

from the parish mag

120 YEARS AGO: A Meeting was held in the Schools, at which a Barningham Cricket Club was formed. There was a large attendance and the proceedings were most enthusiastic. A most generous response has been made to the appeal for subscriptions, and excellent bats, stumps and all necessary engines of cricket warfare purchased. Several matches have been played and won by the club. Practice takes place every evening on the Green, and Mrs Wm Coates of the Hawsteads has kindly given us the use of a capital ground. There is every prospect of the club distinguishing itself, and ranking among the best in the neighbourhood. —*July 1896*

100 YEARS AGO: The death of that national hero, Lord Kitchener, plunged the Empire in grief. It must have been difficult for women, and men, too, aye, and noble boys and girls to keep back tears as they read the many speeches and sermons which spoke of his conduct as a soldier and a Christian gentleman. —*July 1916*

90 YEARS AGO: We extend our deepest sympathy to the Rev A W M Close in the grievous loss he has sustained in the sudden death of his wife. For thirty-three years she laboured together with him in the parish of Hutton Magna and in countless ways endeared herself to all with whom she came into contact. —*July 1926*

80 YEARS AGO: Lately one family have begun the practice of giving lilies and other beautiful flowers to be

placed in the vases or stone jars on the altar steps, instead of putting them on the grave where they may be eaten by stray hares or battered by wind and rain. It is a beautiful idea. —*July 1936*

70 YEARS AGO: The Garden Fete, held at Barningham Park, escaped the fate of so many out-of-door events in our fairly certain climate. The weather was halcyon, not an umbrella raised its head. The surroundings for the stalls and games were idealic, rock gardens, flashing waterfalls, wide lawns. The ancient sundial emerged after a month of total eclipse and gladly worked overtime. —*July 1946*

20 YEARS AGO: Mrs Pam Stephenson chaired the WI meeting. The jumble sale held in the village hall was a great success and made £260. A summer outing to Thorpe Perrow is planned. Supper including sandwiches and cakes was prepared by Mrs Judith Galilee and Mrs Usher. The competition was won by Miss Jennifer Jones with her hand-made mouse. Mrs Stephenson won the mystery prize. —*July 1996*

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Chairman: Phil Hunt
Ivy Cottage, Barningham,
Richmond, N/Yks DL11 7DU
Tel: 01833 621253
philhunt99@aol.com

Vice-Chairman: John Hay
Fairview, Barningham,
Richmond, N/Yks DL11 7DW
Tel: 01833 621378
john.hay1@mypostoffice.co.uk

Secretary: Ann Orton
The Old Chapel, Barningham,
Richmond, N/Yks DL11 7DU
Tel: 01833 621024
ann.orton@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Margaret Stead
Dove Cottage, Barningham,
Richmond, N/Yks DL11 7DU
Tel: 01833 621139
margaret@tuttabeck.plus.com

Archive editor: Jon Smith
Heath House, Barningham,
Richmond, N/Yks DL11 7DU
Tel: 01833 621374
jonxxsmith@gmail.com

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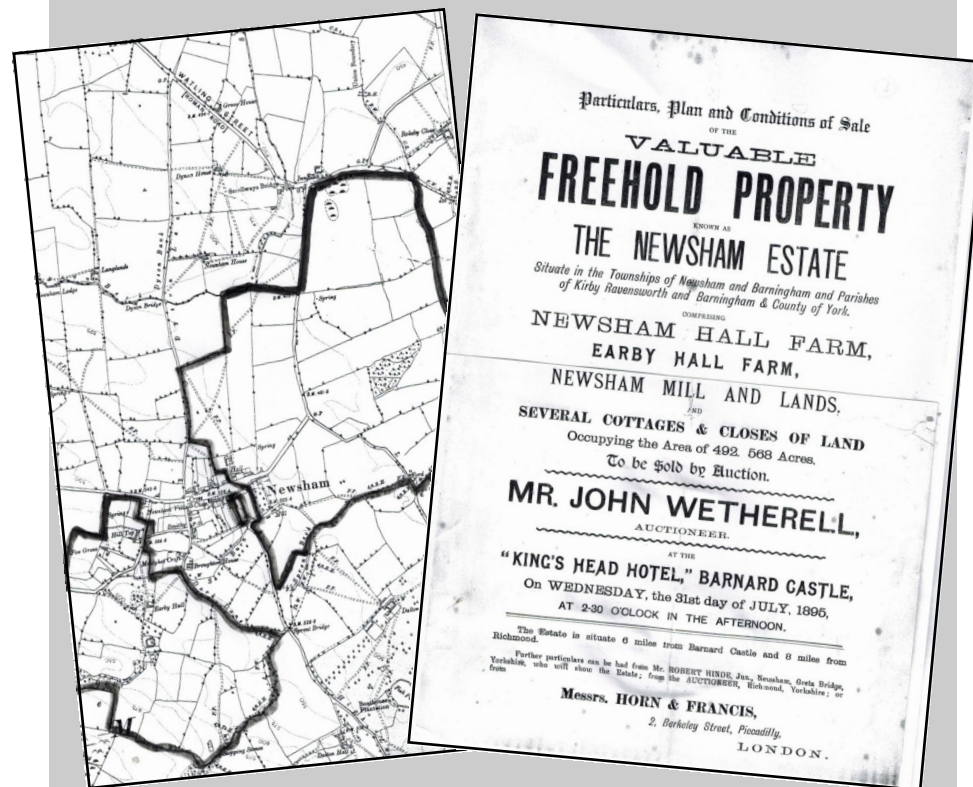
Archive 52

THE MAGAZINE OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP
NATIONAL AWARD-WINNING LOCAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk



INSIDE: AWARD FOR SLEUTH-HOUND SERGEANT SLACK



For sale in 1895 — but nobody would pay the price. See Page 9

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NEXT BLHG MEETING: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20th, 6pm

The Archive

THIS issue of the *Archive* has dropped through your letterbox a bit later and thinner than we'd hoped.

