



Group members at Kirkby Stephen station. The front cover photo shows John Hay and Ann Hutchinson trying out Roman gear at Carlisle's Tullie Hall Museum

## Mercury set to go online

THE website containing 100 years of the *Teesdale Mercury* is about to go online – at last.

Access to the site, which offers to chance to search every page from 1855-1954, will be free. Watch the *Mercury* for details: we'll tell you more in the next *Archive*.

## Noticed our new board?

THE history group now has a sizeable noticeboard of its own in the village hall.

It carries award certificates, newspaper cuttings and other items of interest to members. Have a look next time you're in there.

## We've got a constitution!

THE history group adopted a formal constitution at its AGM in September, prompted partly by our role as financial 'hosts' for the lime kiln project. You can see it in detail on our website.

## Sun shines on group visit to historic Carlisle

TWENTY-FIVE members and their families set off for Carlisle on a bright and sunny day, taking a coach to Kirkby Stephen and then a train (20 minutes late but this soon passed) to Carlisle, a beautiful journey with lots of views towards the lakes and the Cumbrian Fells.

Free to spend the day as we wished, Tony and I visited the cathedral in the morning. It is the second smallest (after Oxford) of our ancient cathedrals. Founded as an Augustinian monastery it became a cathedral in 1133 and has been refurbished in the 13th, 14th and 19th centuries.

The ancient choir contains 46 misericords, hinged seats constructed to keep the monks from falling asleep whilst at prayer. Despite this the pillars bear traces of being burnt by candles held by the monks during their interminable devotions! It also has a very unusual ceiling, bright blue and covered in stars.

We were amused by a plaque "in graceful Remembrance of an affectionate Parent whose Maternal tenderness exemplary Fortitude & Christian

### history trip

Resignation in trying scenes of domestic Affliction were ever eminently conspicuous and whose terrestrial Remains (Such alas! Is the humbling Lot of Mortality) are mingled here with dust and ashes." The imagination runs riot!

In the afternoon we visited the castle, built in the time of William II after the Scots had been banished from Cumbria. It now contains a wonderful military museum and fairly substantial remains of the original castle.

Some of the party enjoyed a visit to the Tullie House museum which has fine collections of art, history, and nature.

We all agreed on the train home that we had enjoyed an excellent day out. Many thanks to Jon for organising the trip.

ANN ORTON



# Archive 28

THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk



INSIDE: THE KILLER'S WIFE ACCUSED OF POISONING



Barningham garage, pictured in the 1920s when it housed Sam Turner's motor, bus and coal wagon business. Long gone, it's now the site of Byresbron, Brantfell and Raby View.

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NEXT HISTORY GROUP MEETING: TUES. OCT 30th 6pm



## The Archive

THREE years old this issue, and back up to 20 pages after the distractions of the summer.

There's been plenty to fill this issue, notably the history projects entered for our annual Archive Awards.

Congratulations to those who took part and we hope their work prompts more entries next year – it's never too early to start planning yours!

INTEREST in local history seems to be spreading, with Dalton and Gayles village hall inviting us to run a session there in the autumn to explain what our group does, encourage local research and perhaps bring in yet more members from the eastern end of our area.

We'll be happy to help them and any other community nearby. Do any of our Hutton members want to get more involved?

YOU never know what will turn up on the internet. One minute we were investigating the 1899 Barningham organ installation, the next we were delving into the history of the Titanic. Why? See Page 7.

And now the *Mercury* is about to go online (see back page). What will we find next?

minutes of the last meeting

## Another successful year, and plans for the future

**Minutes** of meetings held on September 18 2012.

**Present:** Jon Smith (Chairman), Eric Duggan (Treasurer), Ann Orton (Secretary), Neil Turner, John Hay, Phil Hunt, Ed Simpson, Kay Duggan, Janet Patterson, Linda Sherwood, Margaret Taylor, Cate and Harry Collingwood, June Graham, Tony Orton, Mark Watson, Ann Rowley, Diane Metcalf, Ann Hutchinson.

**Apologies:** Sheila Catton, Beverley Peach, Margaret Stead, Janet Wrigley, Sue Prytherick.

### AGM

**Chairman's report:** Jon welcomed everyone to the third anniversary meeting. We had had another successful year, membership up to 82, we'd produced more publications and won an award for our newsletter. The group had welcomed members from Dalton, Gayles and Newsham and enjoyed several trips.

**Constitution:** Agreed with minor alterations.

**Officers elected:** Jon Smith Chairman, Ann Orton Secretary, Eric Duggan Treasurer. June Graham and Janet Patterson were elected additional trustees.

### Ordinary meeting

**Matters arising:** Pickards had not responded about the clock

plaque and Eric agreed to obtain a quote elsewhere. The Carlisle trip had been very successful. Phil Hunt had won the 2012 Archive Award and Ann Orton was highly commended.

**Correspondence:** Dalton and Gayles village hall committee had asked if someone would be prepared to give a talk on local history. Jon said that he was willing and Phil, Ann and Ed would also help.

**Financial report:** Income £113, expenditure £583, leaving a balance of £954. Eric was setting up a second account to simplify handling the funds for the lime kilns.

**House Histories:** Braeside.

**Publications:** Archive 27 had been circulated and 28 would be out shortly.

**Oral Histories:** Various names were put forward which members agreed to pursue.

**Cine records:** Unfortunately our college contact could not help after all. Eric was following up another place which hopefully could help us.

**Next meetings:** Tuesdays Oct 30, Dec 18 (Christmas get-together) and Feb 19.

**AOB:** Phil and Ann gave short talks on their Archive projects.

ANN ORTON  
Secretary

## Spick and span – and ready to shingle

From the *Teesdale Mercury* of June 16th 1926:

THE inhabitants of Newsham are to be congratulated on the great improvement they have made recently in the appearance of their village.

Most of the dwelling-houses have been greatly improved with colour-wash and paint, and the gardens are in almost perfect order. Caravans and horses have disappeared from the village green, leaving the fine war memorial stone and the grand old cross and ancient stocks in the midst of beautiful green grass.

At the east end of the village there is an old-fashioned grinding mill with its moss-covered

cuttings



**The Eton Crop – height of fashion in the 1920s**

water wheel, and a large mill dam where ducks and geese

are swimming about, presenting a very pretty scene. It is surprising what a business is being carried on.

Horses and carts are continually coming and going with loads of grain and meals, and although the respected owner is kept busy attending to his customers' wants, he is most pleasant and agreeable in showing visitors things of interest, and looks with pride on the large water-wheel when in motion.

It may interest ladies to know that they can have their hair bobbed, trimmed or shingled, or even the Eton Crop done in Newsham at very moderate charges.

