



History centre is up and running* *History Group members at the opening of Barningham's history and heritage centre in the village hall last year.*
Picture courtesy of the Teesdale Mercury.

**Well, it was until Corona arrived. Open again in 2021, we hope*

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If you want it posted to you, please add £2.90 p&p (1 or 2 copies), £6 (3 or more).



Archive 60

THE NEWSLETTER OF BARNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP
B. A. L. H. AWARD-WINNING LOCAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER
www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

xii
MMXX

INSIDE: THE ARCHIVE CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE QUIZ



Kirby Hill around sixty years ago, and a surplised choir gather on the green for a ceremony conducted to the music of accordionist Doris Preston of Hawsteads, leader of one of Teesdale's most renowned dance bands. More inside.

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*We wish you a
Merry
Christmas
and a
Happier
New Year*

out for details in The Fiver or online



The Archive

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Back issues of The Archive are available at £2 each (£1 for members) or can be downloaded free from our website, which also has a full index of the contents

The Archive

I imagine the arrival of this *Archive* has been something of a surprise – a welcome one, I hope.

Like so many other things, the history group has been in abeyance since March and there have been no meetings of any kind. With luck we'll be operating again sometime in 2021, but it'll be a while yet before we know what's possible.

When the world went into lockdown I thought there might be a surge of interest in local history, with people having more spare time to delve into their ancestry on-line. It doesn't seem to have happened, and in fact the number of emails and letters to *The Archive* has been fewer than in recent years. There have been enough, though, to create a sizeable pile in my in-tray, and my conscience has finally persuaded me that it's time they were shared among you all.

So here you have it, *Archive 60*. Mostly correspondence, but I've tried to mix it with plenty of old photos, bits and pieces, and a quiz to take your minds off Covid-19 some evening over Christmas.

Have a merry one if you can, and a safer, saner New Year to you all.

JON SMITH
Archive Editor



Look at we've found!

BURIED deep in a cupboard in Barningham village hall, where it's been lying for the past forty years – the only remaining bit of the village maypole.

This small section, carrying two commemorative plaques, was saved when the rest of the pole was carted off as firewood after it collapsed in the 1980s.

The first plaque records a pole being erected in 1894 to mark Sir Frederick Milbank's golden wedding; the second notes its re-erection to celebrate the Queen's coronation in 1953.

There were earlier poles, too, dating back to at least the 1700s. Is it time we got yet another one, and a third plaque to go with it?

Barningham Local History Group

www.barninghamvillage.co.uk

Covering Barningham and surrounding area: Newsham, Dalton, Gayles, Kirby Hill, Kirby Ravensworth, Whashton, Hutton Magna, Greta Bridge, Rokeby, Brignall, Scargill, Hope and beyond.

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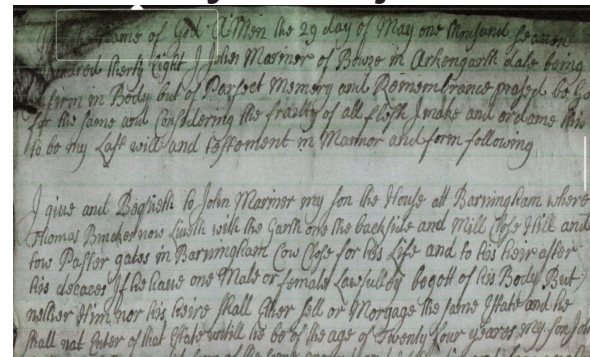
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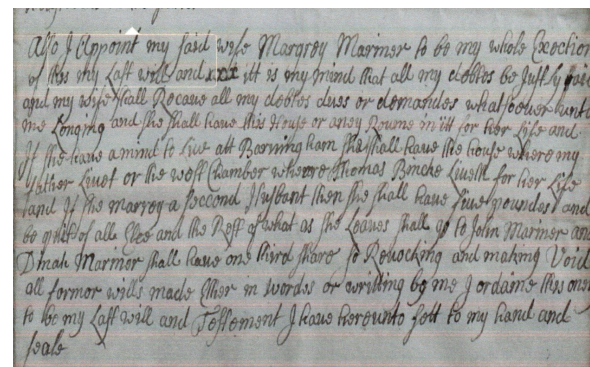
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Member of the British Association for Local History, County Durham History & Heritage Forum, Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group

And to my wife... just £5 if she marries again



Extracts from John Mariner's will, dated 1748



JOHN Marriner, a long-standing history group member from Middlesbrough, sent us a copy of an ancestor's will from 272 years ago, asking if we could work out what it said.