Print problems, holidays, domestic chaos and referenda (we abide by the traditional plural form) are all partly to blame, but the main reason is that we've had a very quiet few months and there's not as much to report as there has been on occasions in the past.

Despite that, there is enough, we hope, to hold your interest for a while (and maybe longer if you take up our handwriting challenge on Page 7).

Filling the *Archive* depends, of course, on having contributions from our members, and we could do with a few more before the next issue is due.

Not everyone has the time, resources or inclination to embark on extensive research projects, but a simple email commenting on what others have written is always welcome.

Do drop us a line!

JON SMITH
Editor

Plans for visits, a show of fossils, and a mystery item

Minutes of the meeting held on April 19th 2016

Present: Phil Hunt, John Hay, Ann Orton, Margaret Stead, Cate Collingwood, June Graham.

Apologies: Janet Paterson, Sheila Wappat, Neil Turner, Jon Smith, Jane Hackworth-Young, Margaret and David Taylor.

Minutes of the meeting of February 9th were approved.

Matters arising: Marian Lewis was re-checking the Roll of Honour before its completion.

Correspondence: None.

Finance: Income £331.70, expenditure £202.18. The surplus of income over expenditure this time was partly due to late subscriptions and partly to income from the books donated by Doug Anderson. Members recorded their thanks to Doug for his generosity.

Publications: *Archive 51* had been circulated. John and Phil are currently looking at taking over the production of the *Archive*.

Next meetings: it was agreed that Ann would look into the

minutes

possibility of a visit to the Swaledale museum in June and also a visit to Rokeby in July followed by an ordinary meeting on September 20th at 6pm.

Artefacts: There then followed an interesting display of objects brought by various members.

Phil showed us his watch which had been given to Hubert Hinchcliffe for 50 years' service with the NCB. Phil had discovered that he had been the manager at Wheldale colliery and also Area Production Manager.

June had brought a fascinating collection of fossils, oddities and clay pipes together with a mystery object. This was later shown to be a champagne opener and was illustrated in one of the books she had also brought: *Domestic Economy 1794, Mrs Beeton 1888* and *Annual Register 1774*.

John Hay had also brought examples of fossils he had found.

ANN ORTON, Secretary



Sir Anthony Milbank, a good friend of the history group

WE are much saddened to report the death on July 3rd of Sir Anthony Milbank of Barningham Park. He was 75 and had been courageously battling illness for the last two years.

Anthony was a founder member and staunch supporter of the history group, a regular contributor to the *Archive*, always happy to welcome us into his study to pore over his historic records and delighted when we re-

vealed new information about his forbears — even (in fact, especially) when they uncovered embarrassing skeletons in the family cupboard. I'll never forget his glee when we pieced together the story of his ancestor Harry Vane Milbank, the dare-devil duellist.

Anthony was a genial, gentle, generous and unfailingly cheerful man, much liked and respected by all who knew him. We'll miss him.

J.S.

How sleuth-hound Sergeant Slack won his Merit Badge

From the Teesdale Mercury, August 10th 1898:

A TRAMPING labourer, named Joseph Paddock, was brought before Greta Bridge Police Court charged with stealing three silver mugs, the property of the Rev Edmund Spencer Gough, Rector of Barningham.

Supt John Holmes said the property had been seen in the diningroom of the rectory early in the afternoon of August 3rd but at half-past four the mugs were missing.

Sgt Slack of Greta Bridge immediately set to work to trace the thief. A man had been seen loitering in the village, and a full description of the prisoner having been furnished, he was smartly traced to Barnard Castle and arrested. The cups were in the pocket of his coat.

Paddock pleaded guilty, and told the bench: "I have been working for a farmer and I got sixpenny-worth of

court cuttings

rum at Barningham, in a bottle. I went to the rectory to get some water to mix it, and that is how I came to be there."

Paddock was remanded to Northallerton Gaol.

From the Teesdale Mercury, August 17th 1898:

JOSEPH Paddock was brought from Northallerton for sentencing and sent back to Gaol for four months with Hard Labour.

Major Hugginson, chairman, commended Sgt Slack to the Chief Constable for the Badge of Merit on his quick detective capabilities. Few sleuth-hounds of the law have the good word of everybody, but Sgt Slack is certainly held in esteem as a vigilant officer by the residents of Barningham, some of which are already apprehensive that promotion may lead to his removal.

Under-age lads drank whisky in the Dun Cow

From the Teesdale Mercury, December 30th 1908:

ANDREW Guiseley, landlord of the Dun Cow Inn, Newsham, was charged with selling whisky to persons under 16 years of age.

Mr J L Dawson, prosecuting, said two 15-year-old boys, Edward Hunt and Frederick Ward, had been supplied with two glasses of port and a whisky, and neither the landlord or his wife ever asked any question about their age.

Hunt, of Barningham, appeared before the court and was asked: "Were you pretty bad after this drink?"

He replied: "I was next morning, maybe."

Evidence was given that he had returned to his lodgings drunk, laid down on the floor, and was sick.

Guiseley was fined the maximum penalty of 20 shillings in each case, plus costs.

The Archive

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL HISTORY
NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR 2012

Editor: Jon Smith

Heath House, Barningham, Richmond, North Yorks DL11 7DU

Tel: 01833 621374

email: jonxxsmith@gmail.com website: www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

Back issues of *The Archive* are available at £2 each (£1 for members)

Full index of contents on our website

Handwriting answers

(from Page 7)

1. Mental state: Patient's memory is much confused. He rambles incoherently in his conversations. Restless and excitable, says there is a report about that his wife is unfaithful to him with other men. William St J. Skern.