## Entertainment gives 'the utmost satisfaction'

From the *Northern Echo* of March 16th 1870:

Mr SHAW, of Raby College, Staindrop, gave a serio-comic entertainment in the Lecture Hall, Barningham, under the auspices of the members of the institute. The hall was crowded almost to suffocation to hear the talented amateur. It is almost superfluous to pass any eulogium on

the extraordinary abilities of this gentleman. Suffice to say that the entertainment gave the utmost satisfaction, and justly merited the highest praise on the occasion of his first visit to Barningham.

It is hoped he will soon again visit the place to receive a cordial welcome.

## Fatal walk to see daughter

From the *York Herald* of April 5th 1834:

ON Tuesday last, as a woman of the name of Hardy, residing at Barningham, was walking to Exelby to visit her daughter, and when within two miles of the latter place, in apparent good health, she inquired of some men on the road her nearest way to Exelby, and almost immediately dropped down dead.

The body was conveyed to a public-house near the roadside, where an inquest was later held.

## High price of a 4-ounce trout

From the *Teesdale Mercury* of July 27th 1921:

AT Greta Bridge Police Court John James Weirs, water bailiff, charged George W Patterson, farm servant of Newsham, with illegally fishing.

It was said that at 11.45 on Sunday, between Dyson Lane and Newsham Lodge, the defendant was seen fishing in Clow Beck. He had caught a trout a quarter of a pound in weight.

Defendant, who did not appear, was fined 20s.

## Warning about empty homes

From the *Teesdale Mercury* of December 19th 1945:

A REPORT was submitted to Richmond Rural District Council on his inquiries at Gayles following a complaint from Dalton that several houses were occupied only at weekends and intervals.

It was found that in some cases the explanation was satisfactory, but in other cases it was decided to serve 14 days' notice on the owners informing them unless the houses were inhabited they would be requisitioned by the council.



## The Archive

Barningham Local History Group, Heath House, Barningham, Richmond, North Yorks DL11 7DU  
Tel: 01833 621374 email: [history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk) website: [www.barninghamvillage.co.uk](http://www.barninghamvillage.co.uk)

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).

## 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](http://www.barninghamvillage.co.uk)

## from the parish mag

**95 YEARS AGO:** We must express our sympathy with the families of three soldiers who have been killed in the last two months. Mr Barnett, the under-gamekeeper, was a man of singular and attractive nature, highly esteemed and respected by us all. We assure his widow of our heartfelt sympathy and we trust that the little baby (the father had not seen it) will grow up to be a constant comfort and blessing. We offer, too, our sympathy with the widows of Tom Cole and William Allison. The men have died for King and Country, noble deaths! – *October 1917*

**70 YEARS AGO:** We regret the departure of Mr and Mrs E Holmes to live in Wales. During the many years of their stay in Barningham they were devoted members of the choir and always eager to assist in any charitable cause. They were presented with a cheque before leaving. – *October 1942*

**50 YEARS AGO:** All will be sorry to hear that Mr Blades broke his ankle in an accident at work. I am most grateful, as I'm sure are the congregation, to those who have stood in for Billie. Mr Morgan and Mr Lawson are good bellringers, Mr Lerigo is gathering the last crop of hay from the churchyard, and Mr Dennis Lee is mowing the grass and lighting the fire for heating. – *October 1962*

**20 YEARS AGO:** We have been getting together in the village hall to learn, or re-learn, the old-fashioned dances of years gone by. Skilfully guided by an expert we have savoured the graceful charm of waltz and quickstep, tango, pasa doble and two-step. – *October 1992*

## Phil tracks down our project award

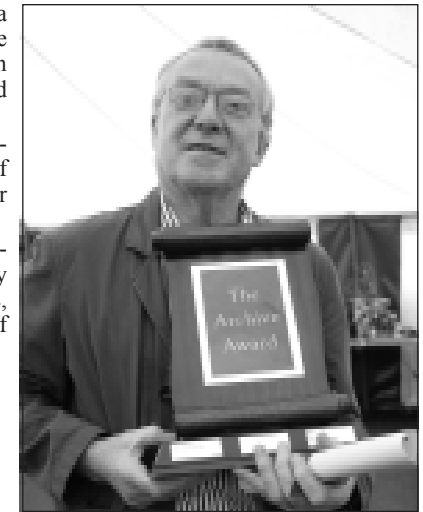
BACK in April Phil Hunt gave the history group a fascinating summary of his early research into the 'railway that might have been' between Northallerton and Scargill – passing through Dalton, Newsham and Barningham.

Since then he's delved much deeper into the ill-fated history of the 1846 scheme, and his report of his discoveries won him the 2012 Archive Award for the best local history project.

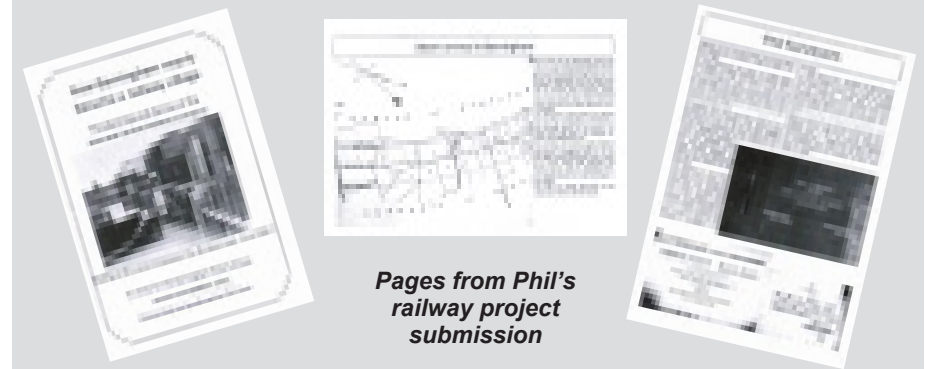
His submission – 'How Barningham nearly became a railway village' – includes sections on why the line was planned, its surveyors and promoters, rival proposals, the 'railway mania bubble', and, of course, maps showing where the line would have run.

Extracts appears in this *Archive*. If you'd like to see the whole thing, contact Phil.

He collected his award at Barningham's annual show on September 1.



Phil Hunt with his award



Pages from Phil's railway project submission



Ann with her certificate

## Praise for Ann's submission

ANN Orton was among the Archive Award winners for the third year running, picking up a Highly Commended certificate for her profile of Augustus Sussex Milbank.

Augustus – always known as Sussex – was born in 1827, the youngest brother of the first Sir Frederick Milbank, and spent much of his life in Barningham.

But he also travelled widely

and kept an entertaining diary recording, among other events, his days in Paris during the 1848 revolution and his dalliance with a circus performer.

Later he became a noted expert on farming, creating the model farm at Hawsteads and doing many good works for the village.

The first of our extracts from Ann's project begins on Page 13.



## We can help you trace your family history

I AM writing to you and the members of your group on behalf of the Upper Dales Family History Group.

We support the research of family history no matter where your family came from, although we have a wide base of knowledge about families from the Yorkshire Dales.

