

Join us on a day out to historic Carlisle

THE history group plans a day trip to Carlisle on Saturday September 15, including travel from Kirby Stephen on the Settle and Carlisle Railway line.

Carlisle has a wealth of historic buildings

including the castle, cathedral and museums – or you can just enjoy a day's shopping.

The history group will arrange free rail tickets for members. Contact Jon Smith (01833 621374) if you'd like to go.



Deadline nears for the Archive Awards

DEADLINE for this year's *Archive Awards* for the best local history projects is Sunday August 26. The awards will be presented at the village show on September 1 and the best projects will be featured in future issues of the *Archive*.

Entries can be in any form and the only stipulations are that they are original work and have been produced during the 12 months up to the deadline. Previous winners are eligible to try again. Send entries to *Archive* editor Jon Smith at Heath House, Barningham.



Dickens back in Teesdale

AS part of this year's 200th Dickens anniversary celebrations, an authentic mail coach will be travelling from Greta Bridge to Barnard Castle via Bowes on Thursday August 16.

Passengers will include Dickens (David Harper of BBC antiques shows fame) and along the way they will meet Wackford Squeers at Dotheboys Hall in Bowes.

You can see them leave the Morrill Arms at 10.30am, call at the Ancient Unicorn in Bowes at 11.30am, and arrive in Barnard Castle at 2.30pm.

Details: 01833 650730, or www.dickensinteesdale.org.uk

Archaeology project wins funds

THE Heritage Lottery Fund has approved a grant for the North Pennines AONB Partnership to continue its Altogether Archaeology project for a further three years. It's hoped that the project can get started in August, with some field-work provisionally scheduled for September and October.

The project includes work at a range of sites throughout the

Prize for local history essay

THE Cleveland and Teesside Local History Society awards a prize of £200 for a newly researched essay on a local history topic. The closing date for 2013 entries is March 31.

The competition is open to any amateur historian or student. Essay subjects must relate in some way to the Cleveland and Teesside area. More details and application forms are available from Geoff Braddy, 150 Oxford Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough TS5 5E, gjbraddy@btinternet.com

North Pennines. More details as we get them, or have a look at www.northpennines.org.uk.

Meanwhile, the NP AONB is organising a three-mile walk around the Roman fort of Epiacum (Alston) on August 19, led by archaeologists Paul Frodsham and Dave Went. Places are limited and there is a small charge of £3. To book, ring 01388 528801.

Find out more about rock art

HISTORY group members interested in prehistoric rock art – there's plenty of it up on Barningham Moor – are invited to a conference in Hexham on September 15 to celebrate the 80th birthday of Stan Beckensall, the doyen of cup-and-ring research in the North-east.

It runs 9.30am-4pm at the Queen's Hall Arts Centre and includes presentations aimed at a general audience – no prior knowledge required. Tickets are £10. Details: phone 01434 652477.



Archive 27

THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk



INSIDE: SWISH MIRE, JAM LETCH AND JINGLE POTTS

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Landlord and family outside the Black Bull Inn in Newsam, c1900. See Page 3

NEXT HISTORY GROUP MEETING: TUES. SEPT 18th 6pm



The Archive

A slightly smaller *Archive* this time than we've got used to, the result of holidays, gardens and a host of other activities that have diminished the opportunity for history research. We hope to be back to 20 pages or more in the autumn.

The next issue, of course, will feature our Archive Award winning projects. The deadline for entries is August 26 and we look forward to seeing them. Offerings from our younger members will be especially welcome.

IT'S been very gratifying to see our group horizons spreading in recent months, with new members coming to our meetings from Rokeby, Newsham, Dalton and Gayles. They've already made a very useful contribution to the *Archive* contents and we hope to welcome more.

THE next group meeting in September will mark our third birthday, and will include our AGM, when we'll be discussing our constitution, approving the annual accounts and appointing officers for the next 12 months. If it's anything like previous AGMs, it won't take long.

THE EDITOR

minutes of the last meeting

Hosting, a day out, and a tale we can't repeat

Minutes of meeting, July 31 2012:

Present: Jon Smith (Chairman), Ann Orton (Secretary), Phil Hunt, Liz Ramshaw, Neil Turner, Mike and Beverley Peach, June Graham, Cate Collingwood, Sheila Catton, Tony Orton, Ann Hutchinson, Greta Carter, Mark Watson.

Apologies: Kay and Eric Duggan, Harry Collingwood, Sue Prytherick.

Matters arising: None.

Correspondence: Power (Academy pupils), Weir (Newsham Mill), NP AONB (Funding).

Financial: Income for June/July was £258, mostly from publication sales. Expenditure was £381, mostly printing costs and subscriptions, giving a deficit of £122 and a final balance of £1,424. Tony, Jon and Eric would be meeting soon to discuss the plaque for the clock.

House Histories: The Hollies. If you visit Neil he will tell you the story about the branches and the toilets which we can't repeat here!

Publications: Archive 26 was out and 27 would be out soon.

Maps/Fields: Jon had made a start on analysing the field names. He gave us some unusual names to decipher – see page 4.

Buildings: The lime kiln project was ongoing and the history group had been asked to act as a neutral "host", meaning that money would be put through our bank account. The meeting agreed to this. It would also be advisable for us to have a formal constitution. Jon gave us a sample constitution to study and this would be brought to the AGM in September for discussion and adoption.

Transcriptions: Cate reported that she had nearly finished the Newsham minutes.