2. Humbly complaining. Showeth unto your Lordship your daily orator William Blakiston Bowes of Streatlam Castle in the County of Durham esquire. That your orator is and for several years past hath been seised of him and his heirs of the manor or lordship of Streatlam in the County of Durham and of several moors...

3. York. William Blackburn. 29th September year 19 lady now Elizabeth Queen. £6 3s 8d. Diem clut extremum.

4. Elyzabeth Darneton buried the 15th of Marche 1607.

5. Dorithia, fila Mathei Talifere 21 June. Jana, fila Johnis Watsonn 19 November. Tobyas, filius Thomas Kinge 6 January.

6. Volo et precipio ut ipse et heredes sui eam bene et in pace et quiete et honorifice te neant et possideant per predictum seruitium.

[I will and ordain that he and his heirs may occupy and possess it well, peaceably, quietly and honourably, for the aforesaid service.]



History group member and local artist John Hay created another masterly display in Barningham's Green Room (aka the old green phone box) to mark the Battle of the Somme a century ago

'Re-run of the Somme' show

DURHAM Gala Theatre is presenting what it describes as "a re-run of the Somme" from July 21st to August 28th.

1916 — *No Turning Back* is a continuous production, running each day from 10am till 10pm and telling the dramatic story of the WW1 battle. Admission is £7.50, with reductions for groups of ten or more.



Curator Helen Clifford tells the village history

Umbrellas raised for our tour of Reeth

ON Tuesday June 28th 13 members and guests of the history group braved the rain to visit the Swaledale Museum at Reeth.

The museum is tucked away behind the village green, housed in what was formerly the Wesleyan School House, and contains many interesting exhibits, mostly connected to the lead mining industry.

After we'd had a look round, Dr Helen Clifford, the curator, took us on a guided tour of the green. She explained that the Romans had a settlement there to exploit the lead deposits and by the mid-19th century lead mining was a major industry all around Reeth. As a result of this by the 1850s there were about 60 shops and six public houses. It was regarded as "sin city" by the outlying

areas! The shops varied from ones supplying basic goods and services to more luxurious items: what is now the Fat Sheep was a shop which stocked fine silks. High Row is the stretch of houses, shops and pubs which run along the top edge of the green. The first house was the doctor's with his surgery attached.

The Black Bull further down is noted for its upside-down sign, erected by the publican as a protest after he had been forced to replace the rendering. The national park authority insisted that everything had to be kept the same as it had been in the 1950s when they took over, even though old photographs show that it was formerly bare stone.

A rectangular building just down the other side of the green from the Congregational Church started out as housing but eventually became the workhouse, surprisingly still used until 1948. There is also a large Wesleyan Chapel on the other side of the green.

Having got very wet we then returned to the museum to enjoy a cup of tea and to look at a fascinating slide show of old photographs of Reeth. There is much to see in the museum, and it's well worth a visit. It does a very good cup of coffee, too!

Many thanks to Helen for making it such an interesting tour.

ANN ORTON



The slide show attracted a lot of interest

That's where my grandma used to live

OUR query about a Newsham postcard (right) in the last *Archive* brought a rapid response from history club member Barbara Matley in Cheshire.

"It's Victoria House, and was the home of the Watsons, my grandma's family," she wrote. "I've sent you a photo of my uncle's wedding outside the house.

"The wedding was between Ben Cole of Black Bull House and Edith Beale in September 1933.

"Jonathan Watson was born in Lunedale, Teesdale, in 1844 and in the 1871 census he was married and living at Byer Hill, Newsham. In 1881 my grandma, Margaret Ellen, was a baby and the family were living in Barningham. The 1891 census is the first record of the Watsons living in this house.

"Jonathan and his wife Mary Ann, my great grandparents, are buried in Barningham churchyard (1913 and 1918 respectively) and there is

letters & emails

a headstone marking this grave. Jonathan was a farmer and his son Jonathan Walter born 1886 continued to live in the house after his father's death and was a corn merchant owning the Mill.

"This branch of the Watson family continued to live in the house until at least the late 1950s or early 1960s and John, (born 1918), son of Jonathan Walter, was a corn

merchant. He married Pamela Barker from Barningham in 1961 and is also buried in Barningham.

"The unusual division of Newsham between the parishes of Kirkby Ravensworth and Barningham has always caused confusion as to which property is in which parish and the families sometimes seem to have chosen themselves which church to attend. The Watsons seem to have opted for Barningham.

"If you would like any more information regarding the Watsons please let me know as I grew up with them along with extended members of both the Cole and Watson families.

"Many thanks for all your hard work producing the magazine."

Westgarths?

I RECENTLY came across a reference to Westgarth Farm in the *Archive*.

My aunt was named Jean Westgarth Morgan (her mother lived in Wilson House, Barningham, with the Atkinson cousins.) I would be interested to know about the Westgarth reference. Any ideas would be welcome.

DANI MILES, Hampshire



Wedding day: Ben Cole and Edith Beale in 1933

social activities. No expense was spared.

Sir Thomas became Deputy Lieutenant of East Yorkshire in addition to being Deputy Lieutenant of Stafford. In 1830 he was returned unopposed as one of two MPs for the pocket borough of Hedon, a small town near Burton Constable. It was disenfranchised after the Reform Act of 1832. He was High Sheriff of Yorkshire from 1840 – 41.

The family were accomplished musicians, Thomas played the violin well and Marianne was a pianist. They converted two rooms into a theatre complete with stage and fly-tower, in which they performed plays, some of which they wrote themselves.

In 1862, Lady Marianne died. Three years later Thomas, then aged 60, married his mistress, Rosina Brandon, who had been born in 1833 in Ipswich and had been living near Burton Constable since the 1850s, calling herself Mrs Montague, a name to which there is no evidence she was entitled.