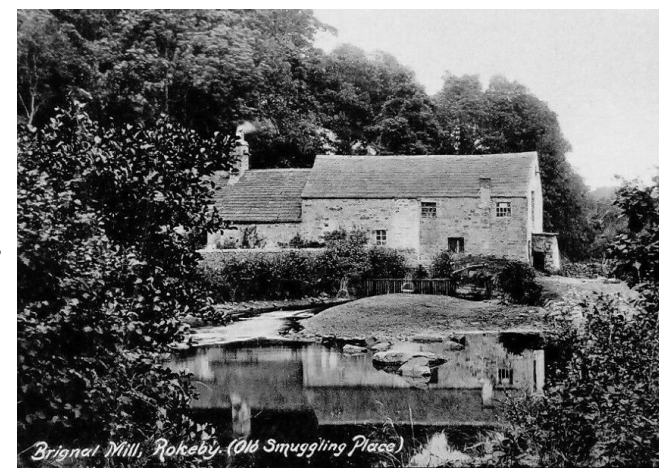
It took some doing – the spelling and handwriting were erratic to say the least – but we got there in the end.

The ancestor was another John Mariner, who 'being infirm in Body but of Perfect Memory and remembrance' drew up the will in 1748. He left properties in Barningham (one described as 'the House where Thomas Binckes now Liveth') and Arkengarthdale to his son John and daughters Dinah and Sarah, together with stints in Barningham's Cow Close and 'tow Bedsteades standing in the parlor'.

All his wife Margrey (Margaret? Marjory?) got was the right to stay in one of the houses until she died, with the proviso that 'if she Marrey a Second Husband then she shall have five pounds and be quit of all Else.'

One final postcard

No date, but probably early last century. We were intrigued by the caption saying *Brignal Mill was an 'old smuggling place' and investigated. We didn't find smugglers, but the mill was raided by excise men in the 1820s who found an illegal still had been operating there for years.*



Brignal Mill, Rokeby. (Old Smuggling Place)

28. From what did Augustus Sussex Milbank suffer?

Ashtma ☐ Deafness ☐
Short sight ☐ Hiccups ☐

29. What did Kexwith Hannah leave?

Her family ☐ Bloodstains ☐
A fortune ☐ The Titanic ☐

30. Whose phone number used to be Barningham 5?

The shop ☐ Milbank Arms ☐
The hall ☐ The doctor ☐

31. Who was the star of the 1869 Barningham Gala?

Dickens ☐ Prince Albert ☐
Blondin ☐ Houdini ☐

32. What did Barningham schoolmaster Thomas Coates lose?

His sight ☐ His arm ☐
His cane ☐ His pupils ☐

33. What terrified Mattie Coates near Dalton Mill?

Aeroplane ☐ Ghost ☐
Escaped convict ☐ Bull ☐

34. What did Smallways innkeeper Ben Coles' daughters fight over in court?

His dog ☐ His paintings ☐
His beer ☐ His will ☐

35. What's inside the Kirby Hill Races Pot?

A key ☐ Four wax balls ☐
A chalice ☐ Nothing ☐

36. What did a pinder look after?

Prayerbooks ☐ Children ☐
Graves ☐ Lost animals ☐

37. Which of these wasn't a house on the moors?

Woodtop ☐ Gorsdale ☐
Crudda ☐ Carter House ☐

38. Why did an evacuee run away from Bragg House?

the quiz continues...