We hold regular meetings which are open to all. Details of our programme for the coming year are attached and we would be grateful if you could advertise these amongst your members.

We hold meetings on the fourth Wednesday afternoon of most months, currently alternating between the village hall at Harmby near Leyburn and Fremington Sunday School, near Reeth in Swaledale, with an annual evening meeting in June.

Talks cover a wide range of topics from individual family stories to research hints and local history as well as more practical 'hands on' sessions and regular family history oriented computer clubs. Entry to talks is free to members of the Cleveland Family His-

### letters & emails

Email us at [history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:history@smithj90.fsnet.co.uk)

tory Society; non-members are very welcome at all meetings, admission £2.

It is also possible to arrange computer club sessions for individual groups, maximum 12 persons; please ask for details.

For further details contact me or Tracy Little 01748 884759 or see the website at [www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk](http://www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk).

We are here to help you and your members learn more about your ancestors.

MARION MOVERLEY  
[moverley.lyons@virgin.net](mailto:moverley.lyons@virgin.net)

● *The 2012 programme includes talks on Mary Queen of Scots (Harmby, September 26) and the Swaledale Beldi Hill lead mining dispute (Fremington, October 24), a practical session on transcribing old documents (Harmby, November 28), and a talk on Yorkshire emigrants to Nova Scotia (Fremington, March 27). The full programme is on display on our group noticeboard in the village hall. – Ed.*

## Any items for our Scott exhibition?

BOWES Museum is preparing an exhibition on Rokeby for early next year in connection with the bicentenary of the poem of the same name by Walter Scott (famous in its day but not so well known now!)

It wonders if members of your history group have any items that might relate to the area along the Greta around which the poem is set, the Meeting of the Waters to Briggall Banks, eg visitors' books which mention Turner, Cotman or Scott or others going to look at the Greta; railway posters; old walking boots; even old or contemporary photographs.

Do get in touch with me on 01833 696217 if so.

CHARLOTTE HUSSEY  
[charlotte.hussey@durham.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.hussey@durham.gov.uk)

## Best wishes

I HAVE read and re-read your most valuable and interesting newsletters and would like to order some of your publications. Good wishes for your group's continued activities.

RUDOLF CROSSLEY  
Bournemouth

## 'A very interesting encounter'

THE latest issue of *Local History* magazine carries a very complimentary feature on *The Archive* following our receipt of the British Association for Local History's newsletter of the year award.

"The current issue confirms why this quite recently established group earned their status," it says. "There is a plethora of very local material... a very interesting first encounter with Barningham."

The history group subscribes to the magazine and we have copies if members would like to borrow them. See its website at [www.localhistorymag.com](http://www.localhistorymag.com).



## Stonemasons, chauffeur and a butler

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.



### VIRGINIA COTTAGE

KNOWN for many years simply as 'The Cottage', it changed its name in the 1950s after becoming covered in virginia creeper (to add to the confusion, Granville used to be known as Virginia House, and today there's a house known as The Cottage next to the Old Chapel).

We know exactly how old Virginia Cottage is: the date 1733 appears on a panel above the front door, with the name James Wac... (the rest isn't readable). It's listed Grade II.

The first positive information we have about its owners and occupiers comes from the 1838 tithe map, when it was listed as belonging to the Milbanks and tenanted by a stone mason called Henry Nelson – see *Archive 20* for his family details.

Henry died in 1862, and after that there's a long gap until 1911, when the census recorded the occupier as Sunderland-born Margaret Alderson, a 44-year-old widow living with six of her children.

Her husband John, born in Romalldkirk, was also a stonemason (did the Milbanks reserve the house for the estate mason?) and had died in 1907, three years after the family moved to Barningham from Barnard Castle.

Margaret was eking out a living as a charwoman. The oldest child at home was 18-year-old Henry, an unemployed farm worker; the others – four girls and a four-year-old boy – were at school.

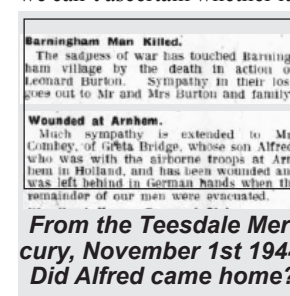
There had been at least two more boys, Ernest, who had died in 1905 aged 13, and Wil-

### house histories



liam who by this time was 27 and had followed in his father's footsteps as a mason, but of whom we know no more.

A Henry Alderson appears on the list of 1914-18 dead on Barningham war memorial but we can't ascertain whether it's



the same one: his death wasn't reported in any of the contemporary parish magazines we possess, nor in the *Teesdale Mercury*.

There were plenty of Aldersons in Barningham and nearby at the time: whether this family was related to them we don't know.

There's another gap until the 1930s, when the cottage was occupied by estate chauffeur Ernie Holmes and his wife Gertrude. They left for Wales in 1942 (see the Parish Magazine note on Page 18) though later returned to live in part of Heath House. Virginia Cottage was then let to a family called Burton, one of whose sons, Leonard, was killed in action, and then to the Layfields.

In the late 1940s Virginia Cottage was home to the estate butler, a Mr Erdley ("he was immaculate, always wore pin-stripe suits and white gloves," recalls Neil Turner) and his wife.

A long line of tenants followed, including a Dr Mackenzie, John and Julie Barker, and a gamekeeper called Coutes. Another gamekeeper, Alan Blenkinsop, was there in 1979.

Pamela Lowther followed, living in the cottage in the 1990s, and today it is the home of Colin and Elisabeth Airey.

## sussex milbank

the other when the Republic was proclaimed.

"I was close to the large guns when they fired. One of the artillery men had kindly explained to me everything concerning his gun which was very interesting. He said laughing that he did not think that I should have the courage to stand between the two guns whilst they were fired.

"I replied 'Je suis Anglais...' I remained, as I then felt obliged. I can assure my readers that I had great difficulty in keeping my legs from the roar and percussion of the air..."

Sussex tempted fate on other occasions. On May 12 he wrote that he while sitting in the Tuileries he had thrown away a cigar butt and "shot a Garde Mobile in the eye. Great commotion. There was as much row as if I had annihilated the French army. I maintained the dignity of my nation."

Around this time there was further trouble on the streets. There was mounting support for Louis Napoleon, the nephew of Napoleon 1, and Sussex tried to march with the National Guard three times but was turned away.

On June 24 he recorded going up to the boulevards to find insurgents fighting desperately from the windows as well as the barricades.

"I was obliged to retreat. I was arrested. One man, a National Guard, swore that I should be shot instantly as a spy, and much more of brutal language. I told him 'You may kill my body but my spirit will soar above.' An officer came and rebuked the fellow and told me that I was only a prisoner of



**Louis Napoleon and his bride, the Spanish Countess of Teba, on their wedding day in 1853**

war and would only be treated as such. I was confined upon parole honour to the Rue de Richelieu.