Oral history: Ann H was hoping to interview Nancy Gill and Trevor Turner. Elizabeth Carrick had spoken to Jack Blackburn and thought he would be happier to come to a meeting and talk to us informally.

Cine records: These were underway and there would be no charge for their conversion to DVD.

Newspapers: No progress.

Next meetings: September 18, to include the AGM and normal meeting, October 30, December 18.

Visit: Sheila proposed that we visit Carlisle as there was lots of historic interest there. September 15 was agreed. – See back page.

ANN ORTON, Secretary

100 years ago: the first drive turns up trumps

BARNINGHAM had never seen anything like it before.

At eight o'clock one Friday evening in 1912, 120 people were packed excitedly inside the village school, ready for an historic night's entertainment.

The schoolroom was specially decked out in flags and ribbons, tables and chairs filled the main room and by five past eight 30 groups of four were in full swing, shuffling and dealing to their hearts' content.

It was the first whist drive ever held in the village.

"It proved an enormous success," the *Teesdale Mercury* reported later. "Those present, all keenly interested in this popular amusement, made an animated spectacle."

As the whist progressed, refreshments were served by five ladies – Mrs Todd from The Yews and her two daughters, Mrs Coates of Heatherlands and Miss Wilkinson, a visitor

leftovers

from Redcar – all "daintily attired in white frocks, with muslin aprons and mob-caps to match".

The games lasted three hours, until eventually David Alderson of Hill Top Farm and his partner, a Mrs Green, were declared the winners and collected their prizes.

That wasn't the end of it, though. By 11.30 the tables and chairs had been cleared out and dancing began, with music led by Miss Eva Raine of Barnard Castle.

It went on until 2.30 in the morning.

old ads

WANTED, a Good General SERVANT. Wefleyan preferred. – Apply to Mr. JOHN HUTCHINSON, Barningham.

The Teesdale Mercury
August 22 1877

Doors 'shivered to pieces'

From John Latimer's *Local Records for May 25 1842*:

A terrific thunderstorm occurred at Barnard Castle and the neighbourhood.

At Scargill, the farmhouse of Mr Bowron was struck by the lightning, when part of the west gable was thrown down, and forced a great distance. Al-

most every pane of glass in the house was destroyed, the doors were shivered to pieces, and the walls and ceilings were stripped of their plaster. Mr Bowron was sitting in the kitchen at the time, but, though his chair was broken to pieces and portions of his clothes burnt, he did not sustain any serious injury.

Grand piano carried to dance

FOOTNOTE on the Cole family's garage in Newsham: group member June Graham recalls her late husband Michael telling her that in the 1940s his mother lent her grand piano for dances held in the garage. Four strong men carried it across the village green and back again afterwards.

Four sections of flooring, normally stored against the walls of the garage, were fitted together to form the dance floor. Army boxing matches were also held there.

Bloody trail from body in the beck

From the *Teesdale Mercury* of October 22 1856:

On Saturday an inquest was held at the house of Mr George Nicholson, Dun Cow Inn, Newsham, before Mr Dinsdale, coroner, on the body of William Rowell, labourer, of Newsham, who was found drowned in Dison [*sic*] Beck, near the road leading from Newsham to Greta Bridge.

The deceased left his home to go to work at Mr John Coulthard's, Smallways, about 5 o'clock on Friday morning, and about 7 o'clock, as Mr Thomas Ford, of Newsham, was crossing the Bridge, his attention was attracted to something in the water.

He got over the wall, and discovered the body of the deceased. Assistance being at hand, the body was taken up out of the water.

Blood could be traced up the road in drops for about 150 yards.

It is supposed that Rowell's nose had commenced to bleed, and that he had gone to the water's edge to wash it, and had taken a fit, and fallen into the stream.

After hearing evidence, the jury returned a verdict of 'found drowned'.

• Rowell was a 65-year-old agricultural worker; Ford was a carpenter; Nicholson ran the Dun Cow from the 1830s until his death in the 1870s, when his unmarried son, also called George, took over for another two decades. – Ed.



The Archive

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Copies of The Archive, the BLHG newsletter, are available on annual subscription (£12 for 2012).
Back issues can be purchased for £2 each (see index on our website).

The cottages round the pub corner

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

READING ROOM COTTAGES

THE cottages just round the eastern corner of the Milbank Arms acquired their name in the 1860s when Augustus Sussex Milbank, younger brother of lord of the manor Sir Frederick, converted one of them into a reading room for the village (see *Archive 19*).

We know little about them before then, except that when the 1838 tithe valuation survey was carried out in 1838 they were Milbank-owned and occupied by, among others, Ann Clarkson and John Wiseman.

Ann had been in the village for at least 20 years: her name appears in a list of Milbank tenants in 1817, when she rented a little under three acres of land. She was, we think, unmarried although in 1841 she shared her home with a 15-year-old boy who may well have been her son. She died aged around 75 in early 1860s.

John was listed as a smallholder in a similar list drawn up four years later. In 1841 he was married with three children, and supplementing his farm income by working as a shoemaker. He lived on until 1875: see *Archive 23* for more.

There's a long gap in our knowledge of the cottages' occupiers from the 1860s until the 1940s, when Neil Turner recalls No 1 as the home of a Mrs Delaney, who was responsible for looking after the Reading Room. Later occupants included George and Betty Good-all who had previously lived in part of Heath House, Martha (Matty) Usher and Robert Laidler.