Broke eggs ☐ Lost key ☐
Homesick ☐ Stole food ☐

39. Which famous poet has relatives in Barningham graveyard?

Kipling ☐ Byron ☐
Keats ☐ Chaucer ☐

40. Who found a 700-year-old medallion in Kirby Hill?

Postman ☐ Vicar ☐
Sexton ☐ Dairymaid ☐

41. What was wrong with William Coates' new horse?

It was lame ☐ It roared ☐
It was blind ☐ It died ☐

42. What was seen in Barningham in 1927?

Airplane ☐ Golden eagle ☐
Television ☐ Eclipse ☐

43. The Milbank Arms landlady in 1938 was Mrs...??

Hudson ☐ Gibson ☐
Dobson ☐ Hobson ☐

44. Why was Barningham school closed in 1929?

Cholera ☐ Measles ☐
Mumps ☐ Typhoid ☐

45. What did Barningham buy the rector in 1873?

A lectern ☐ A salver ☐
A tankard ☐ A Bible ☐

46. What did Mr Tootle want to close in 1773?

The Morritt ☐ A turnpike ☐
Moor gates ☐ Workhouse ☐

47. What vanished on its way to London in 1819?

Stagecoach ☐ Racehorse ☐
Bank box ☐ Gold chain ☐

48. How did Harry Milbank die in 1892?

In a duel ☐ Alcoholism ☐
Drowning ☐ Drug abuse ☐

49. Who ran a bus called Pride of the Road?

Stapletons ☐ Burrells ☐
Maudes ☐ Arriva ☐

50. When did Barningham WI first meet?

1927 ☐ 1933 ☐
1946 ☐ 1955 ☐

51. Who came back from the dead in 1916?

Sam Turner ☐ Bill Coates ☐
Jim Alderson ☐ Ben Cole ☐

52. How much did Newsham Mill sell for in 1919?

£320 ☐ £780 ☐
£1000 ☐ £1485 ☐

53. What was mascot Percy?

A goat ☐ A cat ☐
A horse ☐ A cockerel ☐

54. Catherine Bingle was...?

A nurse ☐ A magician ☐
A preacher ☐ A killer ☐

55. Rev Arthur Close lost...?

His gun ☐ His cassock ☐
His leg ☐ His faith ☐

56. Ernie Holmes was a...?

Landlord ☐ Carpenter ☐
Chauffeur ☐ Grocer ☐

57. One-legged Willie Men-nell shot...?

A stag ☐ Photographs ☐
A fishmonger ☐ Rapids ☐

58. William Moorhouse won...?

The Lottery ☐ The Derby ☐
Broad Bean Cup ☐ VC ☐

59. George Harrison from Whashton was...?

A soldier ☐ A crusader ☐
A surgeon ☐ A fraud ☐

60. Dolly Preston played...?

Piano ☐ Golf ☐
Chess ☐ Truant ☐

Mrs Preston – Barningham's favourite bandmistress

IF you were a teenager in Teesdale any time between the mid-1930s and the late 1970s, you'll know about Mrs Preston and her band.

Scarcely a week went by without the *Teesdale Mercury* announcing that they

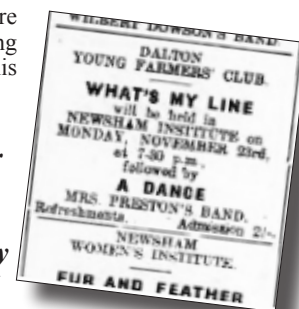
were providing the music at a dance, wedding or village hall somewhere in the dale.

Leader of the band was pianist and accordionist Mrs Doris Preston (better known as Dolly), assisted by son Bobby and Alfie Walker on bones and drums.

Doris lived at Hawsteads, between Barningham and Newsham, and was married to Milbank estate worker William. Their granddaughter Sandra Watson of School Aycliffe sent us a treasure trove of old photos including those on the front cover, this page and the next.

Left: William and Doris Preston celebrating their golden wedding

Below: Family wedding, names unknown but early 1900s? – those hats look very Edwardian



NAME

ADDRESS



email



More photos from Sandra Watson: a school trip – or wartime evacuees?



Barningham WI and, right, a mystery wedding – can you name anyone?



Mrs Preston on the accordion with what looks like a fancy dress group

Christmas challenge: the Archive Quiz

THIS is the sixtieth issue of *The Archive*, and to mark the occasion we're inviting you to test your wits and memories with sixty questions, one from each issue..

Tick your answers and return this page (or a copy) by January 4th – by email to jonxxsmith@gmail.com or by hand or post to Jon Smith at Heath House, Barningham, Richmond, DL11 7DU.

And yes, there are prizes! The entry

with the most correct answers will win a £25 gift voucher for Cross Lanes shop and restaurant plus a copy of the Barningham book *Round the World*. There'll be books for four runners-up if that many enter. Winners' names and all the answers will be published on the village website and available by post from Jon on request.

Do have a go, even if it is mostly guesswork. Good luck!

