

Where is it? The jury's still out

ARCHIVE 32 challenged you to identify the house in the background of this photo of Barningham butcher John Thomas Bainbridge, taken about a century ago.

Gayles House in West Street, Gayles, emailed Linda Sherwood.

Newsham Lodge, said Tini Cox of Dalton.

Broughton House in Newsham, argued Cate and Harry Collingwood at the March history group meeting, and produced photos on their mobiles to back it up.

Nobody was totally convinced. We'll have another look at it next time.



Grants hope for 'heritage centre' at hall

ANN Orton and Janet Wrigley came back with encouraging news after meeting organisations offering grants to local history groups.

The Heritage Lottery Fund and others said they might well provide funds for a variety of projects – including the possible renovation of buildings beside Barningham village hall to create a small 'heritage centre' for the village, where the history group could store records, display artefacts and put on occasional exhibitions for the public.

The Village Hall Committee has given its provisional support to the idea and we're now looking at what might be possible.

Good call

OUR feature on Barningham telephones in *Archive 31* caught the attention of the latest *Local History Magazine*, which describes it as "a fascinating insight into the development of the telephone service." They loved the green phone box.

news

"It would be great to have a base for all our material," said BLHG chairman Jon Smith. "At the moment almost everything is piled up in my study."

There are also grants available for oral history projects. We'll keep you posted.

Local history nights at Dalton

STUART Hopper will talk about 'The Rev John Daykin of Kirby Hill – the man and his legacy' at the next history talk at Dalton and Gayles village hall on Friday April 12th, 7.30pm. And on Friday May

10th, 7.30pm, Dr Graham Rogers will discuss field systems and enclosures – a chance to catch up for anyone who can't make his appearance at Barningham LHG the Tuesday before.

Family history day

CLEVELAND, North Yorkshire and South Durham Family History Society hold their annual family history day at the Scotch Corner Hotel on Saturday April 20th, 9.45am–4.30pm. You can find details at www.clevelandfhs.org.uk.

Railway talk

CHRIS Lloyd talks about 'Rockcliffe and the Railways' at Darlington Railway Centre and Museum (01325 460532) on Thursday April 4th, 7.15pm.

Naughty step

THE last *Archive* said Hughie and Myra Watson had three children, Doreen, Elaine and Lewis. There were of course only two children: Doreen was Lewis' wife. Apologies.



Archive 33

THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

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INSIDE: HOW THEY CAUGHT THE WILD MAN OF THE MOORS



Annie, Myra and Percy Bainbridge, children of Barningham butcher John Thomas Bainbridge of Newby House, pictured in around 1904. See Page 8

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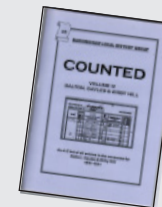
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NEXT HISTORY GROUP MEETING: TUESDAY MAY 7th 6pm



The Archive

SERENDIPITY: 'The faculty of making happy and unexpected discoveries by accident', as the Oxford Concise Dictionary puts it.

It seems to sum up the world of local and family history very well. You never know what's just around the corner or over the page.

I started off searching idly for references in the *Teesdale Mercury* to Jack Stapleton's buses in 1930, and half an hour and 16 page-hops later I found myself reading about a pair of parrots left behind at a Barningham jumble sale in 1910 (see page 7).

Producing *The Archive* is full of these serendipitous moments.

If I hadn't written this and looked up the dictionary definition of serendipity, I don't suppose I'd ever have discovered that the word was coined by the writer Horace Walpole in 1754, when he wrote a fairy story called *The Three Princes of Serendip* – Serendip being an old name for what later became known as Ceylon and is now called Sri Lanka. That's serendipity for you.

Enjoy the latest *Archive* and let us know about your serendipitous discoveries.

JON SMITH, Editor

Heritage grants, Wilson House and a new book

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday March 26th 2013:

Present: Jon Smith (Chairman), Eric Duggan (Treasurer), Ann Orton (Secretary), Margaret Taylor, Val Parker, Neil Turner, Janet Wrigley, Harry and Cate Collingwood, June Graham, John Hay, Phil Hunt, Tony Orton, Ron and Jan Walker, Mark Watson.

Apologies: Linda Sherwood, Ann Rowley, Beverley Peach, Margaret Stead, Sheila Catton, Kay Duggan, Janet Paterson.

Minutes of the meeting held on February 19th were approved with one amendment: Linda Robinson should read Linda Sherwood.

Matters arising: Janet W and Ann O had been to a 'Meet the funders' event and obtained details of heritage grants. It has been suggested that we turn the village hall storage sheds into an archive and display room for the history group. See Page 16.

Focus on the landscape

DR Graham Rogers will be our guest speaker at the next history group meeting on Tuesday May 7th. He'll be talking about the interpretation of the historical landscape, field systems and enclosures. Please try to come along and give him a good audience.

Any Mercury volunteers?

