

from the parish mag

120 YEARS AGO: Mr Stubbs has done a good work on the improvement of the church choir's singing; and considering what a miserable organ (which is little better than a bad harmonium) we have, it is wonderful that he is able to play it at all. Mr Stubbs, having recently composed a march for competition, Messrs Curwen the publishers wrote and offered to buy the copyright, which Mr Stubbs accordingly sold to them; some of our hymn tunes are also his composition. It is hoped the congregation will respond liberally to an appeal to give the choir a day off at the seaside. — March 1894

● *Mr Stubbs was Edwin Luther Stubbs, the 34-year-old village schoolmaster. He left in 1895 (see Archive 13). Can anyone identify any of his tunes? — Ed.*

100 YEARS AGO: Everybody must have noticed and been pleased with the very great improvement in the Church Walk since the gravel was laid down. It was very expensive, but the money which Miss Gough's Committee gave for the purpose, the proceeds of the dance (together with a contribution from the Rector for the gravel which was laid in the Rectory carriage drive) will, we hope, meet the cost.

— March 1914

90 YEARS AGO: The 'Union of the Flags', a popular cantata, was performed by the children of our Schools, and performed throughout with remarkable credit. For good behaviour, good tone of character, happy, respectful and respected little lives, our children are well-known. His Majesty's Inspector has always acknowledged and reported complete satisfaction

WAINWRIGHT'S MUSIC WAREHOUSE

Church Gates, Barnard Castle
GRAMOPHONES from £2 (Hornless)
CABINETS (Inlaid Sheraton) £7.10s,
TABLE CABINET GRANDS (Oak & Mahogany). Latest fittings
PIANOS TUNED & REPAIRED
Violins a Speciality
Gramophone Repairs, Records and all Accessories. Sole Agent for the Famous 'Cello' Mouth Organ

April 1924

with the instruction given in Barningham Schools.

— April 1924

75 YEARS AGO: The Bishop of Ripon has appointed the Rev D K Cook as the new Rector of Barningham. He is at present the Vicar of Whixley with Green Hammer-ton, near York. It is hoped that the parishioners will attend in good numbers to take their part in his Induction. — April 1939

45 YEARS AGO: Our very good wishes go to Mr John Milbank and Miss Townhend on their recent marriage, which took place in Plettenberg Bay, Cape Province. We wish them every happiness and assure them of a warm welcome whenever they visit Barningham. — March 1969

20 YEARS AGO: On yet another wet and windy night, Mary Gathercole welcomed 17 new members at the Barningham WI meeting, including Greta Carter who has rejoined after a gap of many years. On display was Sheila Hanby's ingenious creation 'Dressed Wellies'. She had fashioned some wellies into a ram and his ewe using real fleece. The usual tasty supper was provided by Anne Hall and Dehra Cartmell. — April 1994

Group plans Barningham walkabout

THE Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group is planning a walkabout visit to Barningham in June and wonder if any of our history group members might like to join them.

The cruck roof at The Hollies is among items of architectural interest in the village they hope to see.

Numbers will be limited and although an exact date has yet to be set, we'd like to know as soon as possible how many people might like to take part – can you let Jon Smith know as soon as you can? It'll be first come, first served.

Organiser David Cook, from Darlington, hopes to visit Barningham shortly to meet us and discuss the event.

The YVBSG used to have a Tees and Greta section (defunct since the death of its leader Merryne Watson) which carried out extensive surveys of fourteen houses in Barningham in the 1980s. It should be possible to get copies of these for anyone interested.

North Yorkshire County
Record Office

Local & Family History Day

Saturday March 15th
at the
Pavilions of Harrogate
10am – 4pm
Admission £2
Details:
01609 777585



Archive 40

THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

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MMXIII

INSIDE: MYSTERY OF THE MISSING MEDALLIONS



Barningham pupils on the green a century ago. See Page 3

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NEXT BLHG MEETING: TUESDAY APRIL 15th 6pm



The Archive

OUR first meeting on the year was a bit different – we started at seven instead of the traditional six, kept routine business to a minimum, and devoted most of the time to our guest speaker.

The idea was to make it easier for members with work and family commitments during the day to attend.

We did get some new faces – including three very welcome visitors from Whorlton way – but a number of the usual people were missing, including Neil who had the pub to run.

We plan to alternate future meetings in the hope that we can please all of the members at least some of the time. The April meeting will start at six; the one after that at seven, and so on.

What do you think?

THERE are still one or two subscriptions due from members who we hope have just overlooked payment rather than decided to leave. We've sent them this issue, but it'll be the last 'free' one unless dues are paid soon.

TWENTY pages this issue, and we'd like to do more. Contributions welcome!

JON SMITH, Editor

Subscriptions swell the coffers (still some due!)

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday February 18th 2014:

Present: Jon Smith (Chairman), Eric Duggan (Treasurer), Ann Orton (Secretary), Janet Wrigley, June Graham, John Hay, Cate Collingwood, Phil Hunt, Ron Walker, Sheila Wap-patt Jack Blackburn, Tony Orton, Martin Saville, David Pattison, Sally Davies (last three were visitors from Westwick), Eric Barnes (guest speaker).

Apologies: Janet Walker, Janet Paterson, Kay Duggan, Harry Collingwood, Sheila Catton, Linda Sherwood, Diane Metcalf, Beverley Peach and Mark Watson.

Minutes of the meeting on December 17th were approved.

Matters arising: On agenda.

Publications: Archive 39 had been circulated and the next one would be out in March.

Finance: Income January/February £948.00 (including

minutes

most 2014 subscriptions), expenditure £332.33, bank balance £1535.18. A handful of subscriptions were still outstanding.

Next meeting: April 15th at 6pm.

Any other business: Jon circulated a copy of an email re The Durham Hymns project and details of forthcoming events in March. Sir Anthony Milbank had asked if we were going to do any thing to commemorate the anniversary of the First World War. After a discussion it was agreed that Ann and Tony Orton would investigate the stories of the men on the war memorial and bring the results to the next meeting.

Guest speaker: The meeting concluded with a fascinating talk by Eric Barnes on the Watson family of Barnard Castle – see Page 17.