1. Which cheesemongering family tree appeared in our first issue?

Milbanks ☐ Todds ☐
Aldersons ☐ Smiths ☐

2. What did postman Richard Lee deliver the mail on?

A horse ☐ A bike ☐
A donkey ☐ A camel ☐

3. What was the Milbank Arms called until 1863?

Black Horse ☐ Crown ☐
Red Lion ☐ Royal Oak ☐

4. What did cordwainer John Pearson make?

Boots ☐ Rope ☐
Trousers ☐ Trouble ☐

5. Which Thomas made clocks in Barningham?

Banks ☐ Benks ☐
Binks ☐ Bonks ☐

6. What was Miss Cash the first woman to enter?

The Church ☐ Phone box ☐
School ☐ Parish meeting ☐

7. Which hall almost burnt down in 1930?

Rokeby ☐ Barningham ☐
Earby ☐ Witham ☐

8. Where was our 1838 tithe map found?

In a grave ☐ In the pub ☐
In the post ☐ In a skip ☐

9. What did a curate meet at Newsham's Sprent Bridge?

His wife ☐ A ghost ☐
A bishop ☐ His lover ☐

10. Where did Tommy Shepherd die in 1918?

the questions

Italy ☐ France ☐
Belgium ☐ Germany ☐

11. What opened in 1835?

The church ☐ The shop ☐
The school ☐ The chapel ☐

12. Where did the history group see a Hand of Glory?

York ☐ Whitby ☐
Durham ☐ Carlisle ☐

13. What went for repair and never came back?

A stuffed owl ☐ A bike ☐
A clock ☐ A bell ☐

14. How does Lanny from Texas earn his living?

Wrestler ☐ Cowboy ☐
Preacher ☐ Gambler ☐

15. Between 1580 and 1800, 34% of Barningham brides were...?

Under 16 ☐ Born here ☐
Pregnant ☐ Over 30 ☐

16. Joseph Hanby of Eastwood was a captain in the...?

Army ☐ Cricket team ☐
Navy ☐ Salvation Army ☐

17. What did the Rev Gough bring back to Barningham from South America?

A parrot ☐ An alligator ☐
A slave ☐ A wife ☐

18. Which cottage was demolished to make way for Curlew?

Rose ☐ Appletree ☐
Moor Top ☐ Sharon ☐

19. Which Barningham

Park servant was the first tenant of Granville?

Butler ☐ Head gardener ☐
Dairyman ☐ Gamekeeper ☐

20. What would you find in a coup cart?

Corn ☐ Chickens ☐
Cow muck ☐ Corpses ☐

21. What happened to Haythwaite farmer Robert Todd on his way back from market?

Robbed ☐ Run over ☐
Drowned ☐ Electrocuted ☐

22. How much was a pint of Guinness in 1911?

1d ☐ 2d ☐
4½d ☐ 7d ☐

23. Who held love feasts on the moor end?

Methodists ☐ Gipsies ☐
Lunatics ☐ Rustlers ☐

24. What won a BALH national award in 2012?

Village hall ☐ Phone box ☐
A sheep ☐ The Archive ☐

25. What almost came to Barningham in 1849?

Railway ☐ Telegraph ☐
Circus ☐ Cholera ☐

26. What did schoolmaster James Coates want closed?

A chapel ☐ A quoits pitch ☐
A pub ☐ The hall gates ☐

27. What new attraction caused great excitement in Barningham in 1912?

Whist drive ☐ Maypole ☐
Sheep show ☐ Cinema ☐

More overleaf ►

Go-ahead for county's new heritage hub

PLANS have been approved for a new history centre showcasing County Durham's rich heritage.

Durham County Council has been given the go-ahead to restore the grade II listed Mount Oswald Manor House in Durham and turn it into a vibrant and interactive local history hub, bringing together archive, heritage and registration services.

Reaction to the proposed history centre has been overwhelmingly positive and now that planning permission has been granted, the manor house's present owner, the Durham-based Banks Group, will transfer the site to the council for a nominal fee to secure its future use and benefit for local people.

It is hoped work can begin on site next year with a view to opening to the public in 2023.

Aimed at telling the story of County Durham's past through historic records, photographs and objects, Durham History Centre will provide a secure future for the more than five miles of county archives, charting almost 900 years of history, which are currently located in County Hall.

It will also provide a home for historic registration records, environmental and archaeological records, and local studies collections. And, for the first time since 1998, all items from the Durham Light Infantry (DLI) collection, currently housed at Sevenshills in Spennymoor, and the DLI archives, which are currently cared for by Durham County Record Office, will be brought together under one



Mount Oswald Manor House as it is now and, below, how planners agree it should look like after conversion



roof. The project will also see the relocation from Aykley Heads of Durham Register Office, offering enhanced facilities for weddings and civil ceremonies making the most of the historic setting and the surroundings of the manor house.

An inspiring and engaging exhibition programme will be at the heart of the new centre, with a focus on the stories of working people and everyday families.

Plans include state of the art search rooms, including innovative digital facilities, a dedicated learning space, exhibition and interpretation spaces, and a café. There will also be themed activities and events, as well as a county-wide outreach programme for children, schools and communities.

Last summer the council was awarded a £150,000 grant from the Wolfson Foun-

dation to support the creation of an interactive exhibition space within the centre, where visitors will be able to discover the county's rich history through nationally and internationally significant collections.

The project has also secured a £43,500 Stage 1 development phase grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). This will be used to develop an exciting and engaging activity and events programme, while also allowing the council to progress the centre's ambitions for innovative digital engagement and digital exhibition elements, ahead of a Stage 2 application next year.

The council is keen to gain residents' views and will soon be launching an engagement exercise to encourage people to share ideas and help shape the centre's exhibitions and events programme.

Married in Barningham, 250 years ago

letters & emails

I HAVE recently found that my great-great-great-great-grandparents, Henry Porter and Mary Bynks/Binks, were married in Barningham on 10 July 1755.