A HANDFUL of volunteers have begun work on photographing Teesdale Mercury pages from 1955 to the present to add to the 1855-1954 images already available online on the free website www.teesdalemercurysrchive.org.uk. If anyone else would like to help, please contact Jon Smith.

minutes

Correspondence: McArdle (Grahams); mystery house, forum, workhouse, Dalton pupils, Marriner. See pages 5-6.

Financial report: Still looking healthy, with a balance of £1417.99 on March 26th. Income since the last meeting was £520, expenditure £420.

House histories: Wilson House – see page 10.

Publications: *Counted 4* with census records for Dalton, Gayles and Kirby Hill was now available – see page 3. *Archive 32* had been distributed and 33 was on its way.

Projects: Newspaper research and transcriptions were ongoing.

Next Meetings: Tuesdays May 7, June 25, August 27, October 15, November 19 and December 17.

ANN ORTON, Secretary

The Wild Man of the moors wasn't as wild as all that

BACK in *Archive 17* we told how the people of Scargill were being terrorised in 1864 by a half-naked 'Wild Man' who roamed the moors, eluding all attempts to catch him.

We've now come across a report from the *Durham Advertiser* of August that year saying that he'd finally been caught at Thorpe by PC Martindale from the Greta Bridge police station.

"As soon as the man saw the officer he took to his heels, but Martindale followed and, after a smart chase, captured him," said the report.

The man, aged about 35, covered in black mud and dressed only in a fragment of an old dressing-gown, was brought before the Greta Bridge magistrates. To everyone's surprise (and probably

cuttings

disappointment) he failed to live up to his reputation.

The creature who had caused women and children to flee in terror and led one farmer to barricade himself in his house appeared quite harmless in court. "There was nothing ferocious in his aspect," said the *Advertiser*. "He was either unwilling or unable to give any account of himself, merely ejaculating 'God bless you' etc."

The magistrates decided he was probably a harmless lunatic who had escaped from confinement, and remanded him for a fortnight to Northallerton Jail. What happened to him thereafter isn't recorded.

A pearl of a village – but the fountain's a disgrace

From the Teesdale Mercury of August 31 1881:

STRANGERS from Darlington and other places, on their first visit Barningham, are much struck with the beauty of its situation, and wonder that it should be so little known.

As one of them said the other day, "It is like a beautiful pearl hidden at the bottom of the sea."

Situated on the verge of an extensive moor covered with heather at present in full bloom, it is surrounded by scenery not to be surpassed in any part of England or on the continent. It is remarked,

however, that its beauty might be very much enhanced, at a very small cost, if the property owners would take the matter into consideration, and plant a few shrubs around the stone building erected in 1864 in the centre of the village, over a never failing fountain of the purest water, instead of allowing it to be encircled by a heap of large, rubbishy, rough stones, rendering it difficult of approach, and which give it a very shagged and uncouth appearance.

A few trees planted on the edge of the Green westward up the village would also look very well.

from the parish mag

65 YEARS AGO: Burial: Robert Spensley of Kirkby Hill, aged 77. Robert had old associations with Barningham, having lived as a boy with his aunt, Mrs Halifax, at Woodbine Cottage. His lameness was due to the accident of having his foot caught in a grasscutter, the first implement of that kind introduced to Barningham. He often came to the village and we shall miss his cheerful, kind personality. – April 1948

65 YEARS AGO: Burial: James Anderson of Barningham, aged 76. 'Jock' was an old 'regular' and had served in India in the Green Howards. He was a campaigner in the Boer War and in the 1914-18 War, attaining the rank of sergeant. Even in the last war he did his turn faithfully in the Air Force Observer Corps. To the last he bore himself with a soldierly straightness. – April 1948

60 YEARS AGO: We have to acknowledge with much pleasure the gift of a new flagstaff for the church tower from Sir Frederick Milbank. A new rope is required. Perhaps some kind person would supply one? – April 1953

50 YEARS AGO: A whist drive held by Mr & Mrs Bray, Mr & Mrs Holmes, Mrs Powell and Mrs Simpson raised £19 14s 4d for the Church. – April 1963

45 YEARS AGO: After many years the Parish Meeting came to life again on March 14th. It provided the opportunity to deal with the three charities handed over to me when I came. They are not Church charities but Parish matters. – April 1968



The Archive

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Copies of *The Archive*, the BLHG newsletter, are available on annual subscription (£12 for 2013).

Back issues can be purchased for £2 each (see index on our website).

mattie's memories

woman, it was a ghost. He did believe in these things.

Some of the millstones, after the wheel was demolished, went to Newsham Mill, where Walter Watson had it. We used to go along there and get our miller's stuff from there. We used to get our accumulators charged there, for wirelesses, he had a bit of a shop place underneath. Those were the days.

There were pig holes at the mill, where we used to keep pigs, right down in the bottom. There was the outside toilet where we used to go.

We had to carry water from the big beck when we were young, we had no water laid on. Then we found our own spring back of the house and we piped it down outside the front and put a tap there.