DALTON & GAYLES VILLAGE HALL

Local History Talk Friday March 14th

Dr Graham Rogers: "Where There's a Will There's a Way: Family & Inheritance in the 17th Century"
Doors open 7pm, talk starts 7.30pm

Bar open before and after talk. Admission £2.50 includes tea/coffee and homemade biscuits

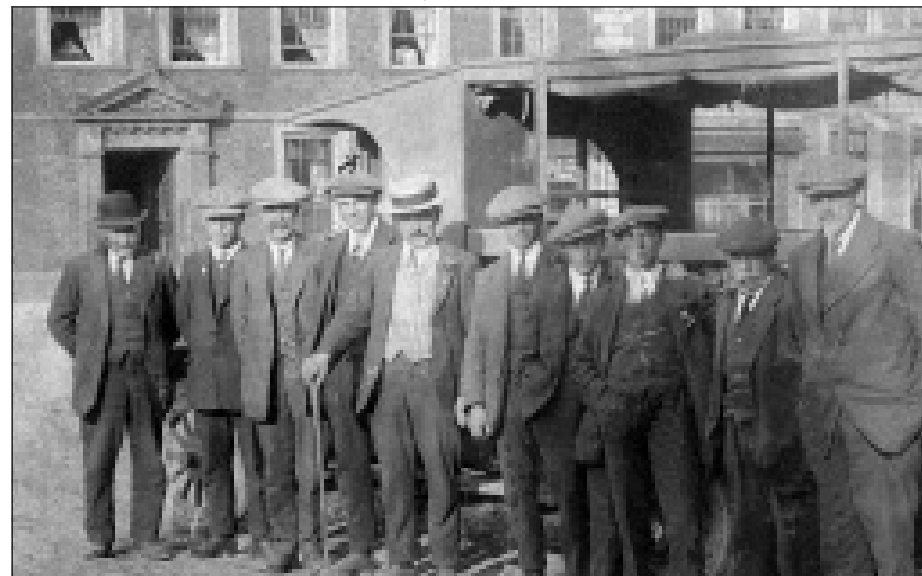


The Archive

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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).



Getting the potatoes in

From the *Teesdale Mercury* of November 7th 1928:

PASSING Hawsteads farmstead early one morning last week, one noticed a dozen schoolboys, strong and healthy looking, standing on the headland of a field of roots.

Each boy had a bucket in his hand ready for action. Presently Mr Wilkinson, the tenant of the land, appeared on the scene and with his usual broad smile the operations began.

A pair of horses draw a machine along and potatoes are quickly uprooted. The boys are led across the field, and there left at equal distances apart. Down go the buckets with a bang and with bended backs the work of potato picking is soon in full swing. A horse and cart move backwards and forwards and as each bucket is filled with potatoes they are

snippets

emptied into the cart. To keep a dozen boys at work is no easy task, but Mr Wilkinson appears to have both the tact and the patience to work the oracle.

It is five o'clock 'giving-over time' when one passes by again. The scene is somewhat changed, for instead of the cart being filled, the boys are each given a bucket-full of potatoes to take home, much to the delight of the youngsters.

old ads

TO be let, Four Clof of LAND situate near Barningham, with the STINTS on Barningham Moor belonging thereto and now in the occupation of Mr John Coatof of Early Lodge. Apply Mr Arrow-smith, Barnard Castle.

Teesdale Mercury, 1880

LOST, between Barningham and Barnard Castle, a Water-proof Trap Rug. Anyone returning the same to the Hoftler at the Black Horfe, Newgate, will be rewarded.

Teesdale Mercury, 1910

Off for a day in the Dales

JOHN Lowes of Barnard Castle sent us this photo of a group setting out on a day trip round the Dales just after the first world war.

The open-sided bus behind them was the first vehicle operated by Jack Stapleton of Hutton Magna, who converted it from a Ford truck (see *Archives 16, 32 & 33*). Can anyone identify where the photograph was taken?

John is one of Jack's grandchildren: his parents Ralph and Amelia (Milly) lived in Newsham, and relatives still run Wilson House farm in Barningham.

He's sent us more pictures and family details that we plan to publish in the next *Archive*. We'd welcome any further information about the Lowes family – please get in touch.

watsons

figure in the town, being made colonel of the volunteers. He was chairman of the Board of Health and in 1880 was elected the town's first county councillor. His charitable works were numerous, including the medical dispensary and educational night schools for children with jobs. In 1892 he provided most of the funds for building the National Girls and Boys school.

Mary died in 1891 and by 1892 William was confined to his room at the top of Thorn-gate House, where they now lived. According to the *Teesdale Mercury*, "he had been for some weeks in a very low state, due to his health entirely breaking down." Servants were instructed not to leave him alone but this was ignored, and in their absence he jumped out of the window and fell some 50 feet to the ground, breaking both ankles and later dying of his injuries. It was decided at the inquest that he had died whilst his mind was temporarily disturbed.

The *Mercury* devoted much space to his obituary. "He did not pose as a philanthropist, but was truly charitable," it said. "He did not scrape together his wealth for some towering charity to be seen of men, but rather sent it rippling through innumerable channels to beneficent ends. He was simple, natural, and unassuming – ever comporting himself like a true gentleman."

His funeral was impressive: the Earl of Strathmore attended and the town came to a halt. He was buried at Rokeby next to his wife.

The Watson's practice continued for almost another century before finally closing in the 1980s.



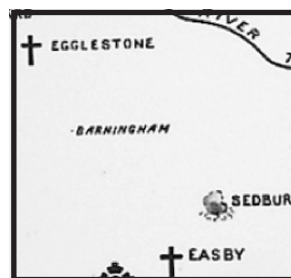
The railway map and, below, the Barningham tile

Did Sir David put us on the railway map?

In *Archive 33* we told the story of the North Eastern Railway tile maps to be found at stations throughout the area, and wondered why Barningham, miles from any station, earned a place on it.

We may have the answer. Eden Blyth, the man who sells reproduction copies of the seven-foot-square map from his home near Pickering, was as baffled as us when we asked why our village alone deserved to be on it.

But he did some research and discovered that at the time the maps were first made, around 1903, one of the directors of the North Eastern Railway Company was Sir David Dale, who in 1888 had



married Alice, eldest daughter of Sir Frederick Milbank of Barningham Park.

Did Sir David, who must have been involved in approving the map, ask for Barningham to be added to please her and the rest of the in-laws? It's the best explanation we've come across so far.

● *Jon and Sheila have acquired a copy of the map which they plan to install at Heath House... if they can find a wall strong enough to take it.*

cover story



Pupils pose for their picture in 1910

OUR cover picture shows part of this postcard, titled 'Schooldays' and dated 104 years ago, which was sent to us by Vera Smith of Sowerby, near Thirsk.

Carefully posed in front of what was then the village school are 47 local children, all dressed in their best clothes, the girls in pristine white dresses, the boys with starched collars and hats of all shapes and sizes. The

in at the last moment just as the photographer pressed his shutter.