Reading Room cottages front and rear in 1985 and, below, after conversion in 1986



house histories

In the mid-1980s the cottages underwent major rebuilding work which included changing No 3, for more than a century the Reading Room, back into a dwelling.

No 2, Neil recalls, was used as a holiday cottage by a Rev Keith; it's now occupied by Ken Brown.

No 3 was for some years the home of Keith and Daphne Walker and, later, his brother Grahame and Miranda Walker. It's now owned by Teesdale author and Children's Laureate Anne Fyne.

No 4, Neil says, was where his parents lived in the 1920s

until moving to The Nook and, later, taking over the Milbank Arms.

After that it housed the Milbank family nurse, 'Nurse Monk', families of Powells and Holmes, and a Mrs Reade, laundrywoman for the hall: she did her washing in what is now Park Cottage.

Since the war it has had a host of tenants. They include Mary and Harold Hugill (owner of a famed steam thresher), Eric Fletcher and family who moved there from a farm at Morley, Ray and Lillian Raine, Bobby and Amy Etherington, Trevor and Jennifer Turner, Arthur Brass and Shani Sutton.

cover story

Newsham's lost inns – 1

THE photo of Newsham's Black Bull Inn on the front page was brought along to the Cole family reunion at Smallways – see Page 8. The landlord's name on the

board above the door is hard to read but seems to be Brown.

There was a Newsham publican called Robert Brown, who took over the Dun Cow from James Henry in 1910. Did he run the Black Bull before that? Is that him, his wife Jane and his family in the cover photo? There's no mention of a Black Bull landlord in the 1911 census, so perhaps Brown left it empty to avoid competition?

Certainly the Black Bull inn had closed down by 1920, when it was bought by former Smallways landlord Ben Cole for his widowed daughter Margaret – that may be her in the top



picture above, taken not long afterwards. The house was later extensively rebuilt and renamed Century House, which has stood empty in recent years. It is pictured above earlier this year, before current renovation work began.

Newsham's lost inns – 2

IN the last *Archive* we wondered if anyone could identify the people admiring the collection of pipes in Newsham's Pipes Tavern, formerly the Dun Cow Inn, in 1954.

Barbara Matley came up with the names. From the left, Walter Cole, licensee Eric Licence, Hartley Maude, Harry Burrell and his son Les.



33 years of B&B at the pub

AMONG other items brought to the Smallways Inn reunion was the pub's visitors' book covering the years 1927 to 1960.

Many of those staying overnight were lorrydrivers (it was a long haul from the south to Scotland and back in those days), but there were also business reps, holidaymakers and, during the war, large numbers of young airmen making their way to RAF bases north of the border.

The book was presented to Smallways landlord Tony Colwell by the Cole family, members of which ran the pub from before 1900 until 1960, and will go on display in the bar.



Jam Croft, Starkey and Swish Mire

There are 269 fields on the 1838 Barningham tithe valuation map in the village hall. Each had a name, identified in the map's index held at Durham County Record Office. We've been looking at it.

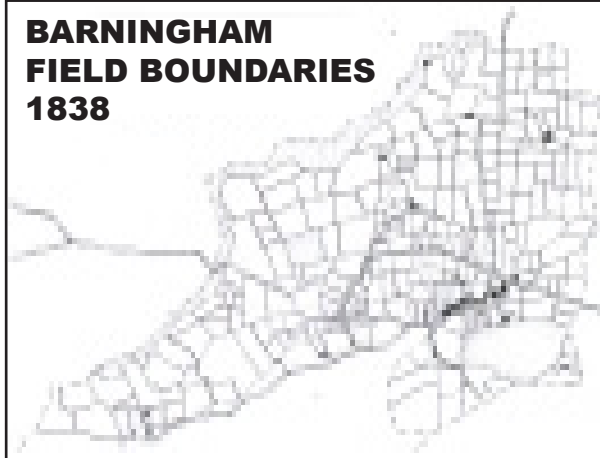
FIELDS need names. It was simple enough in the middle ages when Barningham operated under a simple system of three open fields: they were probably known simply as *East, North and West Fields*, or perhaps *Mill Field, High and Home*. But when enclosures began in the early 1600s, new names were needed as each fresh field was created.

The most obvious way to identify fields was by referring to their owners or occupiers at the time of enclosure or later, and the 1838 map records about 40 of these from the seventeenth and eighteenth century (*Allen Close, John Horden's Great Close, Sarah Moor Close, West Appleby Close*) plus 55 from the later 1807 enclosure known simply as *Cow Close Allotments*.

This wasn't adequate, obviously, if farmers had more than one field. The next option was naming them by reference to their geography, and about a third of the names recorded on the 1838 map are of this type.

Some derived from relationship to a farm or other building (*Back House Close, East Mill Close*), some to landscape features (*Beech Top Hill, Kithow Gill*), some to the shape or position of the field itself (*Broad Brim, Low Pasture*).

Field quality and use was also used to give fields their names. There are references to the nature of the land (*High*



Sand Hill, Peatmire, Pate Earth, Swish Mire, Wet Acre) and to its anticipated productivity – or lack of it (*Hard Holm, Small Hopes Pasture*).

There were names for fields where stock was kept (*Calf Close, Little Lamb Cotes, High Rampshaw, Stirk Pasture* and, of course, *Bull Acre*), for stock grazing (*Crooks Pasture, West Cow Pasture*), and arable enclosures (*Barley Mire Busk, West Hay Thwaites, Potatoe Garth*).