We didn't have electricity, it went in a lot later, thirty-odd years ago anyway, they put it in with moorsiders – us, Throstle Gill, Crumma and Dousgill. We had to buy the transformer. We got in turkeys from Metcalfe's at Christmas, ten pence a bird, to make money to get the wiring in, £45 it cost me. There'd be about twenty of us ploating turkeys, great big birds, we had to do thirty or forty a day. That's what you did.

Before that we had a Calor gas cooker, before that a big range, a side boiler and oven and warmer. It didn't have a tap, it had a lid on you had to lift up and put a ladle in to get hot water. To do the washing we had a copper, we had to get a table to put it on in front of fire and scoop. If there was anything to boil it had to go into a pan with those dolly blue bags. Washing day was a devil

'This plane came over... we could have been shot'

of a day.

My mam used to make 200lb of jam every winter, there was plenty of fruit in the garden. She used to bake bread, tea cakes, pickle things. Dad used to make pies with potatoes and beetroot and stuff from the garden.

We used to kill our own pigs and chickens. We never wanted for anything, but we never got no luxuries! We did well to survive. We didn't have a lot of clothes, a lot of mine were handed down, me being the little one. At Christmas you never got any toys, we never knew what toys were, we just got a jumper or an apple or an orange or summat like that.

There was no Christmas trees, dad sometimes used to get a bit of a holly tree and put it up, you'd maybe get some of that crepe paper and make streamers. Wages were only 18 shillings a week when we were young, I've heard my mother say many a time she didn't know where the next halfcrown was coming from to feed you bairns on.

During the war years I could always get clothing coupons for my height but I could never get them for my weight. You had to be over a certain weight. Where Wayside is now, it used to be Darwin's warehouse where they used to keep miller's stuff in there, cake for cattle, it used to come

in slabs, not bags, and they had proper scales. Schoolkids used to have to go down there to see if you could get any more coupons because you were over weight, if you were over eight stone or whatever.

In the war years we had to plough out, we all had to plough three acres out, we ploughed yon top field out and we grew corn and mangels and taters and God knows what.

Dad and I were up one day with the horse and this plane came over. Miss Tirpett was the air raid warden, she had a whistle to let us know if there were any airplanes about, German, but of course we couldn't hear it up there.

I can hear that plane now, it was coming over by Norman's shed which used to be up there and it was very low, you could see the swastikas marked on it and they had a particular drone in them days. Dad said look out, here's Germans coming, so he loosed the horse out from whatever it was in, maybe a roller or summat, horse knew its way down and dad and I crawled down into beck bottom and way along beck.

He could have machine gunned us down, they shot him down at Winston, same plane. But what a plane it was, as black as can be, you could nearly see the blokes inside.

It was only three minutes for them from the coast, they'd be looking for Catterick camp. At night it was horrendous, there was a great big searchlight top of Dalton bank here and it used to light all the way up, they used to get them in the beams, bombers, there were bombs dropped off on the moor, we had craters.



Home for paupers of the parish

JUNE Graham brought in this photo which, creased and battered though it is, may be the only pictorial record existing of what was once an important building in Newsham: the village workhouse.

It stood on the north-east corner of the Helwith/Flax Close junction, on the site of the bungalow now occupied by Mrs Margaret Pape, who supplied June with the photo.

Originally a terrace of two or three cottages, it seems to have been acquired by the village sometime in the 18th century to house pauper families whose survival was the legal responsibility of their neighbours.

We've no idea when it was last used as a workhouse – probably around the middle of the 19th century when guardians of the poor were established and paupers were sent to workhouses in local towns to be put to work in return for their subsistence. We can find no mention of the Newsham



workhouse in the , which was first published in 1855, so it may have ceased operation by then.

What happened to it after that is uncertain: can anyone recall it being occupied or used for storage?

It was finally demolished around 1971 after being bought by a Deerbolt officer called Mr Jeffrey who built the bungalow on the site. Margaret and her late husband

Bob took it over in 1979. June says it was at one time known as 'Halfway House', being more or less halfway between Richmond and Barnard Castle.

There's no record of any similar workhouse serving Barningham, and it may be, as the Newsham one was just within the Barningham parish boundary, that it was used to house paupers from both villages and perhaps from other communities nearby.

Out now: Census lists for Dalton, Gayles & Kirby Hill

THE history group's latest publication, its fifteenth, is another volume in our series listing local census records from 1841 to 1911.

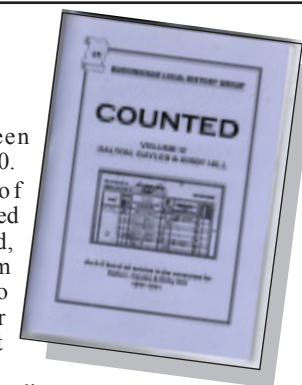
This one, *Counted Volume IV*, covers Dalton, Gayles and Kirby Hill and like its predecessors offers an A-Z listing of families so that they can be easily tracked down through the years.

