fred never married He moved to South Shields, became a civil servant, and lived on, unmarried, until

- Many thanks to Lance for entertaining us and
- Our next guest speaker is Eric Barnes, talking (among other things) about what happened when

## Didn't we have a luvverly time...

THE day we went to Whitby dawned bright and sunny as nineteen of us set off for the coast on Maude's coach.

I've been to Whitby many times but never found its museum. It's a wonderful place with something for everyone, everything you could imagine and more besides! Fossils, costumes, coins, bygones and social history, toys, clocks and much more.

We were fascinated by the 'Tempest Prognosticator', a copy of a weather-forecasting machine made by Dr George Merryweather (ves. that was his real name) in 1850 for the Great Exhibition. It had 12 bottles containing leeches (no longer present!) who, when a storm was due, climbed up and dislodged the whalebone which rang a warning bell!

There were ships and other unlikely things built in bottles and light bulbs, stuffed fish and wonderful models of ships. We were also able to see the entry for Barningham in the Domesday Book and examine the records of ships' manifestos. A great place for a family day out.

We left the museum and after a walk around the harbour and fish and chips moved on to the James Cook Museum, housed in a beautiful 17th century building on the riverside where in 1746 17-year-old Cook came as an apprentice to Capt James Walker. The house was very simply furnished as Walker was a Quaker, but



BLHG members outside Whitby Museum

there were lots of old maps, paintings, model ships and letters to be seen as well as a visit to the attic where Cook slept. His map of New Zealand was still in use until the 1970s, an extraordinary achievement.

Cook was killed in Polynesia in his fifties and apparently parts of him were eaten but we were unable to establish exactly which! All of us agreed that we had enjoyed a great day out and much appreciated the various museum staff who were very helpful and informative.

ANN ORTON

### Great, say the kids – and the hand was awesome!

JAMES and KATIE TERRILL (aged ten and nine) went on the trip. They told us what they enjoyed most about their day out...

ONE of the wackiest things in the museum was a rotten hand, cut from an executed criminal's corpse while it hung on the gibbet. Its name was the 'Hand of Glory'. It was used by burglars, who would either put a candle (made from the fat of the hand's previous owner) in the fingers or just light the fingers

as candles during a job, believing it would protect them by putting the householders to sleep. The museum also had a collection of ships in bottles (and a modern version of this, a tennis ball

in a light bulb!) and an impressive variety of sharp, heavy narwhal tusks from Whitby's trade in whaling.

In the afternoon, after looking around Whitby Abbey as it towered over the town from its cliff-top perch, we went to the Captain Cook Museum and did the kids' trail, while the adults had a tour. There were many maps inside, and a massive model of his ship *The Endeavour*.

When we had finished, we had time to look round the many winding lanes of shops

selling Whitby jet made from coal, and after a visit to the old-fashioned sweet shop we headed back to the bus for the long journey home. A good day out!

## What do we think we are? Flattered!

OPEN up the December issue of the BBC's Who Do You Think You Are? magazine and you'll see a very flattering portrait of transcript of every monumental our group by Dr Alan Crosby, one of Britain's leading local historians. Here's an extract. We've a lot to live up to!

BARNINGHAM is a small village in a great location, halfway between Barnard Castle and Richmond and just inside the border of County Durham.

Despite having a population of just 240, the village has a remarkably active local history group that, although founded less than two years ago, has already produced a wide range of invaluable resources for family and local historians.

the modest sum of £10 a year, queries. in return for which they receive I'm also told that one mema monthly newsletter.

community!

The newsletter is no simple newsletter". folded sheet of A4 paper, but a The group has hit the ground sign to the contrary could substantial publication packed running when it comes to other there be than the success with short articles about aspects resources, too. It has, for ex- of Evie and James? of the village and the surround- ample, produced Where Lyeth ing area in the past.

newsletter is really important Church since 1503, with a his- www.barninghamvillage.co.uk



holds in the village have signed in the 1930s and 1940s which the history of mole-catchers. up to this publication, which have our meetings agog – they Wonderful – we are often

A lively and informative known burial at Barningham our website:

tory of the church and complete inscription in the churchyard.

This is just the sort of resource that's helpful to any family historian, but can also be useful for local historians investigating the community's past.