Profits from a handful of fields supported hospitals or other charities, and this was reflected in their names (*East Spital Shaw, North East Chariot*). The Church (*Church Field*) and local school (*School Bank*) also featured. Half a dozen fields in 1838 were only recently enclosed and, awaiting names, were called simply *Intack* or *New-Laid Field*.

And about a score were given names that defy explanation. The most mystifying include *Castle Garth* and *Kiolie Castle Pasture* (neither of which has a castle), several *Egmartin* fields, *Lodda, Py-*

burn Field, Pott Ings, Swish Mire, Starkey, Jam Croft, Jam Letch and Jingle Potts. If you can offer explanations for any of these, we'd be very grateful for enlightenment.

We're in the process of compiling a book about Barningham's farms, fields, owners, occupiers and land use down the centuries. It will include details of every field on the 1838 map (and all the other properties it shows), and, of course, maps showing where they all were.

We say 'were' because a third of them have vanished over the last 180 years, and the names of some have changed or been forgotten.

On the opposite page we give a few examples of entries so far. We'll publish more in future *Archives*. The whole book should be available in the autumn.

● *If you'd like to know more, English Field Names by the appropriately-named John Field (first published by David & Charles in 1972) is an excellent introduction. The history group has a copy that members are welcome to borrow.*

The dawn of a new age in transport

IT'S not the greatest of anniversaries, but it deserves a mention. This month 110 years ago, in August 1902, the first-ever picture of a motor car appeared in the *Teesdale Mercury*.

Not a photograph – it would be decades before the *Mercury* invested in such new-fangled reproduction – but this line-drawing of a well-wrapped Edwardian couple bowling along in a very early petrol-driven vehicle, make unknown.

It appeared on the front page, above an advertisement for an enterprising Bishop Auckland mechanic called Albert Wilkinson. He was not only the first person in the area to announce that he had cars on show (and presumably for sale) but he also sold 'motor spirit, sparking plugs and parts' and claimed he could repair any make of car that came his way.

We came across the advertisement by chance, and it prompted us to trawl through back issues of the *Mercury* for more early motoring references (using its yet-to-go-public website, to which we have invaluable if limited access). The results were fascinating.

The earliest mention we could find was in October 1899, when the *Mercury* excitedly reported what seems to have been the first motor car seen in Teesdale.

"A motor car passed through Barnard Castle from Brough Hill Fair yesterday noon," it announced. "There were numerous occupants." Numerous? Too many for the paper's reporter to count, it seems, unless he missed it and was relying on accounts from eye-



the first cars

witness who couldn't agree on how many people were making the journey.

Cars were certainly rare at that time. In 1896 it was estimated that there were only about 15 in the whole of Britain. (One of them was driven by Walter Arnold of Kent, who had the dubious honour that year of being the first person in Great Britain to be fined for speeding: he did 8mph through town, 6mph over the limit. Fined one shilling with costs, he'd been caught by a policeman who gave chase on a bicycle.)

The number of cars had increased by 1900 to about 700, the vast majority in the south of England, and the total had well passed the thousand mark by the time Albert Wilkinson started stocking them.

As he was putting his advertisement in the *Mercury* in 1902, the paper printed what was to be the first of many letters from people worried about the arrival of the petrol engine.

"The recklessness of drivers is so frequent a subject of comment, how short of a miracle it is that so far no serious mishap has occurred in Teesdale," wrote Jane Dent of Mickleton. "Our main roads are very nar-

row and have so many twists and turns that it is often impossible to see a motor car until almost face-to-face with it."

The Rev Spencer Gough, Rector of Barningham, also went into print, complaining about piles of rubble left on local roads, "very formidable objects of danger when a (horse) driver may find it necessary to suddenly pull on one side to give a motor car a wide berth".

Their fears soon came true. In June 1903 came the *Mercury's* first report of a traffic accident, after a car hit a hawker's cart at Middleton. The horse was seriously injured.

The first such event near Barningham came in 1906, when a woman was badly hurt as a runaway car overturned near Greta Bridge.

The *Mercury*, however, was excited by the new invention. "We are on the eve of colossal development," it had proclaimed in its editorial of June 15 1904. "The motor car has come to stay... and some of the shrewd men of this town have already commenced repairing centres."

Among them were Louis Smith and J Jackson, both of whom within the next couple of years founded garages in Barnard Castle that survived until very recently.

A mile of hospitals for the wounded

Thomas Cole wrote home regularly from the First World War front line, and some of his letters survive. Here is one of them, dated October 15th 1916. He died in action nine months later.

Dear Wife
Received your letter alright pleased to hear from you and thanking you very much for contents. I received it on Friday morning but have not had time to write till now.

I am pleased to say that I am still in good health and at the same place yet. J Spence and W.H.¹ have landed here since last Friday afternoon he is with me now writing a letter he did not know Jinnie had got a boy.

When I get this written I am going to have some supper you will be surprised to hear that I am teetotal now I cant drink French Beer I have not had more than 2 pints since I came and it is a week gone Wednesday since I had any at all. It is something to eat I want and what I will have when I have any money.

Well love keep your heart up and don't think so much when you feel lonely sit down and write to me. I wouldn't mind having a letter from you every day you will have received another one since you sent mine off. I also sent a letter to Newbiggin. Sallie would wonder what she was getting till she got it open.