They moved away, though stayed fairly local, and their third son William Porter was born in Helwith in 1763. His following three siblings were born in Hallgate, which I have found on the neighbouring 1845 OS map as being just off the Newsham-Helwith road. He and his wife Mary were buried in Barningham in the 1830s. I believe that Mary's maiden name was Gaines and she was from Crakehall, near Bedale.

I would be very interested to learn of anybody else following those lines. Can you tell me if there are monumental inscriptions from the burials of William and/or Mary Porter?

I think that the spinster Anne Porter who died in 1859 was their daughter. I have found her in the 1851 census of Barningham, and her birth place is given as "Byers Green Parish of Kirkby Ravensworth". Her baptism record from 23 November 1800 gives her abode as Harker House. Do you know the actual location of Byers Green and Harker House?

It may be that William married and had two children around Bedale, before returning to the area around where he grew up, hence the link to Harker House.

GRAHAM FARMER
Meltham, West Yorkshire
gfpersonal@gmail.com

● We sent Graham details from

our records of other Porters in the area over the years. There are no memorials for the Porters he mentions.

Byers Green – now called Byers Hill – is a farm about two miles south of Barningham, accessible from the road from Newsham to Helwith. The 1854 OS map shows a farmstead then called Harker Fold about half a mile to the east of Byers Green: it is marked on the current OS map as Low House and is, we think, derelict.

There were families called Harker in this area until fairly recently, and still are in Arken-garthdale and Swaledale. –Ed.

I'm looking for a bird-lover

I AM researching the life of the Rev Ralph Johnson (1629-1695), vicar of St Mary's church in Brignall from 1656 until 1695.

His father was William Johnson, a husbandman of Newsham. I note you have found William Johnson Esq in the 18th century who might be a descendant of "my" William.

The Johnsons operated two schools, Newsham Place and Earby Hall. Ralph ran a school from, I believe, his parsonage in Brignall. He was a great naturalist with a particular interest in birds and corresponded with John Ray, the leading British naturalist of his day. He has been overlooked, a situation which I intend to correct.

He had a son, Francis, who

died a young man. I have published on him and there is a 1945 paper on him.

Any information you give me will be properly acknowledged. I hope you can help me.

Dr FRANK HORSMAN
frankhorsman306@gmail.com

My sky-high coincidence

I LIVED in Heath House from birth in 1949 to 1964, when I left school and started work at Saunders House, living in. My mam and dad moved to Reading Room Cottage about 1965/66. I left Barningham in 1970 to join the army.

At the turn of the century I was working in Qatar in the Middle East. On one of my flights home I picked up on an air stewardess with a familiar accent and asked her where she came from.

AS: *Barnard Castle.*

Me: *I know Barney, I used to live in Barnigham.*

AS: *I used to live in Barn-inham.*

Me: *Whereabouts?*

AS: *Heath House.*

Me: *I used to live in Heath House.*

AS: *We used to live in the western part.*

Me: *I used to live in the eastern part.*

It turned out she was Bobby Brass's daughter Katherine. The odds against meeting someone from the same house from a small village while flying over Saudi Arabia must be quite long ones.

Another coincidence: For two or three years I worked



Ravensworth School 1955-56: Teacher Mrs Cuthbertson of Barningham.
Back row: John Dobinson, Vincent Bulmer, Leslie Goodall*, Christine Nicholson*.
Centre row: Wendy Nicholson*, Heather Hird, ??, ? Thompson, ? Thompson, Christine Petty, ? Clay, Peter Wright*, David Walker, Malcolm Cuthbertson*, Alan Blackburn.
Front row: Maureen Lowes*, Martin Webb, Sylvia Hutchinson, Sheila Meynell, Joyce Cox (Smith)*, Valerie Kay, Denise Bulmer, Linda Cole, Brenda Cole, Barbara Cole, Leslie Watson, Thomas Clay. * = from Barningham

for John Metcalf of Park House, whose daughter Susan attended Brignal school along with one or two other Barningham children. There was a rota system for taking them to and from school, and at busy times I would have to do it.

In the late Nineties while helping a friend in Suffolk we went for a round of golf and back in the clubhouse I picked up on the barmaid's accent and got talking to her.

It turned out she was one of Susan's friends I sometimes took to and from school. She lived at The Yews, but I can't remember her name.

I went to Ravensworth School. Children from Barningham and Newsham used to get there by bus (Maude's or Burrell's) but anyone from Kirby Hill and Whashton had to walk and they did every day, all weathers and ages. I'm sending you a school photograph (above) – sorry I

letters & emails

can't name everyone, it is 65 years since.