Following that, there's a twovolume set entitled Counted: Census Returns 1841-1911. which covers the village itself, the adjacent community of Newsham and the scattered hamlets that lie across the edge of the great moorlands southwards to Yorkshire.

And to ensure that local inin any local or family history terest in the past is maintained, Membership of the Barning- society – it not only helps to the group also offers its annual ham Local History Group is keep members informed, but Archive Awards. It's a great free (you don't often get that also gives an opportunity to idea, and what particularly imsort of value these days!) but pass on findings, report new in-pressed me is the fact that this members are encouraged to pay formation, and submit research year's two 'highly commended' entries were from 10-year-olds.

Evie Ridgway created a vidber sometimes offers for pub- eo of life in the village today, Forty-nine of the 68 house-lication "recollections of life and James Tirrell investigated

works out as 72 per cent of the are frequently so scurrilous told that family and local hisas to be unrepeatable in the tory don't appeal to younger people. What more hopeful

Ye Bodies, a listing of every • You can see the full article on

#### Memories on screen

YOU can see the Barningham Memories DVD we've made from Neil Turner's 1960s cine films at a special showing in the village hall on bonfire night at 7.30. Copies will be available then, or contact Eric or Kay Duggan on 01833 621455.

#### footnote

LAST issue we reported George Alderson's recollection that back in 1938 the rent for an allotment at the top of the village was two old pence (less than 1p) a week. We thought it sounded good value but in fact it was two pence a year.

## Life below stairs up at the hall

OUR guest at the October meeting was Lance Hodgson of Dalton, who spent some of his childhood in Barningham and most of his adult life on a farm at Crumma, high above Dalton. His grandfather was Joseph Leggett, butler to the Milbanks at Barningham Park a century ago. This is Lance's story.

MY grandfather was born in Beccles, near Ipswich, in 1870. When he grew up he moved about a bit in search of work and ended up working as a footman for the Milbank family at Thorpe Perrow, near Bedale, where he met and married my grandmother, Eleanor Boddy, a kitchenmaid at the hall.

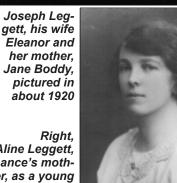
The Milbanks lost Thorpe Perrow in a game of cards at Monte Carlo in about 1898 and the head of the family, the widowed dowager Lady Alexina, moved to Barningham, bringing a troupe of servants with her. Among them were my grandparents and their young children Gladvs and Fred.

Joseph was installed as butler at the hall, and the Milbank family built a new house for him just across the green. It was named Gladysville (almost certainly after Joseph's daughter: it was changed decades later to Granville – Ed). Two more children were born there soon after – my mother Aline and my uncle Alfred.

Lady Alexina was away much of the time, and Barningham was used just as a seasonal hunting lodge by her son Sir Powlett Milbank, whose main residence was in Presteigne, North Wales. For many years the servants – a cook, two housemaids, laundrymaid, two kitchenmaids and two footmen as well as Joseph – had a fairly easy time of it.

Then in 1918 Sir Powlett died, followed shortly afterwards by his 93-year-old mother. Death duties and other financial problems forced the new baronet, Sir Frederick, to move from Wales to Barningham, bringing with him his wife, three sons and at least 19 more servants (including the Powell and Turner families). Joseph Leggett suddenly became a very busy man.





Aline Leggett, Lance's mother, as a young woman

and then again from 6pm until the Milbanks' bedtime – which could be well after midnight. His salary was £50 a year. He was a real stickler, everything had to be just right. He always wore uniform, black suit and a top hat. I used to go up to the hall to see him, always in the kitchen, of course, I wasn't allowed into the main house. When the Milbanks held big parties the servants were allowed to peer through a window at the guests as they came downstairs in all their finery.

In 1931 my grandmother slipped on the kitchen floor and broke her hip. They called the local doctor, Dr Thompson, but he was He worked from six in the morning until 1pm. too fond of the bottle and failed to send her to

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## Joiner George and coat-maker Coates

WE'RE a third of the way through the census returns, and we've reached West End, home of the Nicholson family whose descendants Continuing our series tracing Barningham's remained there until only a decade ago.

The earliest Nicholson recorded in the Coates in Barningham for a couple of hundred Barningham burials register is the daughter of Timothy Nicholson, Mary, who died in October 1668. Next come two more youngsters, Elizabeth, who died in January 1711, and Martha. buried on Christmas Day the following year.