Fancy R Bulmer² getting wounded again but if he has got back to England he is lucky as there is a lot of wounded in Hospital here. There is a lot comes down from the firing line every day, it is wonderful the places they have for them and all been put up since the war started. We pass the hospitals on our way to the Parade ground they are fully a mile from one end to the other and scores of Motor

cole family
Fancy little John being a year old on Tuesday, I hope he never has any of this to do in his life

ambulance cars running. I saw them burying four wounded Germans yesterday that had been brought down from the trenches. We see the red cross hospital trains passing every day but you cant expect nothing else the way they are fighting now.

Fancy little John³ being a year old on Tuesday, I hope he never has any of this to do in his life. Would be very pleased if you would send me Walter's photo when you write again if it is not a very good one. I would like one of you if

you could get taken anywhere I should have mine taken over here if I ever have a chance to get taken. I think I will just drop a postcard to Coxwold the day I go up to the firing line it might be the last one to him and he can please his self if he answers it.

Well I think I have told you all I know now, hoping to have another P. letter⁴ when you have anything to spare hoping the war will soon be over and that we are all coming back to our homes again. I have enclosed you a postcard hoping you will like it I will send one for my children next week, hoping you are all well as it leaves me the same at present remember me to all, hope Jinnie and her Son goes alright write soon. With best love from your ever loving husband T.Cole

xxxxxxxxxx for the children



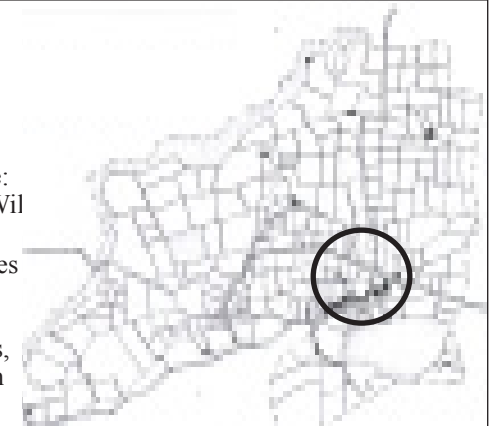
¹ Probably William Hutchinson, a neighbour in Newsham. We can't identify the J Spence.
² Raymond Bulmer, another neighbour. His wounds must have been mortal, as his name also appears on the Newsham war memorial.
³ John Cole, born 1915: Barbara Matley's father. ⁴ Parcel?

BUNNY CLOSE

Site: 54°49N 1°87W. NW of the churchyard, to the rear of Fairview. Area: 1 a 3 rods 13perches*.

History: Not shown on the 1800 map but appears on the 1838 one. Land use: Meadow. Valued at £0-11-6. Owner: William Todd. Occupier: Thomas Carter.

Name: Tempting to suggest this derives from rabbits, but it may be from the name of first owner when enclosed. It has been known as Buzzy's or Bussy's, so may date from the Bussey family in Barningham in the 1660s.

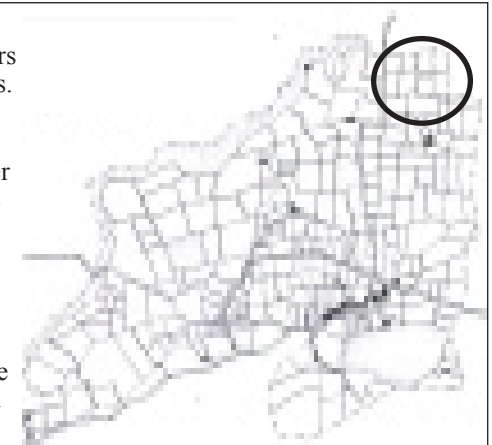


EAST SUN CHARIOT

Site: 54°50N 1°86W. North of Saunders House. Area: 6 acres 2 rods 18 perches.

History: Not shown on the 1800 map, but fields to the west were owned by Jane Hanby (1755-1835). Her daughter Mary married Thomas Wheldon. 1838 land use: Arable. Valued at £0-18-0. Owner: Thomas Wheldon. Occupier: William Lawson.

Name: One of four 'Chariot' fields, the name deriving from the fact that they were owned by or their rents were payable to support a charity, perhaps a hospital or school.

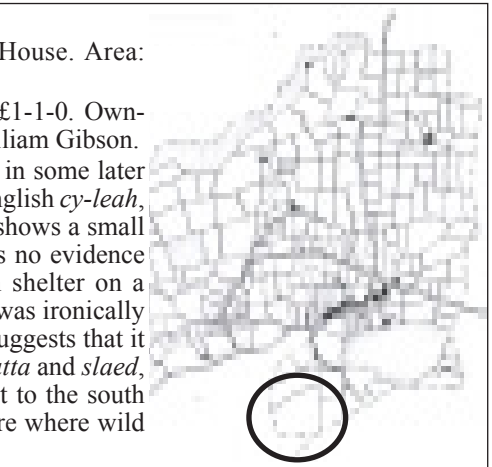


KIOLIE CASTLE PASTURE

Site: 54°48N 1°88W. West of Park House. Area: 31acres 1 rod 18 perches.

History: 1838 map: Pasture. Valued at £1-1-0. Owner: Mark Milbank. Occupier: John William Gibson.

Name: Uncertain. *Kiolie* (spelt *Kyloe* in some later documents) may come from the Old English *cy-leah*, meaning cow pasture. The 1838 map shows a small square building in the centre. There is no evidence that it was ever anything but a farm shelter on a small mound and one theory is that it was ironically christened a castle. Merryne Watson suggests that it derives from the Old English words *catta* and *slaed*, meaning 'valley of the wild cats': just to the south is Cathaw Stoop, meaning an enclosure where wild cats were common.