On the day they were married at St. Georges Church, Hanover Square, London, Thomas wrote to his sister Mary Barbara saying: "I am privately married to a person not in the same station of life as my own... I have got into a very painful position and there is no way out of it." Mary Barbara must have been very disappointed in her brother who had recklessly squandered the family home, but she magnanimously replied that she was only anxious for his happiness in this world and the next.

Whereas Lady Marianne had been a lady and had ex-



Lt Col Chichester Constable and family, c1900

the constables

quisite taste, Rosina was not, and did not!

She persuaded her husband to purchase a Thames-side villa in Teddington for £6,500 and re-equipped it, inside and out, including extensive gardens, at a total cost of £37,000 (about £3 million today).

Thomas died of cancer in 1870, five years after they were married. He left Rosina £4,000 a year and stipulated in his will that she should have anything she wanted from Burton Constable for use during her lifetime.

The estates at Burton Constable and Wycliffe were left to his son Sir Frederick Talbot Clifford Constable. Both Thomas and his son had used Wycliffe during the grouse shooting season and built the shooting box, Scargill Lodge, in 1865. Talbot let Wycliffe to tenants but continued to use Scargill Lodge. He had a short and acrimonious marriage, after which he lived in Hull with his mistress and their daugh-

ter. He died at Scargill Lodge in 1894, leaving no legitimate children, and the estates passed in trust to his sister, Mary Barbara, Lady Chichester, and thereafter to her eldest son, and every succeeding eldest son, who were to take the name of Constable. The estate was inherited by her grandson, Lt Col Walter Raleigh Chichester Constable.

He chose to live at Wycliffe in preference to Burton Constable, which had been standing empty for nearly 25 years, and was lacking a lot of furniture taken by Rosina. They moved back to Burton Constable in 1909, when the contents were returned after her death.

However, as a result of various factors, not least the introduction of death duties six months before Talbot's death, the upkeep of all the estates could not be sustained. In order to concentrate on Burton Constable, the house at Wycliffe was sold in 1935, and Scargill Lodge in 1936, ending the Constable's long association with this North Yorkshire estate.

family seat which had been rebuilt from a ruined Elizabethan house by his grandfather. He sent his youngest brother, George, together with his wife and eight children, to live at Burton Constable and manage both that estate and Wycliffe.

Thomas Hugh died in 1823, only two years after inheriting, and his son came into possession of not only the Clifford family home, Tixall, together with Haywood Abbey on the Tixall estate, but also the Yorkshire estates of Burton Constable and Wycliffe.

Thomas Aston was the only son of Sir Thomas Hugh Clifford Constable and his wife Mary Macdonald Chichester. They had no children for the first ten years of their marriage, and then produced two daughters before the much longed-for heir was born in 1806.

As Thomas Aston was a minor aged 15 at his father's death, his father in his will had entrusted his uncle, George, an astute businessman, to manage all the estates until Thomas reached his majority.

Thomas Aston remained living at Tixall, and married his cousin, Marianne Chichester, who was six years his senior, as soon as he came of age in 1827. Together they embarked upon an expensive refurbishment of the house, including redecoration of the highest order, with new curtains, furniture, silks and drapes running to thousands of pounds (hundreds of thousands today). The Catholic Emancipation Act had been passed in 1829 which allowed Catholics to build free-standing churches, so Thomas



Scargill Lodge in the 1890s

the constables



Cuthbert Constable

Aston commissioned a chapel in the grounds of Tixall Hall at a cost of £18,000.

Thomas Aston continued to spend lavishly, without necessarily paying his bills, and Uncle George wrote to him often exhorting him to pay off his debts. By 1832, George advised him that the only way to produce enough money to pay his debts and secure a reasonable annual income would be to sell off some of his land.

This advice was not acted upon, and the following year the whole of the Tixall estate, which had been in the family for 300 years, was

put up for sale. The auction failed to reach the asking price, and the estate was not sold until 1845. The buyer, Viscount Ingestre, later Lord Shrewsbury, offered a considerably lower price, but Thomas Aston had no choice other than to accept it, retaining the family chapel and another smaller house on the estate, Haywood Abbey, an ancient seat of the Astons which he had substantially remodelled in the 1830s. The house at Tixall was demolished in 1927.

In 1840, Sir Thomas Aston, his wife Lady Marianne, their son Frederick Augustus Talbot Clifford Constable and Marianne's sister Eliza Chichester, who had accompanied them on their honeymoon, went to live at Burton Constable. George Clifford moved out and went to live at Wycliffe Hall.

Sir Thomas Aston seemed to have learnt little from the disastrous consequences of his extravagances at Tixall. Burton Constable was a large house which had not been much altered for a century and Sir Thomas and Lady Marianne set about turning it into the sort of house they felt they needed to undertake their

Thank you so much for putting us all in touch

SORRY for the delay in thanking you for passing on my email address to Duncan Leggett in Australia and his mother Brenda in New Zealand.

We are in touch and exchanging what little information we have on my grandfather, George Daniel Leggett, who, as you know, was innkeeper of the Black Horse Inn in Barningham and where my father, another George Daniel Leggett (1895) was born and also his next brother, Ernest Victor (1896).

Incidentally, I did not know Victor had another christian name — my father always referred to him as Victor. I have also passed on what I know of the other siblings — again, not that much — but little memories keep being triggered.

It is an absolute joy for me to find such close relatives. Peter Leggett's father, Thomas William Leggett, (again, I only heard him referred to as William), was my father's youngest brother, which makes Peter (Brenda's husband) my cousin. It seems Duncan and Brenda have done far more research than I have — I got sidetracked into

letters & emails

looking at my mother's family, the Broughs.