The lists reveal how much the three village shrank in population size over the 70 years. There were 120 occupied households listed in the Dalton, Gayles and Kirby Hill census areas in 1841, and the villages had a total population of 551. Seventy years later, in 1911, the number of homes had shrunk to 82 and the population had dropped by more than a third to 356. Most of the decline in the number of dwellings took

place between 1860 and 1890.

Dozens of homes vanished in this period, many of them merged to make bigger houses but some falling into permanent disuse.

The biggest drop in the population also took place in the late Victorian years. The number of males fell from 248 in 1861 to 159 in 1901,



The shrinking villages 1841-1911

OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS

	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911
DALTON	59	57	52	42	45	38	43	41
GAYLES	45	41	44	39	27	23	25	29
KIRBY HILL	16	16	16	18	14	11	15	12
TOTAL	120	114	112	99	86	72	83	82

POPULATION: DALTON

MALE	139	129	102	89	104	81	75	86
FEMALE	144	141	120	107	102	76	75	91
TOTAL	283	270	222	196	206	157	150	177

POPULATION: GAYLES

MALE	92	84	106	85	61	51	51	66
FEMALE	96	94	93	75	64	58	58	58
TOTAL	188	178	199	160	125	109	109	124

POPULATION: KIRBY HILL *

MALE	39	44	40	46	40	34	33	24
FEMALE	41	52	48	55	41	35	34	31
TOTAL	80	96	88	101	81	69	67	55

* Excludes inmates of the hospital/almshouses: the figures for these are:
1851 – 34; 1861 – 29; 1871 – 29; 1881 – 30; 1891 – 26; 1901 – 16; 1911 – 12

census records

reflecting years of agricultural depression, the need for fewer farm workers as machinery was introduced, and the parallel lure of factory work in the towns.

The number of females in the villages went down, too: there were 248 in 1861, 167 in 1901. The trend reversed slightly at the start of the 20th century, which could have been the result of an increasing demand for domestic servants.

Birth rates fell during this period, as elsewhere in Britain: families of eight or ten were not uncommon in the mid-1800s; by 1911 only a handful of families were recorded with more than six children.

Counted IV is available, price £10 (£8 for history group members) plus £1.50 p&p. See Page 12 for order details. Earlier volumes, covering Barningham, Newsham and Brignall/Rokeby, are also available.

ORAL HISTORY SOCIETY FREE TALK

ORAL HISTORY: PERSONAL MEMORIES AND COMMUNITY HERITAGE

by Dr Michelle Winslow (University of Sheffield)

Friday 19th April 6.30–7.30pm

Richardson Community Hospital Victoria Road,
Barnard Castle, DL12 8HT

(No booking needed but it would help with planning)

FREE TRAINING

AN INTRODUCTION TO ORAL HISTORY
by Dr Michelle Winslow

Interviewing, equipment, life stories and memories. No previous experience necessary

Saturday, 20th April 10am–5.00pm

Woodleigh Tourist Information Centre

Flatts Road, Barnard Castle

Booking required: For more information or to book a place, please contact Honia Devlin

03000 260 830 or honia.devlin@durham.gov.uk

More memories of my mill childhood

A second excerpt from our oral history interview with 85-year-old Mattie Coates, born and raised at Dalton Mill

THE water wheel went when I was about eight years old, about 1936 it was dismantled. I remember the wagon coming down into the yard and them taking it to pieces.

It was a wood wheel, all wood, it was tremendous, three-storey high, 32 foot in diameter, the biggest wheel there was around. It was an over-shot wheel, the water went down and under a conduit and out the drain end back into the beck.

It was a marvellous sight, all the hoppers where corn used to come out of. It made a fair noise, the grinding, it used to shake. It must have been damn well built, the walls are a devil of a thickness. Oh, it was a rare spot was that, it was beautiful.

The water came from the beck, through the conduits, way along the northern mill land, over a bridge on the little beck, under the hill, under the trees and then into the mill. It would travel a long way, they put sluices in to divert the water.

There was a mill down at Gayles Fields, there was a wheel down there just for the farmer's use only, but when they were grinding at Dalton Mill there wasn't sufficient water to drive that one. I think there was a court case over it once or twice.

Dad at one stage lost a calf, it had gotten down the mill race where the wheel was attached to the rear building and tried to make its way down to the other end and there was a laddie, Arthur Braithwaite from Newsham, about ten or twelve year old, was going to see if he could find it. So dad put a rope or something on him so he didn't fast and he could pull him out. He found the calf but it was impossible to get it out so they just turned the water on and drowned it.