* There were 40 perches in a rod, four rods in an acre; an acre is 4840 square yards.

Barningham Local History Group Publications



Where Lyeth Ye Bodies

A guide to Barningham church, graveyard map, memorial details and list of every known burial. £10 + £1.50 p&p

Barningham Baptisms

All recorded baptisms, listed by date, name and parents. Vol 1: 1580-1800; Vol 2: 1800-1950. £10 + £1.50 p&p.

Barningham Brides

All marriages 1580-1950, listed by date, groom and bride. £10 + £1.50 p&p.

Counted

An A-Z of census returns 1841-1911, arranged so that families can be tracked through 70 years.

Vol 1: Barningham, Scargill, Hope; Vol 2: Newsham, New Forest. Vol 3: Brignall, Rokeby. £10 each + £1.50 p&p

A Child of Hope

The 1895 diary of Mary Martin, born on a Teesdale farm in 1847. £5 + £1 p&p

A Fleeting Shadow

The Diaries of young Newsham schoolmaster James Coates, 1784-85. £10 + £1.50 p&p.

A Farmer's Boy

Memoirs of life in the Gayles area in mid-Victorian days. £10 + £1.50 p&p

Aback to Yuvvin

1849 Glossary of Teesdale words & customs. £5 + £1 p&p

Barningham Vestry Minutes 1869-1894

Barningham Parish Minutes 1894-1931

Transcripts of meetings, with background history, index and lists of named parishioners. £5 each + £1 p&p

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

Barningham Memories: DVD of cine film of Barningham in the 1960/70s. £8 + £1 p&p

>>> 20-25% discounts for history group members <<<

More details: see our website www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

from the parish mag

85 YEARS AGO: We regret to announce the death of Miss Jane Lowe, who for twenty-one years was Headmistress of Scargill School. Miss Lowe retired from Scargill on December 21 1919, when the Managers recorded their complete satisfaction with her great ability, kindness and tact.

— August 1927

80 YEARS AGO: The Brignall and Rokeby children's trip to Redcar passed off most successfully. The paddling in the sea proved an unending delight. All got back home by nine o'clock, good time this for the children though some of the elders would fain have stayed later.

— August 1932

70 YEARS AGO: We are sorry to lose three evacuees who have reached 14 years of age and are returning home. Betty Adams, Lilian Broomfield and Joyce Henderson were all confirmed here and the two latter were most regular attenders at Sunday School.

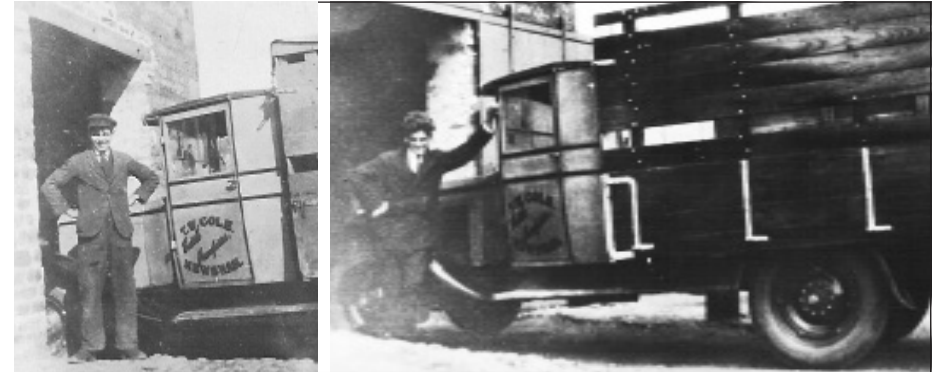
— August 1942

50 YEARS AGO: Congratulations to the cricket team for having won the League Knockout Cup. Their supporters have travelled far and had some anxious moments, but a very good team spirit and the knowledge that they belong to Barningham has pulled them through. Well done!

— August 1962

45 YEARS AGO: Sunday School will close for August and this seems a good opportunity of thanking our teachers, Mrs W Metcalf and Mrs D Powell, who have kept the children so happily together.

— August 1967



John and Walter Cole with their lorry in Newsham, c1930

beginning of the 1960s and a vehicle body repair garage was established. Walter left Newsham in the mid-1960s.

Bill's main occupation was as a farmer. He had a dairy herd with a milking parlour at the rear of Black Bull House and supplied milk to the villagers. He died suddenly in 1980 but his wife Adeline (nee Carter) remained in Newsham until her death in May 2012.

cole family

Also living and working in the village from after the war was John Cole, who lived with his wife Margaret (nee Gill) and family in Forge Cottage. He worked for Walter driving the cattle lorries and then as a body repairer before returning to his trade as a plumber and moving to Richmond in 1968. He died in 2002; his wife six years later. The children, grandchildren