I was sent a copy of the *Round The World* book about Barningham. Absolutely brilliant, I couldn't put it down, it brought back so many memories. I am so glad I grew up there, magical times.

LES GOODALL
 Plympton, Devon
lesgoodall15@gmail.com

More memories of schooldays

Hi from the USA! I've just found your website, what a splendid resource for Barningham and history buffs in general.

I lived at the Old Rectory in the 1960s/70s after moving from Sunderland – hard to imagine a huge contrast.

Initially I attended primary school in Ravensworth, a

one-room schoolhouse presided over by the formidable Miss Ramsay who definitely did not believe in sparing the rod. She was assisted by Mrs Cuthbertson from Barningham, wife of the Milbank hall butler at the time. She was much nicer than Miss R.

Later I went to Richmond Grammar School after a fight with my dad who wanted me to go to Barnard Castle but I didn't want to board or wear short pants (ironic, I wear them almost all the time now).

Now then to all, and best wished to the BLHG.

PAUL JENKIN, USA
 (Message left on our website)

In search of Hetheringtons

I AM looking for a living relative of the Hetheringtons who lived for some time at Melsonby.

My father's mother was

more letters & emails

complete blank re Tom's war service and the most likely reason for his gassing during WW1 may be that he worked in a munition factory, somewhere near Wakefield, due to his age (he was born in 1875) where there was an accident which would have been kept top secret.

I have also discovered that he was in America in 1919 as part of him being a Mason, a big surprise!!

JANET BAKER
 St Neots, Cambridgeshire
janet.m.baker.48@gmail.com

Jenner – a very tenuous link

THIS is just to thank you for the *Round the World* book – brilliant and so interesting. It was humbling seeing stories of all those "old" people I knew in the village, but as a youngster never got to know.

I loved the tenuous links, especially references to John Smith, captain of the Titanic. There is a statue of him in Lichfield, which apparently is somewhere he never lived nor visited.

There is a tenuous Lerigo link to smallpox. Edward Jenner lived in Berkeley in Gloucestershire, which is where my Dad grew up. His father was a tenant farmer on the Berkeley Estate and he thatched the small outbuilding where Edward Jenner gave the first smallpox vaccinations to his patients.

To add to the story, Jenner had a grapevine in his conservatory (now the Jenner Museum), which we had a cutting from, and it is now regularly producing numerous



Remember these buses?

MIKE Stow of Gainford history society sent us these photos – a Maude's bus making its way through Newsham (1950s?) and, below, a derelict bus converted into Willie's Snack Bar which once stood beside the A66 between Smallways and Greta Bridge. Notices on the windows advertise Hot Snacks, Senior Service cigarettes and Brooke Bond Tea. Did anyone dare enter?



bunches (wine-making this year!) in our greenhouse. The original grapevine was a cutting from the vine at Hampton Court Palace, allegedly planted by Capability Brown, and is supposed to be the largest cultivated grapevine in the world.

That is our tenuous link to Hampton Court Palace, which is one of those places we used to be able to visit in the old days!

PETER LERIGO
 Alrewas, Derbyshire
peterlerigo@gmail.com

● The Lerigo family, headed by Bill and Joan, lived in Barningham 1950s-1990s, in The

Hollies, the Old Rectory and latterly in Heath Cottages. Bill and sons, including Peter, were famed for their cricketing prowess and until recently returned regularly to Barningham to play against a Milbank XI.

Their surname is said to come from the French 'ergot' for a spur, meaning that the first Lerigo was either someone who made equestrian accessories or was a particularly swift rider himself.

There are fewer than 200 people in the world sharing the name. –Ed.

Brasses gather for birthday celebration

MY name is Andrew Sowerby and I was born in Hawthorn Cottage, Barningham, in 1963.

My mum was Anne Brass, before she married, and my nanna and granddad were Nancy and George Brass of 3 Park View. My mum passed away last year, which has prompted me to look into the family and village history.

We moved away from the village when I was two years old but visited my nanna/granddad until their death many times each year, and still visit the village now two or three times a year for church visits (I have to say it always feels like home).

I came across the newsletter on Google, hence my contact.

I notice there is a book called *Round the World* – I can't remember how many times I took that walk.

I still remember many of the residents of the village and I'm sure Neil Turner will remember my mum Anne and the Brasses.

I have attached a family photo of the Brass family.

ANDREW SOWERBY
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● *Older villagers will well recall Nancy, known to all as Nana Brass in her later years. Six of her nine children (Bobby, Irene, Ruby, Edna, Christine and Rose) are still with us. –Ed.*

Bowrans across the world

I AM in Perth, Western Australia. My ancestral family was in Barningham, at least



The Brass family, celebrating a birthday in the 1960s: Neville, Irene and George at the back; Ruby, Robert, Anne, Nancy and George, Rose in the centre row; Edna and Christine in front.

more letters & emails

from late 1600s.