"The cannonade was tremendous, the fusillade very sharp the whole time. I dined at the Hotel de Paris. I was released from my parole d'honneur about 8 o'clock when a guard conducted me home. I heard firing all night... The day has been bloody."

By June 27 the insurrection had been subdued, but at the cost of 20,000 men killed or wounded. Louis Napoleon eventually seized power in December 1851, making himself Emperor a year later.

On July 4 Sussex received another letter from his mother begging him to come home. He wrote an answer requesting that he might stay, but within a month he was on his way

home.

He crossed the Channel on August 4, noting in his diary "I had a capital passage across the deep. I went from Boulogne to Folkestone in two hours... I went to London by the four o'clock train. In the evening went to Henry's house (his brother) but did not see the baby."

The next day he set off for Yorkshire. "I started from London at half past 9 o'clock. I arrived at York at 4 o'clock. I arrived at Barningham at half 7. I caught a bad cold."

● Next Archive: The girl from the Paris circus who captured Sussex's heart.

● Many thanks to the Milbank family for allowing us to reprint the diary excerpts.

## The tragic trail of the Lodge family

A TRAGIC shooting, an alleged poisoning, a wife suspected of murder, and a soldier who survived a war but still ended up on a war memorial...

These are all part of a tangled family history that we've been trying to unravel over the summer.

The story starts with a brief news report chanced upon by history group member Jo Crowe while browsing old copies of the *North Eastern Daily Gazette* on the British Newspaper Archives website.

Its edition dated November 7th 1896 told of an inquest in Newsham on four-year-old Charles Robert Lodge, youngest son of William and Charlotte Lodge of Newsham House.

Charles had got up the previous Tuesday morning and gone into his parents' bedroom with his much older brother Thomas William Atkinson Lodge. Thomas told the inquest that he found their father's revolver lying in the room, pointed it at the younger boy and jokingly asked "Shall I shoot thou?"

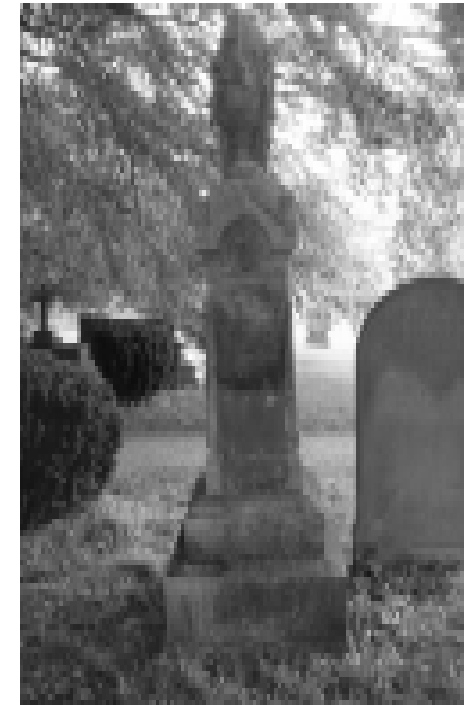
Charles replied yes, Thomas pulled the trigger and to his horror shot the child through the chest. "I didn't know it was loaded," he explained later.

Hearing the shot, their father ran upstairs to find Charles mortally wounded. Despite the efforts of village GP Dr James Graham, who managed to extract the bullet, the boy died twelve hours later.

The coroner, Mr J S Walton, made it very clear that he thought William Lodge had been grossly irresponsible in allowing his sons to find the gun. He "severely animadverted on such a dangerous weapon as a revolver being left lying around the house" before the jury returned a verdict of accidental death, said the *Teesdale Mercury*'s report of the tragedy.

The boy was buried a few days later, we think at Kirby

**Thomas and Mary's grave in Barningham churchyard**



### shooting tragedy

Hill though we haven't traced his grave.

William Lodge, born in Whorlton in 1849, had lived in Newsham since 1867 when he moved into Newsham House with his young bride Charlotte (nee Hind, born in Arken-garthdale). He was almost certainly related to the family of the same name who farmed at Eastwood Hall at the time, and was clearly quite well off: the 1871 census records him as "of independent means" with 49 acres of land rented out to local farmers.

Thomas was born in 1868; a daughter, Mary Annis, followed in 1871 but died at the age of two. There were no more children until Charles

arrived, almost certainly very unexpectedly, in 1892.

At the time of the shooting tragedy Thomas was 28 years old, working as a joiner and living a few doors away with his wife Mary Elizabeth (nee Dent) and their five-year-old son William Henry. A daughter had been born early in 1896 but died within a few weeks.

Within 15 months of Charles' death, Thomas had also died, in what appear to be most curious circumstances. He was buried in January 1899 in Barningham churchyard, where his grave is marked by a handsome marble cross above a stone inscribed "in loving memory of our only beloved son... Thy will be done." On the side was added a memorial to his sister Mary Annis, who



## shooting tragedy

had died 26 years earlier.

The parish register notes that Thomas was living in South Bank, Middlesbrough, when he died. What he was doing there we don't know, but his death made headlines in the *Middlesbrough Daily Gazette* of January 16th 1899.

Under the heading 'Singular Differences at South Bank', it reported his death had caused "quite a commotion" after claims that he had been deliberately poisoned.

Thomas had died after a brief illness and a Dr Fitzgerald, who had attended the body, certified death from natural causes. But Thomas' mother Charlotte was not satisfied. She was convinced Thomas had been murdered by his wife, and demanded a second opinion and a full post-mortem. She and Thomas's wife "lived on anything but friendly terms,"



**The war memorial on Newsham green**

said the *Gazette* excitedly, clearly eager to see Charlotte's suspicions proved correct and the young widow Mary hauled before the courts on a murder charge.

The local coroner conferred with Dr Fitzgerald and decided

the GP's decision should stand. Charlotte, however, refused to accept this, and made such a fuss that eventually Dr Fitzgerald agreed to call in a second doctor.

Between them they carried out a post-mortem and concluded that, despite all Charlotte's insistence to the contrary, there was no evidence of Thomas having been poisoned.

Charlotte and Mary returned home to Newsham, probably never speaking to each other again. Both Charlotte and William died within weeks of each other in 1924; Mary went to live and work as a servant at Smallways Inn and stayed there until her death at the age of 72 in 1943.

Her son William Henry went to live with his grandparents, and later moved to Hawes, where in 1911 he was working as an apprentice joiner.

Six years later, aged 26, he enlisted in the army – Private 230733, Royal Engineers – and went off to fight the Germans.

He survived, though there is no further mention of him in the army files – no record of where he served, of him being discharged or receiving a service medal, for example.

He returned to Newsham, married, and worked as a joiner in the village until his death in March 1939. He had no children, and his branch of the Lodge family died with him.

