Book now for our trip to York

WE'RE running a bus trip on Sunday November 27th to York, home of countless places of historical interest and, of course, an ideal place to do some pre-Christmas shopping – it's the weekend of the city's St Nicholas Fayre celebrating medieval crafts and food.

The cost for adult history group members will be £5 for the return trip, with children (under 16) going free.

And we've negotiated a deal with the York tourist people to get entry passes for four major historical attractions – the Jorvik Centre, Barley Hall, Micklegate Museum and the Hungate archaeological dig – for just another £5 a head. Again, children can get these passes free, and as a bonus they give free re-admission to all these places for the next 12 months.

The entry passes are optional, of course, and those who buy them will be free to decide which places they visit and when on the day – there's no organised group trek round the city.

Burrells are providing the coach, which will leave Barningham at 9am, picking up at Newsham on the way. It will return from York at about 6pm.

We expect demand for seats to be heavy, and history group members are urged to book as soon as possible: contact Kay Duggan (01833 621455) telling her how many seats and/or entry passes you would like. We'll collect the money on the bus.

In mid-October we'll offer any untaken seats to the general public on a first-come, first-served basis (they'll pay more than group members, of course).

The history group agreed at its last meeting that there was more than enough in the bank to subsidise the trip for members.

old hints & recipes

From Mary Milbanke's receipt book, 1691:

To Make Ye Read Wound Ointment

TAKE a quart of ye beſt ſallad oyl, put therein 2 ounceſ of ſalladine flowerſ, 2 ounceſ of Roſemary flowerſ, 2 ounceſ of Comfrey flowerſ, 2 ounceſ of Read Roſe leaveſ, 2 ounceſ of Camomile flowerſ & 4 ounceſ of St Johnſ Wort flowerſ.

Then ſtir them well together, then put in half a pint of ye beſt aqua vitae and half a pint of ye beſt turpentine, half a pint of good white wine vinegar.

Stir them altogether, put them in an earthen pott, paiſt it up with fine payt, boyle it in ye pott 6 hourſ then ſtrain it & lett it ſtand too ſettle.

Then clear and put it up for your uſe. It iſ for all woundſ old or new.

To Make Honey of Roſeſ Solative

TAKE of ye manifold infuſion of Damaſk roſeſ 2 poundſ and a half honey well clarified 2 poundſ.

Boyle them to ye thickneſſ of honey kept for uſe. It ſtrengthenſ ye ſtomach and healſ ulcerſ of ye mouth and throat.

From Kenelm Digby's Recipe Book, c1660:

A Herring-Pye

PUT a great ſtore of ſliced Onionſ, with Currantſ and Raiſinſ of the Sun both above and under the Herringſ, and ſtore of Butter, and ſo bake them.

- *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: history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk website: www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

Archive 20

Oct MMXI

THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

INSIDE: RUFFIAN WHO TERRORISED SCARGILL SCHOOL

contents

BARNINGHAM BARNS SPECIAL: Pages 9-15

You're looking into the eyes of someone alive 200 years ago: Ann Coates, born in Barningham in around 1811. See letters, page 5.

NEXT HISTORY GROUP MEETING: TUES. OCTOBER 25th, 6pm

The Archive

WE'RE two years old. Hard to believe that our first meeting was in September 2009, and even harder to believe how much we've done since then.

Twenty *Archives*, a dozen booklets; complete listings of everyone born, married and buried over the past 500 years; census records from 1841 to 1911 for not only Barningham but Newsham and Brignall; trips to Rokeby and Whitby; guest speakers on subjects as diverse as Napoleon and railway-battling dukes; a wealth of wonderfully scurrilous anecdotes from Neil; a BBC award for local history group of the month. And £1,341 in the bank. Not bad for the first two years! Well done.

WE'RE running a coach trip to York on November 27th – details on the back page. It's just £5 return for group members (and kids go free). If you want to go, let Kay Duggan (01833 621455) know asap.

WE'VE lost two valuable members of the history group in the past few weeks: Michael Graham and Jim Brown. Both will be much missed. Our sympathies go to June and Joyce.

LONG winter nights lie ahead: now's the time to start thinking about your history project. We need you and your contribution!

THE EDITOR

minutes of the last meeting

Awards, more records, and a healthy surplus

MINUTES of the meeting held in the village hall, Barningham, on September 20 2011:

Present: Jon Smith (chairman), Eric Duggan (treasurer), Neil Turner, Ed Simpson, Beverley Peach, Kay Duggan, Tony Orton, Jane Hackworth-Young, Cate and Harry Collingwood, Phil Hunt, Ann Rowley, Diane Metcalf, Mark Watson, Ann Orton (secretary)

Apologies: Sheila Catton, Robin Brooks, Margaret Stead, Louise Ferrari, Sue Prytherick, Ann Hutchinson, June Gra-ham.

Sad loss: The group extended its sincerest sympathies to members June Graham and Joyce Brown, whose husbands had died in recent weeks.

Minutes of the meeting held on August 23 were agreed with the following amendment: Ann, not Jane, was to arrange an outing to Thorpe Hall. Ann said she was having difficulty contacting the owner.

Awards: The Archive Award for 2011 was won by Ed Simpson for his work on barns. Ann Orton was highly commended for her work on Penny Readings and Evie Ridgeway was highly commended for her research into where people in the village were born. More on opposite page.

Reading Room: The clock has not been found but Sir Anthony had found the minutes book for the room from 1892 to 1922. Ann agreed to transcribe this with the help of others if it became necessary. *See Page 4.*

Newsham records: June Graham had produced the parish council minutes for Newsham from 1894 to 1950. Cate agreed to transcribe them.

Correspondence: Jon had received emails and letters asking for information about various families, among them Harrisons, Coates, Cockfields and Westmarlands. *See page 5.*

Finance: Eric presented the monthly and annual financial report to September 2011. Income for the month was £152, expenditure £151, giving a surplus of £1. Over the whole year income was £1,811 and expenditure £1,092, giving a surplus of £718 which, added to the 2010 surplus, left us with a bank balance of £1,341. This included money banked after the January fundraiser that Eric said he had inadvertently omitted to include in previous accounts. The result, he said, was that we were in a very healthy financial position at the moment.

House Histories: The group discussed the history of Fairview and Fairview Cottage.

Publications: *Archive 19* had been distributed at the start of the month; *Archive 20* was in preparation.

Recipes: Kay was still collecting these but thought it could be

● *Continued opposite*

re-correction!

The correction in the last Archive said Robin Morritt died in 1992: it should have read 1982. We'll get it right eventually.

in the courts

FROM the Northern Echo of April, 1896...

Ruffian admits terrifying school pupils

AT Greta Bridge Sessions, John Rewcroft (22), described as a tramping labourer, pleaded guilty to vagrancy and assaulting at Scargill Miss Elizabeth Armstrong, schoolmistress.