I only wish they lived in England rather than Australia and New Zealand, although I do have a niece who lives in NZ. I am hoping we can set up Skype so we can see and talk to each other and, hopefully, we will always keep in touch.

I really do appreciate that you have put the two Leggett families together and if we get a 'break-through' you will be the first to know.

Incidentally, my husband Cyril and I will be visiting Vera Smith (Joseph Leggett's granddaughter) in June, staying at Sandhutton near Thirsk. We may be able to get across to Barningham and I would dearly love to see the inside of Elim Cottage, but that may not be possible.

I also want to visit Richmond — the Richmond Museum have been most helpful in trying to find information on grandfather, to no avail I must add. Hey ho, that is life.

JEAN ASHLEY, *Ledbury*

Is St Oswald in the window?

I HAVE been watching a programme about Northumberland, which showed a church with a stained glass window of St Oswald.

When I am in Barningham church looking at the stained glass window above the altar I often wonder who the guy is depicted in the centre. I do not think it is Jesus and looks very like St Oswald. Can anyone throw any light on this? Are there any records about the stained glass?

JANET PATERSON, *Dalton*

Lees family plea from Australia

MY great-great-great-grandfather was Thomas Lee (1789–1884), his wife Ann (nee McDonald) and his father was also Thomas Lee (died 1844), wife Margaret.

I see they are mentioned in your *Archives* several times. Is it possible to get the details — I believe there was a link to the USA?

Some say Thomas and Ann married in St Michael's church in Barningham in 1814 but I believe it wasn't built until 1816... so that seems a mystery.

My line is from Jane Lee, who was daughter of Thomas the younger. There seems to be a Jane Lee mentioned in the *Archive* who married a publican, but my Jane Lee married Frederick Abel Powell, and it was their son who emigrated to Brisbane in Australia in the late 19th century.

That was my great-grandfather — but by this stage the name was Powell not Lee. I always thought Powell was Welsh but I think in this case it is from Yorkshire. Maybe that's why my son was good at cricket!

RUSSELL POWELL
Sydney, Australia

•We've sent Russell info from the *Archives*, with contact details for the Lees in Nebraska (see *Archives* 12,15, 16 & 17). The Thomas-Ann marriage was definitely in 1814 — it's listed in the parish register — and would have taken place in the old church, demolished 1816 to make way for a new one. — Ed.

For the St. JAMES'S CHRONICLE.
CALCULATIONS of the Lunar Eclipse which will be seen on Wednesday the 10th of September, if Clouds interpose not.

	London.	Newsham.	Edinburgh.
Apparent Time H.M. S.	H.M. S.	H.M. S.	H.M. S.
of Beginning	9 49 5	9 42 25	9 35 52
Central Ingress	10 17 50	10 11 10	10 4 37
Total Immerse	10 46 40	10 40 0	10 33 27
Ecliptic 8	11 35 8	11 28 28	11 21 55
Middle	11 35 44	11 28 28	11 22 31
Total Emergence	12 24 48	12 18 8	12 11 35
Central Egress	12 53 38	12 46 58	12 40 25
Ends	1 22 23	1 15 43	1 9 10
Duration	3 31 18	3 31 18	3 31 18
Digits eclipsed	2 10 2' 35" 1/2	2 10 2' 35" 1/2	2 10 2' 35" 1/2
S. Diameter	16' 2" D	16' 12"	Eccentricity
47.880, Lat. D S. D. 3' 32".			

The above Calculations were accurately made from Palladius Tables, by T. Coates Teacher of the Mathematicks, at Newsham, near Richmond, Yorkshire.

Newsham at the centre of 1783 eclipse calculations

I WAS quite excited when I found this snippet in the *St James's Chronicle* for September 4th 1783 while looking at old newspapers online.

It just really tickled me that Newsham was a significant place between London and Edinburgh! Of course it is, centre of the universe!

I'm sure the person who drew up the chart was "our" James Coates, the young Newsham teacher whose diaries the history group published a couple of years ago.

He was widely read and did send his lads to Greta Bridge for the newspapers. However, my researches have brought to light that there was a significant num-

ber of very able mathematicians in this locality, and one able mathematician would encourage and teach others, so it is highly likely that James was in contact with others in Teesdale.

The boarding schools emphasised their teaching of maths in its many applications, and James Coates used to take his lads into the fields to teach them surveying.

MARION MOVERLEY,
 Richmond

●James Coates' surviving diaries covered the years 1784-85, so we can't check whether he recorded sending his calculations to the *Chronicle*. Copies of the BLHG book, *A Fleeting Shadow*, are available from the history group — see ad in this Archive. —Ed.

letters & emails

We're high on the list of monuments

WHILE fact-checking for a letter about traffic damage to local structures I went to www.ancientmonuments.info which lists all the ancient monuments in the nation.

These are listed by county under town or parish names and while most entries have one or two monuments, some have many more.

The largest number I could locate was Amesbury in Wiltshire with 102, including Stonehenge itself.

Most counties have few, if any, in double figures. The top site for County Durham, and probably in the top ten nationwide, is Barningham, with 37.

Durham City only has 18, and next are Bowes and Cotherstone, each with 16.

Most of Barningham's entries are out on the moor and include much rock-art but also listed is 'Medieval Church Site and Churchyard Cross, 10m South and 40m South East of St Michael's Church'.

A rich area of research for our local history group.

PHIL HUNT, Barningham

Get in touch

THE Archive welcomes letters and comments on its contents or on any other matter of local historical interest. Email your views to the editor at jonxxsmith@gmail.com.

The Constables of Scargill and Wycliffe

Local historian JENNY SCRUTON sent us this, based on a talk she gave recently in Constable Burton, near Hull

THIS article was originally intended to be about Sir Thomas Aston Clifford Constable, who acquired Wycliffe on the death of his father in 1823.