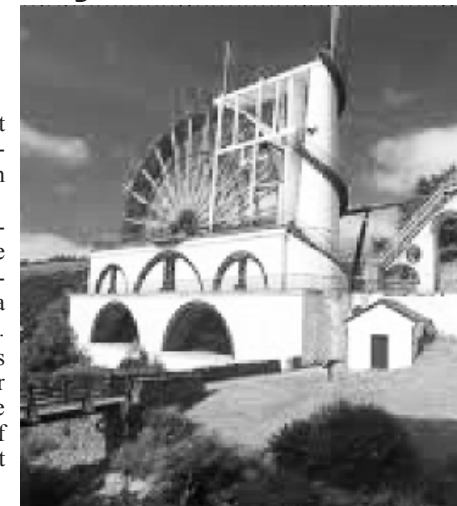
The Mill wasn't haunted. But when mam and dad was

mattie's memories

there in the sittingroom, where you went under the stairs, there was a cupboard under there, it was never opened, it was all tinned up and mam wouldn't let dad open it.

Anyway, I thought I will have the damn thing open and when we opened it up it was just earth bottom and we found an old book that had been thrown in at some time and some other little white things, they must have been hundreds of years old, like little pots, I've got them in my china cabinet. Well, we did it all out and we made a rare lovely cupboard to put all sorts in.

Dad told me that one Saturday night when he was milling, he'd switched the water off, there was no electricity, they just had lamps or candles in those days, and it was so still, and he heard a chain rattling over the cobbles – it was all



The largest working water wheel in the world: the Laxey Wheel on the Isle of Man. It's 72ft 6inches in diameter

cobbles before we cemented it at the front – and he thought, there's something about, like, and he looked at his watch and thought Oh God, I've done it now, I've gone into Sunday morning. They were very religious folk, you know, he used to be a choirboy and mam played the church organ down here for years and years for nothing, every Sunday, and dad thought...

Well, he plucked up enough courage to go to the door, and there was a schoolmaster and it was his wife's dog that had got loose with a chain and it had scrambled over and rattled chain over the cobblestones.

Dad's father was born up at Lartington, up at High Shipley, and when he was a laddie he used to look out of farmhouse and see something dancing about on the heather. He used to say to his uncles, there's somebody dancing about and they said Oh, it won't be a



A Leyland Comet bus on a Stapleton's run outside the pub at Ravensworth, c1960. Picture by Bob Davis

First in the area to be granted bus licences

JACK Stapleton of Hutton Magna was granted Motor Bus Licence No. 9, and Motor Bus Driver's Licence No. 29 by Darlington Markets and Fairs Committee in January 1921.

He was later granted Motor Bus Licence No D105 in respect of a 14-passenger vehicle in June 1922. This may have been a second bus, or it may be that for some reason his previous licence had been cancelled. Licence D105 was renewed in 1925, after which individual licensees' names were no longer listed unless they had been caught breaking the rules, which Darlington enforced punctiliously.

Sam Turner of Barningham was granted Motor Bus Licence No D111 in May 1923 in respect of a 14-passenger vehicle, probably the Ford with the AJ registration that has been shown in the *Archive*, and No 185 a month later. Licence D111 was also renewed in 1925.

Inspector Tom Hill, in his annual report for 1924, notes that bus services from Barningham to Darlington "have been increased from two days a week to four days per week."

Boys in the Page 11 picture? Neil and Trevor Turner, says Rob

Vintage bus enthusiast REUBEN FRANKAU has been delving into ancient Darlington Council minutes

It may be that one operator was mopping up trade left by the other on certain days of the week.

Darlington Council would not have licensed bus services which appeared to clash deliberately with one another. But there was still plenty of jockeying for position.

Prior to April 1931, registration and control of bus services was local/ad hoc/patchy/non-existent, resulting in a glorious Ealing Comedy style free-for-all, including the notorious "bus races" of the 1920s.

Darlington Town Council exercised its powers under the Town Police Clauses Acts of 1847 and 1889 to keep a very close eye on Hackney Carriages of all kinds – each vehicle, each driver, and each conductor had to be individually approved and licensed – until the Road Traffic Act 1930 passed local control of motor-buses to the Northern Area Traffic Commissioners.

Barningham Local History Group Publications

Where Lyeth Ye Bodies* Guide to Barningham church, graveyard map, memorial details and list of all known burials.

Barningham Baptisms* Listed by date, name and parents.

Vol 1: 1580-1800; Vol 2: 1800-1950.

Barningham Brides* All marriages 1580-1950, listed by date, groom and bride.

Counted* 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. Vol 4: Dalton, Gayles & Kirby Hill.

Jam Letch & Jingle Potts* History of Barningham farms, fields and field-names.

A Child of Hope** The 1895 diary of Mary Martin, born on a Teesdale farm in 1847.

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.

Aback to Yuvvin** 1849 Glossary of Teesdale words & customs.

Barningham Vestry Minutes 1869-1894, Parish Minutes 1894-1931* Transcripts of meetings, with background history, index and lists of named parishioners.

The Archive*** Group newsletter. Back issues available.

Barningham Memories 1 & 2* DVDs of cine film of Barningham in the 1960/70s.

* £10 each + £1.50 p&p

** £5 each + £1 p&p

*** £2 each + £1 p&p

20% discounts for history group members

More details on our website www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

letters & emails

Anyone put us in touch with Mavis?

I CONTACTED the history group some time ago with my Westmarland family tree and the will of George Westmarland (see *Archive 21*).