Both were listed as the daughters of Richard Nicholson, who clearly had a sizeable family as he's recorded as paying for at least four pews in the church in 1700. However, he isn't in the register, and it looks as if the family left the village not long afterwards as there are no more entries bearing their name for more than a century. There were, however, Nicholsons in Newsham during the 1700s, and maybe that's where they went.

Then in about 1830 George Nicholson arrived from Aldbrough. He was a joiner in his early twenties, married to Elizabeth, a Scargill girl, and by 1841 they had four children: William, 8, George, 6, Elizabeth, 4, and baby Alice who survived for only a few months. Three more children. Richard. John and Jane. were born over the next decade.

George had a flourishing business. In 1841 he was employing four young joiners, two of them journeymen – John Spence and John Sowerby, both aged 20 – and two apprentices, 15-year-olds John Dowson and John Dixon (Barningham was fairly unimaginative when with the Nichol-sons at West End.

By 1851 George had no need to employ anyone outside his family. He had trained his older their unmarried daughter Mary, 60. sons as joiners, carpenters and wheelwrights, and they steadily took on more and more of his least the time of Charles II. Thomas is first rework. By the time he died in 1882 (after a long corded in 1817, when he was farming 42 acres spell as village constable) John was working at rented from the Hanby family while his son, also West End and Richard was running his side of called Thomas, farmed another 27 acres nearby. the business from Prospect House next door (see 2 for more).

came to the home of a 26-year-old tailor, the ior took over Moorcock Lodge: more of him, aptly-named John Coates. There had been and other Lees, in future Archives.

#### 1841 census trail

1841 census form collector through the village

years, and he may have been related to others of the same name around at this time, but we've no evidence of this.

He was living with his wife Ann, four-yearold daughter Margaret, baby son George and a girl of 12 called Margaret Pratt who may have been a relative or a servant. All had left the village by the time the next census took place, and there's no further record of any of them.

Next on the 1841 list were three people living alone. The first was an 18-year-old agricultural labourer. James Nelson about whom we know nothing except that he was born locally.

Then came Thomas Hardy, 75 and with five more years of life in him, and the only thing we know about him is that he was described as a pensioner, which suggests he may have once served in the army.

Third was Elizabeth Proctor, about whom we do know a bit more. Elizabeth was 40, born in Hawes, unmarried, and deaf and dumb from birth. She managed to make a living as a farm labourer, and carried on doing so until the 1870s, when she is recorded as a pauper. It's possible she was related in some way (daughter?) to 80-year-old Richard Proctor, lodging at Bragg House in 1841. There's no record of her death.

Last on our list of census homes this issue it came to choosing first names). All four lived was a cottage inhabited by a couple of the oldest people alive in Barningham, 85-year-old Thomas Lee and his wife Margaret, 89, and

There had been Lees in the village since at

Thomas senior died in 1844, his wife four the West End house history feature in Archive years later at the grand old age of 97. Mary lived on, working as a farm labourer and then After the Nicholsons, our census collector domestic servant into her eighties. Thomas jun-



Opening page of Alexander Calvert's survey

## What Barningham was worth in 1817

YOUNG Mark Milbank inherited the Barningham Park estate on his 21st birthday in 1816, an occasion celebrated at Thorpe Perrow, the family home, with an enormous party (one estimate put the number of people attending at 12,000).

Once he'd recovered and sorted out a few other matters, including being appointed a deputy lieutenant for the North Riding, putting his the 1817 valuation name down for Parliament and marrying the

Barningham.

vey of the village, carried out in 1817 by tithe commissioner Alexander Calvert (we don't know who asked him to this: it might have been land their cottage stood on, and worth as little Mark himself).

piece of parchment and then neatly folded, and showed who actually occupied each piece, ably cheap 200 years ago - there wasn't much and what its annual rent should be (a summary course, mostly very basic and the nearest many of its contents appears on Page 6).