It is difficult for me to find details of them on either Ancestry or Family Search and I am really grateful for the records you sent me.

I have had a brief look through the baptisms and burials, all of which I have found helpful. My Bowran forbears were spelt with an 'a' rather than an 'o' but over the years these have been confused dramatically.

All I can confirm at this stage is, as I understand it, that there were two Bowran brothers in Barningham initially. Their births are not recorded but their children's births are.

William and Robert Bowran were the first of the Bowrans to settle in Barningham but from whence they came I do not know. I do know that William settled in Scargill and Robert (born in 1704 but not in Barningham) settled in Brignall and their children are

recorded in the Barningham registers. More of this when I have some more time to digest the rest of the material.

AUDREY ROGERS
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Munitions clue to gassing

I'M Janet Baker (nee England) – I visited Barningham a few years ago, when you kindly took me to the village hall and we chatted in the pub with the remarkable landlord.

I have been told of a new book about Barningham which mentions my grandparents (Bertha and Tom) and my father, Jack, and I would very much like a copy. [Bertha was headmistress of Barningham school in the 1930s. See Archives 31 & 46. –Ed.]

I have continued with my research and writing although leads are now becoming more difficult! I have drawn a

letters & emails

likely to be two brothers.

It is possible that the bible was bought from an English family but I am hoping a living Hetherington may have details. One would have thought two brothers with exact birth dates would have been easy to find.

However, recently a relative of mine in Canada found the last will of a John English who married Martha Hogg in 1760 in Barnard Castle. She also found the will of his widow. They had a son Thomas.

My father George William Longstaff farmed at Ker-

sey Green. His uncle Robert Longstaff farmed at Helwith, his cousin John Robert Longstaff farmed at Lummas House and his father John Longstaff farmed at Holgate, all on Barningham moor, all adjacent.

John Robert married Sara Annie Siddle. She had relatives at Cordilleras and Marske whose ancestors were Lowes from Middleton-in-Teesdale.

I was amazed to find that the Lowes and Siddle ancestors were born at Holgate and Helwith. Some were born at Marwick and Hurst.

KEN LONGSTAFF
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Christiana Hetherington, born 22/9/1868 at North Cowton, died 14/3/1928. I have her family tree dating back from Stapleton near Darlington, where her grandfather John was a schoolmaster, to an illegitimate son born to Mary Hetherington 27/8/1775 at Bellister Castle in Cumbria.

I am also looking for Robert English born 17/10/1772 and Thomas English born 22/11/1760, whose details are written on a separate page to the Hetheringtons in a very large 1650 family bible that was left to me. I have searched for many years as far as Portsmouth for what are



Not much different today – till you get inside

THIS photo of the Milbank Arms turned up on the Archive desk during the past year, though we can't for the life of us remember where it came from.

It was taken well over a century ago – in the late 1800s, we'd guess from the clothes worn by the people outside. We've tried in vain to read the notice above the door, which presumably carried the licensee's name.

History Group Publications

Where Lyeth Ye Bodies* Guide to Barningham church, graveyard map, memorials and burials.

Barningham Baptisms* Listed by date, name and parents. Vol 1: 1500-1800; 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* Barningham farms, fields, owners & occupiers in 1838.

Short Butts & Sandy Bottom* Newsham farms fields, owners & occupiers in 1841.

A Child of Hope** Journal of Mary Martin, born 1847 on a local farm.

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 and **Reading Room Minutes**** 1892-1922. Transcripts, history, index and names.

The Archive*** Group newsletter. Back issues downloadable free from website. Hard copies also available.

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

* £10 each + £1.50 p&p

** £5 each + £1.50 p&p

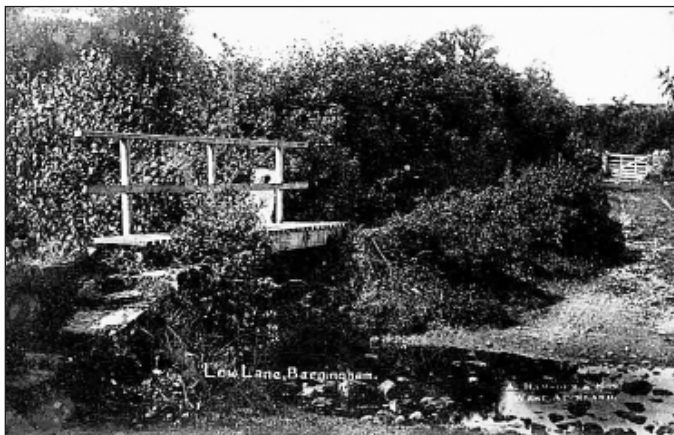
*** £2 each + £1 p&p

Discounts for group members.