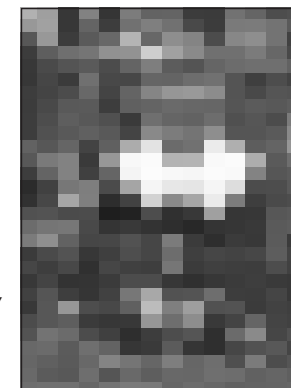
Vera's 78 and has been in contact with us before (see *Archive 38*) about her research into the history of her family, which includes Joseph Leggett, butler at Barningham Park from the 1890s until around the second world war.

"My father Alfred would have been about five when the photo was taken," she says, "and I wonder if he's the boy at the front with the big white collar? It's similar to another one I have of him."

More Leggett family photos overleaf.



Left, the Leggett children in 1912 – Gladys, Frederick Victor, Aline and young Alfred. Is he the boy in the main picture?



More from the Leggett family album



Barningham butler Joseph Leggett's wedding in 1895 to Eleanor Boddy. The marriage took place in Bedale, Eleanor's home town.

Below, Joseph and Eleanor seven years later with their first three children: Gladys (1896-1944), Frederick Victor (1897-1981) and Aline (1900-1972).



On the right, Frederick Victor some thirty years later. That's him again below, in his car outside Gladysville, the family home (now called Granville – see Vera's letter on Page 6). Anybody identify the make of car?



Journal unveils Victorian solicitor's life

Eric Barnes, guest speaker at our last meeting, entertained us with stories about the Watson family who played a major role in Teesdale life for almost two centuries. Ann Orton reports...

WILLIAM Watson was just 23 when he set up his solicitor's business in Barnard Castle in 1823. The son of a wealthy draper, he already had enough money to promptly build himself Spring Lodge, a splendid town house beside Newgate.

His brother James, a surveyor, died three years later in a fall from a horse. William took on responsibility for his son, also called William, and in 1837 sent him to London to be educated as a solicitor. Fully qualified, in the 1840s William junior returned to work with his uncle and between them the practice flourished.

They had many well known clients including the Duke of Cleveland and John Bowes. William junior married Mary Bowness, daughter of the Rokeby rector, in 1861 and they moved to Startforth Hall. From 1864 to 1868 he kept a journal (now held in Durham County Records Office) which gives us a fascinating insight into the life of a local solicitor in the 19th century.

He started every day by drinking Harrogate spring water and was convinced that it would cure most ailments. Possibly he was influenced by the cholera epidemic which killed over a hundred people in Barnard Castle in about 1850, cholera of course being caused by contaminated water.

He liked to read, not only for his own pleasure, but also aloud to his wife and mother-in-law. On Sundays he would read to them from the Bible and religious pamphlets. The cou-

watsons

ple were active in the Church and William would keep notes of the services and the performance of the preachers. He liked a plain service!

They socialised with a small circle of friends, doctors, solicitors and local clergy, including the Morriffs of Rokeby and Thomas Witham of Lartington Hall. Witham would always have a New Year party which would last three days. They would go walking, shooting, enjoy music and play whist. They dined fashionably *a la Russe*, which meant that food was served in courses instead of the traditional way of serving everything together.

They would go to musical soirees at Brignall rectory but apparently William was a bit of a Phillistine! There were also concerts readings and plays at the Witham.

Mary and William were good at entertaining and every January would host a party for the Startforth Church choir. There would be a lavish supper with punch and songs and hymns were sung.

William always accompanied Mary on her shopping ex-



Spring Lodge, built for William Watson nearly 200 years ago

peditions, perhaps because on a couple of occasions she was unable to account for all the money she had spent! He was a loving and caring husband, even going to the lengths of buying a cow so that she could have fresh cream with her fruit.

They don't seem to have used their own horse and carriage but employed Thomas Oliver's local taxi firm. William kept a detailed list and spent about the equivalent today of £1,000 a year on them.

Trains were a popular form of transport and Mary and William would travel to many places including Northallerton, Kirkby Stephen, Durham, Cockfield, Stanhope, Darlington and sometimes to Scarborough. They also had access to London from York, a journey that would take almost five and a half hours. There were day trips to Keswick for picnics and Newcastle for shopping.

William was a keen walker and would take his dogs to work with him in the morning and then go off shooting with them in the afternoons. Apparently there are more references to his dogs than his wife in the journal!

He was a very prominent

How Sir Frederick got tough with the stint occupiers

THIS piece of paper was one of a handful of documents handed to Barningham farmer David Alderson in March 1895.

It's a notice from Sir Frederick Milbank to all owners and occupiers of stints upon Barningham Moor, detailing the rules for grazing animals there – and the penalties for disobedience.

A similar notice had been issued by Sir Frederick's father, Mark Milbank, in 1843, when the rules were first laid down (see *Archive 23* for a full transcription and explanation of stints). That notice was couched in fairly moderate tones; its 1895 successor was a lot tougher.

"It is the intention of the Lord of the Manor that the provisions of the Awards of the Stints on such Moor dated the Twentieth day of April 1843 shall be in future properly complied with," it said. "Penalties for breach of such conditions will be most rigorously henceforward enforced as the law empowers and directs."

The main problem was that the rules forbade anyone from putting animals on the moor between the end of the Winter Stint on March 25th and the start of the Summer Stint on June 20th – the period when game birds were breeding there. Clearly some stint-occupiers – there were 17 of them at the time, occupying 300 stints between them – had been ignoring this.

Not only that, but some had gone so far as to damage or even burn the heather upon

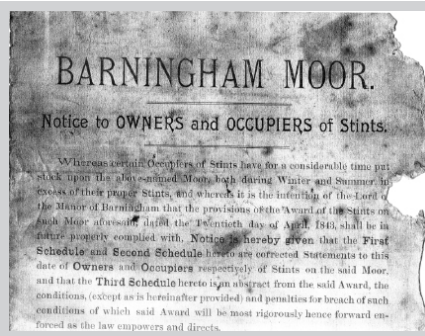
stints



Sir Frederick, pictured around the time the notice was issued

which the birds depended for food and cover. The 1843 rules omitted to say anything about this, but Sir Frederick planned to put that right. "Nothing shall be done to burn, destroy or injure the Ling upon the said Moor," he laid down in a series of new rules which he believed, as the major stint-holder, he had the power to create and enforce.

He also gave notice that he had appointed Hezekiah Birt-whistle as Bailiff and Keeper of the Moor, "with full powers to enforce due compliance with the conditions and to collect all Fines and Penalties



(by the aid of the Law, if necessary)", aided by the Herdsman, Thomas Chilton.

If all this didn't work, warned Sir Frederick, he would be levying a rate upon the stint occupiers to pay the wages of the two law enforcers, and anyone who failed to cough up would be banned from using their stints.