On Thursday last a message was taken to the school that someone was frightening the children, who ran to the schoolhouse in alarm. The accused followed complainant to school. She thought he was an idiot and beat him off with an umbrella, which he seized and tore away. Complainant, when asked in court what prisoner had said, turned in tears, unable to speak.

Mr Weatherell, bailiff, said he found prisoner concealed in an ashpit, and afterwards in a coalhouse. Miss Armstrong was in a frightened, distressed state.

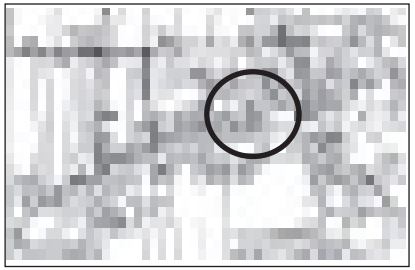
Sgt Slack said prisoner was pursued to Egglestone and produced the prisoner's written confession.

Inspector Wilson said the prisoner belonged Shildon. He had been twice charged with arson and acquitted, on account of the state of his mind. He was, however, a dangerous person, and there were convictions against him.

The Bench said it was a most aggravated case, and committed the accused to hard labour for six months in Northallerton Gaol.

Farmhouse reminder of the lost manor

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



house histories

Manor House Farm

MANOR HOUSE FARM

ONE of the oldest houses in Barningham, almost certainly dating back at least to the 17th century.

It was a working farm until fairly recently, and the property comes (as they say in the estate agents' ads) with the benefit of several fields and useful outbuildings, one of which, just behind the house, has been converted into a cottage.

Its name gives a good hint to its age. When William Tunstall, lord of the manor, died in 1668 he left the manor house to his wife. Nobody's sure where the manor house was – Merryne Watson suggested it was on the site of The Gatehouse, west of the Milbank Arms – but it seems reasonable to assume that the associated farmhouse was in existence by then.

William's son Francis Tunstall sold the manorial rights to the Shuttleworth family in 1671 and a couple of years later they passed to the Milbanks who made Barning-ham Park their local home and thus the proper 'manor house'. However, over time the farmhouse became known as Manor House and was called by this abbreviated name until quite recently.

The earliest owner of Manor House Farm we can identify with certainty was Mrs Jane Gibson in 1838, when the house was tenanted to a farmer called George Walker.

George, in his later fifties and married to Mary, didn't have the land nearby, but rented around 40 acres in a dozen fields scattered round the village.

They left Barningham a few years later and there's a gap in our records until 1891, when the census returns list the house as occupied by 59-year-old Thomas Bainbridge (great-great-great-uncle of history group member Mark Watson).

With him were his wife Hannah, their son John, daughter Elizabeth and her husband, a lead miner called Nicholas Hillary.

By 1901 John, now married to Edith Westmarland and the father of two young children (they had five altogether), had set up home elsewhere in the village.

Thomas appears to have died within the next few years (curiously there's no burial listed locally) but Hannah remained in the house until at least 1911, when the census picture is confusing. Two families are listed as living at Manor House Farm that year: Hannah and daughter Elizabeth, whose miner husband had died, and John and Mary Russell, a couple in their sixties, with their unmarried children Elizabeth and Matthew.

It's possible that the house was temporarily divided somehow; more likely that one of the outbuildings had been by then turned into accommodation.

There's another gap in occupancy records after that. Neil Turner remembers the house being lived in by Chiltons and Brittons before it became the home of Tommy and Annie Lawson in the late 1930s.

They remained there for many years, into the 1970s when the house was sold to Malcolm Rainy-Brown.

He lived there with his first wife Joyce and three children, and later with his second wife Jane.

They moved out in 1988, and were replaced by Ted and Corrine Andrews who stayed until last year (both are still loyal *Archive* subscribers from their new home in what used to be Britain's smallest county, Rutland).

The current owners are Stephen and Joanne Riddell.

Ed's barns win the Archive Award

THE winner of this year's Archive Award for local history projects is Ed Simpson.

His investigation into the field barns around Barningham was praised by the judges for its detailed research, excellent presentation and its analysis which revealed, among other new information, the fact that at least one local barn dates back to medieval times.

Extracts from Ed's project appear later in this copy of the *Archive*, and we plan a series featuring the barns in future issues.

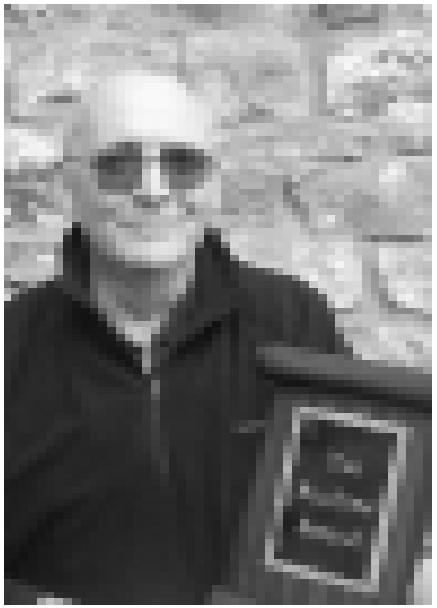
Ed plans to continue his research, adding barns and converted barns within the village itself. He'll welcome information about any building that appears once to have been used as a domestic storehouse of some kind. When completed, the history group hopes to publish all Ed's findings in book form.

Two other group members were highly commended in the awards, presented by Lady Belinda Milbank at the village show on September 5.

Ann Orton, last year's winner, was in the honours list again for her project on penny readings in Teesdale in the 19th century. We'll be printing extracts from that in the next *Archive*.

And 12-year-old Evie Ridgway claimed her second highly-commended award for her census of people living in Barningham today to discover where they all came from – information she hopes will be valuable to future local historians. Her results can be seen on Page 17.

Well done to all three!



Ed with his trophy. Below, Ann and Evie

● *From Page 2*

difficult to put them in a book. She planned to concentrate on home remedies, etc.

Field names and barns: After his initial survey, Ed is going to look at converted barns in the village and at Holgate.

Wartime: Jon would like to feature the story of another person from the war memorial. Kay will investigate.

Oral History: Phil had the recorder and would liaise with Sue P and Ann H about interviewing George Alderson.

minutes (continued)

Cine Records: Mark, Eric and Neil had found several reels of interest to Barningham and Newsham including garden fetes, carnival and a beauty contest (all men!). Agreed that Eric should put them on DVD.

Next meetings: Tuesdays October 25 and December 6.

Any other business: Jon said the history group was now two years old, and asked existing officers if they were willing to continue. All were voted back in unanimously. A coach had been booked for a trip to York on Sunday November 27 and members were advised to book places as soon as possible. Ann hoped Jenny Frost would be the speaker at the next meeting (*see Page 4*).

Wide-ranging set of papers in the old reading room

FOLLOWING the feature on Barningham Reading Room in the last *Archive*, Sir Anthony Milbank rang to say he'd discovered the original minutes book of the Reading Room Committee from 1892 to 1922.