The Milbanks were, of course, the biggest landowners: Mark took over 23 separate holdings covering 1,543 acres (more than threequarters of village land) and bringing in total Mark's father William, who had died in 1802.

church: there were 100 acres of glebe land with a rental value of £120. Then came the rest of the should be the case. freeholders, led by Mrs Hanby (95 acres, £78). Mrs Hawden (18 acres and house, £32). At the Mark was doubtless happy to continue accepting other end of the scale were a host of people the extra and merely pointed out quietly to Mr owning about an acre or less, some just the C that his estimates were dismally inaccurate

youthful Lady Augusta Henrietta Vane, he The original survey document was among decided it was time to sort out his affairs at items discovered in a skip when Barningham Rectory was being repaired last spring. It's now He almost certainly consulted the latest sur- in Durham County Record Office. The BLHG has a photocopy and transcript available for members' inspection.

as £1 a year in rent – the equivelant of about This document, written on both sides of a £40 today, less than a pound a week. Compare that with what you'd pay for somewhere to live listed everyone who owned land in the village in Barningham in 2010! Houses were remarkhow big it was, whether it included any houses, demand (no commuters), and cottages were, of got to all mod cons was a bucket in which to fetch water from the nearest pump.

Armed with all the valuation details, young Mark compared Mr Calvert's estimates of what each of his tenants' rents should be with what annual rents of £946 – about £40,000 in today's they were actually paying. What happened next money. The land was listed under the name of isn't certain, but it's clear from a trawl through the the Milbank family ledgers that within two The second biggest landowner was the years many of his tenants were paying considerably more rent than Mr Calvert suggested

It may be, of course, that in 1817 they were George Hartley (77 acres and house, £75), and already paying over the odds, in which case

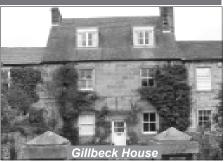
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### 1817: Who owned what, and what it was worth

Areas given to the nearest acre: if less than one acre, in roods and/or perches. Values are annual rental, given to the nearest pound. An asterisk (£5\*) indicates that the value includes a house.

Owner	Tenant	Area	Value	Owner	Tenant	Area	Value
Wm Milbank	Land in Hand	150	£30	Do	Thos Lee snr	42	£19*
Do.	David Alderson	10	£7	Do	Thos Clarkson	-	£2
Do.	George Atkinson	2	£3	Hardy Matthew	Self	30	£42*
	& Alice Donald			Do.	Thos Lee jnr	27	£17
Do.	Thos Atkinson	9	£16	Do.	John Spenceley	2	£3
Do.	Andrew Bowman	4	£6	Hartley George	John Middleton	77	£75'
Do.	Mrs Clarke	11	£30*	Mrs Hawden	Self	18	£32'
Do.	Ann Clarkson	2	£6*	Do.	Wm Hind	_	£2
Do.	Wm Etherington	2	£5		& N Hardy		
Do.	Margt Ewbank	<u>1</u> 1	£12	Head [?]	Henry Spooner	1	£1
Do.	Thos Greenhow	5	£6	Hixon Thomas	Self etc	1	£4*
Do.	Eliz Hardy	1	£2	Wm Hutchinson	Rev Monkhouse	10	£8
Do. Do.	Geo Harland	142	£80	Do.	Fran. Watson	10	£1
			£80*			-	LI
Do.	Ralph Heslop	108		Do.	John Richardson	-12	
Do.	Thos Lamb	358	£160*	1	& Eliz Scrafton	2	00+
Do.	George Marley	45	£70	Jackson George	Self etc	3	£8*
Do.	John Marley	146	£160*	Johnson Edwd	James Pinknee	1	£2
Do	John Mills	6	£13*	Do.	David Alderson	-	£2
Do.	Mrs Tho Newby	8	£13	McDonald Alexr	Self	-	£2
Do.	Matthew Sayer	1	£3	Marley George	Self	0[20p]	£2
Do.	John Shay	352	£110*	Do. (Bull Field)	George Marley	1	£2
Do.	John Spenceley	0[1r]	£1	Monkhouse Rév	Self	11	£13
Do.	Henry Spooner	-	£2*	Newby Mr Mark	For school lands	5	£7
Do.	Thos Wilkinson	161	£130*	Do. his own	Wm Lee	_	£1
ь.	11100 111111110011	101	2100	Do. Do.	Himself	1	£9*
Milbank total		1543	£946	Nixson Richard	John Robinson	4	£7*
WIIDANK (Otal		1040	2340	Peacocks Execs	Thos Newby	12	£20°
FREEHOLDERS				Do.	Wm Pearson	0[20p]	£20
FREEHOLDERS				Peacock Elizh	Self		£3
Atlines Thes	C-It	4	02*			0[8p]	LJ
Atkinson Thos	Self	1	£3*	Poole Edwd	Thos Hutchinson	6 }	04.4
Do.	Thos Bowman	-	£1*	Do.	Mr Dockeray	1 }	£14
Do	Cath Atkinson	-	£1*	Storey John	Jno Spenceley	-	£2
Appleby Rich	Henry Robinson	4a	£7*	Thompson John	Eliz Bowman	4	£8*
Barker John	Self	6	£10*	Tinkler Margt	Self	-	£2
Barwick John	Jon. Monkhouse	-	£1*	Watson Mrs	Mrs Fisher	0	£4
Ewbank Thos	Andr. Bowman	-	£2	Waggott John	Self	2	£2
Fryer Jane & Siste	ers Selves -	£1		Do.	} Wm Fo	rster	- }
Fryer Robert	Self etc	2	£6*		} Fran. E	Burrell	- }£3
Fryer Christr [Ex]	Rvd Monkhouse	2	£9*	} J	ohn Siddell	- }	,
Greaves John	Joseph Dent	0[16p]	£2	Wilkinson Tho	} Matthew Sayer	- }	
Do.	Jo' Etherington	- -	£1		} Margt		- }£
Greenhow Jane	Self	0	£4		, waigt	_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	14
Greenhow Thos	Self	1	£6*	Freeholders total:	379	£510	
		7		i reenoluers (otal.	319	2010	
Gill, Wm	Mrs Newby		£14	Dester	0.46	40	040
Do.	Geo Henderson	1	£4*	Rector	Self	46	£100
Do.	Margt Peacock	0[8p]	£2		Mr Moss	54	£20
Goundry John	Jno Waggott	1	£4*				
Do.	Margt Tinkler	-	£1				
Hanby Mrs	Henry Binks	78	£95*	Total for all Lands	2023	£1556	