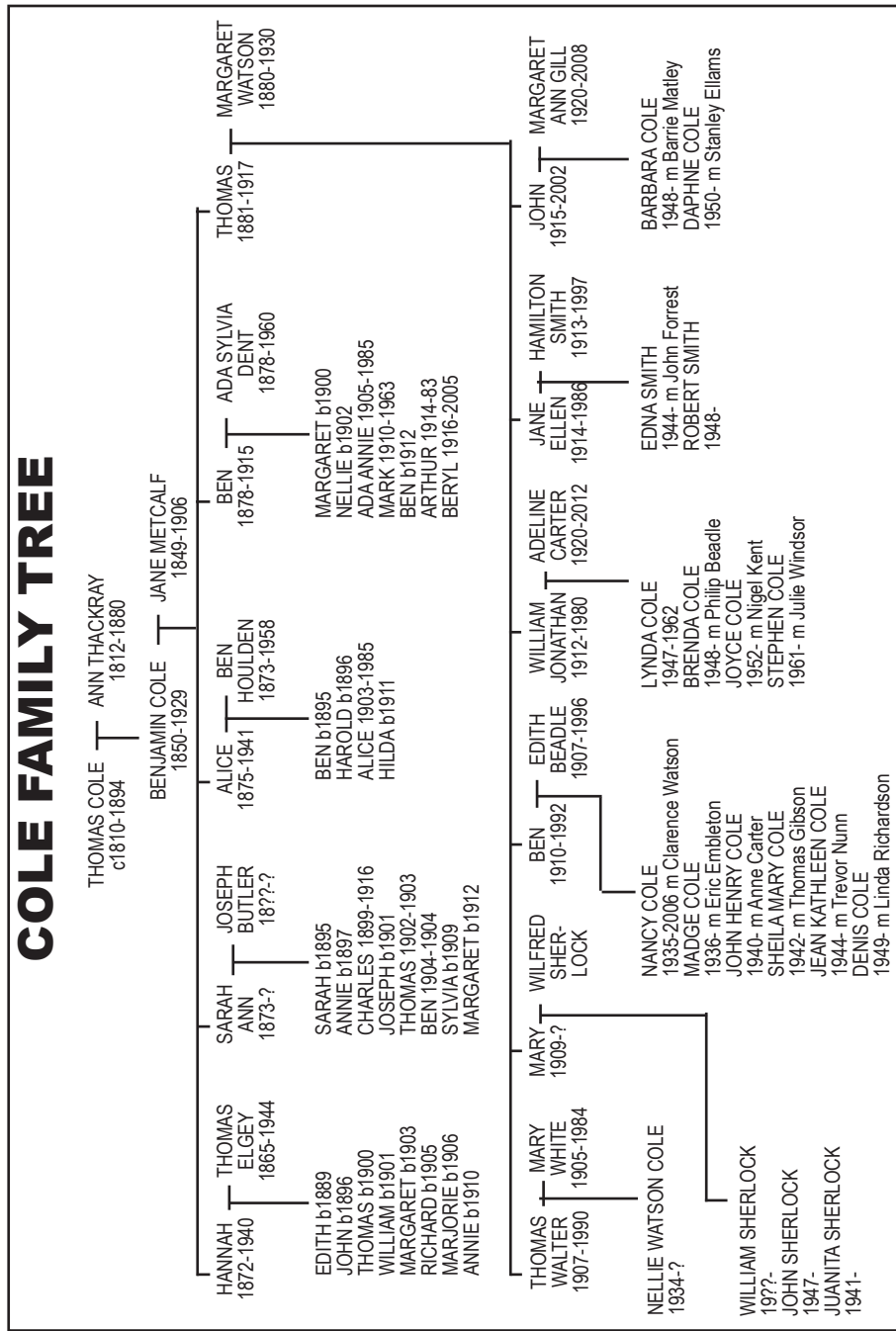
and great-grandchildren of the first Ben (1850) were baptised, married and buried in Barningham or Kirby Ravensworth Church, depending which part of Newsham they lived in.

Today some descendants still live not too far from Newsham while others are spread across England, Wales and as far as Australia. Wherever they are, they will forever be Yorkshire Folk.



Newsham village green, pictured around 1930

COLE FAMILY TREE



Great-grandfather was a pupil at the Academy

GREETINGS from Australia (and yes, the Ashes are safe in England for the foreseeable future!).

I'm seeking information about my forbears Frederick and Charles Murgatroyd, pupils at Coates' Academy in Barningham in 1851.

Is there any remote chance the school register or other records still exist?

Frederick Biscovitz Murgatroyd (born in York in 1843) and Charles Benjamin Murgatroyd (born in Salford in 1845) were both the illegitimate sons of Mary Ann Murgatroyd, a native of York. She probably placed the boys into Coates' boarding school after she came into some property in Leeds following her mother's death in February 1851 (her father having died even earlier).

Frederick went on to become an estate agent in Moss Side, Manchester, married, but died without offspring in 1897. He was briefly involved in politics at a local level.

Charles became a hat manufacturer in Manchester, married, lost his wife and two infant sons to consumption in the early 1880s, then migrated to Australia where he died in 1906. His two small daughters (Beatrice and Ethel) followed him to Australia in 1883. Ethel is my paternal grandmother and would have perhaps 30 living descendants in Australia.

The connection with Barningham, as you can see, was brief and tenuous. Nonetheless if my wife and I get to visit Yorkshire (as we hope to do

letters & emails

Email us at history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk

in the not-too-distant future) I want to see the school on the edge of the moors where great-grandfather went as a boy. Sounds a bit Dickensian, especially with Coates being a one-armed thrasher of lads!

I would very much appreciate any further information re Coates and his school. I assume that Coates' boarding school and the Barningham Academy are one and the same.

I am compiling a "family dictionary of biography" - hence my interest in the Murgatroyd boys.

Laurie Power
Queensland, Australia
lpower@optusnet.co.au

● These boys were unusually young to be pupils at the Academy - Frederick was six, Charles five - the rest of the pupils were in their teens. They were the only pupils from Leeds, the rest coming from the south of England.

Murgatroyd is an unusual surname and seems to be largely confined to the Leeds area - there were only 48 Murgatroyds in the whole of the UK in 1851.