One other change (which nobody seems to have noticed at the time) was that the start for the Summer Stint was moved forward to June 26th, giving an extra six days to the period when the moor should be kept free of animals.

However, it wasn't all bad news for David Alderson and his fellow occupiers of the stints. The fine for putting an unmarked beast on the moor (five shillings), and the fee for use of the bull (sixpence) remained unchanged from 1843.

● *The 1895 stint occupiers were David Alderson, Mark Anderson, John R Brown, Edward E Brown, William Chilton, Thomas Chilton, Isaac Coates, William Coates, J Coulthard, James Todd, John Bainbridge, John Allan, Ralph Goldsborough, Mark Atkinson, Thomas Stubbs, Miss Westmoreland and Barningham School Trustees.*

Willie's in plus-fours – and his 'handbag' is a camera

RE the picture in the last *Archive* of William and Sophia Todd (reproduced on the right).

The "handbag" is the brown canvas cover of a Box Brownie or probably its larger cousin as someone else is using the camera.

The setting is the Morritt Arms Hotel. Each Sunday the horse and trap would be brought out from the stables at Hillside and an excursion made down the hill to the Morritt for afternoon tea.

William is wearing what I think of as plus-fours (popularised by the Prince of Wales in 1924) ie, four inches below the knee; however larger plus-six and plus-eight versions were

letters & emails

also worn. The material at his knee is I think the excess folds of the trousers! I am indebted to Audrey Lee (who was the housekeeper at Fairview until she married just after the war and moved to Barney), who supplied the picture and the background information.

As I mentioned in my article "Too many Todds and far too much cheese" (*Archive 16*) regarding the confusion between the two main Todd families, William eventually sold Fairview and moved into the Lee family home at Tutta Beck and from there to Hartlepool where he died in a nursing home.



Audrey was cousin to Dennis Lee and sister to Bernard Lee, the Morritt's game keeper. When we moved to the area we rented Tutta Beck and met Bernard, who still had remnants of some of William's furniture including a framed record of a massive grouse shoot taking place in Barningham – mentioned in another *Archive*.

JOHN HAY

Fairview, Barningham

Searching for a Robinson

CAN anyone help me to find the parents of Margaret Robinson, born at Greta Bridge in the summer 1852?

She turns up as a servant in 1881 in the Dowes household at Stokesley, with a four-year old son – I cannot pick him up again.

In 1895 she married Jeremiah Cameron, born 1847, from Middleton, who in 1901 was the landlord of the Punchbowl Inn at Kirkby Stephen. He was the widower of Margaret Todd.

Also, a little off the Barningham patch, but would any family history enthusiast be able to point me to information about the displaced farmers caused by the building of the Teesdale reservoirs?

I have been told that the last Cameron family left Teesdale as a result of the farm being compulsorily purchased for the reservoirs.

DANI CAMERON MILES dani.cameron@yahoo.co.uk

The Stephensons at Haythwaite

RE the last meeting when Haythwaite was being discussed: I met Pam Stephenson and checked with her regarding when they left there.

She said it was previously occupied by a Miss White who married and became Mrs Usher. Pam and her husband moved there in December 1983 and left in August 1999.

CATE COLLINGWOOD, Newsham

The Durham Hymns project

I am writing to you with respect to a proposal for a project to take place within County Durham to mark the centenary anniversary of the First World War.

The project, entitled The Durham Hymns, will be delivered by a consortium of partners led by the Northern Region Brass Band Trust supported by Durham County Council's Arts Team and New Writing North. The project

letters & emails

will bring together communities from across County Durham including members of local history groups, choirs and brass bands to research and reflect on how the war affected and changed their communities.

Historical research will look to focus on the events, episodes and personal experiences of the people of County Durham, both at home and on the frontline, drawing on primary research sources such as personal letters, photographs and recorded first-hand accounts either documented (e.g. press accounts) or passed down through generations of families by word of mouth.

The stories brought to light will form the basis and inspiration for the writing of *The Durham Hymns*, a new commissioned brass choral work that will premiere at Durham Cathedral in summer 2016 before commencing on a tour of community venues in the autumn marking the start and end of the centenary of the Battle of the Somme.

The ambition is to capture and collate historical source material that will enable the hymns to explore the impact and legacy of WW1 through the different perspectives of gender, age, class, etc, and unpick the social values and attitudes that the war both cemented and challenged.

The Durham Hymns is envisaged as being a work consisting of eight hymns linked together as a performance with a spoken word narrative to create a performance of approximately 60-70 minutes. For the works premiere at Durham Cathedral the partners are proposing to form a new NRBBT brass



What's not to lick?

AMONG my other hobbies is philately and I bought this the other day – an adhesive parcel label from 1907. Rather than stick the stamps directly onto the parcel, the post-office clerk would affix them to the label, cancel them and then stick the label onto the parcel. Thought it might make a nice illustration for the next *Archive*.

MIKE KIPLING, Horsham

band drawn from the ranks of its members as well as forming a new choir similarly drawn from the ranks of local choirs and singers. Making a studio recording for CD release is also an option.

We are extremely keen to widen participation to communities across the county and are therefore writing to you to ascertain whether members of your group would potentially be interested in working with us on the project.

If you wish to discuss the project in further detail I can be contacted at this address: David Newell, Arts Officer Culture & Heritage, Durham County Council, Northumbria House, Aykley Heads, Durham DH1 5TS. Tel 03000 263658, Mobile 07825 202 576, email david.newell@durham.gov.uk

DAVID NEWELL
Arts Officer, DCC

Which Gladys named it?

LOOKING through papers about the Leggett family I came across a list of Milbanks and noticed a Gladys, daughter of Powlett Charles John Milbank.

It occurs to me that Gladysville (now Granville), the house my ancestor Joseph Leggett lived in while butler at the hall, may have been named after Gladys Milbank. As a child I thought it was bound to be after my Auntie Gladys, Joseph's first daughter.

The Powletts had four children – Aline, May, Frederick and Gladys. Interesting how Joseph and Eleanor Leggett copied three of these names for their own children.

VERA SMITH, Sowerby
● A recent *Archive* said Joseph Leggett left Gladysville after he retired: in fact he lived there until he died in 1954. – Ed.

Mystery of the missing 700-year-old medallions

DIGGING a grave at Kirby Hill on a cold winter's day at the back end of 1922, the sexton came across what he thought was an ancient coin.

Intrigued by the lozenge-shaped piece of metal, he sent it to Alderman Edward Wooler of Darlington, a well-known antiquary who pronounced it to be a medallion more than 700 years old.