We've begun going through them, and they're full of interest. In the 1890s the reading room took no fewer than six daily papers – The *Daily Graphic, Leeds Mercury, Yorkshire Post, Northern Echo, North Star* and *The Times*, plus the weeklies *The Teesdale Mercury*, *The Graphic and Illustrated London News,* and the boys' adventure magazine *Chums*.

All were kept on file for three months until the next committee meeting, when they were auctioned off in bundles to the members (three months of *The Teesdale Mercury* went for sixpence; weightier journals fetched up to 2/3d).

From our first browse through the book it's clear things didn't always go as smoothly as the committee would have liked.

Ann Orton and other members are going to transcribe the minutes for us: look out for more details in future *Archives*.

Newsham's records to be transcribed

JUNE Graham has come up with the original minutes book for Newsham parish council from 1894 to 1958, and the history group plans to transcribe and reproduce them in book form.

Cate Collingwood has volunteered to start work on the transcription.

Barningham's vestry meeting and parish meeting records from 1869 to 1931 are already available as history group publications.

Our next speaker

JENNY Frost, who has just completed a dissertation on women in wartime, will be our guest speaker at the next history group meeting on October 25.

She'll be talking, among other things, about the life of local landgirls and how the war changed women's role in the community.

from the parish mag

75 YEARS AGO: Mrs Blades was called to rest after a short illness. We shall never forget her quiet, patient example. She seemed to have far more than her fair share of trouble, yet, through it all, we never heard her complain. Quietly plodding on through life, she took the rough with the smooth, always ready with help and sympathy for others in trouble or need. May God give her to rest and peace which she so richly deserves. *– October 1936*

60 YEARS AGO: Barningham Youth Club spent a very enjoyable week at Rose Cottage, Osmotherley. Everyone did their chores. We went for many lovely walks on the moors. The weather was not too good but we all kept each other amused. We are very grateful to our leader Mrs Brown for being so patient and kind. We all throroughly enjoyed ourselves. *– October 1951*

55 YEARS AGO: When one says the Bring and Buy Sale was a success, that includes more than financial returns (£60). The occasion, socially, was as well, most pleasing to the organisers, the Church Council, for the Village Hall could not have held more people at one time. Mrs Bayley, our opener, gave things a splendid start. We are grateful to her, to the workers, and to those who kindly came and gave and bought. Some our patrons were from outside the parish. It was nice of them to come. *– October 1956*

45 YEARS AGO: At the moment there is one of those frustrating delays often experienced in getting in the Harvest. We know there will be a time according to God's promises, all the more need then to express our thanks when all has been safely gathered in. The Whist Drive season is on us again and I hope the Whist Drives will be well supported and be the jolly affairs they usually are. The Church Whist Drives will be held on Mondays October 3 and 10 and also on the 31st. *– October 1966*

20 YEARS AGO: Once again the Rectory apple trees have produced in abundance, some of their branches almost touching the group. It is reported that a certain vicar, glowing with satisfaction over the large crop of apples in the Vicarage garden, put a protective notice on the gate "These apples are for the Harvest Festival". To his great dismay he woke one morning to find the branches of his trees bare of fruit. His notice had been turned over and the culprit had written another one which read "All is safely gathered in. Many thanks." *– October 1991*

Where we all come from: a survey of Barningham today

IN March 2011 every household in Britain had to fill in a census for the government. This gave me the idea of recording the birthplace of every person in Barningham for people in the future to make comparisons with.

I may have missed a few people. If they would like to be part of it then I can add them in later.

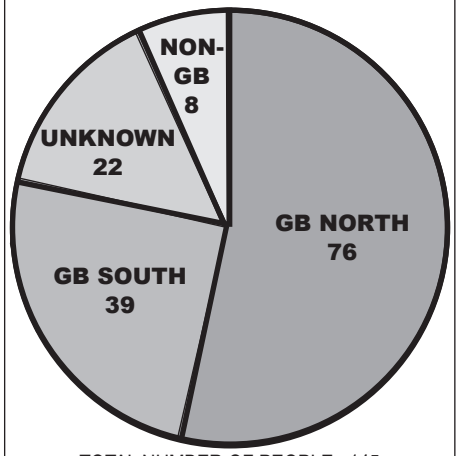
I've collated the information and put it into simple diagrams as well as writing a list of how many people were in each house and where the people in the house were born. I've also included the total of children in the census and an overall total of how many people were recorded.

Overall the majority of the village weren't actually born in the village, but more were born in the North than the South. The children tend to be born in Darlington, Bishop Auckland or Northallerton, where the most maternity units are, so this shows there aren't many home births. Maybe there will be more home births in the future?

Some things my census didn't include were things like where people worked, where were children educated, and the average age of people in the village, but the national census can reveal that in the future.

EVIE RIDGWAY

Place of birth (everyone)



TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE : 145

Place of birth (children)

6 TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 25

Where we were born

(House number – Number of occupants – Birthplaces)

1 (6) Portsmouth, Torquay, Burton, Tavistock, Sussex
2 (2) Stockport (2)
3 (2) Holland, Leeds
4 (3) Hexham, Leeds
5 (4) Newcastle, Wirral, Banbury, Warwick
6 (1) London
7 (2) Darlington, Northallerton
8 (3) Darlington (2), Hawes
9 (2) Kings Lynn, Wales
10 (2) Luton, Canada
11 (2) Cumbria, Westmorland
12 (4) Yarm, Stockton, Bp Auckland (2)
13 (2) Liverpool (2)
14 (4) Darlington (3), Sunderland
15 (3) London (2), Cambridge
16 (2) Worsbroughdale, Tanzania
17 (3) Blackpool, Darlington (2)
18 (2) Sheffield, Newcastle-u-Lyme
19 (2) London, Winchester
20 (3) Barningham (2), Richmond
21 (2) France, Bp Auckland
22 (1) Richmond
23 (2) Newsham, Merrybent
24 (3) Bradford, Sunderland, Barningham
25 (3) Stockton, Huddersfield, Darlington
26 (4) Darlington (3), Newcastle
27 (6) Colchester (3), Barningham (3)
28 (2) Sedgefield, Hebburn
29 (4) Newcastle, Bp Auckland
30 (2) Nottingham, Hucknall
31 (2) Huggate, Thirsk
32 (1) Essex
33 (2) Hartlepool, St Albans
34 (4) Cheltenham, Brighton, Darlington (2)
35 (2) Swadlincote, Overseal
36 (1) Newsham
37 (4) Plymouth, Swansea, Darlington (2)
38 (2) Greta Bridge, Barningham
39 (2) Sunderland, Meltham
40 (2) Middlesbrough, Stockton
41 (1) Darlington
42 (3) Stourport, York, Northallerton
43 (2) Barningham, Westmorland
44 (1) Dalton
45 (2) Gateshead (2)
46 (3) Ireland, Harrogate, Newcastle
47 (2) Darton S Yorks, Newsham
48 (1) Sunderland
49 (2) Darlington, Salisbury
50 (4) Missouri (2), Plymouth, Darlington

Gamekeeper, farmers and a mason

1841 census trail

Continuing our series tracing Barningham's 1841 census form collector through the village

WE begin this month up at Barningham Hall, second home of Mark and Lady Augusta **Milbank** in 1841.