● *William's name appears on the south face of Newsham's war memorial, which carries not only the names of those who died in the two world wars but also those who served and survived. Denis Alsop of Newsham remembers him but knows little about his war record: has anybody else any information?*

## Sorry list of slander, debt and disputes with tenants

WILLIAM Lodge featured in a number of news reports in the *Teesdale Mercury* that we discovered during our research.

In 1870 he appeared before the Greta Bridge magistrates accused by Newsham neighbour John Atkinson of "using slanderous language to or against the complainant calculated to greatly injure his character, and for which there was not the slightest foundation". William in turn accused Atkinson of trespassing on his property. The bench, announcing that there was clearly a good deal of ill-feeling between the pair, bound them both over to keep the peace.

In 1888 he upset the same magistrates in a case involving a dog licence (see *Archive 24*), and in 1898 he was summonsed before Barnard Castle County Court and ordered to pay an outstanding bill of £13 3s 2d owed to Badcock and Sons, who ran a druggists and grocery store in the town.

In 1911 he appeared at Greta Bridge magistrates court and accused one of his tenants, Thomas Metcalfe, of causing eight shillings' worth of damage to his front door during what was said to be a series of disputes between the pair. The case was dismissed.

## sussex milbank

Legion of the National Guard, but was turned down. "The officer thanked me for my willingness," wrote Sussex, "but said that they had their full complement.

"During this time the firing was terrific on the Place de le Concorde and the Champs Elysee. It was a dreadful sight in the Place de la Concorde to see the dead and dying as well as pools of human blood..."

"At 1 o'clock I saw the King, Louis Philippe, run away. He was surrounded by an escort of 4,000 cavalry. The King came out of the Tuileries gardens in a fly surrounded by soldiers... In the afternoon I went to the Tuileries which was in the possession of the people. Everything was smashed..."

The next entry, headed 'Republique Francaise', records that Sussex was given a red ribbon to wear to signify that England and France were united in the cause of liberty.

"In the afternoon I walked with Mr and Mrs Taylor as far as the gate of the Tuileries gardens. It is not safe to walk in the streets... I am not afraid."

On February 27 he spent two hours closeted with Monsieur Audriet, secretary to Alphonse Lamartine, Minister of Foreign Affairs. "They presented me with a medal for my personal



**1848 print of soldiers attacking the street barricades**

**A dreadful sight... the dead, dying, and pools of blood**

bravery during the three days," wrote Sussex, who seemed to think this bestowed on him honorary membership of the National Guard.

The Revolution was over by March, but Paris was by no means completely safe, especially for a foreigner.

On March 26 Sussex recorded meeting on the boulevards "a procession of 1,000 children dressed in the uniform of soldiers... A drunken man insulted me for being 'un Anglais' to

use his expression, of being 'un sacre coquin Anglais', [which roughly translates as a hell of a naughty Englishman]... upon which I immediately knocked him down.

"I was seized upon by several men in blouse to give an account of this summary treatment... My explanation not merely satisfied them but many applauded the part I took."

In May he was present when the National Assembly met. About 50,000 National Guards and troops of the line and Garde Mobile lined the boulevards and the Place de la Concorde.

"The artillery from Vincennes was stationed in the Champs Elysee and paid the salutes, one when the National Assembly was acknowledged,

## Parents begged Sussex to come home

AS the situation in Paris deteriorated Mark and Augusta Milbank became anxious for their son to return home.

On February 29 he received a letter from his mother "who entreats me to be quiet at home. The letter arrived too late to be a stop to my chivalrous deeds in the glorious cause of Freedom... I saw a man shot for stealing..."

A month later his parents clearly remained worried for his safety.

On March 22 Sussex recorded "I received a letter from my father begging me to return home instantly from the great danger here. He would feel uncomfortable if I remained. I wrote back to say that such ideas were imaginary and vain terrors..."

sussex milbank

# Life and death in the Paris boulevards

SUSSEX's diary began in Paris in 1848. Written in the back is the following:

*"This book contains an account of the French Revolution which I witnessed in 1848 and of the French battle of June in which I served as a National Guardsman."*

He was in Paris to complete his education and on January 8th 1848, having just read ten volumes of Louis Thiers' *Histoire de la Revolution Francais*, he wrote:

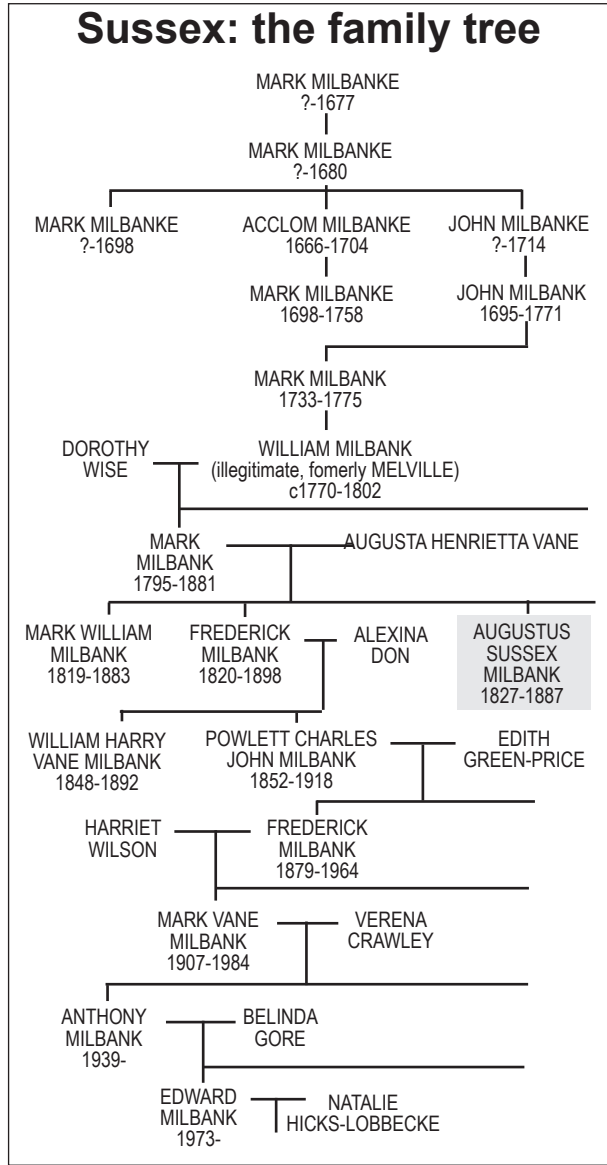
*"It was a great undertaking for me but after a steady perseverance of six weeks hard work I have vanquished my difficulties. When I first commenced, it was indeed very laborious, owing to my slender acquaintance with the French tongue. Then I was obliged to not only look out a great many words in the dictionary but to learn them by heart, hoping thereby to impress them upon my mind..."*

It was not all hard work, as Sussex was having a wonderful time meeting many Parisians and also enjoying the company of friends and family from England. He was mixing with young people of his own age and embarking on flirtations and affairs with beautiful girls.