It was, he said, a "Passport to Heaven", a papal indulgence which was claimed to close the doors of hell and guarantee its owner ever-lasting happiness in heaven.

Alderman Wooler thought it had probably been issued to one of the early Lords of Kirkby Ravensworth and been interred with him in the local churchyard.

The medallion, declared to be in excellent condition despite remaining buried for so many years, weighed two ounces, was one and three-fifths inches wide and five-sixths of an inch thick.

On the obverse side was the inscription "Honorius PP 111". Honorius III was Pope from 1216-1227, at a time when there es a regular traffic in such indulgences.

The reverse bore the heads of the apostles St Peter and St



Paul, with the letters SPA above the former and SPE above the latter. The effigies were on either side of a bifurcated cross which occupied the length of the medallion.

History group member Linda Sherwood of Gayles is now trying to discover what happened to the medallion, and her researches have revealed that



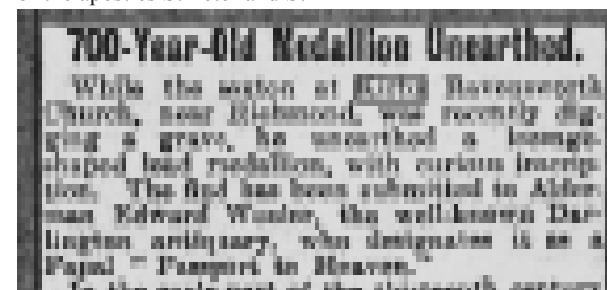
Pope Honorius III. On the left, a papal medallion similar to the one(s) found at Kirby Hill. This one's in Yale University museum.

there may have been not just one, but two of these medallions. In the *Northern Echo* of November 7th 1934, the Rev A W M Close, a former vicar of Hutton Magna, wrote that he had come across a report that in August 1874 "a Papal Bull found in Kirkby Ravensworth churchyard bearing the seal of Pope Honorius was exhibited at a Grand Bazaar at Barnard Castle in aid of funds to restore the tower of St Mary's Church."

The Rev Close said he still had the medallion at his home in Darlington. It had been given to his father, who was vicar at Kirkby Ravensworth at the time, after being dug up by a grave-digger in 1868.

"Where is the Papal Bull from 1874?" asks Linda. "Was there another one unearthed in 1923? Where is that one now?"

If you can help with any more information, get in touch with the *Archive* or telephone Linda on 01833 621307.



The only 1923 press report of that year's find that we can trace was this one in the Dundee Evening Telegraph, a long way from here. Neither the Northern Echo nor the Teesdale Mercury mentioned it.

tively and have a gap between 1718 and 1734. Burials go back to 1599 (again with a gap in the 18th century) but the quality of the microfilm images at the North Yorkshire Records Office is not great and Anne's was the first Kipling entry I could identify.

Later in 1658, Ralph remarried, to Jane Stubbs at Stan-wick. Ann Kipling 'the younger' of Gayles was buried at Kirkby Ravensworth in June 1663 and Ann Kipling of Gayles was buried in December 1674. Probably they were respectively the daughter and sister of Ralph.

Ralph and Robert (of Dalton) both paid tax on two hearths in 1673. Ralph and Robert were frequently in the chancery courts. In 1671, Ralph pursued his sister Jane Kemp over money, whilst Robert was a defendant in a case of Allen vs Pinckney and others.

In 1675, Ralph and Robert pursued William Atkinson for money. Ralph also brought a suit against his brother Robert and William Stubbs of East Layton, the brother of Ralph's wife. The suit concerned property in Dalton Travers, some of which is named (eg a meadow called White Lea), which Ralph had granted to Robert and William but had never received payment.

He states that Robert, William had passed part of the property to Thomas Shaw of Newsham, gentleman, and William Wade of Dalton Travers, yeoman, and that all four are now trying to evict him and his tenants. He seeks an order to prevent this.

I have not been able to discover the outcome of the suit but it may not have reached a

kiplings

hearing as Ralph died the next year. His death was unexpected as there was no will. Administration was granted to widow Jane in the Archdeaconry Court in Richmond, subject to a bond from her and Robert.

Ralph's assets, which included cows, horses and a plough, suggest that he primarily raised crops. However, they only totalled £17 and his debts were stated to be £59. Perhaps he had overspent on legal fees. Jane paid £4 for funeral expenses, paid off £24 of the debt and in 1679 she "humbly prays to be dismissed from the further trouble at the instance of the Court". It appears her wish was granted.

In 1678, there was a mortgage from Robert to Francis Wilkes of a messuage, garth and land in the Eastfield at Dalton Travers.

Isabell Kipling of Gayles was buried at Kirkby Ravensworth in 1678 and Jane Kipling married William Wade of Dalton there in 1682 (she was probably the widow of Ralph or a daughter; he was probably Ralph's former legal adversary).

Robert died in 1691. In 1713, a 'widow Kipling of Newsom' was buried, as was in 1716 Jane Kipling of Gayles (again possibly the widow of Ralph or an unmarried daughter).

This appears to have been the end of this particular Kipling family line, although the gap in the parish registers at this time makes it difficult to be certain.

In my next piece, I will look at the Kiplings of later 18th century Dalton and their possible link to Rudyard Kipling.

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 fieldnames.

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.

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

Discounts for history group members

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

How my father survived the trenches

Archive 38 told how Jim Sadler of Dalton was seeking a publisher for his father's First World War diaries. He's delighted to have found one at last: MARTIN PAUL talked to him about it

JIM Sadler was only four when his father died. Many years later, in 1999, he decided to transcribe his war diaries after experiencing a nagging feeling that those who survived the war have not been given the recognition they deserve.

"Those who died in battle are more often than not remembered on war memorials," says Jim. "But what of those who, having performed duties overseas, came back to England, often scarred by what the war had put them through, and to whom there is no known memorial?"

The resulting book produced by Jim not only contains the recollections of his father – also called James – but also includes notes of his own research and extractions from his father's regiment, the war diaries of the 9th Royal Fusiliers.

This brings his father's individual experience into context with the broader battalion's viewpoint.

"I think it is a blending of history, that's my bit, and experience, that's his bit," says Jim. "It is a simple man's account of the war, written in a simple way."

The book, with a working title *James Sadler MM – His Story*, is due for publication in May next year and will also mark the centenary of the regiment's arrival in France.

James Sadler's story begins on August 13, 1914, when aged 24 he enlisted with the 9th Royal Fusiliers, and his diary recounts his initial training before the battalion arrived in France on May 31, 1915.

Their first trip to the trenches was on June 9 at Armentieres.



war diaries

Jim with the diaries at his Dalton home

"They weren't in the trenches all the time. They spent some time in reserve, on standby, and digging more trenches," says Jim.