Neither of them were here on census day, and the only people recorded as living at the hall were the gamekeeper, William **Littlefair**, his wife Jane and 20-year-old Harriet **Coates**.

William, 48, came from Marrick and in 1832 had married Jane, born in Thornton Watlass near Ripon. She was then in her mid-thirties, and her maiden name was Coates, like Harriet.

We can't tell whether Jane was single when she married, or had been married before and widowed. Harriet may therefore be her sister (or other relative) or her daughter by a first marriage. The former seems more likely.

William and Jane remained at the hall, probably living in a cottage nearby (Park Cottage?) until the 1870s. He became the estate bailiff and died in 1871; she worked as a hall servant, perhaps the housekeeper in the Milbanks' absence, until her death three years later.

Harriet vanishes after 1841, but 30 years later the widowed Jane was living with an unmarried niece from Newton le Willows called Sarah Coates, so she'd clearly kept in touch with the Coates family.

We now come to the **Shaw** family of Bragg House. Like William Littlefair, John Shaw came from Marrick (they may well have been childhood friends). He was 45, a tenant farmer, and for the past 20 years and more had been renting around 100 acres in the Cow Close area, including the lime kilns and quarries beside Low Lane, from the Milbanks.

His wife Mary, 40, from Witton-le-Wear, bore him at least ten children, nine of whom were alive at the time of the 1841 census: Thomas, 20, John, 18, Isabella, 15, Eleanor, 12, Margaret, 10, William, 8, Joseph, 7 (who died only a few weeks later), Abraham, 5, and two-year-old Mark. It must have been very crowded up at Bragg House – up to eleven people in just two bedrooms – and John and his older sons must have had a hard life making a living to feed everyone at this lonely farmhouse on the edge of bleak moorland.

By 1851 John and Mary had moved to a 240-acre farm at Skelton. Margaret, William and Abraham were still at home. Isabella had married William **Thompson**, the Kirby Hill blacksmith, and one of her six children, four-year-old Mary, was visiting her grandparents when the census was taken that year.

Mary Shaw died within the next decade; by 1861 John is a widower, living in Skelton with his youngest son Mark. The pair are still farming ten years later, and staying with them is another young Thompson from Gayles, this one an 11-year-old also called Mark.

John died sometime in the 1870s. By 1881 his son Mark had abandoned farming and was running a grocer's shop in Parkgate, Darlington, married to Elizabeth and the father of four young children.

After the Shaw family we have another farmer, James **Brown,** who lived in what is now The Hollies. He rented a couple of dozen acres from the Milbanks, among them the field behind the village hall and three to the east of the park, including the one containing the cricket pitch today.

James was another man in his mid-forties, married to Mary whose maiden name may well have been **Gibbon** as they shared their home with a couple of 75-year-olds called William and Jane Gibbon. There were other families with the same surname in Newsham at the time, and they must surely have been related.

James and Mary don't appear to have had any children, and by 1851 neither they nor the elderly Gibbons are recorded in the area.

Living next-door to the Browns in 1841, in what is now called Virginia Cottage, was Henry **Nelson**, a twice-widowed stonemason born in Manfield.

Henry had two children, Elizabeth and William, by his first wife Ann, buried in 1824 aged 32 after giving birth to a third child, John, who died shortly afterwards. Henry married again within a year, his second wife being Eleanor (nee **Henderson**), and was widowed again four years later after she had borne him two children, a boy called John and a girl, Mary, who died in infancy.

In 1841 Henry was living with his three surviving children. More about him and them in the next *Archive.*

Seeking Coates and Cockfields

I AM interested in the Cockfield family who were in Barningham from about 1812 to about 1841.

Philip Cockfield died in the village on June 7 1839 and is presumably buried there.

Philip, a farm labourer born in Swaledale, had married Dorothy Storrow in Reeth and in 1811 their first child, Ann, was born there. Soon afterwards they moved to Barningham where four more children – Elizabeth, Alice, Mary and Tamar – were born between 1813 and 1824. Dorothy died in 1852, aged 70.

Elizabeth Ann Coates, pictured in about 1860. She died four years later

Alice married a Staindrop blacksmith called George Walker in 1840 and the year after was living with Elizabeth and Theophilus, the illegitimate son of Jane.

Ann married a tailor from Reeth called John Coates and had four children baptised in Barningham between 1840 and 1847: John (born and died in March 1840: I wonder if he is buried at Barningham?), George, Elizabeth Ann (who died in 1864), and Jane.

Ann and John later moved to Tow Law where he had a tailoring business and she ran a grocery store. I have a photo of her (*see front page)*. Ann died in 1872.

George, born 1841, was my great-grandfather. He married Mary Margaret Beattie and they emigrated to Victoria in Australia in 1879 with Jane and her husband Joseph Seaman. The family prospered, with George and some of his descendants becoming involved in state politics.

I am from New South Wales but now living in Queensland. I used to spend a lot of time as a child with some of George's children as his second eldest daughter Charlotte was my grandma. She died in 1971 aged 94 and lived long enough to see six of her great grandchildren.

I have a lot of information on these families and would be very pleased for any more information you can supply.

DENE JAMES
gja61274@bigpond.net.au

● *We've sent Dene details from our records, and confirmed that the baby John was buried in Barningham. –Ed.*

letters & emails

My naughty g-g-grandad

I AM enjoying the copies of your *Archive* newsletter each month and was interested to read about my naughty great-great-grandfather George Hogg in the last edition (*'How Mr Beadle got the better of poacher George'*).

That was one family story that didn't get passed down the generations! At the time he had two daughters under four and a son was born in early 1871. The family had just moved back from Stockton where George had lived when he was working as a labourer in an iron works.

He is listed as living in Melsonby in the 1871 census and his occupation is as a

Do you remember anyone collecting rosehips?

DURING World War II, the British government used collected rose hips to make rose hip syrup as a source of vitamin C to replace citrus fruits that were impossible to get. Does anyone in the village have any stories about collecting rosehips?

KAY DUGGAN, Braeside, Barningham
erickayd@gmail.com

letters & emails

limestone quarryman, so he couldn't have been locked up for long and I guess he would have got more prison time than that for assaulting a policeman.

George Hogg was brought up in Melsonby by his father Joseph and mother Ann Hurworth (whose family were from Gilling, having moved down the dale from the Brignall area – so will probably show up in the Barningham records). George's grandfather Charles Hogg was the blacksmith in Aldborough St John.