There are no school records in existence that we know of. The Academy declined in the 1850s and 1860s, finally closing down in 1875.

We've sent Laurie a history of the Academy and a photo of Newby House. - Ed.

How sad that James died so young

MANY thanks for the book *A Fleeting Shadow*. How I loved reading it, what a man James Coates was, so sad he died so young. It made fascinating reading.

We lived in Middleton in Teesdale for 13 years whilst my husband worked in Glaxo. We loved visiting all the villages, went for meals in the pub on Sunday to Newsham and met friends there.

Good luck with your history group and many thanks again.

Genevieve Phillips
Cwmffrwd, Carmarthen

Old mill stones in Newsham

THERE is a stone marked MDXL (1540) in Newsham Mill wall. I left a (working) pair of grindstones and water-wheel when sold.

I think the Newsham paper mill was fed by a small aqueduct over Sprent Beck (near the sewage works) - understandable since the Newsham spring water would carry very little grit having started in Broughton House field.

Bob Weir, Newsham

Has anyone got pictures?

HAVE any BLHG members got any old photos or information about my property, Moor Lane Cottage in Newsham? Old photos which show the row of cottages I am in would be extremely interesting.

Steve Skipsey, stevskipsey@me.com



Barbara (centre of the front row) and other Cole family visitors at Smallways

A day of memories for the Cole family

Members of the Cole family, which abounded in the Newsham and Barningham area from late Victorian days, came from all over the country for a reunion at Smallways Inn, which was run by their ancestors for more than half a century. We asked the reunion organiser, Barbara Matley (nee Cole) to tell us about the family history

THE Cole Family are found to be living in Smallways Inn in the late 1800s with the death of Thomas Cole, 84, being registered at the Inn in February 1894. His son Ben of Smallways Inn is named as witness.

This then began over 60 years of a Cole living and working at Smallways Inn and farm.

Ben was born Benjamin Cole in 1850 at Tollerton near Easingwold, the ninth child of agricultural worker Thomas Cole (born 1810) and Ann (born 1812, nee Thackray).

He married Jane Metcalf in Cold Kirby, near Helmsley, in 1872 and after beginning his working life as a farm servant became a licensed hawker.

By the time of the 1881 census the family was living in Gainford with their four children Hannah, Sarah Ann,

cole family

Alice and Ben. A fifth child, Thomas, was born after the census was recorded and still living there in 1891.

Sometime during the next decade the family moved to take over the farm and inn at Smallways.

In the 1901 census Ben is recorded as head of the household. Also listed are his wife Jane, then 52, their 23-year-old son Ben and his wife Ada Sylvia (born 1878, nee Dent, born in Barnard Castle), and their two daughters, Mary Jane, ten, and seven-month-old Margaret Jane. Also living



Smallways landlord Ben Cole, born 1850

cole family

with family was an 18-year-old farm servant, John Scott, from Hutton Magna. Ben senior was recorded as being a farmer and publican, Ben junior as a ploughman. Jane is listed simply as "pub", which suggests she was the one who actually ran it while her husband and son ran the farm.

By the 1911 census Ben senior had moved from Smallways, leaving young Ben and Ada in sole charge, living there with their family. They had two more daughters by then, Nellie (born 1902) and Ada Annie (born 1905), and a baby son Mark.

The farm and pub appear to have been doing fairly well, as Ben and Ada employed three servants in 1911: a 40-year-old widow, Mary Lodge from Newsham, and two 20-year-old farm workers, Thomas Horseman from Stockton and William Kirtley from Barningham.

Ben and Ada had three more children during the next five years: Ben (1912), Arthur (1914) and Beryl (1916) – born six months after her father's death at the age of only 37 in October 1915. Smallways Inn was then run by Ada Sylvia until her death in 1960; the inn and farm were sold soon after.

Ada Annie, who had lived with her mother, moved to Richmond. She died in 1985.

Back to the early 1900s: Ben Cole senior (born 1850) and his wife Jane had moved to High Dalton Hall Farm with his youngest son Thomas and his wife Margaret Ellen (nee Watson). They were living there in 1906 when Jane died. All Thomas and Margaret's six children were born at the



Thomas Cole and family in 1914. He was killed fighting in Belgium three years later.

farm: Thomas Walter (known as Walter, born 1907), Mary (1909), Ben (1910), William Jonathan (known as Bill) (1912), Jane (1914) and John (1915).

After John's birth the family left Dalton to live in a cottage by the beck at Smallways (this cottage was later derelict for some time but has since been made habitable again). The whereabouts of Ben at this time is unknown but he did return to Newsham and lived in The Villa where he died in 1929.

Thomas joined the Yorkshire Regiment, possibly sometime in 1916 as there are letters from the front from that time – see overleaf – and was killed in June 1917 near Ypres,

Belgium. He lies buried in a village called Dickesbush and his name appears on the War Memorials in both Newsham and Barningham. The Newsham memorial also carried the name of his nephew, Charles Abram Butler, the son of his sister Sarah Ann who had married Joseph Butler and lived in Newsham.

Margaret was widowed with six young children between the ages of two and ten, and in 1920 her father-in-law Ben purchased Black Bull House in Newsham for the family.

The Black Bull had previously been a public house and remained in the Cole family until the late 1960s. Walter, the eldest son, purchased his first cattle truck in about 1930 and began a livestock haulage business which became Cole Bros. with Bill becoming a partner.

The business was sold at the