However, it soon became obvious that some explanation was needed about the convoluted route which led to his inheritance.

The Constable family's association with Wycliffe is an interesting and complicated story. The link had started when Francis Tunstall of Wycliffe married Cecily Constable of Burton Constable in East Yorkshire in about 1670.

Cuthbert Tunstall, the second son of Francis Tunstall, inherited the Burton Constable estate in 1718 from Cecily's brother, and changed his name to Constable.

Cuthbert's son by his second marriage, Marmaduke, born at Burton Constable, inherited Wycliffe, together with the estates of Scargill and Hutton Magna from his uncle, Cuthbert's brother, in 1760.

Marmaduke changed his name back to Tunstall and returned to the Tunstall family home. He was a noted ornithologist and natural history collector who rebuilt Wycliffe Hall to include a large room at the back to house his substantial museum. On his death without issue in 1790, he left the estates at Wycliffe to his half-brother, William, who had previously inherited Burton Constable from Cuthbert



Tennis players discuss their game on the lawns outside Wycliffe Hall about a century ago

the constables



Marmaduke Constable

in 1747. William was also an avid collector, having his own 'Cabinet of Curiosities' at Burton Constable. William and Marmaduke were both Fellows of the Royal Society and corresponded about their many acquisitions.

William died the following year, leaving no children, so both estates were inherited by his nephew, Edward Sheldon (subsequently Constable). Edward had been left substantial property by his father, unlike his brother Francis, who had only been

granted £50 a year. Francis went to live at Wycliffe, where his daughter Mary was born in 1793.

On the death of Edward Sheldon, who never married, Francis inherited Burton Constable and Wycliffe. He died in 1821, but unfortunately his daughter Mary had predeceased him. In his will he left bequests for 'the poor of Wycliffe, Hutton, Scargill and Ovington', but there was no direct line of inheritance.

William had made provision in his will for the possibility that neither Sheldon would produce legitimate heirs, and ensured the succession went back through his mother's family, the Cliffords.

Sir Thomas Hugh Clifford of Tixall, in Staffordshire, became the next owner of the estates. A stipulation of inheriting Burton Constable was that he should assume the name and arms of the Constable family, which he did by Royal Licence the same year.

Sir Thomas Hugh Clifford Constable, as he was then styled, preferred to remain living at Tixall, the cherished



DEADLINE for this year's Archive Awards, presented by Barningham Local History Group for the best local history projects, is Saturday August 27th.

Entries can be in any format and are judged on originality, research, local interest and readability. There are adult and children's sections.

Entries should be delivered to history group chairman Phil Hunt and the winners will be announced at Barningham Show on Sunday September 4th. Winning submissions may be printed in the *Archive*.

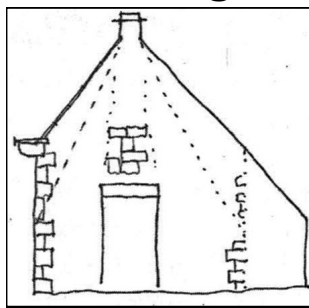
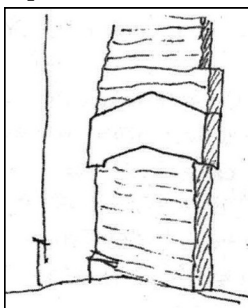
Study group reports on tour of village

THE Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group has published its report on its visit to Barningham.

It appears in issue 43 of the group's *Journal* and is an extended version of the report that appeared in *Archive* 43 shortly after the visit.

About 20 members of the YVBSG and the history group took part in the visit, which included a presentation in the village hall and a tour of the village, during which the visitors studied several of the houses in detail.

Those featured in the report include Woodbine Cottage, Newby House, Barningham House, Virginia Cottage, Manor House Farm, The



Illustrations from the report: the massive external lintel at Woodbine Cottage and, right, raised roofline at Barningham House

Hollies, Heath House, Hillside, Park View, Elim Cottage, Church View, Prospect House and, of course, Barningham Park. Sketches were made of various architec-

tural features not previously recorded by the YVBSG, including those reproduced above, and the *Journal* says there is "clearly more scope for further recording".

From Down Under, looking for Wrays

PHIL Hunt reports that an Australian couple were walking up Barningham recently, asking if there was a church here.

They were looking for the graves of family of William Wray, born 1750-55 in Newsham.

He had a brother Christopher, parents John and Ann(e), possibly nee Hodgson.

William is buried in St. Mary's, Barnard Castle, which they'd visited the previous day, their first in the country. They'd been surprised to spot his grave as

soon as they entered the churchyard. Phil lent them his copy of *Where Lyeth ye Bodies*, which they returned later with a brief note of thanks.

It lists four people called Wray who are buried in Barningham: William (died 1626), Robert (1662), Mary (1666), Jane (1667) and another Mary (1770).

The Australians' name is Wray. The woman is called Corinne and she would welcome an email to wrayhse@me.com if anyone has any information about their ancestors. They said the church was beautiful.

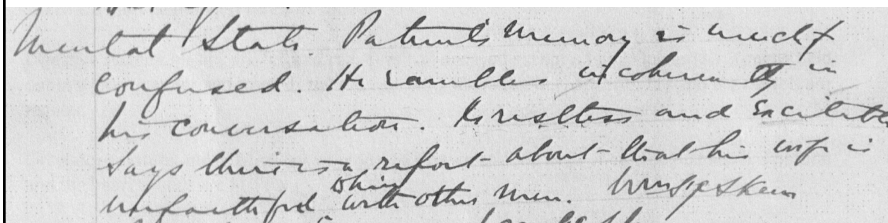
Write — it's the palaeography test

HISTORY group members John Hay and Jon Smith were among students on a palaeography course at Durham County Record Office a few weeks ago.