CATHERINE RYAN Boldron
crboldron@aol.com

PS Do you know when the *Teesdale Mercury* archive website will go live? I had thought it was coming online last spring/summer and am eagerly awaiting it.

● *No sign of Hoggs or Hurworths in our relevant records, I'm afraid. The Mercury Archive project is making progress, albeit very slowly, and with luck should be up and running sometime in 2012. –Ed.*

Thanks, David

THE books and *Archives* back issues arrived safely. I must say these are among the best researched and presented records that I have seen. I thought the *Archive* was excellent.

The comment by Michael Graham about the ecclesiastic division of Newsham between Barningham and Kirby Ravens-worth probably goes a long way to explaining the split of family records between the two parishes.

DAVID SAWYER
Mobberly, Cheshire
family.soya@gmail.com

Memories of Newsham just after the last war

THANK you for the book (*A Farmer's Boy*) which my mum Gwendoline Deasy received safely.

She found it very interesting as it brought back memories of when she lived at Newsham with her parents from about 1946 to 1949.

Mum was married on January 8th 1949 in Barningham Church. Her maiden name was Jackson and her parents (Robert and Mary Jackson) lived in Woodbine Cottage, Newsham Her father was working in the village on the farm which belonged to Sir Frederick Milbank.

Her husband-to-be was a soldier, George Richard Newstead Chapman, known as Ricky. The vicar at that time told mum that her marriage was the only the second marriage at the church where the groom was married in army uniform.

Mum has a wedding photograph showing the gates of the church tied with rope and children waiting for the pennies to be thrown out for them which was the custom at that time. Mum is wondering whether anyone else remembers the custom and whether anyone remembers the name of the custom.

Obviously it is a long time ago but mum was wondering whether anyone remembers Charley Gibbon who lived in Newsham, who was her father's cousin.

He was a lay preacher in Newsham and the surrounding area. He also took the chapel Sunday school for a lot of years. He loaned a couple of tables out of the chapel for the wedding reception when mum got married. We don't know whether there are any of his family left in the area as we have lost touch.

Mum worked as a domestic for Sir Graham Esplen who lived in a big house called Heron Bridge just outside Newsham in 1948.

If anyone has any memories or can remember any of the Jackson or Gibbon family, mum would be most interested.

DOROTHY HARRISON
Newton Aycliffe
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● *We've emailed Dorothy to tell her mum that the tradition of children tying up the church gates until they're bought off with coins still goes on. –Ed.*

Scandal sent the boys here

FOLLOWING up my letter in the last *Archive* about Henry and William Harris, pupils at Barningham Academy in 1861, here's some information which might interest your readers.

My husband is the great-grandson of William, and we are in Bournemouth. The brothers came from London, as many of the Academy children did. What a shock it must have been for them to land in rural Yorkshire, although after the background they came from, perhaps it was a relief.

Henry Leopold Orme Harris and his brother William Ernest Reginald were 12 and 10 respectively when they were sent to the Academy. They came

barningham's barns

stones, arranged in a decorative manner. The area of the shippon was also often limewashed, the stringent nature of the lime also providing some hygienic benefit.

Sandstone roofs, locally referred to as stone slate, are normally laid in diminishing courses, with smaller flags towards the ridge stones. Traditionally the stone slates were held in position with oak pegs or sometimes sheep bone. The use of diminishing resources means that stones can frequently be re-used, although they sometimes need dressing to smaller size. The ridge timbers on most roofs are covered with a carved sandstone ridge stone; there are a few examples of wrestler ridge roofs, so-called because adjacent slates have been cut with a notch to give an interlocking ridge.

These larger barns often have outshuts (lean-to additions) on one or both sides of the porch, sometimes part of the original construction, sometimes later additions. The entry to outshuts could be from the gable end or the sides of the barn. These were used for additional cattle stalls or for loose boxes for young stock. Many barns are associated with small yards where animals could exercise.

Other types of barns found in the Dales include hogg houses built to over-winter young sheep (hoggs).

They mostly seem to date to the 19th century and were sometimes built on to earlier field barns. They are usually two storey buildings with room for sheep on both floors and hayracks around the walls.

Talking of barns: a glossary of local terms

*A house and adjoining cowhouse is called a **longhouse or coit** but a house and adjoining barn is a **laithe house.***

*A **hoghouse** is a small barn for sheep. A **calf-hull** is a small barn for calves. A **laithe, lathe, shippon, mistal** or **byre** is a small barn for cows.*

***Lumps** or **stamps** are haystacks. A **bank barn** is on the side of a hill.*

***Tithe Barns** date from the thirteenth century and were once owned by the Church which used them to store its annual tithes – a tenth part of the harvest.*

*Floors were cobbled where animals stood and were called **standings** or **booises**. Adjoining were narrow drainage channels called **croops** or **fothergangs.** Large **settle-stones** provided edging to the area raised up for animals.*

***Boose** was a compartment partitioned by vertical **boskins** made of stone or oak, the partitions or divisions into which the animals were tethered.*

*Cows were fastened to a ring **(runner, round hank** or **redwiddie)** on an upright pole called a **ridstake** or **rudster** by a **loop, toggle** or **clog.***

*The main floor was a **groop**. A ladder was a **stee**, a muck fork a **cowl rake** or **gripe**, and the area it cleaned was a **mew** or a **mewstead**.*

*The space for the hay was a **sink mew**. **Balks** referred to the hay loft.*

*Thatching for barns was referred to as **thakke** and **thakking**; stone slates were **thakstones**. **Poaching** was damaging wet fields with hooves.*

***Padstones** are stone pedestals, load-bearing stones at the base of timber crucks. **Outhouse** might refer to field barns or field houses but could also include ancillary buildings, barns, stables, turfhouses, etc, close to the dwelling house.*

*A **canch** was a square slice of hay, a **burden** three canches carried by a horse. A **creel** was a frame made by bending and tying two hazel branches to make bows used to carry hay.*

***Mucking hole**: a small window for shovelling muck through to the **midden** – the muckheap. A **Coup cart** was the muck cart, a **trail coup** a cart on runners. **Scaled** meant spread with muck.*