Some booklets are available in digital format at £2 per publication – please contact us for details.

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

More information on our website: www.barninghamvillage.co.uk



More postcards from Barningham

THE one above, showing the footbridge over the beck in Low Lane, dates back more than a century. It was posted from Marske in 1920 by someone called Roy, who sent it to his uncle in Preston. "We have arrived alright, came by train from Leyburn," he wrote on the back. "The bike is off colour so had to walk most of the way." If he'd detoured via Barningham to find the postcard he must have been exhausted.

The card below was posted in September 1944. Just one car to be seen (anybody identify the make? An MG?), telegraph poles running up the side of the green, monkey puzzle tree in great shape and – curiously – no sign of the green telephone box outside the post office, though it had definitely been there for years. Had it stood further back in those days, or was it removed as part of the wartime precautions to stop invading paratroopers knowing where they'd landed? Your theories welcomed.

The card was posted by Annie Emmett, then living in Holly Cottage, Barningham. Born in 1876, she had worked at Barningham post office, first as a servant, later as companion to Maria Morrell (widow of Barningham shopkeeper Benjamin Morrell) who died in 1919 and left her all her money. She lost it all in the Great Crash nine years later and died in the 1970s.



more letters & emails

Gayles visit in search of Heslops

I'VE recently found your Barningham Local History Group online and would like to order three of your publications.

My great-great-grandfather John Heslop, 1816-1895, was born in Gayles, became a schoolmaster at Rokeby School, then Clerk to the Court at Barnard Castle. I know everything about him (and have his obituary in *Teesdale Mercury*) and am trying to research further into life at Gayles etc.

I have two of his books inscribed 'John Heslop Gayles 1832', in French and Latin. He was just 16 then, so very advanced by our standards today!

There were so many Heslops in Gayles, Dalton and round about! My husband and I are visiting the area soon and staying at Kirby Hill.

ANN SMITH
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● We sent Ann the books she wanted, including *A Fleeting Shadow*, the 1785 diaries of Newsham schoolmaster James Coates. A couple of weeks later she emailed again:

I HAVE nearly finished reading *A Fleeting Shadow*. It is riveting stuff! So many Heslop references. In fact in my researches I am finding it impossible at the moment to connect any of them to my own John Heslop so have decided to follow the various Heslop names and hope a connection may come up.

The many refs to George Heslop of Dalton are interesting as

In the Name of God amen I George Heslop of Dalton in the North Riding of the County of York Gentlemen being of sound and perfect mind memory and (knowing) Do for the preventing differences and disputes in my family make this my last will and Testament in witness and form following (to wit) As to my Estates Real and personal I give and bequeath thereof as follows. First I will That all my Just Debts and funeral expences and for paying this my Will and incidental expences of Registering the same: pursuant to act of Parliament be first paid and discharged, I give and Devise unto my son Richard Heslop all those three closes belonaing my Inheritance or Dwellinghouse in Dalton aforesaid, at the Death of my Mother with the Doorn and Stack Gate to hold the same with their respective appurtenances unto my said son Richard Heslop his Heirs and assigns subject thereto to and charged and chargeable with the payment of two Hundred pounds to his Brother Robert and also hereby subject and charge the same premises with the payment thereof I give and Devise unto my son John Heslop all that Inheritance or Dwellinghouse in Dalton wherein I now live and all those three closes called the Broaches with the New Stalls and Gate and all those two closes or parcels of ground called High and Low Meers and also all that shop called Paul Maltus shop to hold to my said son John Heslop his Heirs and assigns subject thereto to and charged and chargeable with the payment of the sum of seven pounds a year to his Brother George for and during the Term of his Natural and one Hundred pounds to his sister Mary to be paid to her at the end and expiration of the first Twelve Months next after the Decese of my forsover wife Mary my said wife enjoying the said premises for and during the Term of her natural life and I do hereby subject and charge the said premises with the payment thereof I give and Devise unto my Sons William Heslop and Christopher Heslop and to my Daughter Mary Heslop All.

First page of George Heslop's will, dated 1794

I have his will dated 1794 and so have his family listed. From James Coates's diary it seems George was a bankrupt which might explain the wording at the start of his will.

I attach the will in case you are interested. It includes a mention of Paul Maltus' shop owned by George Heslop and Maltus is in the Coates diary.

My husband and I had a really lovely time in the Shoulder of

Mutton at Kirby Hill.

The weather was perfect and we walked to Gayles and up and down East, Middle and West Streets, then on to Dalton. I wish we had persevered and gone on to Newsham.

I was able to get a feel for the unusual layout of Gayles and the likely sites of various Heslop houses from census information..

ANN SMITH