I am the granddaughter of one of the Westmarland girls (Jane) who were brought up by their Uncle George after their parents died. Mark Watson on your committee is also connected to that family and I have been in touch with him too.

I live in Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia – been here since 1983 but originally from Yorkshire and remember visiting Barningham often to see Alice (nee Westmarland) and Bob Graham at the Post Office, Tom and Annie Lawson at Manor House Farm and the Bainbridges at The Terrace – all Westmarland relations.

I've now been in touch with Jan Tateson, whose letter you published in *Archive 32*. She has Westmarland links and may be interested in seeing my family tree.

Some years ago I had indirect contact with a Mavis Ford descended from this line. She lived in Barningham – can anyone help to put us in touch with her?

Keep up the good work – great website which I regularly visit.

JANE BROWN
jb.edits@bigpond.net.au

● *Does the name ring a bell with anyone? If so, let us know and we'll pass on details.* – Ed.

My great-uncle ran the village post office

I HAVE been researching my family tree and have recently started to look at my mother's family.

I found your website and was delighted to see that you have a number of publications that would be helpful to me.

My great-uncle Robert Henry Graham married Alice Westmarland in 1912 (*they later ran Barningham shop and post office* – see *Archives 2 & 6*).

Robert was a marine engineer as was his elder brother Jim. My grandfather had asthma and so could not go to sea.

My mother could remember visiting her Uncle Bob in Barningham. I have looked forward to researching the Grahams as they are quite an interest-

ing bunch. I don't think they are from Yorkshire though, I think they were originally from Cumbria. But maybe not.

I have only recently moved here from Birmingham. I was a little irritated because I see that Post Cottage in Barningham is for sale! If only I'd seen that before. Oh well.

DAWN McARDLE
Bishop Auckland
mcardle979@btinternet.com

● *Dawn's bought several of our books and joined the history group. We've suggested she gets in touch with Jane Brown (see letter on the left) and with June Graham in Newsham, though it seems unlikely that she has any family links to the Barningham Grahams.* – Ed.

Sorting out my Westmorlands

THANK you for the books and your comments. I have now got my Atkinson family in order with the help of parish records and wills. Now I have to tackle the Westmorland family. I know a Robert Westmorland witnessed George Atkinson's will in 1767 and was executor to Elizabeth Atkinson nee Dent, widow of George in 1769. Also, a John Westmorland witnessed the 1733 marriage of George Atkinson and Elizabeth Westmorland.

Any more information would be gratefully received.

JAN TATESON, Spalding, Lincs
timclayyew@yahoo.co.uk

Wharton link to Hutton Magna

RE the Rev William Wharton (*Archive 32*): in the 1870s there was a vicar at Gilling West called the Rev JC Wharton who donated £100 to the rebuilding fund of the church at Hutton Magna.

At that time Hutton was a perpetual curacy under Gilling but was made a full parish after the consecration of the present

church at Hutton in October 1878. A Miss Whar-ton gave the pulpit and lectern to Hutton church in 1878.

The Wharton family still own several properties in Gilling today. I meet one of the Wharton family twice a year.

MARIAN LEWIS
Hutton Magna
marian155@btinternet.com

letters & emails

Big thank-you from Holland

IN my excitement I forgot to tell you that my box containing the history group books, newsletters and DVDs arrived safely.

We viewed the DVDs and had a great time spotting familiar faces. My grandad going to church was a rare occurrence, I think it was for Ken and Irene Johnson's wedding. Have read through the first five *Archives* – very interesting and entertaining. Thank you so much.

BRIDGET VAN DE POL
Nieuwkoop, Netherlands

Startforth records online

THIS is just to let you all know that most of the Startforth parish registers have been transcribed and are available to search for free on the website www.freereg.co.uk.

Hope your researches are going well and that you find useful info on this site.

CATHERINE RYAN
Boldron

Surely the wheel wasn't that big?

MATTIE Coates (*Mill Memories*, *Archive 32*) says the Dalton mill wheel was 32 feet in diameter.

Nearly ten yards across! Surely she means 32 feet in circumference?

ANONYMOUS
Barningham

● *Mattie insists it was 32 feet in diameter. It does sound enormous, but there were some much bigger ones around – see page 13. – Ed.*

Another famous name with ancestors from Barningham

HERE'S some info on a world-famous Marriner who I can trace back to Barningham.

My researches picked up the name of Sir Neville Marriner, born 15 April 1924 in Lincoln.

Sir Neville is a world famous orchestral conductor and despite being 88 years of age is still working today.

His great-great-grandfather was John Marriner, born on October 15 1764 in Barningham, the fourth generation of the family to live in the village. Later Marriners lived in York, Scarborough, Leeds and Lincoln.

After discussing it with my brother Arthur in South Africa, his son Ross passed our findings on to Sir Neville's son Andrew and asked if his father would be interested.