Barns in the lower Barningham area

No	Position	Alt (m)	Size wxlxh (m)	Quoins	Lintels	Roof	Tiles	Rafters	Date	Type
1	54°29'29.40N 1°51'03.00W	187	4.7x6.5x2.7	None	None	Gabled s/pitch	--	--	<1860	Byre
2	54°29'40.60N 1°51'62.00W	186	5.3x14x4	Front	Dressed	Gabled	--	Tie-beam	1810	Cart +
3	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	186	6x8.7x6	Corners	Wood	--	--	King post +	<1860	Cart
4	54°29'45.30N 1°52'45.80W	213	4.3x5.6x4.2	Dressed	Dressed	Gabled,coping	Pantile	King post, queen struts	<1860	Byre
5	54°29'55.1ON 1°52'30.90W	190	5.4x8.5x5	Crude	Dressed	Gable with plain close eaves	Stone	King post with tie beam & vee struts	>1903	Stable?
6	54°26'61.50N 1°52'27.40W	183	3.8x4.9x5	Dressed	Dressed	Stone with plain close verge	Stone	Braced tie-beam	<1860	Byre
7a	54°29'55.50N 1°52'59.40W	180	4.6x10.3x3.5	Dressed	--	Stone gable, plain close verge	Stone	King post with tie-beams	<1860	
7b	54°29'55.50N 1°52'59.40W	180	3.4x7.8x3.8	Crude	--	Gabled s/pitch	Stone	Monogable truss with king	<1860	Cart
8	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	206	5.6x4.6x4	Dressed	Dressed	Gabled	Pantile	Tie-beam	1810	Cart+
9	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	201	5.3x4.5x3.6	Crude	Crude	Gabled	Pantiles	Tie-beam		
10	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	211	7.1x5.1x3.7	Crude	Wood	Gabled	--	Tie-beam	<15thC	
11a	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	223	5.2x5.2x8	Dressed	Dressed	Gabled	Stone		<1810	
11b	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	223	5.4x5.0x5	Crude	Gabled	--	Stone		1810	
12	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	220	8.5x5x5	Crude	Crude	Gabled, coping at gable	--	King post +	<1860	Byre
13	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	232	5.7x7x4	Crude	Wood	Gabled	--	Tie-beam	<1860	Byre
14	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	210	4.7x3.9x?	Crude					<1860	
15	54°29'06.98N 1°5326.22W	245	Unknown						<1860	
16	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	206	Unknown						<1860	
17	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	212	Unknown						<1860	
18	54°29'55.20N 1°52'15.00W	184	Unknown						<1860	

letters & emails

from the Westminster area of London. Their father called himself Henry Harris, but this was a name he 'bought', his original name being Marcus.

He was Jewish, from Hanover, and had arrived in this country around 1838 or so, when he would have been about 18, having left Germany to avoid conscription. He was a tailor, quite wealthy, and made his way in England, at one time having a shop in Wigmore Street, catering for riding habits and attire for the gentry (this information is from William's daughter and has not been verified, but is the gist of the family story handed down by the generations).

In 1848 Henry married a wealthy widow by the name of Rachel Orme – there is a scandal about how she became a widow, but that is another story! They had four children, but only the two eldest survived.

Between 1858-1861 they were going through a divorce, quite a scandalous one, with each accusing the other of cruelty and adultery, dating back to about 1850 when the brothers would have been just babies, and both spending a few months here and there in a house of detention. Who was caring for them while this was going on is unknown. At one point in the proceedings Rachel asks for reasonable access to the boys and to be kept informed of their place of residence.

Perhaps it was to keep the boys away from their mother, or merely just a matter of convenience, that Henry Harris must have responded to one of these advertisements and sent the boys to Yorkshire. What a culture shock it must have been for them!

What sort of level of education would they have received do you think? And would they have only stayed until they were about 14 or 15?

One fact that I hadn't realised was that they might have arrived in Yorkshire by boat. It probably doesn't tie up, but one of the family myths is that Henry Harris arrived in this country by getting off a boat, presumably bound for USA, on the Scottish island of Harris and adopted the name before making his way down to London. We will probably never know, but I suppose this does sound unlikely.

After 1861 the boys are next heard of back in London on the 1871 census, as young men living in Westminster. Henry is a bank clerk, William a butcher. How long they had spent at the school in Yorkshire is not known, or why William became a butcher. Did he learn his skills in Yorkshire? Just how much education had they received?

By the next census both are married, and starting families. Some scandal is supposed to have taken place, possibly around 1881-82. The story goes that Henry embezzled from the bank and William had to sell his butcher's business (apparently a thriving shop) to pay off his debts.

Whether this is true or not, certainly by the 1891 census their fortunes seem to have changed and William is a hansom cab driver – one of the first drivers of motorised taxis in London – and Henry is a traveller in lighting and heating systems.

Henry was killed in 1904 when he was knocked down by a hansom cab outside the Ritz Hotel. William died in 1929.

BRENDA KING, Bournemouth
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Come to the forum AGM (and the nature reserve)

PLEASE make a note in your diary for November 5th. Apart from the obvious, it is also the date for the County Durham History & Heritage Forum's annual general meeting.

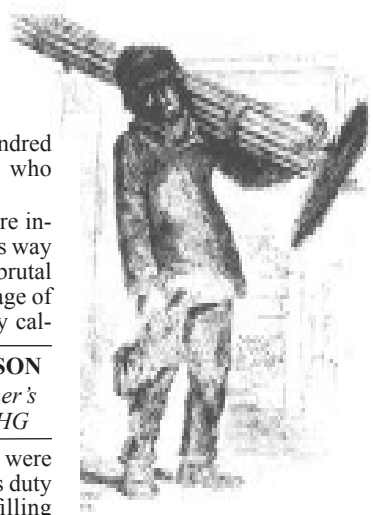
The venue is County Hall in Durham, and of course our president John Grundy will be present. As in previous years at least two other speakers will make short presentations.

Can I also bring your attention to the Crowtrees Local Nature Reserve at Quarrington Hill? You can enjoy the spectacular views of this former colliery site and discover its ecology on a guided walk. The site has a wealth of industrial heritage.

An exhibition will be available at the Community Centre, Front Street, Quarrington Hill on Thursdays, 11am-3.30pm and guided walks start from the Community Centre on Thursdays at 2pm.

DAVID BLAIR, Membership Secretary, CDH&HF

The grim and grimy life of a boy sweep



IT is now almost forgotten that not much more than a hundred years ago larger chimneys were swept by small boys who climbed up inside the flues to do so.

In some of the more massive chimneys iron rungs were incorporated into the walls to assist the sweep in making his way upwards. Although not all master sweeps were cruel and brutal to their boy climbers, there was undoubtedly much ill usage of little boys, some not more than five or six years old, by callous and hard-hearted masters who found it more effective to drive the children through soot-choked chimneys, spurred on if need be with a whip, pin pricks or the smoke from a straw fire, than use the then not very efficient long brush.

By MERRYNE WATSON
From the book A Farmer's Boy, published by BLHG

The skin from knees and elbows was scraped off, and bodies, often left unwashed year in and year out, became malformed and diseased. Suffocation in a mass of soot was not infrequent and on one occasion the body of a boy was recovered from a flue only 30 cm (1 foot) by 25 cm (10 inches). Some were burnt to death when ordered to extinguish a chimney on fire or when crawling by mistake into a lighted flue.

Despite the persistent ventilation of the scandal it is a grim puzzle of the age that it was not until 1875 that employing such boys was made illegal.

There's a long poem in the Yorkshire dialect about a boy sweep whose old shoes were hurting him so much that he called at a farmhouse and asked the owner, a widow, for permission to spend the night there. She sent him to the barn where there was a small store of wheat brought in that day.