#### house histories



Fairview was built. After that it was home to a succession of schoolmasters, including John Armstrong Shaw in the 1880s and William Thomas from the late 1890s. It could be that the house was divided for while: an unmarried woman of 37, Edith Elliott, is listed living there in 1911.

There's a bit of a gap after that until Neil Turner's memories kick in with Harry and Daisy Hooper, tenants in the 1930s, by which time the house was known as South View.

They were followed by a Mrs Appleton and her sons, and then by John Brown, who moved there during the war with his wife Sarah and family from Park House. They remained for the next 20 years.

In the 1950s the house was jointly owned by Lilian and Mary Jane Todd. After Lilian died in 1954, Mary Jane gave it, together with The Yews and Woodbine Cottage, to her nephew Johan Lauritz Johanson, a retired Indian Army lieutenant-colonel who had married Minnie, eldest daughter of James Todd who built Fairview

Johanson had spent some time at The Yews during the war, returning to Barningham to convalesce after being wounded and captured at Arnhem, escaping from a German hospital prison camp, and being repatriated with the help of the Dutch underground. After his death in 1965 his son Alan Johanson, his wife Barbara and young sons Niall and Duncan came to live in the house, re-naming it Britannia Cottage.

In 1969 it was sold to Richard and Margaret Wright, who changed its name again, this time to Gill Beck. Richard died in 1990; Margaret remained until 2009, when she sold the house

#### from the parish mag

Archive 12

120 YEARS AGO: The Reading Room will be opened at once if a sufficient number of men leave their names at the Rectory to justify it. Rules have been drawn up, which will be strictly enforced, and a small payment of sixpence a month will be necessary. No card playing will be allowed, and the bagatelle board which is in a dilapidated state will be removed; but a good supply of daily and other papers, and games, such as chess, draughts, &c, will be available. Smoking will be allowed in the room; and every inducement will be given to make it a happy and pleasant place of resort during the winter months. We shall be very grateful to friends who promise to send papers. periodicals, games, &c, or anything they think will please young men shut out from many of the advantages and legitimate pleasures of a town or city. – December 1890

90 YEARS AGO: Much sympathy was felt with Miss Coates during her long and painful illness, and her death has left a blank in the village life which will long cause sorrow and regret. The church was filled with a congregation of sorrowing people at her funeral. Since the remodelling of the church over 30 years ago she had been a most regular member of the Choir and frequently played the organ. She had some years ago started, and with great success carried on, a Fund for the supplying of a nurse in cases of illness, out of which has grown the Barningham and District Nursing Association.