While his father experienced sniper fire and small skirmishes, his first real action only came in September during the Battle of Loos, where gas was used for the first time.

Jim says: "It really hits you when it gets into the trench action. His account is fairly factual, but he does give the emotions of those around him.

"Nobody really won. They didn't advance very far at all. In fact, there wasn't much movement at all until 1918." By October his father had been

promoted to lance corporal and saw action at Hohenzollern Redoubt.

"It went on right through to March with no real ground being made," says Jim.

Later James Sadler was pulled from the trenches and sent for training in anticipation of the Battle of the Somme. Training included bayonet fighting, bomb throwing, musketry and drill. His diary also recalls lectures in Lewis gun detachment.

"From March 1916 until June 1916 there were no major attacks. They spent the time taking on new recruits because there was quite a loss of life in Loos." What followed,

however, was to be the single greatest loss of British lives in war.

"They had started 10 days prior with bombardment on the trenches they were going to attack. They thought it would be pretty easy," explains Jim.

"But it hadn't achieved anything. The Germans had deep concrete entrenchments that were 20ft underground.

The artillery didn't have the effect they had hoped. "The Germans were waiting. The Somme battlefield was 12 miles, all along British troops went across and they were slaughtered. The dead were just left in the battlefield. It was a nightmare."

Mr Sadler's father, who was part of A Company, was involved in the fighting at Ovillers and the events of the battle span three chapters of his diary. His bravery during this period led to him being awarded the Military Medal.

"A Company was decimated with MG fire," reads the battalion's war diary and Mr Sadler is amazed that his father survived the massacre.

The diary describes how artillery fire from both sides was cutting them down. "At times the infantry were going so far forward that they went into friendly fire," says Jim.

From there, and now a full corporal, the soldier was moved to the Battle of Pozieres, where his company lent support to the Australians. It was also where they came across the horrors of 'flammenwerfer'—terrifying flame-throwers deployed by the Germans.

By October the company had been moved to the Bat-



British soldiers in action on the Somme war diaries

"We were beginning to feel we really didn't care what was to become of us"

tle of Transloy Ridges and in November the war ground to a halt. Training ahead of the next major action, the Battle of Arras, followed.

This began on Easter Monday, April 9, 1917 and the diary recounts how soldiers lived in the caves under Arras before a sneak attack that caught the Germans by surprise.

From there, and by now an acting company sergeant, the soldier was sent to Monchy le Preux. "It was a wonderful little area. My dad, as a gardener, said it was nice when they got there. It wasn't by the end."

After two years in France, Mr Sadler's father developed trench fever, an illness transmitted by body lice which affected as many as a third of all soldiers, and was sent back to England. In August that year

he completed an instructor's course and was soon involved in training non-commissioned officers headed for the front line.

This continued until March 1918 when he was sent back to the Fusiliers, but this time with C Company. His arrival was just in time for the Germans' major Operation Michael offensive.

This, says Jim, was unsuccessful because the Germans pushed too far ahead and lost connection to their supplies.

The young soldier's diary reads: "We had been battling against the enemy almost continually whilst only getting a few minutes' sleep every now and then.

"We were beginning to feel that we really didn't care what was to become of us."

By August 28, 1918, he was acting company sergeant major. It was only a few months before his 28th birthday and his company was under heavy German artillery fire in the area around Hardecourt aux Bois.

"It was my wish to hurry ahead to escape it," the soldier wrote in his diary. "A shrapnel



Ralph Kipling's will of 1587: *In dei nomine Amen, the 17th of November A° D^{mi} 1587 I Ralph Kipling of Gayles in Y^e Countie of Yorks Yeoman...*

Kiplings of Gayles and Ravensworth

IN my first report on the Barn- ington Kiplings (*Archive* 38), I mentioned Christopher Kipling of East Gayles, first recorded in the 1539 Muster Rolls.

His name also appears in the 1542/2 Lay Subsidy, and the will of Leonerde Smythson of 'Kyrbye Ravensworthe' in 1569 includes the reminder "I lend a cloke to Christopher Kipling having four yeardes."

Christopher's 1574 will names wife Elizabeth, sons Raufe [Ralph], John and Richard and daughter Elizabeth. In his will he also left legacies to Raufe Robson, his son Miles Robson, Thomas Myles and William Kipling of Dal[ton].

He left his land and "farm-

kiplings

MIKE KIPLING continues the story of his family, which has links with our area going back more than 400 years.

ing" to (eldest?) son Ralph ("yeoman of Gayles") who died only 13 years later and his will was proved in 1587. He had wife Isabelle and children Ralph, Elizabeth and Robert, the first two still quite young. What happened to his brothers Richard and John is not known.

In 1592, the will was proved of Leonard Kipling, yeoman, of Whaystone (now Whashton). His wife was Alison and his only child a daughter, Margaret. I do not know how Leonard relates to any other

Kiplings. Between 1618 and 1624, Ralph Kipling of Gayles sat on a number of North Riding quarter session juries at Richmond.

In 1624, he also appeared before the session to answer the charge of "diverting the ancient course of a water-sewer in a place called Dalton becke adjoining to Pickall Closes, whereby one Tho. Wade is much dampnified and trespassed in his groundes." [*Dampnified is a wonderful word and most appropriate in this context! It comes from dampnage, an old English spelling of damage. — Ed*]

In 1651 and 1653, a "Raiph Kipline" sat on juries at Richmond, as did Ralph and Robert Kiplin(g) of Gayles sometime between 1657 and 1677 and Robert of Gailes between 1677 and 1717.

In 1654, the will of Ralph Kipling was proven, mentioning sons Robert and Ralph and daughters Jane, Isabell, Anne and Margaret, but no widow. Ralph's heirs received a reasonably substantial amount of property between them

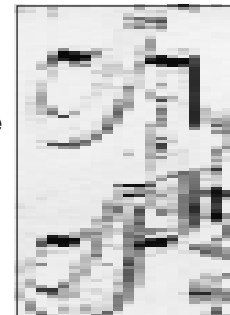
In May 1658, Ann "the wife of Ralph Kipling of Gailes" was buried at Kirkby Ravensworth (this was presumably the wife of Ralph junior). The surviving registers of baptisms and marriages only commence fully in 1674 and 1663 respec-



Just cast an eye over this...

This is the opening of Leonard Kipling's will, proved in 1592. Look at the initial letter I, which we've enlarged on the right.

There are two little faces, one each way up, on the side of the central stroke. The clerk who drew up the will was clearly a man with a sense of humour (and plenty of time on his hands) whose little joke still raises a smile four centuries later.