About midnight two thieves broke into the barn and started winnowing the corn. The sweep thought that they were farm hands and felt it his duty to offer them help in filling the sacks, but when he suddenly appeared out of the shadows, his face and clothes all blackened with soot, the thieves were convinced that it was the Devil himself come to claim his own and fled, leaving behind their cart, pony and numerous sacks. The old dame was delighted, sold thieves' belongings and gave the proceeds to the poor sweep boy.

There were two master sweeps in Richmond in the first half of the 18th century, Robert Dorchester and Daniel Race. Both were deeply religious and displayed kindness and humanity towards their climbing boys. Dorchester was doorkeeper at the Roman Catholic Chapel and appeared impeccably dressed with white neckerchief every Sunday. Race in his younger days had been dissolute and debauched, but influenced by a powerful Methodist Minister, he had completely changed his ways, and became a valuable member of his chapel, for he had a magnificent pair of lungs which he used for singing, praying and exhortation both in and outside the place of worship. At least one of his climbing boys came under his influence, and it was not unusual to hear the strains of well-loved Wesleyan hymns, somewhat sepulchral and unearthly, floating into the room from the fireplace as the boy sweep sung his way up the flue.

There were other methods of cleaning small flues. One was to drop a goose or a hen down the chimney; as it fluttered its way downwards its wings swept the soot from the flue.

Another method was to drag a bunch of heather or holly up and down the flue. The sweep would climb up to the chimney, taking with him the 'brush' attached to two ropes, one heavily weighted. This was dropped down the chimney taking the 'brush' with it.

When reached the bottom it was hauled up again and the process repeated until the flue was clean. An assistant below who pulled on the weighted rope improved the quality of the job.

barningham's barns

out flat, filled with loose hay, and then the two bows were tied with a rope attached to one of the bows. The creel was then carried on the shoulders. For longer distances, horse carried a 'burden' consisting of three canches.

The muck accumulating in a gutter ('groop') would periodically be shovelled out through a small window ('mucking hole') to a dungheap ('midden') outside the barn. The muck would be used to fertilise the next grass crop. It was loaded onto either a wheeled 'coup cart' or 'trail coup', which had runners, taken into the field and offloaded at regular intervals into heaps. These heaps would then be spread ('scaled') by fork and then harrow.

In May, six months after they had been taken inside, the cattle would be let out and taken to the grazing areas on the upper valley sides and moorland. Any repairs to the barn would be carried out during the brief period between the cattle being let out and the next hay crop being stored.

The hay was stored in the hay mew, which was separated from the byre by the 'skellbuse', made of wood or stone fags. Often a hayloft (the 'balks') made of a wooden board floor extended over the byre. This provided further storage space for hay, loaded in through a forking hole.

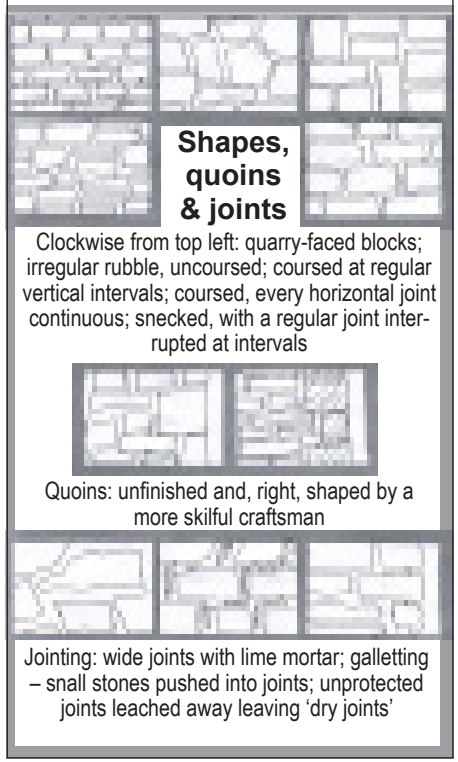
Some field barns are single-storey and only have room for housing cattle; hay was stored in adjoining structures known as Dutch barns, which were open-sided to allow a good flow of air through the hay. They consisted of a roof supported on brick, stone or iron piers with solid gable walls, and mostly date from the second half of the 19th century.

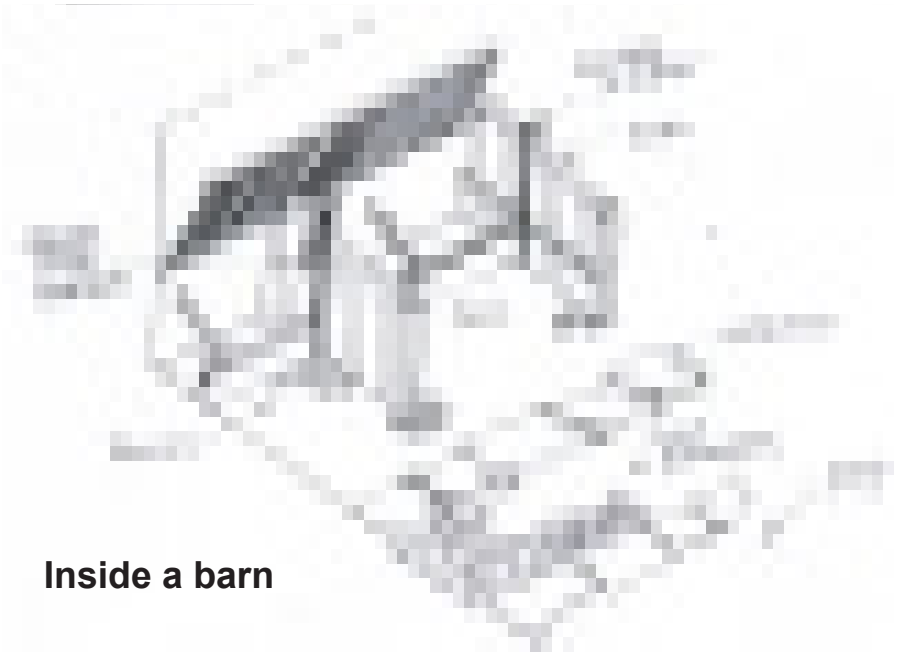
Most field barns have separate doorways providing access to the mewstead and the shippon. These are normally found in the main elevation. Early field barns appear to have had only one central doorway providing access to both but the majority were subsequently modified by having a second doorway added close to the gable. Inserted doors can normally be identified by having jambs and lintels of a different design to those of other openings in the building. A few barns have the main doorway in the gable end of the building.

Field barns tend to be constructed in a simple vernacular manner and most possess few easily datable characteristics. Some building techniques, however, give some hints to the dating of barns. Heather or ling thatch was falling out of use in new construction during the 18th century and by 1800 it would probably be used only infrequently when the overhaul of existing thatch roofs was required. Later buildings tend to have more regularly finished walling stone.