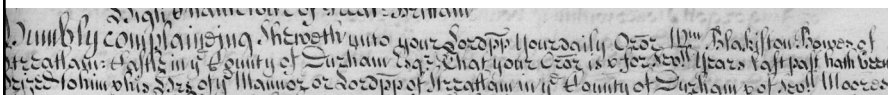
Palaeography is the art of reading old handwriting, and the course, six two-hour sessions spread over six weeks, covered

different styles ranging from early medieval Latin to 19th Century script. "It was entertaining, instructive, and quite challenging," said Jon. "It's not as easy as you'd think!"

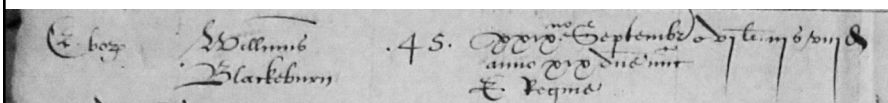
Below are half a dozen examples of different handwriting for you to try deciphering. Answers on Page 14. Good luck!



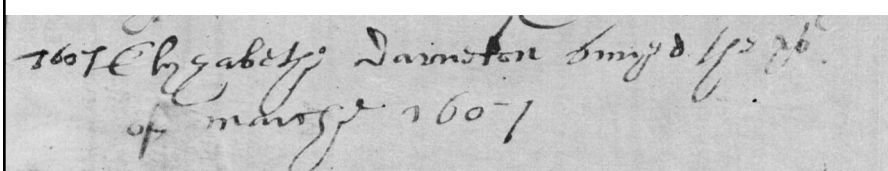
1. 1898: Doctor's report on a lunatic asylum patient



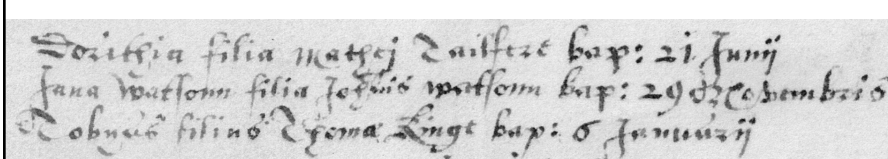
2. 1729: Plea for recognition of land ownership



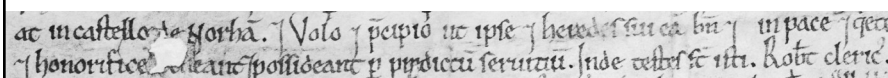
3. 1622: Land ownership and wardship records (Latin)



4. 1607: Church burial register

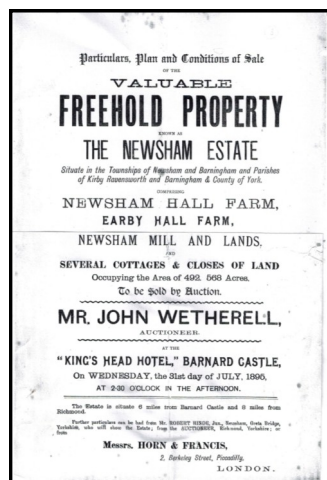


5. 1590: Church baptism records (Latin)



6. c.1150: Award of land (Latin)

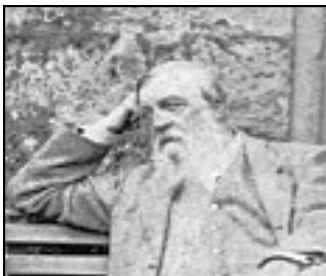
Newsham for sale — but too expensive



HISTORY group member June Graham came across this sale notice and the auctioneer's catalogue issued when the Newsham Estate went on the market in 1895.

It was put up for sale by Goldolphin Henry Vane Milbank (1865-1947) in the aftermath of the family's financial problems resulting from the death in 1892 of his cousin William Harry Vane Milbank (the duellist featured in *Archives* 48 and 49).

Godolphin (the name came from his mother, Lady Susan Godolphin Osborne, daughter of the eighth Duke of Leeds) had inherited the estate as a seven-



Sir Frederick Milbank

year-old upon the death of his father Henry in 1872. It was presumably held in trust for him until he reached adulthood, perhaps until he reached 30 which was his age when the estate was offered for sale.

It was an extensive property of almost 500 acres, including Newsham Hall and Earby Hall farms, Newsham Mill, and various cottages in the village, and was expected to attract a lot of interest from potential buyers. But when the auction took place on July 31st 1895 there was only one bidder, Thomas Blenkinsopp of Rokeby Close, who offered £10,000 for the lot.

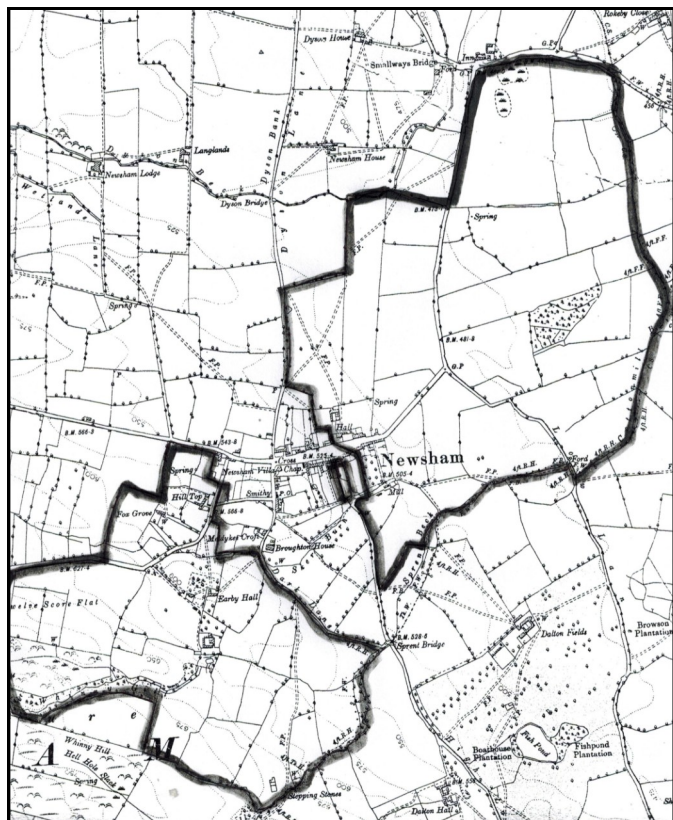
It wasn't enough, the offer was refused, and the estate was withdrawn from sale.