Geoffrey Smith – our ‘Boycott of the garden’

GEOFFREY Smith, probably the best-known name ever to come out from Barningham, died five years ago this month.

Geoffrey Who? asked one of our younger members, and we realised that we’d hardly ever mentioned him in the *Archive*. So here, to put the record straight, is what they said about him when he died at the age of 80 in March 2009.

“Geoffrey Smith was sometimes known as the Geoffrey Boycott of gardening”, wrote the obituarist in *The Week*. “A Yorkshireman born and bred, he played up to the image with his no-nonsense advice on Radio 4’s *Gardeners’ Question Time* on which he served as panellist for 20 years.

“Put the brown end in the soil, and the green end above it,” he liked to say, “and you’re in with a much better chance.”

But Geoffrey was a highly trained horticulturalist of enormous range and skill, said *The Daily Telegraph*, a man who had a lyricism which complemented his occasional bluntness. “If I am depressed,” he wrote in one of his best-selling books, “or I think the world’s a filthy place, I just go and look at a flower.”

Geoffrey was born in 1928 in the gardener’s cottage at Barningham Park, where his father was groundsman. After boarding at Barnard Castle school – where he felt “incarcerated” – he initially chose forestry as a career, determined to work out of doors. But after a spell in the Stang forest he found he disliked the solitude, and decided to train as a gardener alongside his father.

He did this for six years, then went on to Askham Bryan College near York, where he was named the best all-round student. In 1954 he became superintendent of the infant Northern Horticultural Soci-

in memoriam

ety gardens at Harlow Carr in Harrogate and over the next 20 years established their reputation, disproving received wisdom about what plants could thrive in the harsh northern climate.

In 1974 he left Harlow Carr to make his living as a writer and broadcaster, and two years later scored a hit with his own series, *Mr Smith’s Vegetable Garden*. Other hit series and their books followed in the 1980s, when five million people watched *Geoffrey Smith’s World of Flowers* on BBC2.

Geoffrey was the first gardening presenter with “attitude”. The advice he dispensed was always shaped by an iron-clad self-belief and his own blunt opinion on the topic in hand, said the *Telegraph*: he never shrank from calling a spade a spade.

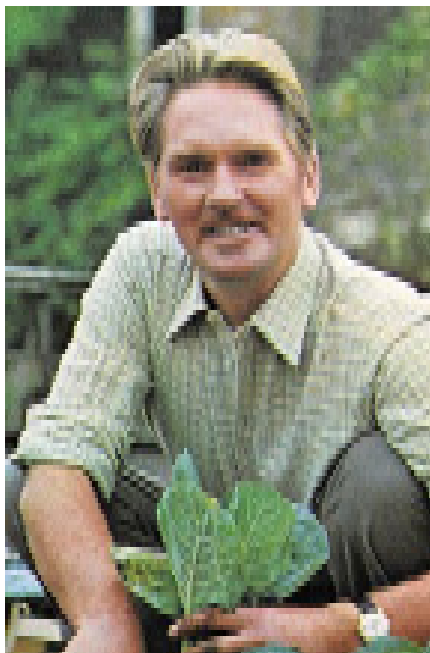
Although radio programmes were recorded at a different

location each week, usually in far-flung draughty village halls in front of an audience of amateur gardeners, Geoffrey would always arrive promptly, having driven himself from Yorkshire, where his wife Marjorie had packed his bag and issued him with directions as well as a wedge of his favourite Wensleydale cheese and a hunk of her home-baked bread.

A courteous figure of the old school, he wore a rugged, outdoor glow and, although no one listening could tell the difference, he always arrived for the recordings in the impeccably-cut clothes of a prosperous countryman.

For all his success, said *The Scotsman*, Geoffrey was never happier than when walking in the county of his birth. “I don’t need paradise,” he once remarked. “The Yorkshire Dales will do for me.”

Geoffrey Smith married, in 1953, Marjorie Etherington, who survived him with their son and daughter.



war diaries

shell came from the left direction and burst in the air only a few yards from us. This shell did much damage.” He goes on to describe how one of the “bullets” from the shell passed through his helmet and cut a deep groove through his skull.

Further bits of shrapnel pierced his chest, arms and legs, leaving him with 27 stitches. Although this was the end of James Sadler’s war, his diary continues to describe his time in the University War Hospital in Southampton where he developed an infection in his arm from the wounds and was given tetanus shots.

His son, in transcribing the diaries, has included parts of the Fusiliers’ war diary which continues to provide details of the regiment’s movements and actions for the few remaining months of the war.

Jim has visited many of the battlegrounds where his father fought, bringing him much closer to the man who was taken from him at such an early age.

“My father died in 1951 when I was only four. I never really knew him. In this way I feel I have learned that much more about my father.

“I have become so proud to be his son. Proud of the actions which he took and proud of the actions of so many, like him, who not only fought but then returned home to re-establish their life in the country which they had fought so bravely for,” says Jim.

● *This story first appeared in the Teesdale Mercury, to whom we are grateful for permission to reproduce it.*



Halifax bomber: ‘Came up the valley in flames’

Schoolboy Frank watched wartime bomber crash

WE carried a brief letter in the last *Archive* asking if anyone had any information about a wartime plane crash near Ravensworth – the Hack and Spade pub at Whashton has what is claimed to be a propeller and part of the engine from the stricken aircraft.

The *Teesdale Mercury* picked up the story, and it had no sooner hit the streets than we got a phone call from 84-year-old Frank Anderson, of Fife Road in Barnard Castle.

The plane, he said, was a Halifax bomber – and he watched it come down in flames on his family’s farm between East Layton and Caldwell on June 16th 1942.

“I was 12 years old and coming back from school in Kirby Hill when I saw it come up the valley, one engine on fire, and crash into one of our fields. My father and a farm-hand were hoeing turnips in the next field – we were all terrified and didn’t know what to do.

“There were seven or eight RAF lads in the plane, all from Canada. They were on

a test flight after mechanics had been working on the plane all day.