However, he was not afraid to get involved in the Revolution and went out of his way to be where the action was. It must have been a thrilling time for a young man to be in Paris.

On February 22, the first day of the Revolution, he recorded:

*"A row began in the after-*



*noon in the Champs Elysee. I was obliged to a priest to make barricades. We threw an omnibus over. The troops charged us several times..."*

The next day, February 23, *"A great deal of firing took place this morning. I went to the boulevards. I was in the*

*Rue Montmartre when the municipal guard charged and fired a volley upon us... I paraded with the National Guard through the Principal streets of Paris."*

On the morning of February 24 Sussex volunteered to join the 4th battalion of the 1st

# Who gave what towards the new organ fund

AMONG recent ephemera donated to the history group is a booklet containing the order of service for the dedication of the Barningham Church on August 14th 1899.

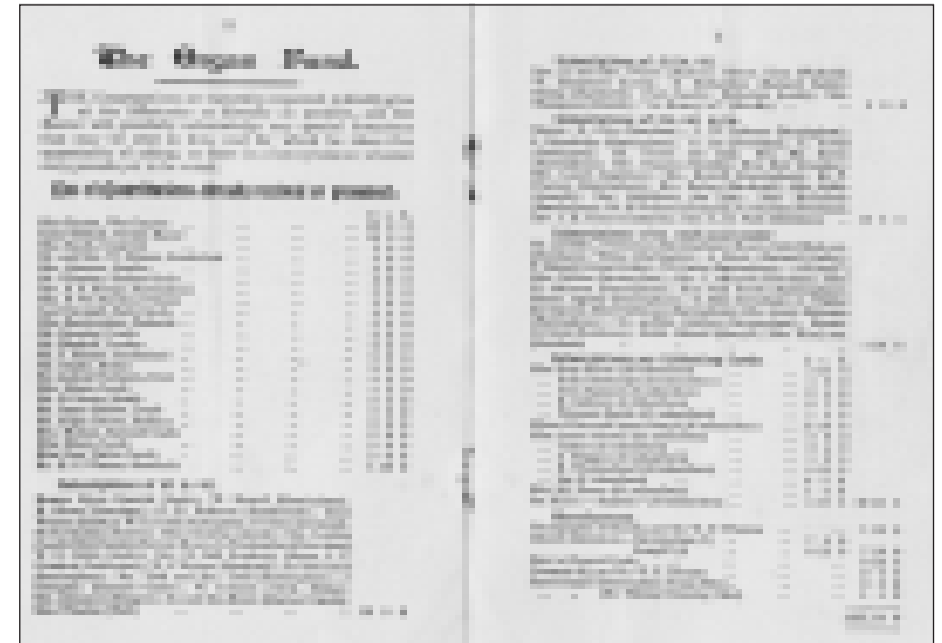
It was a big day for the church. The service was led by the Bishop of Richmond, the church was packed with clergy, councillors and parishioners, the choir gave of its best, and there was an organ recital afterwards culminating in a rousing version of Handel's Messiah.

The booklet includes details of everyone who subscribed to the appeal fund to meet the £300 needed to pay for the instrument. Only £217 had been raised so far. The Rector, the Rev Spencer Gough, urged more donations, and the full amount was realised by the end of the year.

Among the donations was £3 17s 6d raised from a collection aboard the trans-Atlantic steamship RMS *Majestic*. We wonder who organised that? Its captain was Edward Smith, later fated to go down with the *Titanic*: maybe he chipped in to help pay for our organ?



The booklet cover and, below, the list of people who made donations



## field names

THREE more Barningham fields with odd names that we've collected while researching the history of local field enclosures. We plan to produce a booklet listing them all later in the year. Names and acreages are from the 1838 tithe map.

## JAM LETCH

**Site:** 54°49N 1°89W. SW of Crooks House. Area: 15 acres 0 rods 13 perches\*.

**History:** Shown on the 1800 map but no owner or occupant identified. In 1838 it was pasture land, owned by Mark Milbank and tenanted by John Burton.

**Name:** Possibly meaning 'gorse field' from the Latin *jaunum*, gorse, and Old English *laeswe*, enclosed land. Other possibilities include OE *hamm*, a meadow and OE *innam*, an enclosure.

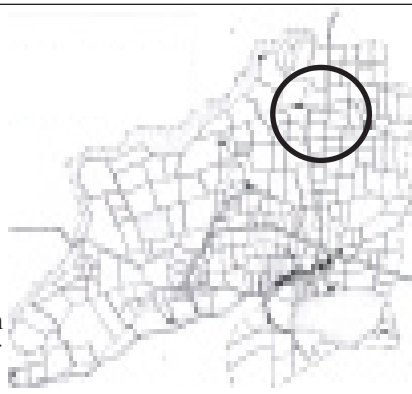


## STARKEY

**Site:** 54°50N 1°87W. The field in which Saunders House drive meets the Greta bridge road. Area: 5 acres 1 rod 37 perches\*.

**History:** Starkey Close is on a 1689 list of fields, and it's among land owned by the Milbanks and tenanted by Christopher Binks in 1726. In 1800 it was occupied by Ralph Heslop and in 1838 by Mary Heslop, his widow?

**Name:** Maybe from Old Norse *storr*, land on which sedge grew; or it could be named after its owner when first enclosed.



## JINGLE POTTS

**Site:** 54°49N 1°87W. Fifth on the right heading north from Nor Beck bridge. Area: 5 acres 0 rods 3 perches\*.

**History:** Recorded in 1689 as 'Tom Nelson's Jingle pothole' and in 1726 as Milbank-owned 'Gingle pot hole', tenanted by Isaak Wilson. Occupied in 1800 by Thomas Wilkinson, in 1838 by Thomas Westmorland.

**Name:** *Potte* was Middle English for a hole or land with hollows; *jingle* is a mystery: perhaps from ME *pightel*, a small field?



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

## The Duke's godson: a loyal Whig and a very snappy dresser

*Augustus Sussex Milbank (1827-1887) was a man of many talents. ANN ORTON researched his life for her 2012 Archive Award entry. Here is the first of a series of extracts from her project.*



SUSSEX (the name by which he was always known) was the youngest son in a family of four sons and two daughters.

He was named after his godfather the Duke of Sussex, one of the sons of George III. His father, Mark, had married Lady Augusta Henrietta Vane, third daughter of the third Earl of Darlington, who subsequently became the first Duke of Cleveland.

We know where his political loyalties lay as, at the end of 1844 aged 17, he gave a diary to Alexina, his brother Mark's wife. In it he wrote "from a friend, a loyal Whig and liberal true."

### sussex milbank

Sussex was a man with many different facets to his character. He could apply himself to his studies but was always willing to enjoy the many social opportunities that presented themselves.