Arthur then received a reply from Sir Neville's second wife Elizabeth M, known as Molly, saying they were pleased that we had made contact and in fact a few years ago Sir Neville had visited Hutton Bushel and Scarborough looking for information of his ancestors but came back without any firm info. They were pleased our info confirmed his ancestors came from Yorkshire.

At Molly's request Arthur



Sir Neville Marriner has sent a detailed breakdown of Sir Neville's ancestors right back via Barningham to Kirkby Lonsdale and we are awaiting awaited a reply.

JOHN MARRINER
Middlesbrough
● *Sir Neville played with the Philharmonia and London Symphony Orchestras, was first musical director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and principal conductor of the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra, and founded the Academy of St Martin in the Fields chamber orchestra. He was knighted in 1985.*

Sir Neville has two children from his first marriage, a son who shares his musical talent – Andrew Marriner, principal clarinet of the London Symphony Orchestra – and a daughter, Susan. – Ed.



YESTERDAY BELONGS
TO YOU 2013

County Hall, Durham, Saturday May 18th

A valuable opportunity for everyone interested in local history and heritage to share their knowledge and passion with local and national organisations and the public.

Members of Barningham LHG will be there to run a table showing what we do: if you'd like to join us, please contact
Jon Smith



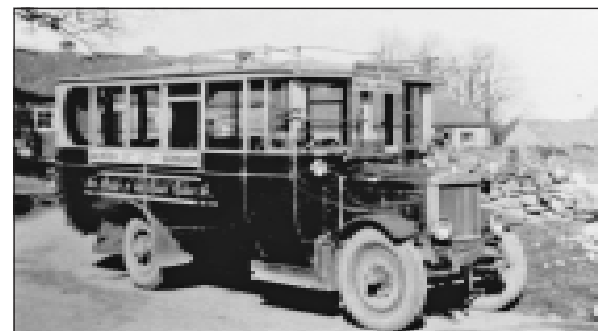
More of the motors that Jack built

THE feature on Jack Stapleton's buses in the last *Archive* prompted Cate Collingwood to put us in touch with Rob Green, Jack's grandson.

Rob lives in Ovington, and is the proud possessor of family albums full of photos of Jack and his mechanical creations.

Among them are these. Above, another picture of the Fiat lorry, registration number J 6700, that Jack converted into one of his first buses around 1920. Top right is Jack in an even earlier photo of a solid-tired wagon with the Darlington-issued registration plate HN 87.

The photo below the headline is later, perhaps late 1920s, when Jack's 'Pride of the Road'



trademark was emblazoned on the sides of his vehicles. This one carries the registration number XC 9623.

Below is a car Jack built around that time. The picture was taken in Hutton Magna: that's the old village hall under construction in the back-

ground, which dates it pretty well to 1927.

Finally, below, two young brothers pictured by a Stapleton bus in Barningham in 1949. Rob thinks he knows who they are – do you?

Answer, and more about buses, over the page.



Three centuries of farming families

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.

WILSON HOUSE

TWO houses, in fact: the main farmhouse and an adjoining cottage, both appearing to date from about the same time, late 17th/early 18th century.

Izaak **Wilson** was farming here in 1726, listed in a survey of Milbank-owned properties in that year. How long he'd been there, and whether or not he was the first Wilson to have the farm we don't know. There were no Wilsons listed in the Heath Tax returns of 1683 or the church pew occupiers' list of 1700, but a nearby field called Wilson was recorded in a 1689 list of enclosures, so it seems likely that either Izaak or his father was the person who gave his name to the farm between those dates.

Izaak was farming half a dozen fields nearby on either side of the road between Nor Beck bridge and the farm entrance.

After Izaak we lose track of Wilson House tenants for a while. The next one we know about is Thomas **Wilkinson**, who rented the farm from the Milbanks from at least 1800 until 1823 (he was farming 160 acres in 1817, paying an annual rent of £130 – the third highest rent of any Milbank-owned farm). The records suggest that he lived at Crooks House, while a Thomas **Hutchinson** lived in Wilson House.

In 1823 it passed to Thomas **Westmorland**, who was still farming it at the time the map was drawn up in 1838. He was into his seventies by then, living with his wife Mary and daughter Jane.

He died in 1844 and the ten-

house histories



ancy passed to a young farmer called George **Johnson** from Melsonby.

Two years later George married a Scargill girl called Jane **Moss**, who died within 12 months; by 1851 he had married her younger sister Margaret. They had two daughters, Emma and Jane, and a son George.

Living with them were the Moss girls' brother George and his wife Hannah who were apparently quite well off: both were listed as 'annuitants' living on independent means.

They remained until George and Margaret Johnson left Wilson House in the 1870s. (George was a prominent local Wesleyan preacher and lived on until 1906; Margaret died in 1889).

After the Johnsons came Mark **Atkinson**, a member of a long-established Barningham family (see *Archive 5*). He was a 56-year-old widower at the

time of the 1881 census, his wife Margaret having died three years earlier only a short while after moving to Wilson House with their sons William and John. The latter took over when his father died in 1903.