— December 1920

60 YEARS AGO: The three Whist Drives were successful from the money point of view, and also provided social occasions for parishioners to meet and relax, though no doubt the playing of a hand of cards can, on occasion, be accompanied by a degree of tension. The Drives were all run by the ladies, and they will forgive the omission of their names, since one helped another, and another helped the next, and this must be one of the times when all were happy in doing their share, and did not want any particular credit for it. As in the past, a little rivalry has not been a bad thing, and this is seen in the ascending scale of the takings from £6 9s 4d to £7 7s 8d to £9; expenses £2 5s; total profit £20 12s.

- December 1950

Archive 12 Archive 12

## All the ninths and lots of names

Continuing our survey of all the houses in Barningham, with details of their history and who has lived in them over the years. If you have more information about featured houses, please let us know.

#### **HEATHERLANDS**

and Gill Beck.

DATING back at least 250 years and probably longer, Heatherlands looks as if it might well once have been two cottages, perhaps converted into a single dwelling sometime in the 1800s.

In the 1870s three-ninths of the property was owned by a William Newby of Darlington, brother of Betsy Ann Newby who was living in Heatherlands (and remained in the village, unmarried, until her death in 1906). In 1878 the owner of another five-ninths, widow Mary Smithson, died and left her share to William.

Who held the final ninth at that time is unknown. but by 1904 it was in the hands of a Mary Muir who lived in Canada. She was clearly in touch with William, because the pair of them agreed to sell all their shares to Mary Jane Todd, wife of James Todd of Fairview, for a total of £166 13s. The Todds already owned the houses to the east, The Yews

Heatherlands was let out, the first tenants we know about being two spinster sisters called Fairley who were there from the 1920s until

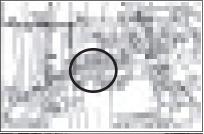
By then ownership had passed to the Todds' daughters Lilian (unmarried and living in The Yews) and Mary Jane junior (widowed and living in Kent – see *Archive 1*).

They decided to sell the house, and it was bought by William and Isabel Downs from Nunthorpe for £820. Within three years they had sold it on (for almost twice as much) to Grace Seymour, a Sunderland widow who lived there till her death in 1961.

It stood empty for 18 months before it was bought by Mary Charlton, a widow from Surrey, and her unmarried sister Minnie Marshall.

They remained until the mid-1990s, when both moved to Stoneleigh in Barnard Castle and the house was sold to Louise Dve.

She married David Ferrari, and they're still there.





house histories

#### **GILLBECK HOUSE**

THIS has had at least five different names in the past century, the cause of much confusion.

In late Victorian times it was the Schoolhouse; later it was known as South View and then Britannia Cottage, before becoming Gill Beck and then Gillbeck House.

It probably started out as a fairly modest cottage and was later enlarged and heightened. possibly in 1747, the date inscribed above the front door with the initials MVM (Mark Vane Milbank? but there's no known Milbank of that name for another 150 years). Dormer windows and the third floor followed later: Merryne Watson believed this was created to house pupils from the Academy across the road, suggesting that the house was owned by the Newbys in the late 18th century and after. There is evidence of a connecting door to The Yews next door, dating from when the Todds owned both houses in the early 20th century.

We think the Todds acquired Gillbeck in the mid-1800s as their family home before

#### the 1817 valuation

and it might be a waste of his time looking for **Eastwood Holmes** more work from the Milbanks in future. Or it may be that the tenants were paying rents much as Mr Calvert suggested they should, but Mark decided it was time they forked out a bit more, arguing that they'd had an easy ride all those vears while he was awaiting his inheritance, and it was time for a reality check (not that he had to argue much, of course: if they didn't like it their only alternative was finding somewhere else to live and farm).

Whatever the reason, rents went up, including farmer David Alderson's from £7 to £8; Andrew Bowman's from £6.10s to £9.9s; and William Etherington's from £5.10s to £7.10s. Even John Spenceley's modest 12s rent for his cottage more than doubled to £1.10s.