Kind and attentive to his parents and his siblings and their families, courageous to the point of recklessness during his time in Paris, he was a skilled writer and in later life a pioneer of the introduction of modern farming methods. He never married but, as will be seen later on, was not averse

to dallying with all kinds of women.

He thought himself a "rather snappy dresser". When he was in Paris he recorded "I put on white trousers which astonished the Frenchmen," but when back in England visiting a friend "he declared my costume resembled that of a mountebank – not very complimentary I think."

He was an avid reader not only to improve his knowledge but also for pleasure. He wrote on one occasion that he read

Lord Byron with his father and much enjoyed *Don Juan*. When he first moved back to Thorp Perrow, after his time in Paris, he spent two days organising his books and when not feeling well often spent the day reading.

We are able to obtain a fascinating insight into his thoughts and everyday life from the only remaining volume of his diary which has survived, covering the years 1848–1849, and later on from articles published in various newspapers relating to his agricultural exploits.

When the diary starts he was just 20 and had already in 1847 published 'A Treatise upon the political and social conditions of Europe, from the Fall of the Roman Empire, Down to the Beginning of the Sixteenth Century.' On February 7th 1849 he sent a history of the French Revolution to *The Yorkshireman* (a religious and literary journal) for publication.

### 'Asthma? Try my smoking cure'

THROUGHOUT his life Sussex suffered from asthma and there are many references in his diary to this and the various remedies that he tried: mustard poultices, linseed cataplasm and Raspail treatment.

Raspail was a French revolutionary chemist Sussex had met in Paris, who said he could cure him with his camphor cigarettes. When Sussex was "too poorly" with asthma to go down to dinner in August 1849 he "smoked constantly and was much relieved".

There was no cure, however, and he suffered on and off for all of his life.



as a meaningful route between Yorkshire and Scotland. In fact it only came about by a series of small sections.

The Northern Counties Act for the line seems to have lapsed. The Northallerton-Bedale sector was actually opened by the York, Newcastle and Berwick Railway in 1848. The 11.75 miles on to Leyburn was opened to freight traffic in 1855 and to passengers in 1856, the 16 miles on to Hawes in 1878, and the final link from Hawes to Garsdale Head (Hawes Junction) was opened by the Midland Railway in the same year.

This line was very much a rural backwater compared with the lost Barningham route, with milk and stone the main traffic. Had the York & Carlisle built their main line past Barningham to Stainmore summit and on to Penrith its two branches, one into the Durham coalfield and the other providing a link to the iron district of Furness, would have added much valuable two-way trade across Stainmore, as happened when these branches were built by the South Durham and Lancashire Union Railway in 1861.

Allan Stobbs, in his *Memoirs of the LNER* (1989) says: "The SD&LUR was conceived and brought to life in order to convey minerals across the Pennines in both directions... From 1887 until the formation of the LNER in 1923 the North Eastern Railway carried an average of one million tons of coke a year from Durham to steelworks in the west and 60% of it went over Stainmore."

While coal and coke are obvious exports from Durham, the iron industry was developing from small-scale affairs



Railway navvies: what impact would they have had?

### the lost line

to large works, partly to meet the demands of the developing railways. Centres of growing production included Teesside and Barrow-in-Furness as well as Whitehaven on the Cumberland coast.

The Furness area had long-produced iron but in small "bloomeries", usually located in woodland to supply wood for the necessary charcoal. Increasing demand from the industrial revolution led to the transformation from "cottage industry" to major industry during the 19th century, fed by coke rather than charcoal.

The Teesside industry started in the 1840s before the recognition that there was a viable iron-ore supply handy in the adjacent Cleveland Hills, but this happy chance led to a dramatic increase in scale.

The plan for the York & Carlisle was very timely for all these industries and it would have made an easy route into the rapidly developing Teesside via Yarm.

If the York & Carlisle had succeeded, what impact would it have had on Barningham and the other villages along its route? With no station of its own, the impact may have been quite limited.

Where Teesdale villages did get railways you can see

some housing development as a result. In Gainford there is terrace of tall town-houses close to the former station that must have been built for middle-class commuters from Darlington or Middlesbrough but most of the other 19th century homes fit well with their older neighbours.

Cotherstone seems to have developed along the Lartington road and the Bowes road in the vicinity of the station after the railway came, but these houses seem to be in keeping with the size of most of the older ones. Bowes shows no obvious sign of railway-related development and the site of its (now derelict) station is still just outside the village boundary.

None of the villages seem to have developed new industries as a result of railway, although it obviously stimulated existing industries of farming, mining and quarrying and helped swell the population, increasing population with workers rather than commuters.

We'll never know quite how it would have affected our community.

It could be that the arrival of hordes of railway navvies building the line would have had a bigger impact than the line itself, albeit fairly short-lived, as the line through our district would have been created in months rather than years.

## Why Barningham didn't get its railway

*PHIL HUNT, 2012 Archive Award winner, continues his story of the ill-fated plan to build a railway line that would have linked Gayles, Dalton, Newsham, Barningham and Scargill.*

THE York & Carlisle Railway Company published a detailed survey of its planned railway in November 1845, not long before the speculative frenzy of Britain's Railway Mania reached its peak.

Most early lines had proved to be very profitable and early shareholders did well, pushing up the value of the shares. Others wanted a slice of the action.

The pattern was familiar from the South Sea Bubble speculation. As the value of railway shares increased, more and more speculators wanted railway shares and poured money into new schemes until the inevitable collapse.

It reached its height in 1846 when no fewer than 272 Railway Acts were passed by Parliament with a proposed mileage of nearly 10,000 miles.

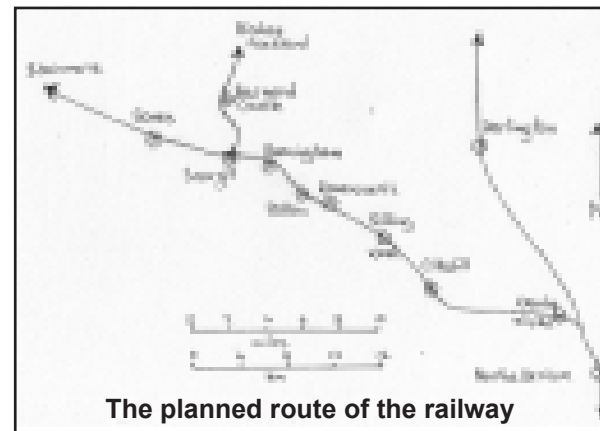
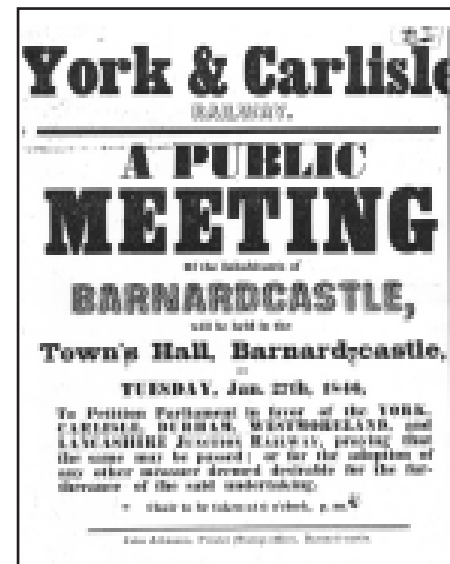
Only about a third of these were built and most collapsed because they were either impractical or had unsound finance.