John, married by then to Sarah and father of five-year-old Victoria, their only child, ran the farm until after the first world war when he moved, we think, to Park View.

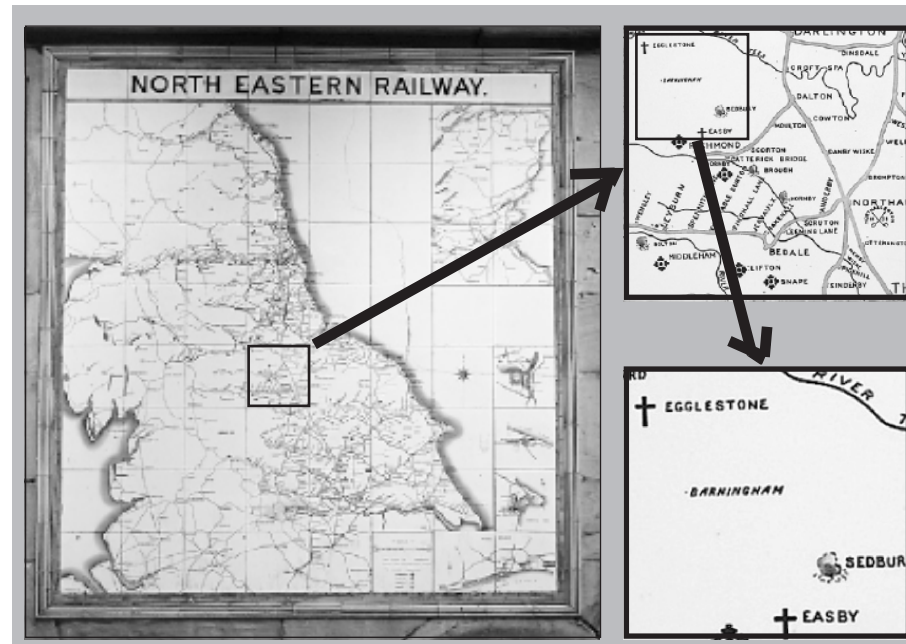
By 1924 Wilson House was tenanted by the splendidly-named Newby Spark **Jackson** and his wife Mary.

They raised four daughters there – Olga (who married into the Guy family), Doreen (who became a housekeeper at Balmoral), Heather and Pauline – and remained until the end of the 1950s. Mary died in 1959, Newby four years later.

The farm tenancy passed to Dennis and Mollie **Lowes**, who moved from Early Lodge. Mollie died in 1992, Dennis in 2000. By then the farm was being run by his son Colin.

Colin and his wife Helen had three children, Robert, Thomas and Frances.

Robert took over the farm after his father's untimely death in 2011 and is there today.



The full map; one of the 64 tiles showing the Richmond area; and a section of this showing Barningham in lonely isolation

No station, but we went on the map

IF you've ever visited the National Railway Museum at York you may have seen this wonderful tile map of the North Eastern Railway network in 1900.

It's one of dozens that were installed at mainline NER stations, and a few still exist, including the ones at Middlesbrough, Whitby, Pickering, Saltburn and Tynemouth.

The maps are seven foot square, the 64 tiles delicately coloured in by hand, and they show all the region's towns and

cities, with major landmarks and buildings – including, of course, every station.

For some unknown reason, the map-maker also included one village that not only possessed no station, but was a long way from the nearest railway line: Barningham.

Perhaps it was because Barningham was a popular spot in the shooting season, attracting some high-powered and even royal visitors who needed to know how to get there? Or because the map-

maker recalled that there had once been plans to put a railway through the village and wasn't quite sure whether it might still happen?

Whatever the reason, Barningham's name sits on the map, surrounded by empty space.

You can buy a full-size replica of the map from the original manufacturers, a Yorkshire company who are still going: find out more at northeasterntilecompany.co.uk. It'll set you back about £3,600.

If that makes your eyes water a bit, an alternative is to photograph every tile, put them through Photoshop, print them out and frame them. Jon Smith tried it, with predictably unsatisfactory results.

old ads

LOST, at Barnard Castle, a Black and Tan CUR DOG. Answer to the name of Rover.
-- Apply BAYLES, Haythwaite, Barningham.

Teesdale Mercury, 1899

LEFT FROM JUMBLE SALE: A pair of Small GREEN PARROTS and CAGE. First reasonable offer accepted. -- Miff Gough, Barningham Rectory.

Teesdale Mercury, 1910

picture gallery



Our front page picture of the Bainbridge children comes from history group member Mark Watson's family album.

Here are some more: two groups of cheerful ladies from the 1920s, a baby in the kind of sensible pram you never see these days, and a handful of people from, we'd guess, the 1950s.

Anyone (apart from Mark) identify any of those pictured?



Haymaking in Barningham in the 1950s... we think.
Anybody any idea who or where?



We doubt whether anyone will be able to identify any of these teachers and pupils who lined up for the photographer at Dalton school in 1911.
Photo courtesy of William Marwood of Newsham