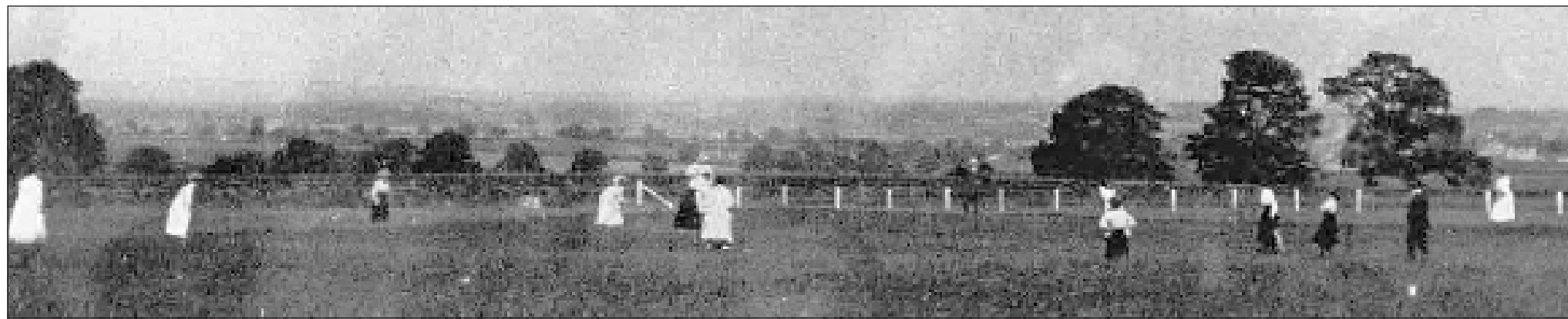
“Bombers always headed up the valley after take-off, turned round when they reached the Morritt and then headed out east over the North Sea on their way to Germany. We saw hundreds of them during the war.

“Everybody took bits of the wreckage as souvenirs. We had a propeller in the stackyard for years.”

Frank believed four people died in the plane, but Phil Smith, an expert on North-east wartime air crashes, says only the rear gunner, Sgt Bertie Hoskins, was killed. “The rear turret was torn off as the plane crashed through trees and crash-landed in a meadow,” he says. “Six other men survived. All were based at the Middleton St George airfield.”

Frank’s nephew still farms the land where the plane came down.

Wartime censorship meant that the *Teesdale Mercury* carried no news of the crash, and no mention of it was ever made the local press.



IN the days before local newspaper reporters spent most of their lives stuck in the office wrestling with telephones, emails, tweets and computers, they might well be ordered on a thin news day to go off to some distant village picked at random from the map and told: "Go and find out what's happening here – and don't come back without a story."

History group member Mark Watson, trawling through back issues of the *Teesdale Mercury* recently in search of family references, came across what seems to have been just such a day back in 1929.

The issue dated October 23rd that year carried not one but four Barningham stories occupying almost a full column of the paper.

Two of the stories had some claim to be news – the death of an aged inhabitant and the village ladies' cricket team's annual dance. But the other two suggest the bottom of the barrel was being scraped with considerable desperation. Here they all are, as they appeared that day 85 years ago.

OLDEST INHABITANT DEAD

BARNINGHAM has lost its oldest inhabitant by the death of Mrs

Barningham ladies were playing cricket well over a century ago. This photo, from Parkin Raine's collection in the Fitzhugh Museum in Barnard Castle, shows a game in progress sometime in the Edwardian era. It seems to

be taking place in a field north-east of the hall, with Early Lodge in the distance. The ladies are all in very decorous long dresses – how did they manage to run? – while on the boundary two male umpires keep watch.

A funeral, an errant goat, mysterious burglars and a dance – it was all happening in Barningham

Mary Ann Atkinson, who was in her 96th year. Deceased was a strong healthy woman up to 90 years of age, and since then has suffered from rheumatism and been confined to her room, but right up to the end she retained her mental faculties, and was always bright and cheerful, and sharply interested in village affairs.

Of a kind and gentle disposition, she had gained the respect of all who knew her, and, like many more of the old standards who have gone to rest, gave of her best when she was able to do it to the sick and needy.

The funeral took place at Barningham and was largely attended. The Rev P Dodd, Rector of Barningham, officiated.

The chief mourners were Miss Atkinson, Miss H Atkinson, daughters; Mrs Hayes, daughter; Mr and Mrs McCulloch, daughter and son-in-law; Mrs Atkinson,

daughter-in-law; Misses Polly and Freda Atkinson, granddaughters; Miss E McCulloch; Messrs John and William Atkinson, nephews; Mrs Fenwick (Cote Hill); Miss Cameron; Mr and Mrs Metcalfe (Little Hutton); Mrs Blades.

Mr J G Nicholson was the undertaker.

BARNINGHAM 'BURGLARY'

MUCH excitement was caused in Barningham on Tuesday when it was rumoured that that the home of Mr and Mrs Cecil Lee had been broken into and much damage done.

It appears that about 5pm Mrs Lee left the house to go shopping and returning a few minutes later found the kitchen in great disorder.

All the window panes were broken, crockery, lamps and ornaments were scattered over the floor and smashed to pieces.

She at once rushed about the house in search of her little treasures and was greatly relieved to find that nothing was missing, but all the glass in the pantry windows was smashed to atoms.

Without delay, Mrs Lee took on the role of Sherlock Holmes, but in reality, and gaining clues here and there, was keenly on the heels of the culprit, who evidently had not excised himself to make good his escape, for he was standing in a neighbour's farm yard without showing the least signs of alarm.

No housebreaking implements were found in his possession, so the case was reduced to wilful damage, and on being accused the defendant, a bright little boy two and a half years of age, pleaded guilty and was let off with a reprimand from his mother. It is understood the little chap's father had made him a spade and sent him to play

in the field in front of Mrs Lee's house, and as the windows are only slightly above the ground level, with no protection, he had no difficulty in making use of his new spade.

The parents are making good the damage, so all's well that ends well.

VAGARIES OF A GOAT

A STRAY billy goat made its presence felt in Barningham on Saturday afternoon and for a time was monarch of all he surveyed.

The first to extend a welcome to Billy was a group of children who gently stroked his head, and treated him with great kindness, and all went well until one brave boy ventured to pull Billy's whiskers, which seemed to annoy him very much, for with bowed head he quickly scattered the lot of them in all directions. A pack

of terriers, spaniels and cur dogs went to the rescue, but Billy was quite capable of keeping them all at a distance, and eventually proved the conquering hero.

His next move was to the grocer's shop where he gazed on the bright display of choice articles in the windows. Billy appeared to have no inclination to enter the establishment, but patiently waited for customers coming out, and escorted them quickly to their homes.

After several more amusing escapades, Billy finally chased through the village a cyclist who had insulted him, no doubt, and as the day was drawing to a close paid a visit to Banks Farm, where he received hospitality and comfortable accommodation for the night.

LADIES' CRICKET CLUB

THE Barningham Ladies' Cricket Club's annual dance, held in the school on Friday night, proved a success.

Dancing commenced at 8 o'clock and was carried on to the early hours of the morning to the strains of Mrs Raine's jazz orchestra. Mrs Todd was MC, ably assisted by Mr Harry Chilton.