However, the rapid expansion of new lines through this period did help to unite the nation's railways into a national network, albeit it one

### the lost line

fragmented between numerous companies who were often in fierce competition with their neighbours.

The normal practice for railway companies was to seek a Parliamentary Act authorising the line and giving the power to buy the necessary land and cross roads and rights of



The planned route of the railway

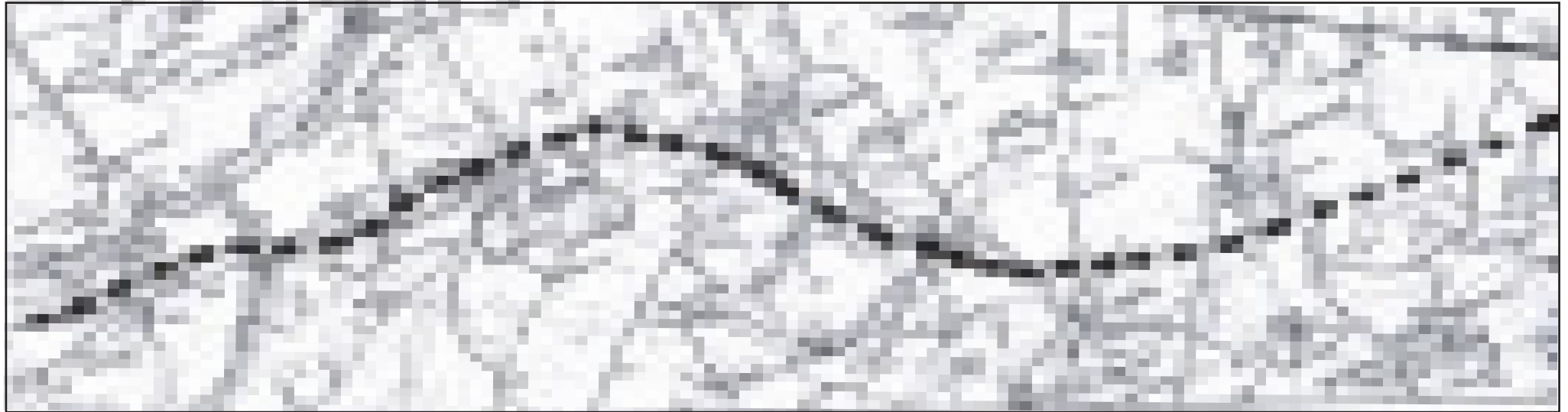
way. Before starting on the parliamentary route, a group of promoters would need to generate interest and try to get some significant backers.

If support was encouraging, a limited company would be formed to provide the capital needed for the expensive steps of surveying and going to parliament.

The 1845 Plan and Section and the 1846 poster for the Barnard Castle meeting show that the York & Carlisle was well past that point; the purpose was "To Petition Parliament in favour [of this railway] praying that the same may be passed".

In his book *British Railway History* (published by George Allen & Unwin in 1954) Hamilton Ellis describes scenes of chaos:

"In the early phase of the Mania, extraordinary scenes took place owing to the threatened holding over of Bills to the next Parliamentary session.



Overwhelmed with plans, the Government announced that Sunday, November 30 1845 would be the last day for depositing plans at the Board of Trade, the offices of which would close at noon.

“In the last days, men were rushing to London by rail and post-chaise, often grotesquely carrying in their arms masses of linen-backed plans. Railway companies refused to carry those whose projects menaced their own business, and all sorts of tricks were used to disguise the nature of undesirable ‘luggage’.

“In one case, the plans were carefully confined, and proceeded to the Board of Trade in solemn cortege, attended by numerous mourners and reverently conveyed by the very company which had refused to carry them. Indeed, the corridors of Whitehall were as good as catacombs for many optimistic plans.

“Conveyance by road was attended by the hazards of corrupt post-boys, stolen horses and carriage wrecking.”

Newspaper reports from autumn 1845, when the York & Car-

lisle plans were lodged, estimated that 620 separate schemes were formally before the public, with 643 more companies who had yet to register their prospectus with the Board of Trade.

Up to the 1845 Parliamentary session there was a policy of non-interference by Government in railway bills, but this led to Bills involving a capital expenditure of £11 million being held over from

1845 to 1846 due to lack of time to debate them.

The Prime Minister, Tory Sir Robert Peel, made proposals for streamlining the procedures. One of these was a ‘Classification Committee’ to group the new schemes which were to be adjudicated upon by each ordinary Private Bill Committee, and to decide which new Bills did in fact compete with, or should be

considered with, the deferred Bills of last session.

It’s rather disappointing to find that Barningham’s railway, taking an efficient route from East Ham to Stainmore and onwards towards Thirsk disappeared due to the intervention of a London bureaucrat.

The York & Carlisle line was one that would have been more or less parallel to one

another. The other company was the Yorkshire & Glasgow Union, whose proposed line ran from Thirsk, via Bedale and Wensleydale, to Hawes, whence it turned north to Kirkby Stephen and Appleby to join the Lancaster & Carlisle Railway at Clifton, near Penrith.

It embodied another inchoate company, the Leeds & Carlisle, whose intended line occupied the same ground north of Hawes, whence it ran south to Wharfedale and Ilkley, joining the Leeds & Thirsk at Horsforth.

Its shareholders were induced to throw in their lot with the Y & G U and abandon their line south of Hawes by adding to that company’s scheme a short branch from Exelby to Wath on the L & T, thus affording a considerably longer route to Leeds, but saving an enormous amount of expensive construction.

A combination of the York & Carlisle and the Y & G U was formed at the suggestion of the chairman of the parliamentary committee, and the new company so sanctioned took the title of

the Northern Counties Union, comprising the main line of the Y & G U from Thirsk to Clifton with the cross country portion of the Y & C from Bishop Auckland to Tebay.

While these compromises might seem reasonable to parliamentarians and lawyers in a Westminster committee room, whose primary concern was the smooth running of their debates, I’m sure that the engineers and surveyors who knew the country would not have agreed.

Surely they would have lobbied for an independent assessment of the advantages and relative ease of construction of the Y & C line?

Both of the proposed lines were clearly seen as long-distance lines connecting Yorkshire and Scotland and the route whose geography made most sense was the York and Carlisle, yet this was the line dropped, with the exception of its north-east to south-west branches.

The approved line through Wensleydale was eventually built but could never have been seen