Some of these rises may reflect tenants taking on additional land, but the overall impression is that most people had to pay more than before. In 1817 the annual rental value of Mark's land was estimated as £946; two years later he was collecting £1,233 in rent, 30 percent more. Not all his tenants might have been celebrating by the time his 23rd hirthday came round

ine time nic / sra n	iringay cam	e round				
the time his 23rd b	1817	1819				
	valuation rent					
David Alderson	£7.0.0	£8.0.0				
George Atkinson	£3.10.0	£3.10.0				
& Alice Donald						
Thos Atkinson	£16.0.0	£17.10.0				
Andrew Bowman	£6.10.0	£9.9.0				
Mrs Clarke	£30.0.0*					
Ann Clarkson	£6.0.0*	£5.10.0				
Wm Etherington	£5.10.0	£7.10.0				
Margt Ewbank	£12.0.0	£12.12.0				
Thos Greenhow	£6.0.0					
Eliz Hardy	£2.0.0	 C440 40 0**				
Geo Harland	£80.0.0	£142.10.0**				
Ralph Heslop	£80.0.0*	£90.0.0				
Thos Lamb	£160.0.0* £70.0.0	£235.0.0**				
George Marley John Marley	£160.0.0*	£140.0.0** £170.0.0				
John Mills	£13.0.0*	£16.0.0				
Mrs Tho Newby	£13.0.0	£20.4.0				
Matthew Sayer	£3.10.0	£4.4.0				
John Shay	£110.0.0*	24.4.0				
John Spenceley	£0.12.0	£1.10.0				
Henry Spooner	£2.0.0*					
Thos Wilkinson	£130.0.0*	£151.1.6				
* including house						
** probably a much-increased landholding						

<sup>&#</sup>x27; probably a much-increased landholding

#### letters & emails

I WAS delighted to see Where Lyeth Ye Bodies when I came to the churchvard to check on our family grave. What an excellent work. Please may I have a copy – cheque enclosed.

Our family lived at Eastwood at one time. and some from Barnard Castle also seem to have been buried there – Hanbys and Holmes, and I think Sylvesters somehow fit in. Again, a big thank-you to those who have taken so much trouble with the records.

ANNE NAUMANN (was Holmes) Saffron Walden

#### Ellwoods research

MANY thanks for the latest Archive and for obtaining for me a copy of Merryne Watson's history of Barningham, As Time Passed By. I am enjoying reading it – it is very informative if somewhat idiosyncratic.

We are continuing to research the Ellwood family (see Archive 7 -Ed.). After our most enjoyable visit to Barningham in the summer we went to Brough and visited Well Head, the farm where my grandfather and his father lived. It was quite an experience to be in the house where he had grown up. The present owner's father bought it in 1932/33 and he knew the owner from 1885 to 1912. I am writing to him to ask him to let me have a copy of the deeds to see what it says about Ellwood ownership.

We also visited, from the outside, Hillbeck Mill where Elizabeth Robinson went with her family after the death (?) of her husband.

If anyone comes across anything relevant to my family, do please let me know.

MICHAEL BERRY, Monkton, Kent

#### Thanks all round

I'M very pleased to hear that you are impressed with the disc with the tithe maps and will pass on your compliments to the staff concerned. I would also be very interested in receiving a copy of any research that you publish, to add to our Record Office library. Thanks again for saving these records.

> LIZ BREGAZZI, County Archivist **Durham County Record Office**

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#### letters & emails

## Do these pictures ring any Bells?

EARLIER this year you published a letter from me asking if anyone could help my search into my family history. I've now got some old photographs which I hope may stir people's memories.

The information I was looking for was about Mr and Mrs Pearson who lived in Newsham House in the 1920s, when they adopted my mum, who was born to their servant Hannah Bell in 1921. Among the questions I'd like to have answered are, did the Pearsons have any children? when did they move from the house? and where did they move to?

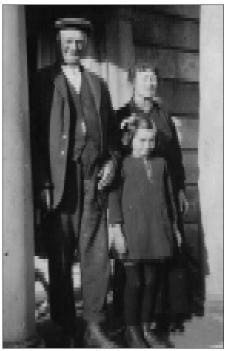
I was told that Newsham House was taken over by the armed forces in the war but I have not been able to confirm this. I also want to find out when my grandmother was employed at Newsham House and when did she leave.

I know that Mary Bell, my mum, who passed away in 1994, lived at The Nook (now Rosemary Cottage) between 1943 and 1952: the dates are on her old driving licences.