It eventually came back on the market in March 1919, when most of the estate was bought for £11,000 by Sir Frederick Milbank, son of another of Godolphin's cousins and grandfather of Sir Anthony.

Sold separately was Newsham Mill, which went to its tenant, John Watson, for £1,000.

Godolphin, who had married in 1890, died in 1947. He had no children.

Left: the 1895 sale catalogue map showing the extent of the property for sale



To be SOLD,
Situate within four Miles of Barnardcastle, six of Richmond,
and nine of Darlington.

THE Freehold ESTATE of NEWSHAM, in
Yorkshire, which did belong to the late Capt. Mullens, deceased, containing 42 Acres of Meadow and Pasture, well water'd, and inclosed with quickset Hedges, with a Right of 10 Peast-gates in the Town Pasture of Newsham, with a Common-right, a good Dwelling-house, three Stories high, five Rooms on a Floor, a Parlour well waincotted, and all the other Rooms in tolerable good Repair, a Cellar under Ground, with a good Brewhouse and Furnace fit for Use, two Stables, Coach-house, Barn, two Gardens, one planted with choice Fruit Trees, now in the Possession of Nicolas Coverdale. Apply to the Owner Mr Robert M'Mullens, at Mr Michael Collin's, Butcher, in Darlington, who will treat about the same. — Ralph Hedlop of Newsham will show the Ground.

Serendipitously...

We've just come across this ad in the Newcastle Courant of January 18th 1752 for a three-storey house in Newsham with cellar and brew-house, plus 42 acres of meadow and pasture.

The vendor was a Robert McMullens who had apparently just inherited it after the death of his father.

Anybody know anything about him, or which house it might be?

It was Graham v. Graham in the High Court

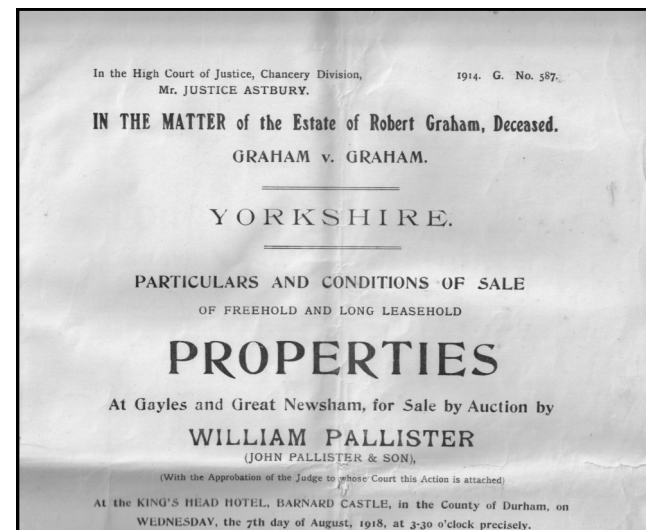
AS well as the 1895 documents, June Graham found similar papers relating to the sale in August 1918 of property in Gayles and "Great Newsham" (when was it last known as that?)

It was part of the estate of the recently-deceased Robert Graham and by all accounts there was a fairly serious dispute over the inheritance as it led to 'Graham v Graham' proceedings in the Chancery Division of the High Court. "The lawyers made a fortune out of it," says June, whose late husband Michael was related to the disputants.

Up for sale as the first world war neared its end were:

- High Waitgate Farm ("formerly known as Wham") in Gayles, with 70 acres, rented out to James Bradberry for £45 a year (held on a 1,000-year lease dated 1563, according to the sale particulars); it was bought by E. Hodgson of Holgate for £860;

- Broughton House and five acres, tenanted by William John-

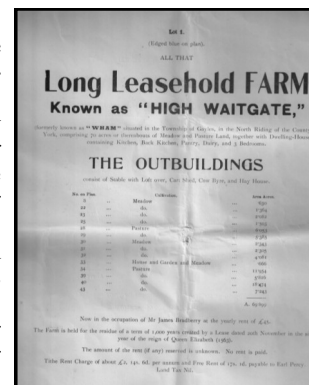


son, who bought it for £1,625 rather than keep on paying the £45-a-year rent. He also purchased

- A cottage — almost certainly Rosemary Cottage on Silver Lane — occupied by Mrs Grace Hutchinson at £4.10s a year (sold for £110);

- Two fields, The Close and London Garth, occupied by Mrs Shippen at £6 a year (£200); and

- Mrs Shippen's £3.10s-a-year five-room cottage, also in Silver Lane (£90).



*Sam Turner survived WWI —
but only just. JOHN HAY tells
his story*

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** Journal of Mary Martin, born on a local 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 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 + £1.50 p&p

*** £2 each + £1 p&p

Discounts for group members.

We can also supply copies of **As Time Passed By**, a history of Barningham by Merryne Watson.

More information can be found on our website:

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

Newsham — how long ago?

*THIS postcard of Newsham
turned up on the Archive
desk.*

*It was taken, we think, in
the 1940s. What looks like the
phone-box (installed in 1938)
is under the tree on the right,
and there's a car of 1930s
vintage outside what was the
village shop. Anybody want
to be more precise?*