Watershot masonry, with roughly dressed stonework laid in courses with the outer face tilted to throw water off the wall, was widely used between the late 18th and mid-19th century. The different tooling marks used on stonework can also give some indication of date, particularly on early barns where coarse diagonal tooling is likely to be 17th century and scotched tooling late 17th century, but stonework can and was reused. Light and ventilation was mainly provided by the doorways to the shippon and hay-mew and by forking holes but was sometimes supplemented by slit or square ventilators on gables and main elevations, sometimes, like through-

Walls: what to look for





Inside a barn

barningham's barns

have been the normal bonding material. Mortar is primarily used to assist in bedding the stones but the wall may also be pointed, sometimes even slob rendered in lime mortar. Lime mortar has the advantage over cement-based mortars and renders in that it is able to breathe and draw moisture out of the building. Many barns have little or no foundations, relying on larger stones at the base of the walls for stability. They were originally used as padstones, load-bearing stones at the base of timber crucks.

The majority of field barns are two-storey buildings located in hay meadows or pastures, often but by no means invariably at the lower end of a slope and between or in the corner of two or more fields. The size of a barn is generally related to the size and productivity of the field or fields in which it stands. The local shortage of suitably long timbers meant that most barns were confined to a width of 13-16ft (4-5m).

Most surviving field barns date from the period between 1750 and 1850 although earlier examples can be found. Few barns can be accurately dated – there are a number with inscribed date stones but sometimes these have been reused and cannot always be relied on. The usual way of dating barns is by absence or presence on maps and by architectural features.

Activity around and within the field barn varied through the year. Over winter the cattle would be housed in the byre or shippon, which was normally situated in one end of the building and consisted of several compartments ('booses') partitioned by vertical 'boskins' made of wood or stone flags.

The byre would typically hold four or five cattle and each animal would be tethered by chain or rope tied to an iron ring ('runner', 'round hank' or redwiddie') free to move up and down a vertical stake ('ridstake' or 'rudster').

The cattle would be visited by the farmer at least once and sometimes as many as three times a day, to be fed on the hay stored in the barn, given or led to water to drink and, where necessary milked. When hay was needed to feed sheep out in the field, a square slice of hay known as a 'canch' would be cut out using a hay spade or knife.

Hay was carried in a 'creel', a frame made by bending and tying two hazel branches to make bows. The two bows were then joined together and interlaced with rope. The creel was laid

The field barns of Barningham

THERE'S more to barns than meets the eye, as ED SIMPSON discovered when researching them for his Archive Award-winning project. Here are some excerpts.

THE first inhabitants of the north would have been hunter-gatherers. At some stage they changed from nomadic tribes to settle in one area. This was fine for the growing season but in the harsh winters needed somewhere to store food for humans and animals. This gave rise to barns.

From October to May cattle were housed indoors, where they were found to be more productive, needed less food and were prevented from damaging ('poaching') the wet fields with their hooves. Field barns were also a labour-saving device which minimised the time and energy required to transport the hay crop for storage, particularly important during the haymaking season when good weather might be at a premium.

Before the medieval period, feed was probably stored in structures which are either indistinguishable from houses or which have left no trace. It is not really until the Middle Ages that we begin to see evidence as to how farmers organised their storage of food and animal fodder. In the Dales, aerial photographs have recorded over 300 small, more or less square enclosures within field systems thought to be late medieval or post-medieval. Although none have been tested by archaeological excavation they are interpreted as stackstands, which provided a dry platform in the field, protected from livestock, for storage of winter fodder.

They are generally defined by a ditch and low internal bank and cover less than 150 square metres. Stackstands, where found, are often at a similar density to that of field barns. On these stands the field-dried loose hay was skilfully made into haystacks.

Faint traces of long, narrow, linear platforms have been identified that have been interpreted as the medieval sites of wooden, cruck-built barns. Crucks were pairs of curved trees, or one tree split lengthways, raised and positioned to form a pointed arch and strengthened by a horizontal tie-beam midway and a collar near the apex, creating an A-shaped frame. The cruck

The earliest local barn, just off Low Lane, with walls thought to be medieval

feet may have been raised on stone pedestals (padstones) for greater stability and to prevent them from rotting. Two or more pairs of crucks, linked apex to apex by a straight ridge-tree, formed the framework of a building.

The ends of the tie-beams projected out slightly to be vertically above the feet of the crucks, and sidewalls of timber or wattle and daub were built up to the ends of the ties. Between the top of the walls and the ridge tree, light rafters were laid, crossed perpendicularly by purlins. This structure supported a thatched roof, locally made of ling (heather).

No heather-thatched barns now survive, at least not in original form, but the outline of a former steep-pitched roof seen in a gable end is clear evidence of a former heather-thatched building. To effectively shed water the heather thatch demanded a relatively steep roofline with a pitch of about 60 degrees. Stone roofs demand a much shallower pitch of about 35 degrees to stop the heavy stone slates sliding off.

Stone roofs were weatherproofed by pushing moss between the slates and later by 'torching' the underside with a mixture of lime plaster and cow hair. Stone roofs require rather less maintenance than heather thatch and are also less vulnerable to fire although they did require a greater investment.

Sometimes evidence for rebuilding can be

recognised by a change in building stone or coursing a few feet below the eaves, but in many cases the original walls of heather-thatched barns were not strong enough to take the extra loads of a stone roof and heightened walls and they were demolished and any reusable materials used to build a new structure, often on the same site.

It is likely that the walls of early stone field barns were largely of dry stone. The normal wall construction of field barns, as with most vernacular buildings in the Dales, is for a roughly coursed random rubble sandstone or limestone wall about 2ft (60 cm) thick with an inner and an outer face, tied together with occasional thoughstones, and a core of rubble and lime mortar. Sometimes the throughstones project as a decorative feature.

Prior to the widespread introduction of lime mortar in the 18th century, earth mortar would

Rows pointing to an ancient road?

THERE appear to be three rows of barns in Barningham:

1. Barns 1 (Early Lodge), 2 (triple-arched barn), 18 (ruined) and (tenuously) 3 and 4 near Norbeck Bridge;

2. Barns 11 (two-storey), 12 (enclosed) and 13 (near polytunnel)

3. Barns 4 (first in Low Lane), 17 (evidence in Wayne's field), 16 (evidence near arch and door barn), 8 (arch and door barn), 9 (near Dutch barn) and 10 (Coronation).

These 'sets' of barns follow set tracks. The first set are linked to a track still visible to the north of Early Lodge along Nor Beck.

The second set starts with a footpath from the Greta Bridge road outside the village past Barn 11 to Banks House (with its attached barn) and on to Barns 12 and 13.

The third set goes from Barn 4 past Barns 17, 16, 8 & 9 to Barn 10 (Barn 7 must have been a track off this track.)

This route would not have stopped suddenly but must have continued on past Barn 10, which supports the theory of an ancient road along Low Lane past the southern end of Coronation Wood to the top of Gill Beck.

All shapes, styles and sizes: the field barns of lower Barningham