I also know she had at least four children at this address: Dorothy born 1943, Christine 1945, David 1947, and Royston 1951. I was



Mary Bell, aged 19 in 1940, and, right, her mother Hannah Bell, pictured when she worked at Newsham House



Mr and Mrs Pearson with Mary as a little girl in about 1930

brought up with David after she moved to South Wales and got married. David and I live close by each other. We were not aware of the other children until I came to Newsham just over ten years ago when I started to do my family history,

Yes, it was a shock to find out we had more siblings, but we have now come to terms with it. All the children had been adopted apart from David. In 2009 Royston managed to trace David and I, and we are in contact with each other. So any information, regardless how small, may help in filling the gaps in my family history.

JACKIE GOODE, South Wales jgoode26@gmail.com

• We've got several leads about people who may be able to help. Jackie's letter has already prompted research into who was living at Newsham House in the early 1900s: see the story on Page 13. More next issue.—Ed

## Lest you forget... one soldier's story

I WAS born in 1900, just before the old queen died. My dad Nathan was a labourer for a railway wagon builder in Shildon, and that's where we lived. My mother Caroline came from Crook and they'd been married eight years by the time I came along.

I wasn't their first child, but I was the first to survive. Mam had already lost two babies and another one died when I was very small. Then came my brothers Nathan and William. They were the lucky ones, too young to go to war – Nathan was only ten when it ended, and William just nine.

Things were difficult at home, what with the baby dying and everything, and I spent a lot of time staying with my dad's sister Mary Ann. She'd married a farmer called David Pearson and lived in a village called Newsham across the Tees in Yorkshire.

Their home was Newsham House, a grand house to look at with a fancy front door and columns outside, but at the

at with a fancy front door and columns outside back it was just an old farmhouse and that's where they lived, renting it from the local bigwigs, the Milbanks. Mary Ann and David been married since about 1903 but didn't have any kids and I suppose I was a sort of substitute son.

After leaving school I got a job with a butcher in Shildon, and not long after that the war broke out. I couldn't wait to join up, and soon as I dared I went along to the recruiting office in Bishop Auckland and signed on. That was in 1916, February 17th. I told them I was eighteen and they believed me – or at least they said they did.

Private Peacock J, No 204000, 19th Battalion the Durham Light Infantry, that was me, and they sent me off to France to machine-gun Germans. You don't want to know what it was like. I spent two years and more at the front



#### behind the name

Off to

war.

1916

before they started talking about an armistice, peace, the end of the war, going home. A few last skirmishes, and it would all be over.

On the last day of October 1918 – Halloween Night, funny that – I went out on patrol in Flanders as usual and a bullet went right through me. Eleven days later, the war ended. Bad luck or what?

My name's on Newsham war memorial: Peacock J. You might have seen it and wondered who I was. Now you know.

JOHN PEACOCK 1901-1918

### Search goes on for James' original diaries

WE'RE producing a copy of the diaries of 18th century Newsham schoolmaster James Coates. There were four diaries, the first two long vanished, the third lost in the Bowes Museum. BLHG member Michael Graham brought Volume 4 to our July meeting before donating it to the North Riding County Records Office.

Merryne Watson's history of Barningham includes quotes from the diaries suggesting

he might have seen other volumes, and we've been trying to track them down. Our search led us to Startforth Hall, home of Merryne's nephew Jonny Cooke-Hurle, where we found a huge chest full of Merryne's notes in the attic. No Coates diaries, but plenty of other documents to feature in future *Archives*.

The hunt goes on. If you've any information, please get in touch.

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#### **Barningham Local History Group Publications**



#### Where Lveth Ye Bodies

A guide to Barningham church, graveyard map, memorial details and list of every known burial, £8 / £10 +

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

Arranged so that families can be tracked through 70 years.

Volume 1: Barningham, Scargill and Hope: Volume 2: Newsham and New Forest. £8 each / £10 each + £1 p&p

#### A Child of Hope

The 1895 diary of Mary Martin, born on a Teesdale farm in 1847.

£4/£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 each / £5 each + £1p&p

#### Aback to Yuvvin: 1849 Glossarv of Teesdale words & customs

A reproduction of Frederick Tinsdale's Glossary of Provincial Words. £4 / £5 4£1 p&p

The Archive: Group newsletter. Back issues £1 / £2 + £1 p&p

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barninghamvillage.co.uk



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